



**MEDIA STATEMENT
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF MALAYSIA (SUHAKAM)**

EDITOR, NEWS DESK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS STATEMENT

KUALA LUMPUR (15 JANUARY 2024) — SUHAKAM welcomes the Government's support for South Africa's legal action against Israel at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), which is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations.

We urge the Government to intervene in the deliberations at the ICJ. Malaysia, a state party to the Genocide Convention, must commit and ensure that Israel is held accountable for the current atrocities in Gaza and for the decades of abuse violations and dehumanising of the Palestinians. We also call for the Government to review its reservation to Article 9 of the Genocide Convention, particularly focusing on the prevention and punishment of the crime.

The Government must reach out to all our allies within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and other regional bodies to intervene or support the right of Palestinians to statehood and all it entails. We note that South Africa is being supported by around 20 countries and opposed by among others, the United States, United Kingdom, Germany and Canada.

In line with our commitment to foster solidarity among national human rights institutions, SUHAKAM commits to support the South African Human Rights Commission. SUHAKAM calls upon the international community to lend their support to South Africa's case, highlighting the importance of ensuring justice, human rights, and accountability. SUHAKAM hopes the case will eventually find a peaceful resolution to the conflicts in the region.

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**Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM)
15 January 2024**