

3 June 2025

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Parliament Buildings

Taking stronger action on the Gaza conflict

Dear Minister Peters,

I would like to acknowledge your recent remarks calling for a swift end to the conflict in Gaza and for the immediate provision of aid to the people of Gaza.

The New Zealand Council of Trade Unions Te Kauae Kaimahi condemns all acts of violence against civilians, including the attack by Hamas on 7 October 2023, and condemns Israel's siege and bombardment of Gaza, which has created a major humanitarian catastrophe.

For too long, the international community has allowed the state of Israel to act with impunity. It is now very clearly engaged in genocide and ethnic cleansing in Gaza. All efforts must be made to put diplomatic and economic pressure on Israel to end this murderous campaign.

I am therefore writing to request the New Zealand government gives meaningful effect to your recent remarks by taking the following measures:

1. Implement a ban on all imports of goods made in whole or in part in Israel.
2. Conduct a rapid review of Crown investments and immediately divest from any financial interests in Israeli companies.
3. Immediately expel the Israeli Ambassador.
4. Do not participate in any military training exercises, such as future RIMPAC exercises, where the Israeli military is also participating.
5. Work with like-minded countries on a coordinated response to increase pressure on Israel to end the conflict.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Wagstaff'.

Richard Wagstaff

President, New Zealand Council of Trade Unions Te Kauae Kaimahi