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STATEMENT ON THE UNACCEPTABLE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION FOR CHILDREN IN GAZA

The ongoing conflict in Gaza has NOW ESCALATED TO CATASTROPHIC PROPORTIONS, resulting in what can only be described as an UNPRECEDENTED, MAN-MADE HUMANITARIAN DISASTER. The impact on the civilian population, particularly CHILDREN, is both devastating and heartbreaking.

To date, thousands of children have been killed or injured, and countless others are traumatized by the relentless violence and destruction around them. Access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and clean water is severely limited, further exacerbating their suffering. The psychological scars inflicted on young minds will last a lifetime, threatening their development and long-term well-being. CHILDREN ARE NOW BEING KILLED IN THE QUEST FOR FOOD, AMID WIDESPREAD STARVATION AND LIMITED ACCESS TO FOOD SUPPLIES.

It is imperative that the international community respond urgently to this crisis AND BRINGS THIS CRISIS TO AN END. We must HAVE AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE, PROVIDE SUFFICIENT AND SAFE ACCESS TO HUMANITARIAN AID AND FOOD, and ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF INNOCENT LIVES, particularly the most vulnerable among us—our children. The situation in Gaza is a stark reminder of our collective responsibility to uphold human rights and dignity for all, regardless of nationality or background.

WE, THE INTERNATIONAL PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION CALL FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA and ACCESS TO HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES. In addition to long-term efforts to address the root causes of this conflict, URGENT ACTION IS NEEDED NOW TO PROTECT LIVES AND DELIVER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

Let us not forget the children of Gaza; their lives depend on our actions—today.

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