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 Recent Meetings

- **Thursday, 30 August 2018:** Education Core Group meeting at MoEHE.
- **Thursday, 30 August 2018:** Health Sector – Nutrition Thematic Group meeting at the Ministry of Health.
- **Tuesday, 28 August 2018**: Security Core Group meeting at MoI.
- **Thursday, 16 August 2018:** Energy Sector: Gaza Development Plan & Gas for Gaza Thematic Group meeting at the Norwegian Representative Office.
- **Thursday, 16 August 2018**: Education Sector – Inclusive Quality Education Thematic Group meeting at the Ministry of Education & Higher Education.
- **Tuesday, 14 August 2018:** Health Sector – West Bank General Health Cluster meeting at the Ministry of Health HQ Ramallah.
- **Tuesday, 14 August 2018:** Energy Sector – Energy Core Group meeting at the Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority (PENRA).
- **Monday, 13 August 2018:** Health Sector – Mental Health Thematic Group meeting at the Ministry of Health HQ Ramallah.

List of Upcoming Meetings

- **Tuesday, 4 September 2018:** Justice Core Group meeting at 10:00 at the Netherlands Rep. Office.
- **Wednesday, 5 September 2018:** Tourism and Culture Sector Working Group meeting at 11:00 – 13:00 at MoTA in Bethlehem.
- **Wednesday, 5 September 2018:** Agriculture Core Group at 2:00 at MoA.
- **Wednesday, 5 September 2018:** Security Sector – 2nd USSC Partner Update at 9:00 at USSC Jerusalem.

- **Thursday, 6 September 2018:** Security Sector – 2nd USSC Partner Update at 9:00 at USSC Jerusalem.

- **Thursday, 6 September 2018:** Environment Core Group meeting at 10:00 at EQA.

- **Monday, 17 September 2018:** Energy Sector Working Group Meeting at 11:00 at PENRA.

- **Monday, 24 September 2018:** Labour Sector Core group meeting at 09:00 at MoL.

Documents & Reports

United Nations

❖ OCHA

- Protection of Civilians Report, 14-27 August 2018
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35638

- oPt: Humanitarian funding update – July 2018, 17 August 2018
  https://www.ochaopt.org/page/how-humanitarian-aid-funded

- Humanitarian snapshot – Casualties in the context of demonstrations and hostilities in Gaza, 30 March – 16 August 2018
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35622

- West Bank demolitions and displacement – July 2018, 16 August 2018
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35621

- Protection of Civilians, 31 July – 13 August 2018
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35620

- Gaza strip: Early Warning Indicators – July 2018, 15 August 2018
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35611

❖ WHO

- WHO Special Situation Report, occupied Palestinian territory, Gaza, 7-13 August 2018
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35619

Press Releases and Formal Statements

Office of the Prime Minister

The Palestinian Cabinet Meeting Brief Statement, 28 August 2018

Reiterated calls upon Hamas to immediately commit to the reconciliation plan of President Mahmoud Abbas to restore national unity and end the current internal division, without any conditions or restrictions, and to transfer the full control of the Gaza Strip to the National Consensus Government with no exceptions

Condemned the Trump administration persistent attempts to blackmail the Palestinian leadership to succumb to the meaningless so-called "deal of the century" through drastically cutting more than $200 million in aid funds allocated to benefit the Palestinian citizens directly.

The full statement is available at the following link:
http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35628

Palestinian Government Condemns Trump Administration Aid Cuts and Decision to Strip Palestinian Refugees from Their Historical Rights, 27 August 2018

Following its recent decision to cut drastically more than $200 million in aid funds allocated to benefit the Palestinian citizens directly, the Trump administration continues to dismantle the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and strip millions of Palestinians of their refugee status.

"After using humanitarian aid to blackmail and pressure the Palestinian leadership to submit to the empty plan known as "the deal of the century", the Trump administration plans to commit an immoral scandal against Palestinian refugees by giving itself the right to abolish the historical rights of Palestinian refugees without any legitimacy.

The full statement is available at the following link:
http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35629

Palestinian National Consensus Government Achievements -The Social Security Corporation, 16 August 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=35615

UN

Briefing by Rosemary di Carlo, Undersecretary – General for Political Affairs, to the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East, 22 August 2018

We meet today in the wake of yet another series of violent escalations that threatened to plunge Gaza into war.

Over the past several weeks, Special Coordinator Mladenov has led unprecedented UN efforts, with the Government of Egypt and other regional and international partners, to prevent another devastating outbreak of hostilities, respond to the most urgent humanitarian needs, and support intra-Palestinian reconciliation.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35626

Statement by the Humanitarian Coordinator for the occupied Palestinian territory, Jamie McGoldrick, on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day, 17 August 2018

Sunday, 19 August, 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. This year, humanitarians around the world call for greater protection of civilians, humanitarians and health workers in conflict zones.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35623

Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the UN Secretary-General on Gaza, 15 August 2018

The Secretary-General welcomes the Israeli decision to reopen the Kerem Shalom crossing to its full operating capacity this morning and to expand the fishing zone off the coast of Gaza.

