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Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim being briefed on the Global Sumud Flotilla's progress by Sumud Nusantara Flotilla Command Centre director-general and spokesman Datuk Dr Sani Araby Abdul Alim yesterday, NSTP
PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH

CABINET TO DISCUSS

'U.S. PLAN MAY END GAZA WAR'

It does not meet all aspirations but is a starting point to allow in aid, says Anwar

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THE United States' proposed peace plan for Gaza, while wanting, is a start for ending violence in Palestine and ensuring the delivery of aid, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Anwar said most neighbouring Arab countries had agreed that the priority was to stop the violence, guarantee Palestine's independence including Gaza's, and expedite humanitarian aid.

"I do not think this framework of agreement will fully meet our aspirations, particularly regarding the principle of justice for the Palestinian people.

"But as a starting point, it is very meaningful — to stop the violence

and occupation of Palestinian land, and to ensure vital humanitarian assistance," he said at a press conference at the Sumud Nusantara Command Centre yesterday.

Anwar said he would present the US peace framework for Gaza to the cabinet for discussion.

The plan, agreed between US President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, proposes an immediate end to hostilities and the release within 72 hours of 20 Israeli hostages held by Hamas, along with the remains of more than two dozen believed dead, in exchange for hundreds of detained Gazans.

The 20-point plan, which Trump has also circulated to Arab leaders, calls for a ceasefire, release of hostages, disarmament of Hamas and gradual Israeli withdrawal from Gaza.

Other key points include deployment of a "temporary international stabilisation force" and creation of a transitional authority headed by Trump and featuring other foreign leaders.

The deal would also exclude Hamas members from future roles in the government. Those who agreed to "peaceful co-existence" would be given amnesty.

Following Israeli withdrawal, the borders would be opened to aid and investment.

Anwar said his meeting with Trump at the 47th Asean Summit was a crucial opportunity to push for peace in Gaza.

"This is why we emphasise engagement not only with Western countries, but also with Arab states, and importantly, the US," he said, adding that Malaysia's resolve must match the steadfastness of those on the frontlines.

Anwar said Malaysia would launch a strong protest and reach out to partner nations if the Global Sumud Flotilla (GSF) mission to

Gaza was disrupted.

"I will also use every effort to contact all parties, including countries that have proposed peace, especially Italy, Spain and Turkiye, as well as China.

"We are also monitoring efforts being developed by France and Saudi Arabia, with whom we are in contact, as they intend to propose peace," he said.

Anwar, during his visit, was also briefed on operations by SNCC director-general and spokesperson Datuk Dr Sani Araby Abdul Alim before calling the Malaysians aboard the flotilla.

Anwar said the government would aid the families of the 34 Malaysians in the flotilla.

Anwar, as the patron of Sumud Nusantara, said support would be extended to the delegation and their families so that they would not face any difficulties throughout the mission.

He also expressed admiration for the spirit of the "extraordinary" Malaysian participants.