

Humanitarian Plan of Action 2003



OCCUPIED
PALESTINIAN
TERRITORY



UNITED NATIONS

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This Plan Action was compiled by the United Nations Technical Assessment Mission organised in October 2002 to follow up on the report of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General. The mission was composed of representatives of OCHA (mission leader), FAO, OHCHR, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNRWA, UNSCO, WFP, WHO and WORLD BANK.

I. INTRODUCTION

Humanitarian assistance is not the answer to the deepening crisis in the occupied Palestinian territory. The crisis is fundamentally political – it will continue to worsen unless political decisions are taken to lift closures, curfews and other restrictions on the civilian population. Humanitarian aid has an important part to play in alleviating human suffering, as this Plan of Action underlines, but there should be no illusions about the limits to the impact that even the most generous and effective humanitarian assistance programme can achieve under current circumstances.

The ultimate resolution of the crisis requires a political settlement that brings security to both sides. The mission was told repeatedly that occupation is the central issue, and security the key to progress – for both Israelis and Palestinians. Durable and productive security cannot be achieved by violence or by the construction of walls and barricades. It depends upon trust and respect between people. The humanitarian community has been asked to make recommendations for action at a time when there is a huge gap between Israeli and Palestinian perspectives, and when trust is at an all time low. The environment for meeting the immediate needs of the Palestinian civilian population is increasingly dangerous.

The immediate causes of the humanitarian crisis are the severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian people and goods imposed as Israel's response to terrorist attacks on its citizens. Closures, curfews, incursions and the withholding of Palestinian tax revenues have combined to bring the Palestinian economy to its knees, resulting in unprecedented levels of unemployment and poverty. The biggest single employer, the Palestinian Authority, has found it increasingly difficult to pay its salaries that now account for almost half of the total wage income earned inside the West Bank and Gaza. Each employee is responsible for supporting a growing number of family members. As Palestinian Authority structures are eroded or destroyed and its resources decline, the services that ministries and municipalities are able to provide have diminished, with multi-fold consequences, including in the areas of public health, provision of care and emergency services, law and order.

Lack of money and denial of access, whether to education, food, water, markets, workplaces, credit, clinics, or those in need, including family members - are a deadly and deeply demoralising combination. Children and teachers cannot get to school. Pregnant women cannot get antenatal care and are forced to give birth at home or even at checkpoints. Parents cannot get their children immunised just as risks to public health are multiplying. Heart, cancer and renal patients can no longer afford or simply cannot get treatment. Farmers cannot harvest or sell their olives and other produce and wonder whether it is even worth planting for next year. Families, friends and communities find themselves physically isolated, unable to meet and support each other. Adolescents and working age men and women are idle. Domestic violence is increasing. Human security is declining, and the number of vulnerable and poor is surging, with more than two million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Only the strength of Palestinian family and social networks, the determination of remaining service providers, and massive assistance from the international community are preventing total collapse.

The worsening humanitarian situation poses other dangers. Emergency assistance often has an inbuilt tendency to circumvent local capacities, generate dependency and weaken local institutions as relief activities supplant development, as restrictions on the mobility of locals (local population) results in competencies being imported from abroad, and as the trade off between acting quickly and consulting widely tips in favour of the former. Humanitarian aid comes at a price – financial, social and political, and every effort must be made to ensure that this is assessed and communicated. Humanitarian actors have a responsibility both to beneficiaries and to donor country taxpayers to account for the impact of their assistance. At stake are also the capacity and credibility of local service providers and the legitimacy of the Palestinian Authority as an institution that is able to serve its people. The mission took place at a time when the Quartet reaffirmed the international community's commitment to supporting the establishment of a viable Palestinian state and to supporting measures to reform existing institutions. It was told that the humanitarian crisis could threaten both the viability of any future state and is already undermining the reform effort.

In presenting its plans, the mission was acutely aware of the central dilemmas before it. At its most fundamental, this is whether to respond to growing needs of the civilian population at all. Many of the Palestinians and donors the mission spoke with argued that, by meeting these needs, the international community would be 'financing the occupation' and enable Israel to continue its current policies. It would *de facto* relieve Israel of its own responsibilities, as the Occupying Power, to ensure adequate supplies of

food, medicines and other basic needs for the population under its occupation. At the same time, not to meet urgent needs of the population when the international community has some capacity to do so, and when Israel is unwilling to do so, would doubly punish the civilian population – and fly in the face of the humanitarian imperative to save lives and protect the victims of conflict. Absent political decisions to address the causes of this humanitarian emergency, the international aid community thus has no choice but to help relieve suffering as the crisis continues to deepen.

It is in painful awareness of this dilemma that the mission has delivered this Plan of Action. Its recommendations have been informed by a number of convictions, including that:

- Humanitarian assistance must be delivered in a way that strengthens, and does not undermine, Palestinian capacities, particularly at the family and community levels and within ministries and local government authorities that, against the odds, are still able to deliver essential services;
- The planning, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance must complement the efforts of the Palestinian Authority, civil society and the assistance community in other areas, including institutional reform and development. All efforts should be made not to undermine prospects for recovery and for a resumption of the development process;
- Priorities for humanitarian action must be determined and pursued on the basis of assessed need, not on political grounds. At the same time, humanitarian considerations should inform – and, hopefully, could contribute to – efforts to find a political solution to the crisis;
- Humanitarian action is not only about the physical delivery of assistance – but also about promoting and ensuring respect for human rights and universal humanitarian norms. Humanitarian advocacy should therefore be seen as an essential element of humanitarian action.

For planning purposes, the mission had to anticipate a number of scenarios. Many of the mission's interlocutors – Israeli, Palestinian and international - feared that the political and security situation is likely to deteriorate further in the coming months, with the prospect of more violence, military activity and ever tighter restrictions on the civilian population. No one expected a political breakthrough or qualitative improvement of conditions on the ground. The best many hoped for was no further deterioration in the political *status quo* as of October 2002. But there is no doubt that under the political *status quo* scenario humanitarian needs will not only continue to grow but will do so at an accelerating rate. Even if assistance levels were to increase massively beyond the already extremely generous levels, they can at best maintain minimum welfare and meet immediate needs but cannot meaningfully address unemployment or poverty levels. Even under the most optimistic scenario it would take years for the economy to recover, for poverty and unemployment rates to be reversed. Humanitarian needs will not go away.

The most efficient way of quickly reversing the current downward spiral would be to take immediate measures to revive the economy and restore purchasing power – by lifting internal and external closures, releasing both accumulated and monthly tax revenues withheld by Israel and by allowing a further increase in regular employment of Palestinians in Israel. In August 2002, the Secretary-General's Personal Humanitarian Envoy, Ms. Catherine Bertini, made a series of recommendations (attached as Annex 2) to the Government of Israel that addressed each of these critical concerns. Since then, there has been an increase in permits for Palestinian workers in Israel. However, given the political and security situation, whether in the region or locally, most of the other actions do not appear to be a reliable prospect for the foreseeable future.

In the meantime, action is being proposed in priority areas in a manner that meets immediate needs, protects livelihoods and reactivates or supports local capacities to deliver services to the greatest number of people. Our underlying strategy is to pursue emergency activities that maintains human as well as productive capacity, recognising that the nature of the humanitarian crisis calls for unconventional interventions, some of which are not typically associated by donors as 'humanitarian'. Priority must be given to reaching and making services available to the most vulnerable, with a gender perspective informing assessment and implementation activities.

The room for humanitarian action, as well as the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance, is directly related to the willingness and capacity of the parties, notably the Government of Israel and the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF), in two key areas. First, in improving freedom of movement by the civilian

population, thereby allowing access to goods, essential services and employment. And second, in practical facilitation of the work of Palestinian and international service providers and humanitarian actors, by allowing essential services and aid workers to reach all those in need. In both areas, despite repeated high-level commitments, including from Prime Minister Sharon to the Secretary-General's Personal Humanitarian Envoy in August 2002, little or no progress has been made. Israel has a central role to play, if it chooses, in relieving the humanitarian crisis, whether by releasing withheld tax revenues, lifting closures or reviewing the necessity of measures whose security benefit for Israel is outweighed by the degree to which they create insecurity for, or cause human suffering to, the Palestinian civilian population. Dialogue on these issues will not be easy, but must be pursued. A number of recommendations have been made as to how coordination with the Israeli authorities could be improved at the policy and operational levels.

For many of our interlocutors, respect for human rights and humanitarian norms were as high a priority as the provision of assistance to the population, pointing to grave breaches on both sides. Protection issues are of growing and profound concern. The mission was struck by the lack of understanding among Palestinians of the impact of suicide bombs on Israelis, and the lack of understanding among Israelis of the impact of many of the military and security measures and their humanitarian consequences described in this Plan of Action.

This Plan of Action and its recommendations are intended to provide the whole assistance community – the UN, donors, civil society, Israeli and Palestinian actors – with a blueprint for collaboration in specific priority sectors such as health, food security and education, and on cross cutting issues such as access and advocacy in addressing this man-made crisis over the next 12 months. In addition, a number of projects is presented which UN agencies have the capacity to implement now to meet some of the most urgent needs. Suggestions are also made on ways in which existing coordination arrangements can be rationalised and strengthened to support humanitarian actors on the ground in meeting needs.

The tables below summarise financial requirements by agency and by sector. Detailed project summaries can be found under section IV.

Table I : UN Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for occupied Palestinian territory 2003

Summary of Requirements
By Appealing Organisation
as of 15 November 2002

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

Appealing Organisation	Original Requirements
FAO	9'300'000
OCHA	1'900'000
UNDP	15'750'000
UNESCO	600'000
UNFPA	4'185'000
UNICEF	16'200'000
UNRWA	202'727'762
UNSECOORD	847'000
WFP	39'789'000
WHO	2'500'000
Grand Total	293'798'762

Table I : UN Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for occupied Palestinian territory 2003

Summary of Requirements - by Sector
as of 15 November 2002

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

Sector Name	Original requirements
AGRICULTURE	8,400,000
COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	1,900,000
ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE	50,215,338
EDUCATION	17,963,549
FAMILY SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS	31,433,640
FOOD	129,661,700
HEALTH	20,704,362
SECURITY	13,977,018
WATER AND SANITATION	19,543,155
Grand Total	293,798,762

II. OVERVIEW OF THE SITUATION

Since the report of the Secretary-General's Personal Humanitarian Envoy was issued in late August 2002, the day-to-day lives of Palestinians in the occupied territory have continued to deteriorate. The humanitarian implications and emergency needs resulting from this crisis are described in detail in each of the priority sectors in part IV of this Plan of Action. They include a steady increase in malnutrition rates among children, threats to the physical and psychosocial health of the entire civilian population, rapidly declining immunisation coverage, and severe water shortages.

