UN condemns attack on evacuees in Syria; underscores need to ensure safety of those trying to evacuate

15 April 2017 — Condemning today's attack in Rasheedin, western Aleppo, Syria, on some 5,000 evacuees traveling from the besieged towns of Foah and Kefraya to Government-controlled areas, the United Nations has underlined the need to bring those responsible for the violent act to justice.

According to reports, at least 43 persons, including children, have been killed and many more injured.

"We call on the parties to ensure the safety and security of those waiting to be evacuated," Stephane Dujarric, the Spokesman for the UN Secretary-General, said in a <u>statement</u>.

Mr. Dujarric added that the evacuations were being conducted in accordance with the agreement reached pursuant to the "Four Towns" Agreement, covering Foah, Kefraya, Madaya and Zabadani.

These four locations were referred to specifically in the Agreement to facilitate humanitarian access to the people in need.

In the statement, Mr. Dujarric also expressed condolences to the families of the victims of the incident and wished a speedy recovery to those injured.