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PPF Reaffirms Solidarity with Palestine: Recognition Must Be Matched by Concrete Action Against the Occupation

Accra, Ghana | 23 October 2026



H.E. Ahmed Abu Dalfa, Head of Mission of the State of Palestine to the Republic of Ghana, with PPF representatives during his courtesy visit to the PPF Secretariat, Accra, 16 September 2026. Photo: PPF

The Pan-African Progressive Front (PPF) reaffirms its solidarity with the Palestinian people in their struggle for freedom, justice and self-determination, and calls on progressive movements, workers' organisations and governments to turn words of solidarity into sustained action. The Front recognises the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the face of years of occupation, displacement and destruction.

This position was shaped by the courtesy visit of H.E. Ahmed Abu Dalfa, Head of Mission of the State of Palestine to the Republic of Ghana, to the PPF Secretariat in Accra on 16 September 2026. Discussions with the Front's Coordinating Committee were the first step in turning words into action. PPF takes up H.E. Abu Dalfa's message that, under international law, the Palestinian struggle is a question of justice, self-determination and liberation, not a religious conflict, and his call to take the cause to university campuses, the informal sector, community spaces and the labour and trade union movement. Both sides renewed their commitment to deepen cooperation among progressive movements, workers' organisations, trade unions and youth.

For PPF, the Palestinian question goes beyond diplomatic recognition or expressions of humanitarian concern. It raises fundamental questions about the right of peoples to determine their own future and the responsibility of the international community to turn commitments to international law into concrete action. Recognition of Palestinian statehood is significant, but it must be accompanied by practical measures to challenge the occupation and advance Palestinian sovereignty.

PPF therefore endorses the public education and advocacy now under way in Ghana, including the interview with Palestinian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Dr Varsen Aghabekian Shahin, on *Talk Time with Kwesi Pratt* on Pan African Television (5 October 2026); the documentary screening on Gaza organised by the Accra Collective of the Socialist Movement of Ghana (SMG) at the Freedom Centre (9 October); and the public forum convened by SMG, the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions



(BDS) Ghana Campaign and other organisations at the Freedom Centre in Kokomlemle, Accra (23 October).



Palestinian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Dr Varsen Aghabekian Shahin, joins Talk Time with Kwesi Pratt on Pan African Television, 5 October 2026. Photo: Pan African Television

Remembering Gaza

PPF remembers that on 9 October 2023 Israeli authorities announced a total siege of the Gaza Strip, cutting off electricity, food and fuel and deepening an already grave humanitarian emergency. The siege and the wider destruction have brought immense suffering, with civilians displaced, homes and infrastructure destroyed, and access to food and medicine remaining a central concern.



H.E. Ahmed Abu Dalfa addressing participants at the documentary screening on Gaza organised by the Accra Collective of SMG, Freedom Centre, Accra, 9 October 2026. Photo: Pan African Television

Yet Gaza cannot be understood through the scale of its suffering alone. The crisis also raises questions about the conditions in which Palestinians are compelled to live, the protection of civilians and the obligations of the international community under occupation and armed conflict. PPF commends initiatives that ensure the Palestinian struggle is not reduced to headlines or remembered only in moments of heightened attention.



Participants at the documentary screening on Gaza, Freedom Centre, Accra, 9 October 2026. Photo: Pan African Television

Palestinian Voices and International Responsibility

PPF draws attention to the diplomatic obstacles Palestine faces, as Dr Shahin set out, including the denial of a United States visa to President Mahmoud Abbas ahead of the UN General Assembly in September 2025. The decision prevented him from attending in person and led the Assembly to approve his participation by video, raising concerns about the ability of Palestinian representatives to engage directly in forums that decide their people's future.

Growing international recognition of Palestinian statehood strengthens Palestine's diplomatic standing, but it cannot be measured by the number of recognising states alone. Its real worth lies in the practical steps taken to address the occupation, including measures restricting products from Israeli settlements. UN General Assembly Resolution 80/81, adopted on 5 December 2025, reaffirmed the illegality of Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan, and urged states to meet their obligations under international law.

The question that follows is clear: what will governments do to ensure that their commitments to international law carry meaningful consequences?

Against Institutional Normalisation in Ghana

PPF endorses the call by SMG, the BDS Ghana Campaign and other organisations for Ghanaian institutions not to be used to advance or normalise Israel's agenda. Under the theme "All Together Against Genocide, Racism and War: Uniting Against Zionist Israel's Expanding Activities and Influence in Ghana," these organisations oppose the University of Ghana establishing, promoting or normalising institutional relations with Israeli universities. They have raised particular concern about a proposed collaboration between the University of Haifa and the University's Department of Political Science to set up a Middle East Studies programme.



A speaker addresses participants at the public forum on Palestine and institutional normalisation, Freedom Centre, Kokomlemle, Accra, 23 October 2026. Photo: PPF

PPF shares that concern. Universities must not lend institutional legitimacy to oppression, apartheid or militarisation, and Ghanaian institutions and facilities must not be used to advance agendas that undermine solidarity with the Palestinian people. The Front joins the organisations in demanding full disclosure of the nature and scope of any existing or proposed agreements of this kind, and in calling on working people, students, academics and activists to build a broader campaign against institutional normalisation in Ghanaian universities and public institutions. As the organisations note, an earlier initiative involving the Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy was dropped after public outrage and a swift response from academics and activists, alongside international protests. That shows what organised public pressure can achieve.



Participants at the public forum, Freedom Centre, Kokomlemle, Accra, 23 October 2026. Photo: PPF

Solidarity Must Continue Beyond Public Programmes

PPF emphasises that solidarity must extend beyond events, commemorations and expressions of sympathy. It must be sustained through political education, international cooperation, public engagement and practical efforts to uphold Palestinian rights. As H.E. Abu Dalfa urged, that means taking the cause to university campuses, the informal sector and community spaces, and into the labour and trade union movement, where young people and working people can be engaged. For progressive movements in Ghana, across Africa and internationally, it also means pressing



governments to act consistently with international law and supporting initiatives that amplify Palestinian perspectives.



Cde Kwesi Pratt, a member of PPF's Central Committee, addressing participants at the documentary screening on Gaza, Freedom Centre, Accra, 9 October 2026. Photo: Pan African Television

The Palestinian struggle holds particular meaning for African peoples, whose own histories include colonial domination and struggles for liberation. African solidarity must therefore go beyond declarations to sustained engagement and practical measures that respect the agency of the Palestinian people.

The Palestinian People Remain Steadfast

The international community must not allow prolonged suffering to become normalised, nor let recognition become a substitute for action while occupation, settlement expansion and Palestinian sovereignty remain unresolved. PPF calls for sustained international engagement, concrete measures against Israeli settlement activities, accountability under international law, transparency over institutional agreements with Israeli institutions in Ghana, and meaningful progress towards Palestinian self-determination.

The Palestinian people remain steadfast in their struggle for freedom. Solidarity must go beyond words and recognition to become sustained action in support of their rights and aspirations.

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About the Pan-African Progressive Front (PPF)

The PPF is a continental and global Pan-African platform dedicated to promoting justice, unity, human rights, transformative leadership, and the advancement of African peoples worldwide. The organization works across policy, advocacy, research, and grassroots mobilization to strengthen the global Pan-African movement.

Media Contact

Pan-African Progressive Front (PPF)

Email: panafricanprogressivefront@gmail.com

Website: <https://pp-front.com/conference/>