LAC

SECRETARIAT

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LACS Newsletter

Local Aid Coordination Secretariat

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Shared Calendar of Events

Please click on link to see a full calendar of aid coordination meetings:

http://www.ldf.ps/EventCalendarEndUser.aspx

Documents & Reports

United Nations

- OCHA
  - Gaza crisis: early warning indicators, November 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33012
  - 2017: Energy crisis worsens; fatality toll declines, 28 December 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33010
  - Protection of Civilians, 5 – 18 December 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33001
  - Humanitarian Needs Overview 2018, November 2017 https://www.ochaopt.org/sites/default/files/hno_20_12_2017_final.pdf
  - Humanitarian Bulletin – November 2017, 15 December 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32995

Press Releases and Formal Statements

Prime Minister's Office

Under the Auspices and the Presence of the Prime Minister Dr. Rami Hamdallah and the Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono – Palestinian Industrial Estates and Free Zones Authority- PIEFZA Opens the Second Stage of Jericho Agro Industrial Park- JAIP, 26 December 2017

Jericho -26 Dec. 2017- Prime Minister Dr. Rami Al-Hamdallah, together with the Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono, laid the cornerstone of the second stage of Jericho Agro Industrial Park- JAIP at the governorate of Jericho and the Jordan Valley with the presence of a wide participation of the Palestinian private sector, ministers, chiefs of institutions and organizations and United Nations organizations.

Jericho Agro-Industrial Park (JAIP), worth more than $100,000,000 includes off-side and on-side infrastructure, financial support to the start-up tenants, building capacity for PIEFZ|A institution direct investment by developer and tenants. This is in addition to the land reclamation for phase one and access road from Jericho city to JAIP area.

It is worth mentioning that the second phase of JAIP will be allocated on an area of 100 dunums including 50,000 square meters for factories, approximately 8000 square meters for facilities of industrial services and 17000 square meters for logistic services. The Japanese Government is funding qualifying the site and the land settlement of the project through the United Nations Development Program- UNDP with the implementation of the Ministry of Public Works and PEIFZA.

The second stage of the industrial park will provide about 1,700 direct industrial jobs and 5,000 indirect jobs.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33006

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), 18 December 2017

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I devote my regular briefing on the situation in the Middle East today to presenting the fourth report on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2334 covering the period from 20 September to 18 December.

I will 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.

Let me note from the outset that none of the developments on the ground can be divorced from the broader context in which they are happening: uncertainties about the future of the peace process, unilateral actions that undermine the two-state solution, occupation and violence.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32998

UNESCO

Accountability in Education: Meeting our Commitments – UNESCO's 2017/8 Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report launched at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, 18 December 2017

Ramallah, 18 December 2017 – UNESCO, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), launched the Global Education Monitoring Report 2017 entitled Accountability in Education: Meeting our Commitments. The event was an opportunity for all education stakeholders in Palestine to discuss progress and challenges towards monitoring SDG4 in Palestine. The 2017/8 GEM Report evaluates the role of accountability in global education systems regarding achievement of the vision of SDG4. It highlights the responsibility of governments to provide universal quality education and stresses that accountability is indispensable in achieving this goal.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32996 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32997 (in Arabic)

EU

Representative Office of Japan: Japan provides new contribution to the Jericho Agro Industrial Park incentives programme implemented by the EU, 19 December 2017

The Japanese Government provides over €154,000 to support Palestinian House of Soap Company operating in the Jericho Agro Industrial Park (JAIP).

"Private sector is the engine of economic growth. It is an essential component for offering Palestinians employment and expanded economic opportunities. The EU together with Japan and the Palestinian Authority support the private sector in Palestine to promote economic, social and environmental development," said EU Representative Ralph Tarraf. "Palestinian economic development is a major priority for the European Union. It is a guarantee of future prosperity and stability and an important component in state-building," he added.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32999 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33000 (in Arabic)

PCBS

Palestinian Producer Price Index, November 2017

Decrease in the Producer Price1 Index during November 2017

The overall Producer Price Index (PPI) for Palestine with its base month (December 2015=100) reached 99.48 in November 2017, as it decreased by 1.98% compared to October 2017.

