

From: [Kate Wallace](#)
To: s 47F(1)
Cc: [Natasha Smith](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii) : s 47F(1)
Subject: Soft copy of the draft General Assembly statement for debate triggered by US veto [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 20 October 2023 5:56:00 PM
Attachments: [Draft UNGA Statement following Veto of Brazil's Humanitarian Resolution - Line areas cleared.docx](#)
[UNNY Israel and the OPTs_ 20 October.docx](#)
[231019 HOM - UNSC Open debate statement 20 October 2023.docx](#)

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Hi s 47F(1)

As requested (and with thanks to the team), please find attached the soft copy of the **draft GA statement for the open debate triggered by the US veto of the Brazil-led UNSC resolution on Israel-Palestine.**

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

FMO's advice on the statement relayed by LVS yesterday:

- *We've discussed with FMO as foreshadowed. They are happy for you to **confirm Australia's participation** and proceed with drafting a statement for the UNGA explanation of position debate, drawing on the FM's latest statements and the PM's remarks in parliament today.*

The statement has been developed in consultation with HPD, MAD, LED, HRB and shared with the US desk for visibility.

I have also attached HOM UNNY's statement to the UNSC Open Debate on "Peace through Dialogue: The Contribution of Regional, Subregional and Bilateral Arrangements to the Preventions and Peaceful Resolution of Disputes" that will be delivered later today.

Very happy to discuss.

Cheers

Kate

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

Title: UNNY: Israel and the OPTs - Raised in UN Committees and elsewhere on 19 October**MRN:** s 47E(d) 19/10/2023 07:17:34 PM EDT**To:** Canberra**Cc:** RR : Geneva UN, London, Middle East Posts, Vienna UN, Washington**From:** UN New York**From File:****EDRMS****Files:****References:** s 47E(d)

The cable has the following attachment/s -

65484875.pdf

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67724648.pdf

Response: Routine, Information Only**Summary**

On 19 October, responsibility for the attack on the Al Ahli hospital was a key focus of discussions. The Palestinian Observer Mission and Arab Group members remain adamant that Israel is to blame. Israel said that in believing and spreading Hamas's terrorist propaganda, States were complicit with Hamas. The date for the UN General Assembly to consider the conflict (further to the US veto in the Security Council) is yet to be set, with mid-late next week likely. s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

Cable provides an update on the impact of the Israel-Hamas conflict on developments at UNNY, including discussions in the UN General Assembly committees and elsewhere, on 19 October. Cable also attaches latest UN correspondence.

UN General Assembly (UNGA) discussion (following veto in UN Security Council: s 47E(d))

s 33(b)

s 33(a)(iii)

In terms of Russia's letter seeking an Emergency Special Session (ESS), s 33(a)(iii) the PGA will be guided by the OIC on the way ahead, with a meeting between the PGA and OIC expected to take place on 23 October. We'll advise further on timing, including for provision of a draft statement, when we have greater certainty.

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

Committee discussions

5. The **First (Disarmament and International Security) Committee** commenced thematic discussions on outer space. s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

8. In the **Fourth (Special Political and Decolonization) Committee**, Israel delivered its national statement during the debate on the 'Questions on Information' agenda item, saying Hamas had carried out its 7 October massacre while live streaming it for the world to see. Israeli people had been targeted by a genocidal organisation that was committed to one goal – the massacre of Jews. It had spread its message in the digital space and on social media and it had spread misinformation. It was responsible for weaponising the media. Any media that spread its narrative was complicit. Israel had been blamed for the Al Ahli bombing, without any fact checking or verification. The result was mass protests. Information in the wrong hands spread hate. But it could also unite people – Israel welcomed the role of Holocaust outreach. Regrettably, despite promises of 'never again', the Jewish people had again witnessed anti-Semitism on a genocidal scale. By believing and spreading Hamas's terrorist information, States were complicit with Hamas, and in promoting terrorist propaganda. This applied to the UN when it repeated information without fact checking.

9. The Palestinian Observer Mission (POM) said history had taught us that dehumanisation was the first tool of war, that allowed all future crimes. Israel had been carrying out a dehumanisation campaign. Hell had been unleashed on Gaza. Entire families of 40 people had been killed. The events of 7 October had been horrible, as had the events of the 9–19 October and counting. Israel said Palestinians had been responsible for their own deaths – it was never Israel's fault. Countries that had said nothing about the years of Palestinian deaths, annexation, occupation and blockade went on to justify the killing of civilians. They were ready to justify the siege and unable to call for an end to the assault. What number of Palestinian deaths would be required to trigger shock, empathy and solidarity? Countries spoke of the rules of humanity – were Palestinians not included? Millions of protestors had spoken out, but their governments were unable to form a position grounded in international law. Israel enjoyed all the rights – but none of the obligations – of international law. When would it be held to account? The five previous wars in Gaza had demonstrated that Israel bombed everyone. It bombed convoys leaving north Gaza, it bombed people in the south. Countries claimed freedom of speech, and defended Israeli propaganda, but silenced voices that called for international law. The Holocaust was probably the worst disaster of the 20th century, but it should not be used to justify further war crimes. People were on the brink of a humanitarian crisis. Palestine wanted to find a way for people to be free and for all people to be safe, for Israel and Palestine to co-exist. It was trying to justify saving lives not to justify killing others.

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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10. Yemen said the Palestinian people had been experiencing an assault by the Israeli army, as well as an unjust and immoral blockade. They were being deprived of the essentials for life – it was a war crime and a crime against humanity, including the attack against Al Ahli hospital. Yemen called for an immediate ceasefire and cautioned against further violence. Qatar expressed its concern about the situation in Gaza and urged restraint. It called for humanitarian access and for a political solution, including a Palestinian state. The League of Arab States said the UN had to take the time to focus on the suffering of Palestinians under Israeli occupation, and amplify UNRWA and others' calls for the inalienable rights of the people. The UN had been vocal about the plight of the Ukrainian people but its response was limited on the Palestinian people.

11. In rights of reply, Israel said that the Palestinian Authority had never condemned the killing of civilians. The first tool of war was the rockets and weapons Hamas had used, and continue to fire at Israel. Those at the Nova Festival would have preyed to have received notice to evacuate, but they didn't. Few leaders in the world had denied the Holocaust as Abbas had, the POM had better not reference it. POM said that it condemned the killings of Israel civilians. It was not asking Israel to mourn Palestinian civilians but to stop killing them. Was talking about international law terrorist propaganda? The irony was that Israel talked about Hamas's bombs while it continued to bomb and use white phosphorus – that was the absurdity of the situation. The mention of peace was propaganda. Palestine did not deny the holocaust – it was one of the worst horrors of the 20th century and had led to the UN's founding. But Israel was not allowed to use it to justify killing Palestinians. Palestine recognised the State of Israel – POM urged Israel to recognise the state of Palestine. And the stop the killing. It would not be allowed to take the moral high road after killing a thousand children.

12. The remainder of the **Sixth (Legal) Committee's** plenary debate on the rule of law saw an exchange of statements and rights of reply by Israel and the Permanent Observer Mission (POM). POM provided a graphic description of the situation in Gaza and said the attack on the Al Ahli hospital was a war crime by an occupying power. It was a massacre by appointment. Israel had said it would target hospitals, and the world had just stood by and done nothing. The Israeli Prime Minister had called Palestinian children the children of darkness, and the world had stood by and done nothing. Five children were being killed every hour in Gaza. The situation in 'Palestine' had always been the litmus test for the viability and authority of the rule of law and this latest conflict had exposed its selectivity. Seventy five years of history marked by Israeli massacres should have been enough time for the world to hold Israel to account. Instead of choosing international law, with every massacre Israel had spread lies and had falsified crimes. The lives of all Palestinians were the evidence of Israel's crimes that could not be covered up any longer. The world knew the truth.

13. Israel said all it had heard in the debate were lies and false propaganda from beginning to end, without unequivocal condemnation of the horrors committed against the Israeli people and the crimes of Hamas. Yelling into the microphone and banging his fist on the table, the Israeli delegate said the accusation that Israel had bombed Al Ahli hospital was fake news. The Palestinian jihad terrorist organisation had misfired a missile directed to Israel, which had landed on the hospital. The Palestinians were inflating numbers and the international community should not fall for its cheap manipulation. Hamas had left Israel with no choice. Israel took pride in upholding the rule of law in the region, but there was no room for comparison between Hamas and Israel. One was a State and the other was a homicidal

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organisation aiming to eradicate Jews and Israel with zero regard for human rights and the rule of law. The release of all hostages by Hamas was the critical humanitarian imperative, which the international community should urgently promote. It was not complex. There was pure good and pure evil. Pure evil would not prevail because Israel would prevail.

14. Earlier in the debate, several more States had added their voices to expressions of concern and condemnation about the situation in Gaza, especially the attack on the Al Ahli hospital, and called for a ceasefire, protection of civilians in compliance with international law and unimpeded humanitarian assistance (Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, UAE). Kuwait and Lebanon reiterated concerns about double standards and questioned how States that did not condemn Israel's atrocity crimes could claim to support a rules-based international order. The International Development Law Organisation also said that the horror of the last 10 days was a stark reminder that the rule of law was sacrosanct. Even in times of conflict, all were equal before the law and all were entitled to its equal protection.

15. The **General Assembly Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People** issued a [statement](#) condemning the killing and wounding of civilians and the targeting of civilian infrastructure in the Gaza Strip; and expressing grave concern at the humanitarian disaster being imposed by Israel against the Palestinian civilian population. It called on the international community to put aside divisions and uphold the political, legal, humanitarian and moral obligations invoked by this dangerous crisis, including calling for an immediate cease-fire, delivery of humanitarian aid and a just and peaceful solution to the conflict.

Humanitarian

16. The Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) has launched a USD 10 million emergency funding appeal to support local women's organisations involved in the humanitarian response, peace and protection efforts in the OPTs (attached). WPHF reports the conflict is having disproportionate impacts on women and girls, including through increased risks of gender based-violence, trafficking and forced marriage. Cable also attaches UNICEF's Immediate Needs Document for October-December 2023 and the UN Interagency Flash Appeal (published 12 October).

text ends

Sent by: s 22(1)(a)(ii)**Prepared by:****Approved by:****Topics:** POLITICAL-ECONOMIC/International Political, UN & COMMONWEALTH/UN Discussions▼ New Distribution

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Immediate Needs Document in the State of Palestine

October – December 2023

UNICEF SoP | ESCALATION URGENT NEEDS

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Since the start of the escalation on 7 October, large-scale grave violations against children have been reported in Israel and in the State of Palestine, including the killing and maiming of children, abductions, and attacks on civilian infrastructure and essential public services such as schools, WASH, and health facilities, including ambulances and health personnel. The hostilities have led to grave humanitarian consequences, with lives, homes, schools, medical facilities, and infrastructure damaged and destroyed.¹

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, at least 2,670 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip have been killed,² including at least 724 children,³ with 9,600 people injured,⁴ including 2,450 children.⁵ Over 638,000 people are internally displaced within the Gaza Strip,⁶ sheltering in schools or with relatives. UNRWA has reported that 102 UNRWA schools are used as designated shelters, hosting more than 270,000 people, while another 29 public schools run by the Palestinian authorities are also sheltering internally displaced people.⁷

Israeli sources report that at least 1,300 Israelis have been killed and 3,842 injured.⁸ No disaggregated data is yet available on Israeli children killed and injured, but initial reports indicate many casualties among children. According to Israeli sources, at least 155 Israelis, among them children,⁹ have been captured and forcibly taken into the Gaza Strip.¹⁰

Since 7 October, 48 attacks on health¹¹ and 170 attacks on education facilities¹² have been reported in the Gaza Strip, with health attacks resulting in 12 fatalities and 20 injuries among healthcare staff, and nine attacks on health reported in Israel. In the northern Gaza Strip, 22 hospitals serving 2,000 inpatients have received orders to evacuate.¹³ The situation has reached dramatic levels. Fuel has run out, and the Gaza Power Plant is reportedly out of service as of the afternoon of 11 October 2023.

Additionally, the situation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, remains tense. At least 58 Palestinians, including 16 children, were killed in various areas across the West Bank since 7 October 2023, and the Ministry of Health reported that 1,200 Palestinians were injured are reported injured.¹⁴ Most of the checkpoints in the West Bank remained closed, further exacerbating movement restrictions on the population.

¹ Statement by the Humanitarian Coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Lynn Hastings, on the hostilities between Palestinian armed groups in the Gaza Strip and Israel.

