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SOS FROM OUR UNRWA STAFF IN NORTHERN GAZA

22 October 2024

[From Philippe Lazzarini, the UNRWA Commissioner-General as posted on his official X account \(previously known as Twitter\)](#)

SOS from our UNRWA staff in northern Gaza.

Nearly three weeks of non-stop bombardments from the Israeli Forces as the death toll increases.

Our staff report they cannot find food, water or medical care. The smell of death is everywhere as bodies are lying on the roads or under the rubble. Missions to clear the bodies or provide humanitarian assistance are denied.

In northern Gaza, people are just waiting to die. They feel deserted, hopeless and alone. They live from one hour to the next, fearing death at every second.

Throughout the war over the past year, some UNRWA staff stayed in the north and did the impossible to provide to internally displaced people. We kept some of our shelters open despite heavy bombardments and attacks on buildings.

On behalf of our staff in northern Gaza, I am calling for an immediate truce, even if for few hours, to enable humanitarian passage for families who wish to leave the area and reach safer places.

This is the bare minimum to save the lives of civilians who have nothing to do with this conflict.

Ceasefire now.