
From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 29 May 2020 9:32 PM
To: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: Updates from UNRWA: COVID-19, Pledging Conference, food assistance in Gaza
Attachments: UNRWA COVID-19 UNRWA Weekly_ 11 -17 may.pdf

Dear Ross and Kate,
Out of scope

- 2) As you may have heard through different channels already, an **extraordinary virtual ministerial pledging conference** hosted by Jordan and Sweden in support of UNRWA will be held on **23 June 2020 from 09:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. EST time** with the confirmed presence of the UN Secretary-General. The overarching objective of the conference is to mobilize political and financial support to sustain UNRWA's ability to deliver on its mandate, focusing on ways for the international community to collectively address the Agency's financial situation and make concrete commitments of investments and responsibility-sharing, including in terms of financial predictability, multi-annual support and innovative financing.

The hosts of the Conference – Sweden and Jordan – will shortly send a save-the-date / invitation via Permanent Missions in New York, but I wanted to give you already heads-up. We would be very grateful to see New Zealand represented at this important meeting. More information on this will follow soon, but please let me know if you have any questions at this point.

In this regards, please allow me to also share with you also a **brief financial update**: UNRWA's Programme Budget which supports the most critical functions of the Agency, covering the costs of 30.000 teachers, doctors, nurses and front-line staff who make up the backbone of the Agency and are equally essential to deliver the Agency humanitarian services, is currently only 49% funded. In addition, UNRWA COVID-19 appeal is currently approx. 40% funded while the Emergency Appeals for the OPT and the Syria Regional Crisis are 48% and 34% funded, respectively.

- 3) New Zealand has in the past very generously supported **UNRWA's Emergency Appeal for the oPt**, and specifically **critical food assistance in Gaza** (e.g. with a contribution of NZ\$ 1.5 million in 2019). As you know, UNRWA supports just over one million abject and absolute poor Palestine refugees (i.e. living on less than US\$ 1.74/person/day and between US\$ 1.74 and US\$ 3.97 person/day, respectively) in Gaza with quarterly in-kind food assistance. Food assistance is a vital social safety for individuals, as well as contributing to wider market and food security in Gaza under prolonged economic blockade and amidst widespread poverty, which is further exacerbated by the socio-economic consequences of COVID-19.

At times, UNRWA has been able to temporarily advance funds from its Programme Budget to avoid a disruption of its food pipeline to Gaza, but given the current level of funding for the Programme Budget (see above) and cash flow challenges to start as of end of June (and to worsen each month after that), this is no longer an option. UNRWA needs approximately US\$ 20 million for Gaza food aid from now till the end of the year, with US\$ 5.8 million urgently to be raised by early July. Otherwise, there will be a very serious risk of UNRWA not being able to sustain its food pipeline to Gaza with devastating effect on thousands of vulnerable families. In light of the above, we would be immensely grateful if New Zealand would consider continue supporting the UNRWA Emergency Appeal in 2020, and I stand ready to answer any questions you may have in this regard.

Out of scope

Best wishes.
9(2)(a)



s9(2)(a) | external relations and projects consultant |
donor relations division | department of external relations & communications | s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)

unrwa.org | [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/unrwa) | [youtube](https://www.youtube.com/unrwa) | [twitter](https://twitter.com/unrwa)



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From: HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Sent: Saturday, 20 June 2020 3:25 AM
To: COLLINS, Deb (PHM)
Cc: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); MORTON, Tara (MEA)
Subject: UNRWA

Hi Deb

At our last NYK/PHM Management catch up meeting, you mentioned interest in UNRWA reform. We followed up with the ^{s6(a)} on their perspective on this. s6(b)

s9(2)(g)(i)

Craig

Craig J Hawke
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of New Zealand
New York

M s9(2)(a)

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Friday, 26 June 2020 8:47 AM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Cc: HAWKE, Craig (NYK); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); DE LEON, Rapunzel (UNHC); KALDERIMIS, Sophie (UNHC); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA)
Subject: UNRWA pledging conference - file note
Attachments: UNRWA annual pledging conference 23 June 2020 file note.docx

Kia ora korua,

Attached and [here](#) is a file note on the UNRWA virtual pledging conference held this week. s9(2)(g)(i)
UNRWA estimates US\$130m was pledged by 75 member states and organisations, up from US\$110m in 2019. Commissioner-General s9(2)(a) has since said that while the conference demonstrated a “very strong expression of support” by international donors, the roughly \$400 million budget gap has not been filled, and there is uncertainty around operations for the entire year.

All interventions (a good cross-regional mix of countries) spoke positively about UNRWA’s vital work and stabilising presence in the region, particularly with COVID-19 and the challenging political situation. Some referenced the need for UNRWA to continue with its reform efforts.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Ngā mihi,
Jikita

Out of scope

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Tuesday, 23 June 2020 2:14 PM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Hi,
I’ll be listening in for NYK (have registered to follow but not speak). Ross, can forward on details if you haven’t seen? Happy to help with file note.

Cheers
Jikita

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM) <kate.Bradlow@mfat.govt.nz>
Date: Monday, 22 Jun 2020, 5:48 PM
To: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI) <Ross.Batchelor@mfat.govt.nz>
Cc: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK) <Jikita.DeSchot@mfat.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Thanks Ross for your offer to attend and report. Jikita, if you have time, I believe this is around 9am NYK time

The key things to report on would be:

- Generally overview of how supportive other donors are; who is increasing commitments, who looks to be decreasing. We are seeing quite a mixed donor response in light of COVID, with some surges of support to some crises while others are struggling to meet pre-existing demands.
- Understanding of existing priorities, including measures to prevent and manage COVID-19, for UNRWA this year.
- Any update on the adoption of the management initiatives, progress on that process etc.

It is not proposed that we make a statement. However, in the unlikely situation where we are put on the spot, I suggest we say:

In March this year, New Zealand contributed \$1 million to UNRWA's core operations. We are also supporters of the Global Humanitarian Response Plan, which includes the needs of Palestinian refugees. We want to recognise the important work that UNRWA is undertaking in an ever more complex environment that and are grateful for the sustained efforts of the women and men who deliver these essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic. We look forward to the finalisation of the management initiatives, an important step in maintaining UNRWA's accountability.

Jikita, feel free to chip in.

Cheers
Kate

From: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Sent: Monday, 22 June 2020 8:34 PM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Out of scope
note.

Happy to join on this, any particular points you're interested in? I'll do a wee file

Cheers,

Ross

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Sunday, 21 June 2020 9:32 PM

To: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)

Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Thanks Ross

We don't have a statement to deliver or a financial pledge so we are not looking at Craig joining.

If Greg is able to join that would be great. We can discuss on a call today if that is helpful

Cheers

Kate

From: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)

Sent: Friday, 19 June 2020 9:22 PM

To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)

Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Happy to join (Greg will also be available, he just arrived in Cairo this minute!). Who will be our rep, Craig?

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)

Sent: Friday, 19 June 2020 5:17 AM

To: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)

Subject: FW: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Hey Ross

Could you advise if you are available to join this meeting?

Thanks

Kate

From: s9(2)(a)

Sent: Sunday, 14 June 2020 6:40 PM

To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)

Subject: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Dear Kate and Ross,

Please find attached a letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a) concerning the upcoming Pledging Conference. The letter was first distributed via Permanent Missions in New York on Friday. We would be very grateful if you could encourage high-level participation and follow-up with colleagues concerning registration via the conference website:

s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your consideration, and please let me know if you encounter any problems or if you have any questions.

Best wishes,
s9(2
) ()



s9(2)(a) | [external relations and projects consultant](#) |
[donor relations division](#) | [department of external relations & communications](#) | UNRWA
s9(2)(a)

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From: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Sent: Tuesday, 10 December 2019 8:43 PM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); MORTON, Tara (MEA); DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); DEMPSTER, Jillian (GVA)
Cc: LEWIS, Greg (CAI); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK); WRIGHT, Emily (ANK); HINTON, Wendy (ANK)
Subject: UNRWA - Global Refugee Forum & request for additional funding
Attachments: 20191205 Letter re Global Refugee Forum .pdf

Hi Kate,

We received the attached letter from UNRWA Jerusalem addressed to HOM regarding the upcoming Global Refugee Forum in Geneva on 17-18 December. It includes a request to consider UNRWA if/when New Zealand makes funding pledges at the Forum. Is this something we are considering?

Let us know if and how you'd like us to respond.

Many thanks,

Ross

Ross Batchelor

Deputy Head of Mission

New Zealand Embassy Cairo | Te Aka Aorere

T s9(2)(a)

M s9(2)(a)

E Ross.Batchelor@mfat.govt.nz

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Wednesday, 29 January 2020 11:52 AM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Cc: STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); WEIR, Hannah (PHM); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Subject: RE: Update on UNRWA report

Thanks Kate, it's certainly positive that it's looking like we will get the report after all.

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Tuesday, 28 January 2020 4:37 p.m.
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Cc: STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); WEIR, Hannah (PHM); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA)
Subject: RE: Update on UNRWA report

Thanks for this update Jikita – and for your chasing around for the report.

As mentioned, the next tranche payment to UNRWA is due in March. We will require receipt of (and time to review) this report in advance of release of this payment. We still have sufficient time before the end of March but suggest that if we have not received the report by mid-February we may need to escalate.

Thanks
Kate

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Wednesday, 29 January 2020 10:27 a.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: RE: Update on UNRWA report

Hi Kate,

s9(2)(g)(i)

Have asked OIOS contact if he has guesstimate of timeline, but no response yet.

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Tuesday, 28 January 2020 4:24 p.m.
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Subject: RE: Update on UNRWA report

Hi Jikita

Just wondering if we got anything back from the SGs office on the report

Cheers

Kate

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)

Sent: Friday, 24 January 2020 2:34 p.m.

To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)

Subject: Update on UNRWA report

Hi Jikita

Following on from our discussion, colleagues in the s6(b) will be checking in with s6(b) counterparts.

We are agreed from this end that receipt and review of the OIOS report remains a prerequisite for release of the next tranche payment.

Thanks

Kate

Kate Bradlow

Lead Adviser

Humanitarian – Global

Nga Hoe Tuputupu Mai Tawhiti | Pacific and Development Group

Manatū Aorere | New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade

s9(2)(a)

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Thursday, 20 February 2020 1:39 PM
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: UNSG letter on UNRWA

Many thanks s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2020 8:02 p.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: Fwd: UNSG letter on UNRWA

Further to our chat see attached Kate

s9(2)(a)

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Subject: UNSG letter on UNRWA

Dear AdCom Members and Observers,

The attached the letter of the UN Secretary-General was sent to all Permanent Representatives of Member States of the United Nations in the last days. I am sharing this with AdCom members for information in case this has not already come to your attention via your missions in New York.

The letter provides an update on the OIOS investigation and the steps taken by UNRWA and HQ to strengthen the administration of UNRWA. In closing, the UN Secretary-General calls upon all donors to increase funding or expedite the release of funding to the Agency.

