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التقرير اليومي:



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

Palestinian Refugees in Syria Urge UNRWA to Increase Cash Aid

- **Amid Increase in Needs, Palestine Refugee Agency Calls for Reliable Funding**
- **Yarmouk's Displaced Families Applaud Reconstruction Initiatives**
- **PA: Palestinian refugees rescued in Mediterranean Sea**



Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees in Syria have called on UNRWA to increase humanitarian aid and cash grants and to deliver them to the concerned refugees every month rather than every four months.

UNRWA provides assistance to over 438,000 registered Palestinian refugees in Syria. Some 13,500 others remain in hard-to-reach or inaccessible zones in northern Syria.

The assistance includes cash and in-kind items. Throughout the conflict, the most vulnerable Palestine refugees in/from Syria have been struggling for survival.

UNRWA data indicates that over half of the Palestine refugees in the country have been displaced at least once because of the brutal conflict that ensued, including 200,000 who have sought safety in neighbouring countries, mainly Lebanon and Jordan, and beyond.

Over 80% of PRS live in extreme poverty and rely on humanitarian assistance as their main source of income. 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.

Along similar lines, the Advisory Commission (AdCom) of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) focused its biannual meeting in Amman this week on the urgent need to ramp up funding for the Agency amid an increased dependence of Palestine refugees on aid.

UNRWA said that as the United Nations General Assembly prepares to renew the Agency's mandate for another three years, it has become crucial to ensure that the resources UNRWA receives match the expectations set in the mandate for a solid contribution to the right of Palestine refugees to a dignified life.

“An increasing number of Palestine refugees feel like they are hanging by a thread,” said UNRWA Commissioner-General Lazzarini. “UNRWA is the most consistent source of support and safety to one of the region's most underprivileged communities. While the Agency enjoys strong political support for its critical education, health, social protection and other services, its chronic



underfunding makes one wonder how much longer we will continue to function with much less than what we need.”

Over the past months, UNRWA has recorded a sharp increase in overall needs of Palestine refugees amid global financial crises, high inflation, unemployment and poverty rates. As prices of basic commodities including food have skyrocketed, many Palestine refugees have become totally dependent on assistance from UNRWA. They struggle to make ends meet and bring food to the table.

UNRWA said that in Gaza, as the 15-year-long blockade continues, more people (or 1.1 million) now rely on food assistance from UNRWA. In 2007, only 800,000 people received food assistance. While rates of education are high, Gaza is home to the highest levels of unemployment among young people in the world. In Lebanon, Palestinians have hit rock bottom, with almost every Palestine refugee now living in poverty.

At the same time, in the occupied West Bank, Palestine refugees have endured the most violent year on record in more than a decade and a half. In Jordan, Palestine refugees are among the most to live the economic repercussions of the COVID-19 while in Syria people are resorting to going back and living in the rubble of their destroyed homes. Many are sleeping in the open because they cannot afford to live anywhere else.

“In today’s almost unlivable circumstances, Palestine refugees have nowhere else to turn to survive, but to UNRWA. The Agency has become their beacon, their last resort, especially in the absence of any political prospects for them. Their access to schools, healthcare and protection from violence and discrimination should not become a luxury. A dignified life is part and parcel of the commitment of the international community towards them through the mandate of UNRWA,” concluded the Commissioner-General.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees acclaimed a new initiative launched to reconstruct houses in Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus.

Vulnerable families will also benefit from a new power generator installed as part of the initiative.



Along similar lines, the Charity Committee installed 14 solar panels in AlMadares neighborhood. One week earlier 40 such devices were installed in adjacent areas.

Entering its 12th year, the Syrian warfare has had disastrous fallouts on Yarmouk Camp and other displacement camps set up across the ravaged country. In 2014, the Syrian regime cut off water in the camp, leaving hundreds of families at the risk of death.

Before the crisis started in 2011, Yarmouk was a bustling home to almost 30 percent of the Palestine refugee population in Syria. Today, the weight of displacement, hardship and the loss of loved ones add to the difficult living conditions in Yarmouk.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced yesterday that dozens of Palestinian irregular migrants have been rescued in the Mediterranean Sea off the coasts of Libya and Greece.

The political adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ahmed Al-Deek, said the Palestine embassy in Libya is following up the matter after two boats carrying irregular immigrants – including Palestinians – were rescued in the waters near the cities of Sabratha and Misrata.

Al-Deek said the first boat included about six Palestinians who are now being held in the illegal immigration centre in western Libya, while the second boat had 16 Palestinians, including four women. They are now in a migrants' detention centre near the city of Misrata.

"Information regarding the second boat and the number of Palestinian citizens on board is not yet clear, as the embassy is following up on this issue with the competent Greek authorities," he added.