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

- **Thursday, 3 August 2017**: Private Sector Development and Trade Sector Working Group (PSDT SWG) at 10:00 at the Ministry of National Economy.

- **Thursday, 13 September 2017**: Agriculture Sector Working Group (ASWG) at 12:00 at the Ministry of Agriculture.

Documents & Reports

World Bank

Reforming aid management in the West Bank and Gaza, 1 March 2016
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31651

United Nations

UNFPA

GBV Sub-Cluster Palestine: reporting January-June 2017
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31654

ILO

The Occupied Palestinian Territory: An Employment Diagnostic Study, 25 July 2017
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31645

UNICEF

Poverty drives child labour in Gaza, 24 July 2017
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31644

OCHA

Protection of Civilians Report 4 – 17 July 2017
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31642

FAO

Gaza Strip Agricultural Trade, 9-13 July 2017
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspxATT_ID=31633

Press Releases and Formal Statements

UN

Security Council Briefing on Situation in Middle East, including Palestinian Question (As delivered by UN Special Coordinator Mladenov, 25 July 2017

As we meet today to discuss the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, the risks of escalation and violence in the region continue to increase, despite the emergence of a newfound agreement among a number of countries of the need to stand united against terrorism and radicalism .As societies continue to fracture along ethnic or religious lines and non-state actors continue to control large territories, recent events in Jerusalem resonate across the Middle East. For nearly a century, despite a myriad of peace efforts, one conflict has evaded solution. Some say it is irresolvable. Others challenge the basic premise of international consensus on how it can be resolved. The Palestinian – Israeli conflict is not only about land and peace. It is about two peoples who both have legitimate national aspirations for statehood and recognition. Two nations, whose histories are intertwined, and whose future is forever intricately linked.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31648

Security Council Media Stakeout by Nickolay Mladenov, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, on the situation in the West Bank, 24 July 2017

Good afternoon, I want to start by thanking the Chinese Presidency of the Security Council for accepting the request by Egypt, Sweden and France to have a discussion on the situation in Jerusalem before the open debate tomorrow. Allow me to say a few words about what I presented today to the Security Council. Let me begin by once again calling on all parties to refrain from provocative actions, show restraint, and work towards finding a solution. It is extremely important that a solution to the current crisis be found by Friday this week as the dangers on the ground will escalate if we go through another cycle of Friday prayers without a resolution.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31646

EU

EU Heads of Cooperation visit Shu'fat refugee camp in East Jerusalem, 18 July 2017

European Union Heads of Cooperation in Jerusalem and Ramallah visited today Shu'fat refugee camp in East Jerusalem. Representatives of the Norwegian and Swiss Cooperation also joined the visit. The group was briefed on various humanitarian and developmental projects funded by the EU and Member States supporting Palestinians living in Shu'fat refugee camp.

The EU Heads of Cooperation were briefed at the Youth Centre in Shu'fat refugee camp by local and European civil society organisations on the challenges facing the camp. The briefing focused on the obstacles that are blocking a sustainable social and economic development of the Palestinian community trapped inside the camp.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31631

Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Great concern for the spiral of tension and violence in Jerusalem and the West Bank, 24 July 2017

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Angelino Alfano:"I am following with great concern the spiral of tension and violence in Jerusalem and in all of the West Bank. The death of two police officers in the Old City, of three Israeli citizens in the West Bank and the killing of young Palestinians in clashes are all tragic events.

There is no justification whatsoever for the killers or for the glorification of violence. Every terrorist attack, no matter where it is perpetrated, is to be condemned.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31643

Italian Agency for Development Cooperation

The foundation stone laying ceremony for the expansion of the Qalqilya Hospital, 29 July 2017

On July 29th, a foundation stone laying ceremony for the expansion of the Qalqilya Hospital took place in the presence of HE the Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah, the Minister of Health Jawad Awwad, the Deputy Minister of Health Assad Ramlawi, the Governor of Qalaqilya Rafe' Rawajbeh, the Deputy Consul General of Italy in Jerusalem, Luigi Mattirolo and the Health Coordinator at the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, Sandro Accorsi.

The expansion of the Qalqilya Hospital for a total amount of 350.000,00 Euro – funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation within the Project "CRONO: Tackling noncommunicable diseases in Palestine"– is part of the Italian commitment in Palestine to strengthen primary and secondary prevention services of chronic non-communicable diseases (cardiovascular disorders, diabetes, tumors and respiratory problems) as well as their diagnosis and treatment in the public hospital system.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31655

Consulate General of France

Press briefing by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs spokesperson on Situation in Jerusalem, 24 July 2017

France deplores the recent violence in Jerusalem and the Palestinian Territories which have left 10 people dead in attacks and clashes. It expresses its deep concern and its determination to help – together with its partners – ease tensions.

It is in this spirit that Jean-Yves Le Drian met on July 23 with his Jordanian counterpart Ayman Safadi. The consultations will notably continue this evening at the UN Security Council during an emergency meeting.