Best wishes,

s9(2)
(a)



s9(2)(a) | secretary of the advisory commission
and head of the advisory commission secretariat
s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

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s6(b)

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From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 14 February 2020 12:57 a.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: RE: UNRWA

Hi Kate

s9(2)(a)

s6(b)

s6(b)

s9(2)(a)

Regards
s9(2)(a)

Out of scope

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Monday, 27 January 2020 10:27 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: UNRWA

Good morning s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) with UNRWA

I am the NZ lead on our donorship to UNRWA s9(2)(a)

s6(b)

New Zealand does not have a presence in OPTs or Amman so has limited access to formal and informal UNRWA briefings. As such, having an opportunity to touch base with likeminded donors is much appreciated

Many thanks
Kate

Kate Bradlow

Lead Adviser
Humanitarian – Global
Nga Hoe Tuputupu Mai Tawhiti | Pacific and Development Group
Manatū Aorere | New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade
s9(2)(a)

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From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Friday, 21 February 2020 1:02 PM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Cc: HORNE, Stuart (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); COLLINS, Deb (PHM); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); WEIR, Hannah (PHM)
Subject: RE: UNRWA: s6(b)

Thanks Kate, that all sounds good, no immediate points from us.

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Thursday, 20 February 2020 2:37 p.m.
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Cc: HORNE, Stuart (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); COLLINS, Deb (PHM); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); WEIR, Hannah (PHM)
Subject: RE: UNRWA: s6(b)

Thanks Jikita

I had an exchange with ^{s9(2)(a)} the head of the secretariat, who I will have a call with on Monday eve.

By the sounds of it we are not eligible for membership (i.e. speaking and voting rights) which is fine as this is not what we are really seeking out the relationship. However, we could have an observer role which means we are looped into updates and have the access to ask questions and confirm info directly.

I suggest this is a proportionate level of engagement in order to manage our responsibilities and risk. Do let me know if you are comfortable with this and if there are any immediate points to discuss with ^{s9(2)(a)} on Monday. My intention was to focus on the relationship rather than getting into the details of reports, progress etc. That will be the second call!

s9(2)(g)(i)

Thanks
Kate

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Friday, 21 February 2020 8:23 a.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Cc: HORNE, Stuart (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); COLLINS, Deb (PHM); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); WEIR, Hannah (PHM)
Subject: RE: s6(b) ^{s6(b)}

Hi Kate,

Involvement with the advisory committee secretariat sounds like a great idea. I wasn't aware we could be involved – my understanding was that only donors who had contributed a minimum of US\$5mn per annum could be included – so it's great if we can use this as a source of information also.

Thanks
Jikita

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2020 5:52 p.m.
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Cc: HORNE, Stuart (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); COLLINS, Deb (PHM); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); WEIR, Hannah (PHM)
Subject: RE: s6(b)

Thanks Jikita, well received

Can I also confirm that you do not foresee any duplication if I approach the advisory committee secretariat to be added as a participant

Cheers
Kate

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Wednesday, 19 February 2020 10:40 a.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Cc: HORNE, Stuart (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); COLLINS, Deb (PHM); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); WEIR, Hannah (PHM)
Subject: RE: s6(b) s6(b)

Hi Kate,

Thanks for sharing this.

To confirm that based on your FM we will be seeking a bilateral call. In the meantime, sharing a short letter from the SG that was circulated yesterday.

Cheers
Jikita

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Monday, 17 February 2020 4:22 p.m.
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Cc: HORNE, Stuart (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); COLLINS, Deb (PHM); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); WEIR, Hannah (PHM)
Subject: UNRWA: readout of discussion with ^{s6(b)}

Kia ora Jikita

Following on from our FM to NYK (14/02) I had a call s6(a)

.s9(2)(g)
(i)

Please see below the key points from the discussion:

s6(b)

s6(b)

s9(2)(g)(i); s6(b)

s6(b)

s9(2)(g)(i)

s6(b)

s9(2)(g)(i)

Proposed next steps:

- Recognising the need for a proportionate level of engagement for our investment and the associated risks, it is proposed that we identify new entry points for our regular engagement with UNRWA. Specifically, this would include:

- Participation in the UNRWA Advisory Committee (suggest this is in an observer (remote) rather than member function): My understanding is that this committee is focused on the donorship/operational rather than the political dynamics of UNRWA (where this distinction can be made). Therefore it is proposed that PHM contact of the head of the Advisory Committee Secretariat, s9(2)(a) , requesting to be added to the committee mailing list (New Zealand seems to have been omitted from the current list) and requesting quarterly verbal briefings.
- s6(has offered an informal call every two months to share their insights and the wider discussions that are happening amongst donors on the ground. This would be a useful insight with minimal burden.
- s6(b) I welcome your reflections on this. At this stage, our priority is getting to a point where we are comfortable that UNRWA is taking the appropriate measures to right the wrongs highlighted in the investigation before the release of our next funding tranche at the end of March. A bilateral briefing, as proposed in last week's FM, is our preferred approach in terms of timeliness. s6(b) would be a second option if the UN system is not responsive to this request but will no doubt take additional time and effort. It is likely that attempts to push for the release of report findings will continue on beyond our own limited timeframes.

Many thanks

Kate

Kate Bradlow

Lead Adviser

Humanitarian – Global

Nga Hoe Tuputupu Mai Tawhiti | Pacific and Development Group

Manatū Aorere | New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade

s9(2)(a)

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Friday, 3 July 2020 9:47 AM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Cc: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Subject: RE: UNRWA pledging conference - file note

Hey Kate,

s9(2)(g)(i)

Cheers
Jiktia

s6(b)

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Thursday, 25 June 2020 8:32 p.m.
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Cc: HAWKE, Craig (NYK); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); DE LEON, Rapunzel (UNHC); KALDERIMIS, Sophie (UNHC); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); COLLINS, Deb (PHM)
Subject: RE: UNRWA pledging conference - file note

Many thanks Jikita and Ross for attending and the readout.

In particular, I welcome the comments made by other donors, which widely echo our own sentiments.

Just to note that on average global humanitarian appeals and plans are sitting around 20% funded. Funding levels for UNRWA reflect this trend.

Thanks
Kate

Duplication

C

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Monday, 22 June 2020 10:15 p.m.
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

That's great – thank you Jikitia

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Tuesday, 23 June 2020 2:14 PM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Hi,

I'll be listening in for NYK (have registered to follow but not speak). Ross, can forward on details if you haven't seen? Happy to help with file note.

Cheers
Jikita

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM) <kate.Bradlow@mfat.govt.nz>
Date: Monday, 22 Jun 2020, 5:48 PM
To: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI) <Ross.Batchelor@mfat.govt.nz>
Cc: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK) <Jikita.DeSchot@mfat.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Thanks Ross for your offer to attend and report. Jikita, if you have time, I believe this is around 9am NYK time

The key things to report on would be:

- Generally overview of how supportive other donors are; who is increasing commitments, who looks to be decreasing. We are seeing quite a mixed donor response in light of COVID, with some surges of support to some crises while others are struggling to meet pre-existing demands.
- Understanding of existing priorities, including measures to prevent and manage COVID-19, for UNRWA this year.
- Any update on the adoption of the management initiatives, progress on that process etc.

It is not proposed that we make a statement. However, in the unlikely situation where we are put on the spot, I suggest we say:

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Jikita, feel free to chip in.

Cheers
Kate

From: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Sent: Monday, 22 June 2020 8:34 PM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Hey, sorry to miss you tonight. Happy to join on this, any particular points you're interested in? I'll do a wee file note.

Cheers,

Ross

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Sunday, 21 June 2020 9:32 PM
To: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Thanks Ross

We don't have a statement to deliver or a financial pledge so we are not looking at Craig joining.

If Greg is able to join that would be great. We can discuss on a call today if that is helpful

Cheers
Kate

From: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Sent: Friday, 19 June 2020 9:22 PM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: RE: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Happy to join (Greg will also be available, he just arrived in Cairo this minute!). Who will be our rep, Craig?

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Friday, 19 June 2020 5:17 AM
To: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Subject: FW: Pledging Conference: Letter by Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

Hey Ross

Could you advise if you are available to join this meeting?

Thanks
Kate

Duplicate

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Tuesday, 10 March 2020 8:56 AM
To: BECKETT, Kathryn (UNHC)
Subject: RE: UNRWA: current situation and options in advance of our discussions tomorrow

Its your call and potentially useful for you or Sophie as she has been to UNHC point person. s9(2)(g)(i)

Cheers
K

From: BECKETT, Kathryn (UNHC)
Sent: Tuesday, 10 March 2020 8:37 a.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: RE: UNRWA: current situation and options in advance of our discussions tomorrow

s9(2)(a)

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

Out of scope

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Monday, 9 March 2020 3:30 p.m.
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK); HORNE, Stuart (MEA); COLLINS, Deb (PHM); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); MORTON, Tara (BGH); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA)
Subject: UNRWA: current situation and options in advance of our discussions tomorrow

In advance of our meeting tomorrow, please see below a summary of our current situation and options for our discussion tomorrow:

- New Zealand is confident in the operational quality, integrity and value of UNRWA. Through independent reporting, engagement with other donors and our own discussions with UNRWA New Zealand understands that UNRWA continues to play a key role in delivering to enduring humanitarian needs and maintaining stability in

the areas where it operates, despite hugely complex, insecure and politicised operating contexts. We also acknowledge that UNRWA does not have control over the release of information from the investigation. The responsibility sits with the SG's office and OIOS.

- UNRWA has released an updated and detailed management initiatives implementation plan (attached). In summary, activities are split between Accountability and Management. The plan provides a systems focused approach to promoting transparency, creating organisational firewalls and more systematic engagement with the Advisory Commission. These initiatives seek to address the systems failings that allowed senior position holders to behave in violation of the code of conduct. On the whole they look very sensible but we will need to better understand the investigation findings to assess how appropriate the initiatives are.
- The OIOS suggest that the five reports on investigations into the actions of individuals within UNRWA will be available in a redacted version in four to six weeks. Based on previous timeframes, there is potential for slippage so it is not proposed that we frame our decision on next steps around the release of these reports. It is also unlikely that these individual reports will identify the systems failings that the management initiatives attempts to address. Our focus is on the systems that accommodated this behaviour and the accountability and transparency of the UN in handling this case; an issue that has implications beyond UNRWA.

.s9(2)(g)(i)

-s9(2)(g)(i)

s6(b)

Thanks
Kate

From: MORTON, Tara (MEA)
Sent: Wednesday, 11 March 2020 11:44 AM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM)
Cc: EVALU, Jennecca (MEA)
Subject: RE: UNRWA - expectations

Thanks Kate

That is good news. The below message looks good to me.

Thanks again
Tara

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Wednesday, 11 March 2020 11:42 AM
To: MORTON, Tara (BGH); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM)
Subject: RE: UNRWA - expectations

Thanks Tara

I had a call with Jikita to request the explicit conformation of their comfort with in their readout. MFA will require a sub on this by CoB next Wed. If NY hasn't written up the readout of their meeting on Tuesday by then, we want to avoid tying ourselves to the written conclusion of that meeting.

s9(2)(g)(i)

They also offered quick responses to specific claims made so I hope a useful mechanism for helping to triangulate tweet queries etc.

Can you both let me know if you are happy for the following to go on the back of the FM from NYK.

Thank you for this helpful readout from your discussions with OIOS. We agree that while the process has taken longer than expected, UN moved quickly to remove and replace the staff concerned and recognise their transparency through commitment to sharing of the redacted reports.

