

TO: BRANCH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING – 27 February 2024
FROM: WAYNE WOOD – BRANCH SECRETARY
SUBJECT: ASU WA BRANCH RESOLUTION FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE RESOLUTION

Recommendation:

E12/24

Moved: Allan Jauncey

Seconded: Jesse Steele

- **The Australian Services Union WA Branch joins the union movement in calling for an immediate ceasefire in Israel and Palestine. We reiterate our strong opposition to all forms of violence, as well as racism, islamophobia and antisemitism. There must be an immediate de-escalation and ceasefire, to allow humanitarian aid into Palestine. Civilians must be protected and civilian infrastructure such as hospitals must not be targeted.**

The Australian Services Union WA Branch Executive agrees to an email being sent to all ASU WA Branch members advising them of the existence of the group ASU members for Palestine (WA) and that some WA union members have signed the national open letter from union members.

The Australian Services Union WA Branch Executive supports a resolution calling for the Australian government to reverse its decision to suspend aid to the UNRWA on the grounds that this spells a death sentence for many more Palestinians, and to immediately cancel all arms export licenses to Israel.

The Australian Services Union WA Branch Executive supports the use of ASU shirts and flags by the group ASU members for Palestine (WA) at rallies and commits to advising all members when these rallies take place.

Report

AUSTRALIAN UNIONS CALL FOR PEACE

The Australian Services Union WA Branch has joined the union movement in calling for an immediate ceasefire in Israel and Palestine.

The union movement is a movement of peace. We reiterate our strong opposition to all forms of violence, as well as racism, islamophobia and antisemitism.

This latest escalation is part of a decades-long conflict that must be brought to a just outcome through dialogue and respect for international law, including human rights.

There must be an immediate de-escalation and ceasefire, to allow humanitarian aid into Palestine. Civilians must be protected and civilian infrastructure such as hospitals must not be targeted.

Nowhere is safe in Gaza. The shocking UNRWA report [UNRWA Situation Report #76 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem | UNRWA](#) shows how 70%+ of civilian infrastructure- including homes, hospitals & schools have been destroyed or severely damaged.

Justice and solidarity are union business. The Australian union movement has a proud history of working with communities for development through Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA. ASUWA Branch joins them in demanding an immediate ceasefire & full humanitarian access to alleviate the suffering of thousands in Gaza.

APHEDA (Union Aid Abroad) is the global justice organisation of the Australian union movement, working to support stronger union and social movements in thirteen locations in Southeast Asia, the Pacific, the Middle East, and Southern Africa. Established in 1984, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's international program has developed from a rights-based approach, with a focus on solidarity, not charity. APHEDA do that by working in partnership with thirty-nine local trade unions and community organisations through thirty projects and campaigns. Find out more or become a member via the APHEDA website [Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA – Global Solidarity](#). Western Australian unionists are encouraged to support the Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA by joining [JOIN | Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA](#)

ASU also joins with other social justice organization in calling for the right to peacefully protest.

ASU members can take further action by:

Donating to APHEDA or arrange a fundraiser at your workplace.

Email your local MP via APHEDA's Gaza ceasefire now platform [Email your local MP: Gaza ceasefire now! | Gaza ceasefire now! \(good.do\)](#)