LAC

SECRETARIAT

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LACS Newsletter

Local Aid Coordination 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 Upcoming Meetings

- **Tuesday, 19 April 2016**: Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting in Brussels.

Aid Coordination Meetings

Minutes of Meetings & Related Documents

- **Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting, 19 April 2016**
  - Government of Palestine's Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting,19 April 2016
    http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27508
  - IMF West Bank and Gaza Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting, 19 April 2016
    http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27502
  - Office of the Quartet (OQ) Report for the Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Liaison Committee, 19 April 2016
    http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27512
  - Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process Report for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, 19 April 2016
    http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27513

Documents & Reports

United Nations

- **OCHA**
  - OCHA Flash Update – Gaza's sole power plant shut down triggering up to 20 hours of outage a day, 11 April 2016
    http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27501
  - OCHA Flash Update: Multiple demolitions across Area C in the West Bank; 124 people displaced, 8 April 2016
    http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27495

- Gaza Crossings' Operations Status Monthly update, March 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27506

- Protection of Civilians, 5 – 11 April 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27514

- Protection of Civilians, 29 March – 4 April 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27494

- Protection of Civilians, 22 – 28 March 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=24486

❖ FAO

- Gaza Strip Agricultural Trade, 3 – 7 April 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27498

- Gaza Strip Agricultural Trade , 27–31 March 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=26488

Press Releases and Formal Statement

Prime Minister's Office

PM: Donors Must Make Good on their Pledges for the Reconstruction of Gaza, 13 April 2016

Ramallah –Today, Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah presided over a Donors' Meeting on Gaza Reconstruction in order to shed light on the progress made to date in the reconstruction efforts, and discuss the challenges facing the Palestinian Government due to Israeli obstacles and lack of sufficient funding.

"Almost two years have passed since the end of the Israeli War on Gaza, and a large number of Palestinian families still suffer the consequences," Prime Minister Hamdallah said.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27507

Israel's Restriction of Palestinian Movement Violates Fourth Geneva Convention, 7 April 2016

Since October 2015, Israel has further restricted the free movement of Palestinians in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. According to a recent report issued by the United Nations Human Rights Council, Israel has increased the number of checkpoints in the Occupied Palestinian territories, adding more physical constrains that permeate almost all facets of Palestinian everyday life.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27491

PM Hamdallah calls on the EU to recognize Palestine, 4 April 2016

Ramallah -Today, Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah met with Norwegian Envoy for the Middle East Peace Process Tor Wennesland to discuss the recent developments of the stalled peace talks.

"We are looking for a political horizon to reach a peaceful and just settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; not just an economical solution. Any future talks should lead to the creation of an independent Palestinian state, with East Jerusalem as its capital," the Prime Minister said.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=26484

PM Hamdallah Briefs Norwegian Envoy About Israeli Violations, 3 April 2016

Ramallah -Today, Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah met with Norwegian Envoy for the Middle East Peace Process Tor Wennesland to discuss the recent developments of the stalled peace talks.

"We are looking for a political horizon to reach a peaceful and just settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; not just an economical solution. Any future talks should lead to the creation of an independent Palestinian state, with East Jerusalem as its capital," the Prime Minister said

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=25487

PWA – UNICEF – GVC

Water crisis threatens 35,000 Palestinians, half of them children, 14 April 2016

RAMALLAH, State of Palestine, 14 April 2016 – Today the Palestinian Water Authority, UNICEF and GVC appealed to the donor community to mobilize resources as 35,000 Palestinians, nearly half of them children, are at risk of being deprived of safe drinking water this summer.

A project providing extremely vulnerable communities in the West Bank with water at affordable prices is at risk of being discontinued as funding has been exhausted.