We also welcome the upcoming meeting with the New York based director of UNRWA and the opportunity this meeting offers to reiterate our expectations and specific asks of UNRWA. Proposed messages are:

- New Zealand has consistently demonstrated our support for UNRWA's mandate and operations through our political and financial support. We want to acknowledge the work of UNRWA staff in such a complex operating environment.
- New Zealand has sought to extend our donor engagement with UNRWA and welcomes the responsiveness across UNRWA to our requests to date. While New Zealand is not a member of the Advisory Commission, we are strengthening the regular exchange of information to better understand the challenges, innovations and successes of UNRWA. We hope that our regular interactions in New York will support that exchange.

- New Zealand's support for UNRWA is under significant public scrutiny. It is important that we are well informed in order to respond to issues as they arise. In particular New Zealand welcomes reporting on UNRWA's response on challenges to neutrality and progress on internal reforms. Your donor relations division has been helpful in sharing explanations of the robust mechanisms for ensuring UNRWA's neutrality and we envisage regular interactions with them.
- We welcome the development of the management initiatives plan which recognises the need for strengthened management and accountability systems. In order to assess the appropriateness of this response, we would like to better understand the challenges that informed these planned activities. We look forward to updates on how implementation of the plan is progressing.

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From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Thursday, 12 December 2019 1:04 PM
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); MORTON, Tara (MEA); DEMPSTER, Jillian (GVA)
Cc: LEWIS, Greg (CAI); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK); WRIGHT, Emily (ANK); HINTON, Wendy (ANK); STILWELL, Nicci (PHM); COLLINS, Deb (PHM)
Subject: RE: UNRWA - Global Refugee Forum & request for additional funding

Thanks very much for this update Jikita and s9(2)(g)(i)

Grateful if you could share the attachments

Thanks
Kate

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Thursday, 12 December 2019 10:37 AM
To: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); MORTON, Tara (MEA); DEMPSTER, Jillian (GVA)
Cc: LEWIS, Greg (CAI); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK); WRIGHT, Emily (ANK); HINTON, Wendy (ANK)
Subject: RE: UNRWA - Global Refugee Forum & request for additional funding

Hi Kate,

Passing along copies of two letters (attached) from UNRWA – they thank us for voting in favour of UNRWA resolutions, bring to our attention the US\$167m funding shortfall, and request consideration of further funding.

Separately, you will have seen in media reporting, the Netherlands has resumed its funding of EUR19mn. s6(b)

s6(b)

Cheers
Jikita

From: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Sent: Tuesday, 10 December 2019 2:43 a.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); MORTON, Tara (MEA); DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); DEMPSTER, Jillian (GVA)
Cc: LEWIS, Greg (CAI); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK); WRIGHT, Emily (ANK); HINTON, Wendy (ANK)
Subject: UNRWA - Global Refugee Forum & request for additional funding

Hi Kate,

We received the attached letter from UNRWA Jerusalem addressed to HOM regarding the upcoming Global Refugee Forum in Geneva on 17-18 December. It includes a request to consider UNRWA if/when New Zealand makes funding pledges at the Forum. Is this something we are considering?

Let us know if and how you'd like us to respond.

Many thanks,

Ross

Ross Batchelor

Deputy Head of Mission

New Zealand Embassy Cairo | Te Aka Aorere

T s9(2)(a)

M s9(2)(a)

E Ross.Batchelor@mfat.govt.nz

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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

19 November 2019

Excellency,

Upon receiving reports of possible misconduct involving the senior management of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), I requested the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) to investigate the allegations.

OIOS has recently submitted four investigation reports concerning the allegations of misconduct. These reports are currently under review, with a view to taking possible managerial, administrative and/or disciplinary action as regards the implicated staff members, as appropriate.

I can confirm that the investigation reports do not find that there was fraud involving donor funds.

Following the resignation of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA on 6 November 2019, I appointed Mr. Christian Saunders as the Acting Commissioner-General, effective 7 November 2019.

Mr. Saunders and I are personally committed to ensuring that UNRWA practices the highest standards of professionalism, transparency and efficiency. Mr. Saunders is taking immediate steps to implement a management plan to strengthen the administration of UNRWA in general, particularly in the areas of oversight and accountability. This plan will incorporate the results of an internal review of the governance, management and accountability functions of UNRWA, which was initiated over the last few months. The management plan may also address any other areas of concern raised by the investigation reports.

The services provided by UNRWA are essential to the well-being of Palestine refugees and constitute a source of stability in a volatile region. At this critical moment when UNRWA is facing a severe funding shortfall, I count on your support to expedite the release of funding to the Agency so as to enable it to perform its crucial work in the areas of health, education, and relief services.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read 'António Guterres', is written over a long, thin horizontal line that extends to the right.

António Guterres

All Permanent Representatives of
Member States of the United Nations
New York

From: GILLAM-O'CONNOR, Kerry s6(b)
Sent: Wednesday, 5 February 2020 12:23 AM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Cc: WEIR, Hannah (PHM); WALKER, Lyndal s6(b) REID, Nicola (EUR); JUDSON, Alastair (EUR)
Subject: RE: Engagement with s6(b) counterparts on UNRWA

Hi Kate,

Last Wednesday, I went to see s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(a) at the s6(b) discuss UNRWA. I have since then e-introduced you to them so you can connect further on these issues as s6(b) are really seeking likemindeds.

s9(2)(g)(i)

s6(b)

s6(b)

s6(b)

s6(b)

They are very keen to work with New Zealand on this and have asked to be put in touch with you. I've e-introduced you already to s9(2)(a) but I would just ask that you keep s9(2)(a) and I in the loop so we can keep up to date with what contact is occurring between NZ s6(b)

Many thanks,

Kerry

From: GILLAM-O'CONNOR, Kerry s6(b)
Sent: Thursday, 23 January 2020 10:59 p.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Cc: WEIR, Hannah (PHM); WALKER, Lyndal s6(b)
Subject: RE: Engagement with s6(b) on UNRWA

Hi Kate,

Happy to do this. Out of scope

s9(2)(a) so I will try to get a meeting by next Wednesday and report back. It would also be great if you can send through some specific questions you want me to ask or details you want to know.

Many thanks,

Kerry

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Thursday, 23 January 2020 2:59 a.m.
To: GILLAM-O'CONNOR, Kerry s6(b)
Cc: WEIR, Hannah (PHM)
Subject: Engagement with s6(b) counterparts on UNRWA

Kia ora Kerry and happy new year.

We would be interested in getting the views of s6(b) counterparts on UNRWA.

s6(b) recently reinstated funding for UNRWA after a suspension during the investigation into leadership and management, which found no evidence of corruption or fraud

My suggestion is that we have a call together, and you then discuss with your s6(b) counterparts. Would this work for you?

A call tomorrow or early next week would be great

Many thanks
Kate

Kate Bradlow

Lead Adviser
Humanitarian – Global
Nga Hoe Tuputupu Mai Tawhiti | Pacific and Development Group
Manatū Aorere | New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Thursday, 16 January 2020 10:06 AM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI);
WRIGHT, Emily (ANK)
Subject: FW: UNRWA and Union Representatives meet in Amman. January 13, 2020

Kia ora and happy new year!

s6(a)

Cheers
Jikita

s6(b)

s6(b)

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From: EATON, Laura (EUR)
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2020 11:51 AM
To: EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Cc: MORTON, Tara (MEA); REID, Nicola (EUR); PIDGEON, Gareth (EUR); KALDERIMIS, Sophie (UNHC)
Subject: FW: Invitation Virtual Ministerial Conference on UNRWA 23 June
Attachments: Invitation New Zealand.pdf; Concept Note for Extraordinary Virtual Ministerial Conf. on UNRWA 23 June (002).pdf

Hi Jennecca and Kate

The Jordanian MFA/Swedish Minister for International Development are inviting MFA to a virtual ministerial pledging conference on UNRWA. Among other things, the conference will call on the international community to reaffirm solidarity with Palestinian refugees. Guterres will be there too.

Grateful if you could have a think about our response (they are asking for confirmation by this Sunday 14 June).

Kind regards,

Laura Eaton

Policy Officer
Europe Division
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade | Manatū Aorere

T s9(2)(a) E laura.eaton@mfat.govt.nz

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2020 11:36 AM
To: REID, Nicola (EUR)
Cc: PIDGEON, Gareth (EUR); EATON, Laura (EUR)
Subject: Invitation Virtual Ministerial Conference on UNRWA 23 June

Dear Nikki,

Please find attached an invitation to a virtual Ministerial Conference on UNRWA 23 June. I would be grateful if you could forward it to the Minister's Office.

Kind regards
Henrik

s9(2)(a)

Minister Counsellor / Deputy Head of Mission

Embassy of Sweden
5 Turrana Street
Yarralumla ACT 2600
Canberra Australia

s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)
Email: s9(2)(a)
www.swedenabroad.se/canberra



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s6(b)

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“A Strong UNRWA in a Challenging World – Mobilizing Collective Action”

Remarks by the Commissioner-General

23 June 2020

Checked against delivery

At the outset, I wish to express my deep appreciation to the co-chairs of this Conference, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ayman Safadi and Minister for International Development cooperation Peter Erikson for taking the initiative to convene this Conference.

Mr Secretary-General, I am grateful for your participation today, and for your leadership in marshalling support for the Agency and the Palestine refugees we assist.

To the governments that host Palestine refugees: I am grateful for your continued generosity.

I thank all participants for joining us

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

Crises in the Middle East remain unresolved and new ones always seem to be unfolding.

We are entering a period of renewed uncertainty with the threat of annexation in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, with the worst economic downfall in Lebanon’s modern history and with the seemingly endless conflict in Syria.

Among the new threats is the COVID-19 pandemic. After the health outbreak, we are now confronted with a pandemic of abject poverty. Anger, despair and hopelessness are growing within the Palestine refugee community. They are turning to us for more assistance and some are even trying their luck through deadly migration roads.

In an unpredictable and unstable environment, we need, more than ever, a predictable and stable UNRWA.

UNRWA is the lead provider of government like services for a population of 5.6 million Palestine refugees. Over the years, the Agency has provided a vital contribution to the human development agenda and to the stability of the Middle East.

- Take as an example the education system: our schools have graduated over two million students. Many have become teachers and educators who in turn have contributed to graduate other children across the Middle East.
- Our microfinance program has created nearly 700,000 jobs over 30 years. What does it mean? Families lifted out of poverty and women starting small businesses. This is local development at its best.
- In emergencies, we are the frontline responders. During Covid-19, we have shifted to telemedicine and to remote education. By doing so, we contributed to containment with less than 180 cases in 58 overcrowded refugees camps.

But our greatest challenge is our financial stability. We are operating at full capacity with inadequate resources.

Over the last five years deep budget cuts led to savings amounting to USD 500 million (half a billion). But even savings have a cost. Our buildings are no longer maintained properly. Our information technology system is outdated at a time we embark into digital transformation.

In reality, there is nothing left to cut without impacting the scope and the quality of the services.

Whilst cutting costs further is not an option, I am leading with determination management initiatives aimed at showcasing the highest standards of effectiveness and transparency.

After a few difficult years, it is time to turn the page and to focus on the challenges UNRWA is confronted with.