CONTINUING CRISIS OF ACCESS AND MOBILITY

Security Measures

Israel maintains that the restrictions imposed on the Palestinian population are intended and necessary to protect its own civilian population from terrorist attacks and that the tight internal and external closures have prevented a significant number of attacks inside Israel. The mission fully acknowledges the need of the Government of Israel to protect its civilian population from further attacks by Palestinian groups. It was appalled by the terrorist car bomb attack that occurred in northern Israel immediately after the mission's departure, killing 14 persons and injuring many others. It was also appalled by the tank shelling of Rafah refugee camp on 17 October that killed at least seven Palestinians and wounded 35 others. On these occasions, the Secretary-General reiterated his condemnation of attacks against all civilians in the strongest possible terms. Terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians were also condemned by the Palestinian Authority.

As emphasized by the Secretary-General's Personal Humanitarian Envoy, and particularly in view of the humanitarian crisis that has resulted from the measures taken by Israel, it is incumbent upon Israel to undertake all necessary measures to ensure the security of Palestinian civilians while safeguarding the security of its own civilians.

Closures and Curfews

The closure and curfew regime in the occupied Palestinian territory remains in place, resulting in severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian people and goods. Closure restrictions include the internal closures within the West Bank and Gaza, closure of the border between Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, and closure of international crossings between the occupied territory and Jordan and Egypt. Israel has steadily tightened each form of closure, particularly since the events of March and April 2002, resulting in the most severe and sustained mobility restrictions since 1967. Closure is now so pervasive that the West Bank is effectively divided into about 50 separate pockets, and movement between them is difficult and sometimes perilous. Earth mounds and concrete blocks have been put up on the roads leading into Palestinian villages. Deep trenches have been dug into roadbeds, and barriers such as heavy gates have been placed across roads, particularly in the vicinity of Israeli settlements. There are now between 70 and 80 permanent checkpoints manned by IDF troops in the West Bank and a permit system effectively prevents most Palestinians from moving on most roads and even from crossing certain roads. The occasional movement of goods within the West Bank is further restricted by a back-to-back system that requires Palestinians to offload non-local trucks at designated places and upload these goods onto local trucks. The IDF has frequently divided the Gaza Strip into two, and sometimes three, areas by placing roadblocks and checkpoints along the main traffic arteries running North to South. At such times, it is difficult if not impossible for Palestinians to move, including school children, patients and aid personnel. The activities of settlers, particularly in the West Bank, have further restricted Palestinians' freedom of movement and heightened levels of anxiety.

Prolonged curfews, during which the entire population of cities, towns and villages is confined to their homes, are the ultimate form of closure. The curfews are often in force round-the-clock and lifted only periodically, resulting in some West Bank locations being under curfew for 90% of the time. During curfews, the population is not permitted to leave their houses and IDF soldiers are authorised to shoot-to-kill any violators, resulting in a substantial number of civilian casualties. While curfews have been eased or lifted in some locations, the total number and duration of curfews remains at very high levels. During September 2002, approximately 688,000 Palestinians in 39 towns, villages and refugee camps in the West Bank were confined to their homes under curfew for a varying numbers of days. A total of 639 curfew days were counted in the northern West Bank (28 locations), in the vicinity of Jerusalem (six locations) and in and around Hebron (five locations). More recently, in the second week of October,

some 629,000 residents in 30 locations were confined to their homes under curfew for a combined total of 168 days.

Curfews have been imposed in several areas of Gaza as well. For some nine months beginning in December 2001, residents of Al-Mawasi in the southern Gaza Strip were under curfew from late afternoon until the early morning. The area has also been frequently subject to complete closure. Motor vehicles have been prohibited from entering the area since November 2000. The last time the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) medical teams had full access to Al-Mawasi was on 17 February 2002. The Agency last delivered food to the residents on 19 March 2002. Palestinians residing in areas close to Israeli settlements in northern Gaza have been subject to equally stringent restrictions. Residents have been under partial curfew since 9 July 2001. They are permitted to enter and leave the area only four hours out of the day, between 06:30 and 08:30 Hours and 14:00 and 16:00 Hours. UNRWA's medical workers have not been allowed into the area since 26 March 2002. UNRWA last distributed food in the area on 21 April 2002.

Blocking of Jenin

Excerpts from an e-mail sent by an international UN staff member on 15 October 2002

"Since last Thursday, 10 October, there has been a drastic change of policy imposed by the IDF. The IDF District Coordination Office (DCO) informs us that Jenin is now "blocked". In response to a request for clarification of what is meant by "blocked" we were told that "Jenin is under military occupation and therefore armoured vehicles may be in the town. They will not impede movement within the town. However there is a strengthening of the restriction of movement in and out of Jenin". The blockade of Jenin is a strangulation of Jenin. All major roads out of Jenin have armour stationed at the town boundary. These "checkpoints" are manned with aggression. It is impossible to get within 100 metres of them without soldiers aiming weapons and demanding that the approaching vehicle turns back. Furthermore the IDF is in the process of digging ditches and building earth walls on all of the minor roads and tracks that have been used as exit routes. Very few remain open and these will surely be closed as they are identified. Travelling on these minor routes is extremely dangerous as some are covered by tank fire. On Sunday, 13 October, at the Al Shuhada Junction, the IDF sprayed a convoy of vehicles with gunfire. One taxi was hit, one woman was killed and two other passengers injured.

Everyday we have removed rubble outside the town. This has been a full time task for two internationals, negotiating and escorting trucks through armoured checkpoints. Today, despite hours of negotiation over the past two days and the full approval of the DCO we failed to deliver rubble to the approved Al Ymoon site. The UN vehicle driven by an international was stopped and turned away. We have been forced to use a less safe site within the town.

The blockade will have an increasingly severe effect on the town. At present those who work in town but who live in villages are leaving their homes at seven and not arriving before dusk. Some do not make it. Doctors, nurses, teachers, municipal tradesmen, shop owners and equally as importantly shop and stall suppliers are locked out of the town. Similarly doctors, nurses, veterinary, surgeons, trade people and all town residents with business connections in the villages are unable to move out of town.

The sick are stopped at checkpoints. Last Thursday I myself witnessed a private car carrying a man who had had a heart attack attempting to cross a checkpoint. Because of UN and international NGO presence the car passed but the man died within yards of the checkpoint. His grieving family stated that they had tried to pass numerous checkpoints to get to the hospital. I later heard that they had similar difficulty to return the body to their village for burial. As I write, those waiting at checkpoints include two UN cars and three private hired vehicles carrying UN relief stores for distribution in Jenin. So far I have not managed to gain their admittance."

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The disastrous impact of the current regime of closures and curfews on the Palestinian economy has been well documented by United Nations Special Coordinator (UNSCO) and the World Bank. The decline in economic activity has been accelerating further in recent months, and prospects for any short-term economic recovery are now grim. The resulting loss of income is one of the primary causes of the deepening humanitarian crisis. The following provides a brief summary of the economic collapse that has occurred over the past two years:

Domestic Production and National Income: The World Bank estimates that real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) declined by 16.0% in 2001 and forecasts a further 20.8% decline in 2002 to US\$ 2.65 billion. From a household standpoint, 56.5% of Palestinian households have lost over half their usual income over the past two years. According to UNSCO, total income losses stand at US\$ 7.6 million per day, for a total of almost US\$ 3.3 billion since October 2000. This includes income from jobs in Israel as well as from domestic productive activities.

Unemployment and Decline in Wages: Since September 2000, almost as many jobs were lost as were created in the five years before September 2000. UNSCO estimates that the overall adjusted unemployment rate for the West Bank and Gaza during the second quarter of 2002 increased from roughly 36% to approximately 50%. Expressed on a per capita, rather than per employee, basis monthly wage income now stands at NIS 186 (US\$ 38) – 62.6% the pre-September 2000 level. This decline mirrors the growth in dependency ratios – the number of persons per employed person – which have risen from 4.3 in the third quarter of 2000 to 6.9 persons in the second quarter of 2002 in the West Bank, and from 5.9 to 9.4 in Gaza.

Poverty: On the basis of household consumption data, the World Bank estimates that 45.7% of the Palestinian population fell below the poverty line by the end of 2001, almost double the 23.2% poverty rate in 1998. By the end of 2002 poverty is forecast to reach 59.9%. Using household income data, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics¹ (PCBS) reports that 66.5% of Palestinian households are living in poverty: 57.8% in the West Bank, and 84.6% in Gaza.

Under the current circumstances of closure and curfew, even the most generous levels of foreign assistance can only have a limited impact. It can at best maintain minimum welfare levels and address immediate humanitarian needs. It however cannot meaningfully address unemployment or poverty levels or foster real economic recovery. Were it possible for donors to increase their aid disbursements by an additional US\$ 1 billion in each of the years 2003 and 2004 on top of the approximately US\$ 1 billion expected to be disbursed this year – already an enormous sum by other country aid standards – the estimated poverty rate by the end of 2004 would be 53.2%, approximately the same rate as in the end of June 2002.

Israel's Obligation to Ensure the Well-Being of the Civilian Population

The Fourth Geneva Convention includes detailed provisions regarding the Occupying Power's obligation to ensure the well being of the civilian population.

Art. 50. The Occupying Power shall, with the cooperation of the national and local authorities, facilitate the proper working of all institutions devoted to the care and education of children.

Art. 55. To the fullest extent of the means available to it, the Occupying Power has the duty of ensuring the food and medical supplies of the population; it should, in particular, bring in the necessary foodstuffs, medical stores and other articles if the resources of the occupied territory are inadequate.

Art. 56. To the fullest extent of the means available to it, the public Occupying Power has the duty of ensuring and maintaining, with the cooperation of national and local authorities, the medical and hospital establishments and services, public health and hygiene in the occupied territory, with particular reference to the adoption and application of the prophylactic and preventive measures necessary to combat the spread of contagious diseases and epidemics. Medical personnel of all categories shall be allowed to carry out their duties.

Art. 60. Relief consignments shall in no way relieve the Occupying Power of any of its responsibilities under Articles 55 [and] 56.

DENIAL OF ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES AND NEEDS

From a humanitarian perspective, the most devastating consequence of the closure regime is that significant parts of the population are neither able to access nor be provided with the most basic services. In addition to the widespread loss of income, which has resulted in an increasing portion of the population simply no longer being able to afford basic services or meet basic needs, the closures physically prevent

¹ Various sections of this report make references to both – World Bank estimates and PCBS data on unemployment and poverty as there are based on different methodologies for calculating these indicators.

people in need from reaching services. At the same time, the civilian population is often cut off from essential supplies and services that cannot reach them. The sectors included in part IV of this Plan of Action describe these restrictions in more detail. Among the most troubling denials of access are:

- Patients who are unable to reach hospitals in cities and towns for life-saving treatment;
- Entire villages that are cut off from water supplies because of restrictions imposed on the movement of water tankers. More than 200,000 villagers in the West Bank depend on tankered water during the dry months;
- Children and teachers who are unable to reach their schools. During the first month of the current school year, more than 226,000 children and over 9,300 teachers were denied access to schools and more than 580 schools were forced to remain closed.

