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Intervention by

H.E. Ambassador Katalin Bogyay

Permanent Representative

**Security Council Open Debate on “The situation in the Middle East,
including the Palestinian question”**

29 April 2019

Dear Mr. President, Dear Colleagues, Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In line with most of the international community, Hungary still considers the two-state formula the best solution to the seven-decade-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as no credible alternatives have been put forward, addressing both the legitimate security concerns and the aspiration for statehood of both parties. However, over the past three months, with Israel going to elections and the Palestinian factions still not being able to resolve their differences and unite, we saw no progress regarding the relaunch of the negotiations between the parties.

We believe that in the current stalemate, the international community should play a positive role in facilitating the relaunch of negotiations. In this regard, Hungary is awaiting the presentation of the US peace plan with hope. At the same time, we find it important to stress: the Israeli and Palestinian leaders should understand that long-lasting peace requires tough compromises from both sides. Their job on the one hand is to reach these compromises, and on the other hand to convince their peoples to accept them. We do hope that all sides will agree to engage in renewed dialogue in good faith. As members of the EU, we will continue working to reach peace and stability in the Middle East region.

I thank you