² As of 17:45, 15th October (MoH Gaza)

³ Children figures are as of 12:00, 14th October (MoH Gaza)

⁴ As of 17:45, 15th October (MoH Gaza)

⁵ Children figures are as of 12:00, 14th October (MoH Gaza)

⁶ OCHA oPt - Hostilities in the Gaza Strip and Israel | Flash Update #7, 13 October.

⁷ OCHA oPt - Hostilities in the Gaza Strip and Israel | Flash Update #6, 12 October

⁸ As of 17:30, 15th October (MoH Israel).

⁹ Including members of the Israeli forces, and Israeli and foreign civilians, among them women and children.

¹⁰ OCHA oPt - Escalation in the Gaza Strip and Israel | Flash Update #5

¹¹ WHO, 12th October

¹² Education Cluster, 15th October

¹³ WHO, 14th October

¹⁴ As of 18:00, 15th October (MoH)

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Before this latest violence, children in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank including East Jerusalem were significantly affected by conflict-related violence¹⁵, and one million children were already in need of humanitarian aid – almost half the child population. In the Gaza Strip, more than 816,000 children were identified in need of mental health and psychosocial support following six rounds of armed conflict since 2008 and daily protection issues. This is compounded by the dire socio-economic and humanitarian situation, particularly that for children – resulting in increased vulnerabilities and a noticeable deterioration in the quality of people's lives.

The magnitude of the recent hostilities is leading to grave humanitarian consequences¹⁶ and is further putting children in the Gaza Strip and their families at risk, as well as their access to essential basic services. Delivery of social services, including WASH, health, and education, is impacted. The entry of food and fuel has also been restricted for the last week.

The electricity cuts are affecting WASH and health services, in particular hospitals that now rely on backup generators. All health facilities struggle to provide adequate medical care without electricity, power medical equipment, and refrigeration for medicines are totally saturated with the increased numbers of injured people.

People across the Gaza Strip have severely limited access to clean drinking water. Most of the water systems are non-operational due to damage to the infrastructure, lack of fuel or/and access constraints. According to the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA), water production capacity is at 5 per cent of the normal daily production. As a last resort, people are consuming brackish water from agricultural wells, which is unfit for human consumption. The lack of safe water and the spread/overflow of wastewater can trigger water-related diseases, also affecting the physical well-being of women and children.

All the education facilities in the Gaza Strip are closed for one week, affecting over 600,000 children. Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) online service and hotline services are operating at a limited capacity, with outreach services not an option due to the security situation.

Schools in the West Bank, both UNRWA and Palestinian Authorities schools, are open, employing a blended learning approach that combines distance and in-person education.

Immediate Sectoral Needs¹⁷



Health and Nutrition
600,000 people



WASH
1,200,000 people



Education
300,000 children



Protection
300,000 people



Multi-purpose Cash
Assistance
74,000 people

¹⁵ Prior to the start of latest violence on 7 October, 50 Palestinian and 6 Israeli children had been killed in conflict-related incidents in the West Bank including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. (In the West Bank including East Jerusalem, 2023 was already the deadliest year for Palestinian and Israeli children since 2003.)

¹⁶ Statement by the Humanitarian Coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Lynn Hastings, on the hostilities between Palestinian armed groups in the Gaza Strip and Israel.

¹⁷ HOSTILITIES IN GAZA AND ISRAEL Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territory Version 1 as of 12 October 2023

WHAT IS UNICEF DOING?

The inter-agency contingency plan for the Gaza Strip has been activated to facilitate the coordination of the humanitarian response and address emerging needs, including the needs of those displaced from their homes.

UNICEF released its prepositioned supply located in the Gaza Strip, including:

- Medical supplies for hospitals for at least 1,600 trauma patients for one month
- Water treatment reagents (5m³) to produce water at the UNICEF-supported desalination plant in the Gaza Strip.
- 50,000 liters of fuel, to support the operation of water and sanitation facilities
- WASH spare parts (fittings, pipes, etc.) supporting the immediate repair of damaged networks when possible.
- 500 recreational kits for children in the Designated Emergency Shelters (DES).
- Humanitarian cash to 1,000 extremely vulnerable households for their children and households' immediate basic humanitarian needs.

To respond to Child Protection needs, UNICEF also started to provide remote Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) and counselling, MHPSS, and awareness on coping mechanisms to children and their families through existing partnerships while continuing to closely monitor the situation of children and grave violations while calling for an immediate ceasefire.

As the situation on the ground is evolving rapidly, UNICEF is also working with the UNICEF office in Egypt to preposition lifesaving supplies in Egypt to cover at least 150,000 people in the event of an opening of the crossing point between the Gaza Strip and Egypt. So far the following supplies are pre-positioned in Egypt for the Gaza Strip or planned for delivery:

- 2,000 dignity kits to reach at least 12,000 people, with a further 150 dignity kits on their way.
- Four mobile latrines.
- 45,000 packages of bottled water for 270,000 people.
- Water quality chemicals to support the operation of the UNICEF-supported desalination plant for one month to provide safe drinking water for more than 75,000 people.
- Education and protection supplies including recreational kits, tents, and blankets.
- Four emergency medicine health kits and 25 emergency health consumable kits for an estimated 195,000 people for one month.



UNICEF PLANNED RESPONSE

- WASH – 1.1 million people accessing sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs
- Health – 324,000 people supported with medical supplies
- Nutrition – 107,000 children between 6-59 months screened for acute malnutrition
- Child Protection – at least 180,000 children receiving explosive weapons-related risk education and child protection support
- Education – 100,000 children provided with education in emergencies learning materials
- Social Protection – 10,000 households reached with humanitarian cash transfers

PRIORITY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

As part of the inter-agency Flash Appeal, UNICEF will provide the following initial humanitarian response. The response will be adjusted as the situation is evolving fast, and needs assessments are yet to be conducted.

WASH immediate response - US\$ 5,520,000

UNICEF's WASH response will focus on the following: i) Provision of emergency fuel for three months for operating key water desalination plants and water and sanitation pumping stations located across the Gaza Strip, ii) Provision of water and disinfection and consumable materials for the operation of critical WASH facilities; iii) Rapid repairs and provision/procurement of required spare parts and tools for affected WASH infrastructure; iv) Provision of hygiene kits for the affected families; and v) Support effective leadership and coordination of the WASH cluster.

Health immediate response - US\$ 4,180,000

UNICEF's Health response will focus on the following: i) Procurement and delivery of essential medical supplies (medical drugs, consumables) to support the health care services; ii) Provision of fuel for hospitals and health centers; iii) Provision of services for newborns; and iv) Community awareness raising.

Nutrition immediate response - US\$ 1,200,000

UNICEF's Nutrition response will focus on the following: i) Scale up/ Sustain Infant and young child feeding including early childhood programming (counselling, breast feeding, artificial feeding, complementary feeding, monitoring); ii) Support nutrition care for wasted children including screening for wasting and referral for treatment; iii) Micronutrient supplementation for women and children; iv) Procurement and provision of nutrition supplies for children and women; v) Support effective leadership and coordination of the nutrition sector.



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FUNDING REQUIREMENT

To respond to the on-going unprecedented humanitarian crisis, UNICEF estimates an urgent need for an initial US\$ 20 million to cover life-saving needs over the next three months as part of the Inter-Agency Flash Appeal¹⁸. This comes in addition to the 2023 UNICEF HAC appeal of US\$23.8 million with a current gap of US\$13 million. Needs are expected to increase significantly, and the UNICEF funding appeal will be revised accordingly. Without sufficient funding, thousands of people, including children in desperate need, will not have access to essential social services, psychosocial support, and emergency supplies.

Sector	UNICEF Requirement as part of Inter-Agency Flash Appeal	
Health	\$	4,180,000
Nutrition	\$	1,200,000
Child protection	\$	2,400,000
Education	\$	2,393,000
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	\$	5,520,000
Social Protection/ Humanitarian Cash	\$	3,275,000
Cross-sectoral (SBC, AAP and PSEA)	\$	150,000
Coordination	\$	882,000
Total	\$	20,000,000

¹⁸ UNICEF will revise its 2023 HAC appeal to include additional urgent needs.

For further information:

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FLASH APPEAL OPT

OCTOBER 2023



Destruction in Gaza Strip. 8 October 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Mohammed Hinnawi

HOSTILITIES IN GAZA AND ISRAEL

VERSION 1 AS OF 12 OCTOBER 2023

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Flash Appeal at a Glance

Introduction

The OPT Flash Appeal calls for approximately US \$ 294 million for 77 humanitarian partners to address the most urgent needs of 1,260,000 people in the Gaza Strip (Gaza) and the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem. It brings together the work and funding requirements of the humanitarian community in OPT, including 13 UN Agencies, 29 International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs), the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and 35 National NGOs (NNGOs). UNRWA plays a unique role in OPT, serving as the main direct provider of basic services – education, health, relief and social services, protection, camp infrastructure and improvement and emergency assistance - to 1.5 million registered Palestine

refugees in Gaza. In the West Bank, UNRWA serves 1.1 million Palestine refugees and other registered persons, of whom 890,000 are refugees. UNRWA is part of the humanitarian architecture in OPT and coordinates through the humanitarian cluster system. Their requirements are included in this appeal.

However, funding in 2023 has been a challenge and the humanitarian needs compounded by the current situation in Gaza, May 2023 escalation in Gaza, and deteriorating situation in the West Bank have left humanitarian organizations without the resources required to adequately respond to the full range of needs of the most vulnerable Palestinians.



Palestinians inspect the damage following an Israeli airstrike on the Sousi mosque in Gaza City on October 9, 2023. ©Photo by Mahmud HAMS / AFP

Crisis Overview

The 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) identifies 2.1 million Palestinians as requiring urgent assistance in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), where humanitarian needs are primarily driven by the protracted Israeli military occupation, 15 years of the Gaza blockade, internal Palestinian political divisions and recurrent hostilities between Israeli security forces and Palestinian armed groups. This represents 58 per cent of Gaza Strip residents and one quarter of West Bank Residents.

As of 7 October 2023, since the early morning hours, Palestinian armed groups in Gaza launched more than 3,500 missiles and rockets towards Israel and breached the perimeter fence of Gaza in multiple locations. Members of armed groups entered Israeli towns, communities, and military facilities near the Gaza Strip, killing and capturing Israeli forces and civilians. The Israeli military declared "a state of war alert," and began striking targets in the Gaza Strip.

The deadliest attack in Israel in decades, more than 1,300 Israeli and foreign nationals, including women, children, and the elderly, were killed in Israel by members of Palestinian armed groups, including one paramedic, according to Israeli media. According to the Ministry of Health, at least 3,391 people have been injured, the vast majority on 7 October. Between 100 and 150 Israelis, including Israeli forces and civilians, including women, children, elderly and foreign nationals, have been captured and forcibly taken into Gaza, according to Israeli sources.

The Palestinian Ministry of Health reports at least 1,417 Palestinians have been killed, including 447 children and 248 women, and 6,268 injured. At the time of writing, 423,378 Palestinians have been displaced, with UNRWA hosting around 64 per cent of them in 102 premises, some of which are designated emergency shelters. Additionally, 26,984 IDPs have taken refuge at 29 public schools. It is estimated that over 153,004 IDPs are with relatives and neighbours, as well as in other public facilities. According to the Gaza Ministry of Public Works, 752 residential and non-residential buildings, comprising 2,835 housing units, have been destroyed. Another 1,791 housing units have been damaged beyond repair and rendered uninhabitable.

Gaza's sole power plant ran out of fuel and has stopped functioning, cutting the only electricity source to the Gaza strip. This followed the announcement on 9 October by Israeli authorities that they would halt provision of electricity and fuel supplies to Gaza. Sanitation facilities have also been damaged, destroyed or rendered inoperable.

As of 12 October, most residents in the Gaza Strip no longer have access to drinking water from service providers or domestic water through pipelines. Since the start of hostilities, six water wells, three water pumping station, one water reservoir, and one desalination plant serving over 1.1 million people have been damaged by airstrikes and Israeli authorities

ceased providing water supplies on 8 October. UNICEF reports some have already begun drinking seawater, which is highly saline and contaminated with sewage from the discharge of over 120,000 cubic meters of untreated wastewater daily.