The core funding gap for 2020 stands, as we heard, at USD 400 million. A number of partners have committed resources generously – I express deep appreciation to them. However, we are still in the dark and we do not know if our operations will run until the end of the year.

Year after year, month after month, UNRWA is on the edge of a financial collapse. This cannot continue.

Despite the severity of the financial situation, I have chosen not to keep “sounding publicly the alarm”. This to avoid adding anxiety to the insecurity that refugees feel every day.

Last December, the General Assembly reaffirmed its strong support to UNRWA by extending its mandate. We need to translate this support into matching resources.

Our financial and cash flow crisis can be addressed.

How?

Through a compact between UNRWA and you, the Member States.

Our budgets are prepared ahead of time, they are predictable.

So today, our priorities are:

One: that participants to the conference commit to cover the current core budget funding gap .

Two: that donors commit to raise their annual contribution and engage into multi annual agreements

Three: that UNRWA and its partners pursue the diversification of the donor base including with emerging donors and through private partnerships.

Four: that, in line with Agenda 2030, UNRWA and its partners explore ways to shift from welfare to development, ensuring no Palestine refugees is left behind.

In closing, over 70 years ago, members of the UN General Assembly made the strategic decision to support the Palestine refugees.

It takes an enormous sense of responsibility to honor that commitment over seven decades. We all owe hosts and donors the highest praise.

No one expected that 70 years later this support would still be needed. No Palestine refugees want to be a refugee for so long. No one is a refugee by choice.

Until their plight is addressed, a predictable UNRWA is, amongst other support, what the Palestine refugees and the region need.

Failing that, would mean to revisit the mandate.

This should however not happen.

Why?

Because, you, the Member States, decided last December that there was no alternative than to renew the UNRWA mandate, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees.

Together we will make it happen.

Thank you

covid-19 weekly update

11 – 17 may 2020

Providing assistance and protection to Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

#InThisTogether



UNRWA delivers food parcels to Palestine refugee families in Gaza. © 2020
UNRWA Photo by Hussein Jaber

highlights

- The UNRWA Health Department is leading on the Agency's COVID-19 response and issues a [one-page daily sitrep](#) with the latest epidemiological figures.
- All 709 UNRWA schools, eight vocational/educational training centres and two ESF (Education Science Faculties) remain closed (in line with host government decisions) affecting 533,342 school students, 8,270 VTC trainees and

1,840 university students. To ensure the continuation of students' access to quality, inclusive, and equitable education, the longstanding UNRWA Education in Emergency (EiE) programme has been reconceptualized in order to better respond to the challenging COVID-19 context.

jordan Curfew since 17 March extended until end of Ramadan. Movement restrictions have eased and some business sectors resumed with minimal capacities. All borders/ports (air, land, sea) remain closed.

west bank State of Emergency extended until 5 June. Restrictions on business opening hours remain – shops must close by 7 p.m.

gaza Israeli-controlled Erez crossing and Egyptian-controlled Rafah Terminal closed. Controlled entry at Rafah is being facilitated for limited numbers of Gaza ID holders who must then enter a 21-day quarantine.

syria Curfew from 7:30 p.m. to 6 a.m. during Ramadan. All borders remain closed.

lebanon General closure and curfew from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m., with some essential services exempted. The government had agreed to a five-phase plan and lockdown measures started to relax in mid-May. Original lockdown measures re-imposed from 14-18 May to slow down a new rise in confirmed COVID-19 cases.

unrwa representative offices Brussels will continue teleworking measures until 18 May; Cairo and Washington DC until 30 May; New York until 31 May.



unrwa response



health

COVID-19 response activities

Jordan (JFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential medications covering a minimum of two months' of prescriptions continue to be delivered to patients. As of 17 May, 72,641 patients received their medications. • Immunization and family planning services are being provided and since 27 April, 12,488 children have been vaccinated. • The Jordanian authorities have issued an additional 184 travel permits to UNRWA health staff on top of the 60 already granted and all 25 Agency health centres (HCs) have now reopened. Due to the lack of travel permits staff from Irbid had been assisting in four HCs in the Jordan Valley. • Community mobilization campaigns continue in the camps to disseminate correct information about COVID-19 and to strengthen messages on the importance of social distancing.
Lebanon (LFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 27 Agency HCs have remained open throughout the crisis although with shorter working hours (9 a.m. – 2 p.m.) during Ramadan. • Various measures remain in place to reduce foot traffic at HCs to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19. Measures include: triaging all patients with flu symptoms and those without flu symptoms; providing multi-month prescriptions of chronic medicines to patients; and operating an appointments only system. These measures and more have resulted in a 65 percent decrease in daily HC visits since February 2020. • Hospital referrals are limited to life-saving cases and tertiary care. Non-urgent cases and scheduled surgeries are temporarily on hold.
Syria (SFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 18 May, 58 confirmed cases of COVID-19 were reported in Syria (36 recovered, 3 died). Seven new cases were detected on 18 May within a group of travellers who arrived from Kuwait and all are now in a government quarantine centre. • The number of people in Syria who have been quarantined to date reached 6,781, of whom 4,224 have left the centres because they were asymptomatic while 2,557 remain. • Triage of patients in Agency HCs continues and only urgent cases are referred to hospitals. 9,241 patients have attended UNRWA health facilities with respiratory complaints (non- COVID-19) since 12 April. • Leaflets continue to be distributed and telemedicine, including for psychosocial support (PSS), as well as helplines is operational. 1,889 calls for telemedicine have been received since 12 April. • The provision of a two months' supply of medicines to 8,000 vulnerable patients with non-communicable diseases (NCD) (aged 65+) continues through door-to-door visits and identified distribution points. Some 834 home visits have been carried out since 12 April.
Gaza (GFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new confirmed COVID-19 cases were reported in Gaza over the reporting week. The total number of confirmed cases stands at 20, all detected in, and confined to, quarantine centres for returned travellers. None have reportedly experienced severe symptoms. • The total number of persons under compulsory quarantine for 21 days, as of 17 May, was 1,574. • 7,758 people attended the Agency's COVID-19 triage points in the reporting week. Eighteen triage points have been established in Agency schools to isolate patients with respiratory symptoms and another four have been established in HCs.

COVID-19 response activities	
Gaza (GFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCs are operating with reduced services and the number of patient visits has consequently reduced while there have been 2,594 remote consultations on recently established telemedicine hotlines. Given that no cases of community transmission have been reported some important services are reopening with additional precautions being taken. • Home delivery of essential medicines to patients over 70 years and/or with diabetes was carried out in cooperation with the RSS programme; 1,908 drop-offs were made during the reporting week.
West Bank (WBFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total number of reported COVID-19 cases in the West Bank is now 540, including 179 in East Jerusalem. The total number of recovered cases is reported to be 437, including 118 in East Jerusalem. • Trainings for volunteers from camps were organized on the management of potential quarantine facilities inside refugee camps in all three West Bank areas on 11 (North), 12 (South) and 13 (Centre) May. The trainings were facilitated by the Ministry of Health with support from WHO and protection cluster partners.
Key Constraints	<p>Jordan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health services provided at Agency HCs are still limited. <p>Gaza</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The low number of available COVID-19 test kits throughout the Gaza Strip remains a major concern. • Major disruption to the limited transport pipeline for the central procurement of medical supplies remains a real possibility.



UNRWA health team in Nuseirat camp, Gaza, make home deliveries of medication to elderly patients. © 2020 UNRWA Photo by Khalil Adwan



Enai, an eight-year-old student at the UNRWA Shouka Elementary Co-Educational School in Gaza, is self-learning at home with her mother.
© 2020 UNRWA Photo by Khalil Adwan



education

COVID-19 response activities	
Jordan (JFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNRWA teachers are completing students' evaluations based on previous academic and general performance. • Online applications continue to be received for new Grade 1 students. • JFO is looking into providing catch up classes for school students and students in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and Faculty of Educational Sciences and Arts (FESA) in line with Jordanian government directives.
Lebanon (LFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Around 70 per cent of UNRWA school students and 86 percent of TVET students are participating in e-learning activities. • LFO is providing pre-paid Internet cards for 9,300 families to support students' participation in the Self Learning Programme (SLP). • The Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) had announced on 8 May that schools would reopen on 28 May. This decision was rescinded on 17 May, along with the temporary lockdown, in response to a sudden spike in COVID-19 cases. • MEHE has cancelled Grade 9 and Grade 12 national exams for the school year 2019/2020.
Syria (SFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSS counsellors are providing psychosocial support to Grade 9 students who are preparing for their upcoming examinations. • The Agency's Damascus Training Centre (DTC) is preparing for a return of its students on 21 May. Staff are updating curriculum to help students compensate for study time lost with a focus on second year students who should graduate by the end of July. Sanitizing liquid and face masks are being procured in line with government requirements. • Education teams continue to assist other programmes in the emergency response (e.g. with food packaging/distribution).

COVID-19 response activities

Gaza (GFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been 202,904 individual visits to the Interactive Learning Programme, 117,655 individual visits to the Self-Learning Materials and 1,210 individual visits to the TVET platform over the reporting week. • Preparations continue with the Education Cluster for proposed exceptional support for the sitting of the Tawjihi secondary school exams with some UNRWA schools to be used as additional exam centres.
HQ Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HQ Education has developed a holistic response to the COVID-19 crisis by focusing on five key Education in Emergencies (EiE) areas: Self-Learning, Psychosocial Support (PSS), Safety and Hygiene issues, TVET, and Monitoring and Evaluation. The EiE Task Force continues to provide strategic direction and support to all Fields. 1. Self-learning: The curriculum team conducted virtual meetings with Lebanon and Syria teams to provide feedback and support with regards to the Self-Learning Programme (SLP) used in their Fields during the lockdown due to the COVID-19 crisis. The team also discussed with the Fields the use of SLM, both for any Catch Up period and in preparation for the new school year. Additionally, the team reviewed week seven Self-Learning Materials received from Lebanon. 2. PSS, Safety and Hygiene: The HQ Amman and Field PSS Subgroup held the fourth Agency-wide meeting on 12 May with counsellors and health education colleagues from all Fields. The Resource Guide, 'Supporting Students During COVID-19: A Guide to Learning, Health, Safety and Psychosocial Resources', first launched in late March, is being updated to include more resources, particularly on protecting children from COVID-19 and with regards to a new chapter on games and activities to support children's wellbeing and also to encourage healthy behaviour. 3. TVET: TVET HQ leads on the TVET emergency response during the COVID-19 crisis with Field-specific meetings to discuss the components of their emergency response. Guidance is being provided to the Fields in the roll out of the TVET Library, an online platform for sharing learning materials. Alongside all the work on the COVID-19 Emergency Response, a number of TVET Education Technical Instructions have also been finalized and disseminated to the Fields: Organization of Short-Term Courses in UNRWA Vocational Training Centres-4/2020; Production Work and Disposal of Products of Student's Training Exercises at UNRWA Vocational Training Centres-5/2020; and Storage, Handling and Maintenance of Tools and Machines at UNRWA Vocational Training Centres-6/2020. 4. Monitoring and Evaluation: The Agency-wide effort to assess students' technological access is continuing and all Fields will complete the collection of data for the parent survey before the start of Eid al-Fitr. The first draft report reviewing the technological tools in use or planned for use is complete and the review will be complemented by a research brief on the evidence for use of education technology, which is also under development. • Funding: Support to Field offices in the implementation of the six month Education Cannot Wait grant of US\$ 1 million continues. The project contributes to Agency-wide work along the following key pillars: continuity of education – SLP for students in UNRWA schools (across all five Fields) and in the TVET centres (in LFO and SFO); Psycho-Social Support for students; Safety and Hygiene; and Monitoring and Evaluation. An Implementation Status Report on the Belgium Education in Emergencies project was submitted to the donor. The report summarizes the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on project activities implementation and ways of modifying accordingly. • Partnerships: HQ Education participates in the weekly regional UN Inter-Agency meetings. Here it has actively contributed to framing the discussions around Catch Up and also school reopening through a Regional Framework for MENA. A regional Ministerial webinar around the implementation of the Framework will be held on 20 May with HQ engagement. HQ Education also participated in the INEE global Semi-Annual Working Group's meetings held between 11-15 May. • Planning: Agency-wide discussions involving all education Chiefs on planning for Catch Up

