



Syrian Crisis United Nations Response



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

No. 67/5 November 2014

Special Envoy outlines “freeze” zones in Syria

In an interview with UN radio on 3 November, Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, said that he had told the Security Council that “freezing” the conflict locally would create an environment whereby humanitarian aid could reach the population. He said that the besieged city of Aleppo was the best example of where the conflict could be frozen locally, as fighting between opposition and Government forces had ground to a stalemate amid the steady advance of ISIL militants. “If we can freeze that and show that at least Aleppo can become an area where we can provide some better life for citizens, then the focus can be, as it should be, on [ISIL],” he said. As fighting between the opposition and Government forces continues, amid the advance of ISIL in northern Syria, the Special Envoy expressed the hope that the proposal would pave the way for a political process. “If that can be replicated,” Mr. de Mistura said, “then we may have a formula to cool off, if nothing else, the environment in Syria and lead to a political process, as everybody claims should be the case, rather than simply saying it but nothing happening.” The Special Envoy also announced that he will be returning to Damascus shortly for further consultations with President al-Assad regarding the plan.

<http://webtv.un.org/search/staffan-de-mistura-secretary-general%E2%80%99s-special-envoy-for-syria-interview-with-un-radio/3873378639001?term=de%20MISTura>
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=49241#.VFkjWMntjkc>

Over 97% of Syria’s chemical weapons have been destroyed

On 5 November, the Special Coordinator of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)-UN Joint Mission, Sigrid Kaag, briefed the Security Council on the implementation of resolution 2118 (2013) regarding the verification and destruction of Syria’s chemical weapons. In his latest report to the Council, the Secretary-General said that as of 22 October, 100 percent of the Category 1 chemicals and 88.8 percent of the Category 2 chemicals had been destroyed, representing a combined total of 97.8 percent, including the isopropanol previously destroyed in Syria. The report also notes that future activities will be on the destruction of the 12 remaining chemical weapons production facilities, which are scheduled to begin in November 2014.

http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/2014/767

Syrian refugee children face the risk of becoming stateless - UNHCR report

UN High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres, UNHCR Special Envoy Angelina Jolie and more than 30 celebrities and world opinion leaders published an open letter on 4 November, saying that 60 years after the United Nations first agreed to protect stateless people, “now it’s time to end statelessness itself.” This coincided with UNHCR launching a global campaign “I Belong” aimed at ending the legal limbo of statelessness, which affects millions of people around the world. Along with the campaign, UNHCR also

released a report on statelessness globally the same day. Speaking in Amman, UNHCR's Director of International Protection, Volker Türk warned that many undocumented Syrian refugee children face the risk of statelessness. He said many Syrian refugee children have not been able to acquire documentation proving they are Syrian nationals. "Unless this can be resolved at a later date, these children may be left stateless," he noted. To address the issue, UNHCR and its partners have distributed more than 250,000 leaflets on birth registration procedures, and animated films on the subject are shown daily to thousands of refugees at registration and community centres across the region.

<http://www.unhcr.org/545797f06.html>

<http://www.unhcr.org/54589fb16.html>

http://unhcr.org/statelesscampaign2014/Stateless-Report_eng_final3.pdf

UNICEF launches new partnership to benefit Jordanian and Syrian youth

On 4 November, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Generations for Peace, a Jordanian NGO, agreed on a two-year partnership to implement a social cohesion programme that will reach about 5,000 Jordanian and Syrian refugee children and youth. More than 480,000 Syrian refugees are currently living in host communities in Jordan, putting extreme pressures on all services. As part of the project, Generations for Peace will carry out a variety of activities to engage children and youth, to support their behaviour change and strengthen relationships, based on greater understanding, tolerance and respect.

<http://reliefweb.int/report/jordan/two-year-social-cohesion-programme-unicef-and-generations-peace-benefit-five-thousand>

UN Twitter account:

#Syria: UN envoy proposes new plan to "freeze" conflict, promote political solution

<http://bit.ly/1zsEwit>

- 3 Nov 2014

Syria, Gaza, #EbolaResponse & more -- see photos & videos shared in October by our colleagues around the world: <http://sfy.co/qmQq>

- 2 Nov 2014

UN Radio in Arabic:

de Mistura: The new plan will focus on efforts to fight ISIL

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/151753/#.VFpJ08lNf8c>

Security Council Members affirm their support to the UN Special Envoy for Syria

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/151469/#.VFpKkclNf8c>

de Mistura proposes freeze zones in Syria

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/151376/#.VFpK5sINf8c>

United Nations: Human suffering in Syria is worsening

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/151321/#.VFpLlMINf8c>

John Ging: What is needed now is broad engagement of the international community to help countries affected by the Syrian crisis

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/151223/#.VFpLXsINf8c>

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 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/>