

Nicolette Boele MP demands stronger action to address humanitarian crisis in Gaza

Independent Member for Bradfield, Nicolette Boele MP, is calling on the Government to match words with action in ending the humanitarian emergency in Gaza.

“Words are no longer enough. The Government’s statement over the weekend ‘strongly rejecting’ the Israeli Government’s plan to annex Gaza is woefully inadequate. Gaza is rubble, and according to accounts on the ground, civilians are being deliberately starved to death or shot while trying to access aid. Australia must do all that we can – and there is still much more we can do.”

Ms Boele is calling for the government to:

- impose targeted sanctions on the Israeli government;
- cease any roles it has - whether it be as a supplier, customer or fiduciary - in the supply chain for Israel’s arms, weapons and components; and
- commit to the recognition of a Palestinian state (as our allies the United Kingdom, Canada and France have done) and take steps to seek to establish an Australian embassy within its borders.

“I am being inundated by correspondence from my constituents, desperate for Hamas and Israel’s intolerable conduct to end. Less than a week ago, hundreds of thousands of Sydneysiders marched – in the pouring rain – with the same message. It’s time for our government to listen, and lead.”

Ms Boele has met local action groups, community leaders, humanitarian organisations and listened to diverse voices calling for action. She has urged the Government to ensure that any Australian taxpayer funding directed to Gaza supports civilians and does not contribute to further harm.

Australia has been a reliable friend to Israel, supporting its people’s right to live safely within internationally recognised borders. Israel is expected to uphold the international rules-based order - a commitment Australia shares as a signatory to agreements such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Oslo Accords.

Recognising Palestinian statehood may help break Hamas’ hold on Gaza by tackling the root grievances that sustain its power. This would hasten the peace process and urgently deliver lifesaving humanitarian aid - particularly to the starving children - backed by international cooperation and the establishment of democratic institutions alongside a reformed Palestinian Authority. Hamas is a terrorist organisation and must have no role in governing a future Palestinian state.

It is time for a permanent ceasefire, for unimpeded aid to flow, for the hostages to be released, and the long process of recovery and rebuilding to commence.

ENDS

For media queries, contact media@nicoletteboele.com.au or call 0402 153 728