He is encouraged to see that those concerned have responded to calls to avoid the devastating impact of yet another conflict on the civilian population in and around Gaza.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35612

OCHA

US$ 4.5 million needed urgently to prevent life-saving services in the Gaza Strip from shutting down, 20 August 2018

Today, the Humanitarian Coordinator for the occupied Palestinian territory, Mr. Jamie McGoldrick, called on the donor community to immediately fund the procurement of emergency fuel to prevent essential services in the Gaza Strip from shutting down completely.

“Life-saving services in the Gaza Strip rely heavily on donor-funded emergency fuel,” said Mr. McGoldrick. “We have now run out of funds and are delivering the final supplies in the next few days. Without funds to enable ongoing deliveries, service providers will be forced to suspend, or heavily reduce, operations from early September, with potentially grave consequences.”

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35625

UNRWA

UNRWA schools to start on time, 16 August 2018

Amman. At an extraordinary session of the UNRWA Advisory Commission, in Amman today, the Commissioner-General Mr Pierre Krähenbühl announced that the school-year for 526’000 Palestine refugee girls and boys will open on time in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35616 (English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35617 (Arabic)

UNESCO

International Youth Day 2018: Safe Spaces for Youth, 17 August 2018

Ramallah and Gaza City- 13-16 August 2018 - This week the International Youth Day was celebrated in Ramallah and Gaza, within the framework of the EU-funded project Networks of Mediterranean Youth (NET-MED Youth). This year's theme Safe Spaces for Youth emphasizes the need for youth to come together, engage in activities related to their diverse needs and interests, participate in decision making processes and freely express themselves

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35624

EU

Statement by the EU Spokesperson on the latest settlements' announcements by the Israeli authorities, 24 August 2018

Within the past two weeks the Israeli authorities have advanced plans and tenders for over two thousand settlement units in the West Bank including East Jerusalem. If implemented, these plans would further jeopardise the prospect of a contiguous and viable future Palestinian state.

As reflected in successive Foreign Affairs Council conclusions, the EU is strongly opposed to Israel's settlement policy which is illegal under international law and an obstacle to peace.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35627

KOICA

Project Completion for Jenin Youth Center, funded by the Government of Korea, 4 August 2018

On August 4th, 2018, Opening Ceremony of Jenin Youth Center (JYC) was held in the attendance of Head Representative of the Republic of Korea to eniPselaP Mr. Young Sam Choi, Prime Minister of Palestine Dr. Rami Hamdallah and Country Director of KOICA Palestine office Mr. Jeongshin Cho. JYC project funded by the Government of Korea through Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Palestine Office with total budget of 3.6M USD.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35618

French Consulate General

Palestinian Territories – Settlement activities – Statement by the spokesperson of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, 24 August 2018

France condemns the new decisions taken by the Israeli authorities aimed at allowing the construction of several thousand homes in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

These decisions, as well as the demolition and evacuations affecting the Palestinian populations in Area C, and in particular Area E1, are part of the same strategy that directly threatens the viability of a future Palestinian state.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35630

Representative Office of Japan

Statement by the Press Secretary, Takeshi Osuga on "Advancing of the plans of settlement construction by Israel", 27 August 2018

The Government of Japan deeply deplores that, according to information, the Government of Israel has approved plans for the construction of more than 1000 housing units in settlements in the West Bank, thereby continuing its settlement activities, despite repeated calls from the international community including Japan for freezing such activities.

Settlement activities are in violation of international law and Japan has repeatedly called upon the Government of Israel to fully freeze settlement activities.

The full statement is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35633 (English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35634 (Arabic)

PCBS

Palestinian Producer Price Index – July 2018, 30 August 2018

Increase in the Producer Price Index (PPI) during July 2018

The overall Producer Price Index (PPI) for Palestine with its base month (December 2015 = 100) reached 106.11 in July 2018, as it increased by 1.39% compared to June 2018.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35635 (English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35636 (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 2018, 26 August 2018

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

The Construction Cost Index (CCI) for residential buildings reached 105.87 with a slight decrease of 0.06% in the West Bank during July 2018 compared with June 2018 (base year 2013 = 100).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35631 (English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35632 (Arabic)

Preliminary Results of the Palestinian Registered External Trade in Goods of June 2018, 16 August 2018

Exports decreased in June, 2018 by 15% compared to May, 2018. It also decreased by 1.1% compared to June, 2017 and reached USD 81.3 Million.

Exports to Israel decreased in June, 2018 by 12.7% compared to May, 2018 and it represented 90.5% of total exports in June, 2018.

At the same time, exports to other countries decreased by 31.9% during the same period compared to May, 2018.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35613 (English)

http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35614 (Arabic)

Newsletters

- **The Portland Trust Palestinian Economic Bulletin, August 2018**
  http://www.lacs.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=35637