



To:

Prime Minister the Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Minister for Foreign Affairs Senator the Hon Penny Wong
Minister for Health and Ageing the Hon Mark Butler MP

1 September 2025

Dear Prime Minister and Ministers,

The whole world has reeled in horror at the events unfolding in Gaza. The Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) would like to provide our views on this important global challenge.

The Board of PHAA has endorsed the statement (attached) by the European Public Health Alliance, the European Public Health Association and the World Federation for Public Health Associations. We particularly wish to draw to your attention the statement's declaration that "*We condemn racism, antisemitism and Islamophobia in all their forms.*"

We also endorse the Australian Government's decision to recognise the State of Palestine, and the other measures the Australian Government has taken to influence the Israel government to stop the war and de-escalate the violence in Gaza.

We further recommend that the Australian Government continues to look for and implement further peaceful opportunities to pressure Israel to cease the attacks and starvation in Gaza.

It is obvious that all war and human conflict is anathema to health. Peaceful resolution of any conflict, and the avoidance of violence – particularly at large scale – is clearly a highly prized and preferred approach to disagreements between nation states and any groupings of peoples.

We thank you for the Australian Government's actions and efforts aimed at reducing the carnage of this and any other conflict in the world. We urge every possible use of diplomacy, foreign and trade policy, and the provision of aid and support to minimise the devastation of the war in Gaza, and in all human conflict.

These are enormously troubling times. While we abhor the aggression, violence and bids for domination of one government or people over another, we applaud and endorse all peaceful efforts to end this and other conflict, and support efforts to minimise the risk of – and prevent – future conflict.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Miller".

Professor Caroline Miller
President