

URGENT ACTION

ISRAEL MUST ENSURE AID PROVISIONS REACH GAZA

On January 26, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) found that Palestinian civilians in the occupied Gaza Strip face a real and imminent risk of genocide. Pending its final ruling on the allegations of genocide brought by South Africa against Israel under the Genocide Convention, the Court ordered six provisional measures, including for Israel to take all measures within its power to prevent the commission of all acts proscribed by the Genocide Convention and to ensure the provision of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance to civilians in Gaza. However, Israeli forces continue to intensify their cataclysmic assault on the occupied Gaza Strip, threaten land operations in Rafah, maintain a near total illegal and inhuman siege, and obstruct the entry of desperately needed humanitarian aid.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter in your own words or using the sample below as a guide to one or both government officials listed. You can also email, fax, call or Tweet them.
- [Click here](#) to let us know the actions you took on **Urgent Action 15.24**. It's important to report because we share the total number with the officials we are trying to persuade and the people we are trying to help.

***USPS currently does not send postage to Israel**

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Dear Prime Minister, or Dear Ambassador Michael Herzog,

I am writing with grave over Israel's failure to comply with the provisional measures ordered by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in response to the case brought by South Africa, in which the latter accused Israel of violating its obligations under the Genocide Convention in relation to Palestinian civilians in the occupied Gaza strip.

After four months of Israel's relentless bombardment of the Gaza Strip, ~~The~~ the death toll continues to rise in Gaza, with over 28,000 people killed, a further 10,000 missing under the rubble, and nearly 68,000 wounded, thousands of whom have been left with permanent disabilities. Over 1.7 million Palestinians, more than 85% of Gaza's population, have been internally displaced at least once; 2.2 million people are facing imminent risk of famine; infectious diseases are becoming increasingly prevalent due to successive waves of mass displacement, overcrowding, and lack of clean water and adequate hygiene. Supplies of humanitarian aid are scarce and woefully insufficient, particularly to the many in catastrophic need in northern Gaza.

In light of the real and imminent risk of genocide against Palestinians in Gaza and to prevent the deterioration of the humanitarian catastrophe even further, I urge the State of Israel to comply with the ICJ ruling and to take immediate and effective steps to enable the provision of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian and medical aid across the entire Gaza Strip.

Yours Sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Israel must ensure to the fullest extent of the means available to it, that the basic needs of the population of Gaza are met. Israel must ensure that Gaza is supplied with the food, medical supplies, and other basic goods, including sufficient water and fuel, needed to allow the population to live under adequate material conditions. Using starvation of civilians as a method of warfare is prohibited.

The continuous Israeli bombardment across the occupied Gaza Strip, by air, land and sea, the mass displacement of Gaza's population, the blocking of aid to civilians coupled with the vast destruction of civilian infrastructure, and the tightening of Israel's siege of Gaza, have resulted in a humanitarian catastrophe for civilians who face a real and imminent risk of genocide and famine. Moreover, infectious diseases mount in the entire Gaza Strip due to severe overcrowding and lack of access to adequate health services, hygiene facilities, clean water, and sanitation. According to United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), children in Gaza face deadly threats to their lives, as cases of diseases rise and nutrition plummets, resulting in a worrying increase in cases of chronic diarrhea.

Further compounding the already catastrophic humanitarian situation in the entire Gaza strip is the continuous deterioration of the healthcare system, which is on the brink of total collapse. According to WHO, only 13 hospitals out of 36 are partially functioning in the entire Gaza Strip. The remaining partially functioning hospitals are grappling with the grave shortage of medical supplies, as well as their urgent need for fuel, food, and drinking water. The shortage of medical staff, including specialized surgeons, neurosurgeons, and intensive care staff also remains a major challenge.

Furthermore, the limited access to electricity, fuel, and telecommunications services continues to drastically hamper the humanitarian situation in Gaza. According to OCHA, since October 11, 2023, the entire Gaza Strip has been lacking electricity, after the Israeli authorities cut off the electricity supply, and fuel reserves for Gaza's sole power plant were depleted.

Amidst this humanitarian catastrophe, women in Gaza are paying an exorbitantly high price, facing a desperate shortage of hygiene supplies, including menstrual supplies such as pads, clean underwear, wet wipes and more. There are tens of thousands of pregnant women in Gaza, according to the United Nations Population Fund. At least 40% of those pregnancies are high risk; 180 mothers give birth daily without a doctor, midwife, or nurse, and with no pain relief, anesthesia, or hygiene material.

Amnesty International calls on the State of Israel to comply with the provisional measures ordered by the ICJ and to take immediate and effective measures to provide urgently needed basic services and humanitarian aid to the population in the occupied Gaza Strip. Amnesty warns against the devastating consequences of a land invasion of Rafah, as over 1.2 million Palestinian civilians who are trapped there, the vast majority of them displaced, have nowhere to go. Israel must also end its near-total siege and refrain from attacking hospitals and medical facilities. Amnesty International reiterates that an immediate and sustained ceasefire by all parties is the most effective way to ensure the implementation of the Court's provisional measures and to prevent genocide in Gaza.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: Hebrew, English, or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: APRIL 11, 2024