Office of the Quartet

Palestine Donor Group Intervention

OQ Head of Mission Dr. John Clarke

13 July 2026, Brussels

Prime Minister, Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen.

When last we met, this group highlighted the importance of supporting the Palestinian Authority's financial stability as well as the need to implement the terms of Security Council Resolution 2803. In the intervening period the need to meet these two objectives has only become more acute.

As already noted, despite progress in implementing its reform agenda, the Palestinian Authority faces an ever more severe financial crisis undermining its delivery of services and threatening its survival. In this context, direct budget support provides a critical bridging measure but cannot – and should not – replace the release of withheld Palestinian clearance revenue, further progress in implementing the reform agenda and ultimately, the broader changes needed to enable Palestinian economic growth. Together, these carry the potential to place the Palestinian government on a trajectory towards financial self-sufficiency, an objective which can support, but never supplant the achievement of a political resolution of the conflict.

In Gaza, nine months after the ceasefire agreement and the ensuing establishment of transitional governance mechanisms, the situation remains bleak. The recent dissolution of the Gaza Emergency Committee represents a further step to accelerate the NCAGs assumption of its Board of Peace mandated role in Gaza. These changes in governance are absolutely necessary but far from sufficient and are valuable in so far as they enable improvements and stability on the ground, thereby supporting a renewed political trajectory.

In this regard, the Team Gaza Initiative, the terms of which are outlined in Commissioner Šuica's letter, can both further strengthen donor coordination, but as importantly help identify and meet the on the ground policy changes needed if that funding is to translate into programming at scale, throughout the Strip.

Allow me to offer one illustrative example which we have discussed with many countries present and the senior leadership of the CMCC. Within the limits of existing infrastructure, it is possible to significantly increase the availability of potable water in Gaza within days, by opening Israeli Mekorot water connections to full capacity, providing the minimal amount of electricity required to energize the Deir al-Balah desalination plant and enabling the entry of essential materials to maintain water and wastewater systems. Without meeting that minimal threshold, reconstruction at the scale required will be unachievable.

The operational approach adopted here is also applicable more broadly – that is, to work across all sectors simultaneously, to maximise what can be delivered within the limits of existing infrastructure, while working to rebuild emergency energy and water infrastructure. These two measures would help meet urgent humanitarian needs, represent a step towards stabilisation and recovery targets and offer a meaningful starting point for measures to be carried out under the umbrella of the NCAG.

Thank you very much and we look forward to continuing to work with you in support of this important agenda.

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