COVID-19 response activities	
HQ Programme	programmes and back to school are ongoing. Key issues being considered are how to support social distancing through approaches such as: a phased/progressive approach, alternate days by grade, or split classes. The emphasis is on Catch Up at this time so that lessons learned in the last months can be reflected in the model for the Catch Up and that further lessons learning can go on towards the new school year.
Key Constraints	<p>Syria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The volatile security situation in southern Syria is impacting on the Education Programme's ability to follow-up on activities in the area. This includes the registration of Grade 1 school students and preparations for the national exams for Grade 9. <p>Education Programme HQ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessibility to the Self-Learning Materials with regards to availability of Internet, electricity and technology devices for some UNRWA students, particularly in Jordan and Gaza.



relief and social services

COVID-19 response activities	
Jordan (JFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash distributions for ex-Gazans in Jerash camp will start on 18 May and the process is expected to take two weeks. A summary report of the socio-economic phone survey was completed and initially shared with some UN partners. A gender-focused analysis is being prepared in collaboration with UN Women. The second quarter (Q2) cash distribution to refugees registered with the Social Safety Net Programme (SSNP) is in progress with cash transfers to bank accounts expected to start on 20 May. Agency social workers continued contacting refugee families, including Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS), via phone and WhatsApp, to provide health awareness messages, support and advice on available emergency hotlines.
Lebanon (LFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution of the emergency cash assistance for 257,000 refugees, originally scheduled to start on 14 May, has been moved to a later date due to the sudden announcement of a four-day nationwide lockdown.
Syria (LFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April's cash distribution has been completed and preparations being made for round two covering three months. All registered beneficiaries will receive US\$ 10 per person as additional assistance in light of the economic challenges due to COVID-19. 113,393 refugees (82 per cent of those eligible) have received the in-kind food basket planned for the first round of 2020. Agency registration services (births, deaths, marriages) have now restarted following the government's resumption of basic civil registration services. The opening of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Family Support Offices (for legal and GBV survivor support) is being planned for the week after Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr and safety measures aimed at preventing the spread of COVID-19 will be implemented. PSS services have been started remotely via phone for some 1,236 refugees with disabilities, older persons and survivors of GBV.



UNRWA staff lead a COVID-19 awareness presentation at the UNRWA Damascus Training Centre. © 2020 UNRWA Photo by Taghrid Mohammed

COVID-19 response activities	
Gaza (GFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The distribution of the second food cycle in 2020 started on 17 May with a new home delivery system for the full caseload of over one million families. • Ramadan Suhoor food baskets are being distributed to 2,321 vulnerable families starting on 17 May and preparations are being made for a one-off seasonal cash distribution for 400 vulnerable refugee families. • Hygiene kits for children with disabilities are being prepared under the project Intervention to Support Vulnerable Children in the Gaza Strip – Phase IV.

COVID-19 response activities

<p>West Bank (WBFO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second round of food security assistance, which includes food parcels for 4,000 families and food vouchers for 2,000 families both inside and outside camps, is under preparation. • The psychosocial support first aid hotline received 77 calls during the reporting week. • Over the reporting week the numbers of refugees supported by the RSS programmes were: 20 (Women's Programme), 28 (Disability Programme), 50 (Child and Family Protection Programme), and 122 (Crisis Intervention Unit). • Twenty social workers and counsellors completed the third session of the online training for 'phone consultations' carried out by the Palestinian Counselling Centre (PCC). The objective of the training was to build staff capacity in communicating with beneficiaries via phone, especially those working on the psychosocial support hotline.
<p>HQ Programme</p>	<p>Staff care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An area staff counseling service has been established in all Fields and HQ Amman to support staff while they are working remotely and facing issues arising from the COVID-19 crisis. Training for staff counsellors in LFO and JFO has now been completed. Any area staff member experiencing psychological difficulties, stress or well-being concerns, which may be related to work or impacting work, can directly contact designated staff counsellors in each Field to access the service. Individual counselling is confidential and free of charge. • Additional support is being provided through a series of videos on the official UNRWA staff Facebook group. An additional video has been uploaded detailing concerns staff may have during this crisis and offering coping strategies. • A counseling service for international staff continues to be available to international staff in all Fields and HQ Amman upon request. This service is being provided by clinical psychologists external to UNRWA and is confidential and free of charge. Contact details have been circulated and staff can contact the counsellors directly.



infrastructure & camp improvement (icip)

COVID-19 response activities

<p>Jordan (JFO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractors for four ICIP projects (construction of Zohour Health Centre and school in Amman, Amman New Camp school and Zarqa Health Centre) resumed work but on a limited scale.
<p>Lebanon (LFO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 300 sanitation staff are daily cleaning the 12 official camps to maintain environmental health standards. • All HCs are thoroughly disinfected at the end of opening hours. • New shelter rehabilitation projects have been suspended since the start of the COVID-19 crisis. Existing rehabilitation projects continue. • LFO is repurposing Sammouh school in Ein El Hilweh camp (Saida) and an old Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) hospital in El Buss camp (Tyre) to serve as COVID-19 isolation centres.



A sanitation worker in Khan Younis camp disinfects the UNRWA sanitation office.
© 2020 UNRWA Photo by Khalil Adwan

COVID-19 response activities

Syria (SFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanitation services in the nine official camps and one unofficial camp are carried out daily in addition to disinfection activities (streets and UNRWA facilities). Garbage collection points continue to be disinfected along with larger areas in the camps. Additional support is provided to disinfection activities for Palestinian gatherings. Sixteen additional labourers have been recruited to support disinfection activities in camps.
Gaza (GFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanitation work, including the cleaning of roads and alleys, solid waste collection and disposal, is ongoing. The total volume of solid waste collected from the camps over the reporting period was 1,530 tons. All shelter activities and construction work are temporarily suspended.
West Bank (WBFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The COVID-19 Safety Plan form is being completed by contractors on a daily basis and engineers are reporting to ICIP management on contractors' compliance with the measures. Community development projects for the rehabilitation of roads and sewerage networks began in Jalazone, Kalandia and Aqbat Jabr refugee camps.
Key Constraints	<p>West Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following a confirmed COVID-19 case in Beit Ula (southern West Bank) Hebron's governor has closed off the town. The Agency's project there has been temporarily suspended.



microfinance

COVID-19 response activities	
Fields & HQ Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Microfinance Department (MD) started implementing a four-month deferment on loan repayments, from April 2020 with reviews every month. Deferments for June and July will be reviewed based on developments with the COVID-19 crisis.• No new loans are currently being provided, however it is anticipated that loans will start being processed after the Eid al-Fitr holiday.• Work in the MD HQ office, based in the West Bank Field office, has partially resumed for staff residing in Jerusalem.• In coordination with Field directors, branch offices in Jordan, Syria and Gaza are partially open for 1-3 days a week (variable for each field) with 30 per cent of core staff on duty for a few hours on selected days to receive repayments from those clients who are able to repay or to process clearance forms for clients. In the West Bank, branches are operating five days a week with a rotation of staff in all governorates apart from Ramallah, Hebron and Nablus.• Clients with prearranged appointments are permitted to enter offices for specific purposes and during opening times all preventive and safety measures are being followed.• Since the reopening of the branch offices in Syria around 400 people have expressed an interest in applying for a new loan.• In Gaza, 133 loan repayments were received during the reporting week.• MD operations are expected to expand as sectors of the economy start to open up.



protection

COVID-19 response activities	
Jordan (JFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• From 1-13 May, GBV hotlines received 16 new cases and 63 calls were from pre-existing GBV cases. One GBV case was referred to the Jordanian Family Protection Department, which took immediate action. In addition, 176 calls received were related to other Agency services, such as education and health, and forwarded to the relevant programmes for action.• The Neutrality Protection Unit (NPU) organized a GBV outreach meeting with the Noor Al Hussein Foundation on 17 May to explore ways to enhance GBV response during the crisis.
Lebanon (LFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over the past two months, LFO has registered an increase in the number of very vulnerable households unable to pay rent and threatened with eviction, an increase in labour law cases relating to arbitrary dismissals and terminations without indemnities, and a significant rise in the number of child protection and GBV related cases.• The Protection team is implementing remote mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), child protection and GBV activities, including through established community groups and is referring urgent cases to partner organizations.• Initiatives have been developed to work with communities to combat COVID-19 stigma.



COVID-19 response activities	
Syria (SFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 206 calls were received through the helplines between 7-13 May, with the majority (183) relating to cash and food assistance.
Gaza (GFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional neutrality inspections are underway in areas assessed to be of higher risk.
West Bank (WBFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of more than 22 vulnerable refugee communities throughout the West Bank continued to identify needs, gaps, protection risks and linking individuals and communities to needed services. In Kafr Qaddum (Qalqilia), 25 vulnerable families were identified for possible food parcel assistance. Protection trainings, through the Inter-Agency Protection Cluster, for volunteers on the management of quarantine facilities for refugee camps focused on mental health, psychosocial support and GBV. Further training and support for the volunteers and quarantine facility managers will be required, including on protection mainstreaming and the development and application of SOPs. A protection checklist for remote documentation and monitoring has been finalized and circulated.
HQ Division	<p>HQ Division is providing the Field protection teams with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support on communication to communities on available services for GBV survivors. Follow up on referral pathways for GBV survivors and existing data collection modalities. Follow up on mitigating the risks of cyber-bullying and the guidance on addressing it.
Key Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to COVID-19 movement restrictions, in-person protection monitoring and direct community engagement and activities have all been suspended.



human resources

COVID-19 response activities	
HQ Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HR will continue to support staff during the expected return to office work in coordination with Field/department directors and FAQs on return to office work arrangements is being prepared. • Regular HR services are operating as normal, including the payroll processing for May, and recruitment and training activities will resume through on-line platforms.

