



## Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

*United Nations Consultative status with ECOSOC, UNESCO and UNCTAD  
Special relations with the ILO, FAO, UNICEF, and other organisations and agencies*

WILPF Aotearoa Section, PO Box 2054, Wellington 6140

4 December 2024

Kia ora Prime Minister Christopher Luxon and Deputy Prime Minister Winston Peters

**Re: South Africa's application to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Israel and alleged genocide violations in the Gaza Strip**

Recently South Africa instituted proceedings against Israel before the ICJ concerning alleged violations by Israel of its obligations under the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the "Genocide Convention") in relation to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) has been working for peace and social justice since it was established in 1915. We strongly urge your Government to actively support the South African initiative especially the first stage which argues for an interim injunction to demand Israel cease its wholesale slaughter of Palestinians in Gaza. An immediate ceasefire would allow unfettered humanitarian aid to enter Gaza where the needs are overwhelming.

As a party to the Convention and defender of the international rules-based system, New Zealand has an interest in ensuring the Convention is properly interpreted and applied.

Our members and the vast majority of New Zealanders want to see an end to the violence, in Gaza and the West Bank and a firm commitment by the international community to a United Nations-led process that will deliver Palestinian self-determination.

New Zealand Governments have regularly acted on humanitarian grounds to relieve suffering according to need. It is urgent that your Government does so again now.

Ngaa mihi nui

Suzanne Loughlin  
President