LAC

SECRETARIAT

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Local Aid Coordination 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 Recent Meetings

- **Thursday, 19 July 2018:** High-Level Meeting of the Justice Sector Working Group at 10:00 at the Grand Park Hotel.

Aid Coordination Meetings

- **Minutes of the Private Sector and Trade Sector Working Group meeting, 12 July 2018** http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35548

Documents & Reports

United Nations

- **WHO**
  - WHO Special Situation Report occupied Palestinian territory, Gaza, 17-23 July 2018 http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34564
  - Special Situation Report occupied Palestinian territory, Gaza, 3-11 July 2018 http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34523
  - WHO Special Situation Report occupied Palestinian territory, Gaza, 12-16 July 2018 http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34535

- **OCHA**
  - Essential services on verge of shutting down in Gaza due to lack of emergency fuel, 22 July 2018 http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34546
  - Potection of Civilians Report, 13 – 16 July 2018", 19 July 2018 http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34544
  - Humanitarian snapshot: casualties in the context of demonstrations and hostilities in Gaza: 30 March – 19 July 2018 http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34545

- Humanitarian Coordinator warns of worsened crisis in Gaza following new import and export restrictions, 17 July 2018
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34534

❖ **FAO**

- Gaza Agricultural trade 1–19 July, 26 July 2018
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34558
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34559
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34560

Press Releases and Formal Statements

Office of the Prime Minister

The Palestinian Cabinet Meeting Brief Statement, 31 July 2018

During its weekly meeting held in Ramallah today, the Palestinian Cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Dr. Rami Al- Hamdallah, condemned the latest Israeli escalation against the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and considered it part of the plans of Israel, the Occupying Power to Judaize Jerusalem, alter its historical features, and obliterate its Arab and Palestinian identity. This escalation coincides with the latest settlement and forced displacement plans against Khan Al- Ahmar and other areas of the West Bank, the repeated threats of aggression against the Gaza Strip, and the adoption of the racist Jewish Nation-State Law.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35552

Government Achievements in the Gaza Reconstruction Profile, 29 July 2018

The Media Unit at the Prime Minister's Office sends you its best regards and presents to you this Video-Graph as part of a report series that highlights the different achievements of the Palestinian Government, headed by Prime Minister Dr. Rami Al-Hamdallah.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35546

The Palestinian Cabinet Meeting Brief Statement, 24 July 2018

The Palestinian Cabinet condemns the controversial Jewish Nation-State Law as a further step to legitimize racial discrimination, hails the latest national efforts to achieve the goals of sustainable development, expresses its appreciation for KSA support to the Palestinian people, and calls upon donor countries to provide financial support to the UNRWA.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34548

PM Al-Hamdallah: "Jewish Nation-State" law institutionalize and legitimize Apartheid policies rather than promoting justice and peace, 19 July 2018

The office of the Prime Minister condemns adopting the so-called 'Jewish Nation- State' law by the right- wing Israeli government, which strips Arabic of its designation as an official language, downgrading it to a "special status."

The racist law sees the development of Jewish settlement as a step to encourage and promote its establishment and consolidation. It also states that unified Jerusalem is Israel's capital.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34539

The Palestinian Cabinet Meeting Brief Statement, 17 July 2018

The Palestinian Cabinet declares that the systematic aggressions on Bedouin communities aim at changing facts on the ground and undermining the two-state solution, welcomes the Irish Seanad bill banning the importation of products from illegal Israeli settlements, condemns the latest Israeli

escalation of violence against the Gaza Strip and demands immediate international protection for the Palestinian citizens.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34533

UN

The Statement by United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Nickolay Mladenov, on World Bank's allocation of USD 90 million in support of Palestinian economy in the West Bank and Gaza, 25 July 2018

"I am greatly encouraged by the recommendation of the World Bank's Board to allocate USD90 million, up from USD 55 million last year, in response to the alarming economic circumstances in the occupied Palestinian territory, in particular in Gaza. This significant increase in funding comes at a critical time when urgent interventions are required to prevent renewed conflict and to boost Palestinian economic opportunities and livelihoods. It is particularly vital for Gaza which is on the verge of a total economic and social collapse, with half of the population jobless and basic services severely overstretched.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34550

The UN Security Council Briefing on the Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question, 24 July 2018

Members of the Security Council, As we meet today, tensions between Syria and Israel continue to rise, while last Saturday we were minutes away from another devastating confrontation between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. It has taken an intense effort at preventive diplomacy by the United Nations and Egypt to make sure that both sides in the Gaza conflict step back from the brink and from potentially the fourth military confrontation in Gaza over the past decade.

