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

- **Wednesday, 13 September 2017**: Agriculture Sector Working Group meeting at 12:00 at the Ministry of Agriculture.

- **Wednesday, 27 September 2017**: Education Sector Working Group meeting at 10:00 at the MoEHE – Yasser Arafat Hall.

Documents & Reports

USAID

- West Bank and Gaza Inclusive Growth Diagnostic, May 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31700

United Nations

❖ WHO

- WHO monthly report on Gaza referrals and access – June 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31676

❖ OCHA

- Gaza Crisis: Early Warning Indicators – July 2017, 27 August 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31717
- Protection of Civilians, 15 – 28 August 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31731
- Protection of Civilians, 1 – 14 August 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31695
- OCHA online tools on humanitarian needs among "46 Bedouin Communities at Risk of Forcible Transfer in the Central West Bank: A Vulnerability Profile", 30 August 2017
  https://www.ochaopt.org/page/46-bedouin-communities-risk-forcible-transfer-central-west-bank-vulnerability-profile

❖ FAO

- Gaza Strip Agricultural Trade, 13-17 August 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31704

Press Releases and Formal Statements

Prime Minister's Office

PM Hamdallah condemns Israel's latest attacks on Palestinian schools and education, 24 August 2017

Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah strongly condemned Israel's latest aggression in the so-called 'Area C' of the West Bank in the occupied Palestinian territory. Yesterday morning, Israeli forces dismantled and confiscated six European-funded classrooms in Jubbet Adh Dhib, a Palestinian community south of Bethlehem. On August 17, Israeli forces had already confiscated equipment used to build the same classrooms and arrested several humanitarian workers.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31715

UN

The UN Secretary-General's remarks to the press at UNRWA school, 30 August 2017

Ladies and Gentlemen of the press, thank you very much for your presence.
I am deeply moved to be in Gaza today, unfortunately, to witness one of the most dramatic humanitarian crises that I have seen in many years working as a humanitarian in the United Nations. And deeply impressed by the suffering of the Gaza people in these tragic circumstances.

The full remarks are available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31726

UN Secretary-General's remarks at Press Conference with Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah of the State of Palestine, 29 August 2017

Thank you very much, Mr. Prime Minister, for your words and for your warm reception here in Ramallah.

I want to express very strongly the total commitment of the United Nations, and my personal total commitment, to do everything for a two-state solution to the materialize. I've said several times that there is no plan B to the two-state solution.

The full remarks are available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31725

Briefing by Miroslav Jenca, Assistant Secretary – General, to the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East, 22 August 2017

Thank you for this opportunity to brief you on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. As detailed by Special Coordinator Mladenov last month, the recent crisis in Jerusalem highlighted once again the unsustainability of the current situation, and the need for a political horizon and a clear re-commitment by the international community and both parties to ending the occupation and realizing a two-state solution that meets the legitimate national aspirations and security needs of both Palestinians and Israelis.

The full briefing is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31708

Statement by the UN Coordinator for Humanitarian Aid and Development Activities, Robert Piper, on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day, 18 August 2017

Today marks World Humanitarian Day, an annual occasion dedicated by the United Nations General Assembly to raising public awareness of the millions of people who risk their lives in order to provide food, water and other assistance to people in desperate need in conflicts, in natural disasters and other emergencies.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31696

UNDP – Representative Office of Japan

Funded by the Government of Japan: UNDP concludes "Dreams and Friends 2" Summer Camp and Volleyball Tournament- sitting in Gaza, 16 August 2017

Gaza, 16 August 2017- Reflecting their mutual commitment to empowering youth in the West Bank and Gaza, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Japan, in partnership with Cannan Institute of New Pedagogy and the Palestinian Olympic Committee, celebrated the end of the summer camps "Dreams and Friends 2" and the Volleyball Tournament- sitting in Gaza.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31697 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31698 (in Arabic)

UNRWA

The Statement by Christopher Gunness, UNRWA Spokesperson, 15 August 2017

UNRWA is concerned about the humanitarian impact of the threatened eviction of the Shamasneh family from their home in the East Jerusalem neighbourhood of Sheikh Jarrah. We appeal to the Israeli authorities to reconsider their decision.