Health facilities are overwhelmed, medical stocks are in short supply and access to hospitals and medical care is hindered by the ongoing hostilities and damaged roads. According to WHO, 18 healthcare facilities and 20 ambulances were hit by airstrikes. PRCs reports 11 fatalities and 16 injuries to medical personnel, four of whom were killed when an ambulance was hit. Gaza is home to 50,000 pregnant women who are struggling to access essential health services as healthcare workers, hospitals and clinics come under attack. Some 5,500 of these women are due to give birth in the coming month. Since the imposition of closures in the West Bank there have been cases reported to UNFPA of women having to birth at checkpoints.

Prior to the recent hostilities, Gaza already bore a heavy mental health burden, particularly among children. A recent assessment conducted by Terre des Hommes on behalf of the Child Protection Mental Health and Psychosocial Working Group, revealed that 54.6 per cent of those surveyed exhibited below-average levels of well-being and 36 per cent reported experiencing moderate to severe levels of anxiety. The level of toxic stress under which children live is having a clear and significant impact on their psychosocial wellbeing.

According to the Education Cluster, at least 88 education facilities have been struck. This includes 18 UNRWA schools, two of which were used as emergency shelters for IDPs, and 70 public schools. For the sixth consecutive day, there has been no access to education or safe spaces for more than 600,000 children in Gaza.

Nearly 60 per cent of households in Gaza were considered food insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity prior to the October hostilities. The livelihoods of many farmers, breeders, herders, and fishers have been negatively impacted by the destruction, damage or lack of access to their lands, productive assets, and farming infrastructure. Poultry and livestock sectors risk complete collapse due to the severe shortage of fodders, placing at risk the livelihood of 30,000 households, or 150 000 people, and the availability of meat and other fresh sources of protein for the entire population of Gaza.

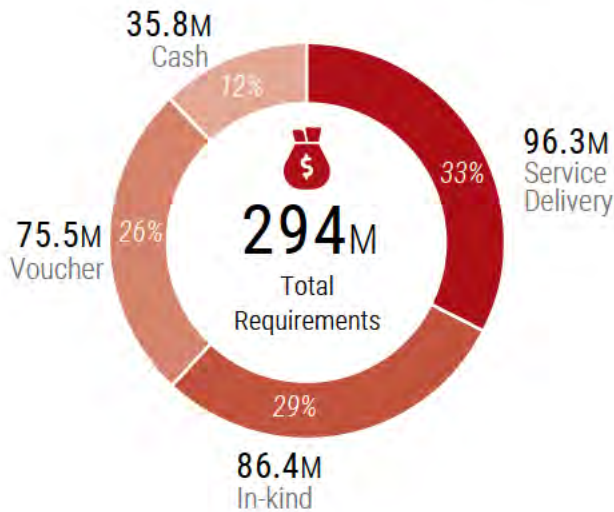
Initial Ministry of Agriculture estimates daily losses of more than US \$100,000 from the closure of borders and the inability to export more than 80 tons of fresh agricultural products. Affected farmers, herders and fishers require immediate food, fodder, and production inputs assistance to reactivate their productive capacities and livelihoods and avoid long-term aid dependence. Those still displaced remain in need of emergency food assistance. Also in need are vulnerable families, including those headed by women, the elderly, and those with special needs and people in poor health.

Funding Requirements

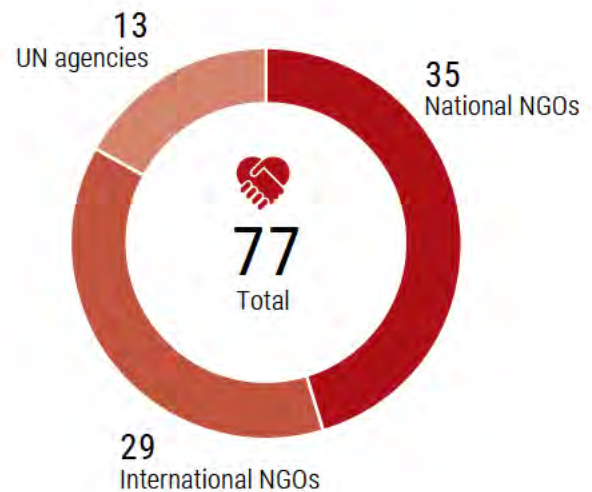
FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND TARGETED PEOPLE BY CLUSTER



FUNDING REQUIREMENTS BY MODALITY



IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS BY TYPE



DISAGGREGATION BY GEOGRAPHY



While focus has primarily been on Gaza, the situation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, remains tense. Since the start of the recent hostilities in Gaza and Israel, confrontations between Israeli forces and Palestinians has resulted in 33 fatalities, including five children. Settler violence has also been growing with additional communities being displaced, citing settler violence. Extensive closures have been imposed around West Bank cities and are severely impacting access to essential services.

Gender-Specific Impacts

The humanitarian consequences of the ongoing hostilities are accompanied by gender specific vulnerabilities and risks. Recognizing that the crisis affects women, girls, boys and men differently, with differing needs, interests, resources, capacities and coping strategies, an accountable response must assess and respond to gender-specific impacts.

The crisis has resulted in a high number of fatalities among men, which also translates into women who are now “new widows”. In OPT, widowed women lack protection in accessing rights to child custody and guardianship, as well as control over inheritance from a deceased spouse. In contrast, female headed households in OPT are eligible for permanent social safety nets, however minimal.

According to the Gender Based Violence (GBV) Secondary Data Review published in 2022, longstanding drivers of GBV in Gaza include the Israeli blockade, which constrains economic opportunities and freedom of movement; recurring escalations of violence; political fragmentation; and strong, prevailing traditional gender norms. The impact of GBV is exacerbated by extremely limited lifesaving GBV services and access to services is further restricted by stigma and discrimination. For those experiencing GBV, the ability to access quality and timely care as well as support to protect themselves or recover is a reoccurring challenge.

With forced displacement that leaves women and girls outside of their homes, the threat of GBV increases. Large-scale destruction of homes has resulted in families taking refuge with hosts, often resulting in overcrowding. In previous escalations of hostilities affecting Gaza, this has resulted in an increase in sexual and gender-based violence among women and girls. In addition, prolonged electricity cuts, water scarcity and cooking gas shortages will increase the domestic burdens and psychosocial impact of the crisis, primarily affecting women and girls.

According to women-led organizations, women who are internally displaced identified access to food and clean water as top priorities. They emphasize the need for food security and

nutrition interventions that meet the needs of different family members (including pregnant and lactating women, women and girls with disabilities, older people, and children). Women also highlighted the need for livelihood interventions, most immediately through unconditional cash assistance to support them in addressing urgent needs of their families. Non-food items (NFIs) and dignity kits that are gender and age sensitive were also cited as critical. In previous escalations, women report the need for psychosocial assistance for themselves and their children.

Securing women’s and girls’ easy access to comprehensive health services, including sexual and reproductive health, is of key importance. This includes protecting families from the spread of contagious diseases in host communities and designated emergency shelters- and equitable access to medicine men and women.

Ensuring that GBV prevention and response activities continue is also a priority. This includes using agreed GBV case management standard operating procedures (SOPs) and referral pathways and prioritizing those who are most at risk.

Civilian men, particularly young men, have heightened vulnerability of death and injuries due to their public engagement, role in first response services and community support. Threats to men and boys include risks associated with the Explosive Remnants of War (ERW).

Ongoing Assessments

The Flash Appeal is based on the Inter-Agency Contingency Plans (IACP) for Gaza and the West Bank. It builds upon the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and comprehensive Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) that underpins it, alongside new and additional information from UN organizations and partners on the ground, including UNRWA staff who continue to provide essential services.

The situation is continuing to unfold rapidly, and staff continue to have limited movement due to the ongoing hostilities and insecurity. Subject to improvement in the security situation, UN OCHA aims to conduct inter-cluster/agency needs assessments in collaboration with Cluster Coordinators. The assessment will aim to comprehensively evaluate the severity and scale of humanitarian needs in the Gaza Strip. Additionally, in cooperation with UNOSAT OCHA plans to collect and analyse high-resolution satellite imagery to identify and quantify damage to urban and agricultural areas.

Response Strategy

Strategic Objectives

While prioritizing the immediate needs generated by the current hostilities, the Flash Appeal aligns with the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan under the following Strategic Objectives:

1**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:**

The rights of Palestinians living under occupation, including those living under the blockade and other restrictions, are protected, respected, and promoted in accordance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law, (IHRL) while duty-bearers are increasingly held to account.

2**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2:**

The basic needs of vulnerable Palestinians living under occupation are met through the provision of quality basic services and improved access to resources, in accordance with the rights of protected persons under IHL.

3**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3:**

The capacity of vulnerable Palestinians to cope with and overcome the protracted crisis, including from environmental threats, is supported while solutions to violations and other root causes of threats and shocks are pursued.

The response will put communities at the center. Partners under this appeal will work to further scale accountability to affected people, including PSEA support through the Sawa hotline and activities focused on sensitization, training, and monitoring. Protection serves as the foundation for the overall response which will be inclusive and gender-responsive with a specific focus on gender-based violence (GBV).

Government response efforts

Ultimate responsibility for the provision of relief assistance to people impacted by humanitarian crises rests with the Government of the affected territory. The OPT Flash Appeal addresses gaps in the fulfilment of those responsibilities while seeking to work in coordination with efforts made to alleviate humanitarian needs and enhance the rights of the affected population.



Prioritization

Activities have been identified by UN Agencies and partners that aim to address immediate needs which have been caused by or significantly exacerbated by the current hostilities in Gaza and associated tensions in the West Bank.

Operational Capacity

OPT hosts a substantial presence of national and international organizations, with 35 national NGOs, 29 international NGOs, and 13 UN agencies.

Access and Logistical Constraints

The hostilities are currently ongoing in Gaza and Israel, with associated tensions increasing in the West Bank, creating heightened insecurity that is severely limiting the movement of staff and humanitarian organizations, as well as civilians. Access for the efficient delivery of humanitarian aid is currently restricted.

At the time of writing, the Erez and Kerem Shalom crossings remain closed due to the hostilities while the Rafah crossing with Egypt remains limitedly operative for movement of some people and goods. Movement within the Gaza strip is

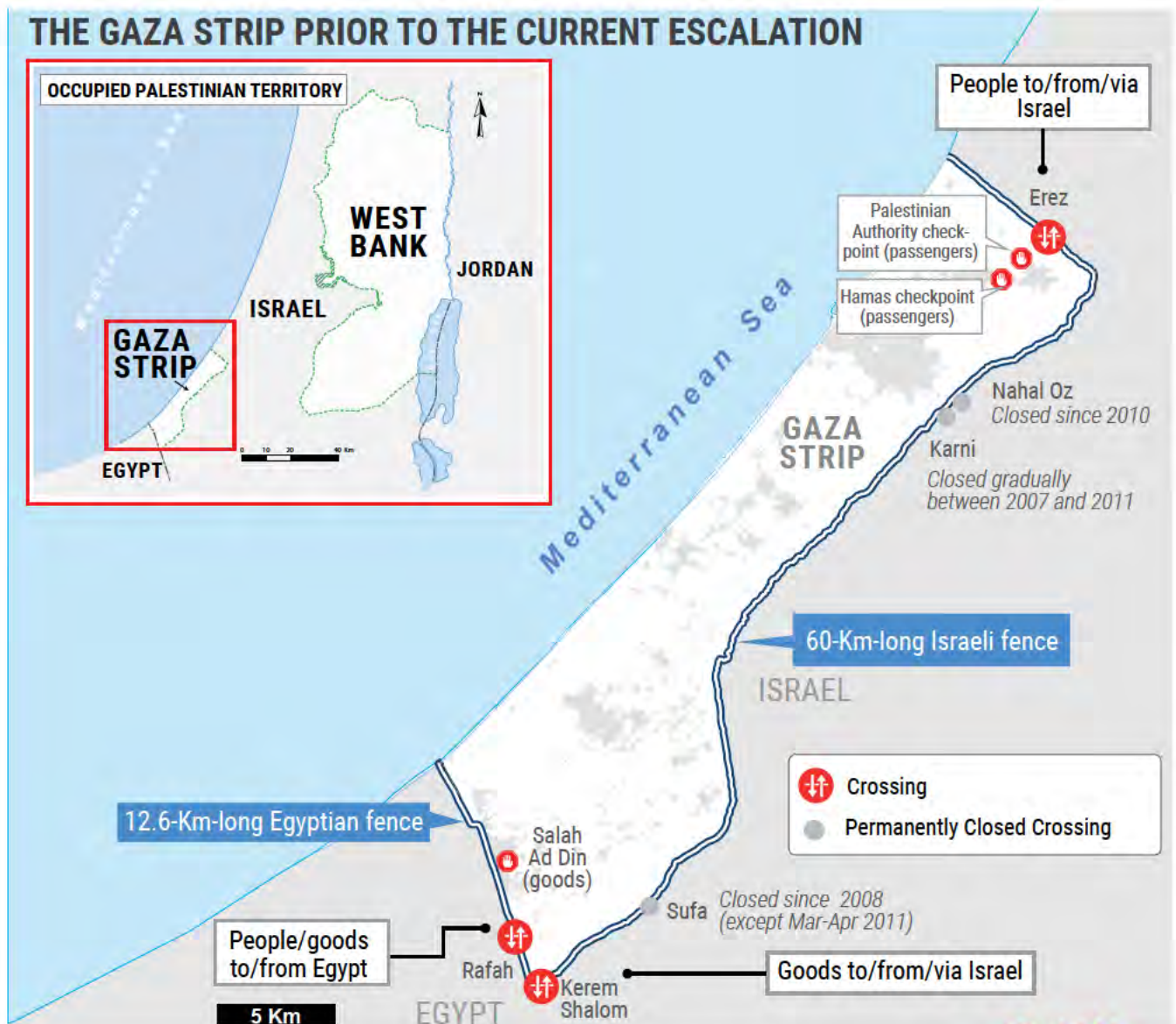
constrained due to the intensity of hostilities and damage to infrastructure. Communications towers have been affected by airstrikes, causing connectivity issues and inhibiting communications with colleagues in the Gaza Strip.

