



United Nations World Food programme

Minutes of 2nd Gaza based Food Security, Nutrition & Agriculture meeting

✚ **Date and Time:** Wednesday 22 July 09 at 11:00 hr

✚ **Venue:** WFP office - Gaza

✚ **Participants:**

Mr. Neil Jebb	NRC
Mr. Adel Kaddoum	Secours Islamique France (SIF)
Mr. Rami Mahani	Islamic Relief - UK
Mr. Benjamin Granby	ACTED
Mr. Khalil Elgabour	ACTED
Ms. Sue Le Mesurier	ICRC
Mr. Usama Mukhallati	ICRC
Mr. John Karongo	ICRC
Ms. Mona Abu Ramadan	ANERA
Mr. Osama Qudaih	CARE
Mr. Anas Musallam	CARE
Mr. Carlos Diaz	FAO
Mr. Hesham El-Sharif	Zakat society
Mr. Emad El-Haddad	Human Appeal int
Mr. Ancel Kats	WFP
Ms. Inas Sesalim	WFP

The Gaza-based FS, N&A meeting was co-chaired by:

Mr. Jean Noel Gentile	WFP
Mr. Sebastien Trives	UNRWA

The meeting was called for to give the sector members an update on food security, nutrition, and agriculture situations in Gaza strip, to discuss the scenarios of Gaza Contingency Plan, and to enhance the mechanism of crosschecking of beneficiaries' lists.

Updates on Food Security situation & Gaza Contingency Plan:

Food availability:

- The availability of basic food commodities is back to pre-war levels. Food security situation has improved since Feb.09 but the main concern is still the access to food. There is an increased number of households in Gaza do not have the economic means to access the food.
- WFP, FAO and PCBS have carried out a quantitative socio-economic and food security survey in the oPt. Preliminary results for Gaza are expected in August.

- The cash shortage is still a concern to people in Gaza because of the blockade by Israel.

Update on Gaza Contingency Plan:

It is set of planning assumptions and responses among the UN agencies and NGO partners in response to the possible humanitarian consequences of the most likely scenarios to adversely affect the Gaza Strip.

The aim of this process is to define the potential risk scenarios that may emerge in the Gaza Strip over the course of the next six months and to improve the response capacity of UN agencies and partners.

Below are the contingencies that most likely to have a negative impact on the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

Contingency1: Continuation of the divide between Gaza and the west bank

Contingency2: Escalation of Israeli military activity in Gaza

Contingency3: Natural Occurrences (Flooding – Earthquake - Outbreak of Avian or Swine flu)

- For the first scenario (Contingency 1), UNRWA & WFP are most likely to keep the same caseload.

- In case of the second & third scenarios (Contingency 2&3):

- UNRWA would increase their case load by 250,000 beneficiaries.
- WFP would increase the caseload by 50,000 beneficiaries.

Update on agencies activities:

UNRWA

- Social Safety Net Scheme: UNRWA is assisting 100,000 beneficiaries of the poorest among the refugees' population, by providing them with dry rations covering 85% of their daily needs.
- Emergency Operation: UNRWA is assisting another 750,000 vulnerable refugees by providing them with dry rations covering about 60% of their daily needs.
- School Feeding: UNRWA has implementing school feeding program targeting 200,000 students at UNRWA schools by providing a snack per day.
- The criteria for selection beneficiaries have changed since Feb. 09 to include the refugee spouse and their family members. UNRWA GFD assistance is now distributed according to the family size for this category of families as well as a result.

Secours Islamique France (SIF) /Islamic Relief – FRANCE:

- SIF has provided 10,000 children at kindergartens on daily basis for school year 2008/2009 with fortified milk & biscuits & training and awareness for their teachers & parents in a partnership with **ANERA**.