priorities

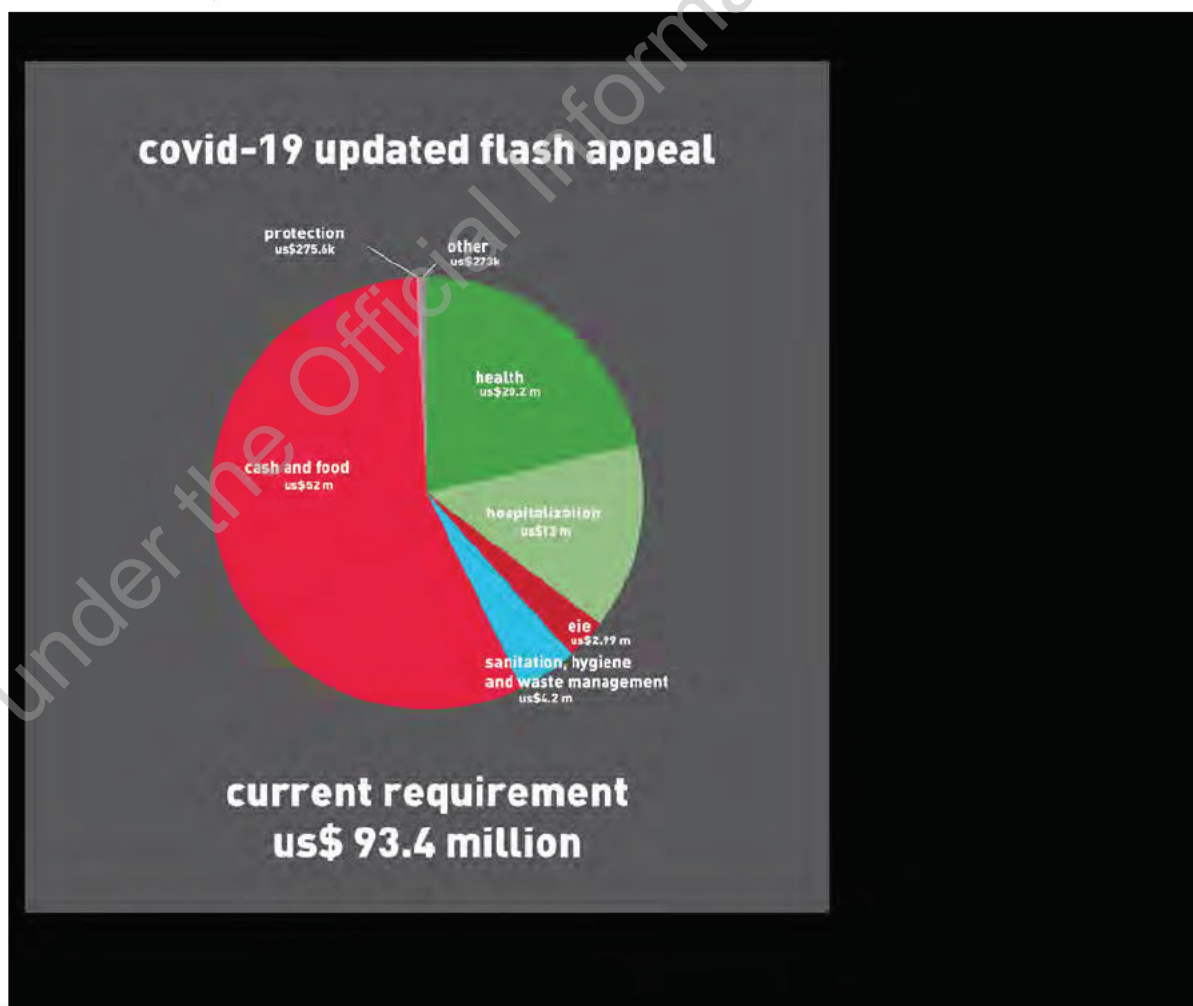
COVID-19 response activities	
Jordan (JFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to contain the spread of COVID-19 and reduce morbidity, healthcare services and environmental health operations will continue. • Teachers will remain in contact with students and provide remote individual follow-up support to facilitate access to distance learning opportunities.
Syria (SFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beneficiaries continue to request that the Agency provides a blanket food distribution or increase in cash distribution. • Discussions are underway for a rapid assessment of the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 among Palestine refugees in Syria.
West Bank (WBFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparations for the second round of food assistance are underway. • Food baskets and hygiene kits are being procured for families in home quarantine. • SOPs on the return to work for non-frontline staff are being developed and a phased approach to normal operations is being developed for admin/support functions, construction and maintenance, registration, social services and health.
HQ Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Programme HQ • Self-learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Review of the newly developed Self Learning Material received from Lebanon and Syria Fields. • Psychosocial, Safety and Hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of Version 2 of The Resource Guide 'Supporting Students During COVID-19: A Guide to Learning, Health, Safety and Psychosocial Resources'. • TVET <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launching the TVET online platform for sharing learning materials and providing technical guidance to the Fields. • Monitoring and Evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Fields in the implementation of Agency-wide phone surveys with parents on students' access to technology at home. • Develop plans for Agency-wide teacher support interviews to explore lessons learned related to teacher support of students self-learning.

COVID-19 response activities	
HQ Programme	<p>Partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNRWA to participate as a panelist at the upcoming regional Ministerial webinar on potential school reopening planned for 20 May 2020. <p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions will continue around the different modalities for both Catch Up and Back to School, given the importance of continuing social distancing.

funding

Updated COVID-19 UNRWA Flash Appeal

UNRWA has released an updated Flash Appeal, requesting US\$ 93.4 million to cover its humanitarian operations for COVID-19 response for the period March-July 2020. The Flash Appeal is available [here](#).



united nations relief and works agency
for palestine refugees in the near east

www.unrwa.org

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and is mandated to provide assistance and protection to a population of some 5.6 registered Palestine refugees. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip to achieve their full potential in human development, pending a just solution to their plight. UNRWA services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, microfinance and emergency assistance. UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions.

contact: unrwa-covid19@unrwa.org

From: NEW YORK

Sent: Wednesday, 25 March 2020 4:57 AM

To: PHM

Cc: CEO; DCE; DS EMA; DS MLG; DS AAG; DS PDG; EUR; AMER; UNHC; LGL; ISED; ...MEA POSTS; CANBERRA; WASHINGTON; ...EUROPEAN POSTS; FM.P/S Defence (Seemail); FM.P/S MFA (Seemail); FM.DPMC (NSG, FPA) (Seemail); FM.NAB (Seemail); AUS; GDS; AMER; ANKARA; ARD; AUS; BERLIN; BRUSSELS; CANBERRA; CCD; DCE; DS EMA; DS PDG; DS TEG; ECO; EUR; GENEVA; HAGUE; ISED; LGL; LONDON; OCE; PARIS; ROME; SEA; STOCKHOLM; SUVA; UNHC; WASHINGTON; MEA; NEW YORK

Subject: FORMAL MESSAGE: SEEKING BRIEFING ON FINDINGS OF UNRWA OIOS INVESTIGATION: CALL WITH NEW YORK DIRECTOR

SUMMARY

Post had a virtual call with s9(2)(a), the newly appointed New York office Director of the UN humanitarian agency responsible for Palestinian Refugees, UNRWA. We used the opportunity to share New Zealand's expectations and asks of UNRWA, particularly in the wake of misconduct investigations into senior agency officials. s9(2)(a) undertook to convey these back to UNRWA leadership. Noting the agency's ever worsening financial situation, and its recent Flash Appeal to respond to COVID-19, the Director asked that New Zealand disburse its 2020 funding commitment by the end of the month if possible.

ACTION

PHM/MEA – to note UNRWA's request for New Zealand to pay next tranche of funding by end of month. To also note UNRWA has undertaken to revert with more details on the implementation of its management initiatives plan.

REPORT

1. New York (HOM Hawke, Snr Policy Adviser de Schot) met with s9(2)(a), Director of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) New York office on 20 March 2020. While the meeting was intended to be in person, because of COVID-19 the call took place over Zoom. s9(2)(a)

2. s9(2)(a) thanked New Zealand for its ongoing financial and political support to UNRWA. She said that while the agency has always grappled with funding shortages, the current financial situation is particularly dire. s6(b)

This will enable UNRWA to continue its operations through May. Without this and other financial disbursements, s9(2)(a) said that the agency will run out of funds by the end of April. She therefore appealed to us to release our next tranche of funding to UNRWA by the end of the month if possible.

3. s9(2)(a) said that COVID-19 has brought increased challenges, and put UNRWA's obligation to provide health services to Palestinian refugees into sharp relief. The agency launched a US\$14 million Flash Appeal to prepare and respond to COVID-19 (further details [here](#)). s9(2)(a) expressed particular concern about the risks in densely populated Gaza.

4. We drew on the talking points (for which thanks) contained in PHM's 11 March FM. We thanked the Director for providing an update on the financial picture and challenges facing the agency. We said that UNRWA needs to continue rebuilding donors' confidence following the November 2019 investigations. We encouraged UNRWA to share as much information as possible with donors on a 'no surprises' basis. As New Zealand does not have a diplomatic presence in UNRWA's area of operations, we emphasised the importance of UNRWA keeping us connected and updated through the New York office and other channels. We noted our particular interest in information on the implementation of the management initiatives plan, including following the announcement of the appointment of a new Commissioner-General (see press release [here](#)). We're told that Commissioner-General s9(2)(a)

5. s9(2)(a) undertook to convey our remarks to UNRWA leadership. She welcomed our engagement with the UNRWA Advisory Commission, and encouraged observance of an upcoming sub-committee virtual meeting. The Director identified UNRWA's annual New York pledging conference (tentative date of 16 June) as an opportunity for new Commissioner-General s9(2)(a) to address donors on his vision and priorities. s9(2)(a) senior adviser told us he will revert with information on the progress of the implementation of the management initiatives plan.

Comment

6. s9(2)(g)(i)

ENDS

From: PHM

Sent: Wednesday, 11 March 2020 5:41 p.m.

To: NEW YORK; PHM

Cc: CEO; DCE; DS EMA; DS MLG; DS AAG; DS PDG; EUR; AMER; UNHC; LGL; ISED; ...MEA POSTS; CANBERRA; WASHINGTON; ...EUROPEAN POSTS; FM.P/S Defence (Seemail); FM.P/S MFA (Seemail); FM.DPMC (NSG, FPA) (Seemail); FM.NAB (Seemail); AUS; GDS; AMER; ANKARA; ARD; AUS; BERLIN; BRUSSELS; CANBERRA; CCD; DCE; DS EMA; DS PDG; DS TEG; ECO; EUR; GENEVA; HAGUE; ISED; LGL; LONDON; OCE; PARIS; ROME; SEA; STOCKHOLM; SUVA; UNHC; WASHINGTON; MEA

Subject: RE: FORMAL MESSAGE: SEEKING BRIEFING ON FINDINGS OF UNRWA OIOS INVESTIGATION

SUMMARY

Building on the helpful insights from discussions with the OIOS, NYK's upcoming meeting with the newly appointed Director of the New York based UNRWA Representative Office is a further opportunity to strengthen our engagement with UNRWA and to outline our expectations.

ACTION

NYK : Please share the following asks and expectations during your upcoming meeting with the newly appointed Director of the New York based UNRWA Representative Office.