The project, implemented by the Italian NGO Gruppo Volontariato Civile (GVC) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), has supplied families living in 90 vulnerable communities of the West Bank with safe drinking water, especially during the dry months of summer, since 2014.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27515

UN

The statement by the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Mr. Nickolay Mladenov, on the suspension of the private import of cement into Gaza, 4 April 2016

The United Nations has been informed by Israel of its decision to suspend the private import of cement into Gaza following allegations that a substantial amount had been diverted from its intended legitimate beneficiaries.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=26485

Quartet Envoys' joint press statement, 30 March 2016

On 28 March, Envoys of the Middle East Quartet met in Jerusalem and held discussions with Israeli and Palestinian counterparts.
The Envoys from the Russian Federation, the United States, the European Union and the United Nations met to discuss preparations for the Middle East Quartet's forthcoming report.
The full statement is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=24478

OCHA

UN releases findings of major survey on internally displaced persons in the Gaza Strip: 75,000 still in need of homes, 11 April 2016

Today, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) released the findings of an unprecedented profiling exercise of Palestinian families internally displaced in the Gaza Strip as a result of the 2014 escalation of hostilities.
"After hearing from over 16,000 displaced families in the Gaza Strip, it is clear that most continue to live in desperate conditions," said Robert Piper, UN Coordinator for Humanitarian Aid and Development Activities.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27500

UN Coordinator for Humanitarian Aid and Development Activities calls for respect for Palestinians' Freedom of Movement, 1 April 2016

Today, humanitarian and development actors, including UN agencies, are joining thousands of Palestinian and international runners in the annual Palestine Marathon, taking place in the city of Bethlehem in support of Palestinians' right to liberty of movement.
On this occasion, UN Coordinator for Humanitarian Aid and Development Activities, Robert Piper, stated: "As many of us join this celebratory event, we remain acutely aware of the many barriers to freedom of movement faced by Palestinians every day.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=24488

UNICEF – Representative Office of Japan

Japan donates $7 million to support UNICEF interventions in Palestine, 6 April 2016

RAMALLAH, 6 April 2016 – The Government of Japan has donated USD $7 million in support of UNICEF's humanitarian and development response to children in Palestine.
This new grant will enable UNICEF and partners to implement interventions which are critical for children's well-being and protection from violence, and to ensure their access to basic services such as education, water and sanitation, protection or health and nutrition.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27489

UNICEF

Rights awareness offers path to change for children in East Jerusalem, 5 April 2016

EAST JERUSALEM, State of Palestine, 29 March 2016 – When violence and fear take hold in a community, the voices of children – including their hopes and aspirations – should be heard to help them focus on what is possible, instead of despair.

“Our society is full of violence,” says 11-year-old Ehab”. “We can’t keep quiet any more. We have to raise our voices and let people know that we have rights.”

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27484

FAO

FAO launches the first round of Media award in the Near East and North Africa, 6 April 2016

06 April, 2016 / Cairo – The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations "FAO" announced launching the first round of the Near East and North Africa Media Award that will reward the contributions of journalists in raising awareness on the major challenges facing the region in relation to : water scarcity and sustainable agriculture water management; Eradication of food insecurity and malnutrition; building resilience and achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 2 in the context of crisis and conflicts; Sustainable development of small scale agriculture for inclusive economic growth, eradicating rural poverty, rural gender inequalities, youth unemployment and migration.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27487 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27488 (in Arabic)

UNRWA

UNRWA commemorates World Health Day 2016: "We can beat diabetes", 7 April 2016

Every year, UNRWA commemorates World Health Day (WHD) on 7 April. First established by the World Health Organization in 1948, the main aim of this day is to raise global awareness about pressing health issues. This year's WHD, with the theme 'Beat Diabetes', focuses on diabetes as a threat to the health and well-being of people around the world. The main aim is to raise awareness of the disease and the ways in which it can be prevented and, for those with the disease, on how to effectively manage their condition by following a healthy lifestyle to avoid complications.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27490

UNDP

Prime Minister Al Hamdallah, Government of Japan, Palestinian Water Authority and UNDP celebrate the closing of the cross boundary wastewater management project in the West Bank, 11 April 2016

Jerusalem, 11 April 2016 – Under the auspices of H.E. Prime Minister Rami Al Hamdallah, the Government of Japan, in partnership with the Palestinian Water Authority and the United Nations Development Programme/Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People celebrated the closure of the USD 5.8 million cross boundary wastewater management project in the occupied Palestinian territory.