In the West Bank, Israeli authorities continue to impose numerous movement restrictions, including the closure of several checkpoints and the erection of barriers at entrances to towns and, effectively isolating cities and towns from the main roads. This approach further impedes access and the efficient delivery of humanitarian aid.

Costing

Under the leadership of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), the National Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (NICCG) launched a two-year pilot transition to activity-based costing (ABC) in 2023 for the 2024 HRP. This Flash Appeal draws upon the work done by the NICCG and partners and employs an ABC methodology.

Further, efforts will be made to ensure that the response outlined is fully complementary with humanitarian-development-peace nexus initiatives.



Priority Needs and Response

Health and Nutrition

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	PEOPLE TARGETED	PARTNERS	CONTACT INFORMATION
\$23.1M	0.6M	27	Chipo Takawira (ctakawira@who.int)

Priority humanitarian needs

- The thousands of injured need various levels of trauma and emergency healthcare services including early rehabilitation.
- Procurement of trauma and emergency care drugs, medical disposables, lab supplies and equipment which are in critical shortage which is hindering case management.
- Need for fuel supplies at key hospitals and for ambulance services to support their capacity to continue providing life-saving services to the injured.
- Limited or no access to essential healthcare services, including sexual and reproductive health, to the general affected population especially impacting women and children.
- Mental health and psychosocial support to the highly traumatised population including provision of psychotropic medicines for those suffering from mental health disorders.

Planned response

The following critical activities that can be implemented in the 90-day timeframe have been identified:

- Support pre-hospital, hospital, and post-hospital case management of the injured through procurement of emergency and critical care drugs, medical disposables, lab supplies and equipment as well as deployment of surge staff and specialized Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs).
- Provide early access to multidisciplinary rehabilitation services for the injured including limb reconstruction.
- Provide fuel to key hospitals and ambulance services to ensure that they can continue treating the injured.
- Support provision of essential primary and secondary healthcare services including nutrition, sexual and reproductive health, non-communicable disease management, maternal and child health services.
- Provide mental health and psychosocial support including provision of psychotropic medicines.
- As the logistical challenges of accessing Gaza are ever present it is important to support emergency preparedness by immediately replenishing depleted prepositioned supplies.

Food Security

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	PEOPLE TARGETED	PARTNERS	CONTACT INFORMATION
\$132.7M	1.2M	13	Stefania DiGiuseppe (stefania.digiuseppe@fao.org)

Priority humanitarian needs

- The scale of displacement has overwhelmed existing resources, leaving many vulnerable families without access to basic necessities, including food, clean water and electricity.
- The destruction has severely disrupted the food supply chains in Gaza. Families face acute food shortages. By now, food unavailability is not just a crisis; it is a catastrophe.
- Emergency food assistance is needed to cover around 1.2 million people. Moreover, the agricultural sector has been hugely damaged. Urgent support is needed to help farmers and herders rebuild their lives. This support can provide essential resources to restart farming/herding and fisheries activities and restore dignity.
- It is expected the situation is worsening also in the West Bank.

Planned response

The following critical activities have been identified for implementation in the 90-day timeframe:

- Deliver essential food provisions to the most vulnerable individuals, including in-kind assistance, cash transfers, and e-vouchers.
- Deliver inputs indispensable to ensure the survival of the animals, reactivate productions by farmers, herders and fisher and restore supply of essential nutritious foods.

Protection

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$18.2M

PEOPLE TARGETED

0.3M

PARTNERS

67

CONTACT INFORMATION

Connie Pedersen (connie.pedersen@un.org)

Priority humanitarian needs

- Protection of civilians.
- Documentation of violations of International Human Rights Law and Humanitarian Law.
- Legal aid for movement of people including patients, and for housing, land, and property rights.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- Comprehensive GBV services for GBV survivors and those in heightened risk of GBV.
- Emergency referral pathways for GBV.
- Enhanced infrastructure for GBV remote services, including hotlines.
- Dignity kits for women and girls.

Child Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Services (MHPSS)

- Structured and specialized child protection, mental health and psychosocial support services for children and caregivers.
- Remote psychological first aid and counselling.
- Psychosocial/recreational kits inside formal and informal shelter.
- Awareness raising for vulnerable including children and caregivers.

Mine Action

- Unexploded ordnance contamination.
- Rapid ERW risk assessments at UN and humanitarian sites and routes to ensure safe access for UN and humanitarian partners.
- Clearance of deep buried bombs.
- Widespread delivery of explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) and Conflict Preparedness and Protection (CPP) messaging.

Planned Response

The following critical activities that can be implemented in the x-day timeframe have been identified:

- Monitoring, and reporting on violations of IHL and IHRL including tracking civilian casualties.
- Provision of legal aid to support freedom of movement outside Gaza.

- Delivering awareness raising on accessing legal aid in the context of IHL/IHRL violations and displacement.
- Legal cases/representation for individual victims of IHL/IHRL violations.
- West Bank: Protective presence.

GBV

- Comprehensive GBV services for GBV survivors, and women and girls who are at the risk of GBV, including virtual/remote MHPSS, counselling, hotlines, legal support, case management, shelters, and awareness raising.
- Support for GBV frontline workers.
- Procurement and provision of dignity kits for women and girls.
- Cash assistance for host community and protection cases in shelters.
- Activation of GBV emergency referral pathways.

Child Protection and MHPSS

- Structured and specialized Child Protection, MHPSS for children and caregivers.
- Remote PFA and counselling through helpline scale up.
- Distribution of psychosocial/ recreational kits inside formal and informal shelter.
- Provision of child protection and MHPSS services to support vulnerable children and families affected by conflict-related violence and violations and violence in households.
- Awareness raising for vulnerable communities' members (including children and caregivers) on CP issues and on ERW life-saving messages.

Mine Action

- Provision of Community Based Explosive Remnants Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) including Conflict Preparedness and Protection (CPP) for vulnerable communities and UN and Humanitarian Partners personnel.
- Provision of Risk Assessment for UN and humanitarian partners project sites.
- Provision of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) clearance and deep buried bomb (DBB) excavation and disposal.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	PEOPLE TARGETED	PARTNERS	CONTACT INFORMATION
\$19.5M	1.26M	42	Yasser Nassar (ynassar@unicef.org)

Priority humanitarian needs

- Access to WASH facilities, ample water supply and hygiene materials.
- Waste accumulation in communities deprived of solid waste collection services.
- Delivering an ample supply of water to households experiencing shortages due to interrupted water services in their communities.
- Wastewater accumulation in households and communities affected by sewer service interruptions.
- Preparedness, and emergency response capabilities of WASH service providers, including securing spare parts and consumables for the operation of WASH facilities in the Gaza Strip.

Planned response

The following critical activities that can be implemented in the 90-day timeframe have been identified:

- Installation/ rehabilitation of water transmission pipelines, sewer collection networks and HHs connections.
- Provision of chlorine and operation chemicals for critical WASH facilities.
- Provision of emergency fuel for the WASH facilities suffering power supply shortage.
- Provision of sufficient quantity of water for drinking and domestic purposes and provision of HHs hygiene materials.
- Provision of water facilities critical operation and maintenance materials and tools.
- Provision/ rehabilitation of household sanitation units.
- Vacuuming and discharging wastewater, solid waste collection and removal.

Shelter and Non-Food Items

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	PEOPLE TARGETED	PARTNERS	CONTACT INFORMATION
\$31M	410K	18	Fadi Shamisti (coord1.palestine@sheltercluster)

Priority humanitarian needs

- During the first five days of the escalation, around 36,600 housing units were subjected to different levels of destruction and damage, of which 4,600 HUs were destroyed or severely damaged and rendered unliveable, and 32,000 HUs with minor to moderate damage. 3,800 families were displaced due to housing destruction.
- 410,000 estimated people were internally displaced from the beginning of the escalation, 280,000 in 102 UNRWA schools, some of which operated as designated emergency shelters, and 130,000 in urban displacement hosted by their relatives or at PA schools.
- Many collective centers are not equipped with the necessary infrastructure and services to protect the IDPs and ensure their dignity. In addition, many of these centers reach their maximum capacity and more IDPs still influxing, which will lead to extra strain on the existing services, over crowdedness, creating GBV, PSEA, and protection concerns.
- Tracking and identifying the IDPs in urban displacement are another main challenge, as one-third of the IDPs are hosted by other families. Collective efforts are required to improve the CWC to address the needs of IDPs in urban displacement.

Planned response

The following critical activities that can be implemented in the 90-day timeframe have been identified:

- Provision of temporary shelter cash assistance (TSCA) to IDPs families due to the destruction of shelters.
- One-time reintegration shelter cash assistance for IDP families.
- Provision of essential elements to the designated emergency shelters to ensure minimum adequate services for the IDPs, including but not limited to showers, mobile latrines, and partitions for privacy.
- Distribution of basic shelter/NFIs for affected and displaced families.
- Prioritized damage repair to allow the displaced families to return to their shelters.
- Winterization assistance to seal off the damaged windows, cracks, and doors.
- Rental cash subsidy for displaced families.

Education

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	PEOPLE TARGETED	PARTNERS	CONTACT INFORMATION
\$11.3M	300K	15	Fadi Baidoun (fbaidoun@unicef.org)

Priority humanitarian needs

- All education facilities are closed for the fourth day affecting 600,000 students and compounding learning loss.
- Displaced families are taking shelter in at least 284 public schools.
- Initial reports as of 12 October state that 20 UNRWA schools sustained damage of which 2 are used as shelters. At least 70 public schools sustained damages (1 school fully damaged, 2 severely damaged, 18 with moderate damage, and 49 with minor damage).
- School-aged children's mental wellbeing is affected due to the escalation.
- School-aged children have been displaced of which 100,000 are in shelters.
- School-aged children with disabilities have been displaced and affected in need of access to education services.

Planned response

The Education Cluster launched a partners' capacities mapping update exercise and activated the Education Cluster Assessment Team (ECAT) to rapidly deploy to undertake an in-depth sectoral assessment once the situation allows. The following critical activities that can be implemented in the 90-day timeframe have been identified:

- Provision of school-based PSS and recreational activities to at least 150,000 children and school staff as soon as the situation allows.
- Emergency rehabilitation for at least 90 damaged schools and 102 schools used as shelters (88 UNRWA DES, 28 public schools), following a cluster rapid need assessment.
- Provision of emergency supplies and learning kits to 150,000 children in DES or children in schools if/when they reopen.
- Identify and support children with disabilities needs with assistive devices for continuity of learning.

Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	PEOPLE TARGETED	PARTNERS	CONTACT INFORMATION
\$27M	410K	6+	Luca Sangalli (lsangalli@pt.acfspain.org)

Priority humanitarian needs

- Ensure HHs capacities to meet their most essential basic needs which were significantly impacted by displacement and loss of livelihoods.
- Ensure capacities of HHs sustaining shelter damage to meet their needs and recover without falling into more severe vulnerability.

