

05-12-2022

No: 3780

مجموعة العمل

من أجل فلسطينيي سورية

Action Group For Palestinians of Syria



التقرير اليومي



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

UNRWA Chief, Damascus Governor Discuss Rehabilitation of Yarmouk Refugee Camp

- Switzerland Continues to Support Palestinian Refugees
- Book Fair Held in Hums Camp
- Student Empowerment Initiative Launched by Palestinian Association



Latest Developments

Governor of Damascus, Muhammad Tariq Kreishati, discussed with the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) in Syria, Amany Michael Ebye, means of enhancing cooperation to secure the return of the displaced families to their homes in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

The two officials also discussed ways to rehabilitate infrastructure and reconstruct vital premises.

Kreishati stressed that efforts are under progress by Damascus authorities to secure families' return to the camp in accordance with Syrian laws and regulations and boost UNRWA's humanitarian work in Damascus.

Ebye said that the agency's priority is to rehabilitate its destroyed premises, particularly its school and social and healthcare centres.

In another development, at its meeting on 2 December 2022, the Federal Council approved Switzerland's continued support for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

UNRWA will receive CHF 20 million annually for the years 2023 and 2024. With these funds, Switzerland is reaffirming its commitment to human development, humanitarian action and regional stability.

Switzerland's allocation of CHF 20 million per year (CHF 40 million in total) for the period 2023–24 will enable UNRWA to continue operating despite the challenging situation.

Switzerland's funding for UNRWA will continue to be primarily focused on programmes aimed at providing Palestinian refugees with access to high-quality education, healthcare, social services, microfinance facilities and infrastructure.

In the absence of a political solution to the conflict, UNRWA continues to play a key role as a stabilising factor in the region. The long years of blockade and hostilities on the Gaza Strip, the conflict



that has raged in Syria since 2011 and the economic crisis in Lebanon are taking a heavy toll on Palestinian refugees.

The occupied Palestinian territory and neighbouring countries are bearing the brunt of this situation. For example, 96% of the Palestinian refugees who are still living in Syria depend on humanitarian aid provided by UNRWA for their survival. Some 60% of these refugees have been displaced from their home districts at least once since the conflict began. In Lebanon, 73% of Palestinian refugees live below the poverty line.

Meanwhile, UNRWA inaugurated a book fair at AlShajara School, in AlAyedeen Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Hums.

The event comes in line with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD), proclaimed on 3 December 1992 by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/3. The observance of the Day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.

UNRWA said it assists more than 2,300 Palestine refugees with disabilities in Syria who have had their lives marred by the unabated warfare and bloody strife rocking the Syrian territories.

Assistance to the most vulnerable Palestinian refugees, including persons with disabilities, is provided by donors like the European Union.

In the meantime, the Quds Charity, in partnership with AGa Khan International Foundation, established unofficial classes as part of Jousour (Bridges) student-empowerment project.

Over 180 schoolchildren and students have attended courses delivered as part of the drive.

Upon more than one occasion, UNRWA has raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among the Palestinians of Syria, several among whom left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.

Several UNRWA facilities were destroyed in the Syrian warfare and others have gone out of operation, including two clinics, a vocational training center, a youth development center, and 28



schools, out of 112 UNRWA schools in Syria. Other education facilities have been turned into prisons or field hospitals, imperiling Palestinians' academic careers.