



## **Syrian Crisis** **United Nations Response**



**A Weekly Update from the  
UN Department of Public Information**

**No. 153/ 29 June 2016**

### **Special Envoy aims to hold next round of talks in July**

Special Envoy for Syria Staffan de Mistura briefed to the Security Council on the status of the intra-Syrian talks on 29 June. During a press stake out at UN Headquarters afterwards, the Envoy said he was still aiming to hold the next round of talks in July, but would not hold talks "at any cost". He added that it was important for the co-chairs of the International Syria Support Group (ISSG), Russia and the US, to see a "critical mass" of progress on discussions on the political transition.

<http://webtv.un.org/watch/staffan-de-mistura-special-envoy-for-syria-security-council-media-stakeout-29-june-2016/5008022653001>

### **UN convoy delivers critical aid in Aleppo and Rural Damascus**

An inter-agency convoy delivered much needed humanitarian assistance to the hard-to-reach Sheikh Maqsood area of Aleppo on 28 June. The convoy was the second of three, and delivered food and hygiene kits to some 27,000 beneficiaries. Another convoy reached the besieged areas of Arbin and Zamalka in Rural Damascus on 29 June, the first time the UN had reached these areas since November 2012. The UN and its partners have now been able to access all 18 besieged locations in Syria through cross-line operations and airdrops.

<http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/db160628.doc.htm>  
<http://www.un.org/sg/spokesperson/highlights/index.asp>

### **UNICEF speaks out against the killing of children in Deir-ez-Zor**

UNICEF deplored on 27 June the killing of 25 children in air strikes on the town of al-Quriyah, east of Deir-ez-Zor. The agency said that three attacks reportedly hit heavily crowded areas including a mosque during prayer time and health workers had pulled bodies of children out from the rubble. "Nothing justifies attacks on children, no matter where they are, nor under whose control they live", UNICEF said in a statement, calling on all parties to the conflict to keep children out of harm's way.

[http://www.unicef.org/media/media\\_91741.html](http://www.unicef.org/media/media_91741.html)

### **Secretary-General names RC/HC in Syria as Deputy Special Representative for Liberia**

The Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced on 27 June the appointment of Yacoub El Hillo of Sudan as his Deputy Special Representative in the UN Mission in Liberia. Mr. El Hillo will also serve as the UN Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in Liberia. Since August 2013, he had served as the UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator as well as UNDP Resident Representative in Syria, based in Damascus.

<http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sga1669.doc.htm>

### **Momentum in aid deliveries needs to be improved - UN Humanitarian Chief**

Briefing the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Syria on 23 June, Emergency Relief Coordinator Stephen O'Brien said that some five million people are living in hard-to-reach areas, an increase of 900,000 compared to the previous UN estimate. This sharp increase is due to the inclusion of parts of Aleppo, Raqqa and Hasakeh governorates as a result of insecurity and constrained humanitarian access. He noted that 844,325 people had been reached by the UN inter-agency cross-line convoys since January this year, but this represented a trickle compared to the level of needs. Mr. O'Brien stressed it was key to turn request and approvals to besieged and hard-to-reach locations into full and sustained aid deliveries to all Syrians in need. "It is vital that the stuttering momentum sustained on humanitarian access over the past few months continues and is significantly expanded into the second half of this year", he said.

<https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/23June16%20CAD%20USG%20ERC%20Stephen%20OBrien%20Statement%20on%20Syria%20to%20SecCo.pdf>

## **Facebook**

Palestine refugees caught in the Syria conflict. Formerly home to nearly 40,000 Palestine refugees and Syrians, the neighborhood emptied. Now, families are returning daily since we re-established core health and education services in the neighbourhood.

<https://www.facebook.com/unrwa/photos/a.118302834882959.10295.105171192862790/1082949618418271/?type=3>

Our Ramadan campaign has raised enough to feed 1,300 refugee families in Syria and Gaza. Thank you for bringing hope to Palestine refugee families this month.

<https://www.facebook.com/unrwa/photos/a.118302834882959.10295.105171192862790/1119302498116316/?type=3>

Today marks the 20th day of #Ramadan which means we are already into our last 10 days. Please ensure as many Palestine refugee families in Syria and Gaza have food for the rest of this holy month and at the same time, give them hope for a better tomorrow.

<https://www.facebook.com/unrwa/photos/a.118302834882959.10295.105171192862790/1119922848054281/?type=3>

"I left behind my house," says Fatima. "I left everything behind and brought nothing with me." Fatima and her six children are some of the 280,000 Palestine refugees who have been displaced within Syria as a result of conflict. Food provided by UNRWA is a lifeline for Fatima and her family. Among the stress and uncertainty of life, it is one reliable source of support that helps them make it through each day. Please continue to help Palestine refugee families like Fatima's, and others.