Planned response

The following critical activities that can be implemented in the 90-day timeframe have been identified:

- One round of Emergency MPCA (754 NIS) for 22,000 HHs displaced HHs to meet their most urgent basic needs. Cases to be identified in coordination with authorities and UNRWA.
- Three rounds of Emergency MPCA (754 NIS) displaced 11,000 HHs who have sustained shelter damage. Cases to be identified in coordination with authorities and UNRWA.
- UNRWA one round of unrestricted cash assistance to 250,000 people (circa 41,667 HHs) displaced outside emergency shelters.

Coordination and Support Services

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$31.2M

PEOPLE TARGETED

NA

PARTNERS

NA

CONTACT INFORMATION

Andrea De Domenico (dedomenico@un.org)

Coordination and Access

Priority Needs

- Strengthened cluster, areas of responsibility and inter-agency coordination capacity to ensure implementation of a principled, timely, effective and efficient humanitarian operational response and carry-out effective monitoring, analysis and reporting of the highly complex and ongoing crisis where access is limited, and communications are challenged. The current situation has overwhelmed existing coordination capacity.
- Enhanced coordinated advocacy with all duty holders for respect for International Humanitarian Law, the protection of civilians (including relief workers) and civilian facilities, and humanitarian access.
- Enhanced coordination on logistics to address the challenges resulting from the complete closure of Gaza.
- Coordinated multi-sectoral needs assessments will be required to rapidly assess the scale and magnitude of needs once the security situation allows.
- Enhanced civil-military coordination mechanisms to facilitate efficient flow of aid and streamline the consolidation, safe transport, and delivery of humanitarian supplies through border crossings into Gaza.
- There is urgent need for UNRWA to expand its emergency operations and services in Gaza required to address the needs of Palestine refugees and facilitate UNRWA's operation including risk assessments, neutrality, information tracking, M&E activities, guarding and security measures, surge staffing.

Planned Response

- Coordinate multi-sectoral needs assessment and collect and analyse high-resolution satellite imagery to identify and quantify damage to urban and agricultural areas to obtain robust data to humanitarian and development organizations to inform allocation of resources efficiently, plan reconstruction efforts, and advocate for the recovery needs of the affected Gaza Strip communities.
- Increase efforts to negotiate and secure safe humanitarian access in Gaza and the West Bank.
- Establishment of logistics cluster.
- Enhanced civil-military coordination mechanisms to facilitate efficient flow of aid and streamline the consolidation, safe transport, and delivery of humanitarian supplies through border crossings into Gaza.
- Enhanced UNRWA capacity to address critical situation in Gaza.

Protection Against Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, Accountability to Affected People, and Community Engagement

Priority Needs

- Awareness raising about AAP/PSEA within population.
- Reinforcing AAP/PSEA network resources to receive, process and refer claims on behalf of the humanitarian community.
- Psychosocial, medical, protection and legal support to survivors of sexual exploitation and abuse through the GBV response system.
- Awareness raising about AAP/PSEA within the population.

Planned Response

To ensure cost effectiveness and to build on the existing experience and efficiencies, the proposed AAP/PSEA activities will utilize and build upon those established by the Risk Communications Community Engagement Working Group (RCCE) to address the current emergency, retailoring upcoming and ongoing assessments, and tailoring feedback mechanisms and channels. Current restrictions and limitations, such as those resulting from extensive damage to infrastructure in the Gaza Strip, will be factored in. The proposed activities will be administered through the AAP/PSEA network with a view of supporting and not replacing the activities at the project level per individual organization commitments and responsibilities.

- Produce awareness raising materials about AAP/PSEA, including audio-visual materials and messaging to be communicated over text messaging, social media and printed material, particularly about women and girls, who might be facing violence and discrimination.
- Reinforce AAP/PSEA network resources to receive, process and refer claims on behalf of the humanitarian community.
- Provide psychosocial, medical, protection and legal support to survivors of sexual exploitation and abuse through the GBV response system.
- Promote safety and protection practices and health seeking behaviors among families and children through interpersonal and group communication approaches, and targeted digital media and mass media message dissemination.

FLASH APPEAL
OPT

ISSUED
OCTOBER 2023



PALESTINE HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY FUNDING APPEAL

October 2023



Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund

A United Nations & Civil Society Partnership

Photo: © 2021/ YWCA of Palestine / Wael Obaidi

Background

On 7 October 2023, Palestinian armed groups in Gaza launched an attack on Israel, and Israeli forces retaliated with airstrikes on Gaza. Since then, heavy Israeli forces' bombardments of the Gaza Strip, from the air, sea and land, killing over 4,200 Palestinians with over 12,500 injured – over 60 percent of which are women and children.¹ At least one million people in Gaza are already forcibly internally displaced, and as of 17 October, the Palestinian Ministry of Health reported 54 people killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and more than 1,100 injured, since 7 October. This number is the highest recorded number of Palestinians killed in a single week since 2017. Around 1,300 civilian Israeli and foreign nationals have also been killed.

Israeli authorities ordered on 9 October a total siege of Gaza, announcing that they have halted the provision of electricity and fuel supplies to Gaza, and cut access to drinking water to its 2.2 million residents, pushing vital services to the brink of collapse.² Access for humanitarian staff and supplies into Gaza, thus limiting the delivery of aid, have also been restricted.³ UN and partners have been working towards establishing a humanitarian corridor to reach people with critically needed supplies.

The current humanitarian crisis and the ongoing hostilities are accompanied by gender specific vulnerabilities and risks with disproportionate impact on women and girls. The current escalation of violence in Gaza is expected to result in an increase of gender-based violence, including sexual and psychological violence. Internally displaced women are being disproportionately affected by the loss of livelihoods, housing and land, placing them in a position of elevated risk of sexual and labour exploitation, trafficking in persons, and forced marriage. According to women-led organizations, women who are internally displaced identified access to food and clean water as top priorities as well as the need for food security and nutrition. Securing women's and girls' easy access to comprehensive health services, including sexual and reproductive health services, is of key importance. Over 15,000 women had either given or were about to give birth

at the time of the attacks, with poor hygiene conditions posing great risks for mothers and their newborns.

The 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan identified 2.1 million Palestinians as requiring urgent assistance, as a direct result of decades of Israeli military occupation, 15 years of blockade of Gaza, internal Palestinian political divisions and recurrent hostilities between Israeli occupation forces and Palestinian armed groups.⁴ Even prior to the recent events, nearly 60 percent of households in Gaza were considered food insecure, many of which are headed by women, older people, those with special needs and in poor health.⁵ The World Food Programme (WFP) and UNRWA have been distributing food to displaced people in Gazan shelters.

However, the elevated humanitarian needs compounded by the current situation in Gaza, and the May 2023 escalation as well as the deteriorating situation in the West Bank leave local humanitarian organizations without the resources required to sufficiently respond to the needs of the most vulnerable Palestinians, particularly women and girls.

Palestinian civil society remains persistent, in particular women's rights and women led organizations continue to advocate for peace between Palestine and Israel and intra-Palestinian and provide humanitarian assistance.

Given that the combined effects of the protracted Israeli occupation are disproportionately affecting Palestinian women's and girls' safety and security, access to emergency services and humanitarian assistance, and their participation in crisis response, it is critical that local women and their organizations form part of the humanitarian response to ensure gender-inclusive and sustainable responses to the current needs.

WPHF's Emergency Funding Appeal: USD 10 million

In this context, the United Nations Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) is launching an urgent funding



appeal for up to USD 10 million to support local women's organizations' leadership in responding to the escalation of violence in Palestine. This is to ensure that women on the frontlines lead in humanitarian initiatives throughout the entire crisis response and strengthen gender responsive humanitarian planning, frameworks and programming, including the provision of appropriate life-saving basic needs and services to affected women, girls and communities, as well as ensuring safety and security for women and girls. The following WPHF impact areas have been identified as priority needs:

- ▶ **WPHF Outcome 3** (Humanitarian & Crisis Response): Enhanced participation and leadership of women in planning and responding to humanitarian crises.
- ▶ **WPHF Outcome 5** (Protection): Enhancing the safety, security and mental health of women and girls and their human rights respected.

WPHF's emergency response in Palestine consists in rapidly channeling funding to pre-identified local women CSOs on the ground (phase 1), followed by an open Call for Proposals (phase 2) to mobilize women's organizations that can respond to the crisis and the needs of women and girls:

Emergency Call for Proposals (Phase 1) – USD 3 Mio

WPHF will allocate funding through a targeted (closed) Call for Proposals focused on WPHF Outcome 3 and 5 to pre-identified local women's organizations. The selection of organizations will be undertaken together with UN Women as UN Management Entity for the WPHF in Palestine. The UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator will be responsible for review and approval of projects, as per the WPHF Emergency Track.

Regular Call for Proposals (phase 2) – USD 7 Mio

With additional funding (of a minimum of 1,000,000 USD), an open Call for Proposals under the WPHF's Regular Funding Cycle standard rules and procedures will be launched. This will allow organizations that were not pre-identified to apply.

National and local women-led, women's rights, feminist, or civil society organizations with a proven track record working with women and girls, will be eligible for this emergency

funding. Grassroots and local community-based organizations will particularly be encouraged to apply, including those in consortiums.

The Call for Proposals will make available financing for civil society organizations that build the resilience of Palestinian women and girls through programmatic funding from 30,000 to 200,000 USD, and institutional funding to help sustain and strengthen women's organizations throughout the crisis with grants from 2,500 USD to 30,000 USD.

Management Arrangements

As per WPHF procedures, the Call for Proposals will be prepared and launched by the WPHF Secretariat, detailing the nature and scope of the funding as well as types of interventions that are encouraged, in close coordination with the UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator. The WPHF Secretariat will conduct the technical review of all proposals received and the UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator (for phase 1) and the WPHF National Steering Committee (phase 2) will be responsible for the final selection of proposals.

The WPHF Secretariat, together with the UN Management Entity will ensure quality monitoring and reporting on projects as well as linkages with partners and programmes from the UN, civil society, networks of women, and member states. The organizations selected through the Call for Proposals will also be included in WPHF's Community of Practice to learn from and exchange best practices with other WPHF partners.



References

- ¹ OHCHR, 2023, [Latest: Occupied Palestinian Territory/Israel](#)
- ² OCHA, 2023, [Hostilities in Gaza and Israel - Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Version 1 as of 12 October 2023](#)
- ³ UN, 2023, [Explainer: UN on the ground amid Israel-Palestine crisis](#)
- ⁴ See 2.

About WPHF

The United Nations Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) mobilizes critical support for local and grassroots civil society organizations working on women, peace and security and humanitarian action. WPHF is a flexible and rapid financing mechanism supporting quality interventions designed to enhance the capacity of women to prevent conflict, respond to crises and emergencies, and seize key peacebuilding opportunities. Since its launch in 2016, WPHF has funded over 1,000 local women's organizations working to support women to be a force for crisis response and lasting peace in 43 countries. In addition, WPHF has supported the participation and the protection of over 220 women human rights defenders and women peacebuilders in 23 countries.

From: [Kate Wallace](#)
 To: s 47F(1)
 Subject: Veto Initiative [SEC=OFFICIAL]
 Date: Friday, 20 October 2023 6:16:00 PM

OFFICIAL

- Australia is a strong supporter of the Liechtenstein Initiative
 - resolution does not seek to directly limit or curb the use of the veto rather, it is an important and long overdue step towards bringing greater transparency and accountability to the use of the veto
 - provides an open and transparent forum for the veto user to explain its veto and a platform for all member states to express their views
 - we believe it will help strengthen Council deliberations and decisions over the long-term.
- recognise that work to find peaceful solutions must continue to be sought through all mechanisms
 - Australia will continue to advocate for peaceful solutions

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Background

The General Assembly will meet within 10 days following the US veto of the Brazil-led Security Council humanitarian resolution on 18 October 2023. The mechanism behind the meeting is the Liechtenstein-led 'Veto Initiative', adopted as a General Assembly resolution (76/262) in April 2022 with the support of Australia. Resolution 76/262 gives the GA a standing mandate to meet automatically and debate the situation in which a Permanent Member (P5) exercised the veto.

Since the Initiative was adopted, five Security Council resolution have been vetoed.

