International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People 29 November 2017

Statement of Solidarity from the Government of Guyana

Guyana joins the international community today in commemorating the United Nations International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People and reiterates our unwavering support for the full exercise of freedom by the people of Palestine.

The Government of Guyana underscores the importance of working in unison in the pursuit of lasting peace for the Palestinian people and has taken note of the Agreement reached between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority on 12 October 2017 to return Gaza to the full control of the legitimate Palestinian Authority. Guyana views this development as a crucial step towards realizing the goal of Palestinian unity under a single, democratic and legitimate Palestinian national authority and urges all parties to demonstrate the commitment necessary for the concrete implementation of the Agreement.

Guyana holds firmly to the belief that constructive dialogue between the Israeli and Palestinian authorities remains key to advancing the peace process and to the realization of the two-state solution as the legitimate end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Guyana therefore calls on all actors to refrain from actions that would frustrate the possibility of progress and implores both Parties to take the steps required to move the peace process forward and to bring an end to the injustice that the people of Palestine continue to suffer.

The Government of Guyana reiterates its recognition of Palestine as a free, independent and sovereign State based on its pre-1967 borders and reaffirms its commitment to the realization of an independent State of Palestine peacefully existing alongside the State of Israel. To this end, Guyana remains in solidarity with the people of Palestine in their just struggle to achieve this goal and will continue to support all efforts leading to its full realization.

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS <u>29 NOVEMBER 2017</u>