

Hamas Urges Arab League to Take Stance on Gaza Genocide

GAZA STRIP (Dispatches) -- The Hamas resistance movement has called upon the Arab League to take a stance on the worsening humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip, which persists despite a ceasefire deal that came into effect on October 10.

“The humanitarian catastrophe unfolding in the Gaza Strip, which has worsened with the onset of winter, requires a clear position from the Arab League, based on its founding charter and the principles of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,” Hazem Qasem, a spokesman for the Gaza-based group, said in a statement.

He added that the population in Gaza continues to endure genocide, facing restricted aid, obstructed reconstruction efforts, and an ongoing siege – all amidst extremely harsh living conditions.

Meanwhile, the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) has called for shelter materials to be allowed into the war-ravaged Gaza Strip, where heavy rains have flooded the tents of displaced civilians, exacerbating the already dire



Over 900,000 displaced Gazans are at risk of flooding as severe storm approaches, authorities warn.

humanitarian situation.

“Winter has come to Gaza,” the UN agency wrote in a post published on the social media platform X. “Winter rains in Gaza are making conditions even more desperate. Families are taking shelter anywhere they can, including in makeshift tents.”

The UNRWA emphasized that it possesses the essential shelter supplies required in Gaza to assist residents during the winter months.

The United Nations reported on Friday that Israel has turned down 23 requests for humanitarian aid since the Gaza ceasefire started on October 10, re-

sulting in vital relief supplies being prevented from reaching the region.

“Millions of urgently needed shelter items remain stuck in Jordan and in Egypt and Israel as well, awaiting approval to enter Gaza,” UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said at a news conference.

He said that “since the ceasefire began on October 10, Israeli authorities have rejected 23 requests from nine of our partners to bring in nearly 4,000 pallets of critical supplies, including tents, sealing and framing kits, bedding, kitchen sets,

and blankets.”

Dujarric cautioned that the escalating conditions are increasing the danger faced by civilians, noting that “the dire living conditions are also increasing people’s exposure to explosive ordnance, with children among those most at risk.”

“Since the ceasefire, our colleagues working on mine action have recorded more than 10 injuries from explosive hazards,” he said.

The senior UN official added that the risk is “further compounded by Gaza’s extremely limited geographical size, which leaves little room to avoid areas where there may be unexploded ordnance.”

Dujarric highlighted the severity of potential hazard zones, stating that “even minimal contamination can have widespread and devastating consequences.”

He underlined the need “for the full and sustained opening of existing and additional crossings, clearance of further critical items and equipment for entry, and comprehensive facilitation of our work and the work of our NGO partners.”

Cooperation... (Continued From Page One)

as the decision to construct ... a new facility has been taken”. “They do not care about our cooperation because engagement is not important to them,” he said.

He also blasted doubled standards on Israel and the U.S., noting that neither side is a party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) while pursuing nuclear capabilities.

The deputy foreign minister said the regime that claims Iran is pursuing a nuclear bomb has, for three decades, been spinning tales about Iran’s alleged nuclear bomb ambitions.

He said even though Iran has been the one targeted, Israel continues to say that Iran is seeking a nuclear bomb, which is truly absurd.

“They themselves possess warheads and nuclear weapons, have sown chaos in the region, and have even claimed to hold an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction, yet they continue to talk about their fantasy that Iran is trying to acquire a nuclear bomb.”

Gharibabadi said, “This is not just about Iran today; in the future, other countries will also be affected.

“Today we see that countries in our region are advancing the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and I do not know what will happen to their nuclear facilities in the future, especially given the threat posed by Israel, which cannot tolerate the peaceful use of nuclear energy in the region.

“This is a fact, and we have seen it in the behavior toward Iraq, Syria, and Iran, and it could happen elsewhere in the region in the future. This is a major lesson we have learned. The international community, the United Nations, and the UN Security Council must put an end to the brutality and crimes committed by Israel and the United States in the region.”

Gharibabadi said the conference was an opportunity to examine the legal and ethical dimensions of state aggression, emphasizing the importance of upholding international law over political maneuvering.

The Tehran gathering hosted around 350 participants from multiple countries, including diplomats, scholars, and analysts, to discuss the legality of responses to aggression under international law.

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grounded in respect and dignity.

“The U.S. and others must understand that there is no way to resolve issues with Iran except through diplomacy and the language of respect. If they speak with respect, Iran will respond in kind. But if another approach is taken, the people will answer in the same language,” he said.

He also referenced Iran’s previous experience with negotiations and conflict.

“We have experience with both paths. In 2015, we had the negotiations and the JCPOA; in the recent war, they spoke with the language of force and received its answer. We are ready for both paths,” Araghchi said.

Joining the discussion, Iran’s Vice President and head of the Atomic Energy Organization Muhammad Eslami addressed the specific impact of the war on Iran’s nuclear facilities.

Eslami noted that during the 12-day war, for the first time in history, Iran’s nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) supervision were attacked, yet the agency did not condemn the strikes.

“In previous attacks on nuclear facilities worldwide, none were under IAEA supervision. In Iran, this was the first time, and neither the IAEA Director General nor its Board issued condemnation – a direct blow to international law,” he said.

Eslami highlighted that inspectors were present during the attacks and subsequently withdrawn, emphasizing that the assaults aimed at halting Iran’s progress rather than its nuclear capabilities.

