



PRIME MINISTER
AUBERGE DE CASTILLE, VALLETTA, MALTA

24 November 2023

Excellency,

I am writing to you at a difficult time, as we mark the anniversary of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. Malta remains gravely concerned by the desperate situation facing Palestinians, including the situation in Gaza, which is leaving a devastating impact on millions of civilians. We are constantly re-iterating the need for all parties to abide by international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law.

We condemn in the strongest term the eruption of violence against civilians that has taken place since 7 October as well as the unabated loss of thousands of innocent civilian lives which continues to undermine the Peace Process. It is imperative that all parties seek de-escalation and support humanitarian pauses which would protect civilians and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Access to food, electricity, water and fuel in Gaza should also be immediately restored.

Malta immediately recognised the scale of the humanitarian implications and called for immediate, full, sustained, safe, and unhindered humanitarian access to civilians. In the spirit of humanitarianism which has long characterised our foreign policy, we have doubled our financial contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for this year. You will also recall that recently Malta led in the negotiation and approval of UN Security Council Resolution 2712, which called for humanitarian pauses and for accountability for all violations of international law.

Furthermore, through the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, Malta is assisting members of the public who wish to donate money to civilians in Gaza. These funds are divided equally between UNRWA, as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross, which is also working to address the urgent humanitarian situation in Gaza.

UNRWA remains an important stabilizing force in the region. We express our sincere appreciation to its dedicated staff who, despite the dire circumstances in which they operate, continue to provide vital assistance to millions of Palestinians in Gaza and throughout the region. We also convey our deep sorrow and sincere condolences for the tragic loss of UNRWA staff in these past weeks.

Ultimately, we believe that no peace can be achieved through violence. The only viable path towards peace remains clear: a just and comprehensive resolution based on a two-State solution along the pre-1967 borders, addressing the legitimate aspirations of both sides, with Jerusalem



as the future Capital of two states living side-by-side in peace and security, in line with the relevant Security Council resolutions and internationally agreed parameters.

Finally, as an elected member of the United Nations Security Council and a Member State of the European Union, Malta remains committed to continue engaging with international partners as well as those in the region. It is only through peaceful dialogue that can we reach a just, comprehensive, and lasting solution which will safeguard peace and protect the fundamental rights of Israelis and Palestinians alike.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Robert Abela
Prime Minister

H.E. Mr. Cheikh Niang
Chair
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People