DENIAL OF ACCESS FOR ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS TO PEOPLE IN NEED

The movement of aid workers and vehicles remains severely restrained. As a consequence, there has been no significant improvement in the ability of the Palestinian Authority, the UN and other aid agencies to carry out their humanitarian missions. The cost of delivering humanitarian aid has been increasing steadily owing directly to closures and other security measures that the Israeli authorities have introduced. The largest providers of assistance are most affected, in terms of staffing, transport, maintenance, demurrage and storage.

On several occasions, most recently during the mission of the Secretary-General's Personal Humanitarian Envoy, the Israeli authorities have committed themselves to fully facilitating the work of humanitarian aid organisations. However, these commitments, even when expressed at the highest levels of the Israeli government, have not resulted in significant changes on the ground.

Israel's Obligations to Allow Free Access to the Civilian Population

International law requires Israel to allow free access by aid providers to the civilian population. These obligations arise out of two legal regimes that are binding on Israel – privileges and immunities applicable to the United Nations and its agencies and international humanitarian law, which applies to humanitarian aid providers in general.

Privileges and Immunities: The right of the UN and its agencies to freedom of movement to carry out their mandates is guaranteed by the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialised Agencies, and, in certain cases, specific agreements with the Government of Israel (e.g., the 1967 Exchange of Letters between UNRWA and the State of Israel, known as the Comay-Michelmores Agreement). UN property, such as vehicles, is immune from search and other forms of interference whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action. UN officials traveling for official purposes must be accorded facilities for speedy travel.

International Humanitarian Law: Under the Fourth Geneva Convention, Israel must allow the free passage of all consignments of medical and hospital stores and of all consignments of essential foodstuffs, clothing and tonics intended for children under fifteen, expectant mothers and maternity cases. If the whole or part of the Palestinian population is inadequately supplied, Israel must agree to relief schemes on behalf of the population, and must facilitate them by all the means at its disposal. Relief consignments must be exempt in occupied territory from all charges, taxes or customs duties unless these are necessary in the interests of the economy of the occupied territory.

The following provides an overview of some of the restrictions that have affected the UN's humanitarian operations over the past two years. As noted in part IV of this Plan of Action, the restrictions in most cases affect Palestinian Authority service providers and Palestinian NGOs even more severely than the UN.

The Permit System: Palestinian staff members are required to hold permits to enter or transit Israel or Jerusalem, or travel between Gaza and the West Bank. Increasing numbers of permits have been issued to UN staff over the past three months but as of mid-October 2002, around 100 staff of various UN agencies remains without permits. In addition, permits are valid only from 5:00 AM to 7:00 PM and for short periods, so that applications for renewal must be made continuously. The reasons for denying

certain staff members a permit are not entirely clear. The Israeli authorities have indicated that anyone under the age of 28 would not be issued one. Unmarried staff members of both genders regardless of their age are also ineligible. Only a limited number of one-day permits have been issued to staff members in Gaza on a case-by-case basis. The Israeli authorities continue to refuse to issue driving permits for driving within Israel to national staff in Gaza and the West Bank. UN operations in Gaza thus have had to rely on international staff members, whose salary and benefit costs are much higher than those of employees recruited locally, to drive UN vehicles out of the area. Following operation Defensive Shield, Israel introduced a permit requirement for national staff members for travel within the West Bank. UN agencies, just as all other international organisations operating in the territory, refused such permits and as such were forced to readjust their operations considerably. For example, the World Food Programme (WFP) had to mobilise a fleet of eight international trucks with international drivers to transport supplies.

Port Operations: Since September 2000, UNRWA and WFP have increased their import of basic foodstuffs by as much as five to six hundred percent, resulting in an increase of several thousand containers arriving at the Port of Ashdod. UNRWA, for example, is importing 105,000 metric tonnes (MTs) of basic commodities into the West Bank and Gaza Strip annually, equal to approximately 5,200 20-foot containers. The Israeli authorities insist on carrying out searches of humanitarian cargo. As part of these security procedures, containers are opened and random samples of the contents are x-rayed. These procedures have led to considerable delays and additional loading, offloading, storage and demurrage costs. For example, over 50 containers of sunflower cooking oil originating in Iran and destined for distribution by UNRWA have been held up in Ashdod for months without clearance to enter Israel. UNRWA officials have been told that the IDF has no objection on security grounds, but clearance continues to be refused despite the efforts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on UNRWA's behalf. The demurrage and storage costs for these containers now total some US\$ 550,000 and are increasing by nearly US\$ 4,000 daily. The value of the shipment is US\$ 813,359.

The Karni Crossing: As of 11 October 2002, WFP had some 800 containers of food commodities at the Port of Ashdod that it was unable to transport to its warehouses in Gaza, because only 80 containers (both humanitarian and commercial goods) are allowed through the Karni Crossing on any given day. As a possible solution, the Israeli authorities have suggested to increase WFP's daily Karni ration to 20 containers per day. This implies a decrease by 15 to 20 containers of normal commercial traffic – further depressing economic activity in Gaza and thus increased humanitarian needs – and creates an unacceptable dilemma for WFP. An alternative solution, the opening of the Sufa crossing, has been suggested by the UN but has been rejected to date. In the meantime, WFP has already incurred over US\$ 500,000 in storage costs and has an additional 1,000 containers en route to Israel, the first of them due to arrive within a month. Since September 2000, UN-owned trucks have been barred from moving into or out of Gaza. The Israeli authorities levy a transit charge of NIS 150 for a 20-foot container and NIS 200 for a 40-foot container coming into Gaza and, since mid-August 2002, a charge of NIS 150 on empty containers leaving Gaza. The UN agencies affected take the view that the charge is, in effect, a tax from which they should be exempted by virtue of their privileges and immunities. It is estimated that the fees levied at the Karni Crossing will cost UNRWA US\$194,000 annually.

Erez Border Crossing and Allenby Bridge: Some 85 international staff members working for UN agencies in Gaza are subject to delays each time they exit Gaza at the Erez crossing where their baggage and vehicles are thoroughly searched. In September 2001, a new procedure was introduced at the Allenby Bridge entailing a search of vehicles crossing the frontier between Jordan and the West Bank. As part of this procedure, drivers are separated from their vehicles and the vehicles searched in a separate building out of sight. UNRWA has refused to accept this procedure.

In addition to the above constraints, the movement of international and national staff within the West Bank and Gaza continues to be affected by a series of obstacles, including delays at checkpoints and frequent decisions by soldiers manning the checkpoints to deny access. Roadblocks, earth mounds and dug up roads of course restrict the movement of an international staff member driving a UN vehicle just as much as they restrict the movement of the local Palestinian civilian population. Curfews are a particularly restrictive form of closure with serious implications for the ability of international organisations to provide humanitarian relief. National staff members living or working in areas under curfew often find it impossible to move and perform their functions. International staff members can now generally move in areas under curfew but their effectiveness is limited as the beneficiaries of humanitarian relief efforts (such as food distribution or medical services) often cannot be reached since they are confined to their houses.

Interaction with Israeli Authorities Regarding Access Constraints

The increasing operational constraints imposed on UN agencies and other aid providers prompted efforts to adopt a coordinated and coherent strategy towards the Israeli authorities. At the policy level, the Task Force on Project Implementation (TFPI), composed of representatives of the European Union, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), UNSCO and the World Bank, was created with the specific aim of removing barriers to project implementation that result from Israeli actions. Since September 2000, Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) has become the TFPI's chief interlocutor, with the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs represented at higher-level meetings. The TFPI meets with Major General Gilad on a monthly basis to discuss urgent policy and operational issues. The TFPI has been successful in finding solutions to a number of operational problems on an *ad hoc* basis but has been less successful as a policy setting liaison structure for a variety of reasons. One reason has been that COGAT has lacked authority with regard to the IDF's operations. A second reason concerns the frequent lack of coherence and strategic positioning on the part of the UN and donor community. Even when there is agreement in principle that certain restrictive measures should not be accepted, organisations often accept restrictions to meet immediate operational objectives.

Numerous meetings between senior UN staff and senior Israeli officials over the past two years have focused on access and other operational restrictions, including with the Foreign Minister and, in August 2002, meetings between the Secretary-General's Personal Humanitarian Envoy and Prime Minister Sharon and then Defense Minister Ben-Eliezer. UNSCO has also been raising these concerns with the Foreign Minister and other high-level Israeli officials. UNRWA officials have met with the Israeli authorities at all levels of government and routinely communicate with them in writing to assert the privileges and immunities of UN agencies and to protest specific incidents. On almost a daily basis, the Agency's Field Directors in Gaza and the West Bank and other staff members raise matters of concern with IDF officers assigned to local liaison offices and with the office of the COGAT in the Israeli Ministry of Defense. UNRWA's Operations Support Officers routinely approach IDF soldiers to negotiate the passage of personnel, ambulances and trucks carrying food and medicines through checkpoints.

Safety and Security of Humanitarian Workers

The personal safety and security of humanitarian workers has been under threat as tensions have mounted in both Israeli and Palestinian societies in the last two years. Personnel have been subjected to abuse, both physically and orally. Several have been taken into custody while carrying out their official duties. Most troubling of all, ambulances and other vehicles transporting emergency medical supplies have been targeted. Since September 2000, 183 staff members of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society have been injured and three killed. One UNRWA staff member has been killed while accompanying an ambulance and three others, including a physician and ambulance driver, have been injured. The justification put forward by the IDF, in very general terms, is that ambulances have been used to smuggle both arms and militants. To date, however, the IDF has made public only one such incident, and the circumstances surrounding the incident were unclear. In any event, no UN personnel or vehicle was involved in the alleged incident. At present, it appears that ambulances are no longer deliberately targeted. Nevertheless, aid workers are still frequently subjected to harassment at checkpoints and elsewhere.

Agencies employing humanitarian workers that become targets of both IDF troops and Israeli settlers protest every such incident and ask the Israeli authorities to carry out investigations. Since 1 January 2001, UNRWA's West Bank Field Office has filed over 100 letters protesting violations of its privileges and immunities relating to its personnel and property. The Field Office has written on 78 occasions to the Israeli authorities with regard to members of staff taken into custody. Nine such letters have been addressed to the Palestinian Authority. There is no evidence to indicate that any investigation has ever been carried out or any individuals held accountable for their actions.

