



**Statement of the Bureau of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the
Mediterranean
on the Israeli-Palestine/Gaza Conflict**

Lisbon, 25 July 2014

The Bureau of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean calls for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire and respect of international humanitarian law and of the Geneva Convention. Civilians of all ages are paying the price for this latest escalation: the life of an Israeli human being and of a Palestinian human being is equal.

The Bureau also calls for an effective facilitation of the humanitarian activities, including through humanitarian pauses and corridors in order to aid the victims, assist the wounded, and extend the relief to trapped civilians.

The Bureau encourages and promotes the ongoing mediation by key regional players and the UN Secretary-General and supports their efforts to come to a sustainable cease fire. The Bureau encourages all efforts that may arise, with the same view, from individuals and organizations of civil society.

The Bureau recalls that no long term solution to this conflict will come about with violence. To this regard, it urges the Israeli Government and the Palestinian Authority to return to the negotiating table and talks for a two-State solution. Palestinians and Israelis have the same right to live in security, integrity and dignity. To make those rights effective is a challenge and a duty of us all.

The Bureau extends its condolences to the families of the civilian victims in Israel and Gaza.