

STATEMENT ON GAZA

Monday, 26 May 2025

The Services Union joins with APHEDA (the Union movement's Global Justice organisation) in welcoming Australia's recent condemnation of the Netanyahu Government's actions in Gaza that is preventing aid being delivered to Palestinians in need.

We also join with the statement from Prime Minister Anthony Albanese this morning where he said that the limiting of aid to Gaza is completely unacceptable.

The Prime Minister said: "It is outrageous that there be a blockade of food and supplies to people who are in need in Gaza. We've made that very clear by signing up to international statements."

He added:

"We find Israel's excuses and explanations completely untenable and without credibility. People are starving, and the idea that a democratic state withholds supply is an outrage. Now, that is my clear position. It's one I've indicated clearly and directly to the Israeli government, it's one that we'll continue to be a part of international statements."

Since the beginning of this war, we have consistently called for all politicians both here and abroad to work together in support of immediate ceasefire, release of all hostages, stop genocide and war crimes, and work to establish a lasting peace and two state solution.

Millions of innocent civilians are suffering. The United Nations has called for the "rapid, safe, and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance at scale directly to civilians, in order to avert famine, alleviate widespread suffering, and prevent further loss of life."

The recent joint statement by Australia along with 23 other countries across the world calling on the Israeli Government to provide uninhibited delivery of food and medicines to the people of Gaza is a positive step. But the Australian Government could and should do more – including joining with Britain, Canada and France in threatening sanctions and 'further concrete actions' against Israel if it does not stop its renewed military offensive in Gaza.

We pay tribute to the ASU members working across the aid and international development sector who are supporting global efforts for peace and humanitarian efforts in Gaza, and we pay tribute to our members who have called, emailed, posted on social media and rallied, calling on our Government to speak up on behalf of the Palestinian people and for peace in Gaza.

We continue to encourage our members to support community actions for peace, and to support the work of organisations such as APHEDA.

Members can contribute directly to the aid effort in Gaza by supporting APHEDA's Gaza Appeal. TSU has donated directly to this appeal and encourages members to do so if they are able to.

APHEDA: Take Action: <https://apheda.org.au/get-involved/>

APHEDA: Donate: <https://palestinian-people-emergency-appeal.raiselysite.com>