He said that the IAEA must establish new modalities to protect nuclear facilities under potential conflict conditions. “Iran remains committed to its safeguards obligations, but double standards and political manipulation cannot be tolerated,” he added.

He also stressed that while the attacks carried no environmental or human consequences due to Iran’s preparations, the political pressure created by the strikes undermined both the agency’s credibility and international norms.

Eslami reaffirmed Iran’s right to continue its nuclear activities and safeguards cooperation under fair and secure conditions.

Reiterating Araghchi’s broader point about diplomacy, Eslami’s remarks reinforced that Iran is ready to engage in international negotiations, but any dialogue must respect its sovereignty, rights, and national dignity.

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Pezeshkian stressed the importance of national unity and cohesion in overcoming economic and structural challenges.

“For 47 years we have focused on changing individuals rather than fixing root causes. We must begin reforms with ourselves. This is the path that the fourteenth government has chosen,” he said.

He also underscored the role of Iran’s armed forces beyond military matters.

“The armed forces have remarkable capacities in human resources, and their capabilities can provide significant assistance to the government in addressing economic problems and managing imbalances in resources and expenditures,” Pezeshkian said.

The Strategic Council meeting was attended by senior Defense Ministry officials and representatives from various state sectors.

The session underscored the government’s focus on leveraging the armed forces’ capacities to support economic stability, enhance administrative efficiency, and strengthen the country’s resilience in the face of domestic and external pressures.

South Korea to Deliver Air Defense Systems to Iraq in 2026

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) -- The Iraqi Ministry of Defense revealed on Sunday that South Korea has agreed on a timeline for the supply of air defense systems to Iraq in 2026.

The spokesperson for the Iraqi Defense Ministry, Tahsin al-Khafaji, told local media that the delivery of air defense systems is part of deals Iraq reached with countries possessing advanced air defense capabilities, including South Korea.

South Korea has advanced technological systems as well as strong relations with the Iraqi government, according

to al-Khafaji.

In December 2024, Iraqi Prime Minister Muhammad Shia al-Sudani received officials from Korea Aerospace Industries (KAI), a South Korean aerospace and defense manufacturer, in Baghdad, where they discussed strategies to enhance Iraq’s air defense systems.

Al-Sudani reaffirmed the government’s commitment to working with KAI and utilizing its knowledge and expertise, according to the Prime Minister’s Office (PMO).

The endeavor is in line with the government’s goals to reform Iraq’s security sector

and strengthen security forces’ capabilities.

KAI said in December that it had signed a 136 billion won (\$93.7 million) deal to provide Iraq with KUH helicopters.

Under the deal, the new helicopters will be delivered to the Iraqi government by March 2029, according to South Korea’s Yonhap News Agency.

The KUH-1 Surion, a medium transport helicopter, was developed by KAI in 2012 to replace the army’s aging fleet of UH-1H and 500MD helicopters.

KAI has developed various

aerospace products, including training aircraft, fighter jets, helicopters, unmanned aerial vehicles, satellites, and training systems.

With the provision of military equipment, such as fighter jets, helicopters, and air defense systems, South Korea is stepping up its attempts to increase its military sales to Iraq.

Experts believe that after Israel attacked Gaza, Lebanon, Iran, Qatar, Yemen, and Tunisia this year, most countries in the region are looking to strengthen their air defense systems to protect against the regime’s brutal attacks.

Uncertainty Surrounds Turkish Delegation’s Visit to Pakistan for Talks

KABUL (Dispatches) -- Although Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said last week that a delegation from his country would travel to Pakistan to restart talks between Kabul and Islamabad, that delegation has not yet made the trip.

So far, neither Pakistan nor Turkey has clarified the issue, raising several questions.

Independent journalist and political activist Sami Yousafzai said on Sunday: “A Turkish military aircraft crashed, killing some soldiers, and there was also an explosion in Islamabad, which had political consequences and raised serious concerns about travel safety to the city.”

Political analyst Baktash Saeedi said: “The Durand Line and the TTP are major problems, and the interests of global powers involved in

Afghanistan complicate the matter further.”

Some analysts believe the silence from both Turkey and Pakistan indicates the complexity of the issue, suggesting that this problem is not easily resolvable.

According to them, if the Turkish delegation has indeed traveled to Pakistan, the discussions may be happening behind closed doors. However, if the visit has been postponed, it signals deep disagreements between Kabul and Islamabad.

They stress the importance of transparency regarding the delegation to clarify the future of a potential ceasefire between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Political analyst Sher Hassan Hassan said: “Pakistan is to blame for the lack of progress in negotiations. Until Pakistan, under inter-

national pressure, backs away from its rigid stance, the talks will not yield results.”

Maria Zakharova, spokesperson for the Russian Foreign Ministry, also said that Moscow is ready to mediate between Kabul and Islamabad.

Political analyst Barna Salehi stated: “Unless major powers like the U.S., Russia, and China are involved, this issue cannot be resolved.”

Although Afghan and Pakistani sides have held three rounds of talks in Qatar and Istanbul, they have so far failed to reach a fundamental resolution.

The Afghan side claims Pakistan wants them to issue a fatwa against the TTP and push all armed groups from across the Durand Line into Afghan territory.