

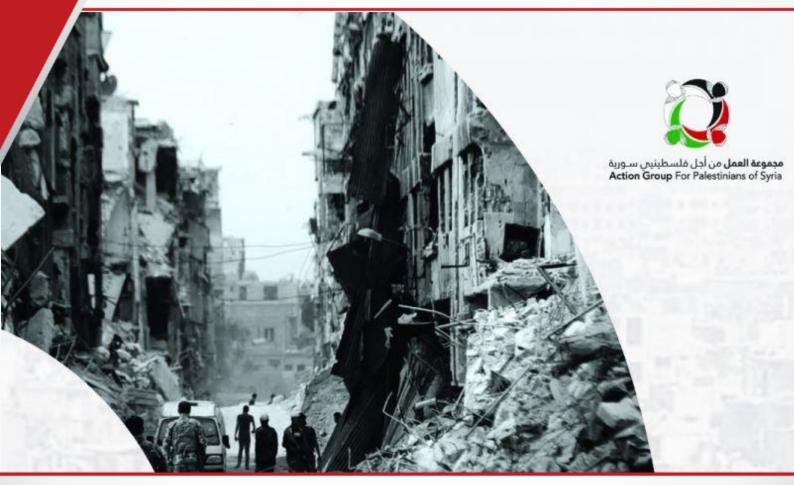
12-06-2020

No. 2789

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"AGPS Executive Director: Reluctance Regarding Civilians' Appeals to Return to Yarmouk Carries Tragic Consequences"

- Child Drowns, Another Rescued in Syria's Deir Ballout Displacement Camp
- UNRWA Suspends Aid Delivery in Lebanon
- Greece Orders Asylum Seekers to Evacuate Migrant Shelters



Latest Developments

Executive Director of the Action Group for Palestinians of Syria (AGPS), Mr. Ahmad Hosain, slammed the Syrian government for dragging its feet regarding civilians' appeals to return to their homes in Yarmouk Palestinian refugee camp from which they have been displaced following the outbreak of the bloody conflict.

Speaking with Enab Baladi news site, Mr. Hosain said the state of homelessness and dislodgement endured by the displaced families of Yarmouk makes the situation of Palestinian refugee families more alarming and represents a blatant violation of their rights to a decent shelter and a dignified life.

AGPS Executive-Director stressed the need for UNRWA and the Palestinian factions to pressurize the Syrian authorities to speed up the reconstruction of Yarmouk Camp so as to allow civilians to safely return to their homes at the soonest possible time.

He warned of alleged attempts to alter the demographic and geo-historical character of Yarmouk Camp, which he said stands as a living witness to the Palestinian refugee plight.

Mr. Hosain also said AGPS has recorded several occasions during which the Syrian security forces carried out large-scale excavation works in the camp in the hunt for plastic tubes and power and telecommunication cables, resulting in a quasi-total destruction of the local infrastructure.



Mr. Hosain urged all concerned Syrian authorities and institutions to live up to their responsibilities and protect civilians' property and public structures.

He further called on the Palestinian political factions and Palestine embassy to take up their responsibilities regarding the displaced Palestinian families, work on preserving Yarmouk Camp's geo-historical identity, and push for a safe return of Palestinian refugees to the camp pending a just and lasting solution to their plight.

In another development, a 10-year-old Syrian child drowned in a river between Deir Ballout and AlMuhammadiya displacement camps, set up near Efrin region, in Aleppo's northern outskirts.

Reporting from northern Syria, an AGPS correspondent said another child was rescued and rushed to a hospital for urgent treatment.

The displaced residents called on the concerned authorities to construct a barrier on the riversides in order to prevent more tragic drowning accidents, particularly with the advent of a scorching summer season.

Hundreds of Palestinian and Syrian families who have been forcibly deported to northern Syria have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation as most of them have been taking cover in underequipped tents and denied access to vital facilities and services. Children's life has also been marred by the absence of leisure facilities.

Meanwhile, UNRWA announced its decision to suspend cash aid transfer for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon pending the finalization of the required checks.



The Agency said aid distribution will be suspended starting June 11 until further notice.

UNRWA said transaction codes previously sent to the refugees along with ad hoc hotlines will also be temporarily invalidated.

A few weeks ago, UNRWA in Lebanon said it will start implementing an online program to transfer cash grants to Palestinian refugees in an attempt to rein overcrowding outside of the Bob Finance bank.

UNRWA said the e-system will allow the Agency to determine the number of registered refugees pending the delivery of their cash allowances. A hotline was also established to renew old registration cards obtained before 2009.

In the meantime, Greek government officials, in cooperation with a delegation of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), toured migrant camps pitched on Greek islands.

An AGPS reporter said the delegations paid visits to buildings and shelters housing migrants and asylum seekers and officially notified them that holders of visa cards will have their cash allowances suspended pending their transfer to the Greek mainland by the end of this month.

The decision will leave over 11,000 refugees and asylum seekers homeless.

Earlier this year, the Greek Ministry of Citizen Protection issued a decision to evacuate all buildings housing migrant residents who have received visas or subsidiary protection cards in Greece since 2017.



The Ministry said the eviction should be carried out no later than April 2020.

Activists said the move dovetails the country's attempt to rein in the influx of migrants and overcrowdings on its islands.

The activists further warned of the fallouts of the decision, which they said will result in increasing numbers of homeless refugees who will be left with neither food nor shelter and be denied their basic human rights.

Palestinian refugees who have fled war-stricken zones to Greece have been denied their rights to visas and prevented from accessing vital facilities.