REPORT

1. Thank you for the helpful readout from your discussions with OIOS. We agree that while the process has taken longer than expected, UN moved quickly to remove and replace the staff concerned. We recognise the UN's transparency through their commitment to sharing of the redacted reports. We welcome the upcoming meeting with the Director of the New York based UNRWA's Representative Office as an opportunity to reiterate our expectations and specific asks of UNRWA.
2. Proposed messages for the Director of UNRWA's Representative Office are:
 - New Zealand has consistently demonstrated our support for UNRWA's mandate and operations through our political and financial support. We want to acknowledge the work of UNRWA staff in such a complex operating environment.
 - New Zealand has sought to extend our donor engagement with UNRWA and welcomes the responsiveness across UNRWA to our requests to date. While New Zealand is not a member of the Advisory Commission, we are strengthening the regular exchange of information to better understand the challenges, innovations and successes of UNRWA. We hope that our regular interactions in New York will support that exchange.
 - New Zealand's support for UNRWA is under significant public scrutiny. It is important that we are well informed in order to respond to issues as they arise. In particular New Zealand welcomes reporting on UNRWA's response on challenges to neutrality and progress on internal reforms. Your donor relations division has been helpful in sharing explanations of the robust mechanisms for ensuring UNRWA's neutrality and we envisage regular interactions with them.
 - We welcome the development of the management initiatives plan which recognises the need for strengthened management and accountability systems. In order to assess the appropriateness of this response, we would like to better understand the challenges that informed these planned activities. We look forward to updates on how implementation of the plan is progressing.

ENDS

From: NEW YORK

Sent: Saturday, 7 March 2020 10:24 a.m.

To: PHM

Cc: CEO; DCE; DS EMA; DS MLG; DS AAG; DS PDG; EUR; AMER; UNHC; LGL; ISED; ...MEA POSTS; CANBERRA; WASHINGTON; ...EUROPEAN POSTS; FM.P/S Defence (Seemail); FM.P/S MFA (Seemail); FM.DPMC (NSG, FPA) (Seemail); FM.NAB (Seemail); AUS; GDS; AMER; ANKARA; ARD; AUS; BERLIN; BRUSSELS; CANBERRA; CCD; DCE; DS EMA; DS PDG; DS TEG; ECO; EUR; GENEVA; HAGUE; ISED; LGL; LONDON; OCE; PARIS; ROME; SEA; STOCKHOLM; SUVA; UNHC; WASHINGTON; MEA; NEW YORK

Subject: RE: FORMAL MESSAGE: SEEKING BRIEFING ON FINDINGS OF UNRWA OIOS INVESTIGATION

SUMMARY

The UN Office for Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) confirmed that copies of its reports investigating allegations of misconduct by five UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) staff, including its former Commissioner-General, will be released after the full disciplinary process has run its course. Action is still with the Office of Human Resources, which is making determinations on disciplinary action, following this natural justice review and challenge period. Two of the individuals under investigation have resigned.

ACTION

For information, in response to PHM's tasking of 13 February.

REPORT

1. We called on UN Assistant Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) and Director of the Investigations Division s9(2)(a) (who headed the investigations) about the Office's investigations into UNRWA staff (NYK's FMs of 6/11/19, 8/8/19, and 31/7/19 refer). We also re-attach an update letter sent by the UN Secretary-General to all Member States on 13 February 2020.

2. s9(2)(a) were s9(2)(g)(i) :

– s6(b)

3. The Office confirmed it has received our formal request for a copy of the reports. s9(2) said his team are not in a position to release the reports yet, stating that it would not be appropriate to do so because the disciplinary processes has not been completed. s9(2)(a) added that though former Commissioner-General s9(2)(a) has resigned, his report is being held as it cross-references the other reports/individuals. They were committed to releasing the reports, with some redactions, for example to protect witnesses' identities.

4. Our interlocutors confirmed that findings of misconduct are made in each of the reports. s9(2)(a) reconfirmed the Secretary-General's letter which outlined that no fraud or misuse of programme funds was involved. s6(b)

5. s6(b)

ENDS

From: PHM

Sent: Thursday, 13 February 2020 7:10 p.m.

To: NEW YORK

Cc: CEO; DCE; DS EMA; DS MLG; DS AAG; DS PDG; EUR; AMER; UNHC; LGL; ISED; ...MEA POSTS; CANBERRA; WASHINGTON; ...EUROPEAN POSTS; FM.P/S Defence (Seemail); FM.P/S MFA (Seemail); FM.DPMC (NSG, FPA) (Seemail); FM.NAB (Seemail); AUS; GDS; AMER; ANKARA; ARD; AUS; BERLIN; BRUSSELS; CANBERRA; CCD; DCE; DS EMA; DS PDG; DS TEG; ECO; EUR; GENEVA; HAGUE; ISED; LGL; LONDON; OCE; PARIS; ROME; SEA; STOCKHOLM; SUVA; UNHC; WASHINGTON; MEA; PHM

Subject: FORMAL MESSAGE: SEEKING BRIEFING ON FINDINGS OF UNRWA OIOS INVESTIGATION

Summary

In mid-2019, the United Nation's the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) undertook an inquiry into alleged abuses of power amongst senior leadership at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The investigation identified behavioural shortcomings by senior leadership but no evidence of fraud or corruption. We seek the opportunity to review key findings of the investigation before release of New Zealand's next annual payment to UNRWA, due at the end of March 2020.

Action

NYK: Please seek a call with senior UN officials to reiterate New Zealand's request for the release of the findings of the OIOS investigation, if necessary in a redacted format or by a detailed verbal briefing.

Report

In November 2019, preliminary findings of an Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) inquiry into abuses of power amongst senior leadership of UNRWA found significant behavioural shortcomings within senior leadership. The investigation did not find evidence of fraud or corruption. Independent performance reporting suggests that UNRWA's core functions continue to operate to a satisfactory standard.

2 The UN responded quickly to the initial findings, removing and replacing key position holders including the Chief of UNRWA. The UN released an UNRWA Management Initiatives document outlining the key actions for addressing the shortcomings highlighted in the investigation findings.

3 Since the launch of the investigation in July 2019, New Zealand's consistent public messaging has been that we will review the findings of the investigation before releasing the next tranche of NZ\$1 million core funding with UNRWA, due at the end of March 2020.

4 As a responsible donor, New Zealand would like to understand the findings of the investigation in order to assess our comfort with the management response to date. Furthermore, we have an interest in encouraging the UN to meet its commitments around transparency and accountability by making the findings of the investigation available; this will be important in maintaining UNRWA's credibility moving forward.

5 New Zealand is coordinating with other likeminded donors who share an interest in understanding the findings of the investigation for the reasons outlined above.

6 Despite the suggestion by the UN Secretary-General in November that the OIOS report would be made public, the report has not yet been released to donors. We have since been made aware that the UN has to first complete all internal disciplinary processes before any release. At this stage, we are not confident that the full report will be released in time for review before the planned March payment.

7 We propose to escalate our calls on senior members of the UN Secretariat, to release either the full version or a redacted format, and if this is not possible before our payment deadline, actively seek a verbal briefing of the findings of the investigation as soon as possible.

Comment:

8 New Zealand remains committed to supporting the humanitarian needs of Palestinian refugees and recognises the important work that UNRWA is doing in addressing these needs. Our interest in seeing the findings of the report is ensuring that as a donor, we are fulfilling our due diligence responsibilities and supporting the UN to meet its commitments to transparent and accountable processes. While we recognise natural justice must be preserved, seeking the opportunity to review the findings of the OIOS inquiry is an important step in enabling New Zealand to meet our donor obligations and for UNRWA to move forward with the confidence of donors.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Tuesday, 28 July 2020 4:01 PM
To: DONNISON, Alexandra (ESD)
Subject: FW: UNRWA - Canada support

Security Classification:

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Friday, 10 April 2020 2:06 AM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Cc: EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK); PRINGLE, Rachael (NYK); COLLINS, Ben (NYK)
Subject: RE: UNRWA - Canada support

Hi Kate, thanks for the update, that's really helpful to know. s9(2)(a)

Out of scope

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Thursday, 9 April 2020 6:31 a.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Cc: EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK); PRINGLE, Rachael (NYK); COLLINS, Ben (NYK)
Subject: UNRWA - Canada support

Hi Kate,

s9(2)(a)

You may have already seen Canada's announcement of funding for COVID-19 response. Wanted to let you know as wasn't put up in spotlights that it includes \$1.5m for UNRWA, and \$2.5m for UNICEF and WHO in Gaza and the West Bank.

Canada also said that its 2020 contribution to UNRWA is still to be completed. It usually disburses sometime after 1 April with new fiscal year so this may also be on cards in coming months.

Cheers
Jikita

<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/canadas-support-for-international-efforts-to-fight-the-covid-19-pandemic.html>

From: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Sent: Wednesday, 1 April 2020 2:44 p.m.
To: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Cc: EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Subject: RE: UNRWA

That's great thanks Jikita

Grateful for any updates on COVID-19.

We are currently developing a proposal for support to the Global Humanitarian Response Fund and oPT fall under this plan as a priority.

Thanks
Kate

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Thursday, 2 April 2020 7:38 a.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Cc: EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA); BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK); HAWKE, Craig (NYK)
Subject: UNRWA

Hi Kate,

Attaching an official confirmation received from UNRWA stating that new Commissioner-General starts 1 April.

Separately, the UNSC this week via VTC held its regular quarterly briefing and discussions on implementation of SCR2334. There, the majority of UNSC members expressed support for UNRWA's work. Members also welcomed the dialogue and cooperation between Israel and Palestine on COVID-19.

Cheers
Jikita

From: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Sent: Wednesday, 1 April 2020 6:09 a.m.
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Cc: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK); EVALU, Jennecca (MEA); MORTON, Tara (MEA)
Subject: FW: UNRWA Projects during the COVID-19 pandemic

Hey Kate,

Did you receive the below email as well?

Ross

From: s9(2)(a) **On Behalf Of** s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 1 April 2020 12:05 PM
Cc: s9(2)(a)

Subject: UNRWA Projects during the COVID-19 pandemic

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to you today concerning funding some of you provide to UNRWA projects.

Over the past weeks, UNRWA has done an assessment of all the open grants due to be completed by the end of the year to see which are at risk of delay because of COVID-19, and to assess the programmatic impact of the pandemic.

UNRWA currently has 192 open grants of which 68 were identified as potentially at risk. In a further review, fields and programmes colleagues have identified 48 projects to be at real risk across all UNRWA fields of operations.

Depending on the nature of these projects, UNRWA is envisioning a couple of courses of action, as follows:

1. Project implementation is late but, taking into consideration the information we have at hand, it should be possible to complete it. However, an extension of the project deadline will likely be needed.
2. Project implementation is challenging or impossible at this stage. In order to optimize donor funding, and taking into account the attached IASC guidelines, we will be requesting reprogramming of funds to address COVID-19 related needs.

Over the coming weeks the External Relations team will be reaching out to you individually, as need be, with details on the specific project status and in order to get your feedback on preferred way forward.

Please note however that we are working in a volatile environment. The information we will share with you is based on our current assessment but changes that are beyond our control may occur and our capacity to implement projects may be further hindered in case of further spread of the diseases, further movement restrictions, etc.

In advance, I want to thank you for your flexibility in addressing these new challenges.