The full briefing is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34549

World Bank

US$ 90 Million to Boost Palestinian Economic Opportunities and Livelihoods, 25 July 2018

Washington, July 24, 2018 – In response to an increasingly difficult situation, the World Bank's Board recommended today the allocation of US$90 million to accelerate much-needed economic welfare for the Palestinian people, an increase from its yearly disbursement of US$55 million. The funds, in the form of grants, will be transferred from the Bank's own income to the dedicated Trust Fund for Gaza and West Bank.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34553

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCFyFaerKaw&feature=youtu.be (video)

UNOPS - KFW

UNOPS and Germany launch phase II of the House Reconstruction in Gaza Project, 23 July 2018

Jerusalem/Gaza – 23 July 2018– The Director of the German Development Bank KfW Office in Ramallah Mr Jonas Blume, and in presence of Mr. Bernd Kuebart, Acting Head of the German Representative Office in Ramallah and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) Jerusalem office Director Mr Tokumitsu Kobayashi signed a new agreement today to further improve the living and housing conditions for people in Gaza.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34540 (in English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34541 (in Arabic)

UNDP

UNDP supports urgent UN efforts to lower tensions and rebuild the economy through emergency jobs for youth and women in the Gaza Strip, 12 July 2018

Gaza, 17 July 2018 – Against the backdrop of rapidly rising tension, violence, poverty and alarming unemployment rates reaching 60%, the United Nations is moving urgently to create employment opportunities and develop economic recovery initiatives for youth and women in the Gaza Strip. The objective of these cumulative initiatives focuses on improved livelihoods, enhanced access to productive assets, and provision of basic services for the population in the Gaza Strip, as part of a broader UN coordinated international effort to urgently lower tensions and prevent another armed conflict in Gaza

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34532

EU

Local EU statement on the dismantling by Israeli authorities of a women's center and kindergarten in Jabal al-Baba, 30 July 2018

The EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah express strong concern about the dismantling and confiscation by the Israeli authorities of a donor-funded women's center and kindergarten serving the Bedouin and refugee community of Jabal al-Baba, located in Area C on the outskirts of Jerusalem, on 25 July.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35547

EU Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on latest developments regarding the Palestinian community of Khan al-Ahmar, 17 July 2018

Bruxelles, 18/07/2018

The developments in the Palestinian community of Khan al-Ahmar (Abu al Helu) in the occupied West Bank continue to have our full attention. The EU Foreign Affairs Council has systematically highlighted the plight of Bedouin communities, including the risk of forced transfer from the wider E1 area. While the Israeli Supreme Court has issued temporary injunctions against the demolition orders, the European Union emphasises that the consequences of a demolition of this community and the displacement of its residents, including children, against their will, would be very serious.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34536

EU - Japan

Japan provides new contribution to the Jericho Agro Industrial Park incentives programme implemented by the EU, 26 July 2018

The Japanese Government has provided over €384,000 to support Paper Pal company operating in the Jericho Agro Industrial Park (JAIP). This company is the ninth beneficiary under the Palestinian Authority's PRIDE (Partnership for Regional Investment, Development & Employment) Programme of Incentives to JAIP. The Japanese contribution is being channelled through the PEGASE mechanism.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34554 (in English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34555 (in Arabic)

Japan Representative Office

Completion Project for Replacement and Expansion of Electricity Network in Salfit Municipality, Funded by Japan, 26 July 2018

