



Joint Statement by the Palestinian and Israeli Geneva Initiative Groups on the Launch of Stage Two in the US Twenty Point Plan

January 15, 2026

The Palestinian and Israeli members of the Geneva Initiative welcome the formation of the Board of Peace's Executive Board and the Gaza Executive Board. At a moment of profound pain, exhaustion and continued uncertainty for all peoples in the region, this announcement represents a meaningful step toward breaking the cycle of violence and opening the door to a different future.

We are encouraged by positive signs regarding the feasibility of the proposed bodies, including the appointment of experienced diplomat Nickolay Mladenov and the decision to place Dr. Ali Shaath, a former Palestinian Authority deputy minister, at the head of the interim technocratic governing body in Gaza. These steps reflect a growing understanding that any effective interim governance framework in Gaza must be led by Palestinians themselves. This approach can create a credible phase for stabilization and reconstruction that allows for the eventual return of the Palestinian Authority, following the disarmament of Hamas and as part of a broader political process that includes the implementation of points eighteen, nineteen, and twenty.

The people of Gaza, as well as Israelis and Palestinians throughout the region, have paid an unimaginable price for the cyclical and ever-escalating violence of this conflict. It is time to move forward toward another path: one grounded in diplomatic and political solutions rather than blind reliance on force.

We therefore welcome the demonstrated commitment of the United States, alongside international initiatives such as the Global Alliance, to creating the conditions necessary for Palestinian statehood. Such efforts are essential to restoring a credible political horizon and to leading the way toward a viable two-state solution that ensures security, stability, dignity, and lasting peace for Israelis, Palestinians, and the entire region.