

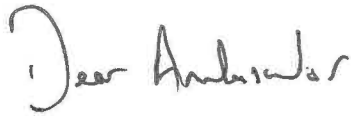
United Nations Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

16 May 2025

Excellency,



Thank you for your letter today, which I read carefully.

While I was not in post on 7 October 2023, I watched the atrocities carried out by Hamas with horror. I have consistently, including in my briefing to the Security Council on Tuesday, called for Hamas to release the hostages unconditionally. I regularly recount my moving visit to Nir Oz kibbutz, and I will never forget the stories I heard and the courage of the survivors I met.

I hope that your colleague has reported to you my briefing to ECOSOC yesterday, including my repeated determination that no UN aid should ever be diverted, whether by Hamas or any other party. It must reach the civilians who - as I briefed the Council - need it so urgently.

We have 9,000 trucks at the Gaza crossings, half of them carrying lifesaving food. It has all been cleared by COGAT. We have solid plans to distribute to civilians, with verification measures to ensure that aid does not get stolen by Hamas. We showed during the ceasefire that we can deliver at scale. The attached briefing note captures the processes we have in place. As I implored at the Council, please let us do our work.

Thank you for your recognition that the United Nations remain "hallowed halls". I can reassure you that I fervently believe in the UN Charter, and in our obligation to act with humanity, independence, impartiality and neutrality. And of course, honesty about what we observe, and are mandated to report.

I remain ready and willing to engage with you and your colleagues to save lives and deliver humanitarian support.



Tom Fletcher
Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs
and Emergency Relief Coordinator

H.E. Mr. Danny Dannon
Permanent Representative of Israel to the
United Nations
New York