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Local Aid Coordination
Secretariat

Tel: 02- 297-6330/1/2/4

Fax: 02-297-6335

Email: secretariat@lacs.ps

Website: www.lcf.ps

LACS Newsletter

Local Aid Coordination Secretariat

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News from LACS

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the key reports and press statements released since 1st June 2017 concerning humanitarian and development assistance in Palestine.

The next LACS Newsletter will be published on 1st July 2017. We would welcome your suggested inputs for the next issue by COB 30th of June.

Sincerely,

LAC Secretariat

Shared Calendar of Events

Please click on link to see a full calendar of aid coordination meetings:

<http://www.ldf.ps/EventCalendarEndUser.aspx>

List of Recent Meetings

- **Thursday, 8 June 2017:** Social Protection Sector Working Group at 11:00 at the MoSD.
- **Tuesday, 13 June 2017:** Environment Sector Working Group meeting at 10:00 at the EQA.
- **Wednesday, 14 June 2017:** Thematic Group on Trade meeting (part of the Private Sector and Trade Sector Working Group) at 10:00 at the MoNE.

Aid Coordination Meetings

Minutes of Meetings & Related Documents

❖ Social Protection Sector Working Group meeting, 8 June 2017

http://ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31563

 UNRWA - Cooperation between UNRWA and MoSD, 8 June 2017

http://ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31564

 MoSD - Social Protection Enhancement Project, 8 June 2017


http://ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31565

❖ Water Sector Working Group meeting, 25 May 2017

http://ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31557

 PWA - Water and Wastewater projects priorities in West Bank and Gaza, 25 May 2017

http://ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31558

 PWA - Water Supply Infrastructure, 25 May 2017

http://ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31559

 PWA – Water Sector Reform, 25 May 2017

http://ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31561

 PWA – Wastewater Treatment and Reuse, 25 May 2017

http://ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31562

Documents & Reports

Area C National Coordination Office (ACCO) – Office of the Prime Minister

 Infographic on “50 Years of Israeli Occupation”, June 2017

<https://www.facebook.com/AreaCNationalCoordinationOffice/photos/a.191534004613244.1073741829.167717406994904/322897654810211/?type=3&theater>

United Nations

❖ OCHA


 Protection of Civilians, 16 - 29 May 2017

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31541

 50 Stories of Palestinian Life Under Occupation, 5 June 2017

<https://www.ochaopt.org/50Stories/>


❖ WHO

 Health Access for Referral Patients from the Gaza Strip – April 2017, 31 May 2017
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31543

❖ FAO

 Gaza Strip Agricultural Trade, 4 June –8 June 2017
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31550

AIDA

 Infographic on “50 Years of Occupation – 10 Years of Illegal Blockade”, June 2017
<http://opengaza.com/>

Press Releases and Formal Statements**UN****Statement by the UN Humanitarian Coordinator in the oPt, Robert Piper, on the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation in Gaza, 14 June 2017**

The UN Humanitarian Coordinator in the occupied Palestinian territory, Robert Piper, warned today about the disastrous consequences of a further reduction in electricity-supply to the Gaza Strip on the living conditions of two million Palestinians. He called upon the Palestinian Authority, Hamas and Israel to put the welfare of Gaza’s residents first and to take the necessary measures to avoid further suffering. The UN has already appealed to the international community to support its limited humanitarian efforts to prevent the collapse of vital life-saving, health, water, sanitation and municipal services.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31560

Statement by the UN Coordinator for Humanitarian Aid and Development Activities, Robert Piper, on the 50th Anniversary of Israel’s Occupation, 6 June 2017

This week marks 50 years since the start of Israel’s occupation of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. For humanitarians this is the most long-standing protection crisis in the UN’s history.

It should be obvious, but it bears repeating, that Occupation is ugly. Living under foreign military rule for years on end, generates despair, suffocates initiative and leaves generations in a kind of political and economic limbo.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31546

WFP**WFP funding crunch in Palestine threatens Food Voucher Assistance, 12 June 2017**

JERUSALEM – Unless new funding quickly arrives, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) may be forced to suspend its voucher food assistance in July for nearly 150,000 people in Gaza and the West Bank, the majority of whom are women and children.

This is at the same time as a major energy crisis is affecting the impoverished Gaza Strip.

