

11 July 2014

### **34 organizations call for a ceasefire and sustained solution towards peace**

Military actions by all parties must stop. Since 2009, history has shown that military operations have failed to bring peace and security for people in Gaza and in Israel. Over the years we have repeatedly called for ceasefires and for all sides to protect civilians from harm. Sadly, these ceasefires have not lasted and we have had to revert back to life-saving relief and emergency programs, aiding innocent people to cope with the trauma, and rebuilding Gaza time and time again.

With civilians in Gaza killed by Israeli airstrikes and homes, schools, and water facilities damaged and destroyed and as rockets continue to be fired from Gaza towards Israel, we now call again for a ceasefire.

But, we cannot accept a simple return to the status quo. Structural changes must be made so that people caught in the hostilities are protected from violence and that their rights and needs are respected and fulfilled.

Such changes must result in assurances of security for both sides, Palestinian sovereignty, and respect for international humanitarian and human rights law.

We the undersigned humanitarian, development, faith, and rights based organizations call on the International Community to immediately start this process by redoubling efforts to work effectively with the parties to agree to durable solutions that contribute to a just peace for all in the region, ending the blockade in Gaza, and systematically addressing and ensuring accountability for violations of international humanitarian and human rights law.

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|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Action Against Hunger (ACF)               | 15. Japan International Volunteer Center (JVC)             | 26. Solidaridad Internacional- Alianza por la Solidaridad (SI-APS) |
| 2. ActionAid                                 | 16. Medical Aid For Palestinians – MAP UK                  | 27. Terres des Hommes Italy (TdH Italia)                           |
| 3. American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) | 17. medico international                                   | 28. Terres des Hommes Lausanne                                     |
| 4. CARE                                      | 18. Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)                      | 29. The Carter Center                                              |
| 5. Catholic Relief Services (CRS)            | 19. Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)                             | 30. The Lutheran World Federation                                  |
| 6. CESVI                                     | 20. Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)                           | 31. The Swedish Organization for Individual Relief (SOIR)          |
| 7. DanChurchAid (DCA)                        | 21. Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)                        | 32. Volontariato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo (VIS)              |
| 8. Diakonia                                  | 22. Oxfam                                                  | 33. War Child                                                      |
| 9. Global Communities                        | 23. Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH)                       | 34. World Vision Jerusalem - West Bank- Gaza                       |
| 10. Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (GVC)      | 24. Premiere Urgence Aide Medicale Internationale (PU-AMI) |                                                                    |
| 11. Help Age International                   | 25. Save the Children                                      |                                                                    |
| 12. Heinrich-Böll-Foundation                 |                                                            |                                                                    |
| 13. HEKS                                     |                                                            |                                                                    |
| 14. International Learning Centers (ILC)     |                                                            |                                                                    |

The organizations signing this statement are all members of the Association of International Development Agencies (AIDA), a coordinating body of more than 70 INGOs working in Palestine