LAC

SECRETARIAT

CONTENTS

News from LACS 1	1
Shared Calendar of Events	2
Documents & Reports	3
Newsletters	9
Announcements	9
New Arrivals 0	1

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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 Recent Meetings

- **Wednesday, 13 September 2017**: Agriculture Sector Working Group meeting at 12:00 at the Ministry of Agriculture.
- **Monday, 18 September 2017**: Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting in New York.
- **Wednesday, 27 September 2017**: Education Sector Working Group meeting at 8:30 at the MoEHE – Yasser Arafat Hall.
- **Wednesday, 27 September 2017:** Municipal Development and Local Governance Sector Working Group meeting at 11:00 at the Ministry of Local Government

List of Upcoming Meetings

- **Thursday, 19 October 2017:** Health Sector Working Group meeting at 10:00 at the Central Public Laboratory, Ramallah.

Aid Coordination Meetings

Minutes of Meetings & Related Documents

- **Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting, 18 September 2017**
  - Chair's Summary of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting,18 September 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31768
  - Government of Palestine Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting, 18 September 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31761
  - World Bank Economic Monitoring Report for the meeting of the Ad HoC Liaison Committee, 18 September 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31753
  - IMF West Bank and Gaza Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting, 18 September 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31751
  - Office of the Quartet Report for the Ad-Hoc Liaison Committee meeting, 18 September 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31762
  - Office of the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO) Report for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, 18 September 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31765

- Address by His Excellency Minister Shukry Bishara at the Ad-Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC) meeting, 18 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31804

❖ **Agriculture Sector Working Group meeting, 13 September 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31790
- MoA – Agriculture Sector Strategy 2017 – 2022, 13 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31791
- MoA – Terms of Reference for Interest Groups, 13 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31792
- MoA – National Agricultural Sector Strategy (NASS) Coordination Enhancement, 13 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31793
- MoA – National Agricultural Sector Strategy (NASS), Priorities for Development, 13 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31794

Documents & Reports

United Nations

❖ **OCHA**

- Protection of Civilians, 12-25 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31812
- Gaza crisis: early warning indicators – August 2017, 20 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31773

❖ **FAO**

- Gaza Strip Agricultural Trade, 17-21 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31785
- Gaza Strip Agricultural Trade, 10-14 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31780

❖ **WHO**

- Health Access for Referral Patients from the Gaza Strip – August 2017, 26 September 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31798

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 – Report on UNSCR 2334 (2016), 25 September 2017

Today I devote my regular briefing to the Council to reporting, on behalf of the Secretary-General, on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2334 (2016) during the period from 20 June to 20 September.

In this third report, I will once again focus on developments on the ground in accordance with the provisions of the resolution, including on regional and international efforts to advance the peace process.

The full briefing is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31784

UNRWA

Strong Diplomatic and Donor Support for UNRWA at the Ministerial-level Meeting Hosted by the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation in New York, 29 September 2017

There was strong diplomatic and donor support for UNRWA and its mandate at the Ministerial-level meeting which took place in New York during the General Assembly on 22 September. The meeting, entitled "Giving Hope to Palestine Refugees", was hosted by the OIC Secretary-General, H.E. Dr. Yousef Al-Othaimeen, and co-hosted by the Foreign Minister of Sweden H.E Margot Wallström and the Foreign Minister of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan H.E Ayman Al-Safadi. United Nations Secretary-General, H.E. António Guterres, addressed an important video message to participants.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31813 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31814 (in Arabic)

UNOPS

Joint field visit of UNOPS, NRC and German Development Bank (KfW) to Gaza, 27 September 2017

The United Nations Office Project Services (UNOPS), in partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), conducted a joint visit to Gaza with the German Development Bank's (KfW) Director for the Middle East, Mr Stefan Zeeb.

