



Australian Federation  
of Islamic Councils

## **AFIC Expresses Disappointment Over Australia's Vote at UN Regarding Palestine**

Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2024

The Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC) expresses profound disappointment over Australia's decision to abstain from a recent UN General Assembly vote calling for Israel to comply with the International Court of Justice's ruling regarding its illegal occupation of Palestinian territories. This abstention is viewed as a missed opportunity for Australia to affirm its commitment to international law and justice.

Dr. Rateb Jneid, President of AFIC, stated, "This decision is a setback in the global pursuit of justice and peace. It is disheartening to witness Australia stepping back from its responsibility on the international stage, especially at a time when global consensus is crucial to resolving long-standing issues."

The resolution, supported overwhelmingly by the majority of UN member states, aimed to address and rectify the unlawful presence of Israel in Palestinian territories, which has been a major factor in the ongoing conflict and human suffering in the region.

"By abstaining from this vote, Australia has positioned itself on the wrong side of history," Dr. Jneid added. "Such actions undermine the credibility of international institutions meant to uphold human rights and international norms. It is essential that Australia reassesses its stance and aligns itself with the principles of justice and equity."

AFIC calls on the Australian Government to reconsider its position and take a proactive role in supporting initiatives that aim to end the occupation and ensure a just solution for the Palestinian people.

"We urge the Australian Government to demonstrate genuine leadership by advocating for peace and justice. Supporting international law and the rights of the Palestinian people is not only a moral obligation but also a critical step towards a stable and peaceful global community," concluded Dr. Jneid.

Authorised by  
**Dr Rateb Jneid**  
President of AFIC