



## **Syrian Crisis** United Nations Response



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

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### **With international agreement on ceasefire monitoring, UN envoy praises delegations in Astana**

Speaking in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 24 January, the Special Envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, commended Russia, Turkey and Iran for their decision to establish a trilateral mechanism to observe and ensure full compliance with the ceasefire in Syria. He said the UN stands ready to assist the parties to the trilateral mechanism and ensure that it helps strengthen the quality of the ceasefire. Mr. de Mistura added that both Syrian parties told him that their immediate priority was and remains to strengthen the ceasefire, and even now, efforts are continuing to address Wadi Barada and other issues.

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/note-correspondents/2017-01-24/note-correspondents-secretary-generals-special-envoy-syria>

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56030#.WIjP-FMrJpg>

### **In Helsinki, UN appeals for nearly \$5 billion to help Syrians and host communities**

The United Nations and partners on 24 January appealed at an aid conference in Finland for \$4.63 billion to help people inside Syria, those who fled and the communities hosting them. "Unless these additional funds are promptly secured, the UN and its partners will have to scale back life-saving assistance, not only for Syrians but also refugees and host communities, with catastrophic consequences," said Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien. Hosted by Finland, the Helsinki Conference on Supporting Syrians and the Region focuses on key humanitarian priorities: saving lives, protection, and building resilience, according to a press release from the organizers.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56028#.WIjQ8VMrJph>

<http://bit.ly/2jssvoA>

### **At talks in Astana, UN envoy on Syria urges mechanism to oversee ceasefire**

International talks to extend the ceasefire in Syria started on 23 January in the Kazakh capital of Astana, where the United Nations Special Envoy said the ceasefire can be solidified if a mechanism to oversee and implement it is created. "The chances of success will be greater if the parties here are able to agree on a mechanism to oversee and implement nationwide ceasefire," said Staffan de Mistura. "We didn't have it in the past, that's the reason why often we failed." He encouraged the guarantors of the ceasefire to create a mechanism to implement the consolidation and de-confliction ceasefire measures, and "to see what else can be done to build confidence."

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/note-correspondents/2017-01-23/note-correspondents-un-special-envoy-syria-staffan-de>

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56021#.WIjRJVMrJpg>

### **UNICEF calls for unimpeded aid access to children in besieged Deir ez-Zor**

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on 23 January called for unimpeded and unconditional access to children in the besieged city of Deir ez-Zor, noting that they have not received regular humanitarian aid for more than two years. According to UNICEF, children in Deir ez-Zor have come under intense attack in the past week, and indiscriminate shelling has reportedly killed scores of civilians and forced others to remain in their homes. The escalation of violence threatens the lives of 93,000 civilians, including over 40,000 children who have been cut off from regular humanitarian aid for over two years.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56020#.WIjRvFMrJpg>

### **Alarmed at destruction in Palmyra, Security Council reiterates need to stamp out hatred espoused by ISIL**

Amid the destruction of cultural heritage in Syria, including that of the famed tetrapylon and parts of the Roman theatre in Palmyra by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Da'esh), the United Nations Security Council has reiterated that the terrorist group must be defeated and that the intolerance, violence, and hatred it espouses must be stamped out. In a statement issued on 20 January, the 15-member Council also expressed alarm at reports of executions in the historic theater of Palmyra and expressed deep concern for the safety of thousands of residents inside the city as well as for the protection of the World Heritage site of Palmyra.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56013#.WIjSO1MrJpg>

### **Special Envoy for Syria and his deputy hold consultations with regional officials ahead of talks in Astana, Kazakhstan**

The UN Spokesperson told reporters on 20 January that in the past few days, the Special Envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, had consulted in Davos with the Secretary-General and with regional officials. Mr. de Mistura had met with Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Jordan, Iran, Norway, and with the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs, Federica Mogherini. He had also had brief encounters with the King of Belgium, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and many others. The Deputy UN Special Envoy, Ramzy Ezzeldin Ramzy, also travelled recently to Moscow and to Ankara for discussions with the Russian and Turkish Governments in preparation for the Astana meeting and the Geneva negotiations planned for February. He has also been in contact with the Iranian authorities.

<http://www.un.org/press/en/2017/db170120.doc.htm>

### **UN Radio in Arabic**

#### **1. UNICEF: More than 40 percent of the children of Syrian refugees in Turkey lack access to education**

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/229920#.WIe6yFMrJaQ>

اليونيسف: أكثر من 40 في المئة من أطفال اللاجئين السوريين في تركيا يفتقدون فرص التعليم