The members of the Shamasneh family are long-standing Palestine refugee residents in East Jerusalem, which is occupied territory and affected by continued settlement expansion contrary to international law.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31693 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31694 (in Arabic)

OCHA

Humanitarian Fund for the oPt releases additional US$2.5 million to alleviate ongoing hardships in the Gaza Strip, 24 August 2017

The UN Coordinator for Humanitarian Aid and Development Activities, Robert Piper, today released a further US$ 2.5 million from the Humanitarian Fund for the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), to cover urgent needs in the Gaza Strip.

Part of the allocation will bolster the UN's emergency fuel operation which primarily supplies fuel to generators to maintain operations in around 190 critical health, water and sanitation installations.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31713

UNICEF

UN chief Guterres meets with women and youth in the State of Palestine, 30 August 2017

RAMALLAH, 30 August 2017 – United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres met with Palestinian women and adolescents yesterday as part of his first visit to the State of Palestine since taking office at the beginning of this year.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31727

Amid scorching heatwave, access to water and electricity down by one-third in the Gaza Strip, 21 August 2017

JERUSALEM, 21 August 2017 – The worsening electricity crisis in the Gaza Strip has left families with less than six hours of daily power supply. Half of the 2 million people living in the coastal enclave are children.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31707

UN HABITAT

Utilizing Minecraft as a tool for community participation to design a public space in Gaza Strip, 25 August 2017

Rafah, Gaza Strip, August 25th, 2017 – UN-Habitat in partnership with UN Women, Palestinian Housing Council, Aisha Association for Woman and child protection, and Gateway are creating a safe and inclusive public space in Al-Shoka area in Rafah city in order to improve the urban environment and the living conditions of residents, in particular children and youth.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31721

EU – UNDP

Under the Auspices of H.E. Prime Minister Al Hamdallah – The European Union and UNDP Inaugurate the Newly Revitalized Khan Al Wakaleh Tourism Site in Nablus, 21 August 2017

Nablus, 21 August 2017 – His Excellency EU Representative Ralf Tarraf, UNDP Representative Roberto Valent, together with the Mayor of Nablus, Engineer Adli Ya'eesh and Governor of Nablus Mr Akram Rujoob marked the opening of the newly revitalized Khan Al Wakalah historical site in Nablus. It is estimated that around 40,000 local and international visitors are expected to visit the site annually.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31705 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31706 (in Arabic)

UNESCO

Message from Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO on the occasion of International Literacy Day – Literacy in a digital world, 8 September 2017

Digital technologies permeate all spheres of our lives, fundamentally shaping how we live, work, learn and socialize.

These new technologies are opening vast new opportunities to improve our lives and connect globally -- but they can also marginalize those who lack the essential skills, like literacy, needed to navigate them.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31729 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31730 (in Arabic)

USAID

New Road and Community Park in Bethlehem Governorate, 24 August 2017

Jerusalem – Today, USAID and ANERA joined residents and government representatives to inaugurate a new road in Wadi Foukeen and a public park in Um Salamuna. USAID invested one million dollars to improve the quality of life for residents in these two communities. The rehabilitated road in Wadi Foukeen provides the 1,400 residents with safe and reliable access to the village's schools, clinic, and markets.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31716

EU

Local EU statement on recent confiscations of school structures in the occupied West Bank, 24 August 2017

The EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah express strong concern about the recent confiscations of Palestinian school structures undertaken by Israel in Bedouin communities in the occupied West Bank. Solar panels in Abu Nuwar and a kindergarten in Jabal el Baba have been confiscated, and an elementary school in the village of Jubbet adh-Dhib close to Bethlehem has been dismantled, just at the start of the new school year.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31714

Representative Office of Germany, KFW and UNDP

Opening of a New Public Park in Kufr Aqab supported by the Government of Germany through UNDP, 29 August 2017