Producer Price Index for locally consumed products (December 2015=100) reached 99.46 in November 2017, which indicates a decrease by 2.10% compared to October 2017.

Producer Price Index for local exported products (December 2015=100) reached 99.56 in November 2017, which indicates a decrease by 0.96% compared to October 2017.

The changes of Producer Price Index for November 2017 were traced back to changes in prices of the following major activities compared to the previous month

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33013 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33014 (in Arabic)

Preliminary Estimates of Quarterly National Accounts (Third Quarter 2017), Main Results, 28 December 2017

Preliminary estimates at constant prices showed an increase of 5% in GDP in Palestine during the 3rd quarter 2017 compared to the 3rd quarter 2016, (increase 6.9% in the West Bank and decrease 0.6% in Gaza Strip compared to the 3rd quarter 2016). And it showed an increase of 3.1% in Palestine compared to the 2nd quarter 2017 at constant prices, meanwhile the base year is 2015. GDP for the 3rd quarter 2017 at constant prices was USD 2,658.5 million for the West Bank and USD 843.8 million for Gaza Strip.

Gross Domestic Product Per Capita

GDP per Capita for Palestine at constant prices was USD 745.6 during the 3rd quarter 2017, it showed an increase of .19% compared to the 3rd quarter 2016. As for the West Bank it was USD 968.1 at constant prices during the 3rd quarter 2017, it showed an increase by 4.6% during the 3rd quarter 2017 compared to the 3rd quarter 2016, while for Gaza Strip it was USD 432.4 during the 3rd quarter

The full press release is available at the following link:

[1] The producer's price is the amount receivable by the producer from the purchaser for a unit of a good or service produced as output minus any VAT, or similar deductible tax, invoiced to the purchaser. The producer's prices exclude any transport charges invoiced separately by the producer.

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33007 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33008 (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 November 2017

Slight decrease in the Construction Cost Index (CCI) for Residential Buildings

The Construction Cost Index (CCI) for residential buildings reached 105.07 with a slight decrease of 0.01% in the West Bank during November 2017 compared with October 2017 (base year 2013=100).

The CCI for residential buildings slightly decreased due to the decrease in rental of equipment by 0.26%. At the same time, both the prices of raw materials and labour wages remained stable during November 2017 compared with the previous month.

Slight decrease in the Construction Cost Index (CCI) for Non-residential Buildings

The Construction Cost Index (CCI) for non-residential buildings reached 105.08 with a slight decrease of 0.04% in the West Bank during November 2017 compared with October 2017 (base year 2013=100).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33002 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33003 (in Arabic)

Press report of economic forecasts for 2018, 26 December 2017

The preliminary estimates for 2017 compiled in accordance with the data available for the first three quarters of the year, and indicators for the fourth quarter 2017 used to estimate the data for that quarter. It should be noted that the data will be revised after the completion of collection of data from relevant sources.

Increase in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and GDP per capita during 2017

Preliminary estimates indicated an increase in GDP in Palestine by 3.2% during 2017 compared to 2016; GDP per capita has increased by 0.1% during 2017 compared to 2016.

The rise in the GDP 2017 was concentrated in the main economic activities which had a relatively higher contribution to GDP, including the construction activity, which preliminary estimates indicate its increase by 4.4% marking a total rise in the number of employees approximately 18%. The second contributor was the industry activity with a gross value added rising around 4.2% compared to 2016. The total number of employees in the industry activity also increased about 7%.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33004 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33005 (in Arabic)

Newsletters

- **PCBS Electronic Monthly Bulletin, 3 January 2018**
  http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin_136/Monthly%20bulletin_e.htm
  (in English)

http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin_136/Monthly%20bulletin_a.htm

(in Arabic)

- **UNRWA Gender Bulletin December 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33009

- **The Portland Trust Palestinian Economic Bulletin, December 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=33011