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Statement on ICJ Ruling in South Africa v. Israel

In a historic ruling, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) found that Israel is plausibly committing genocide in Gaza. This landmark ruling came as part of the provisional measures issued in the case of South Africa v. Israel, ordering Israel to take steps to prevent the genocide in Gaza. Doctors Against Genocide stands firmly with upholding human rights, protection of the sanctity of human lives and prevention of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.

The landmark ICJ decision represents a global call to action against genocide and for the protection of vulnerable communities worldwide. We call upon the healthcare community to stand with the ICJ in advocating for the effective implementation of these measures as we continue our mission to create a world where the health and human rights of every individual are safeguarded.

Over the past several months Israel's genocidal war campaign has been catastrophic to the people of Gaza. Gaza is grappling with a severe healthcare crisis, as well as a drastic 94% reduction in water supply and widespread food insecurity. An alarming number of pregnant women suffer from anemia and starvation, heightening the risks associated with pregnancy and potentially causing developmental delays in children. The persistent displacement and unrelenting bombardment have inflicted profound psychological distress, exacerbating the overall crisis. Our members who are working with International NGO's to provide crucial medical care to the people of Gaza, are horrified to see the hospitals they are supposed to be stationed at be shelled and attacked by the IDF.

As the death toll surges as a result of constant Israeli bombardment and the injured remain without adequate care, the need for comprehensive support and intervention in Gaza becomes increasingly urgent.

To halt this ongoing genocide, the ICJ ruling unequivocally emphasizes the necessity of a comprehensive ceasefire. It is our responsibility to advocate for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, facilitate unrestricted access to medical and humanitarian supplies and safe passage of healthcare professionals into conflict zones, and raise awareness about the far-reaching consequences of conflict on health and human rights. We as medical professionals possess the potential to enact change and uphold the dignity of all individuals.

Doctors against Genocide extend gratitude to South Africa for leading the effort to bring the genocide case against Israel to the International Court of Justice, a crucial step in advancing justice, human rights and preventing the genocide of the Palestinian people. We urge politicians to stand with the ICJ and make the call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, as that is the only way these rulings can be upheld.