The Federal Republic of Germany, through its German Development Bank KfW, the Ministry of Local Government, and the United Nations Development Programme, marked the opening of the Kufr Aqab Public Park as part of their commitment to improving the living conditions of the Palestinian population.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31722

Representative Office of Japan

Completion Project for Rehabilitation of Water Network in Huwwara funded by Japan, 21 August 2017

Today, August 21st,2017, Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, visited Huwwara in Nablus Governorate to celebrate the completion project funded by the Government of Japan through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31702 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31703 (in Arabic)

Completion Project for the Rehabilitation of Electric Networks in Yatma Village, 14 August 2017

Today, August 14th, 2017, Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, visited Yatma village in Nablus Governorate to celebrate the completion of the project funded by the Government of Japan through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31691 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31692 (in Arabic)

Consulate General of France

Excerpts from the daily press briefing by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs spokesperson on Destruction of humanitarian structures, 28 August 2017

France condemns the dismantling of educational facilities over the last few days by the Israeli authorities in Area C of the Palestinian Territories :

- a school was demolished on August 22 in the village of Jubbet adh Dhib;

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31723

BTC

School opening of the DUMA Secondary School for girls in Adh-Dhahiriya, South Hebron, 29 August 2017

On the 23rd of August 2017, Eric De Muynck, Head of Cooperation of the Belgian Consulate, joined the Minister of Education and Higher Education, Dr. Sabri Saidam, in the celebrations of the school opening of DUMA Secondary School for girls in Adh-Dhahiriya, South Hebron.

The DUMA school was built under the bilateral Schools Construction program of the Belgian Development Agency (BTC).

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31718

Italian Agency for Development Cooperation

First technical meeting on juvenile justice in Palestine, 16 August 2017

Last August 16th, in the premises of the Palestinian Prosecutor Office in Ramallah, the first technical meeting out of 13 on juvenile justice in Palestine took place in the presence of Leila Ghaneem, Mayor of Ramallah, Taher Khalil, Chief Prosecutor of Juvenile Justice and Public Prosecutor Ziad Edween, one of the most expert of Juvenile Justice, and Ali Kaf, Human Rights Expert at the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in Jerusalem.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31699

PCBS

Palestinian Producer Price Index – July 2017, 29 August 2017

The overall Producer Price Index (PPI) for Palestine with its base month (December 2015=100) reached 110.79 in July 2017, as it increased by 1.60% compared to June 2017.

Producer Price Index for locally consumed products (December 2015=100) reached 111.76 in July 2017, which indicates an increase by 1.90% compared to June 2017.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31719 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31720 (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 July 2017, 24 August 2017

The Construction Cost Index (CCI) for Residential buildings reached 103.95 with an increase of 0.26% in the West Bank during July 2017 compared with June 2017 (base year 2013=100).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31711 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31712 (in Arabic)

Preliminary Results of the Palestinian Registered External Trade in Goods of June 2017, 23 August 2017

Exports decreased in June, 2017 by 15.3% compared to May, 2017. While it increased by 5.8% compared to June, 2016 and reached USD 82.2 Million.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31709 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31710 (in Arabic)

Newsletters

- **Portland Trust Palestinian Economic Bulletin, August 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31728

- **UNRWA Gender Bulletin, August 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31724

- **The EUPOL COPPS Newsletter, July 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31661

Job Vacancies

- **Representative Office of Germany: Driver for security cars: for further details, please see attachment**

New Arrivals

- **Ms. Elina Eloranta** has joined the Finland Representative Office as Deputy Head of Mission. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: Elina.Eloranta@formin.fi; phone: 02-2420340

- **Mr. Christopher Duguid** has joined the Canada Representative Office as First Secretary. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: Christopher.Duguid@international.gc.ca; phone: 02- 2978452

- **Mr. Erik Björk** has joined the Consulate General of Sweden as Consul, Political Affairs/Human Rights. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: erik.k.bjork@gov.se ,phone: 02-6465884

- **Mrs. Danielle Haven** has joined the Consulate General of Belgium as Consul General. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email address: Danielle.Haven@diplobel.fed.be ,phone: 02-5828263