

Hamas says efforts underway to remove all obstacles to implement ceasefire deal

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Osama Hamdan, a Lebanon-based Hamas leader

Gaza City, February 15 (RHC)-- The Hamas resistance movement has reiterated that it is ready to implement the Gaza ceasefire deal, including the exchange of prisoners, per the text of the agreement.

The resistance movement said on Thursday that the latest round of talks in Cairo has been positive and efforts are underway to remove all the obstacles to implementing the agreement.

"The talks were held in a positive atmosphere, with Egyptian and Qatari mediators reaffirming their commitment to addressing obstacles and filling gaps to ensure implementation. Accordingly, Hamas reaffirms its commitment to the agreement as signed, including the prisoner exchange process according to the specified timeline," the statement said.

Hamas stressed that the language of threat and intimidation used by US President Donald Trump and Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu does not serve the implementation of the ceasefire agreement.

The resistance movement said in the statement that a Hamas delegation, led by Dr. Khalil Al-Hayya, head of Hamas in Gaza and chief negotiator, "held discussions with the esteemed mediators to review the implementation of the ceasefire and prisoner exchange agreement, particularly in light of continuous 'Israeli' violations."

"The delegation convened a meeting in Cairo with Lieutenant General Hassan Rashad, Head of the Egyptian General Intelligence Service, and held phone discussions with His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar," it stated.

The resistance movement also said that the delegation also held meetings and discussions with officials overseeing the negotiations in Egypt and Qatar, as well as with technical teams from the mediators monitoring the full implementation of the agreement.

"All discussions and communications focused on the necessity of adhering to all provisions of the agreement, particularly ensuring the urgent delivery of shelter for our people, including prefabricated homes (caravans), tents, heavy machinery, medical supplies, fuel, and the continued flow of humanitarian aid as stipulated in the agreement," it added.

Meanwhile, senior Hamas official, Osama Hamdan, said the pressure from Gaza ceasefire mediators on Israel has led to the regime's renewed commitment to the terms of the truce deal. He made the remarks after the movement said an obstacle in the Gaza captive exchange process has been removed and the next round of prisoner swap will take place on Saturday.

Hamdan added that Hamas is ready to begin negotiations on the second phase of the agreement next Monday. He also said: "We have 48 hours to hand over the captives, and any obstruction by the occupation to the entry of caravans and heavy equipment into Gaza will lead to action by Hamas."

Israel has turned Gaza into the world's largest open-air prison, maintaining an 18-year blockade and forcing nearly 2 million of its 2.3 million residents into displacement amid dire shortages of food, water, and medicine due to deliberate restrictions.

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