Another concern of humanitarian aid organisations is that there is no reliable and timely information on the existence and nature of the various curfews and closures in effect, especially in the West Bank. Curfews are often imposed without warning, leaving both the civilian population and humanitarian aid personnel unsure whether it is safe to go out onto the streets. The imposition of curfews, if considered necessary, should be communicated in unambiguous terms and in a timely fashion, in order to minimise the risk to both innocent civilians and aid workers. Passes to allow humanitarian aid workers to move about under curfew, as was done during the first Intifada (1987 – 1992), should also be issued to allow them to provide essential emergency and other services, including health care, repair of damaged infrastructure and garbage disposal.

Since September 2000, dozens of humanitarian aid workers have been detained, most of them without charge, while carrying out their official duties. The agencies employing them have protested their detention and inquired into the circumstances surrounding their detention and charges against them. In the case of UN agencies, such information is sought to ensure the staff members' welfare and to determine whether the privileges and immunities of the United Nations might have been compromised and whether the employees might have abused their positions as employees of the United Nations. Until June 2001, the Israeli authorities had allowed one visit by a United Nations official to a detained staff member. Since then no prison visits have been permitted.

THREATS TO THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF CIVILIANS

More than 2,000 Palestinians and almost 600 Israelis have been killed since September 2000. While exact statistics on civilian casualties are disputed, it is clear that the civilian population on both sides has been the primary victim of the conflict. Over the past few weeks, a series of violent incidents again prompted the Secretary-General to call on the Government of Israel to live up to its obligations under international humanitarian law to ensure the protection of civilians, and on Palestinian groups to stop all acts of violence. In two incidents earlier in October, potentially devastating attacks on Israeli civilians were narrowly averted by people at the scene.

Since early October, the IDF have launched a series of operations involving the use of tanks, bulldozers and helicopters in the southern part of Gaza, especially in the city of Khan Younis and Rafah refugee camp. On 17 October, Israeli tanks shelled the refugee camp in Rafah, killing at least seven Palestinians and wounding 35 others, after a gunman reportedly shot at Israeli bulldozers. While the mission was in the region, on 11 October, a prominent figure in a women's group advocating non-violence (and mother of a United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] staff member) was shot dead in Nablus in broad daylight by the IDF while sitting on her veranda. Earlier that same day, a midwife employed on a project of the British Department for International Development was cooking breakfast for her children when a tank shell was fired into her kitchen, killing her.

B'Tselem has documented 15 Palestinian civilians who have been killed by IDF soldiers' fire while enforcing curfews. The list of those killed includes one infant, eight young children, and three youths. IDF regulations permits shooting at people who are outdoors during curfews even in non-life-threatening situations. In most of these instances, the manner in which civilians were killed strongly suggests excessive use of force. Human rights organisations have also expressed serious concerns about the small number of independent investigations and effective prosecutions of IDF soldiers for alleged violations of Israeli and international humanitarian law.

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Violations of international humanitarian and human rights law by both Israelis and Palestinians have been well documented and widely reported, including in several recent UN reports.² For the purposes of this Plan of Action, which focuses on the humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, provisions of international law that relate to the protection and well-being of the civilian population in the occupied territory are most relevant.

Attacks on civilians described in the previous section, whether in Israel or in the occupied Palestinian territory generally violate the laws of war. The above sections also describe in detail the denial of access to assistance and essential services – measures that cannot be reconciled with Israel's obligations under both international humanitarian law and relevant conventions on privileges and immunities.³ For example, Israel is obliged to facilitate relief schemes by all means at its disposal, must allow the free passage of all consignments of medical and food supplies for certain vulnerable groups, and facilitate the proper functioning of all institutions devoted to the care and education of children. Other breaches of

² Report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission of Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, 6 March 2002 (E/CN.4/2002/32); Report of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing, 10 June 2002 (E/CN.4/2003/5/Add.1) and Report of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights and Follow-Up to the World Conference on Human Rights, 24 April 2002 (E/CN.4.2002/184).

³ It should be noted in this context that the Government of Israel has not accepted the de jure applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to all territory occupied since 1967. It has, however, undertaken to comply with the "humanitarian provisions" of the Convention. All other parties to the Convention, as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross, maintain that the Convention does apply de jure to the occupied Palestinian territory.

humanitarian law that have been condemned repeatedly by the United Nations include the forcible transfer of Palestinian civilians and the demolition of houses of relatives of suicide bombers and of wanted individuals.

Human Rights

Israeli measures in the occupied Palestinian territory have also entailed deprivations and denials of basic human rights. Rights such as the right to life, the right to work and earn a living, the right to property, shelter, food, education and development have all been affected. There is thus a close correlation between the deteriorating human rights situation and the worsening humanitarian crisis. While international assistance is critically required in the short term to respond to the basic needs of the Palestinian people, their overall humanitarian plight will continue to persist, if not worsen, unless their basic human rights are respected.

Respecting the human rights of the Palestinian people can only have a positive impact on their lives and welfare without necessarily impairing the security needs of Israel. In addressing the human rights aspects of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and other UN human rights bodies have in place a number of instruments and mechanisms, including the Special Committee on Israeli Practices affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied territory and the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. OHCHR is also in the process of strengthening the capacity of its field office in order to meet the increasing demands arising from the worsening human rights situation.

Security

A number of provisions of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, explicitly recognise the authority of states to limit certain rights, for example the freedom of movement, in times of emergency or for imperative security and military reasons. However, international law does not leave it to individual states' discretion to determine the extent to which fundamental rights of civilians can be restricted. It requires states to strike a balance between security needs and military necessity on the one hand and the protection, assistance needs, and freedom of the civilian population on the other hand. Every measure taken should not only be strictly required for the intended purpose but must also be proportional to the potential injury to the civilian population.

Israel has stated repeatedly that it is committed to minimising the adverse effects of security measures on the well being and survival of the Palestinian population. As emphasized by the Secretary-General's Personal Humanitarian Envoy, there remains a wide gap between official Israeli policy and its implementation on the ground. This relates not only to Israel's repeated assurance that it will fully facilitate all assistance activities but also to commitments it has made to take specific measures that would ease the adverse effects of its security measures on the Palestinian population, for example regarding the free passage of patients and water tankers. Israeli authorities the mission spoke with acknowledged that denying the Palestinian population access to the basic necessities for survival, such as water and medicine, cannot be justified on security grounds. There has also been widespread criticism by Israeli, Palestinian and international human rights organisations of a range of other Israeli measures they believe either do not serve security purposes or whose effects on the population are clearly disproportionate. Specific measures of concern include the effective imprisonment of several hundred thousand Palestinians in their homes for several months; the destruction of civilian infrastructure for no apparent military reasons; and the use of heavy weaponry in densely populated areas as well as the firing of live ammunition at Palestinians who violate curfews.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY TO THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

The Palestinian Authority has suffered from a fiscal crisis since September 2000 that has become even more acute in recent months. The crisis has been caused primarily by three factors: (i) the sharp decline in domestic tax revenue collections associated with the decline in economic activity and the disruption of tax administration; (ii) the suspension since December 2000 by the Government of Israel of the transfer to the Palestinian Authority of the revenues it collects on its behalf; and (iii) the increase in emergency expenditures.

Despite a series of cutbacks, the Palestinian Authority continues to run an average monthly deficit of approximately US\$ 20 million after donor funding. This deficit has been managed through a combination of accumulating arrears to suppliers, borrowing from domestic banks, and delaying the payment of


salaries and pensions. By the end of June 2002, the Palestinian Authority had accumulated US\$ 527 million in arrears, US\$ 295 million due to suppliers and US\$ 232 million in wages (including pensions). This level of arrears has had a pernicious impact on the private sector, resulting in an acute liquidity shortage, mounting non-performing loans in the banking system, and increasing cases of insolvency. Settling these arrears will be a matter of top priority once Israel hands over the withheld clearance revenue (US\$ 681 million in gross terms owed as of the end of June 2002) and resumes regular transfers. Israel should transfer the withheld tax revenue and resume regular transfers of tax it collects on behalf of the Palestinian Authority. Donors are also urged to continue their budgetary support to the Palestinian Authority to help compensate for the sharp decline in domestic tax revenue collections and the increase in emergency expenditures.

As described in more detail in the following section, a further weakening or complete collapse of the Palestinian Authority would have several consequences that would greatly aggravate the humanitarian situation.

- Essential services in several critical areas, including health, education, water, electricity and law enforcement, could no longer be provided; leaving a wide gap that other assistance providers will be unable to fill.
- The severe damage to the private sector and the loss of income for a large percentage of the population would further increase poverty and dependency levels. Salaries of Palestinian Authority employees now represent 43% of total monthly wage income.
- The effect of the demise of the Palestinian Authority on the nation-building and peace process would have indirect and potentially far-reaching consequences for the humanitarian situation that are difficult to predict.

III. SCENARIOS FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

The scenarios described in this section try to anticipate possible changes in the operating environment within which the Plan of Action will be implemented. Potential developments and risks that have been identified by the mission have been grouped into three sets of scenarios that are ranked based on their probability. However, the scenarios are not mutually exclusive and elements contained in different scenarios may occur simultaneously or consecutively. The specific activities outlined in this Plan of Action are based on the first scenario, which is deemed to be the most likely in view of current circumstances. It should be noted that the construction of the “separation wall” is expected to occur under each of the three scenarios, with the effects described below in this section.

More Likely  Less Likely	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gradual Deterioration – Political “Status Quo” 2. Sharp Deterioration – Further Escalation 3. Easing of Closures and Lifting of Curfews
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Scenario 1: Gradual Deterioration due to continuation of the political Status Quo

Context

This scenario anticipates a continuation of the current political and security situation, which will lead to a gradual and increasingly, steep deterioration of the humanitarian situation as the few remaining coping mechanisms are exhausted. It is based on the assumption that the occupation of the Palestinian self-rule areas will continue and that medium-to-high intensity conflict will be sustained throughout the period of the Plan of Action. The closure regime with its main attributes – curfews and isolation of urban and rural areas – is expected to remain in place. The average number of West Bank residents under curfew is expected to remain at approximately 500,000 and may reach as many as 900,000 at times of heightened tensions. More frequent incursions of the IDF may occur in Gaza, including in Gaza City. The heavy disruption of trade and movement, along with limited access to labour markets in Israel would result in a continuation of the current trend from organised business activity into barter trade and subsistence farming, and a growing dependence on emergency assistance.