Warm regards to all and please stay safe,

s9(2)(a)



s9(2)(a)

chief, donor relations division

unrwa | department of external relations and communications

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

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Released under the Official Information Act 1982

From: DE SCHOT, Jikita (NYK)
Sent: Wednesday, 13 May 2020 2:35 AM
To: BRADLOW, Kate (PHM); DE LEON, Rapunzel (UNHC); RIGOLI, Daniela (MEA)
Cc: MORTON, Tara (MEA); HAWKE, Craig (NYK); CHESHIRE, Finnian (NYK)
Subject: UNRWA - OIOS and COVID-19 flash appeal

Kia ora PHM/MEA/UNHC,

Hope you're well.

Two things from us relating to UNRWA:

- The Chef de Cabinet of the SG will be holding another PR-level briefing for interested member states on the OIOS investigation and UNRWA management initiatives next Tuesday 19 May. List of invitees is below. We can draw on TPs in PHM's 11/3 FM, but please let us know if you have any updated messaging you'd like us to convey.
- Attaching formal letters from UNRWA re its COVID-19 flash appeal.

Thanks
Jikita

From: s9(2)(a)
Date: Monday, 11 May 2020, 11:14 AM
To: s9(2)(a)

>

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

19 May

Dear Colleagues,

The Chef de Cabinet would like to invite your Ambassador/Chargé d’Affaires to a virtual briefing (*via Microsoft Teams*) on the OIOS investigations and UNRWA's management initiatives on **Tuesday, 19 May from 10.00 am – 11.30 am (NYC time).**

We would be grateful for confirmation of the participant and provide us with the necessary email, so we can appropriately send the MS Teams invitation.

Please respond no later than Friday, 15 May 2020.

See below the list of participation as follows:

Australia
Austria
Belgium
Canada
China
Denmark
Egypt
European Union
Finland
France
Germany
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Italy

Japan
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Luxembourg
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Palestine
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States

From: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI)
Sent: Tuesday, 5 May 2020 12:06 AM
To: s9(2)(a) BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: RE: Update on UNRWA COVID-19 response

Many thanks ^{s9(2)(a)} this is very useful information particularly regarding on-going access to Gaza. Appreciate you sending these through!

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

Ross

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 4 May 2020 9:47 AM
To: BATCHELOR, Ross (CAI); BRADLOW, Kate (PHM)
Subject: Update on UNRWA COVID-19 response

Dear Ross and Kate,

I hope this e-mail finds you well and healthy!

I wanted to make sure that you are aware of the Weekly Updates on UNRWA's COVID-10 response and developments in the five Field Offices. I am attaching here the updates from last week and the previous week. These are also available on our website.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

s9(2)(a)



s9(2)(a) | [external relations and projects consultant](#) |
[donor relations division](#) | [department of external relations & communications](#) | UNRWA
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Please consider the environment before printing this email



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

13 February 2020

Excellency,

I write further to my letter of 19 November 2019 regarding reports of possible misconduct involving senior management of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and wish to provide an update on the status of these matters.

Since my letter, the Office of Internal Oversight Services has submitted an additional investigation report, bringing the investigation reports concerning the allegations of misconduct to a total of five. Following a thorough review, a disciplinary process has been initiated with respect to three UNRWA staff members. Possible managerial, administrative and/or disciplinary action as regards other implicated staff members, as appropriate, is also being considered.

I can reiterate that the investigation reports did not find that there was fraud.

In his role as Acting Commissioner-General since 7 November 2019, Mr. Christian Saunders has taken immediate steps to strengthen the administration of UNRWA with a view to further bolster and expand existing oversight and accountability mechanisms and to improve its governance and management in all areas. I have also requested the management structures in New York to provide support to the efforts of the Agency to implement a management plan to address the areas of concern raised by the investigation reports.

I remain concerned by the funding shortfall faced by UNRWA. I wish to urge all Member States to consider increasing funding or expediting the release of funding to the Agency to enable it to perform its life-saving work. I wish to thank those Member States and other UNRWA partners who have already responded to our calls for their continued support of the Agency, which is essential to the well-being of Palestine refugees at this critical time.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

With my warmest personal regards

António Guterres

All Permanent Representatives of
Member States of the United Nations
New York



the commissioner-general
المفوض العام

East Jerusalem, 8 May 2020

Excellency,

Since March, UNRWA has been working relentlessly, in coordination with local authorities, to prevent a major outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. While we have so far managed to avoid the worst, I need your support to further contain the spread of the virus - particularly in overcrowded Palestine refugee camps - while at the same time sustaining essential life-saving services and mitigating the socioeconomic consequences of the health crisis on one of the most vulnerable populations in the Middle East.

Two months into the crisis, the measures put in place to limit the spread of the virus are disproportionately hitting the poorest, including Palestine refugees. Poverty rates and joblessness were already high among Palestine refugees before the crisis, with around 1.8 million relying on UNRWA cash and food assistance to meet their basic needs. Pressure on UNRWA from the refugee community to mitigate the hardship is mounting.

I am particularly concerned about the rapidly deteriorating living conditions in Gaza, where 70% of the population rely on UNRWA services, and in Palestine refugee camps in Lebanon, already hit hard by a severe economic and financial crisis. Your support is essential to ensure that Palestine refugees are able to weather the economic storm that could push this vulnerable community to the brink of disaster and trigger more instability in an already volatile region.

I am launching today an [updated COVID-19 Flash Appeal](#) for US\$ 93.4 million, to expand our humanitarian response to the pandemic over the next 3 months. This appeal is fully aligned with the UN's Global Humanitarian Response Plan. With your support, UNRWA will sustain life-saving primary health care, education, protection and environmental health services for Palestine refugees, by constantly innovating and adapting its way of operating. The Agency will also step up its cash and food assistance programmes to mitigate the rapid deterioration of the humanitarian and socioeconomic conditions of the most destitute and distressed among the Palestine refugees. UNRWA will also take all necessary protective measures to contain the pandemic, including adapting and managing isolation facilities and supporting quarantine centres, where requested by Ministries of Health.

Your continuous solidarity and generosity will give Palestine refugees hope and the means to live with safety, health and dignity through this global challenge that we need to face together.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Philippe Lazzarini



united nations relief and works agency
for palestinian refugees in the near east
وكالة الأمم المتحدة لإغاثة وتشغيل
اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في الشرق الأدنى

representative office
new york

one un plaza
room 1265
united nations
new york, n.y. 10017
usa

t +1 212 963 2255

www.unrwa.org

New York, 8 May 2020

Excellency,

Please find attached a letter from UNRWA Commissioner-General, Mr. Philippe Lazzarini, announcing the launch of a revised and updated [Covid-19 Appeal](#). The Agency is seeking US\$93.4 million to expand its humanitarian response to the pandemic over the next 3 months. These activities are fully aligned with the UN Global Humanitarian Response Plan.

For further information on UNRWA's response, I would invite you to visit our online [Covid-19 resource centre](#) which contains the Flash Appeal along with regular updates on UNRWA's efforts to combat the pandemic and illustrative videos of Palestine refugees experience during this difficult period.

Should you have any queries concerning our updated Flash Appeal, my team and I remain at your disposal for any further information.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Gréta Gunnarsdóttir
Director

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers to the
United Nations
New York

المكتب التمثيلي
لنيويورك

١ مبنى الأمم المتحدة (بلازا)
غرفه رقم ١٢٦٥
لنيويورك، نيويورك ١٠٠١٧
الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية

هـ ٢٢٥٥ ٩٦٣ ١٢١٢ +١

“A Strong UNRWA in a Challenging World – Mobilizing Collective Action”

Remarks by the Commissioner-General

23 June 2020

Checked against delivery

At the outset, I wish to express my deep appreciation to the co-chairs of this Conference, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ayman Safadi and Minister for International Development cooperation Peter Erikson for taking the initiative to convene this Conference.

Mr Secretary-General, I am grateful for your participation today, and for your leadership in marshalling support for the Agency and the Palestine refugees we assist.

To the governments that host Palestine refugees: I am grateful for your continued generosity.

I thank all participants for joining us

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

Crises in the Middle East remain unresolved and new ones always seem to be unfolding.

We are entering a period of renewed uncertainty with the threat of annexation in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, with the worst economic downfall in Lebanon’s modern history and with the seemingly endless conflict in Syria.

Among the new threats is the COVID-19 pandemic. After the health outbreak, we are now confronted with a pandemic of abject poverty. Anger, despair and hopelessness are growing within the Palestine refugee community. They are turning to us for more assistance and some are even trying their luck through deadly migration roads.

In an unpredictable and unstable environment, we need, more than ever, a predictable and stable UNRWA.

UNRWA is the lead provider of government like services for a population of 5.6 million Palestine refugees. Over the years, the Agency has provided a vital contribution to the human development agenda and to the stability of the Middle East.

- Take as an example the education system: our schools have graduated over two million students. Many have become teachers and educators who in turn have contributed to graduate other children across the Middle East.
- Our microfinance program has created nearly 700,000 jobs over 30 years. What does it mean? Families lifted out of poverty and women starting small businesses. This is local development at its best.
- In emergencies, we are the frontline responders. During Covid-19, we have shifted to telemedicine and to remote education. By doing so, we contributed to containment with less than 180 cases in 58 overcrowded refugees camps.

But our greatest challenge is our financial stability. We are operating at full capacity with inadequate resources.

Over the last five years deep budget cuts led to savings amounting to USD 500 million (half a billion). But even savings have a cost. Our buildings are no longer maintained properly. Our information technology system is outdated at a time we embark into digital transformation.

In reality, there is nothing left to cut without impacting the scope and the quality of the services.

Whilst cutting costs further is not an option, I am leading with determination management initiatives aimed at showcasing the highest standards of effectiveness and transparency.

After a few difficult years, it is time to turn the page and to focus on the challenges UNRWA is confronted with.

The core funding gap for 2020 stands, as we heard, at USD 400 million. A number of partners have committed resources generously – I express deep appreciation to them. However, we are still in the dark and we do not know if our operations will run until the end of the year.

Year after year, month after month, UNRWA is on the edge of a financial collapse. This cannot continue.

Despite the severity of the financial situation, I have chosen not to keep “sounding publicly the alarm”. This to avoid adding anxiety to the insecurity that refugees feel every day.

Last December, the General Assembly reaffirmed its strong support to UNRWA by extending its mandate. We need to translate this support into matching resources.

Our financial and cash flow crisis can be addressed.

How?

Through a compact between UNRWA and you, the Member States.

Our budgets are prepared ahead of time, they are predictable.

So today, our priorities are:

One: that participants to the conference commit to cover the current core budget funding gap .

Two: that donors commit to raise their annual contribution and engage into multi annual agreements

Three: that UNRWA and its partners pursue the diversification of the donor base including with emerging donors and through private partnerships.

Four: that, in line with Agenda 2030, UNRWA and its partners explore ways to shift from welfare to development, ensuring no Palestine refugees is left behind.

In closing, over 70 years ago, members of the UN General Assembly made the strategic decision to support the Palestine refugees.

It takes an enormous sense of responsibility to honor that commitment over seven decades. We all owe hosts and donors the highest praise.

No one expected that 70 years later this support would still be needed. No Palestine refugees want to be a refugee for so long. No one is a refugee by choice.

Until their plight is addressed, a predictable UNRWA is, amongst other support, what the Palestine refugees and the region need.

Failing that, would mean to revisit the mandate.

This should however not happen.

Why?

Because, you, the Member States, decided last December that there was no alternative than to renew the UNRWA mandate, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees.

Together we will make it happen.

Thank you