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United Nations reaffirm commitment to delivering assistance to Yemen

17 Feb 2015

We reaffirm our commitment to delivering UN assistance to Yemen and we will continue our work as before while taking the appropriate measures to ensure the safety and security of our staff," says a spokesperson from the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Yemen.

The UN has been in operation in Yemen for over 60 years, sometimes through very difficult circumstances. Over these 60 years, UN agencies, funds and programmes have continued to work with the government, civil society partners and Yemeni women and men to ensure that activities related to health, education, food and shelter, just to name a few areas of assistance, are not disrupted.

"Despite the difficult circumstances we will continue to work with the people of Yemen towards addressing their needs and supporting their aspirations," says the official.

"We hope that the present political uncertainty will be resolved soon, to the long lasting benefit of all Yemenis."



Visit of the Representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to Hajja in partnership with the UNDP

Feb.02 2015

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) represented by Dr. Salah ElHajj Hassan, the FAO Representative in Yemen and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) represented by Ms. Mikiko Tanaka, the UNDP representative in Yemen, carried out a joint visit to Hajja governorate. The FAO and the UNDP delegation to Hajja held an expanded meeting with the governor of Hajja, General Ali Bin Ali Al-Qaisi, deputy governor of Hajja, Mohamed Ali Al-Qaisi and a number of General Directors of the government offices in the governorate including General Director of Agriculture and Irrigation Office, Abdullah Rageh, General Director of the Planning and International Cooperation Office, Abdurrahman Al-Melhani, General Director of the Social Affairs Office, Dr. Haitham Al-Jabri and General Director of the Statistics Office, Abdulmajeed Mawani. The meeting aimed to discuss and coordinate the implementation of Livelihood and Economic Recovery project financed by the UN Peace building Fund in addition to other underway activities and projects to be implemented by the two UN agencies.



The governor of Hajja welcomed the delegation, and Dr. Salah ElHajj Hassan, the FAOR expressed his thanks and gratitude to the governor and the local government leadership for their constant cooperation for the success of the UN work to access vulnerable and poor communities. El-Hajj Hassan highlighted the importance of prior coordination with the local authority for any upcoming activities to agree on the work mechanism and most needed areas for humanitarian intervention. The meeting reviewed the work plan of the Livelihood and Economic Recovery Project which will focus on improving women and youth income by creating community development committees, training these committees to strengthen their capacities and empower them to start up their small businesses and enhancing value chains and the added value in products of priority in the targeted areas. The meeting discussed also the activities of the Food Security Information Systems Development Project (FSIS) and the Food Security Cluster Program in Hajja which are implemented by the FAO in Hajja. El-Hajj Hassan stressed on the need to form a supervising..... [Continued on page 2](#)



WFP INTENT ON CONTINUING YEMEN OPERATIONS AMID GROWING POLITICAL AND SECURITY CRISIS

17 February 2015

As the political and security crisis in Yemen deepens, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is determined to continue its operations across the country despite clashes between rival factions, the president's resignation and demands in the south for secession.

"In these difficult times, WFP's role becomes even more important," said WFP Yemen Country Director Purnima Kashyap. "Even before this crisis, more than 40 percent of Yemenis were food insecure, 5 million of them severely food insecure. And the current upheavals are certain to hit the poorest and most vulnerable hardest." WFP is able to reach some of the hardest-to-access parts of the country through its partner Yemeni Non-Governmental Organizations, staffed by people from these areas. Despite the significant security and operational challenges, WFP was able in January to reach about 1 million people.



"We are very concerned about how people are managing to cope with the latest upheaval. They are likely to be eating less and not as frequently, which can only lead to increased food insecurity and a greater likelihood of malnutrition," Kashyap added. "In such circumstances, humanitarian assistance needs to be stepped up, rather than down."

WFP's operations include providing food assistance to hundreds of thousands of internally displaced people in conflict-affected areas, safety-net and livelihood support – through food- or cash-for-work – for vulnerable and poor families in rural areas, and the prevention and treatment of malnutrition among pregnant and breastfeeding women and young children.

WFP aims to reach 6 million people throughout Yemen between July 2014 and June 2016.

In the coming weeks, WFP plans to start a school feeding programme and provide take-home rations to some 115,000 girls regularly attending school.

Kashyap appealed to donors to continue their support for WFP Yemen and called on neighbouring countries to provide funding "in the interests of regional stability". WFP needs to mobilize US\$146 million to support its main relief and recovery operation over the next 12 months.

