



AUSTRALIAN MUSLIM ADVOCACY NETWORK

13 MAY 2024

AMAN WELCOMES AUSTRALIAN SHIFT ON PALESTINE AT UN, URGES WITHDRAWAL FROM DEFENCE SUPPLY CHAIN

The Australian Muslim Advocacy Network (AMAN) welcomes the Australian vote at the United Nations as evidence that the Australian Government can take steps departing from the US block position.

AMAN also welcomes the strengthening of Labor's message that it no longer accepts that recognition of Palestinian statehood can only come at the end of a "peace process".

This shift combined with this vote at the UN, will be seen as hostile by Israel, and shows that Labor is capable of saying things that are necessary for peace and human rights in the region.

AMAN also welcomes Labor's decision not to join the U.S. in outright rejecting the jurisdiction of the international criminal court to investigate war crimes, although it has not affirmed the jurisdiction either or withdrawn the previous objections of the Morrison Government.

These are welcome changes, long overdue but insufficient to match the gravity of Israel's actions or adequately address the looming threat of further crimes.

Labor can disrupt Israel's annihilation of Palestinians in Gaza through immediately halting its critical role in the global military supply chain to Israel and Israel's key suppliers.

AMAN calls for Australia to unequivocally withdraw from this supply chain.

AMAN also calls for safeguards within the Future Made in Australia Act to prevent the local manufacturing of weapons destined for countries facing allegations of serious crimes under international law.

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MEDIA STATEMENT



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BACKGROUND

The 2018 Defence Export Strategy aims to elevate Australia's defence industry to a top ten global exporter by 2028, with Israel identified as a key market. Increasing local manufacturing is a core strategy.

Recently, the NY Times reported that Australia was becoming the biggest US weapons manufacturer outside the US.

In the past 7 months, Australian Defence Ministers have announced major deals with Israeli and Israel-supplier weapons companies and are exporting major munitions stocks to Germany to replenish Germany's stockpile, which is struggling to keep up with Israel's demand.

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