France reaffirms the need to refrain from any act or statement that could aggravate the conflict and calls on all parties to exercise restraint and to take concrete steps toward restoring calm.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31647

Situation in Jerusalem Excerpts from the daily press briefing by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs spokesperson, 19 July 2017

During her press briefing today, the spokesperson of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs answered the following question:
Are you asking the Israeli authorities to retract the new security measures on the Esplanade of the Mosques, including metal detectors, and the closing of prayer spaces?
France is concerned at the heightening tensions in Jerusalem, especially around the Esplanade of the Mosques, where the situation has deteriorated over the last few days.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31639

Celebration of the 14th of July at the Church of Saint Anne, 18 July 2017

The Consul General of France in Jerusalem wants to thank all the guests who took part Monday night in the celebration of the national holiday in the Church of Saint Anne, in the Old City of Jerusalem, despite the difficult circumstances, characterized by tension and restrictions on access and permits.
The Consulate General is honored to have been able, like every year, to celebrate the values of liberty, equality and fraternity that stand at the basis of the French Republic, by receiving representatives of Palestinian institutions and various political and civil society forces. The Consul General thanks these guests in particular for their presence, despite the obstacles and unfounded hostile reactions that they confronted.
The full statement is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31632

WHO

WHO appeals for US$ 4.5 million for Gaza health response, mobilizes US$ 360 000 in emergency funds", 17 July 2017

17 July 2017 – Electricity cuts and continued shortages of medicines and medical supplies in the Gaza Strip are severely restricting the access of 2 million people to critical medical care, WHO has warned.
At least 30 hospitals, 70 primary health care centres and a blood blank are at risk of full or partial closure due to continued power outages and not enough fuel or spare parts for back-up generators."Without electricity, we have no ventilation during surgeries. This puts patients at increased risk of bacterial infections," said Dr Marwan Abu Saada, Head of Surgery at Shifa Hospital. Conditions quickly deteriorated after the closure of the Gaza Power Plant in mid-April and the reduction in the electricity supply from Israel to Gaza since late June.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31636

PCBS

Palestinian Producer Price Index, June 2017

The overall Producer Price Index (PPI) for Palestine with its base month (December 2015=100) reached 109.05 in June 2017, as it increased by 8.80% compared to May 2017.

Producer Price Index for locally consumed products (December 2015=100) reached 109.67 in June 2017, which indicates an increase by 9.41% compared to May 2017.
Producer Price Index for local exported products (December 2015=100) reached 100.30 in June 2017, which indicates an increase by 1.14% compared to May 2017.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31657 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31658 (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 June 2017

Slight Increase in the Construction Cost Index (CCI) for Residential Buildings
The Construction Cost Index (CCI) for Residential buildings reached 103.68 with a slight increase of 0.05% in the West Bank during June 2017 compared with May 2017 (base year 2013=100).
The CCI for Residential buildings slightly increased due to a slight increase in labour wages by 0.07%, rental of equipment by 0.06%, and the prices of raw materials by 0.04% during June 2017 compared with the previous month.
Increase in the Construction Cost Index (CCI) for Non-residential Buildings
The Construction Cost Index (CCI) for Non-residential buildings reached 103.74 with an increase of 0.11% in the West Bank during June 2017 compared with May 2017 (base year 2013=100).
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31649 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31650 (in Arabic)

Preliminary Results of the Palestinian Registered External Trade in Goods of May 2017

Exports:
Exports increased in May, 2017 by 14.4% compared to April, 2017. It also increased by 16.2% compared to May, 2016 and reached USD 97.0 Million.
Exports to Israel increased in May, 2017 by 19.7% compared to April, 2017 and represented 90.4% of total exports in May, 2017.
On the other hand, exports to other countries decreased by 19.6% during the same period compared to April, 2017.
Imports:
Imports increased in May, 2017 by 17.1% compared to April, 2017. While it decreased by 3.5% compared to May, 2016 and reached USD 475.0 Million.
Imports from Israel increased by 10.3% in May, 2017 compared to April, 2017 and represented 55.3% of total imports in May, 2017
At the same time, imports from other countries increased by 26.9% compared to April, 2017.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31640 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=3164 (in Arabic)

Decrease in the Wholesale Price1 Index(WPI) during the Second Quarter of 2017, 19 July 2017

The overall WPI in Palestine with its base year (2007=100) reached 122.00 in the Second quarter 2017, which indicates a decrease by 3.04% compared with the First quarter 2017.
WPI for local products (2007=100) reached 123.34 in the Second quarter 2017, which indicates a decrease by 4.40% compared with the First quarter 2017.

WPI for imported products (2007=100) reached 121.91 in the Second quarter 2017, which indicates a decrease by 0.66% compared with the First quarter 2017.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31637 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31638 (in Arabic)

During its Weekly Meeting Presided by H. E. Prof. Rami Hamdallah, Prime Minister, the Cabinet Welcomes the Launching of the Fieldwork Activities for the Population Housing and Establishments Census 2017 in State of Palestine, 19 July 2017

Ramallah – 18/07/2017 – The Palestine Cabinet welcomed the launching of the fieldwork activities for the Population Housing and Establishments Census 2017 covering all Palestinian governorates and localities during 2017. The Cabinet also highly appreciated the efforts led by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) in preparing for conducting the third ever census by Palestinians under an independent Palestinian decision and it is going to be the first time conducting the census using modern technologies in collecting data through tablets and GIS; where the census is considered the largest statistical process to be conducted nationally aiming to secure a comprehensive database covering different demographic, economic, social characteristics as well as the housing conditions of the population of the State of Palestine; such data is used for the purposes of development planning and policy making and it represents a comprehensive frame for conducting the different statistical surveys.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31634 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31635 (in Arabic)

Newsletters

- **The UNRWA monthly Gender Bulletin, July 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31656
- **Portland Trust Palestinian Economic Bulletin, July 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31653