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PM Correspondence - ATT:951917 Call for ceasefire in Israel and Palestine

Please find attached correspondence from Vittorio Cintio, National President of the Australian Association of Social Workers calling for a ceasefire in Israel and Palestine.



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09 November 2023

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

RE: CALL FOR CEASEFIRE IN ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

I am writing to you on behalf of the Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) to express our deep concern about the current situation in Israel and Palestine.

The ongoing conflict in the region has resulted in unimaginable suffering and a humanitarian crisis, leaving countless people and communities facing fear, uncertainty, and profound loss. Our hearts go out to all those affected, including the families who have lost loved ones and those living in constant terror.

We are aligned with the International Federation of Social Workers' (IFSW) statements that social workers in both Israel and Palestine are courageously providing vital support to those affected by the crisis, including counselling and assistance for those who have been separated from their families, those dealing with missing or deceased relatives, and those without access to necessities like food and water. Like the IFSW, we sincerely hope that a swift and lasting peace will be established in the region.

Despite being on opposing sides, these social workers face similar challenges and are united in their commitment to upholding human dignity, promoting well-being, and sustaining peace. Their selfless dedication serves as an inspiration to us all.

We support – and agree with – UN Secretary-General António Guterres, who emphasised on 28 October the urgent need for a prompt humanitarian ceasefire, alongside the unconditional liberation of captives and the distribution of aid matching the critical requirements of the population in Gaza.

As representatives of social workers across Australia, we stand in solidarity with these social workers, and we urge your support in helping them navigate this difficult time. We join them in hoping for a swift and lasting peace that ensures the safety and well-being of all civilians in the region.

Please, in our and all of our interests, take whatever action you think is necessary in advocating on our behalf to support calls for an immediate ceasefire.

Thank you for your attention on this urgent matter.

Yours Faithfully,

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Vittorio Cintio
National President

Title	Attachment Type	Attached By	Attached Date
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