

WFEO CALLS FOR CEASEFIRE IN GAZA AND ISRAEL.

The global engineering community comprising over 30 million engineers represented by 100 engineering institutions from different countries under the umbrella of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) is shocked and highly disturbed by the increasing violence in Gaza and Israel. We are deeply saddened by the tragic loss of lives, rise of civilian casualties and destruction of properties.

We condemn in unequivocal terms, the killings of children, women, aged persons, destruction of homes, schools, hospitals, mosques, churches, and synagogues as well—vital infrastructure that sustains communities and economic wellbeing, in the name of war. The widespread damage will have long-lasting consequences on the affected populations, hindering their ability to rebuild their lives and recover from this crisis. As engineers, we champion the development of sustainable infrastructure and promote peaceful co-existence in every community.

We understand with great concern that the level of humanitarian assistance that is being allowed into Gaza is very inadequate commensurate to the needs of the people in Gaza, compounding the humanitarian tragedy. We call on the appropriate authorities to allow unrestricted access for humanitarian assistance to all the people.

WFEO supports the <u>United Nations Resolution adopted on 12 December 2023</u> demanding immediate humanitarian ceasefire, the immediate and unconditional release of hostages as well as ensuring humanitarian access.