



Statement of Ireland
77th session of the World Health Assembly

Committee B – Agenda item 20

Health Conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east
Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

- We thank the Director-General for his reports on the health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, and on the health implications and humanitarian impact of the current crisis in the Gaza Strip.
- Ireland commends and thanks the WHO staff in Gaza who have been at the forefront of the international humanitarian response, tireless in their efforts to deliver life-saving assistance despite severe dangers to their lives.
- We express our condolences for the WHO staff who have lost their lives in this conflict. We deplore all loss of civilian life and acknowledge the appalling toll this conflict has taken on humanitarian and medical personnel.
- We remain deeply concerned by the devastating humanitarian and health crisis in Gaza.

- The destruction of hospitals and health centres, has led to the complete collapse of the health system in Gaza. This has had a devastating impact on civilians, particularly women and children.
- All actors must comply with international humanitarian law to ensure the protection of all civilians. Healthcare facilities and units are protected under international humanitarian law, and this protection extends to the wounded and sick as well as to medical staff and means of transport.
- We need an immediate and sustainable humanitarian ceasefire, and the unconditional release of all hostages.
- We urge Israel to cease its operations in Rafah and to avoid further escalation. Israel must facilitate full, safe and unimpeded access of humanitarian aid to the civilian population of Gaza. This includes for medical goods and supplies, as well as fuel, which is necessary for the operation of medical facilities and ambulances. This is Israel's clear obligation under international law.
- Ireland will continue to support efforts for a peaceful resolution to the conflict, based on a two-State solution, and progress towards comprehensive regional peace.