Humanitarian Consequences

- Income levels will further decrease and poverty and unemployment levels will continue to increase.
- The destruction of Palestinian houses and levelling of agricultural land will result in an increase in the number of homeless families; domestic agricultural production will further dwindle as a result of land levelling/destruction in Gaza and the construction of the “separation wall” which will affect some ten percent of the West Bank.
- The occupation of “A” areas will continue to cause major disruptions to the provision of basic services, notably in the main urban areas of the West Bank: Tulkarm, Ramallah, Jenin, Qalqilia and Nablus. Central and municipal authorities may be unable to restore destroyed water and electricity infrastructure, and to ensure proper sanitation.
- Shortages of basic commodities – primarily imported foodstuffs, are expected to occur in areas under curfew and complete closure; malnutrition rates will continue to rise among highly vulnerable communities and groups.
- Intermittent violence, closures and curfews will further undermine the educational process; children’s school attendance is likely to decline further.
- The Palestinian health services will be unable to cope with the expected two-fold increase in the number of injured.
- While the need for emergency health services will increase, the provision of non-emergency medical care will further decline. This refers both to the level of funding of non-emergency care but also the inability of patients to reach relevant health institutions under the tight closure regime.

Additional sector-specific consequences are described in part IV of this Plan of Action.

Scenario 2: Sharp Deterioration of humanitarian situation due to further military escalation and collapse of the Palestinian Authority

Context

This scenario assumes a dramatic deterioration of the security situation marked by strong escalatory moves. This scenario could be triggered by a number of factors, including regional developments, renewed attacks on Israeli civilians and re-occupation of the remaining Palestinian self-rule areas. Violence may spread to Palestinian areas that have been spared intense military activity. Gaza may be occupied following a series of violent incursions, which is expected to encounter fierce resistance. Violence may also spread to East Jerusalem.

One of the most far-reaching aspects of this scenario is the possible total collapse of the Palestinian Authority. Following recent examples during operation "Defensive Shield", the PA administrative infrastructure and other assets may come under direct attack. In addition, Israel may continue to withhold tax revenues it collects on the Palestinian Authority's behalf while monthly shortfalls may not be met by increased donor support. The collapse of the Palestinian Authority will imply the disappearance of the only Palestinian organisation capable of mobilising and coordinating political and material resources on a national scale.

Humanitarian Consequences

Humanitarian consequences of this scenario are expected to be extensive. The intense military activity exacerbated by the destruction of the Palestinian Authority's administration will bring about humanitarian needs of a scale requiring massive relief efforts. The operating environment would prevent these efforts from meeting the substantially increased needs.

- The collapse of the single largest employer with its 124,000 strong civil service would raise unemployment rates significantly; this in turn would accelerate the impoverishment of the population and create greater dependency on external assistance; an almost threefold increase in the number of particularly vulnerable persons must be expected under this scenario;
- The collapse of the Palestinian Authority would result in a drastic decline of public services provided at all levels: national (education, health, social security, rule of law/security); provincial/governorate and municipal (water, sanitation, and other infrastructure). The collapse would also have major ramifications for the remaining private sector;
- The war-like situation described in this scenario will in all likelihood take a heavy toll on civilians in terms of casualties and injured, destroyed property and production assets, as well as displacement conservatively estimated at 30,000.

Scenario 3 - Easing of closures and lifting of curfews

This scenario anticipates a relative stabilisation in the security situation and a resumption of the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. The improved security situation and eased internal mobility restrictions are unlikely to improve the overall economic situation in the short term but would significantly improve humanitarian access. The amelioration would prove more significant economically should the Israeli Government release the withheld taxes it has been collecting on behalf of the Palestinian Authority. The estimated US\$ 681 million would save the Palestinian Authority from bankruptcy, improve the quantity and quality of services provided by the Palestinian Authority and, just as importantly, boost the private sector. This in turn would stimulate domestic job creation.

The eased mobility restrictions would have a particularly positive impact on the humanitarian situation. In the absence of curfews and isolation of rural areas from cities (service providers) the basic living conditions of the population would improve rapidly. This implies the full resumption of the educational process (primary, secondary and higher), improved supply of essential commodities (including food, medicines and water for rural communities). Significant improvements in humanitarian access will also enhance assistance providers' ability to reach remote and isolated areas.

However, the overall poverty levels will remain high although relatively stable. In the absence of external trade and given high unemployment, the Palestinian economy will continue to require substantial external assistance.

The "Separation Wall"

In July 2002, Israeli authorities began construction of a "separation wall" that would physically separate the West Bank from Israel reportedly to serve as a barrier preventing attacks on Israeli civilians. The "separation wall" is currently being erected mostly on land within the West Bank in what is often referred to as the "seam area", a swath extending along the Green Line. The construction of the wall is fraught with a number of humanitarian consequences. This includes additional collective movement restrictions on residents of certain West Bank areas, uneven access of landowners to their fields and loss of income sources for tens of thousands of Palestinians. A substantial portion of the land adjacent to the Green Line is intensively cultivated with olive trees, vineyards, fruit trees and other crops. The wall will create a number of enclaves isolated from both Israel and the West Bank, in some cases cutting off entire Palestinian villages from the rest of the West Bank. Other areas are expected to be closely surrounded by the wall on three sides, restricting access for residents and from nearby villages. The construction of the wall's northern segment (Salim–Elkana) is already affecting some 11,000 persons. When completed, the separation wall will cut-off as many as 290,000 Palestinians in the West Bank, including those isolated in East Jerusalem, and approximately 250 km² of mostly cultivated agricultural land. In total some 555 km² or approximately 10% of the West Bank will be affected by the construction of the wall. The economic impact of the wall, increased isolation of entire communities and property destruction associated with the construction of the wall are expected to provoke population displacements.

The following table shows estimates for key indicators under each of the scenarios described above.

Anticipated Humanitarian Consequences under Each Scenario

Indicator	Current Situation	1 - Steady Deterioration (political status quo)	2 - Sharp Deterioration	3 - Eased Internal Closures
Displaced ⁴	0 ⁵	5,000	30,000	0
Persons with limited access to water	30,000	60,000	200,000	30,000
Malnutrition (global)	19	19	25	18
Education: disrupted school attendance (number of pupils)	260,000	400,000	1,000,000 ⁶	0
Injured (monthly average)	300	800	3,000	100-150
Casualties (monthly average)	60	150	260	20-30
Special Hardship Cases	320,000	400,000	800,000	320,000
Food prices (percentage change month-to-month)	12	15	30	3
Living under curfew (daily average)	520,000	500-700,000	1,500,000	40,000 ⁷
Water prices (tanker-water percentage change y-t-y)	50	70	150	0
Destroyed Agricultural Land (dunums)	52,000	92,000 ⁸	120,000	92,000
Destroyed Housing (number of units)	1,800	5,000	10,000	1,800
Unemployment (percentage)	50	55	65	40
Number of workers in Israel (daily)	22,000 ⁹	15,000	0	25,000
Poverty ¹⁰	60	61	70	55

⁴ Displaced – refers to people residing in area and who could be potentially affected by the ongoing construction of the "separation wall" within 12 months

⁵ A study conducted by Geneva University estimates that some 70,000 Palestinians have already changed their residence due to insecurity.

⁶ The aggregate number of Palestinian students (primary and secondary).

⁷ Estimated number of persons living in areas "B" (Israeli military control) that come under severe forms of closure irrespective of the security situation in Israel and Palestinian self-rule areas.

⁸ Aggregate figure representing the already destroyed/alienated agricultural land and land that will be lost as a result of the construction of the "separation wall".

⁹ This includes 12,000 "licensed" daily workers in Israel from Gaza, and an estimated 10,000 labourers from the West Bank.

¹⁰ World Bank's forecast for the end of 2002

IV. PLAN OF ACTION

SECTORAL STRATEGIES

The strategies presented in this Plan of Action are geared to supporting the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory (i.e., 3.3 million people, of which over 1.5 million are registered refugees¹¹) and the service providers of the Palestinian Authority in facing the unfolding humanitarian emergency. They have been developed on the basis of discussions with key Palestinian Authority officials and NGOs, as well as on the body of experience and knowledge that has been acquired in and through the international agencies working in the region. They reflect what the parties concerned believe needs to be done to take up the challenge of the impact of closure and conflict. In formulating these strategies care has been given to ensuring they are feasible and likely to produce results quickly. At the same time, it is important to note again that the strategies are not presented, nor should they be construed, as answers to the fundamental problem confronting Palestinians and Palestinian society. Rather these strategies are seen as means of helping the Palestinian Authority to lessen the weight of the current situation and its vast human cost.

The strategies are not in themselves entirely new. They build on a fabric that has already been put in place by the Palestinian people, the Palestinian Authority, and the work of agencies such as UNRWA that have been working with them for many decades. They reflect and have benefited from a quality of collaboration between the Palestinian Authority, UN agencies and NGOs that promises new inter-sectoral approaches to humanitarian action in the occupied Palestinian territory. In doing so they offer an opportunity for a more innovative use of resources than is typically possible in humanitarian responses.

It is also important to note that while many of the actions outlined in these strategies are short term, their design has taken into account the need to support the Palestinian Authority and the donor community to carry on sustainable development actions despite the current setbacks. The Palestinian Authority has to create an infrastructure that is capable of meeting the needs of a people under stress while preserving its developmental goals.

In preparing these strategies the mission had to make a key assumption about the operating environment in the occupied Palestinian territory over the coming 12 months. As indicated in part III, the Plan of Action assumes that the current situation of closures will remain in place in the foreseeable future, which will lead to a gradual and increasingly steep deterioration of the humanitarian situation as the few remaining coping mechanisms are exhausted. Should the political and security environment become more hostile, the already serious needs of Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territory will be even further aggravated. In this scenario the strategies proposed will constitute a solid base on which more intensified humanitarian assistance can be constructed.

Within the framework of this initiative and taking into account the unique character of the crisis, a number of key crosscutting themes have been addressed. The first is the need to involve the population as much as possible and at all levels of these strategies and assume ownership over and responsibility for them. The second is the recognition that although humanitarian crises affect everyone, they touch some people more than others. Women, for example, are often more vulnerable than men are, and children are always at greater risk of adverse health and nutritional outcomes than adults are. In addition, two groups that are often forgotten and which typically suffer as much if not more than all others are the elderly and the disabled. Unless humanitarian action takes up the special needs of these groups it will never achieve its purpose and the strategies proposed here give special attention to the character of the challenges faced by these groups. They also take into account the valuable role these groups can and do play when the context in which they function is favourable.

Throughout these strategies there is also an inbuilt attempt to stimulate, create and in some cases support job creation, including in the private sector. The strategies thus seek to avoid creating any sense of dependency but rather help create settings in which jobs can emerge as an integral part and outgrowth of the initiatives.

¹¹ 626,532 in the West Bank and 878,977 in the Gaza strip, according to UNRWA as of 30 June 2002.

