



# PRESS RELEASE

## **MEMBER STATE COUNCILS:**

The Muslim Council of  
New South Wales Inc. (MCNSW)

The Islamic Council of  
Victoria Inc. (ICV)

Islamic Council of  
Australian Capital Territory Inc.  
(ICTACT)

Islamic Council of  
Queensland Inc. (ICQ)

Islamic Council of  
Northern Territory Inc. (ICNT)

Islamic Council of  
Western Australia Inc. (ICWA)

Islamic Council of  
South Australia Inc. (ICSA)

Islamic Council of  
Tasmania Inc. (ICT)

Islamic Council of  
Christmas Island Inc. (ICCI)

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**AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL  
ISLAMIC ORGANISATION  
REPRESENTING  
MUSLIM COMMUNITIES**

**45 Years of Community  
Services**

**5 January 2009**

## **Condemnation of Muted Response**

The President of the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC), Mr Ikebal Adam Patel on behalf of the Muslims of Australia expressed deep concern at the muted response from the Australian Government and the complete silence from the incoming USA President Barak Obama and the lack of condemnation from some other countries against the continued Israeli aggression in Gaza.

This is a moral and humanitarian duty as it is clear that the Israeli authorities have taken advantage of the silence to continue its aggression. The international community including the US and Australia cannot continue to ignore the plight of the Palestinian people any longer.

The USA and Australia are blaming Hamas for "provoking" the Israelis. This is not the time to blame but the time for action when one is witnessing the very victims of the Holocaust now perpetrating much worse atrocities against the Palestinians using some of the most advanced weaponry supplied by the USA against a defenceless community.

He further added that we must address the 60 year old injustices and suffering of the Palestinian people at the hands of the Israeli regime to bring about lasting peace.

The USA and Australia must stand for justice in a balanced way to deal with problems around the world as it has done in the past. They should speak against the brutal aggression of Israel and force Israel and Hamas to bring to halt its attack on each other.

*For further information, please contact:*

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