H.E Prime Minister Rami Al Hamdallah highlighted "This development project, through UNDP and the Palestinian Water Authority, was a gateway for the construction of sewage networks in the municipalities of Baqa al-Sharqiya, Habla and Barta'a, serving more than 90% of their population and directly benefited more than twenty thousand people".

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27503

EU

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn death sentence issued in Gaza, 13 April 2016

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the death sentence issued by a Civil Court in Gaza on 12 April. This is the fifth death sentence to be issued this year in Gaza.

As in their most recent statement on 15 January, the EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah recall the EU's firm opposition under all circumstances to the use of capital punishment. The EU considers that abolition of the death penalty contributes to the enhancement of human dignity and the progressive development of human rights.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27509

The European Union and Ireland continue their support for the Palestinian people through a €15.3 million contribution for the payment of March salaries and pensions, 5 April 2016

The European Union is making today a contribution of approximately €15.3 million to the payment of March salaries and pensions of over 66,000 Palestinian civil servants and pensioners in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This contribution, which is channelled through the PEGASE mechanism, is being funded by the European Union (€15.0 million) and the Government of Ireland (€0.3 million). The EU's contribution is part of the 2016 package of direct financial support for the Palestinian Authority announced last month for a total of €170.5 million.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27485

EU Heads of Mission visit the Haram al Sharif/Temple Mount, 5 April 2016

EU Heads of Mission in Jerusalem and Ramallah paid a visit to the Haram al Sharif/Temple Mount today, Tuesday 5th April.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27486

Consulate General of Italy

Opening ceremony for the promoted project "Alliance for an Inclusive and Qualitative Early Childhood Education in West Bank" implemented by the Italian NGO Reggio Terzo Mondo, 6 April 2016

Ramallah – On April 6th 2016, the three year project "Alliance for an Inclusive and Qualitative Early Childhood Education in West Bank" has been launched in the presence of HE the Minister for Education and Higher Education, Dr. Sabri Saidam, the Consul General of Italy in Jerusalem, Davide La Cecilia, the head of the preschool section, Ms. Suhai Awwad, and the representative of the Greek Orthodox School in Beit Sahour, Mr. George Saadeh.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27492

Consulate General of France

The answer by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development's spokesperson, to a question regarding the French initiative, 14 April 2016

President Hollande and Minister Ayrault will hold discussions with President Abbas on April 15th, focusing on the situation in the Middle East.

As for our initiative, the Minister's Special Envoy, Ambassador Pierre Vimont, is still meeting with our international partners. There is a consensus over the fact that the status quo leads to a deadlock and that inaction cannot be an option.

The full answer is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27516

Answer by Jean-Marc Ayrault, French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, to a written question by Mrs Elisabeth Guigou, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, regarding the resumption of separation wall construction in Cremisan Valley, 12 April 2016

France condemns the Israeli authorities' decision to allow the resumption of the construction of the separation wall in the West Bank's Cremisan Valley, which is illegal under international law and will severely affect Palestinian families living in Beit Jala.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27505

Statement by M. Jean-Marc Ayrault, French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, during his joint press conference with Mr. Ioannis Kasoulides, Cypriot Minister of Foreign Affairs regarding MEPP and the French initiative, 11 April 2016

We're discussing it with the Palestinians, explaining to them in more detail the French demarche, which we'd like to see succeed, in several stages. The first stage is in fact a ministerial-level meeting, for which we've now got to set a date swiftly and specify the agenda, which we're going to do. That's the next stage, and M. Pierre Vimont, my special envoy, is continuing his mission and has already met many partners.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27499

Statement by the spokesperson of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development regarding the Israeli authorities' resumption of the construction of the separation wall in the West bank's Cremisan Valley, 11 April 2016

France is concerned by the Israeli authorities' resumption of construction of the separation wall in the West' Bank's Cremisan Valley, which will affect several dozen Palestinian families in Beit Jala. This wall is a new obstacle to economic and social development in the town of Bethlehem.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27497

Fundraising gala during the Francophonie celebrations in Ramallah, 29 March 2016

On March 29, almost sixty personalities gathered at the Mövenpick hotel in Ramallah for a fundraising gala dedicated to Francophonie.

