

**STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ON THE INTERCEPTION OF AL-AWDA OF THE FREEDOM FLOTILLA
COALITION BY ISRAEL**

Malaysia condemns in the strongest terms the action by the Israeli authorities to intercept the Al-Awda (The Return) vessel on 29 July 2018 carrying medical supplies for the Palestinians in Gaza. The vessel, with 22 people comprising various nationalities on board, is part of a peaceful mission under the Freedom Flotilla Coalition.

Malaysia is deeply concerned with the safety of all activists on board including a Malaysian, Dr. Mohd Afandi Salleh from MyCare. Malaysia demands that Israeli authorities to ensure the safety and well-being of those on board the vessel and calls for their immediate release.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Embassy of Malaysia in Cairo, is closely monitoring the situation and is working closely with the Palestinian authorities to facilitate the release of Dr. Mohd Afandi Salleh.

PUTRAJAYA

30 July 2018