Today, July 26th,2018, Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, visited the city of Salfit 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.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34562 (in English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34563 (in Arabic)

Office of the Quartet

The Third Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD III), 12 July 2018

Bangkok, Thailand, 27 vi 18 John N. Clarke, Head of Mission Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen: I want to start with two broad points which provide important context for the remainder

of my remarks. The first is the need to address ongoing humanitarian needs, particularly in the Gaza Strip, through much needed support for UNRWA's essential services as well as other humanitarian organizations that are working in the strip.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34531

Representative Office of Germany

Germany provides 10 Million Euro for Reuse of Wastewater in Nablus, 24 July 2018

A ten million Euro financing agreement for the first large scale reuse scheme in the West Bank was signed by KfW Development Bank and the Ministry of Finance and Planning, in addition to the Municipality of Nablus, the project executing agency, and Palestinian Water Authority, as sector authority, in the frame of German-Palestinian Development Cooperation. The project aims to establish a wastewater reuse scheme in the vicinity of the wastewater treatment plant Nablus West and promotes rural development through employment and income generation.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34547

PCBS

Palestinian Producer Price Index – June 2018, 31 July 2018

The overall Producer Price Index (PPI) for Palestine with its base month (December 2015 = 100) reached 104.66 in June 2018, as it increased by 0.69% compared to May 2018.

The full press release is available at the following links:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35549 (in English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35550 (in Arabic)

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) has released its Website Terms of Use, 26 July

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

The Construction Cost Index (CCI) for residential buildings reached 105.93 with a slight increase of 0.04% in the West Bank during June 2018 compared with May 2018 (base year 2013 = 100).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34557 (in English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34556 (in Arabic)

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) has released its Website Terms of Use, 25 July 2018

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) has released its Website Terms of Use. This terms of use is of an advantage for the user as it explains both user rights as well as obligations and responsibilities of PCBS; moreover, it prevents the emergence of any legal issues.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34551 (in English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34552 (in Arabic)

Preliminary Results of the Palestinian Registered External Trade in Goods of May 2018, 19 July 2018

Exports increased in May, 2018 by 4.5% compared to April, 2018. While it decreased by 1.4% compared to May, 2017 and reached USD 95.6 Million.

Exports to Israel increased in May, 2018 by 5.8% compared to April, 2018 and it represented 88.2% of total exports in May, 2018.On the other hand, exports to other countries decreased by 4.2% during the same period compared to April, 2018.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34542 (in English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34543 (in Arabic)

Palestinian Wholesale Price Index, Second Quarter, 2018, 19 July 2018

The overall WPI in Palestine with its base year (2007 = 100) reached 125.87 in the Second quarter 2018, which indicates an increase by 2.73% compared with the First quarter 2018.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34537 (in English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34538 (in Arabic)

Newsletters

- **The Portland Trust Economic Bulletin, July 2018**
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34561

- **PCBS Electronic Monthly Bulletin, 3 July 2018**
  http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin_142/Monthly%20bulletin_e.htm
  (in English)
  http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin_142/Monthly%20bulletin_a.htm
  (in Arabic)

- **UNRWA Gender Bulletin, July 2018**
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35551

Job Vacancies

- **French Institute of Jerusalem.- Driver**
  For further details, please see attachment

New Arrivals

- **Mr. Stephen Kearney** has joined the United Nations World Food Programme in Palestine (WFP) as Representative and Country Director. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: stephen.kearney@wfp.org, phone: 02- 5401340

- **Mr. Akihiro Narita** has joined the Representative Office of Japan as Second Secretary. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: akihiro.narita@mofa.go.jp, phone: 02-2983370

- **Mr. Miho Shirai** has joined the Representative Office of Japan as Economic Cooperation Assistant. His contact details are as follows:
  Email: ggp.palestine@rm.mofa.go.jp, phone: 02-2983370

- **Mr. Benoit Romijn** has joined the EUPOL COPPS as Ministerial Strategic and Policy Adviser.

His contact details are as follows:
Email: benoit.romijn@eupolcopps.eu, phone: 02-2976677