"The crisis has been further exacerbated by continuing clashes in the south," Kashyap added. "WFP is concerned about the many displaced by the fighting and those who could be displaced if it does not stop." WFP hopes that all sides can reach a speedy consensus based on previous agreements and the conclusions of the National Dialogue Conference in the interest of the Yemeni people.

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Visit of the Representative of the Food....

committee and a joint unit of all stakeholders in the governorate. It is worth mentioning that the FSIS addresses key food security issues in the country, links all food security and nutrition stakeholders to develop food security information systems and analyzes food insecurity levels to strengthen food security information generation on the local and national levels in order to take appropriate decisions. The Food Security Cluster Program coordinates the work of development stakeholders to improve prediction, leadership and accountability in humanitarian activities.

The FAO team consisted of Dr. Chedli kayouli, international consultant of animal wealth and dairy, Dr. Abdulwahid Mukrid, head of the Food Security Technical Secretariat (FSTS) of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Dr. Mohamed Noman Sallam, FAOR assistant, Dr. Mansour Al-Qadasi, national coordinator of the Food Security Information Systems (FSIS), Mawzna Awlaki, local coordinator of the Food Security Cluster program in Hodeida and Hajja took part in the meeting. The UNDP team participated in the visit to Hajja included Yasser Khayri, coordinator of the Peace Building Project and a number of technicians.



Yemen, UNHCR sign MoU on health services for refugees

25/February/2015

The Ministry of Public Health and Population and the UNHCR signed on Wednesday a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to provide health services for refugees and asylum seekers in Yemen.

Under the MoU, the refugees and asylum seekers will get preventive and curative services and health support and will benefit from the health programs given by the ministry for AIDS patients.

The memo obligates the health ministry and its offices in the Capital Sana'a and in the provinces of Aden, Lahj and Hadramout to provide health services for refugees for three years.

The MoU was signed by the Ministry's Undersecretary for Curative Medicine Sector Dr. Ghazi Ismail and the UNHCR resident representative in Yemen Johannes Van Der Klaauw.



Training animal health workers in Al-Jawf

26 Feb. 2015

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Yemen (FAO) signed today a letter of agreement with the Yemen Veterinary Medicine Association to train a group of local residents to be animal health workers in Al-Jawf governorate under the FAO emergency response program on recovering livelihoods of IDPs and host families in the governorate which is financed by the CERF.

25 trainees will be selected from the targeted districts that include: Al-Khalq, Al-Masloob, Al-Matoon, Al-Hazm and Al-Ghyl for 30-day training course. The trainees will learn theoretical knowledge and practical skills on animal health care. At the end of the training course, each trainee will be awarded a certificate authorizes him/her to practice veterinary works in line with the veterinary regulations recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

The training of animal health workers is accompanied by ongoing distribution of large number of sheep to the IDPs and host families in the targeted districts. The sheep feeding supply, veterinary vaccination and treatment services will be also provided to the targeted households after the completion of the animal health workers training.

Dr. Salah Elhaji Hassan, the FAO representative in Yemen who signed the agreement with the Yemen Veterinary Medicine Association stated that "the organization seeks through its programs in Yemen to assist most vulnerable groups in a way that enables them to sustainably recover their livelihoods and enhance food production."

He added that " The FAO provided a complete package of agricultural inputs with training and that the agreement that was signed today will allow the targeted households to access animal health care in scientific and safe way that increases production and raise nutrition status of their households' members."

It is worth mentioning that the FAO implements the Emergency Response Program in Al-Jawf in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the local stakeholders in the governorate to alleviate severe food insecurity through supporting agricultural livelihoods and production capacity.





Yemeni humanitarian crisis is one of largest crises in world : OCHA

14/February/2015

The Yemeni crisis is one of the largest humanitarian crises in the world and it may get worse in 2015, the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said on Saturday.

The humanitarian coordinators pointed, during an expanded debate session held at the United Nations building in New York, that millions of the poor people in Yemen depend on welfare network aid to secure basic expenses, including food, medicines and medical care. About 16 million Yemeni, equivalent to 61 percent of the population, are in need of humanitarian assistance in securing food security, drinking water and sanitation services and other important needs, the UN coordinators added.

They asserted that the humanitarian response plan for 2015 in Yemen will be ready soon and requires \$ 748 million to meet the needs of 8.2 million people, and will allocate \$ 285 million for emergency requests.

