

AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION UNION

Agenda Item: 8.1

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE MEETING

9 June 2010

MELBOURNE

GAZA BLOCKADE AND ATTACK ON AID FLOTILLA

REPORT

The recent attack by the Israeli army on the aid flotilla travelling in international waters to take supplies to citizens of the Gaza strip has rightfully been condemned by the trade union movement, governments and civil society organisations globally.

Gaining momentum is a proposal for an international boycott, disinvestment and sanctions campaign targetting products and goods produced in illegal settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories as well as companies which assist in, or profit from, the occupation of Palestinian territories. It is our view that international boycott and sanctions have, in the past, been an effective way to raise awareness and pressure governments to change practices which violate human rights and international law. However, it is also our view that the announcement and subsequent campaign to implement such boycotts are most effective when they are supported by the movement nationally and internationally.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the report be received.
2. The AEU expresses its condemnation of the Israeli government's actions against the Gaza aid flotilla.
3. The AEU reaffirms its calls for the blockade of Gaza to be lifted unconditionally to enable the free flow of humanitarian aid, commercial goods and persons to and from Gaza.
4. That the AEU supports in principle an international boycott, disinvestment and sanctions campaign targetting products made in the illegal settlements in occupied Palestine as well as companies which assist in, or profit from, the occupation of Palestinian territories and will work towards building national and international support for such a boycott.

Australian Education Union – Federal Office

Federal President: Angelo Gavrielatos

Ground Floor, 120 Clarendon St, Southbank VIC 3006 Australia

Tel. 03 9693 1800 Fax. 03 9693 1805 www.aeufederal.org.au