This event has been organized for 3 years during the Francophonie month and it has proved to be very successful.

The Consul general of France in Jerusalem, M. Hervé Magro, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Palestinian Authority, M. Mohamed Lhamzaoui, the Consul general of Belgium in Jerusalem, M. Bruno Jans, the Representative of Canada to the Palestinian Authority, Mrs. Katherine Verrier-Fréchette and the Representative of Switzerland to the Palestinian Authority, M. Paul Garnier, are at the initiative of this gala placed under the label of sharing and solidarity.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=25483

Consulate General of Belgium

Alexander De Croo and Didier Reynders condemn the demolition of a children's garden in Zaatara, 12 April 2016

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Development Cooperation Alexander De Croo and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Didier Reynders condemn the demolition, on April 12, of a children's garden in Zaatara, in the Nablus Governorate, a project funded by the Belgian Development Cooperation. They will without delay ask for explanation from the Israeli government through the Ambassador in Brussels and via the Belgian Embassy in Tel Aviv.

This destruction of a project aimed at essential basic infrastructures is unacceptable. The projects of Belgium aim at responding to humanitarian needs and are conducted in accordance with international humanitarian law.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27504

Turkish Foreign Ministry

Note regarding the Israeli/Turkish talks, 8 April 2016

The Turkish and Israeli negotiating teams, headed by Under Secretary of the Turkish Foreign Ministry Ambassador Feridun Sinirlioğlu, and Israeli Prime Minister's Special Envoy Joseph Ciechanover and Acting Chairman of The National Security Council General Jacob Nagel met in London today.

The teams made progress towards finalizing the agreement and closing the gaps, and agreed that the deal will be finalized in the next meeting which will be convened very soon.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27496

KOICA

Groundbreaking Ceremony of Jenin Youth Center, 6 April 2016

KOICA/ Ramallah – Jenin: KOICA has celebrated the groundbreaking ceremony of Jenin Youth Center project on April 6th, 2016 in the presence of the Korean Representative to PA Mr. Pak Woong-Chul,

Country Director of KOICA Palestine Office Mr. YoungWoo-Kim, Jenin Governor Mr. Ibrahim Dwikat, and Jenin Mayor Mr. Raghib Al-Aref.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27493

PCBS

Slight Increase in Consumer Price Index the during March, 14 April 2016

The overall Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Palestine during March 2016 slightly increased by 0.05% compared with February 2016 (by 0.92% in Jerusalem J1, while it decreased by 0.20% in Gaza Strip, and by 0.12% in the West Bank).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27510 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=27511 (in Arabic)

Increase in the Industrial Production in Palestine during February, 4 April 2016

The overall Quantity of Industrial Production Index (IPI) in Palestine reached 103.20 during February 2016 with an increase of 6.60% compared to the previous month (Base Month December 2015 = 100).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=25484 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=25485 (in Arabic)

Newsletters

- **The Portland Trust Palestinian Economic Bulletin, March 2016**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=24489

- **PCBS Electronic Monthly Bulletin, 4 April 2016**
  http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin_115/Monthly%20bulletin_e.htm
  (in English)
  http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin_115/Monthly%20bulletin_a.htm
  (in Arabic)

Announcements

- **Consulate General of Belgium: Call for proposals – Human rights and digitalization**
  For further details, please see attachments

Job Vacancies

- **Office of the Quartet – Ramallah Office Manager and Assistant to Senior Management (ROM)**
  For further details, please see the link:

http://quartetrep.org/page.php?id=5e00c2y6160578Y5e00c2