Yemen's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Khalid al-Yamani reiterated, during the session, the necessity to focus on addressing the humanitarian crisis being experienced by Yemen.

Al-Yamani called for increasing funding for the humanitarian response plan for 2015, affirming that Yemen is in dire need of this support now more than ever.

The Arab League's Ambassador to the United Nations Ahmed Fathallah called on the participants in session and the international community representatives to highlight the humanitarian crisis and economic challenges in Yemen. He warned of focusing only on the current political crisis and ignoring the developmental hindrances in Yemen.

Executive Director of the Executive Bureau to accelerate absorption of donors' pledges Amat al-

Alim Alsoswa participated in the session via a direct intervention from Sana'a, in which she touched on the humanitarian crisis in Yemen that extended from before 2011 events.



"Yemen is facing today the biggest humanitarian crisis ever", Alsoswa said, adding that every Yemeni child, a woman and a man is in dire need and deserves the support of the international community.

Alsoswa pointed to the displaced people crisis, high rates of poverty and unemployment among youth and women, the effects of climate change and the scarcity of water resources, as well as the influx of refugees to Yemen.

She reviewed the financial statements, factors of recession, constraints of the government services and incidents of vandalism that affect the infrastructure of the oil and gas and power lines.

"The role of humanitarian actors today is the most important and the most prominent in the absence of public services", said Alsoswa, urging the international community to exert pressure on all political factions to reach a political settlement, because the escalation of the conflict would double the crisis of displaced people and refugee.

Yemen is one of the poorest countries in the Middle East and is ranked 154 (out of 187) in the Human Development Report for 2014. According OCHA, almost eight million children in Yemen will need aid humanitarian during 2015. There are more than 330,000 internally displaced people in Yemen due to armed conflict, as the country hosts hundreds of thousands of African refugees, mostly from Somalia and the Horn of Africa, who use Yemen as a route to reach the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



FAO supports agricultural activities in Amran



19/February/2015

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Yemeni Family Care Association signed Thursday an agreement to support some agricultural activities in Amran province.

The agricultural activities, which are funded by the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) in Yemen, include distributing improved seed of wheat and sorghum to one thousand displaced farming households, who are suffering many difficulties in the targeted districts.

FAO will also provide improved seeds of onions and tomatoes crops to develop the household agriculture in the targeted districts accompanied by agricultural tools to about 1,470 families from groups of farmers who suffer from severe food lack, 50 percent of whom are women.

During the signing, FAO deputy representative in Yemen Peter Schmidt explained that the areas of growing wheat and sorghum would rise in the targeted districts, given that the beneficiary families will be able after receiving the improved seeds to cultivate about 700 hectares, which contributes to increase wheat production in the targeted areas by 30 percent to reach about three tons per hectare at the end of the project.

The household agriculture will enable women in the targeted districts to achieve a good income through selling crops of tomatoes and onions, which will enhance the nutritional value of their families' diet, Schmidt added.

For his part, Dr. Mohammad Sallam, assistant resident representative of FAO in Yemen, noted that the Yemeni Family Care Association would coordinate with the Agriculture and Irrigation Office in the province to identify the families who suffer a severe food lack in the targeted districts.



Despite deepening political crisis in Yemen, UNICEF to stay and deliver

13 February, 2015



As the political crisis deepens in Yemen with several embassies evacuating their staff, UNICEF reaffirms its commitment to stay and deliver for the children of Yemen. The agency continues to deliver assistance with field trips across the country every day.

UNICEF is concerned about the economic impact of the crisis especially on women and children, on their nutrition and education. Children are one of the worst affected by the crisis in the country, millions of whom suffer from malnutrition, have their education disrupted, are at times forced into serving as combatants and suffer from poor health.

“We want to reassure the people of Yemen that UNICEF will deliver, for as long as there is no immediate threat to its staff.” said UNICEF Representative Julien Harneis. “Along with our implementing partners, we will continue to vaccinate children, cure malnourished children, build and repair schools, and provide psychosocial support to children in distress amongst other interventions”.

UNICEF has treated 160,000 children for acute malnutrition, provided nearly 900,000 people with safe drinking water and some 520,000 children will be benefitted with a safe learning environment through the construction and refurbishing of schools across the country.

Yemen’s complex humanitarian crisis is also chronic with an estimated 14.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Basic social services have yet to return to the levels before the crisis in 2011 and are likely to worsen in the future. UNICEF appeals to the international community to support the children of Yemen in this time of crisis and is requesting \$60 million to meet the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable children in Yemen in 2015.