18/01/2017

#### **2. \$ 19 million allocated for emergency response in Aleppo**

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/229981#.WIe65FMrJaQ>

تخصيص 19 مليون دولار للاستجابة لحالات الطوارئ في حلب

18/01/2017

3. **Humanitarian Coordinator in Syria: We seek to provide assistance to all besieged areas**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/229857/#.W1e7KIMrJaQ>  
منسق الشؤون الإنسانية في سوريا: نسعى لتوصيل المساعدات مع شركائنا إلى جميع المناطق المحاصرة  
18/01/2017
4. **Syria: Egeland says January is one of the worst months for the delivery of aid so far**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/230146/#.W1e7UFMrJaQ>  
سوريا: إيغلاند يقول إن شهر يناير هو أحد أسوأ الأشهر لتوصيل المساعدات حتى الآن  
19/01/2017
5. **UNESCO condemns the destruction of monuments in Syria**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/230252/#.W1e7vFMrJaQ>  
اليونسكو تشجب تدمير المعالم الأثرية في سوريا  
20/01/2017
6. **Security Council united on Astana and considers it a step forward in the Geneva talks**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/230480/#.W1e8DIMrJaQ>  
مجلس الأمن موحد بشأن أستانة ويعتبرها خطوة إلى الأمام نحو محادثات جنيف  
23/01/2017
7. **De Mistura called for a meeting in Astana for a mechanism to monitor the cease-fire**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/230394/#.W1e8RIMrJaQ>  
دي مستورا يدعو في اجتماع أستانة إلى وضع آلية لمراقبة وقف إطلاق النار  
23/01/2017
8. **UNICEF launches an interactive project that takes a look at the suffering of Syrian children trying to get an education**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/230357/#.W1e8X1MrJaQ>  
اليونيسف تطلق مشروعاً تفاعلياً يلقي نظرة على معاناة الأطفال السوريين من أجل الحصول على التعليم  
23/01/2017
9. **UNICEF concerned about more than forty thousand children besieged in Deir al-Zour**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/230340/#.W1e8fFMrJaQ>  
اليونيسف: قلق بشأن أوضاع أكثر من أربعين ألف طفل في دير الزور المحاصرة  
23/01/2017
10. **UNICEF calls for unconditional and unhindered access to the children of Deir al-Zour**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/230329/#.W1e8m1MrJaQ>  
اليونيسف تدعو إلى إتاحة الوصول غير المشروط ودون عوائق إلى أطفال دير الزور  
23/01/2017
11. **De Mistura confirms that the ceasefire would support the international community in the fight against terrorism in Syria and the region as a whole**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/230639/#.W1e8uVMrJaQ>  
دي مستورا يؤكد أن وقف إطلاق النار من شأنه دعم المجتمع الدولي في مكافحة الإرهاب في سوريا والمنطقة ككل  
24/01/2017
12. **The United Nations and its partners are launching a regional plan to respond to the needs of those affected by the Syrian crisis**  
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/230535/#.W1e84FMrJaQ>  
الأمم المتحدة وشركاؤها يطلقون خطة إقليمية للاستجابة لاحتياجات المتضررين من الأزمة السورية  
24/01/2017

## **Twitter**

United Nations @UN Jan 24

Helping children is just one way the UN is working to #SupportSyrians. You can help @UNICEF, see: <https://support.unicef.org>

United Nations @UN Jan 24

Syrian ppl are desperate for an end to the ongoing brutal & bloody conflict - de Mistura on #AstanaProcess <http://bit.ly/2j9ZnBD>

United Nations Retweeted

**IOM** @UNmigration Jan 24

Millions still displaced & in hard to reach areas. We appeal for USD 234M to continue lifesaving humanitarian assistance #IOMSyriaAppeal

United Nations Retweeted

**WHO** @WHO Jan 24

#SupportSyrians: 10 things you should know about the crisis in #Syria <http://goo.gl/wNyUD0>

United Nations Retweeted

**Filippo Grandi** @RefugeesChief Jan 24

Key message from #supportsyrians meeting: #staythecourse in strengthening resilience of Syrians in+out of Syria & helping host communities

United Nations @UN Jan 23

For a generation of Syrians, childhood memories are not of classrooms - but conflict: <http://uni.cf/2iU1Pfk> #ImagineaSchool via @UNICEF

United Nations Retweeted

**World Food Programme** Jan 23

You can help #SupportSyrians. One way is to donate to @WPF online here: <http://bit.ly/2jKd4ZU>

United Nations @UN Jan 23

Syria: No sustainable solution to conflict can be attained via only military means, but through a political process. <http://bit.ly/2joZzxL>

United Nations @UN Jan 23

Major UN conference on Syria + region starts Monday in Helsinki: <http://bit.ly/2jBoIEY> #SupportSyrians

United Nations Retweeted

**OCHA Syria** @OCHA\_Syria Jan 22

93,500 people deprived of regular access to food & medicines in #Deir\_EzZor #Syria since 17 Jan, read full report: <http://ow.ly/r0pm308emQt>

United Nations Retweeted

**UN Development @UNDP** Jan 20

In #Syria, unemployed youth learn new trade skills to repair emergency vehicles, #cleanwater & electrical systems to #SupportSyrians.

### **Social media campaigns**

**#Shareyourwarmth**- UNRWA launched its winter fundraising campaign #shareyourwarmth in December 2016 to support the needs of this vulnerable population affected by the Syrian crisis and bring respite during the cold months.  
<http://www.unrwa.org/galleries/photos/families-face-hardship-during-winter-khan-dunoun-shelter>

**#My Voice-My School** is an UNRWA project launched in 2015 and implemented by Digital Explorer to connect schools in Gaza, Syria, Lebanon with schools in Europe and USA through Skype exchanges. Through live video conversations and customized teaching materials, students and teachers explore how education can help them meet their future aspirations. [www.unrwa.org/myvoicemyschool](http://www.unrwa.org/myvoicemyschool)

**@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. Through the app, smartphone users can join thousands of other people in making donations and support a selected community and monitor progress. Since the launch of the campaign, nearly 7.5 million meals have been shared.  
[www.sharethemeal.org](http://www.sharethemeal.org)

**#NoLostGeneration**- The initiative was launched by UNICEF and partners in 2013 to focus attention on the plight of children affected by the Syrian crisis. By articulating real concerns about the possible 'loss' of a generation of children to the effects of violence and displacement, the initiative put education and child protection at the centre of the response inside Syria and across the refugee hosting countries (Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt).  
<http://nolostgeneration.org/about>

### **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://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)