WFP urgently requires US\$6.6 million to provide food assistance through vouchers for the next three months to the poorest non-refugee families in Gaza and the West Bank.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31554

EU**EU and UNRWA sign new landmark agreement and reaffirm joint commitment to support Palestine refugees, 7 June 2017**

On 7 June 2017, Federica Mogherini, the High Representative of the European Union (EU) for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission; Johannes Hahn, Member of the European Commission in charge of European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations; and Pierre Krähenbühl, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), signed a Joint Declaration on EU support to UNRWA for the period 2017-2020.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31549

Consulate General of France

France joins the humanitarian consortium intervening in Area C, 1 June 2017

France took a further step in its engagement towards Palestinian populations threatened by forced displacement in Area C.

This Thursday June 1st 2017, France signed a decision to subsidize the humanitarian consortium intervening on behalf of communities threatened by forced displacement in the West Bank (Area C) and in East Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli occupation. This signature marks a new step in France's support to these populations, including Bedouin communities.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31542

British Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Foreign Secretary statement on settlement units in the West Bank, 14 June 2017

British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson condemned the Israeli government's announcement to build over 3,000 settlement units in the West Bank.

Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said:

We condemn the announcement of yet further settlement units in the West Bank. Settlements are illegal under international law, and not conducive to peace.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31566 (in English)

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31567 (in Arabic)

Representative Office of Japan

Statement by the Japanese Foreign Press Secretary Norio Maruyama on "Advancing of the plans of settlement construction by Israel", 13 June 2017

The Government of Japan deeply deplores that, according to information, the Government of Israel has approved plans for the construction of housing units in settlements in the West Bank, thereby continuing its settlement activities, despite repeated calls from the international community including Japan for freezing such activities.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31551 (in English)

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31552 (in Arabic)

PCBS

Decrease in the Consumer Price Index during May, 14 June 2017

The overall CPI for Palestine during May 2017 decreased by 0.84% compared with April 2017 (by 1.62% in Gaza Strip, by 0.50% in the West Bank, and by 0.17% in Jerusalem J1).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31555 (in English)

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31556 (in Arabic)

Decrease in the Industrial Production Index in Palestine during April, 6 June 2017

The overall IPI in Palestine reached 104.48 during April 2017 with a decrease of 6.36% compared to the previous month (Base Month December 2015 = 100).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31547 (in English)

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31548 (in Arabic)

PCBS –EQA

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Environment Quality Authority press release on World Environment Day (WED), 5 June 2017

World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated annually on the 5 June since 1972. WED is the United Nations' principal vehicle for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment. Over the years it has grown to be a broad, global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated by stakeholders in more than 100 countries, the theme for 2017, is "Connecting People to Nature".

Despite its small geographical area, State of Palestine is characterized by a great variation in topography.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31544 (in English)

http://www.idf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31545 (in Arabic)

Newsletters

- **UNRWA Gender Bulletin, May 2017**
http://www.lfd.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31534
- **PCBS Electronic Monthly Bulletin, 5 June 2017**
[http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin 129/Monthly%20bulletin_e.htm](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin%20129/Monthly%20bulletin_e.htm)
(in English)
[http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin 129/Monthly%20bulletin_a.htm](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin%20129/Monthly%20bulletin_a.htm)
(in Arabic)
- **EUPOL COPPS Newsletter, May 2017**
http://www.lfd.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31553

Announcements

- **Scholarships for Palestinian Students offered by the Government of Malta for Postgraduate Studies at the University of Malta**

The External Relations and Mediterranean Affairs Directorate, the International Development, Economic Affairs & European Institutions Directorate, the University of Malta and the Representative Office of the Republic of Malta in Ramallah have the honour to announce that they have finalised the process to confer two scholarships to prospective Palestinian students.

Master of Arts in Humanitarian Action

Master of Science in Conservation of Decorative Architectural Surfaces, within the Department of Conservation and Built Heritage

For more information and details kindly follow the link below for the Scholarship document and other information related to how to apply

http://foreignaffairs.gov.mt/en/Embassies/Rep_Ramallah/Pages/News/Scholarships-for-Palestinian-Students-offered-by-the-Government-of-Malta-for-Postgraduate-Studies-at-the-University-of-Malt.aspx

Online application and should also be submitted by the 20th July 2017. Documents that are submitted after the deadline cannot be considered