



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية  
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

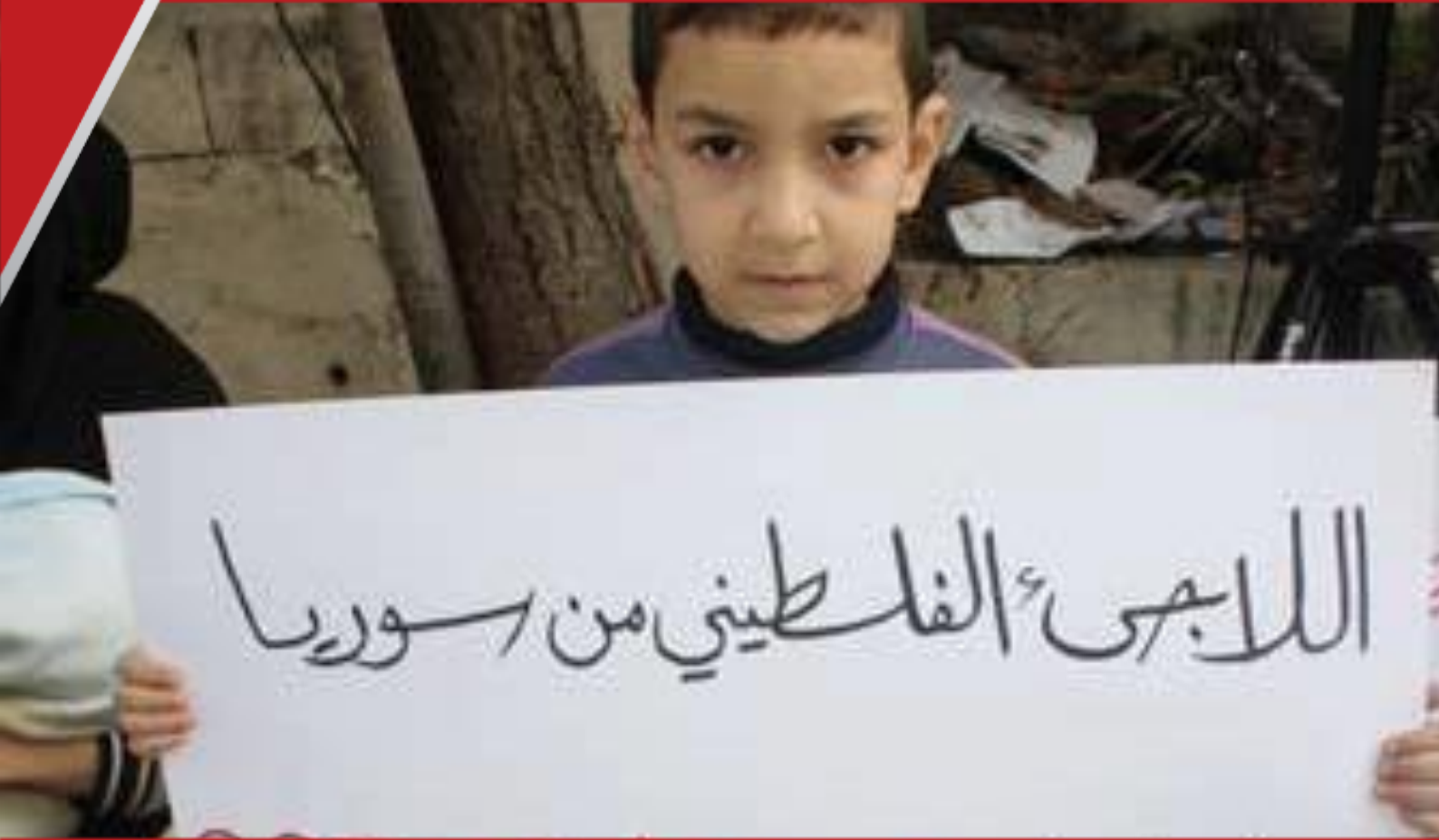
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## التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



**"UNRWA: 95% of Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon Food Insecure"**

- UNRWA Likely to Cut Services for Palestine Refugees due to Funding Crisis
- NGO Carries Out Reconstruction Works in Atama Camp North of Syria
- Mohamed Awad Moudi Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Security Forces

