

PM: The world must act against Israel
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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's emergency parliamentary motion to condemn Israel's attack on a Gaza-bound humanitarian aid flotilla has called on the international community to act against the Zionist regime for war crimes.

NONEThe motion urged the international community, particularly Turkey - whose nationals comprised the majority of the nine people killed last week - to initiate legal action against Israel.

"The Zionist regime's attack on the humanitarian aid vessel is in violation of international law including human rights law, international humanitarian law and the UN charter," said Najib in tabling the motion.

"The people of Malaysia hold firmly the position that there is no justification for the excessive use of force on the humanitarian aid vessels bound for Gaza in aid of the Palestinian people."

Najib's 20-minute speech was peppered with chants of "Apco" from the opposition bench, in reference to the Israeli-linked international public relations firm employed by his administration.

NONE"The House moves to request Turkey to consider initiating action under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court," he said, calling also for Israel to not block any humanitarian aid convoy to Palestine and to abide by UN Security Council Resolution 1860.

"Malaysia will also urge that the Israeli regime pays damages and compensation for all properties, food and medical supplies of the people on board the aid ships... Malaysia will push so that Israel pays for the psychological, mental and physical damage as well as anything else the International Court sees fit."

Lambasting the UN Security Council for its "mild statement on the violent attack", he said that the government will demand that the world body censures Israel for its "savage and... uncivilised code of conduct".

Malaysia will work with the member-countries of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Arab League among others, to ensure humanitarian laws are upheld.

'Inhumane measures

After the motion was seconded by Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin, speaker Pandikar Amin Mulia allocated 10 minutes for each parliamentarian to debate.

muhyiddin yasin muhyiddin yassin"It is now clear to us that the Israeli Zionist regime has now become more arrogant with the repressive powers that it possesses... its cruel actions have for a long time caused the loss of thousands of lives," said Muhyiddin.

"The long arm of the law seems to be unable to stop Israel from exercising inhumane measures."

After an afternoon of debates on the matter, the Dewan Rakyat unanimously approved the motion tabled by the prime minister to condemn the attack by Israel.

Twelve Malaysians were on board the Mavi Marmara when it was attacked by Israeli marines last Monday. They were held briefly in Israel but were later released and returned home yesterday.

Six others were on board the Rachel Corrie, but they too were released after the ship was seized.

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