



Syrian Crisis

United Nations Response



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

No. 205/12 July 2017

New aid route allows UN and partners to reach people in need in Raqqah governorate

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) said on 11 July that it had completed a first series of humanitarian convoys by road to Qamishli in Syria's north-eastern Hassakeh governorate. The convoys took place over the last two weeks along a vital route from Aleppo, opening a new link to deliver aid in Raqqah. With the number of people displaced now having passed 190,000 in Raqqah governorate since April, the opening of the road from Aleppo to Menbij and Qamishli is a breakthrough. To date, a total of 22 trucks have been dispatched. UNHCR added that regular deliveries along the route were planned, allowing UN agencies and partners to reach a greater number of the estimated 430,000 people in need in Raqqah governorate.

[http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/\(httpBriefingsLatest_en\)/9C04E4E05BED02E5C125815A00464B2A?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/(httpBriefingsLatest_en)/9C04E4E05BED02E5C125815A00464B2A?OpenDocument)

Intra-Syrian talks reconvene in Geneva

The seventh round of intra-Syrian talks was convened in Geneva on 10 July. Speaking to the press, Special Envoy Staffan de Mistura, noted that the de-escalation process needed to be considered as an interim measure. "Let me underline the word interim, and with a clear understanding that is not going to undermine ultimately the Syrian national unity, territorial integrity", he said. The Envoy added that while he was not expecting breakthroughs, he stressed the need for incremental progress in the talks.

[http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/\(httpPages\)/E07FDBBFAF65FD38C125815A0034ABAE?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/(httpPages)/E07FDBBFAF65FD38C125815A0034ABAE?OpenDocument)

Secretary-General welcomes the establishment of a de-escalation area in southwest Syria

Secretary-General António Guterres welcomed on 10 July the announcement by Jordan, Russia and the United States of a de-escalation zone and arrangements to support a ceasefire and delivery of humanitarian assistance in southwest Syria. "This is a significant step towards reducing violence and increasing humanitarian access across Syria, in line with the pursuit of the goal of a comprehensive, nationwide ceasefire, as endorsed by multiple Security Council resolutions", he stressed. As the United Nations reconvened the intra-Syrian talks in Geneva, the Secretary-General urged all parties to redouble efforts for a political solution to the conflict. He also appealed to all countries to preserve the right for all Syrians to seek asylum and enjoy refugee protection until conditions are conducive for return in safety and dignity.

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2017-07-10/statement-attributable-spokesman-secretary-general-syria>

The conflict has caused extensive damage to Syria's infrastructure and economy- World Bank study

According to a World Bank study of the economic and social consequences of the Syrian conflict, the cumulative losses in gross domestic product (GDP) have been estimated at \$226 billion from 2011 to 2016, about four times the Syrian GDP in 2010. The study

also found that the conflict has inflicted significant damage to the Syrian Arab Republic's physical capital stock (7 percent housing stock destroyed and 20 percent partially damaged), led to large numbers of casualties and forced displacement (between 400,000 and 470,000 estimated deaths and more than half of Syria's 2010 population forcibly displaced), while depressing and disrupting economic activity.

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/syria/publication/the-toll-of-war-the-economic-and-social-consequences-of-the-conflict-in-syria>

Head of chemical weapons investigative panel speaks out against politicized environment

The panel investigating the use of chemical weapons in Syria on 6 July called on the international community to allow it to complete its work in an independent, impartial and professional manner. "We do receive, unfortunately, direct and indirect messages, all the time, from many sides, telling us how to do our work; my message again, to the Council today was, please let us do our work," Edmond Mulet, the Head of the three-member panel told reporters in New York following a briefing to the Security Council. The Joint Investigative Mechanism, comprising the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the UN, is currently investigating the 4 April 2017 attack on the town of Khan Sheikhoun, in north western Syria.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=57128#>

UN Radio in Arabic

سوريا: وصول قوافل المساعدات إلى منبج والقامشلي عبر طريق افتتح حديثا

Syria: Aid convoys reach Manbij and Qamishli via a newly opened road

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/247258>

2017-07-11

مبعوث الأمم المتحدة لسوريا يفتتح الجولة السابعة من المحادثات السورية في جنيف

UN envoy to Syria opens the seventh round of intra-Syrian talks in Geneva

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/247204>

2017-07-10

الأمم المتحدة ترحب بخطط وقف إطلاق النار والوصول الإنساني في سوريا

United Nations welcomes plans for ceasefire and humanitarian access in Syria

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/247156>

2017-07-10

التحقيقات بشأن استخدام الأسلحة الكيميائية في سوريا تسير بموضوعية ونزاهة

Investigations on the use of chemical weapons in Syria proceed objectively and impartially

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/246936>

2017-07-06

حوار.. مشاريع برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي تدعم أكثر الفئات ضعفا في سوريا

Interview: UNDP projects support the most vulnerable in Syria

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/246892>

2017-07-06

دي ميستورا يرحب "بالتقدم" في أستانة قبل محادثات جنيف المقبلة

dDe Mistura welcomes "progress" in Astana ahead of the Geneva talks

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/246900>

2017-07-06

مناطق خفض التوتر في سوريا تذكرنا بأن لا شيء سوى الحل السياسي سيخفف من معاناة المدنيين

The de-escalation areas in Syria remind us that nothing but a political solution will alleviate the suffering of civilians

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/246884>

2017-07-06

Twitter

OCHA Syria @OCHA_Syria- 12 July

See how the #Syria Humanitarian Fund is helping survivors of gender-based violence receive much-needed support <http://ow.ly/4D4L30dxru5>

United Nations@UN- 11 July

This wk's new @WorldBank report looks at how 6 yrs of conflict impacted Syria's population, economy & infrastructure <http://wrlld.bg/Kpwe30dvEp5>

UN Refugee Agency - 11 July

"There has been a disproportionate burden on host countries". Only 10 countries shelter around 60% of 22.5M refugees.

UN Refugee Agency- 11 July

The opening of the road from Aleppo to Menbij and Qamishli is already making a difference on the ground: <http://trib.al/XHN7C8Z> #Syria

UN Refugee Agency -11 July

This is how solar energy is changing lives in this refugee camp in Jordan: <http://trib.al/iXKkWt2>

United Nations Retweeted UN Geneva ✓@UNGeneva- 10 July

New round of #SyriaTalks starts @UNGeneva today. Follow us for updates.

United Nations Retweeted UN News ✓@UN_News_Centre- 6 July

"Please let us do our work" - @OPCW-@UN joint investigative mechanism on its probe of attacks in #Syria <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=57128> ...

Facebook

UNICEF July 9 at 9:00am

We're making the inaccessible, accessible for #ChildrenUprooted in Zaatari refugee camp.

Share if you believe #AChildIsAChild no matter what.

UNICEF was live July 7, 2017 at 10:35am

We're live at the G20 Summit with our youngest-ever Goodwill Ambassador and Syrian refugee Muzoon Almellehan who's been meeting with world leaders including Angela Merkel to talk about #ChildrenUprooted. #ChildisAChild

Social media campaigns

#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

@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

#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/>

#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, facebook.com/UNOCHA.Syria

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

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

UNFPA: <https://www.unfpa.org/emergencies/crisis-syria>

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/>