Date	Agenda Item	Permanent Member Casting Negative Vote
18 October 2023	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	USA
11 July 2023	The situation in the Middle East	Russian Federation
30 September 2022	Maintenance of peace and security of Ukraine	Russian Federation
8 July 2022	The situation in the Middle East	Russian

		Federation
26 May 2022	Non-proliferation - Democratic People's Republic of Korea	China Russian Federation

From: [Kate Wallace](#)
To: s 47F(1)
Cc: [Natasha Smith](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii) : s 47F(1)
Subject: RE: Soft copy of the draft General Assembly statement for debate triggered by US veto - UPDATE [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 23 October 2023 9:38:00 AM
Attachments: [Draft UNGA Statement following Veto of Brazil's Humanitarian Resolution - Line areas cleared.docx](#)
[UNNY Israel-Hamas conflict - n.docx](#)

Hi s 47F(1)

Further to the information I sent on Friday about the veto initiative, UNNY has advised (see cable attached) that the Arab Group and Organisation of Islamic Cooperation jointly submitted a letter late on 19 October to the President of the General Assembly (PGA) requesting the resumption of the 10th Emergency Special Session (ESS) of the General Assembly, 'Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory', **following the veto cast by the US in the UNSC on 18 October – ie. this resumed debate would satisfy the veto initiative.** s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b) ESS will *likely* resume Wednesday 25 October with possible continuation on Friday 27 October.

We will provide an updated draft statement later today to reflect developments over the weekend – once FMO has cleared we will share with UNNY to provide any additional suggestions/context from on the ground (based on outreach to likemindeds etc) – we will then provide you with a further draft for clearance.

General Assembly [Resolution 377 \(Uniting for Peace\)](#) expands the General Assembly's authority to consider topics that were previously reserved solely for the Security Council. Under the Resolution, if the Security Council cannot come to a decision on an issue due to a lack of unanimity, or the use of the veto, the General Assembly may hold an emergency special session within 24 hours to consider the same matter.

ESS can be used to adopt resolutions s 33(a)(iii)

ESS are rare, with only eleven in the history of the United Nations. Most emergency special sessions run for a single session, with the exception of the 7th, 10th and 11th, which have been reconvened four, seventeen, and nineteen times respectively. This recent request will mark the eighteenth time the 10th Session would have been called.

Session	Year Held	Session Title	Called by
1	1956	Middle East (Suze Canal)	UNSC
2	1956	Hungary (Soviet Invasion of Hungary)	UNSC
3	1958	Middle East (Lebanon Crisis)	UNSC
4	1960	Question of Congo (Congo Crisis)	UNSC
5	1967	Middle East (Six Day War)	Soviet Union

6	1980	The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (Soviet invasion of Afghanistan)	UNSC
7	1980;1982	Question of Palestine (Israel-Palestine conflict)	Senegal
8	1981	Question of Namibia (South Africa occupation of Namibia)	Zimbabwe
9	1982	The situation in the occupied Arab territories (Israeli occupation of the Golan Heights)	UNSC
10	1997-2004; 2007; 2009; 2017-2018	Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory	Various Member States
11	2022-2023	Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (Russian Invasion of Ukraine)	UNSC

Cheers

Kate

From: Kate Wallace

Sent: Friday, 20 October 2023 5:57 PM

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - Duplicate email located in Document 1 (page 1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate of Document 1

OFFICIAL

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

Title: UNNY: Israel-Hamas conflict - next General Assembly and Security Council meetings on issue

MRN: s 47E(d) 20/10/2023 07:37:22 PM EDT

To: Canberra

Cc: RR : Abu Dhabi, Abuja, Accra, Beijing, Bern, Brasilia, Geneva UN, London, Malta, Middle East Posts, Moscow, Paris EMB, Pretoria, Rome, Santiago De Chile, The Hague, Tokyo, Vienna UN, Washington

From: UN New York

From File:

EDRMS

Files:

References: s 47E(d)

The cable has the following attachment/s -
 231019 Joint Arab Group-OIC Group Request to PGA to resume the 10th Emergency Special Session (2).pdf
 231020 ESS10 - voting history.docx

Response: Routine, Requires Action by 23/10/2023

Summary

The Israel-Hamas conflict will next be discussed by the UN Security Council on 24 October, in its regularly scheduled quarterly open debate on the Middle East. The debate has been elevated to ministerial level in light of the conflict. The General Assembly is expected to discuss the situation on 25 October, in an Emergency Special Session requested by the Arab Group and OIC. As instructed, we have inscribed HOM to speak on 24 October and will do so for 25 October when the speakers' list opens. Grateful statements as requested below.

The Middle East conflict will next be considered by the UN Security Council (UNSC) on 24 October and the UN General Assembly (UNGA) on 25 October (TBC).

UNGA

2. As foreshadowed in reftel, the Arab Group and OIC jointly submitted a letter late on 19 October to the President of the General Assembly (PGA) requesting the resumption of the 10th Emergency Special Session (ESS) of the General Assembly (UNGA), following the veto cast by the US in the UNSC on 18 October (attached). They asked that the ESS be resumed as rapidly as possible, in light of the gravity of the situation.

3. s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b) **Wednesday 25 October is likely**, with possible continuation on Friday 27 October, if there's an afternoon (3pm) start on 25 October. According to the OPGA, it definitely won't be on Monday 23 October and the 24 October UNSC meeting (see below) rules out that day.

4. The **ESS mechanism** is pursuant to UNGA resolution 377(V), known as the 'Uniting for peace' resolution. Adopted in 1950, the resolution: 'Resolves that if the Security Council,

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

because of lack of unanimity of the permanent members, fails to exercise its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in any case where there appears to be a threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression, the General Assembly shall consider the matter immediately with a view to making appropriate recommendations to Members for collective measures, including in the case of a breach of the peace or act of aggression the use of armed force when necessary, to maintain or restore international peace and security. If not in session at the time, the General Assembly may meet in emergency special session within twenty-four hours of the request.' To date, 11 ESSs have been convened, including on Ukraine (the mechanism by which UNGA has adopted the six resolutions on the Ukraine war to date: s 47E(d)).

5. s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

We expect it would call for: an immediate cease-fire; humanitarian access and deliveries to Gaza; and rescission of the order for the evacuation of northern Gaza. A resolution would also be required to keep ESS 10 on foot. Our voting history on ESS 10 to date is attached for information. Thanks confirmation of participation - we will inscribe HOM when the speakers' list opens; assuming 25 October for the ESS, **grateful statement by CBR COB 24 October.**

UNSC

6. As foreshadowed s 22(1)(a)(ii) the UNSC will hold its regularly scheduled quarterly open debate on the Middle East on 24 October. As instructed, we have inscribed HOM to speak. **Grateful statement by CBR COB Monday 23 October.**

7. As flagged, the debate has been converted into a high level debate due to the crisis, and will be chaired at ministerial level. **LEX 9703 - Document 03** participation encouraged. This is another reason for expecting the ESS to be held on 25 October, enabling ministers to attend both.

text ends

Sent by: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Topics: ATROCITY CRIMES/War Crimes, DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION/Emergency Aid, INTERNATIONAL SECURITY/Terrorism, POLITICAL-ECONOMIC/International Political, UN & COMMONWEALTH/UN Discussions, UNSC/General

▼ New Distribution

Canberra distribution

s 47E(d)

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

s 47E(d)

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47E(d)

s 47E(d)

OFFICIAL

From: [Kate Wallace](#)
To: [s 47F\(1\)](#)
Cc: [Natasha Smith](#); [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
Subject: RE: Soft copy of the draft General Assembly statement for debate triggered by US veto - UPDATE [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 23 October 2023 3:09:00 PM
Attachments: [s 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#), [s 33\(b\)](#)
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Thanks [s 47F\(1\)](#)

With thanks to the team:

Security Council Statement at the quarterly open debate on '**the Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question**' (MEPP) on Tuesday, 24 October

- The Brazilian FM will chair the high-level debate, [s 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#), [s 33\(b\)](#)

[s 47E\(d\)](#)

- [s 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#), [s 47E\(d\)](#)
 - In light of the current crisis, UNNY Post inscribed HOM to deliver a statement [s 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#), [s 33\(b\)](#)

General Assembly Statement at the **Tenth Emergency Special Session (ESS10)**, likely to be held on Wednesday 25 October with possible continuation on Friday 27 October

- Following the US veto of the Brazil-led UNSC humanitarian resolution on 18 October, the President of the General Assembly chose to convene a meeting of ESS10, formally named the 'Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory', at the joint request of the Arab Group and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation
- UNNY Post also advised they expect ministerial participation at ESS10.
- There may be another opportunity to deliver a statement at the Friday 27 October session if it goes ahead.

Let me know if you have any further questions.

Cheers

Kate

From: [s 47F\(1\)](#) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 23 October 2023 1:08 PM
To: Kate Wallace <Kate.Wallace@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: [Natasha Smith](#) <Natasha.Smith@dfat.gov.au>; [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) @dfat.gov.au>; [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) @dfat.gov.au>; [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) @dfat.gov.au>; [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Soft copy of the draft General Assembly statement for debate triggered by US veto -

UPDATE [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Many thanks Kate

With apologies – do you mind walking me through where the attached fits in?

s 47F(1)

Adviser to the Minister for Foreign Affairs

From: Kate Wallace <Kate.Wallace@dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 23 October 2023 9:39 AM

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate of Document 6

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate of Document 6

From: Kate Wallace

Sent: Friday, 20 October 2023 5:57 PM

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate of Document 1

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate of Document 1

PDR ID: s 47E(d)

Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Meeting with HE Mr Amir Maimon, Ambassador of Israel

6:30pm. Wednesday, 25 October 2023, s 47E(d) – Parliament House
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Cleared by Ridwaan Jadwat FAS, ISG | MAD | Middle East Branch Date cleared: 25 10 23

Prepared by: LVS/MEB/MAD

Consultation: MPD



s 47E(d)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)





s 47E(d)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



From: [Kate Wallace](#)
To: s 47F(1)
Cc: [Natasha Smith](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; [Roderick Brazier](#); s 22(1)(a) [Dave Vosen](#);
[Beth Delaney](#); [DM Israel-Gaza-Taskforce](#); s 22(1)(a)(iii) [Ridwaan Jadwat](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii); [Amanda McGregor](#);
s 47F(1) s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: UNSC [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 25 October 2023 10:11:00 AM
Attachments: s22(1)(a)(ii)
s22(1)(a)(ii)
[Arab Group UNGA ESS Res-Protection of Civilians and Upholding Legal and Humanitarian Obligations - draft.docx](#)
[231023_REV_US_Draft_FOR_BLUE_final_\(1\).docx](#)

[REDACTED]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

In relation to the *UN General Assembly: Tenth Emergency Special Session (ESS10): Illegal Israeli actions in occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory* (due to commence on 26 October) **Jordan has sponsored a draft resolution** on behalf of the Arab Group. I have attached the draft resolution for visibility – we will review the draft in consultation with policy leads (as per normal practice), noting we will need to provide instructions, including in anticipation of a vote being called. We will keep you updated.