The delegation included the Director of the KfW Office in Ramallah/Al-Bireh, Mr Jonas Blume, and representatives from UNOPS and the NRC.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31801

UNESCO-UNICEF

World leaders commit tackling global education crisis that is holding back millions of children and threatening progress and stability, 20 September 2017

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres; United Nations Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed; heads of state of France, Norway, Malawi and Senegal; and other global education leaders today committed to tackling the global 'education crisis' holding back millions of children and threatening progress, at a high-level event in New York City.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://en.unesco.org/news/world-leaders-commit-tackling-global-education-crisis-holding-back-millions-children-and

UNESCO

Education sector in Palestine comes together at the Education Sector Working Group, 27 September 2017

Ramallah – On 27 September 2017, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) held the first Education Sector Working Group (ESWG) of the scholastic year 2017-2018, to take stock of developments and challenges in the education sector since the last meeting in May 2017.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31802 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31803 (in Arabic)

"Youth Building Peace": UNESCO celebrated the International Youth Day 2017 and the International Day of Peace, 25 September 2017

Ramallah, 17 September and Gaza, 25 September 2017 – On the occasion of the International Youth Day 2017 under the theme "Youth Building Peace" and the International Day of Peace, UNESCO within the framework of the EU-funded project "Networks of Mediterranean Youth (NET-MED Youth)" and the UN Thematic Group on Young People campaign organized two activities in Gaza and West Bank.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31788 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31789 (in Arabic)

UNESCO organizes open dialogue between security forces and media on freedom of expression and safety of journalists in Palestine, 21 September 2017

A 3-day open dialogue brought together police and security forces and journalists in Jericho, Palestine from 19 to 21 September to foster understanding of the mutually beneficial roles of security and freedom of expression.

Police and security forces learned about the important role of freedom of expression in safeguarding democracy, while journalists were sensitized to the functions of security forces.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31778 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31779 (in Arabic)

Successful NET-MED Youth Day Event held at Bethlehem University, 14 September 2017

Bethlehem, 14 September 2017 – Within the framework of the EU-funded project, Networks of Mediterranean Youth (NET-MED Youth), UNESCO organized the NET-MED Youth Day – an event in partnership with the Bethlehem University. The event provided a platform of dialogue and policy debate among key actors working in the field of Youth and relevant decision and policy-makers to exchange ideas and views on issues and priorities of concern for youth in Palestine.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31766 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31767 (in Arabic)

Quartet Envoys

Quartet Envoys' Joint press statement, 28 September 2017

The Envoys of the Middle East Quartet from the Russian Federation, the United States, the European Union and the United Nations welcome efforts, including those of Egypt, to create the conditions for the Palestinian Authority to assume its responsibilities in Gaza.

They urge the parties to take concrete steps to reunite Gaza and the West Bank under the legitimate Palestinian Authority. This will facilitate lifting the closures of the crossings, while addressing Israel's legitimate security concerns, and unlock international support for Gaza's growth, stability and prosperity, which is critical for efforts to reach lasting peace.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31811

USAID

USAID Unveils New Library at Dar Al-Kalima University, 20 September 2017

West Bank – Today, representatives from the U.S. government, Dar Al-Kalima University College of Arts and Culture, Bright Stars of Bethlehem, and the Minister of Education celebrated the opening of a new library and multimedia center in Bethlehem. The solar powered library was constructed through a grant from the USAID Office of American Schools and Hospitals and Bright Stars of Bethlehem and features the latest advancements in technology to support academic research and exchanges.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31771

EU

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn death sentences issued in Gaza, 27 September 2017

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the three death sentences issued in the Gaza Strip on 26th September 2017.

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah recall their firm opposition under all circumstances to the use of capital punishment. The EU considers that abolition of the death penalty contributes to the protection of human dignity and the progressive development of human rights.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31805

Changing lives, opening minds: the EU celebrates 30 years of Erasmus in Palestine, 20 September 2017

This year, the EU celebrates the 30th anniversary of 'Erasmus' programme – now Erasmus+ – in Europe as well as in neighbouring and partner countries. In Palestine, EU Representative Ralph Tarraf, Palestinian Minister of Education Dr. Sabri Saidam, and Director of Erasmus National Office in Palestine Dr. Nidal Jayousi joined over 200 Palestinian Erasmus alumni to celebrate 30 years of Erasmus in Ramallah.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31772

