



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

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## PRESS STATEMENT

### **ONGOING HOSTILITIES BETWEEN ISRAELI MILITARY FORCES AND PALESTINIAN MILITANTS**

**GABORONE, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021:** The Government of the Republic of Botswana has noted with concern the ongoing fighting between the Israeli military forces and the Palestinian militants (Hamas), in the Gaza strip of Jerusalem. The fighting has resulted in the loss of many innocent lives, including women and children, as well as serious destruction of property.

The Government of Botswana strongly condemns the escalation of the attacks, and calls for a ceasefire. This is necessary to avoid any further casualties in the conflict, which risks developing into a fully-fledged war. The Government of Botswana further appeals to the parties to continue to seek a peaceful and durable solution to the conflict.



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