- calls for immediate ceasefire
- rescission of North Gaza evacuation order
- rejects the forced transfer of the Palestinian civilian population.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

We will keep you updated

Cheers

Kate

Kate Wallace

Assistant Secretary
Multilateral Order and Candidacies Branch
Multilateral Policy, First Nations and Human Rights Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
P s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M s 22(1)(a)(ii)**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DRAFT RESOLUTION, 10th EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its relevant resolutions regarding the question of Palestine,

Reaffirming the obligation to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law in all circumstances in accordance with article 1 of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 446 (1979), 452 (1979), 465 (1980), 476 (1980), 478 (1980), 904 (1994), 1397 (2002), 1515 (2003), 1850 (2008), 1860 (2009), and 2334 (2016),

Recalling also Security Council resolutions on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including on children and armed conflict,

Expressing grave concern at the escalation of violence and grave deterioration of the situation in the region, in particular in the Gaza Strip and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel,

Emphasizing that civilians must be protected, in accordance with international humanitarian law, and *deploring* in this regard the heavy civilian casualties and widespread destruction;

Emphasizing the need to pursue accountability, and *stressing* in this regard the importance of ensuring independent and transparent investigations in accordance with international standards,

Expressing grave concern for the catastrophic humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip and for its vast consequences for the civilian population, largely comprised of children, and *underlining* the need for full, immediate, safe, unhindered and sustained humanitarian access,

Expressing strong support for the efforts by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and for his calls for the immediate and unrestricted access of humanitarian aid to respond to the most basic needs of the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip, *underlining* the Secretary-General's message that food, water, medicine and fuel needs to be sustained and at scale, and *expressing its appreciation* for the critical role played by Egypt in this regard,

Expressing strong support also for all regional and international efforts aimed at achieving an immediate cessation of hostilities, ensuring protection of civilians, and providing humanitarian aid,

Recalling that a lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can only be achieved by peaceful means, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions and in accordance with international law,

1. *Calls for* an immediate ceasefire;
2. *Demands* that all parties immediately and fully comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, particularly in regard to the protection of civilians and civilian objects, as well as the protection of humanitarian personnel and assets, and to enable and facilitate humanitarian access for essential supplies and services to reach all civilians in need in the Gaza Strip;

3. *Demands also* the immediate, continuous, sufficient and unhindered provision of essential goods and services to civilians throughout the Gaza Strip, including but not limited to water, food, medical supplies, fuel and electricity, stressing the imperative, under international humanitarian law, to ensure civilians are not deprived of objects indispensable to their survival;
4. *Calls for* immediate, full, sustained, safe and unhindered humanitarian access for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees and other United Nations humanitarian agencies and their implementing partners, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and all other humanitarian organizations, upholding humanitarian principles and delivering urgent assistance to civilians in the Gaza Strip, *encourages* the establishment of humanitarian corridors and other initiatives to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid to civilians, and *welcomes* efforts in this regard;
5. *Calls also for* the rescinding of the order by Israel, the occupying Power, for Palestinian civilians and United Nations staff, as well as humanitarian and medical workers to evacuate all areas in the Gaza Strip north of the Wadi Gaza and relocate to southern Gaza, *recalls* and *reiterates* that civilians are protected under international humanitarian law and should receive humanitarian assistance wherever they are, and *reiterates* the need to take appropriate steps to ensure the safety and well-being of civilians and their protection, in particular children, and allowing their safe movement;
6. *Firmly rejects* any attempts at forced transfer of the Palestinian civilian population;
7. *Calls for* the immediate release of all civilians, demanding their safety, well-being, and humane treatment in compliance with international law;
8. *Calls for* respect and protection, consistent with international humanitarian law, of all civilian and humanitarian facilities, including hospitals and other medical facilities as well as their means of transport and equipment, schools, places of worship, and United Nations facilities, as well as all of humanitarian and medical personnel, and journalists, media professionals and associated personnel in armed conflict in the region;
9. *Stresses* the particularly grave impact that armed conflict has on women and children, including as refugees and displaced persons, as well as on other civilians who may have specific vulnerabilities, including persons with disabilities and older persons;
10. *Stresses also* the need to urgently establish a mechanism to ensure the protection of the Palestinian civilian population, in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions;
11. *Stresses further* the importance of a humanitarian notification mechanism to ensure the protection of the United Nations facilities and all humanitarian installations, and to ensure the unimpeded movement of aid convoys;
12. *Emphasizes* the importance of preventing further destabilization and escalation of violence in the region and, in this regard, *calls* on all parties to exercise maximum restraint and on all those with influence on them to work toward this objective;
13. *Decides* to adjourn the tenth emergency special session temporarily and to authorize the President of the General Assembly at its most recent session to resume its meeting upon request from Member States.

The Security Council,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions on combatting terrorism, against kidnapping and hostage taking of civilians by terrorist organizations, on the protection of civilians and children in armed conflict, on hunger in conflict, and on the situation in the Middle East, and recalling that any measures taken to counter terrorism must comply with all obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law,

Expressing deep concern at instances of discrimination, intolerance and violent extremism, manifesting in the form of hate speech or violence based on race, sex, ethnicity or religion or belief, such as but not limited to persons belonging to religious communities, in particular cases motivated by Islamophobia, antisemitism or Christianophobia, and other forms of intolerance,

Reaffirming that terrorism in all forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever and by whomsoever committed,

Expressing grave concern at the deterioration of the situation in the region, and emphasizing that all civilian populations— including Israelis and Palestinians — must be protected in accordance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

Expressing deep concern for the humanitarian situation in Gaza and for its grave impact on the civilian population, especially the disproportionate effect on children, and underlining the need for full, rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access,

Recalling its desire that a lasting end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can only be achieved by peaceful means, based on its relevant resolutions,

Noting that Hamas and other terrorist groups in Gaza do not stand for the dignity or self-determination of the Palestinian people and that Hamas has been designated as a terrorist organization by numerous Member States,

Determined to combat by all means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and other obligations under international law, including international

human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

1. *Unequivocally rejects and condemns* the heinous terrorist attacks by Hamas and other terrorist groups that took place in Israel starting 7 October 2023, as well as the taking and killing of hostages, murder, torture, rape, sexual violence, and continued indiscriminate firing of rockets;

2. *Expresses* its deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims and their families and to the Government of Israel and all Governments whose citizens were targeted and lost their lives in the above-mentioned attacks;

3. *Further* expresses its deepest sympathy and condolences to Palestinian civilians and all other civilians who have lost their lives since 7 October 2023, including at the Al-Ahli Hospital on 17 October 2023;

4. *Reaffirms* the inherent right of all States to individual and collective self-defense, and also reaffirms that in responding to terrorist attacks, Member States must fully comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law;

5. *Strongly* urges all parties to fully respect and comply with obligations under international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including those related to the conduct of hostilities and to the protection of the civilian population, including civilians who are trying to get to safety, and civilian infrastructure, and reiterates the need to take appropriate steps to ensure the safety and well-being of civilians and their protection, as well as humanitarian workers and assets;

6. *Reaffirms* that any movement of people must be voluntary, safe, and consistent with international law and urges all parties to take appropriate steps to promote the safety and well-being of civilians and their protection, including children, in allowing their safe movement;

7. *Condemns* in the strongest terms all violence and hostilities against civilians, as well as the continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights, violations of international humanitarian law, and depraved acts of destruction carried out by Hamas, including its deplorable use of civilians as human shields and its attempt to thwart the protection of civilians;

8. *Demands* the immediate and unconditional release of all remaining hostages taken by Hamas and other terrorist groups, as well as their continued safety, well-being, and humane treatment consistent with international law and expresses appreciation for the efforts by all states, including Qatar, for the release on 20 October 2023 of two hostages taken by Hamas;

9. *Calls* for all measures necessary, such as humanitarian pauses, to allow the full, rapid, safe, and unhindered humanitarian access, consistent with international humanitarian law, for United Nations humanitarian agencies and their implementing partners, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other impartial humanitarian organizations, to facilitate the continuous, sufficient and unhindered provision of essential goods and services important to the well-being of civilians in Gaza, including especially water, electricity, fuel, food, and medical supplies;

10. *Welcomes* the announcement on 21 October 2023 by the Secretary General of the initial provision of humanitarian supplies to civilians in Gaza via the Rafah Crossing, as well as the additional delivery of supplies on 22 October 2023, and calls on Member States to further support the efforts of the United Nations, Egypt, Jordan, and others to further allow the full, rapid, safe, and unhindered access consistent with international humanitarian law and to build on this important first step, including by advancing such practical steps such as the establishment of humanitarian corridors and other initiatives for the sustainable delivery of humanitarian aid to civilians;

11. *Reiterates* the call on all parties to armed conflict to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law including regarding respecting and protecting civilians and taking constant care to spare civilian objects, including such objects critical to the delivery of essential services to the civilian population, refraining from attacking, destroying, removing or rendering useless objects that are indispensable to the survival of the civilian population and respecting and protecting humanitarian personnel and consignments used for humanitarian relief operations;

12. *Emphasizes* that civilian and humanitarian facilities, including medical hospitals, medical facilities, schools, places of worship, and facilities of the UN, as well as humanitarian personnel, and medical personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, and their means of transport, must be respected and protected,

according to international humanitarian law, and calls on all parties to act consistently with these principles and rules;

13. *Underscores* the importance of coordination and deconfliction to protect all humanitarian sites, including UN facilities, and to help facilitate the movement of aid convoys;

14. *Urges* Member States to intensify their efforts to suppress the financing of terrorism, including by restricting financing of Hamas through applicable national-level authorities, in accordance with international law and consistent with Resolution 2482 (2019);

15. *Calls* on all States and international organizations to intensify urgent, concrete steps to support efforts by the United Nations and regional States to prevent the violence in Gaza from escalating, spilling over or expanding to other areas in the region, and calls on all those with influence to work towards this objective, including by demanding the immediate cessation by Hezbollah and other armed-groups of all attacks which constitute clear violations of Resolution 1701 (2006) and relevant Security Council resolutions;

16. *Calls* on all States to take practical steps to prevent the export of arms and materiel to armed militias and terrorist groups operating in Gaza, including Hamas;

17. *Stresses* that lasting peace can only be based on an enduring commitment to mutual recognition, full respect for human rights, freedom from violence and incitement, and affirms the urgency of diplomatic efforts to achieve a comprehensive peace based on the vision of a region where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace with secure and recognized borders as envisioned in its prior resolutions, and calls for the resumption of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations based on the relevant United Nations resolutions including a two-State solution;

18. *Expresses* its solidarity with all the people who long for lasting peace based on a two-state solution, and also its support for practical measures, consistent with international law, necessary to contribute to ending the cycle of violence; rebuilding trust and confidence, and creating the necessary conditions to advance peace and security;

19. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

From: [Kate Wallace](#)
To: [s 47F\(1\)](#)
Cc: [Roderick Brazier](#); [Natasha Smith](#); [James Larsen](#); [Rebecca Bryant](#); [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#); [s 47F\(1\)](#); [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
[s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#); [Ridwaan Jadwat](#); [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#); [Dave Vosen](#); [Beth Delaney](#); [UM Israel-Gaza-Taskforce](#); [Bronte Moules](#); [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
Subject: Urgent - updated instructions and statement for UNNY Emergency Special Session [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 26 October 2023 8:51:00 PM
Attachments: [Cable 26 October UNSC updates.docx](#)
[Arab Group UNGA ESS Res-Protection of Civilians and Upholding Legal and Humanitarian Obligations - draft.docx](#)
[National Statement - UNGA ESS10 UNR edits 430pm 26 October - for AS ORB.docx](#)
[Australia's voting record at EES10.docx](#)
Importance: High

[s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

[s 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#), [s 33\(b\)](#)

[s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Next Steps:

- [s 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#)
 - the upcoming ESS10 to be held 26 October NY time – *we will advise as soon as we know*
 - it is expected that **a vote will be held morning of Friday 27 October (NY time)** on the Jordanian/ Arab Group resolution following the ESS
 - Australia is currently requesting a speaking slot on Friday morning 27 October (NY time)
- **DFAT has attached a revised statement and below is a voting position for your approval**
- Give it is a fluid situation on the ground, UNNY HOM is seeking flexibility in Post's ability to adapt the draft statement on the ground depending on how the session plays out. Things still at play include:
 - We do not yet know when a vote will be called.

