Panel Discussion
“The Responsibility of Religious Leaders in Peacebuilding in the Middle East”

Tuesday, 18 July 2017
Conference Room 3, UNHQs, New York

Programme
(draft as of 28 June 2017)

15:00-15:45 Opening Session
• H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General
• H.E. Mr. Alfonso Maria Dastis, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain (tbc)
• H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
• Sheikh Imad al-Falouji
• Rabbi Michael Melchior
• Patriarch Theopilos III, Greek Orthodox Church

15:45-17:45 Panel of Religious Leaders
Muslim:
• Sheikh Imad al-Falouji, Chairman of the Adam Center for Dialogue of Civilizations in Gaza. He served as the Minister of Post and Telecommunications in the Palestinian unity Government in 1996-2002. In 2009, President Abbas appointed Sheikh Imad al-Falouji as a member of the Islamic-Christian commission for patronizing Jerusalem and the holy sites
• Sheikh Raed Badir, leading Islamic law (Shari’a) arbitrator and member of the southern branch of the Palestinian Ulama Council, Israel
• Dr. Ali M. Musleh Sartawi, former Minister of Justice and Dean of the Faculty of Law of An-Najah University, Member of the Palestinian National Security Council and Member of the Legal Advisory Board of the President, Nablus, West Bank

Jewish:
• Rabbi Michael Melchior, former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (1999 - 2002), Minister for Social Affairs and Deputy Minister of Education, Culture and Sports (2005), community Rabbi in Jerusalem, President of the Mosaica Religious Peace Initiative
• Rabbi Avraham Giesser, Rabbi of Ofra and Council Head for the state religious educational system of Israel
• Dr. Adina Bar Shalom, Head of an academic institution for ultra-orthodox women in Israel, an activist for coexistence and peace, and a public figure of public debate, awarded the Israel Prize in 2014 (daughter of the former Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Israel – Obadia Youssef - and the oldest sister of the present Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Israel), Tel Aviv

Christian:
Patriarch Theopilos III, Greek Orthodox Church

17:45-18:00 Closing Session
• H.E. Mr. Alfonso Maria Dastis, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain (tbc)
• H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations