

## **AFP CONDEMNS THE STRIKE ON ITS GAZA BUREAU**

AFP Chairman and CEO, Fabrice Fries, has strongly condemned the strike that severely damaged the Agency's office in Gaza on Thursday, November 2nd.

"AFP condemns in the strongest possible terms this strike on its Gaza City bureau. The location of this bureau is known to everyone and has been pointed out several times over the past few days, precisely to prevent such an attack and to allow us to continue to provide images on the ground. The consequences of such an attack would have been devastating if the AFP team on the ground had not evacuated the city," said Fries.

"It is essential that journalists working in Gaza are protected and that the vital work they are doing on the ground is respected," added Phil Chetwynd, AFP Global News Director.

None of AFP's eight staff usually based in Gaza City were in the bureau at the moment of the strike. The team was evacuated to southern Gaza on October 13, following an Israeli military order directed at residents in the north of the Hamas-run territory.

AFP is the only one of the world's three major international news agencies currently operating a live video feed from Gaza City, which has not been interrupted despite the damage.

### **About AFP**

*AFP is a leading global news agency providing fast, comprehensive and verified coverage of the events shaping our world and of the issues affecting our daily lives. Drawing from an unparalleled news gathering network across 151 countries, AFP is also a world leader in digital verification. With 2,400 staff representing 100 different nationalities, AFP covers the world in six languages, with a unique quality of multimedia storytelling spanning video, text, photos and graphics.*

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