Finally the theme of advocacy is highlighted as an essential element of all humanitarian response. It is seen here as a responsibility that has to be taken up if governments, donors, publics, and international agencies are to understand the current situation and its implications for the two societies most directly involved.

CAPACITY FOR DELIVERING ASSISTANCE

The scope of interventions described in this Plan of Action is limited in comparison with the extent of emergency needs in the occupied Palestinian territory. The limited scope of activities and areas of interventions of this Plan are a result of a careful examination of existing capacities of the participating agencies and their projected capabilities to mobilise human and material resources.

The following section discusses the existing capacities to deliver and facilitate essential services and assistance. The section looks at the actual delivery capacity of the main actors, briefly examines their vulnerability vis-à-vis the current closures, and their financial sustainability.

National Capacities

The Palestinian Authority, its Ministries and specialised institutions and bodies provide and facilitate services and humanitarian assistance in the occupied Palestinian territory. Collectively they constitute the most important service and assistance delivery channel.

Local Authorities - Municipalities

Local authorities in the occupied Palestinian territory are represented by some 648 municipalities and village councils and villages. They provided services throughout the Israeli occupation before the Oslo Accords and continue to do so today albeit at formidable odds. Apart from water and electricity, local authorities' responsibilities are narrow in scope: wastewater disposal, fire protection, sanitation, building permits and local business regulation. Local responsibilities for social services, such as health and education are minimal. Collected by Palestinian Authority Ministry of Finance, 90% of the utility and non-utility taxes are returned to municipalities. The collapse of the Palestinian fiscal system as a result of closures and curfews led to the exhaustion of municipal revenues. Thanks to bi-lateral (e.g. Italy in Bethlehem) and multilateral (e.g. World Bank and UNDP) programmes, municipalities managed to maintain much of their pre-September 2000 capacity. Municipal services demonstrate remarkable resilience vis-à-vis curfews and are generally considered reliable for the delivery of relevant assistance and services.

Palestinian NGOs and Private Service Providers

There is a significant existing capacity in the delivery of public services by NGO entities and private companies in the occupied Palestinian territory. The non-public service provision is particularly important in the health, agriculture and education sectors. According to PCBS, over 65% of hospitals are owned by NGOs or private entities while virtually all kindergartens are run by non-public agencies. There are an estimated 1,500 NGOs in the occupied Palestinian territory, two-thirds of which provide social services. This includes welfare organisations, charitable societies (see below – Islamic charity, professional committees and development NGOs). While the financial sustainability of many private service providers is under continued pressure, the international fund-raising capacity of NGOs remains considerable.

Since September 2000, the role of NGOs has shifted from development towards responding to the immediate needs of the population. In the health sector, NGOs are playing a key role by providing first aid and ambulance services to the injured, absorbing them into emergency centres, providing essential medical supplies, and subsidising various services that the impoverished population cannot afford. The changing role of Palestinian NGOs from development agents into relief and short-term service providers is a matter of concern to Palestinian civil society, since the heavy involvement of NGOs in emergency relief dramatically reduces their ability to maintain the Palestinian development process and foster civil society.

Islamic Charities

Similar to secular NGOs and civic groups, Islamic charities have been playing an increasingly important role in meeting emergency needs. The Islamic charity network in the occupied Palestinian territory is represented by traditional Zakat committees, which are evenly distributed throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, and local charity structures associated with various religious-based factions - notably in the Gaza Strip. While community-based, these organisations have a large international and regional constituency. For example, organisations like Al-Salah Al-Islamiye have been receiving substantial

financial contributions from popular support committees, governments in the region and in the Gulf. Projects implemented by Islamic charities have been both diverse and large and have included food distribution, payment of unemployment allowances and financial support to homeless households. Overall, Islamic charity institutions can rely on steady funding from international sources.

International community

Donors and International Financial Institutions

Major donors continue to maintain a significant presence in the occupied Palestinian territory since their deployment in the early 1990s to support nation-building efforts. In addition to the large number of development/cooperation offices of the donor countries, multilateral financial institutions such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Islamic Development Bank maintain a significant presence in the region and are involved in development. Aid and development agencies of donor countries such as USAID, Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD) and Italian Cooperation have developed a range of technical expertise in the occupied Palestinian territory that enables them to conduct needs assessments and to evaluate, manage and monitor project implementation.

In the wake of the Palestinian Authority's fiscal crisis and deteriorating humanitarian situation the donor community mounted a massive emergency assistance programme. The donor community's response strategy consisted of budget support to the Palestinian Authority to alleviate the impact of the collapse of its fiscal sector, continued development assistance, support to private sector and medium-to-large scale commodity support to public and private institutions and households. The share of emergency and humanitarian programmes of the donor portfolios rose dramatically, often at the cost of longer-term development initiatives.

The emergency response of donor community is being channelled through traditional humanitarian assistance activities (e.g. Health, water, food sectors and support to the UNRWA emergency appeal) but also through emergency job creation and private sector support. Major funding facilities are created for emergency employment, public health and private sectors by USAID; the European Commission and the European Union's member states – the largest donors to the occupied Palestinian territory – are currently managing a multi-sector emergency assistance portfolio while continuing development and institution-building initiatives. Large-scale institutional, rehabilitation and emergency assistance is also being provided by Norway, Japan and the World Bank through public (Palestinian Authority's Ministries, municipalities and UNDP) and private sectors. The League of Arab States along with the European Union, and the World Bank continue to provide a massive support to the Palestinian Authority's budget, thus enabling it to pay its civil servants.

By the end of 2002 the multi-sector donor assistance largely exceeded US\$ 1.1 billion. For comparison, the pre-Intifada level of development and relief assistance was estimated at approximately US\$ 490 million¹².

¹² Source: OECD, World Bank

The following table¹³ attempts to capture contributions made by donors for development and humanitarian activities as well as budget support to the Palestinian Authority during the current fiscal year. The figures on EU member states include the amounts disbursed as of October 2002.

Donor	Budget
Austria	3,270,000
Belgium	7,633,000
Denmark	25,469,000
Finland	4,647,000
France	10,019,000
Germany	20,964,000
Greece	4,181,000
Ireland	2,699,000
Italy	27,551,000
Portugal	343,000
Spain	3,206,000
Sweden	42,000,000
The Netherlands	18,146,000
United Kingdom	11,162,000
European Commission	254,000,000
United States (USAID)	179,535,000
Japan	41,443,000
Norway	61,587,000
Switzerland	17,000,000
League of Arab States	385,000,000
World Bank	40,000,000
Total	1,159,855,000

International NGOs

The number of international NGOs operating in the occupied Palestinian territory has been consistently high since the mid-1990s. Following the establishment of the Palestinian Authority in 1994, international NGOs adopted a long-term development strategy. By September 2000, the INGO community consisted almost exclusively of development organisations involved in the improvement of health and education services and capacity building of the newly created Palestinian institutions. INGOs changed their profile and portfolios in response to the deepening humanitarian crisis starting from late 2001. They are particularly active in the health, education, health, human rights, social services, gender issues, water, income generation and psychosocial sectors. INGOs currently form a loose consortium in the Association of International Development Agencies (AIDA) that serves as a coordination forum for its 70-member constituency. AIDA has sectoral and inter-sectoral coordinating committees on health, nutrition, education and water. An AIDA Humanitarian Steering committee was established after September 2000 to facilitate the INGOs' humanitarian activities.

International NGOs have been particularly vulnerable vis-à-vis movement restrictions, closures, and bureaucratic procedures since September 2000. They experience difficulties with movement of staff and goods, clearance of goods and issuing of visas.

Red Cross/Red Crescent

The Red Cross/Crescent movement is represented by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and PRCS. The latter is the largest emergency health operator in the occupied Palestinian territory. The ICRC operation in the occupied Palestinian territory is one of their largest worldwide. Through its network of field offices and international field staff, ICRC facilitates the movement of Palestinian services providers, particularly ambulances, through checkpoints and other barriers. Since mid 2002, ICRC also implements a large relief programme including food assistance, health, water and shelter projects.

United Nations

The United Nations in the occupied Palestinian territory are represented by UNRWA, UNSCO, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), OCHA, WFP, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO),

¹³ Source: Representative Offices: Sweden, Switzerland, Norway, Japan, USAID West Bank and Gaza Mission, European Commission Jerusalem; and the World Bank.

International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). UNRWA is by far the largest UN operational agency in the occupied Palestinian territory and provides comprehensive services to the Palestinian refugee population. The Agency employs over 12,000 staff and possesses a dense network of logistics bases, field offices and camp infrastructure throughout the occupied Palestinian territory.

UNDP is the second largest UN agency in the occupied Palestinian territory in terms of its portfolio and sectors of intervention. UNDP has been instrumental in designing and implementing large-scale infrastructure projects. Since September 2000, the Agency has also channelled funds to emergency activities such as community infrastructure rehabilitation, emergency job creation and income generation. UNDP's cooperation with Palestinian institutions in designing and monitoring various projects is taken as a model while planning water, job creation, shelter and other sector activities.

Other UN agencies, such as UNICEF, WFP, WHO and UNFPA have been gearing up their activities mainly from mid-2002. These agencies have gradually developed their logistics/delivery capacity (notably WFP), although their field presence remains limited.

FOOD SECURITY

Goals

- Provide emergency support to newly impoverished households whose main breadwinners have become unemployed or who have lost his/her income as a result of the escalating crisis.
- Continue to meet the food security requirements of the poorest and most vulnerable groups in the Palestinian population (i.e. the special hardship cases – children, the disabled and injured, pregnant women, female headed households, and the elderly).
- Prevent the collapse of the agriculture sector, considered an important sector of the economy and source of income for a large segment of the population.
- Also, contribute in halting the deterioration of the nutritional situation in the occupied Palestinian territory; ensure the availability of indispensable agricultural inputs; support the production and the distribution of foodstuffs throughout the occupied Palestinian territory; rehabilitate damaged agricultural infrastructure; improve the stability of the food aid pipeline; prepare for an increase in the food aid need due to a sudden deepening of the crisis; and promote the participation of women in food security issues.

Background

Closures, curfews and incursions negatively affect all food delivery and agricultural activities, including marketing. As long as the above constraints are in place, the current adverse situation involving all components of the food security chain will further deteriorate. Delays in clearing goods at ports, limited quantities allowed into the Gaza Strip on a daily basis, and other obstructions are resulting in substantial increases in costs to donors and reduced efficiency.