Representative Office of Germany

Handover of a new Mobile Police Station to the Palestinian Civil Police, 25 September 2017

In the presence of the Commander of the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP), Major General Hazem Atallah, the German Representative in Ramallah, H.E. Peter Beerwerth, handed over a new Mobile Police Station to the Palestinian Civil Police. The ceremony took place at the Palestinian College of Police Sciences (PCPS) in Jericho. Being the first of its kind, the Mobile Police Station will be on duty in the Nablus District.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31783

PCBS

Preliminary Estimates of Quarterly National Accounts – Second Quarter 2017, 28 September 2017

Increase in GDP at constant prices in Palestine during the 2nd quarter 2017 compared to the parallel quarter (2nd quarter 2016).

Preliminary estimates at constant prices showed an increase of 1.1% in GDP in Palestine during the 2nd quarter 2017 compared to the 2nd quarter 2016, (increase 1.3% in the West Bank and increase 0.4% in Gaza Strip compared to the 2nd quarter 2016).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31806 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31807 (in Arabic)

PCBS – MoTA

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (MOTA) on World Tourism Day, 27 September 2017

The World Tourism Day celebration was started by the United Nations World Tourism Organization in the year 1980 which is celebrated every year on the 27th of September. This particular day was chosen as it marks the day the UNWTO laws came into force in 1970, which is considered a big landmark for global tourism. These laws aim at raising awareness of the international community to the significant role of tourism as well as to exhibit how the social, economic, cultural, political values are affected by tourism on the global level.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31799 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31800 (in Arabic)

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA)

Results Announcement: International Investment Position & External Debt Second Quarter 2017, 26 September 2017

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA) announced the preliminary results of the International Investment Position (IIP), and External Debt statistics for Palestine as of end of second quarter 2017.

The primary results of the IIP (external assets – foreign liabilities) for Palestine at the end of second quarter 2017 revealed that the net IIP amounted to about USD 1,102 million, which means that the Palestinian economy's investments outside Palestine outweighs investments in Palestine from abroad.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31786 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31787 (in Arabic)

Results Announcement: Palestinian Balance of Payments – Second Quarter 2017, 20 September 2017

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA) have announced the preliminary results of the Palestinian Balance of Payments (BoP) for the second quarter of 2017 under the joint issuance cycle for the Palestinian Balance of Payments (BoP).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31769 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31770 (in Arabic)

Representative Office of Japan

Grant Signing Ceremony for the Project for Replacement and expansion of electricity network in Salfit Municipality, funded by Japan, 20 September 2017

Grant Contracts for one Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) was signed today by Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and representative of Salfit Municipality at JICA Office in Ramallah for a total amount of US$ 89,700.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31776 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31777 (in Arabic)

Grant Signing Ceremony for Rehabilitation Project of Water Network in Al Khas Village funded by Japan, 20 September 2017

Grant Contracts for one Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) was signed today by Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and representative of Al-Khas village council at the JICA Office in Ramallah for a total amount of US$ 88,295.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31774 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31775 (in Arabic)

PCBS

Palestinian Producer Price Index – August 2017, 28 September 2017

The overall Producer Price Index (PPI) for Palestine with its base month (December 2015=100) reached 103.72 in August 2017, as it decreased by 6.38% compared to July 2017.

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31809 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31810 (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 August, 25 September 2017

Increase in the Construction Cost Index (CCI) for Residential Buildings

The Construction Cost Index (CCI) for residential buildings reached 104.17 with an increase of 0.21% in the West Bank during August 2017 compared with July 2017 (base year 2013=100).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31781 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31782 (in Arabic)

Newsletters

- **The Portland Trust Palestinian Economic Bulletin, September 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31808

Announcements

- **On behalf of the Spanish Cooperation Office, please note that Ms. Eva Suárez is the Head of**

the Spanish Cooperation Office in Jerusalem as of the 1st of August 2017.

