

MINDEROO FOUNDATION

Presented with the compliments of:

Dr Andrew Forrest AO of the Minderoo Foundation

**Your Majesties, Royal Highnesses, Excellencies,
distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen**

It is my humble privilege to be with you today under the patronage of His Majesty The King.

The Royal Family, the Jordanian Government and the Jordanian people are to be commended and supported in all they have provided to the civilians of Gaza.

To His Majesty, sir, I commend you for convening us here today.

Distinguished Delegates, I stand before you today with a singular commitment to the preservation of human life.

In this quest for a more just world, my friends – you have no bigger ally than Minderoo Foundation.

We bring deployable philanthropic capital, technology, innovation and management to alleviate human suffering and protect the vulnerable.

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Right now, my Foundation has identified that there is a risk over 1 million people die of starvation in Gaza.

This includes 400,000 children at risk of dying an entirely preventable death

To everyone here I say: history will judge us more harshly than we can possibly imagine if we allow that to happen.

In October 2023, my Foundation matched the contribution of the Australian Government to deliver \$10 million in aid.

I was clear that this contribution was a floor not a ceiling on the support we would provide the people of Gaza and our work and capital contribution has continued.

But support can only be effective when we know how to get it to those in need.

When we flood Gaza with the aid it so desperately needs to shut down the black market once and for all.

When we act in the knowledge the perfect is the enemy of the good, and that no option should be left on the table.

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It is in saying this that I announce today two further steps that my Foundation is undertaking today to play our part.

First, we will immediately commit \$5 million USD to practically supporting the Jordanian Corridor to Gaza.

We will deliver this support together with our Jordanian friends, NGO partners and the United Nations.

Right now, the Jordanian people are bearing a significant load by leading the single most effective route into Gaza.

It is my intention to lighten their load.

To provide the warehouses they so sorely need, more trucks to move aid faster and the supplies themselves.

We will surge up to 40 new trucks for Jordan, support the UN 2720 Mechanism to run a new warehouse and expand the Al Ghabawi inspection point.

Second, we will share with the world an ambitious endeavor to fundamentally change the paradigm of aid deliveries to Gaza.

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This involves the use of novel technologies developed in the private sector to create fully automated new crossing points into Gaza.

The automation requires no soldiers, no guns and can deliver aid at the speed required to overwhelm the commercial incentive of the black market and head off and then eliminate the compounding starvation risk in Gaza.

This project is known as SafeGates and it will be known to many of you in this room that I have had the privilege of getting to know.

I will seek your support today for this solution by earning your confidence in its suggestions.

These bring the learned lessons of a lifetime spent in business and industrial operations to this challenge.

You will be able to see more information at minderoo.org/gaza

In my concluding remarks, I would like to end with a short tribute.

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Over 250 humanitarian workers have lost their lives since the start of this conflict.

250 souls committed to the lives of others over their own.

We owe it to them and to a generation of Palestinian children that we bring to them the aid they need now.

Let us rise to the occasion and not disappoint them.

We are the people they have been waiting for.

We must act. Now.

Thank you.