

## Assembly Standing Committee – March 2024

### It was resolved to:

- a) To note resolutions of the Assembly Standing Committee 08.29 and 11.33 and Assembly Resolution 15.35;
- b) To support the Middle East Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches in their advocacy concerning the Israel-Palestine conflict;
- c) To condemn all acts of brutality and atrocities committed, noting that such actions continue to form barriers to any efforts at peace;
- d) To welcome the efforts the Australian Government has made to see an end to the current escalation in the war between Israel and Hamas including by calling for a humanitarian ceasefire, the release of all hostages, and opposition to Israel's illegal settlements in Palestinian territories;
- e) To welcome the humanitarian assistance the Australian Government has provided to Palestinians and urge that the Australian Government continue to provide such funding to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza;
- f) To call on the Australian Government to:
  - i. support the International Court of Justice's provisional measures for the prevention of genocide including calling for a sustained ceasefire, ending weapons exports to Israel and providing greater transparency over Australia's weapon exports;
  - ii. Do all it can to facilitate a meaningful and lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians and facilitate an end to atrocities and acts of brutality no matter who perpetrates them;
  - iii. To provide financial assistance and political support to organisations working for a meaningful and lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians; and,
  - iv. Impose targeted sanctions on Israeli settlers responsible for serious human rights abuses against Palestinians.
- g) To call on the Government of Israel to:
  - i. end its use of extrajudicial killings against suspected terrorists, and instead seek to bring suspects to trial in judicial processes that meet international standards;
  - ii. end impunity for members of the Israeli security forces and settlers that murder Palestinians and bring such people to justice in judicial processes that would meet international standards; and,
  - iii. abolish the practice of Administrative Detention that allows Palestinians to be imprisoned without knowing the charges against them or being able to contest the evidence used to imprison them;

- h) To encourage congregations to offer support and comfort to those who are living with grief and fear in their communities as a result of the current escalation in the conflict and acts of racial and religious hatred happening in Australia including by:
  - i. praying for, listening to, and promoting the voices of those who are suffering;
  - ii. participating in events and actions in support of a just peace;
  - iii. donating to the *Act For Peace* Gaza Emergency Appeal and *Palestinian Christians in Australia* accommodation Drive; and
- i) To write to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the Australian Greens, the General Secretary of the Middle East Council of Churches, the Israeli Ambassador to Australia and the Head of the General Delegation of Palestine to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific, to inform them of the clauses above.