New Arrivals

- **Mr. Ian Anderson** has joined the Representative Office of Canada as Counsellor – Head of Political Section. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: ian.anderson@international.gc.ca ,phone: 02-2978433

- **Ms. Catherine Bonnaud** has joined AFD as Country Director. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: bonnaudc@afd.fr ,phone:02-5400423

- **Mr. Dominik Heinzer** has joined the Representative Office of Switzerland as Human Security Advisor. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: dominik.heinzer@eda.admin.ch ,phone:02-2408360

- **Mr. Andy Dwonch** has joined AIDA as Chair. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: adwonch@mercycorps.org

- **Ms. Nathalai Feinberg** has joined the Representative Office of Denmark as Head of Mission. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: natfei@um.dk ,phone: 02-2415305

- **Mr. Hans Petter Buvollen** has joined the Representative Office of Denmark as Consular – Project Coordinator. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: hanbuv@um.dk ,phone:02-2415296

- **Ms. Candida Novák Horňáková** has joined the Representative Office of Czech Republic as Development Cooperation and Economic Affairs Coordinator. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: candida_hornakova@mzv.cz ,phone:02-2965595

- **Ms. Michelle Cicic** has joined ECHO as Head of Office. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: michelle.cicic@echofield.eu ,phone:02-6289996

- **Mr. Csaba Rada** has joined the Representative Office of Hungary as Head of Mission. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: csaba.rada@mfa.gov.hu ,phone:02-2407676

- **Mr. Alexander Savov** has joined the Representative Office of Bulgaria as Representative. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: bulpred@gemzo.net , asavov@mfa.bg ,phone: 02-2413143

- **Mr. Rui Carvalho Baceira** has joined the Representative Office of Portugal as Representative. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: rui.baceira@portugal-pal.ps ,phone:02-2963972/3/4

- **Mr. Yhaya Shunnar** has joined Portland Trust as Managing Director. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: Yahya.shunnar@portlandtrust.org ,phone:02-2976490

- **Ms. Clara Capelli** has joined the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation as Economic Development Programme Manager. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: capelli@itcoop-jer.org ,phone: 02-5789621

- **Mr. Antonio Pallotta** has joined the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation as Justice and Human Rights Programme Officer. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: pallotta@itcoop-jer.org ,phone:02-5789606

- **Ms. Katerina Tzima** has joined the Consulate General of Greece as Deputy – Development. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: tzima.katerina@mfa.gr ,phone:02-5619583

- **Mr. Hyeon Uk Ryu** has joined KOICA as Deputy Country Director. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: huryu@koica.go.kr ,phone:02-2977045

- **Ms. Paula Malan** has joined the Representative Office of Finland as Head of Development Cooperation. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: paula.malan@formin.fi ,phone:02-2420340

- **Mr. David Quesne** has joined ICRC as Head of Mission. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: jer_jerusalem@icrc.org ,phone:02-5917900

- **Ms. Natalie Klein-Kelly** has joined ICRC as Protection Coordinator. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: jer_jerusalem@icrc.org ,phone:02-5917900

- **Mr. Pietro Orlandi** has joined ICRC as Economic Security Coordinator. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: jer_jerusalem@icrc.org ,phone:02-5917900

- **Ms. Sophie Hedenstierna** has joined UNFPA as Monitoring and Evaluation Officer. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: hedenstierna@unfpa.org ,phone: 02-5817167

- **Mr. Abubakarr Jeng** has joined UNDSS as Deputy Security Adviser. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: abubakarr.jeng@undss.org ,phone:02-5890770

- **Ms. Barbara Chiarenza** has joined UN Women as Programme Specialist. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: barbara.chiarenza@unwomen.org ,phone:02-6280450

- **Ms. Hoda Rouhana** has joined UN Women as Programme Analyst-Gender Responsive Persecution. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: hoda.rouhana@unwomen.org ,phone: 02-6280450

- **Ms. Iulia Cojocaru** has joined World Bank as Senior Private Sector Specialist. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: icojocaru@worldbank.org ,phone02-2366512

- **Ms. Annelies Donners** has joined the Representative Office of Netherlands as Deputy Head of Cooperation. Her contact details are as follows:
  Email: annelies.donners@minbuza.nl ,phone:02-2406639