Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

November 7, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio Secretary of State U.S. Department of State 2201 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Two years after Hamas' brutal attack on Israel on October 7, we are encouraged by the ceasefire announced on October 8, 2025, and urge all parties to embrace this opportunity to create lasting peace and security in the region. While we welcome the news that humanitarian aid is entering Gaza after the October 8 ceasefire agreement, we seek clarity on your plan to ensure desperately needed humanitarian aid reaches Palestinian civilians in Gaza.

After over two years, there remains an insufficient supply of food, water, baby formula, medicine, and other essential humanitarian supplies needed to support life for Palestinian civilians in Gaza. People are dying of starvation, including over 100 children since the start of the war, with an additional 320,000 children at risk of acute malnutrition. At the end of August, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Famine Review Committee found that there is a famine in Gaza. As a condition of the ceasefire agreement from January 19 to March 2, 2025, approximately 600 trucks carrying aid entered Gaza daily. However, between March 2 and late May 2025, the Netanyahu government barred all aid from entering Gaza. Then, in late May, Prime Minister Netanyahu's government created a new system to deliver aid through the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF) with funding from the Trump administration. GHF failed to provide the same level of aid delivered during the earlier ceasefire.

Since July 20, 2025, Prime Minister Netanyahu's government has allowed UN-coordinated aid to enter Gaza on a more regular basis. Over 45,000 metric tons of aid then entered Gaza before the announcement of the ceasefire, allowing over 100 community kitchens to operate. But, there

https://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-humanitarian-response-update-14-27-september-2025

² https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/10/1166007

³ https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Famine_Review_Committee_Reportors Aug2025.pdf

⁴ https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/what-are-main-elements-gaza-ceasefire-deal-2025-01-15/

⁵ https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c3d4kz8p00eo

⁶ https://www.cbsnews.com/news/us-announces-funding-gaza-humanitarian-foundation-despite-deaths/

⁷ https://www.wsj.com/world/middle-east/gaza-palestine-food-aid-e74c68de

⁸ https://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-humanitarian-response-update-20-july-2-august-2025

⁹ https://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-humanitarian-response-update-20-july-2-august-2025 https://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-humanitarian-response-update-17-30-august-2025

have been several instances of aid being diverted before they reach their destination, reducing the aid available to civilians in Gaza. 10

The lives of innocent civilians, including children, are at risk each day that sufficient aid is not immediately surged into Gaza. While it is progress that additional truckloads of aid have entered Gaza in the last month, recent data suggests more work is needed. From September 1 to 28, less than 26% of the food supplies required to meet the basic humanitarian needs of civilians in Gaza was delivered.11

We are encouraged that more aid is being delivered following the recent ceasefire agreement, and we urge that aid distribution to be conducted by reputable international institutions. We hope that amidst the challenges of maintaining the ceasefire, there remains a robust commitment between all parties involved to continuing the flow of aid into Gaza. However, several questions remain about the implementation of this ceasefire and the State Department's plan to increase humanitarian aid into Gaza for civilians.

Therefore, we request that you provide answers to the following questions no later than November 21, 2025:

- 1. What steps is the State Department taking to ensure that sufficient levels of humanitarian aid immediately enter Gaza once the ceasefire begins?
- 2. How will the State Department partner with reputable international institutions to bring humanitarian aid into Gaza?
- 3. Will the State Department work with the UN, UN agencies, and the Red Crescent, and other nongovernmental organizations with programming in Gaza? Please explain whether the State Department plans to continue working with the GHF or any other organizations connected to the Israeli government to distribute aid and how the State Department plans to work with international agencies.
- 4. As originally proposed by President Trump, how will the State Department determine what qualifies as "full aid" to Gaza?¹²
- 5. As originally proposed by President Donald Trump, how will the State Department ensure that at least 600 truckloads of humanitarian aid a day, as required by the January 19, 2025, agreement, are entering Gaza?¹³ And, how will the State Department ensure that there is no effort to limit the aid to the minimum amount allowed?
- 6. How will the State Department ensure that there is not only a sufficient amount but also a proper combination of humanitarian aid, such as food, water, baby formula, medicine, and housing supplies, to meet the needs of Palestinian civilians in Gaza?
- 7. How will the State Department ensure that civilians in Gaza can safely access the aid provided under this agreement?

¹⁰ https://apnews.com/article/israel-palestinians-hamas-war-aid-un-ghf-567c5bffd5d7ae4cc54ea0816a159f8f

¹¹ https://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-humanitarian-response-update-14-27-september-2025

¹² https://x.com/RapidResponse47/status/1972726021196562494

¹³ Ibid

8. How will the State Department ensure that there is no diversion of the aid intended for civilians in Gaza under this agreement?

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. The State Department must continue to demand that humanitarian aid be allowed into Gaza for Palestinian civilians and must have a plan to ensure this goal is swiftly achieved. We urge you to do all possible to ensure civilians in Gaza are protected and provided with desperately needed humanitarian aid.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

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Becca Balint

Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán

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Ami Bera, M.D.

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Lizzie Fletcher Member of Congress

Valerie P. Foushee Member of Congress

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Laura Friedman Member of Congress

Maxwell Alejandro Frost Member of Congress

John Garamendi Member of Congress

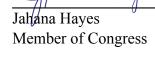
Jesús G. "Chuy" García Member of Congress

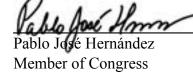
Robert Garcia Member of Congress Member of Congress

Dan Goldman Member of Congress Member of Congress

Member of Congress

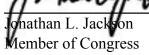






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