STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson on the signature of the Peace and National Partnership Agreement in Yemen

"We have been following with concern recent developments in Yemen and therefore welcome the signing of the Peace and National Partnership Agreement under the good offices of UN Envoy Jamal Benomar. This offers a way out of the present crisis and should contribute to the restoration of political stability and peace in the country.

We condemn unreservedly the violence that has taken place. We extend condolences to the families of those killed and wish a speedy and full recovery to those injured. It is essential that all parties to the Agreement cease hostilities and work together to implement fully its provisions in particular those relating to the security situation in Amran, Al Jawf, Mareb and Sana'a. Government institutions must return to the control of the legitimate authorities, under the leadership of President Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi, the Head of State.

Yemen can no longer afford violent conflict. The National Dialogue Conference has shown the way forward as Yemen's different constituencies have settled differences through peaceful dialogue.

We look forward to the formation of a new government to complete without delay the transition in an inclusive manner, in line with the outcomes of the National Dialogue Conference.

We appeal to all to work peacefully toward a democratic Yemen that responds to the legitimate aspirations of all its citizens."