

Statement on Recognition of Palestinian Statehood

We the undersigned call on the Australian government to vote yes to a Palestinian state at the UN.

- Australia has consistently supported a two state solution to the Israel/Palestine conflict.
- Israel is an independent and sovereign state while Palestinians remain stateless.
- 18 years of negotiations since the Oslo accords have produced no agreement while Israel has continued to build illegal settlements on Palestinian land and has subjected Palestinians to military occupation.
- Palestinians, like other human beings, have the right to their own state and their own nationality. Institutions such as the UN, World Bank and IMF have affirmed their readiness for statehood.
- Negotiations on final status issues, namely final borders with agreed land swaps, security, settlements, refugees, water and Jerusalem should resume as soon as possible between Israel and the Palestinians including both Fatah and Hamas, but the issue of statehood should not be subject to negotiation.

130 member states of the United Nations have so far committed to recognise a Palestinian state. If Australia's long-standing commitment to a two-state solution is genuine and meaningful we should join them.

This Statement was prepared under the auspices of the Australia Palestine Advocacy Network, www.apan.org.au

Signatories

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