



AFRICA - ISRAEL INITIATIVE

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AFRICA ISRAEL INITIATIVE STRONGLY CONDEMNS THE HAMAS INVASION OF ISRAEL AND STANDS FIRM IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO SELF-DEFENSE

Exactly 50 years ago today, Israel was attacked by four Arab nations on the Yom Kippur of 1973. This attack, led by Egypt, further paved the ugly path for the severance of ties between Israel and Africa.

History, they say, repeats itself, but not without the involvement or manipulation of humans. The enemy has indeed struck again just a day after the glorious Feast of Tabernacles (on a Sabbath day for that matter, 7th October 2023).

Israel was attacked on multiple fronts. Hamas terrorists have bulldozed the barrier wall between Gaza and Israel, allowing their operatives to flood through to capture and kill civilians. Rocket attacks followed. The IDF has confirmed that Israeli civilians are being held hostage inside Gaza.

We, the leaders of the Africa Israel Initiative in **Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Congo Brazzaville, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and the Diaspora - Norway, UK & Europe and the USA**, vehemently condemn the invasion launched by Hamas, a recognized terrorist group, into the sovereign state of Israel. We stand firm in our support for Israel's right to self-defense and the protection of its citizens in the face of relentless aggression.

We acknowledge that Israel, like any other nation, has the inherent right to defend itself from attacks directed towards its people and territory. The continuous rocket barrages launched by Hamas militants have caused significant harm to both life and property, instilling fear and instability among innocent Israeli civilians. Our thoughts and condolences go out to all the victims affected by this crisis on both sides, including the Palestinians trapped under the oppressive rule of Hamas. Our deepest condolences to the families of the over 1000 Israeli victims and the government and people of Israel at large. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in perfect peace.

We recognize the historical and cultural connections between Africa and Israel and hold dear the values of democracy, innovation, and human rights that both nations share. Israel has consistently demonstrated its commitment to the pursuit of peace, as well as its willingness to engage in fair negotiations with its neighbors. We commend the Israeli Defense Forces for their efforts to minimize civilian casualties and provide humanitarian assistance to Palestinians in need.

In this time of heightened tensions, the international community must unite in unequivocally denouncing the aggression of Hamas on Israel. We call upon regional bodies, governments, and individuals to stand with Israel and condemn the invasion, recognizing the imperative for Israel to protect its citizens and safeguard its borders.

Africa - Israel Initiative remains strongly committed to standing with Israel at all times.

B'Ezrat Hashem, Israel will succeed over her enemies.

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