LAC

SECRETARIAT

CONTENTS

News from LACS	8
Shared Calendar of Events	2
List of Recent Meetings	2
List of Upcoming Meetings	2
Documents & Reports	2
Newsletters	7
Job Vacancies	7

Local Aid Coordination Secretariat
Tel: 02- 297-6330/1/2/4

Fax: 02-297-6335

Email: secretariat@lacs.ps

Website: www.ldf.ps

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 Recent Meetings

- **Monday, 24 October 2016:** Health Sector Working Group meeting at 10:00 at the MoH.

List of Upcoming Meetings

- **Monday, 7 November 2016:** Social Protection Sector Working Group meeting at 11:00 at the MoSD.
- **Monday, 14 November 2016:** Private Sector Development and Trade SWG meeting at 10:00 at the MoNE.

Documents & Reports

United Nations

❖ OCHA

- Gaza Crossings Operations Status: Monthly Update, September 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29952
- Protection of Civilians, 4 – 17 October 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29948

❖ WHO

- Health Access for Referral Patients from the Gaza Strip – September 2016, 23 October 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29955

❖ UNICEF

- Protecting children from violations and abuse in Gaza, 24 October 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29956

❖ WFP

- WFP Palestine: Spotlight on Gender – Providing equal chances in food assistance, 25 October 2016

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29958

- Nutrition Awareness Sessions in Palestine, 25 October 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29959
- WFP State of Palestine – Country Brief, 25 October 2016
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29960

Press Releases and Formal Statements

UN

Briefing by Nickolay Mladenov, Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, to the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East, 19 October 2016

I would like to begin today by thanking the Council for your support, expressed during the previous briefing for the work of UNSCO on the ground under challenging circumstances as the situation in Israel and Palestine, unfortunately, continues to deteriorate.

International focus on the Question of Palestine may have been overtaken by the tragedy in Syria and elsewhere in the Middle East, but it cannot be allowed to be relegated to a secondary problem.

The full briefing is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29946

UNRWA

UNRWA Commissioner-General Pierre Krähenbühl Concludes Three-Day Visit to Japan, 28 October 2016

The Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Pierre Krähenbühl, concluded a three-day mission to Japan in recognition of the long-standing partnership between UNRWA and Japan and to draw attention to the current situation of Palestine refugees in the Agency's fields of operations.

The Commissioner-General met with the Chief Cabinet Secretary, Yoshihide Suga, with the State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Nobuo Kishi, with former Prime Minister of Japan and Representative of the Government of Japan for the World Humanitarian Summit, Yasuo Fukuda and other senior government officials.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29967 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29970 (in Arabic)

UNRWA Commissioner-General Concludes First Official Visit to Sweden, 21 October 2016

On Friday, 21 October, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Pierre Krähenbühl, concluded a two-day visit to Stockholm, during which he met with senior government officials, parliamentarians, and researchers to highlight the long-standing partnership between Sweden and UNRWA and raise awareness of the current challenges facing Palestine refugees.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29951

Opinion piece by Bo Schack, Director of UNRWA Operations in Gaza – Denied a human standard of living: The Gaza blockade has entered its tenth year, 21 October 2016

I have survived the past three wars, but that is not the problem. In this place, wars come and go. The bigger struggle is not to lose hope. The only way I can do that is to retreat, and create my own

world, and become oblivious." This was told to me by 36-year old Ali, who works as a waiter in one of the coffee shops in Gaza city.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29949

UNRWA Commissioner-General Concludes Three-Day Visit to Germany, 20 October 2016

The Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Pierre Krähenbühl, visited Munich and Berlin on 17, 18 and 19 October for a series of high-level meetings aimed at further strengthening the strategic UNRWA-Germany partnership and increasing awareness of the Agency's work.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29947

EU

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the five death sentences recently issued in Gaza, 27 October 2016

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the five death sentences recently issued in Gaza: one death sentence was issued on 16th October in Deir al-Balah, three (of which one by a military court) on 17th October in Gaza City and one on 20th October, also in Gaza City. As a result, in one week's time, the number of death sentences in Gaza in 2016 thus far, has now risen to 21.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29963

EU Diplomats visit communities facing the threat of demolition and displacement in the Jerusalem periphery, 24 October 2016

