

12 December 2023

Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister of New Zealand
Winston Peters, Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand
New Zealand Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Subject line: Urgent - UN General Assembly (UNGA) resolution demanding an immediate humanitarian ceasefire.

Tena koutou,

We, the undersigned groups, and organisations, urge you to vote 'yes' on the impending United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution, demanding an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza, which is slated for Tuesday 12/12/2023 (EST).

Disturbingly, recent data from the Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor reveals a harrowing toll of 23,012 Palestinians killed in Gaza since October 7, including 9,077 children¹. That equals one Palestinian on average every 4 minutes, and one child every 10 minutes—a stark reminder of the consequences of delaying an urgent call for a ceasefire.

The UN Human Rights Office, on November 16, said Palestinians in Gaza face death, siege, destruction, and deprivation of basic human needs. Over 70 percent of casualties in Israeli attacks have been women and children². The UN commissioner general warns of a devastating scenario where survival is at stake not only from Israeli bombs but also from hunger, thirst, and disease. The weaponisation of "food, water, and fuel" exacerbates the already dire situation in Gaza³.

As New Zealanders, we urge our representatives to take every possible action to halt the bloodshed. Casting a 'yes' vote at the UNGA on Tuesday (EST) is the least we expect in our pursuit of a peaceful resolution to this humanitarian crisis in line of Aotearoa New Zealand's commitment to human rights.

Thank you for your dedication to peace and justice. Your affirmative vote on the UNGA resolution will help alleviate Gazans suffering and support a lasting, just resolution to this humanitarian crisis.

Ngā mihi,



¹ <https://euromedmonitor.org/en/article/6020/Over-10,000-infants-and-children-killed-in-Israel%E2%80%99s-Gaza-genocide-hundreds-of-whom-are-trapped-beneath-debris>

² <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/11/gaza-un-experts-call-international-community-prevent-genocide-against>

³ <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2023-12-09/israel-gaza-hamas-united-nations-humanitarian-relief>