



Syrian Crisis United Nations Response



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

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Entire declared Syria's stockpile of Isopropanol is destroyed

The OPCW-UN Joint Mission confirmed on 20 May that the entire declared Syrian stockpile of Isopropanol - a binary component of the sarin nerve agent - had been destroyed. To date, 7.2 per cent of Syria's chemical weapons material remains in country and awaits swift removal for onward destruction. The Joint Mission reiterates its call on Syrian authorities to undertake this task as soon as possible.

<http://opcw.unmissions.org/>

Aleppo residents suffering consequences of flagrant disregard for international law-OHCHR

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay condemned on 21 May the "flagrant disregard for international human rights and humanitarian law – both by the Government and by some armed groups – that has led to tremendous suffering for civilians in the Aleppo Governorate." "Sustained rocket and barrel-bomb attacks on populated areas of Aleppo are being carried out in grave violation of international humanitarian and human rights law. Barrel bombs, when used in populated areas where civilians are still present, clearly have an indiscriminate impact", she said.

The High Commissioner called urged all parties to the conflict to immediately cease such indiscriminate attacks against civilians and to allow unhindered access to humanitarian aid.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14623&LangID=E>

UNRWA health services remain active in Syria

In its annual report released on 20 May, the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) said more than half of its health centres in Syria have been destroyed or are non-functional. However, the agency has set up ten 'health points' and increased services at those clinics that are working and has reassigned health professionals to facilities housing refugees, such as schools. UNRWA said that by moving health care out of some areas, it has been able to respond to the restrictions of movement that have affected beneficiaries. Meanwhile, the health situation facing 18,000 civilians in the Palestine refugee camp of Yarmouk, in Damascus, continues to deteriorate. There is severe food insecurity and an acute shortage of life-saving

medicines. Only one-quarter of the food requirements have been met by UNRWA food distributions in the past four months, increasing health risks.

<http://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/despite-massive-challenges-unrwa-health-services-remain-active-syria>

More international support required for Lebanon to cope with growing refugee influx

UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Lebanon Ross Mountain warned on 19 May that Lebanon urgently needs the international community's support to cope with the growing influx of Syria refugees. Over 1 million Syrian refugees have been registered in Lebanon and some 50,000 new refugees continue to be registered by UNHCR each month. At this rate, it is projected that Lebanon will have 1.5 million refugees by the end of the year. The humanitarian appeal for Lebanon seeks US\$1.7 billion but it is only 17 per cent funded so far. Mr. Mountain said that Lebanon cannot be expected to continue to manage without greater external assistance.

<http://www.un.org/News/briefings/docs/2014/db140519.doc.htm>

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=>

OPCW-UN Joint Mission

<http://opcw.unmissions.org/>

UN Humanitarian agencies

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

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

OCHA: <http://www.unocha.org/crisis/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/>

UN on social media:

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

Flickr: 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

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