- SIF is assisting 10,000 families with kitchen utensils, hygienic kits ,plastic sheets and jerricans, first shipment was arrived 2 weeks ago and have been distributed in Rafah Governorate .
- SIF will distribute 3000 food parcels in Ramadan; parcels contain sugar, lentils, halawa, date, tomato past and other dry food. The beneficiaries' lists of this assistance will be sent to UNRWA & WFP for crosschecking.

CARE

- CARE will be distributing 7100 fresh food parcels to vulnerable families on weekly basis in all Gaza governorates for the period 26 Jul 09 to 31 March 10.
- CARE has started distributing rabbits, Beehive, and the green houses rehabilitation to 1325 HH, and rabbits distribution and open land rehabilitation to 400 HH in addition to Hens distribution to 40 HHs.

Islamic Relief – UK

- 1) School feeding: provision of fortified biscuits and milk will be distributed for 20,000 school students, preschoolers and orphans in some centers for 104 days in Gaza Strip.
- 2) Ramadan food distribution: it is planned to distribute 10,000 food parcels in Ramadan (last week of August) for the needy people.

ICRC:

ICRC distributes non-food items, such as seeds and olive nursery trees. ICRC is implementing cash for work project in North, South and middle area, in addition to the roads rehabilitation and irrigation projects. The main obstacle in implementation is the lack of raw materials in Gaza strip.

ACTED:

ACTED implement a fresh food parcels distribution in North area and Gaza city, targeting 1250 framers twice, including 350 farmers whom are completely affected by War. In addition to the Cash for Work project (workers for packaging and distributing the food parcels).

Islamic Zakat Society:

Zakat Society has distributed 10,000 parcels of fresh food. And will start cash project to 600 families from Aug.09.

Human Appeal International – UAE

- Human appeal Int. has bread parcels distribution program, where bread is distributed on daily basis to 6,500 families since war. In addition to hot meals presented on daily basis to 420 displaced families.

WFP (United Nations World Food Programme)

- **General Food Distribution:** WFP is working to meet the basic food needs of the destitute population in Gaza strip through general food distribution. Since

Jan.09 WFP has been assisting a total caseload of 365,000 beneficiaries (non-refugees), through **i)** school feeding (50,000 students in Gvt primary schools) and **ii)** GFD by providing a full ration of basic food commodities through MSA, OXFAM and CHF to 335,000 beneficiaries. This caseload will be decreased by 40,000 beneficiaries starting from Sept.09. However, the caseload of the school feeding program will be increased from 50,000 to 90,000 students for the coming school year.

Furthermore, there will be a decrease in the bimonthly rations as the canned fish and biscuits will be removed.

Voucher Project: At the beginning of Sept. 09, WFP will start a Pilot voucher program in Gaza for 15,000 beneficiaries of the non-refugees population through OXFAM.

Points agreed upon:

- To enhance ongoing efforts for improved targeting between UN agencies & NGOs in Gaza strip, crosschecking can be done with **UNRWA** by sending beneficiaries lists to: Mr. Moataz Badwan, **e-mail: a.badwan@unrwa.org** And with **WFP** by sending lists to: Ms. Wafa Zaqout, **e-mail: wafa.zaqout@wfp.org**, cc: Ms. Nehaia Abu Nahala, **e-mail: nehaia.abu-nahla@wfp.org**.
- The crosschecking with UNRWA not only could help agencies to identify the duplication but it also can help to reveal if the households are eligible for the assistance or not.
- It was recommended to complement food assistance that is provided through WFP and UNRWA with other fresh food assistance or through a livelihood support.
- Since CARE is the focal point for fresh food distribution, all agencies were encouraged to check their list with CARE and to coordinate their fresh food distributions. (CARE noted that so far, agencies distributing fresh food in Gaza has not contacted CARE for coordination)
- Since sector members should have an agreement on a contingency plan for the coming year, a separate meeting will be held to review the contingency scenarios and the action plan.
- All partners were invited to send their summaries of food intervention in soft copies/by email to WFP to be shared with other agencies.

End