[s 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#), [s 33\(b\)](#)

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47C(1)

s 33(a)(iii)

From: [Kate Wallace](#)
To: [s 47F\(1\)](#)
Cc: [Natasha Smith](#); [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#); [DM Israel-Gaza-Taskforce](#); [Ridwaan Jadwat](#); [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#); [Craig Maclachlan](#); [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#); [s 47F\(1\)](#); [Roderick Brazier](#)
Subject: Canadian amendment text - confirmation to co-sponsor? [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 27 October 2023 9:50:00 AM
Attachments: [ESS 10 resolution amendment language.pdf](#)
[\(26 October 23\) REVISED 10th ESS-GA DRAFT.pdf](#)

[REDACTED]

Colleagues

[s 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#), [s 33\(b\)](#)

Cheers

Kate

Kate Wallace

Assistant Secretary
Multilateral Order and Candidacies Branch
Multilateral Policy, First Nations and Human Rights Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
P [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) | **M** [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 27 October 2023 5:26 PM
To: Crisis Ses.Manager; EL2 Manager
Cc: Chris Cannan; Ridwaan Jadwat; DM LVS
Subject: Fwd: Voting instructions - Jordan-Led UNGA Resolution [REDACTED]
Attachments: 231027 UNGA MIDDLE EAST EOV - FMO DRAFT 1.2.docx

hprimdataset: s 47E(d)
hprimfileref:
hprimrecordref:

See instructions from ^{s 47F(1)} below. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 47F(1) @dfat.gov.au
Date: Friday, 27 October 2023 at 10:46:55 pm
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "James Larsen" <James.Larsen@dfat.gov.au>, "Natasha Smith" <Natasha.Smith@dfat.gov.au>, "Kate Wallace" <Kate.Wallace@dfat.gov.au>, "Craig Maclachlan" <Craig.Maclachlan@dfat.gov.au>, "Chris Cannan" <Chris.Cannan@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Ridwaan Jadwat" <Ridwaan.Jadwat@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 47F(1) @dfat.gov.au, s 47F(1) @dfat.gov.au, s 47F(1) @dfat.gov.au, s 47F(1) @dfat.gov.au
Subject: Voting instructions - Jordan-Led UNGA Resolution [REDACTED]

Good Morning New York and good evening to the rest

The FM spoke with HOM UNNY a little while ago. I am writing to confirm instructions for the upcoming vote as follows:

s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)

Voting Position on Jordanian Resolution

FM has confirmed instructions to abstain on the resolution.

s 47C(1)

Next steps (assuming a vote after 5:00am ACDT / 2:30pm EDT – HOM UNNY to call me if any change to this timing):

1. Final update on voting intention from Crisis Centre by 4:30am ACDT / 5:00am AEDT
2. Phone call between HOM UNNY and FM at 4:30am ACDT / 2:30pm EDT with final instructions

Thanks all

s 47F(1)

From: [Kate Wallace](#)
To: [James Larsen](#); [Rebecca Bryant](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii); s 47F(1)
Cc: [Roderick Brazier](#); [Natasha Smith](#); [DM Israel-Gaza-Taskforce](#); [CrisisCentre Coordinator](#); [Ridwaan Jadwat](#); [Craig Maclachlan](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii); [Beth Delaney](#); [Dave Vosen](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii); s 22(1)(a)(ii); [Claire Elias](#); [Allaster Cox](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii); [Elisabeth Bowes](#); [Scott Ryan](#); [Anne Witheford](#); [Justin Hayhurst](#); [Peter Roberts](#); [Kate Luxford](#); [Felicity Gent](#); [Gillian Bird](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii); [HK Yu](#); [Moya Collett](#); [Andrew Goledzinowski](#); [Mark Tattersall](#); [Cathy Raper](#); [Alexandra Siddall](#); [Harinder Sidhu](#); [Amy Guihot](#); s 47F(1); [Chris Chung](#); [Rosemary Morris-Castico](#); [Chris Cannan](#); [Marco Salvio](#); [Robyn Mudie](#); [Caroline Linke](#); [Lauren Bain](#); [Hugh Robilliard](#); [Kate Logan](#); [Jean-Bernard Carrasco](#); s 22(1)(a)(ii); [Cameron Archer](#)
Subject: RE: JORDANIAN LED UNGA RESOLUTION - 10TH ESS - s 33(a)(iii) [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 27 October 2023 6:01:00 PM
Attachments: s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

[REDACTED]

Dear s 47F(1) (and UNNY colleagues)

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

Regards

Kate

From: Kate Wallace

Sent: Friday, 27 October 2023 3:31 PM

To: James Larsen <James.Larsen@dfat.gov.au>; Rebecca Bryant <Rebecca.Bryant@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Lauren Bain <Lauren.Bain@dfat.gov.au>; Hugh Robilliard <Hugh.Robilliard@dfat.gov.au>; Caroline Linke <Caroline.Linke@dfat.gov.au>; Robyn Mudie <Robyn.Mudie@dfat.gov.au>; Cameron Archer <Cameron.Archer@dfat.gov.au>; Peter Sawczak <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>; Marco Salvio <Marco.Salvio@dfat.gov.au>; Chris Cannan <Chris.Cannan@dfat.gov.au>; Rosemary Morris-Castico <Rosemary.Morris-Castico@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Jean-Bernard Carrasco <Jean-Bernard.Carrasco@dfat.gov.au>; Kate Logan <Kate.Logan@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: Roderick Brazier <Rod.Brazier@dfat.gov.au>; Natasha Smith <Natasha.Smith@dfat.gov.au>; DM LVS <SATIN_DM_LVS@dfat.gov.au>; CrisisCentre Coordinator <crisis.centrecoord@dfat.gov.au>; Ridwaan Jadwat <Ridwaan.Jadwat@dfat.gov.au>; Craig Maclachlan <Craig.Maclachlan@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Beth Delaney <Beth.Delaney@dfat.gov.au>; Dave Vosen <Dave.Vosen@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Allaster Cox <Allaster.Cox@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Elisabeth Bowes <Elisabeth.Bowes@dfat.gov.au>; Scott Ryan <Scott.Ryan@dfat.gov.au>; Anne Witheford <Anne.Witheford@dfat.gov.au>; Justin Hayhurst <Justin.Hayhurst@dfat.gov.au>; Peter Roberts <Peter.Roberts@dfat.gov.au>; Kate Luxford <Kate.Luxford@dfat.gov.au>; Felicity Gent <Felicity.Gent@dfat.gov.au>; Gillian Bird <Gillian.Bird@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; HK Yu <HK.Yu@dfat.gov.au>; Moya Collett <Moya.Collett@dfat.gov.au>; Andrew Goledzinowski <Andrew.Goledzinowski@dfat.gov.au>; Mark Tattersall <Mark.Tattersall@dfat.gov.au>; Cathy Raper <Cathy.Raper@dfat.gov.au>; Alexandra Siddall <Alexandra.Siddall@dfat.gov.au>; Harinder Sidhu

<Harinder.Sidhu@dfat.gov.au>; Amy Guihot <Amy.Guihot@dfat.gov.au>; s 47F(1)
@dfat.gov.au; s 47F(1) @dfat.gov.au; s 47F(1)
@dfat.gov.au; s 47F(1) @dfat.gov.au

Subject: JORDANIAN LED UNGA RESOLUTION - 10TH ESS - s 33(a)(iii)

Importance: High

UNNY colleagues

s 33(a)(iii)

Desks

UNGA is currently debating a Jordan-led resolution on the 10th Emergency Special Session 'Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory'. This follows the failure to agree four separate resolutions put forward in the Security Council (Russia, Brazil, US, Russia). The latest draft text is attached for information.

Canada has also moved an amendment to the resolution (also attached), seeking to provide a more balanced text by referencing Hamas specifically; calling for the immediate release of hostages in keeping with international law.

s 33(a)(iii)

We anticipate a vote will be held @3pm New York time – Friday 27 October - @6am Canberra time – Saturday 28 October. UNNY – any update on timing of the Canadian amendment vote appreciated.

s 33(a)(iii)

Please keep all parties in copy.

Cheers

Kate

Kate Wallace

Assistant Secretary
Multilateral Order and Candidacies Branch
Multilateral Policy, First Nations and Human Rights Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Ps 22(1)(a)(ii) | **Ms 22(1)(a)(ii)**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 27 October 2023 4:47 PM
To: Crisis Ses.Manager; EL2 Manager
Cc: DM LVS
Subject: FW: UNGA Emergency Special Session - Jordanian Resolution [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FYI

From: Natasha Smith <Natasha.Smith@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 27 October 2023 10:14 PM
To: Jan Adams <Jan.Adams@dfat.gov.au>; Roderick Brazier <Rod.Brazier@dfat.gov.au>; Craig Maclachlan <Craig.Maclachlan@dfat.gov.au>; Ridwaan Jadwat <Ridwaan.Jadwat@dfat.gov.au>; Chris Cannan <Chris.Cannan@dfat.gov.au>; Kate Wallace <Kate.Wallace@dfat.gov.au>; Rebekah Grindlay <Rebekah.Grindlay@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Subject: UNGA Emergency Special Session - Jordanian Resolution [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

All

The FM and James have spoken this evening (I managed to catch him just before so he had some idea of latest issues/ thinking).

FM's instructions on the Jordanian resolution are:

- We are a confirmed abstain.

s 33(a)(iii), s 47C(1), s 47E(d)

Cheers

Natasha

**Statement by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister Foreign Affairs
and Expatriates
HE Ayman Safadi**

At

**10th Emergency Special Session of the
UN General Assembly**

New York, 26 October 2023

Please revise against delivery

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

It is at such times of cruelty, inhumanity, and total disregard for international law that we must speak out, clearly, and unequivocally.

There is no room for grey areas here:

We must stand for life, for justice, for peace.

We must stand against the war on Gaza, and the humanitarian catastrophe it is causing.

We must stand on the side of our human values, and for the Charter of these United Nations.

History will judge us.

**Let us not fail the Palestinian people, a besieged people,
an occupied people,**

Whose days start with death and end with death.

Whose nights are engulfed by a total black-out, punctured only by the lightening of Israeli missiles, taking away their lives, shattering their dreams, killing their hope.

Say no to war.

Say no to the killing.

Call out war crimes.

Defend the right of Palestinian children, women, the elderly to food, water, medicine, and fuel, speak out against using starvation as a weapon.

In the waste-land to which this Israeli war is reducing Gaza, entire families are being obliterated.

Children are falling dead under the rubble of homes, destroyed by Israeli precision bombs.

Some are still alive under the rubble. There is no sufficient equipment to pull them out. Their parents can still hear them, they talk to them helplessly, knowing they are running out of air, and are slowly dying. Children who may miraculously survive face dehydration and starvation.

Israel has killed 6500 innocent Palestinians since this new vicious cycle of violence and war erupted on October 7. These are people with names, faces, memories, and loved ones left behind. Among them 16 health workers, 35 UNRWA staff and 22 journalists.

Wael Dahdouh, a journalist, had his 8 children stay in 3 different houses so they are not all at the same place if it gets bombed.

Yesterday, his wife, Amina, (45), his son Mahmud, 16 years old,

his daughter, Sham, 7 years old, and his infant grandson, Adam, 45 days old, were stolen from him by Israel's war.

One doctor in Gaza described how a boy with injuries and facial burns told him how his house was hit after finishing a meal with his parents. He said his father, sitting next to him, was killed outright. His mother suffocated in the smoke.

Israel is making Gaza a perpetual hell on earth. The trauma will haunt generations to come.

Dear friends,

Rage must not blind us to the futility of violence. It must not desensitize us to the pain of fellow human beings.

We condemn the killing of all civilians, no matter their race, identity, nationality, or religion, because these are our human values, and this is our morality. Israel must uphold these values too.

How many wars, and how much death, has our region suffered? And what good did that do? It did not bring security to Israel or to anyone else.

The right to self-defense is not a license to kill with impunity.

Collective punishment is not self-defense.

It is a war crime.

We must say it as it is. We must refuse the double standards, and selective application of international law. Israel cannot remain above the law.

Dear friends,

A just and lasting peace is the best defense for all. Let the guns go silent and let the will to live and let live prevail. Let's restore faith in the peace process as the only path to ending this conflict, once and for all.

Many among us believe they are helping Israel by supporting its war. They are not. Instead of sending weapons to Israel, they must send delegations to open an immediate and viable path to peace.

This is how they help Israel.

Many among us, too, feel they are doing their ethical and legal duty towards Palestinians by urging humanitarian supplies, and not urging an end of the war.

They are not doing their duty towards Palestinians.

Responsibility towards Palestinians demand they work for their protection, for peace.

Peace that will ensure a viable, independent, sovereign Palestinian State, with occupied Jerusalem as its capital, on June 4, 1967, lines, living side by side a secure Israel.

So that Palestinians live free from occupation and its indignity,

So that no Palestinian or Israeli mother has to mourn her child again.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Jordan, on behalf of the Arab countries, will put forward a draft resolution. We do so after the UNSC did not fulfill its responsibility. The draft resolution simply seeks what our United Nations was established to achieve: save lives, peace, and compliance with international law.

Vote for it.

We all know Israel will ignore any resolution coming out of this assembly, like it did numerous resolutions before.

Yet Vote for it. Make a stand.

Ladies and gentlemen,

A month ago, His Majesty King Abdullah II stood before this very Assembly. His words echoed true then. They are even more relevant now.

He said, and I quote:

“Our region will continue to suffer until the world helps lift the shadow of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict—the central issue in the Middle East. No architecture for regional security and development can stand over the burning ashes of this conflict. But seven and a half decades on, it still smolders. Where are we going?”

Dear Friends,

Let us make a collective cry out against more bloodletting. Let us unite for justice, for the sake of the Palestinian people, and for the sake of the Israeli people.

**Let the passing of the draft resolution be a message to
Palestinians suffering the inferno of war, that the international
community sees them, feels their pain, and believes that
Palestinian lives matter too.**

Make a stand for peace today. Make it clear. Make it firm.

Thank you.

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)