The main problem with respect to accessing food and food security in the occupied Palestinian territory is lack of income, as describe in section II.2. After two years of conflict, moreover, financial coping capacities are being exhausted. Many people's savings have been spent and assistance from extended family and friends is also becoming less available. Disposable income in the occupied Palestinian territory is being drained and people are no longer able to pay bills and purchase on credit. Due to movement

OLIVE OIL

Olive oil is one of the few Palestinian agricultural commodities that is produced in excess of the country's consumption. This staple food is increasingly unaffordable to impoverished Palestinian households. Because of its complex preparation technology and bi-annual harvest cycle the olive oil is more expensive than imported vegetable oils.

As a result of export restriction and bans, oil olive producers are unable to export this commodity to the international market, where it is highly valued. The most desirable solution would be to restore the oil's exportability.

Otherwise, the excess olive oil, purchased and distributed to the needy, can create a multiplier effect on food security and the oil-producing economy of the occupied Palestinian territory. A number of donors are currently considering supporting the local purchase of olive oil as a substitute to the imported vegetable oil – as a part of food distribution activities.

restrictions the distribution and marketing of food produce has been severely affected, thereby disrupting food supply stability and seriously affecting the economy of farmers/rural population.

Among the most vulnerable groups who stand out as the most in need of food assistance are children, female headed households, families with chronic medical expenses, the elderly and families who are no longer able to work their land and market their products. Today, however, there is another vulnerable group, the 'new poor', or those families that had regular incomes before the closure but who now have been made destitute.

According to the Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, 66.5% of households in the occupied Palestinian territory are now living below the poverty line. One third (36.6%) of Palestinian families report a lack of purchasing power to consistently feed their families. As a result, food consumption patterns are changing. Meat and dairy products, which are usually the main sources of high quality protein, minerals and micronutrients, are being consumed less. This has contributed to a worsening of nutritional status, particularly among children and pregnant/lactating women. In some areas, supplies of fresh food and vegetables, valuable sources of micronutrients, are affected by lack of access and curfews. In June 2002, a John Hopkins University study reported that every second mother and child (under-five) is suffering from mild anaemia and every fifth from moderate anaemia.

Preliminary findings of the Nutritional Assessment and Sentinel Surveillance System for West Bank and Gaza conducted by the John Hopkins University and USAID dated 5 August 2002 suggest that nutritional levels have seriously deteriorated over the last few months. Analysis of 936 children measured indicates that wasting or acute malnutrition, an indication of recent stress, is at an alarming 9.3%. For a normal population the expected figure for wasting would be around 2.3%. The wasting figures in Gaza are three times that of the West Bank (4.3% and 13.2%, respectively) and higher in non-urban than in urban areas (12.1% and 7.8%, respectively), the greater poverty rates and the increased food insecurity partly explaining these differences. Stunting or chronic malnutrition, an indication of stress over the longer term, is as anticipated at a moderate 13.2%.

Agricultural production is also seriously declining as a result of incursions, expropriation and destruction of farmland, agricultural structures and assets, such as the uprooting of 188,645 olive trees and the destruction of 650 greenhouses. As a result, the availability of certain foods on the market is being restricted. The Palestinian Authority Ministry of Agriculture estimates the physical damage to be US\$172 million. In addition, fertilisers, animal feed, and water supplies are being limited or simply becoming unavailable and there is growing frustration and disincentives among commercial farmers to continue production. Farmers are also facing reduced market prices and limited access to fields and markets during the harvest period. They then face restrictions on transportation of produce due to closures and curfews.

UNRWA and WFP will carry out activities in this sector in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture. A number of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) programmes in support of the Ministry will also enhance food security. Inter-agency coordination will be led by WFP and FAO. The monitoring of nutritional status of the population and food-security information in general will be carried out in close coordination with PCBS, Ministry of Agriculture, CARE, USAID, EU Food Security Group, WFP, WHO, UNICEF, and other partners.

Strategies

- Provision of food, cash subsidies, and agricultural inputs.
- Rehabilitation of damaged agriculture infrastructure
- Support to livelihood strategies.
- Advocate and promote uninterrupted and unhindered access of farmers to their land and markets in order to maintain farming operations at a satisfactory and appropriate level.
- Support the marketing and distribution of locally produced agricultural products (e.g. olive oil)
- Strengthen multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral cooperation among stakeholders to advocate for the food security of the population and to ensure collaborative planning and implementing of food security projects.

The assistance strategy outlined in this section takes into account the ongoing and planned activities by organisations whose projects do not appear under this Plan of Action: the PA Ministries of Agriculture, Social Affairs and Supplies, European Commission's Food Security Group, ICRC, Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC), World Vision (WV), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Islamic Charity

organisations and other smaller partners that together prevent food shortages at times of continued closures and virtual halt of commercial traffic in the occupied Palestinian territory. The design of the food security activities took into consideration the capacities of economic agents, including wholesale food suppliers and the retail chain and farmers to produce, import, export, dispatch foodstuff, to provide credit and generate cash revenues. The food security activities proposed are designed to countervail the sense of dependency that may be created as a result of massive food distribution campaigns through enforcing local safety nets, and boosting the agricultural production and improving produce marketing domestically and internationally.

Activities

- Continue current commitments for food aid, ensuring that special hardship case families are provided with adequate assistance.
- Make contingency arrangements for increased storage capacities and the pre-positioning of food stockpiles at decentralised levels.
- Strengthen food and nutrition-related surveillance systems, including assessments the need for and feasibility of pre-school and school feeding and market surveys.
- Provide food, cash, agricultural inputs and technical assistance to meet food needs and promote local food production.
- Revise and standardise food baskets according to reported worsening of nutritional status and involve women in this process.
- Encourage more women to directly receive the food rations.
- Provide cash-for-work and food-for-work activities aimed at increasing agricultural production, ensuring that at least 15% of the targeted beneficiaries are unskilled/unemployed women in line with the percent of women normally active in the workforce.
- Procure local agricultural produce for food aid to support the local economy by fitting practical solutions at a district level to local circumstances.
- Establish small home gardens/school gardens in order to diversify diets and promote household food security.
- Rehabilitate irrigation systems and other damaged essential agricultural assets.
- Monitor procedures, criteria for selection of beneficiaries, and conduct regular impact assessments.
- Collect, consolidate and computerise data on food distribution procedures, quantities, locations, mechanisms, beneficiaries, etc.

Targeted Beneficiaries

- Some 1.2 million refugees and 550,000 non-refugees will be targeted through food distribution projects.
- cash assistance will be provided to 114,000 refugees – special hardship cases – to improve their food consumption.
- over 16,500 families of farmers or 82,500 persons will benefit from agricultural production and animal husbandry projects.

12 MONTHS UN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (US\$) IN THE FOOD SECTOR		
UNRWA	Emergency Food Assistance	77,000,000
UNRWA	Additional Food and Cash Assistance to Special Hardship Case Families	12,872,700
WFP	Emergency Buffer Food Stocks (non-refugees)	7,209,000
WFP	Emergency Food Assistance to Victims of the Conflict	32,580,000
FAO/UNDP	Support with Small Ruminants Keepers	3,663,000
FAO/UNDP	Inputs to Backyard Vegetable and Poultry Production	2,000,000
FAO/UNDP	Emergency Repairs to Irrigation Assets	300,000
FAO/UNDP	Input support to Cereal (Gaza) and commercial greenhouse vegetable producers (oPt)	437,000
FAO	Support to Coordination of Agricultural emergency and Rehabilitation Interventions	350,000
FAO	Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance	1,650,000
TOTAL		138,061,712

N.B.: Additional emergency support may be required for other unmet needs in this sector.

HEALTH

Goal

Promote and protect the health and well being of the Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territory recognising that the health of all people throughout the region, including in Israel, will be enhanced as a result of better control of communicable diseases and non-communicable diseases, improved psychosocial health, and overall respect of human rights.

Background

The Palestinian Authority Ministry of Health and its national and international partners have been able to achieve a great deal under very difficult circumstances in trying to meet the needs of the 3.3 million Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territory. The health challenge is nevertheless becoming more pronounced. Attacks against civilians and imposition of severe restrictions on movement are threatening the physical and psychosocial health of the Palestinian people. Economic conditions are rapidly getting worse, there is growing unemployment and less cash is available. The imposition of closures and restrictions on free movement of the public and health care staff is undermining the capacity of the Palestinian Authority Ministry of Health (MoH), UNRWA and other health providers to protect health. If this situation continues, these actions will further erode the long-term health development of Palestinians.

Limitations on access to health care services are particularly threatening the health of patients who require regular follow-up and treatment, including for diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and renal insufficiency. Pregnant women, especially those with complications, have also been affected, and delaying the passage of ambulances through checkpoints is compromising the already poor health of many people. According to the MoH, delays at checkpoints have resulted in 46 women delivering while waiting for permission to pass through; 24 women and 27 newborn babies have died as a result of these delays.

Despite agreements to the contrary, limitations have also been placed on movement of health care personnel. The MoH estimates that on any given day more than 75% of staff is unable to go to work and UNRWA calculates that 14,278 health staff workdays have been lost in the West Bank alone over the last two years as a result of closures and restrictions on the movement of personnel. In addition, 18 health workers have been killed and 370 injured. At least 240 ambulances have been shot and 34 have been completely destroyed by gunfire and shelling.

Epidemiological surveillance has been curtailed throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, making the timely identification and response to epidemic outbreaks and other problems difficult. Immunisation (polio, diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus [DPT], and measles) coverage has fallen, especially in villages that are now difficult to reach because of roadblocks. UNRWA reports that no more than 46% of children are being immunised according to schedule, and changes in the health profile of children can be expected as a result. Antenatal clinic attendance rates have also decreased; and the MoH estimates that as few as 30% of all eligible women are now attending maternity services.

Routine spraying against parasitic diseases such as *Leishmaniasis* and West Nile Fever has been curtailed because of difficulties bringing in insecticides, and this is now posing a major threat to the region. Difficulties in disposing of solid waste and other products is compromising water supplies, and in some locations water conduits have been systematically destroyed. Two outbreaks of *Shigellosis* have been reported and wild polio virus has been reported in sewage in Rafah. The first death from rabies in over 20 years was reported in October.

As described in more detail in the following section, the occupation and the current conflict are having a serious impact on psychosocial well-being. Attacks and loss and separation of family, curfews and restricted movement are contributing to an erosion of perceived power to determine personal life events and a sense of hopelessness. Psychosocial problems among all age groups are taking many forms but among them violent ideations are growing and pre-existing psychiatric disorders are being exacerbated because of interrupted treatment, care and support.

Deteriorating economic conditions have had a direct impact on health insurance and cost-recovery - less than a third of Palestinian households are now covered by government insurance. Worsening purchasing capacity as well as poor access to a varied food basket is also impacting adversely on nutritional status.

Micronutrient deficiencies are becoming more pronounced and recent surveys report that 16.2% of pregnant women and 19.7% of children are suffering from moderate to severe anaemia.