A group of EU diplomats based in Jerusalem and Ramallah, including some Heads of Mission, visited today communities facing the threat of demolition and displacement in the Jerusalem periphery. The objective of this field trip was to gain a first-hand impression of the coercive environment these communities find themselves in, to be informed of recent developments, to demonstrate concern at the humanitarian impact of any demolitions and forced transfer of population, and to express the EU's commitment to a sustainable future for the Palestinian communities in Area C.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29957

"Hand in Hand": the European Union participates in olive picking with Palestinians, 21 October 2016

The village of Nahalin today welcomed over 70 volunteers who took part in an all-day olive picking event organized by the European Union and the Palestinian Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC). The activity marks the Palestinian national olive picking season as families and landowners harvest the olives as part of their traditions celebrated over generations and practiced across the West Bank.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29950

Working Together to Eradicate Poverty: The EU provides €1.5 million for the Social Protection System in Palestine, 17 October 2016

The European Union and Palestinian Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) launched a new 1.5 million capacity building programme for the improvement of social protection systems in Palestine. The launching of the support also marks the International Day of Eradication of Poverty which acknowledges the right of all people to fully exercise their human rights. This day was designated by the United Nation General Assembly and is observed worldwide.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29945

Representative Office of Japan

Signing Ceremony for the Grassroots Project for Palestinian People funded by Japan – The Project for providing feedstuff production machines in Deir Al-Balah, 27 October 2016

A Grant Contract for the Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) was signed today by Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to the PA, and the representative of Al-Ahlyia Association for the Development of Palm and Dates, at the UNDP Headquarter in Gaza for a total amount of US$82,200.

Al-Ahlyia Association for the Development of Palm and Dates will use the fund to install the feedstuff production machines in the fodder production sector of Al-Ahlyia Association. It aims to use the equipment to provide cheap fodder stably to the livestock breeders in Deir al Barah and surrounding areas. The most direct beneficiaries from the project shall be 700 breeder's households.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29965 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29966 (in Arabic)

PCBS

Increase in the Producer Price Index during September 2016, 28 October 2016

The overall Producer Price Index (PPI) for Palestine with its base month (December 2015=100) reached 102.78 in September 2016, as it increased by 0.76% compared to August 2016.

Producer Price Index for locally consumed products (December 2015=100) reached 103.02 in September

2016, which indicates an increase by 0.84% compared to August 2016.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29968 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29969 (in Arabic)

Construction Cost Index (CCI), Road Cost Index (RCI), Water Networks Cost Index (WNCI) and Sewage Networks Cost Index (SNCI) in the West Bank during September, 27 October 2016

The Construction Cost Index for Residential buildings reached 102.23 with a slight increase of 0.03% in the West Bank during September compared with August 2016 (base year 2013=100).

The Construction Cost Index for Residential buildings slightly increased due to the increase in rental of equipment by 0.93%, and a slight increase in labor wages by 0.08%, while the prices of raw materials slightly decreased by 0.09% during September 2016 compared with the previous month.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29961 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29962 (in Arabic)

Preliminary Results of the Palestinian Registered External Trade in Goods of August 2016, 22 October 2016

Exports increased in August, 2016 by 25.8% compared to July, 2016. It also slightly increased by 0.2% compared to August, 2015 and reached USD 84.3 Million.

Exports to Israel increased in August, 2016 by 24.6% compared to July, 2016 and represented 90.9% of total exports in August, 2016

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29953 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29954 (in Arabic)

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and Food Security Sector (FSS) are pleased to announce the launch of the final results of the Socio-Economic and Food Security Sector Survey (SEFSec) 2014 for Palestine, 17 October 2016

According to the report, more than one fourth of Palestinian households, or 1.6 million households, are significantly or moderately food insecure, with a considerably higher rate – 47 percent – observed in the Gaza Strip. This food insecurity is characterized by a lack of economic access to food, which is strongly linked with the high prevalence of unemployment, and compounded by restrictions on access to natural resources such as land and water as well as the movement of people and goods and can only be fully addressed if its root causes – including the blockade of the Gaza Strip and restrictions on the West Bank – are resolved.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29944

Newsletters

- **The Portland Trust Palestinian Economic Bulletin, October 2016**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29964

- **EUPOL COPPS Newsletter, October 2016**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=29971

Job Vacancies

- **EU Representative Office – Secretary LA4 Head of Cooperation section.**

For further details, please see the following link:
http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/westbank/about_us/vacancies/vacancies_delegation/20161004_en.htm

- Representative Office of Finland – Driver / Logistics Assistant
  For further details, please see the attachment