



Syrian Crisis United Nations Response



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

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Special Envoy de Mistura meets with Syrian President to press for political solution

Wrapping up a two-day visit to Damascus on 11 February, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, told reporters that his discussions with Syrian authorities and President Bashar al-Assad had focused on reducing violence and increasing unimpeded access of humanitarian aid to all Syrians in need. "The heart of my mission is to try and facilitate any political process that can lead to a political solution to a conflict which has lasted too long and which has no military solution. I have also discussed, as you can imagine, the issue of the United Nations proposal for a freeze to reach a reduction of the violence in the city of Aleppo", he noted. The Special Envoy added that he will report on the content of his discussions to the Security Council on 17 February.

<http://www.un.org/sg/offthecuff/index.asp?nid=3840>

http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=50056#.VNu_Oy7gW3Y

Secretary-General welcomes international engagement towards a political solution

During a visit to Saudi Arabia to pay tribute to the legacy of late King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz As-Saud, the Secretary-General voiced concerns about the appalling crimes that continue to be committed in Syria by all sides. In a meeting with King Salman Abdulaziz on 8 February, he stressed that recent peace talks held in Cairo and Moscow underscored the need for a political solution to the conflict based on the Geneva Communiqué. "I welcome the international re-engagement for a political solution. I also welcome Saudi Arabia's proposal for a follow-up meeting," the Secretary-General said. "A solution to the crisis will only be found through political negotiations. At the same time, we must urgently do more for the many people who are suffering", he added.

http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=50029#.VNu_2S7gW3Y

<http://www.un.org/News/dh/infocus/Syria/FinalCommuniqueActionGroupforSyria.pdf>

WFP delivered food to 30,000 Syrian refugees in camps in Jordan thanks to UAE funding

On 11 February, the UN World Food Programme thanked the UAE's International Humanitarian City (IHC) for its US\$ 1 million contribution that helped WFP feed 30,000 Syrian refugees living in Jordan during the month of January as they faced a severe snow storm.

"This contribution was channeled to vulnerable Syrian refugees through the WFP voucher system providing vital food assistance and saving their lives. It was also a very timely response from the IHC as our funding had reached critical levels, but fortunately the voucher system meant we could immediately channel the money to refugees in need," said Muhannad Hadi, WFP's Emergency Coordinator for Syria.

In 2015, WFP is providing monthly food assistance to more than 7 million Syrians in need – 4.5 million in Syria and about 2.6 million in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt. The agency requires immediately a total of US\$ 215 million to support operations in Syria and the five neighbouring countries during the upcoming months.

<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/us-1-million-dubai-international-humanitarian-city-helps-wfp-feed-storm-hit-syria>

UNESCO: introducing youth in Syria and Lebanon to successful volunteerism

To build capacities of youth organizations in managing young volunteers, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Office in Beirut held a training workshop from 5 to 8 February which brought together 24 members of youth associations in Syria and Lebanon.

"UNESCO's work on youth and with youth are both policy and service delivery levels" said Seiko Sugita, Programme Specialist in UNESCO. "Youth volunteerism, properly managed and empowered can help the society to explore and apply innovative approaches to social justice and social cohesion", she added.

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/beirut/single-view/news/introducing-youth-in-syria-and-lebanon-to-successful-volunteerism/#.VNurXS7gW3Z>

UN Twitter account:

Search for Syria? What do you see? Watch & share this short film from @SwedenforUNHCR <http://j.mp/18KapZu> via @Refugees
- 8 Feb 2015

UN Radio in Arabic:

De Mistura discussing in Damascus proposal to freeze the conflict in Aleppo
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/160315/#.VNtrcPnF9Q0>

Prince Charles met with Syrian refugees in Jordan's Zaatari camp
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/160143/#.VNtsPPnF9Q0>

Syria and Yemen, the most important topics discussed by Ban Ki-moon with Saudi King Salman bin Abdul Aziz
http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/160036/#.VNtts_nF9Q0

Commissioner for Human Rights expresses anger and disgust at the actions Takfirists
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/159947/#.VNt3oi7gW3Z>

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://unocha.org/syria> , 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/>

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/>