CAPAC
Canadian Arab Public Affairs Committee

A Call on the Government of Canada to Hold Israel Accountable for Blocking Aid and Reconstruction Relief as Gaza Drowns

For Immediate Release

November 9, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada

The Honourable Anita Anand
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Dear Prime Minister Carney and Minister Anand,

Gaza is drowning. As winter rain storms once again pound Gaza, more than 70,000 tents have been completely destroyed, leaving over 400,000 Palestinian civilians without shelter and forced back onto the streets. These displaced families are currently without shelter and washrooms and now their meagre belongings have been ruined. The flooding has already killed at least six people, including an infant who reportedly drowned and five displaced people, including three children and two women, killed when a sand dune collapsed on their tents.

The already-dire situation of the health system has also been worsened. Health facilities have been flooded, forcing the suspension of some medical services, while medicine shortages, including antibiotics and medicines for fever, nausea and diarrhoea, persist, despite the rise in illnesses caused by cold exposure and distress, including diarrhoea, respiratory infections and skin infections.

As reported by UNICEF on November 7, 2026, with floodwaters now mixing with sewage amid the tent encampments in Gaza, yet another public health crisis is being provoked in Gaza. UNICEF has had the tools, equipment and engineers ready for a year waiting to repair the pumping station at Sheikh Radwan, but Israel is not allowing UNICEF to bring them in and carry out the repairs.

The Israeli occupation's continued restrictions on the entry of humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people, with particular impediments placed on the delivery of tents and other materials vital for providing shelter to the displaced population and other life essentials, are clearly exacerbating what is already acknowledged to be a humanitarian catastrophe.

We therefore respectfully request that you issue a formal public statement calling on Israel to immediately open the borders without delay and to permit the unimpeded entry of humanitarian aid safely, including shelter supplies and sewage repair equipment.

CAPAC calls on the Government of Canada to condemn and hold Israel accountable for blocking this aid and reconstruction. This condemnation must be clear, public and unequivocal.

Canada must exert sustained and serious diplomatic pressure on Israel to fulfil its obligations as the occupying power and to comply with international humanitarian law. Words alone are not enough. Canada must use every diplomatic, political and legal means available to compel Israel to open the crossings, allow the entry of shelter and sewage repair equipment, and end its obstruction of life-saving aid to the Palestinian people as a matter of urgency.

Sincerely,

Lama Aggad
President

Dr. Atif Kubursi
Vice President

Canadian Arab Public Affairs Committee (CAPAC)