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## Palestinian Official Insists Gaza Security Must Remain National



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RAMALLAH, Nov. 6— A senior Palestinian official emphasized that any proposed international security presence in the Gaza Strip must not replace the existing Palestinian security forces.

Azzam al-Ahmad, a member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), said Thursday that the Palestinian leadership’s stance is “clear and firm.” He explained that

any international mission should operate under a United Nations Security Council mandate and in full coordination with the Palestinian Authority, rather than taking over its security responsibilities.

Al-Ahmad noted that recent understandings reached with Hamas affirmed the establishment of an administrative committee for Gaza that would function under the authority of the Palestinian government and be headed by one of its ministers.

He further highlighted that there is “a unified Arab consensus” supporting the continued presence of Palestinian security forces in Gaza, stressing that national institutions must retain control over internal security and administration.

The official added that the training of Palestinian security personnel is ongoing in Jordan and Egypt, where hundreds are enrolled in specialized programs to prepare them for future duties in Gaza once administrative and political arrangements are finalized.