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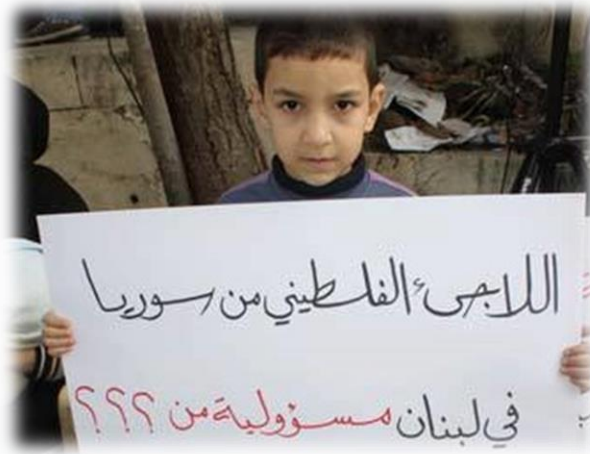
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## Latest Developments

UNRWA has identified Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon as one of the most marginalized and poorest communities in the region.

95 per cent of PRS are food insecure; Over 80% cite UNRWA cash assistance as their main source of income, while about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty, according to the UN agency. 36 to 57 per cent of PRS youth face unemployment.

Following a comprehensive verification exercise of PRS in Lebanon, UNRWA verified the physical presence of 28,598 PRS (8,700 families) in the country until the end of February 2019. Most of them are eligible for the Agency's emergency assistance.



UNRWA statistics indicate a gradual reduction of PRS in Lebanon, due to either onward movement or returns to Syria, while the pace of spontaneous and unassisted returns continues to vary.

PRS rely heavily on UNRWA support to cover their basic needs and this dependency is expected to remain high in 2020.



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Along the same line, the Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Christian Saunders, has appealed for sustained support for the Agency's work.

Presenting the Agency's annual report to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Monday, Saunders pointed out the extraordinary circumstances in which UNRWA continues to operate, despite the financial and political hurdles it has been facing.



Addressing United Nations Member States present at the meeting, Saunders said: "UNRWA is a remarkably resilient agency that is undergoing the worst financial crisis in its history and requires the urgent attention and support of the international community".

"The Agency is in an extremely precarious situation right now and we are facing the possibility of reducing and indeed stopping the provision of services in the coming weeks, if the Agency does not receive additional funding," he reiterated.

Saunders underscored the operational challenges the Agency has been going through across its fields of operation as detailed in the



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Agency's annual report. This includes Gaza, where over one million people are dependent on UNRWA aid; Syria, where after nearly nine years of devastating conflict and Lebanon, where Palestine refugees, including those who fled from Syria, are particularly vulnerable.

UNRWA's newly-appointed official stressed the stabilizing role that UNRWA plays in a volatile region and appealed to Member States to ensure that the Agency's mandate, which is up for renewal, proceeds smoothly.

He called on Member States who are in a position to help with additional contributions to do so now and those that are yet to disburse funding pledged to the Agency to swiftly release the urgently required funds, noting extraordinary efforts by the Agency to address their concerns as a result of the ongoing inquiry into management issues.

“The Agency and its mandate are essential to reassure 5.5 million Palestine refugees of the international community's commitment to their human rights and dignity,” said Saunders. “Frankly, under current circumstances, there is no alternative to UNRWA for the provision of these services. We are determined to continue delivering the highest quality, most cost-effective assistance required as long as the Agency's mandate continues.”

He pledged to continue implementing the mandate of the General Assembly and ensure that Palestine refugees receive essential assistance pending a just and lasting solution to their plight.





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UNRWA says it has been confronted with an increased demand for services resulting from a growth in the number of registered Palestine refugees, the extent of their vulnerability and their deepening poverty. Its program budget, which supports the delivery of core essential services, operates with a large shortfall.

In another development, Bonyan Foundation has laid asphalt concrete on a number of access roads and sidewalks in Atama refugee camp, in Idlib's northern outskirts, north of Syria, in order to smooth civilians' movement, particularly during winter.



Sometime earlier, the association had embarked on the installation of aquaporins in the camp, saying three water channels will be repaired so as to avoid water flooding.

Some 50 Palestinian families displaced from Yarmouk Camp, Khan Eshieh Camp, AlTadhamun neighborhood, and AlGhouta, in Damascus, have been taking refuge in Atama, where they have been deprived of vital services and much-needed relief aids.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Mohamed Awad Moudi has been forcibly disappeared in Syrian government jails for the seventh consecutive year.



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Mohamed was kidnapped at a checkpoint set up in Daraa province on October 9, 2012. His family continues to appeal for information over his condition and whereabouts.

AGPS documented the secret detention of 1,768 Palestinian refugees in Syrian state-run prisons, among them 107 women and girls.