



## Syrian Crisis United Nations Response



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

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### **UN envoy sees 'glimmer of hope' as Syria indicates willingness to 'freeze' Aleppo fighting**

Speaking to reporters after briefing the Security Council on 17 February, the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, said that he sees a "glimmer of hope" for his "freeze" proposal in Aleppo. He stated that the "Government of Syria has indicated to me its willingness to halt all aerial bombing in addition to artillery shelling for a period of six weeks all over the city of Aleppo as of a date that we will be announcing in Damascus," adding that his office will also engage with the opposition hoping to get a similar response. He stressed that the main duty is to protect civilians while working on a political solution. "We will pursue the political process which [consultations in] Cairo and Moscow have generated and built on it with a UN initiative," he explained.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsId=50114>

<http://webtv.un.org/watch/staffan-de-mistura-on-syria-security-council-media-stakeout-17-february-2015/4065349246001>

### **UNICEF: Syria Crisis 2014 annual situation report**

In an annual report on Syria released on 15 February, UNICEF said that it vaccinated around 25 million Syrian children against polio; with partners, it treated water networks that reached 16.5 million people inside Syria and provided safe drinking water to refugees in camps in the region; it supplied 2,842,636 children with school materials as part of the 2014/15 school year "Back to Learning" campaign; it offered psycho-social support to around 300,000 children in Syria, and around 645,000 in neighbouring countries; it also distributed winter clothing and blankets to 400,000 children inside Syria and provided cash, vouchers and winter supplies to 565,000 children in countries around the region.

<http://childrenofsyria.info/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/UNICEF-Syria-Annual-Regional-Crisis-Situation-Report-2014-.pdf>

<http://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/syria-crisis-2014-annual-situation-report>

### **Security Council approves resolution targeting sources of financing for ISIL**

The United Nations Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, unanimously adopted on 12 February a resolution approving measures to target sources of funding for the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and Al-Nusra Front (ANF), condemning those buying oil from the groups, banning all trade in looted antiquities from Iraq and Syria, and calling on States to end ransom payments.

The Director-General of UNESCO welcomed the adoption of the resolution, saying that it is a "milestone for enhanced protection of cultural heritage in Iraq and Syria." She also added, "The protection of the cultural heritage of Syria and Iraq has strategic implications – it is fundamental for the identity and social cohesion of all Iraqis and Syrians and it is a precondition for future reconciliation and recovery."

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=50067>

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/iraq-office/about-this-office/single-view/news/unesco-director-general-welcomes-un-security-council-resolution-to-step-up-protection-of-cultural-heritage-in-syria-and-iraq>

[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2199%20\(2015\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2199%20(2015))

### **On International Day, UN demands end to use of child soldiers in conflict**

In a joint press release, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, marking the International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers on 12 February, called for urgent action to end violations against children. "UNICEF and the Office of the Special Representative call for urgent action to end grave violations against children including their recruitment and use by armed groups. Parties to conflicts must meet their obligations under International Law," the press release said. Tens of thousands of children, boys and girls in over 20 countries around the world, are associated with armed forces and armed groups. Among those are children in Iraq and Syria where "the advances by ISIL and the proliferation of armed groups have made children even more vulnerable to recruitment. Children as young as 12 are undergoing military training and have been used as informants, to patrol, to man checkpoints and to guard strategic locations. In some cases, they have been used as suicide bombers and to carry out executions," it added.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=50065>

<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/press-release/children-at-risk-of-recruitment/>

### **UNRWA delivers food assistance to Neirab, assesses damage in Husseinieh**

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) delivered food assistance to 22,000 Palestine refugees in Neirab camp, 13km south-east of Aleppo, whose population has been exposed to hardship and deprivation due to interrupted access during 2013.

The purchase of food and household items was provided to UNRWA by the Emergency Response Fund (ERF) administered by the UN Office for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Also, UNRWA entered on 9 February Husseinieh camp, 12 kilometers south-east of Damascus, in order to assess the damage to its installations resulted from armed confrontation. Installations that need repair include four schools, a health centre, social services offices, a woman's programme centre, youth and distribution centres, electricity, water and sanitation networks, as well as many civilian damaged homes.

<http://www.unrwa.org/galleries/photos/unrwa-delivers-food-assistance-22000-palestine-refugees-south-east-aleppo>

<http://www.unrwa.org/galleries/photos/unrwa-returns-assess-damage-husseiniyeh>

### **UN Twitter**

11K refugees have found safety at Azraq, but they need more light <http://trib.al/tibrzcy>  
pic.twitter.com/CVAWtQORmg via @Refugees

- 15 Feb 2015

The #SyriaCrisis is entering its 5th year. Follow @OCHA\_Syria for updates & see:

<http://j.mp/19ga4g3>

- 14 Feb 2015

New video: Turkey's newest & biggest camp for Syrian @refugees opened this week for 35,000 in Suruc <http://j.mp/1uKEFgk>

- 13 Feb 2015

### **UN FACEBOOK**

Turkey's biggest and newest camp for Syrian refugees - Suruc camp in southern Turkey - will provide shelter for 35,000 people when fully populated.

New arrivals come from across Syria, but mainly from the town of Kobani, just across the border. At the camp, refugees can find safety and shelter as well as schooling and medical care. While the face a potentially long wait at the camp, many remain focused on getting back home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iIYmcjzjvn4&feature=youtu.be&list=PL587DEB510E8CB629>

- 15 Feb 2015

### **UN Radio in Arabic:**

De Mistura: Syrian Government expressed interest in halting the shelling of Aleppo for 6 months

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/160997/index.html#.VOSmCPnF9Q0>

Egyptian Government, UN, and partners launch a plan to aid Syrian refugees in Egypt and hosting communities

[http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/160924/index.html#.VOSI1\\_nF9Q0](http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/160924/index.html#.VOSI1_nF9Q0)

UNSC adopts a resolution in one voice against the funding of terrorist groups including ISIS and Al-Nusra

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/160439/index.html#.VOSIsPnF9Q0>

Leila Zerrougi: The child soldiers' phenomenon reaches Arab states too

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/160480/index.html#.VOSIrPnF9Q0>

UNHCR calls on the EU to re-establish an effective search and rescue mechanism for refugees in the Mediterranean Sea

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/160433/index.html#.VOSIsvnF9Q0>

### **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](https://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/](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)

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