

Iranian parliament vice speaker to visit Egypt

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An Iranian lawmaker said here on Saturday that Iran's parliament (Majlis) first vice speaker Mohammad Hassan Aboutorabi-Fard would travel to Egypt in the near future

According to the official IRNA news agency, the lawmaker, Mahmoud Ahmadi, who is also a member of Majlis Committee to Support the Islamic Revolution of Palestine, said that "Majlis held an emergency session on Gaza tragedy on Saturday," and "Aboutorabi-Fard will travel to Egypt to follow up the process of adopting more practical measures to support the oppressed people of Gaza," the report said.

The emergency session was attended by representatives from Iran's Red Crescent Society, foreign, education and interior ministries as well as Iran's Martyr Foundation and Imam Khomeini Relief Committee, according to IRNA.

In a telephone conversation made on Friday between Iran's parliament Speaker Ali Larijani and his Egyptian counterpart Ahmed Fathi Sorour, both sides agreed that the parliament speakers from Iran, Indonesia, Syria and Egypt hold a meeting to take practical steps to ease the crisis in Gaza Strip.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) in a latest statement called for the formation of a troika comprising Iran, Indonesia and Syria parliaments to help the besieged people of Gaza.

"The APA acknowledged to help ease the hardship facing the Palestinian people in Gaza Strip and facilitate dispatch of food supplies and medicines to Gaza via Egypt and other diplomatic routes," Larijani told reporters.

Meanwhile, Larijani and his Syrian counterpart Mahmoud al-Abrash held a telephone conversation over Gaza Friday night.

He said that Iran is willing to implement the APA statement for easing Gaza plight.

Calling for urgent intervention of UN Security Council, Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations Mohammad Khazae, in a letter to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on Friday criticized the United Nations inaction over Israeli blockade of Gaza Strip.

"Inaction of the United Nations and the Security Council towards the Zionist atrocity would encourage the regime to continue with its crimes and will lead to a threat to those countries sympathizing with the oppressed Palestinian people," Khazae said.

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