

CFMEU Construction & General Division National Office
National Conference, 14 September 2011

RESOLUTION

Israel/Palestine Conflict

Conference calls on the Federal government to show genuine support for peace and a just and viable two state solution to the Israel/Palestine conflict. Two states that co-exist and live in peace within secure borders and in accordance with UN resolutions and international law.

To achieve this ultimate goal, conference supports intermediate steps, such as:

- An immediate freeze on all illegal settlement construction and land and resource expropriation activity in the illegally occupied Palestinian Territories of East Jerusalem and the West Bank;
- The dismantling of the Separation Wall throughout the West Bank where it is built on Palestinian land;
- An end to the demolition of Palestinian homes on their own land;
- An end to the illegal brutal and in demise blockade of Gaza strip that severely impacts on the health and lives of 1.5 million Palestinians;
- An end to the movement and resource restrictions placed upon a further 2.5 million Palestinians in the West Bank and East Jerusalem that greatly impacts on the ability for civil society to function and for the Palestinian economy to operate;
- An end to the oppressive workplace practices that are imposed on Palestinian workers in the illegal Israeli industrial zones;
- A just outcome for Palestinian refugees to return.

Conference further calls upon the federal Labor Government to support a Palestinian state in line with majority of the international community at the UN General Assembly vote that is expected in September.

Palestine is currently recognised by 112 member states of the United Nations and needs only 18 more to obtain the 2/3 majority necessary for official recognition as a state at the UN General Assembly this September. Australia's support would represent major leverage in favour of Palestine's race for recognition.

This conference believes that the possibility of a just and viable two-state solution and with it any lasting peace is becoming more remote through increased facts on the ground and the denial of basic human rights and that UN Resolutions and international law must apply for the long-term security of both the Palestinians and Israelis.

Conference condemns violence and calls for an immediate end to all hostilities.

Conference also notes that when Australia supported the creation of the state of Israel at the United Nations in 1947, that it was on 55% of historical Palestine. This motion acknowledges the state of Israel on 78%.