



UNJPPI

United Network for Justice and Peace
in Palestine and Israel

25 August 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
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Dear Prime Minister Carney,

Re: Stronger Canadian Action Required – Both to End Famine in Gaza and to Preserve Two-State Option

This is a follow-up to our August 8th letter, a copy of which is attached. That letter made reference to the May 19th [Joint statement from the leaders of Canada, the United Kingdom and France on the situation in Gaza and the West Bank](#), which spoke to the expansion of Israel's military operation in Gaza. It named the level of suffering being caused as intolerable and committed to take further concrete actions if Israel did not cease its renewed military offensive and lift humanitarian aid restrictions.

The Joint Statement also spoke to Israel's expansion of West Bank settlements. It stated that Israel must halt settlements which are illegal and undermine the viability of a Palestinian state. In speaking of the settlements, the three leaders also stated that their countries would not hesitate to take further action.

Three months have passed since the Joint Statement. Israel has not ceased its military operation in Gaza, nor has it lifted its humanitarian aid restrictions. And in the West Bank, Israel has not halted the construction of settlements. It has continued both to approve and construct such illegal settlement units, most recently with the obvious intent to effectively destroy the prospects for a Two-State solution.

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Concerning Gaza

Our August 8th letter contained a link to the July 29th Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Alert which stated that Gaza faces the severe risk of famine.

Now, just over 3 weeks later, the IPC's August 22nd [Special Snapshot](#) states:

- Famine is currently occurring in Gaza Governorate and projected to expand to Deir al-Balah and Khan Younis governorates by the end of September
- Malnutrition threatens the lives of 132,000 children under five through June 2026, including 41,000 severe cases, doubling May's numbers.

The IPC states that the Famine is a race against time. It calls for “an immediate, at scale response”, and states that if there is a failure to achieve an immediate and sustained ceasefire to allow humanitarian aid to reach everyone in the Gaza Strip, “avoidable deaths will increase exponentially.”

The IPC's urgency is echoed in the [Statement](#) issued the same day by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). It calls for the swift and unhindered delivery of humanitarian aid through all crossings and land routes into Gaza, for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, and for the immediate and unconditional release of hostages and those arbitrarily detained.

The urgency is also graphically illustrated in [the August 22nd report](#) of CBC correspondent Margaret Evans on The National.

What is Israel's response? It denies that there is a famine and calls the IPC report a smear. Rather than making a constructive response to the ceasefire, recently accepted by Hamas, it calls up 60,000 soldiers so the slaughter can continue.

Concerning the West Bank

Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs and her counterparts in 20 other countries promptly responded to the recent Israel approval of 3,753 housing units, 3,412 of which are to be in the area designated as E1. Obviously, the governments of all these countries recognize the significance of this approval, which [Peace Now](#) states is particularly devastating for the prospects of peace and the future of a two-state solution. Canada and many of its allies share this concern and have spoken out against the approval. Minister Anand and the other foreign ministers [condemned this approval](#) and called on Israel to “urgently retract” it.

However, reports give no indication of consequences promised if the approval is not retracted.

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Stronger Action Is Clearly Required

It is apparent - criticism from other countries, even traditional friends and allies, has not been sufficient to persuade Israel to stop its egregious violations of international law intended to cause the death of Palestinians and to preclude any prospects for a Palestinian state. Stronger action by Canada and other countries is clearly required.

Our August 8th letter urged your government to take the following concrete actions:

- *Impose an Effective and Total Two-Way Arms Embargo on Israel* - stopping the flow of all military, equipment, hardware or supplies, whether directly or indirectly, from Canada to Israel, and similarly from Israel to Canada.
- *Terminate or At Least Suspend CIFTA* – to ensure duty-free status does not apply to products in whole or in part from the illegal Israeli settlements
- *Move Expeditiously in line with the 13 September 2024 UN General Council Resolution* – to stop Canadian nationals, companies and entities providing aid or assistance to Israel’s continuing illegal occupation and to prevent trade or investment relations that assist in the maintenance of the illegal settlements and the continuing occupation.

In addition to those actions, we now also urge you to consider the following:

- Recall Canada’s ambassador to Israel for consultations,
- Join South Africa as a party to its application to the International Court of Justice alleging violations of the Genocide Convention by Israel in Gaza, and
- Work with other UN Member states to suspend the State of Israel’s participation in the work of the UN General Assembly, as was done with respect to South Africa in 1974.

Yours respectfully,



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c.c.

The Hon. Anita Anand, P.C., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs

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