<https://www.facebook.com/unrwa/photos/a.118302834882959.10295.105171192862790/1119925964720636/?type=3>

## **Twitter**

UN Spokesperson @UN\_Spokesperson -28 June

#UNSG Ban Ki-moon condemns series of suicide bombings that hit Lebanese town of El-Qaa, on the border with Syria <http://bit.ly/28YtYx3>

World Food Programme @WFP – 27 June

Make this the one video you share now: #WFP and #UNFAO help #Syrian farmers get back to business! #ZeroHunger

Fatima & her 6 children are some of the 280,000 Palestine refugees displaced in Syria because of conflict. Help them- 27 June

<https://twitter.com/UNRWA/status/747460005415256064>

"I left behind my house," says Fatima. "I left everything behind and brought nothing with me." #RealStories #PalestineRefugees- 27 June

<https://twitter.com/UNRWA/status/747399445537505280>

United Nations @UN – 26 June

3 countries = 50% of refugees:

- Syria
- Afghanistan
- Somalia

<http://trib.al/nBg8Hs> #UN4RefugeesMigrants

Food can give Palestine refugees in Syria and Gaza hope. Find out how- 22 June

<https://twitter.com/UNRWA/status/745653855090774018>

## **Social media campaigns**

### **#GiftofHope**

UNRWA launched a #GiftofHope fundraising campaign on 6 June that will run throughout the holy month of Ramadan. The campaign, which focuses on raising funds for food for close to a million Palestine refugees in Gaza and over 430,000 in Syria who are living in dire need of assistance, will run mainly across the Agency's social media platforms.

<https://donate.unrwa.org/en-us/ramadan>

**@ShareTheMeal:** In April 2016, the World Food Programme launched its phone application to support fundraising efforts for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon. ShareTheMeal's fundraising aims to support 1,400 refugee children aged 3–4 in Beirut for a full year. Through the app, smartphone users can join thousands of other people in making donations and support a selected community and monitor progress. Since November 2015, the app has been available globally and has received several awards for its design and innovative character.

[www.sharethemeal.org](http://www.sharethemeal.org)

**#ActofHumanity:** UNICEF launched in March 2016 a series of animated films entitled "Unfair Tales" to help frame positive perceptions towards the millions of children and young people on the move globally. The Unfair Tales are part of an initiative, #actofhumanity, emphasising that every child has rights and deserves a fair chance. UNICEF will engage audiences through the hashtag #actofhumanity to share stories about refugees and migrant children.

<http://weshare.unicef.org/Package/2AMZIF3BZ9S>

**#RememberUs - #Syria5Years** is an advocacy and fundraising campaign to tell the story of Palestine refugees in Syria after five years of armed conflict. In the last five years, the Palestine refugees of Syria have been experiencing tremendous hardship with over 60 per cent of the 560,000 registered with UNRWA displaced throughout Syria and further afield. Through the campaign, UNRWA remembers the victims to the Syrian conflict, in particular the Palestine refugees, many of whom have lost their communities, family members, houses and livelihoods. To date, 16 UNRWA staff members have lost their lives in the armed conflict in Syria. This is the largest death toll for any single United Nations agency working in Syria.

<http://www.unrwa.org/syria5years>

Arabic: <http://goo.gl/vVRZRw>

**#MyVoiceMySchool-** #Myvoicemyschool, running for a second year, is an educational project linking Palestine refugee youth in Syria with their peers in England and Belgium.

Through live video conversations and customized teaching materials, students and teachers explore how education can help them meet their future aspirations.

<https://www.facebook.com/unrwa/photos/a.995861277127106.1073741879.105171192862790/995861320460435/?type=3&theater>

**#IamSyrian** is a global engagement campaign on social media launched by the World Food Programme (WFP) at the London Syria conference in February 2016. It offers global citizens the opportunity to show solidarity with the Syrian people by sharing their stories, sending messages of support and demonstrating how the world continues to care about their plight. The campaign will culminate in an exhibition at the UN General Assembly in September 2016.

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldFoodProgramme/photos/a.59121880177.81015.28312410177/10153310768060178/?type=3&theater>

**#Unite4Heritage** is a global movement run by UNESCO that aims to celebrate and safeguard cultural heritage and diversity around the world. Launched in response to the unprecedented attacks on world heritage sites, the campaign calls on everyone to stand up against extremism and radicalization by celebrating the places, objects and cultural traditions that make the world such a rich and vibrant place.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1254/>

### **Relevant links to UN Secretariat, Agencies, Funds and Programmes on Syria**

#### **DPI Focus Page on Syria:**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=146&Body=Syria&Body1=>

#### **UN System agencies :**

UNICEF: <http://www.unicef.org/media/index.html>

WFP: <http://www.wfp.org/countries/syria>

OCHA: <http://unocha.org/syria>, [twitter.com/ocha\\_syria](https://twitter.com/ocha_syria), [facebook.com/UNOCHA.Syria](https://www.facebook.com/UNOCHA.Syria)

WHO: <http://www.who.int/countries/syr/en/>

UNHCR: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4f86c2426.html>

OHCHR: <http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/NewsSearch.aspx?CID=SY>

UNRWA: <http://www.unrwa.org/>

UNESCO: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/syria-crisis-response/>

UNESCO Emergency Safeguarding of the Syrian Cultural Heritage Project:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/beirut/areas-of-action/culture/syria/emergency-safeguarding-of-the-syrian-heritage/>

UNESCO Observatory of Syrian Cultural Heritage <https://en.unesco.org/syrian-observatory/>

UNESCO Bridging Learning Gaps for Youth: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/syria-crisis-response/bridging-learning-gaps/>

#### **UN on social media:**

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/UN>

Flickr: [http://www.flickr.com/photos/un\\_photo/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/un_photo/)

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/unitednations>

Tumblr: <http://united-nations.tumblr.com/>

#### **Photo galleries:**

UNHCR: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c25d.html>

UNRWA: <http://www.unrwa.org/photogallery.php>

OCHA: <http://www.unocha.org/media-resources/photo-gallery>

UNICEF: [http://www.unicef.org/photography/photo\\_2013.php#UNI82253](http://www.unicef.org/photography/photo_2013.php#UNI82253)

IRIN: <http://www.irinnews.org/photo/>

