Parliamentarians for Global Action

STATEMENT OF PGA ON THE CONFLICT IN GAZA STRIP

8 January 2009

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is deeply concerned at the continuation and escalation of violence in and around the Gaza strip.

PGA welcomes UN Security Council Resolution 1860 (2009) and echoes its call for an immediate, durable and fully respected ceasefire.

PGA also welcomes the decision of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon to visit the area within a very short period of time

PGA deplores the suffering caused to all civilian populations, in particular children, which is an affront to basic human values of decency.

PGA also recalls that indiscriminate attacks affecting the civilian populations or civilian objects are unacceptable and are prohibited under international humanitarian law and international criminal law.

PGA condemns all violence and hostilities directed against civilians and all acts of terrorism

PGA calls upon all stakeholders to redouble their efforts to ensure a swift restoration of peace and security through meaningful political dialogue and all other available non-violent methods.

PGA further urges a prompt restoration of conditions necessary for the efficient and safe passage of relief agencies present on the ground so that all humanitarian supplies be allowed to reach their intended destinations unhindered, and in the shortest possible time.