Workshop in Sana'a on halting food aid for IDPs

26/February/2015



The Executive Unit to manage camps of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) organized on Thursday a workshop on the announcement of stopping food aid for IDPs and finding other projects in their return areas.

The workshop aimed to educate the IDPs on halting the monthly food rations they were receiving from the UNHCR and international organizations, especially after the war had stopped in Abyan and Saada provinces and they can now return to their homes.

Ahmad al-Kohlani, head of the executive unit, praised the international organizations' role in helping IDPs throughout their displacement period through offering food aid and health and educational services.

The UNHCR spokeswoman confirmed that donors halted providing their aid after the return of IDPs to their homes from the displacement areas.

The internal displacement is one of large and complex issues and should be addressed by the Yemeni government with the support of UNHCR and other international organizations, she added.

" The UNHCR awarded 84 thousand IDPs did not want to return to their homes for their sense of danger the right to choose either a voluntary return to their original areas or a voluntary transfer to other places in the country", the spokeswoman said.

For his part, the World Food Programme (WFP) representative Mohammed Sheikh asserted that WFP would continue to assist the IDPs after their return to their homes by implementing projects to ensure their self-reliance.

He pointed out that food would be provided for work and not as it was in the past by offering free food aid to the displaced.

The number of IDPs, who fled during the wars in Abyan and Saada to Sana'a, Amran, Aden, Hajjah, Saada and Abyan, reached over 564 thousand IDPs, but 84 thousand of them decided not to return to their homes.



APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR UNITED NATIONS JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIPS

The Dag Hammarskjöld Fund for Journalists is now accepting applications from professional journalists from developing countries for its 2015 fellowship program. The application deadline is March 16, 2015.

The fellowships are available to radio, television, print and web journalists, age 25 to 35, from developing countries who are interested in coming to New York to report on international affairs during the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly. The fellowships will begin in early September and extend to late November and will include the cost of travel and accommodations in New York, as well as a per diem allowance.

The fellowship program is open to journalists who are native to one of the developing countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America/the Caribbean and are currently working for media organizations. Applicants must demonstrate an interest in and commitment to international affairs and to conveying a better understanding of the United Nations to their readers and audiences. They must also have approval from their media organizations to spend up to three months in New York to report from the United Nations.

In an effort to rotate recipient countries, the Fund will not consider journalist applications for 2015 from nations selected in 2014: Nigeria, Tunisia, the Philippines and Vietnam. Journalists from these countries may apply in 2016.

Four journalists are selected each year after a review of all applications. The journalists who are awarded fellowships are given the incomparable opportunity to observe international diplomatic deliberations at the United Nations, to make professional contacts that will serve them for years to come, to interact with seasoned journalists from around the world, and to gain a broader perspective and understanding of matters of global concern. Many past fellows have risen to prominence in their professional and countries. The program is not intended to provide basic skills training to journalists; all participants are media professionals.

Full fellowship eligibility criteria and documentation requirements as well as the fellowship application form can be found on the Fund's web site at www.unjournalismfellowship.org

Questions about the program, eligibility and application process can be directed by email to fellowship2015@unjournalismfellowship.org.

IOM organizes course in first aid field

16/February/2015

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has organized a training course in field of first aid, and was funded by the British Government's Department for International Development (DFID).



The course aims during three days to familiarize the 40 participants with principles of first aid as well as ways of dealing with emergency situations at work.

The course coordinator Adnan Fadel said the course would focus on the basics of dealing with immigrants and spreading awareness among community on the importance of maintaining workplace safety.



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

20 February 2015

World Day for Social Justice comes at a pivotal moment for people and our planet. Around the world, there is a rising call to secure a life of dignity for all with equal rights and respect for the diverse voices of the world's peoples.

At the core of this movement lies the need for social justice.

This year's commemoration focuses on the scourge of human trafficking and the plight of approximately 21 million women, men and children in various forms of modern slavery.

New instruments such as the ILO Protocol and Recommendation on forced labour and human trafficking are helping to strengthen global efforts to punish perpetrators and end impunity.

We must continue to do more. We simply cannot achieve development for all if we leave behind those who are socially and economically exploited.

In this crucial year for global development, as Member States work to craft a post-2015 agenda and a new set of sustainable development goals, let us do our utmost to eradicate all forms of human exploitation. Let us strive to build a world of social justice where all people can live and work in freedom, dignity and equality.



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