

**Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General
on Palestinian detainees**

New York, 6 June 2014

The Secretary-General is concerned about reports regarding the deteriorating health of Palestinian administrative detainees who have been on hunger strike for over a month. He reiterates his long-standing position that administrative detainees should be charged or released without delay.

The United Nations on the ground is closely following the overall situation of Palestinian detainees. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights recently reiterated to the Government of Israel the Secretary-General's concerns on these issues. She also expressed concerns regarding a legislative amendment before the Israeli Knesset that, if passed, would permit force-feeding and medical treatment of prisoners on hunger strike against their will under certain conditions, in contravention of international standards.

The Secretary-General has taken note of the related concerns raised recently by various human rights organizations and has responded, reiterating the United Nations well known positions.

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