



Syrian Crisis United Nations Response



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

No. 87/ 25 March 2015

Special Envoy de Mistura continues talks on freeze of fighting in Aleppo

The UN Spokesperson told reporters on 24 March that the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, is continuing his talks with different parties to build support for a freeze of fighting in Aleppo. Mr. de Mistura will pursue his consultations, including during the summit of the League of Arab States to be held in Sharm al-Sheik, Egypt on 28-29 March.

<http://www.un.org/press/en/2015/db150324.doc.htm>

Secretary-General condemns deadly attack against Kurdish communities

Following two separate suicide bombings which killed and injured about 100 people during the celebration of Nowruz in the northern city Al-Hasaka, the Secretary-General strongly condemned the deadly attack. "These heinous attacks took place during a holiday that is customarily a time for Kurdish communities to come together to share their hopes for the New Year," he stated. The Secretary-General reiterated his condemnation of all acts of violence against civilians in Syria as well as his demand that all parties in the conflict stop the indiscriminate use of weapons in populated areas.

<http://www.un.org/sg/statements/index.asp?nid=8470>

Security Council: More support needed for Lebanon to deal with refugee crisis

In a presidential statement on 19 March, the Security Council said it is gravely concerned by the increasing and negative impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon's stability and the immediate threat to its security. With over 1,180,000 Syrian refugees hosted in Lebanon, the Security Council acknowledged the extraordinary challenge the country faces. "The Security Council underscores that support to Lebanon's efforts to manage the impact of the influx of refugees, including on essential services such as education and health, is crucial to preserving Lebanon's stability and security." The Council also urged donors to disburse existing pledges and to increase assistance to Lebanon at the upcoming pledging conference for Syria to be held in Kuwait on 31 March 2015.

http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/PRST/2015/7

Number of Syrian refugees in Jordan rises amidst intensifying fighting

The UN refugee agency (UNHCR) reported on 19 March a growing influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan, including from the southern governorate of Dara'a following a recent surge in fighting. An average of 250 Syrian refugees have crossed the border into Jordan every day in a week – a sharp increase compared with recent months. According to UNHCR, 1,014 people had crossed, including more than 160 from Dara'a. UNHCR's representative in Jordan, Andrew Harper, said this latest development underlined the need for increased international support to victims of the conflict in Syria and the countries hosting them.

<http://www.unhcr.org/550b14ce6.html>

WFP prioritizes aid deliveries to Syrian refugees most in need in Jordan

The UN World Food Programme (WFP) announced on 19 March that its food assistance for Syrian refugees living in Jordanian communities will be prioritized further to make sure support goes to those most in need. "These are difficult choices for WFP, but every dollar spent on a family who can manage without it is a dollar taken from a family who

desperately needs it," said Jonathan Campbell, WFP Emergency Coordinator for the Syrian refugees operation in Jordan. WFP's aim is to ensure the focus is on the most vulnerable, but it will also mean that from April 34,000 people will no longer receive WFP food vouchers. An additional 239,000 refugees will have the value of their vouchers reduced. These people have been advised of the decision by SMS messages and other means. However, 180,000 people considered the most vulnerable should still receive the full voucher value. WFP's food voucher programme for Syrian refugees in neighboring countries is the largest in the world, and is funded entirely by voluntary contributions. Nearly 2 million Syrian refugees, spread across five countries in the region, are assisted through WFP food vouchers every month.

<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/wfp-prioritizes-most-needy-syrian-refugees-food-assistance-jordanian-communities>

TWITTER

New @UNDPsyria report: 365 days of response in the midst of #SyriaCrisis:

<http://on.undp.org/KHEBJ> pic.twitter.com/p2Yj3LoeTj #WhatDoesItTake

- 25 Mar 2015

People with disabilities rebuild parts of #Syria w/ @UNDPsyria emergency jobs:

<http://undp.org/syriacrisis> #WhatDoesitTake

- 24 Mar 2015

Women-led households prevent #Syria hunger crisis & earn wages thanks to @UNDPsyria & partners. #WhatDoesitTake

- 24 Mar 2015

"Cultural cleansing" is sweeping Iraq & Syria, says @UNESCO chief Irina Bokova. Video:

<http://ow.ly/KyjEV>

- 22 Mar 2015

Photo gallery: anguish of Syria's @refugees enters a 5th year <http://unhcr.org/g-5500660d6> pic.twitter.com/3wcQdBiIPw #WhatDoesItTake

- 19 Mar 2015

In active conflict, @UNDPsyria responds to Syrians' dev needs inside Syria:

<http://on.undp.org/KsKsl> #WhatDoesIttake

- 19 Mar 2015

UN FACEBOOK

The crisis in Syria is now its fifth year. Over 220,000 civilians have been killed. More than 50% of Syria has fled the country.

Take a look at United Nations Development Programme - UNDP's Syria crisis response amidst ongoing violence.

#WhatDoesItTake

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPWPX5ggS9I>

- 25 Mar 2015

ISIL's "cultural cleansing" of Iraq and Syria: UNESCO head Irina Bokova explains how the extremist group is targeting cultural heritage and using plundered artefacts to finance terrorism.

<https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=10153215983190820&set=vb.54779960819&type=2&theater>

-21 Mar 2015

UN Radio in Arabic

Khaled, a Syrian refugee died 20 days after his birth under difficult weather conditions
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/164048/#.VRLT8vnF9Q0>

Syria: Fishing kit became a lifeline to Hassan's family
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/163715/#.VRLU3fnF9Q0>

WFP gives priority to the most needy Syrian refugees in Jordan
http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/163583/#.VRLVQ_nF9Q0

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

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/>