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Recipients, donors of organs to be insured

DUBAI

BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN Senior Reporter

The UAE is set to enforce compulsory medical insurance coverage for organ donors and recipients through amendments to the legal framework governing organ donation and transplants.

A new draft law proposes the inclusion of insurance provisions within the Hayat National Programme for Organ and Tissue Donation

and Transplantation. Dr Ali Al Obaidi, chairman of the UAE National Transplant Committee, told Gulf News that the law now explicitly mandates health insurance support for all, with insurance companies urged to become strategic partners with the Hayat programme.

Dr Marwan Al Mulla, CEO of Health Regulation Sector at Dubai Health Authority, said transplantation and donation are patients' rights as per the draft law and should be integral to insurance coverage.

The proposed law aims to address existing gaps, providing comprehensive coverage for both donors and recipients, making transplantation procedures more accessible and financially viable for eligible residents.

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UN 'gravely concerned' by Israeli strikes on central Gaza

DAMAGED ROADS 'OBSTRUCTING RELIEF AID FROM REACHING THOSE IN NEED'

GENEVA

he United Nations said yesterday it was "gravely concerned" by Israel's continued bombardment of the central Gaza Strip and urged Israeli forces to take all available measures to protect civilians.

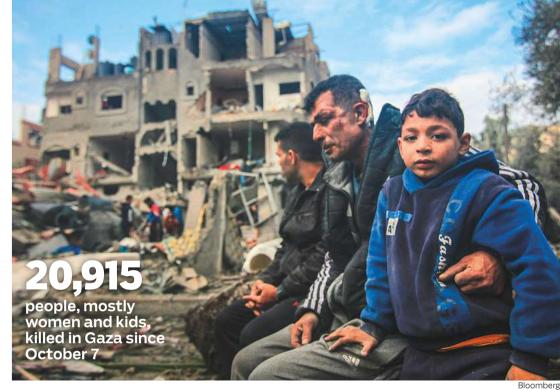
The UN Human Rights Office said all attacks had to adhere to international humanitarian law. "We are gravely concerned about the continued bombardment of central Gaza by Israeli forces," rights office spokesman Seif Magango said in a statement.

"It is particularly concerning that this latest intense bombardment comes after Israeli forces ordered residents from the south of Wadi Gaza to move to Middle Gaza and Tal Al Sultan in Rafah.'

The health ministry in Gaza said an Israeli air strike killed at least 70 people on Sunday at the Al Maghazi refugee camp. The Hamas militant group reported 50 strikes in central areas early on Monday, including in the Nuseirat refugee camp.

Catastrophic situation

Magango said the death toll from such strikes came amid "a deepening and already catastrophic humanitarian situation". He said roads to the camps had been damaged, "obstructing



Palestinians inspect the remains of their homes destroyed by Israeli bombardment in Maghazi, central Gaza, yesterday. Israel's military struck more than 100 targets in 24 hours.

relief aid from reaching those in need, and shelters and hospitals still minimally operating are critically overcrowded and under-resourced".

"We restate our warning that all attacks must strictly adhere to the principles of international humanitarian law, including distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack," said Magango. "Israeli forces must take all measures available to protect civilians. Warnings and evacuation orders do not absolve them of the full range of their international humanitarian law obligations."

Israel's military said yesterday it had struck more than 100 targets in 24 hours, including military sites and tunnel shafts in central Jabalia and Khan Yunis in the south, as heavy ground combat continued.

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