Under the overall guidance of the MoH, WHO and UNRWA will support the strengthening of the weakened health delivery and information system. To regain the higher pre-September 2000 immunisation coverage, UNICEF will assist in re-launching a renewed immunisation programme. UNFPA will focus on the strengthening of the MoH system and on reproductive health.

Strategies

Support the capacity of the Palestinian Authority MoH and the Palestinian health care system as a whole so that it can better respond and coordinate interventions needed by the evolving situation, by strengthening:

- Public health protection in key areas such as communicable diseases, mother and child health, reproductive health (especially of women, girls, adolescents), chronic diseases, immunisation, safe water, sound nutrition and psychosocial security; exploring ways of ensuring access to services including services that require movement across borders;
- Community-based health and emergency health care such as management of injuries, in order to compensate for problems associated with lack of access to services and the restricted movement of health personnel;
- Local and national capacity for epidemiological surveillance and timely reporting of health-related problems so that responses can be prepared and delivered efficiently and quickly; capacity of the MoH and other partners (NGOs) in health planning and management, coordination, technical support, follow-up and evaluation;
- Advocacy for health building on surveillance data as well as results of special studies.

The health sector strategy of this Plan of Action is complementary to the ongoing major efforts by the PA Ministry of Health, the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS), Palestinian NGOs such as Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees (UPMRC), Patients Friends Society and the Union of Health Work Committees (UHCW); international NGOs such as Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP-UK), Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Médecins du Monde (MDM); ICRC and bilateral and multilateral donors such as USAID, EU and Italian Cooperation. The analysis of the ongoing and planned activities helped defining areas in the health sector where the UN participating agencies have adequate capacity. Therefore, the overall health sector strategy of this Plan of Action is by and large preventative, but also contains smaller curative and emergency elements. This strategy also makes contingency and emergency preparedness provisions.

Current and new activities

- Continue to support immunising children and gather information on coverage; increase the current capacity for immunisation by procuring and strategically stocking vaccines to cover six-month needs at any time; strengthen the cold chain, including procurement of refrigeration and transport support to cover difficult-to-reach areas; train community health staff in immunisation.
- Provide reproductive health kits to difficult-to-reach communities, continue to train community outreach midwives and nurses in emergency obstetric care; create awareness in the communities about the availability of community-based emergency obstetrics; create safe blood supply at all levels; procure and distribute medical equipment, supplies and essential reproductive health drugs so they are available and maintained at all levels of the health care system; provide guidelines and accelerate training primary health care staff in comprehensive reproductive health; train health and social welfare staff in comprehensive family health approaches at the PHC level; assess domestic well being and the health of the elderly issues and develop interventions to meet identified needs; train women and youth to play more active role in delivery of all health services.
- Provide guidelines on micro-nutrient supplementation of vulnerable groups in the context of the national nutritional policy; identify and meet the nutritional needs of the elderly and disabled as well as children, pregnant/lactating women and food insecure households; promote breastfeeding as part of all nutrition policies.

- Improve solid waste disposal and better protect existing water supply; repair damaged water conduits; test regularly for water quality using strengthened MoH laboratories; identify, report and be able to respond quickly to water or food-borne diseases; procure and stock chlorine and other necessary water purifying agents.
- Procure and stock insecticides against parasitic threats such as West Nile Fever and *Leishmaniasis*, and zoonotic diseases such as *Brucellosis*; support the MoH to reinstate all spraying and assist the MoH in rabies control.
- Continue to identify psychosocial problems at a family level and alternative ways of dealing with them; continue to train teachers, community health workers and social workers to help children and adults and know when to refer for specialised care; emphasize family health; introduce special programmes for vulnerable groups; integrate psychosocial issues into all family health-related actions; review and highlight special psychosocial needs of women, girls, boys and elderly within context of family and reproductive health.
- Train and recruit community based health staff in care and treatment of chronic diseases if access to more specialised care is not possible.
- Procure, stock and distribute medicines for treatment of chronic diseases; procure equipment for radiotherapy and chemotherapy in selected referral hospitals and train staff accordingly; procure and set up strategically located units for production of IV fluids; create and maintain a three-month stock of IV fluids to meet needs of population in different scenarios; preposition drugs and medical supplies based on different scenarios.
- Procure and stock winterisation materials for people in need; ensure training in thermal control of newborns and alternative ways of providing it using low cost simple techniques.
- Accelerate current training and recruitment of staff at all levels in emergency injury management including ambulance care, triage and referral; procure and strategically stock equipment and consumable supplies for emergencies.
- Assess current surveillance mechanisms and meet outstanding needs; train staff in epidemic outbreak investigation; provide support to the existing health surveillance system; create a common methodology and procedures for surveillance and reporting within the MoH and among all other partners and explore how health and food and nutrition related data can be combined to form a comprehensive surveillance system.
- Train and recruit staff in the MoH and all other partner agencies in health planning, management, coordination, technical support, follow-up and evaluation; create a communication system for providing technical support in medical emergencies.
- Create dialogue and advocacy among professionals from public institutions, academic bodies, NGOs, community associations in occupied Palestinian territory and in Israel on health and health-related issues such as health and human rights.
- Get ambulances released from customs and made operational as soon as possible; introduce guidelines on treatment of patients and health staff in crisis situations.
- Set up a weekly public information (WPI) reporting system using media on health-related outcomes incidents of importance to all stakeholders in the occupied Palestinian territory, Israel and international community; use validated epidemiological and other data for WPI including reporting system on access to and use of health care facilities.
- Continue to involve people from the community as much as possible in all health-related activities and find ways of recruiting people to fulfil community-based actions they can be reimbursed for.

Targeted Beneficiaries

In addition to the comprehensive support to the Palestinian public health care system, activities described in this section target specific groups of the population considered vulnerable or at risk:

- The entire refugee population – 1.5 million will be targeted through comprehensive support to UNRWA primary health network, mobile clinics, and referral arrangements and coverage of hospitalisation fees;
- Some 750,000 children will be covered through a series of vaccination campaigns and distribution of nutritional supplements;
- 2,500 doctors, midwives and nurses will be targeted through training programmes;
- 200,000 reproductive age women through improving the reproductive health counselling and care in the communities of Hebron, Jabalya, and El-Bureij;
- 120,000 elderly in need of material and psychological support.

12 MONTHS UN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (US\$) IN THE HEALTH SECTOR		
UNRWA	Provision of Medical Supplies	3,106,312
UNRWA	Physiotherapy and Wages of Health Clinic personnel	1,274,490
UNRWA	Mobile clinics	900,000
UNRWA	Hospitalisation fees	630,000
WHO	Strengthening MoH Emergency Mental health programme	1,000,000
WHO	Emergency Health Supplies	650,000
WHO	Strengthen Health Information Management	730,000
WHO	Strengthen MoH in responding to the malnutrition problem	120,000
UNICEF	Expanded Programme on Immunisation	3,500,000
UNICEF	Maintaining Nutritional Status of Children and Women	900,000
UNICEF	Making Maternal and Child Health Services more responsive	400,000
UNFPA	Reproductive health and Counselling	1,100,000
UNFPA	Rapid training of community based midwives	800,000
UNFPA	Responding to the Needs of the elderly	550,000
UNFPA	Hotline support in Reproductive health	525,000
UNFPA	Strengthening national statistic and reporting system	480,000
TOTAL		16,665,802

N.B.: Additional emergency support may be required for other unmet needs in this sector.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

Goal

Increase the psychological and social resilience of the population of the occupied Palestinian territory and its capacity to effectively deal with, and overcome, psychosocial problems emerging as a result of the current situation.

Background

The ongoing violence, closures and curfews and the continuing occupation of Palestinian self-rule areas are among the main causes of acute psychological distress among many Palestinian children and adults. One year after September 2000, 75% of Palestinian adults believed their children were experiencing greater emotional problems. Problems include sleeping difficulties, anxiety, psychosomatic problems, regression, withdrawal, risk-taking behaviour, rejection of authority, inability to concentrate, and aggression. Other behavioural changes in children have been noted, including: increasing violence among children and between children and parents; decreased levels of activity; decreasing hope in the future; increasing attachment to their community, but decreasing closeness in the family and trust in adults; increasing focus on political issues; the hardening of political attitudes; and an undermining of fundamental beliefs.

Problems caused by exposure to direct and indirect violence, curfews, poverty and the general atmosphere of hopelessness and frustration are increasing. Traumatic events such as shootings, death or injury of family and friends, shelling, demolition of homes, house-to-house searches, detention of fathers and brothers and children themselves are all creating a situation of widespread psychological ill-health among children and adults.

Approximately two thirds of adults report feeling continuously distressed; depression, anxiety, phobias and psychosomatic problems are widespread. In areas of high exposure to violence, the majority of mothers have developed psychological problems such as depression, and anxiety attacks. This is

especially marked among women who have suddenly been left as heads of households because men have been imprisoned or killed. Familial stress is also creating situations that are fraught with potential for domestic violence, and men are being humiliated because they are unemployed and unable to protect their families and children. Parenting practices are also being affected and in many cases undermined. Although most parents are spending more time with their children, many feel unable to meet their children's psychological needs.

The effects of Israeli occupation and the current crisis have left and will continue to leave deep psychosocial scars on the population, unless interventions are put in place that ensure the population's right to life, protection, psychological and social well being.

A number of agencies support the Palestinian Authority in meeting the psychosocial needs of the most vulnerable, especially children, women and health workers. UNICEF will promote the psychosocial well being of children. The curative aspect will be addressed through assistance provided by WHO. Inter-agency coordination will be led by UNICEF in the sector.

Strategies

Strengthen the mental health and psychosocial well being of the Palestinian population through five main strategies that highlight:

- Advocacy for the improvement in the overall political/security environment of Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territory; protection of the civilian population; lifting of curfews and closures; creation of opportunities for employment; participation and recreation; reduction in poverty and a just and sustainable solution to the political conflict;
- Promotion of psycho-social well-being through family support, effective community participation, building life skills, and appropriate expressional/recreational activities in safe and protected environments; mobilisation of people in the community to take up and implement activities that enhance cohesion, mutual care and help; increasing the availability and quality of interventions for women and outreaching to other vulnerable groups;
- Prevention of psychosocial problems through support to counsellors, psychologists and social workers who can work at a community level in helping people recognise signs of psychological and social distress, and develop locally relevant ways of dealing with these problems; increasing the number of trained counsellors and other related staff through training, supervision and material support; interventions are required for approximately 20% of the population (660,000 people);
- Improvement of the quality and availability of treatment services and rehabilitation of people with mental illnesses, including the systematic referral of patients in need of advanced care and treatment; interventions are appropriate for approximately five percent of the population (165,000 people);
- Improvement policy and coordination, including consensus on accreditation of mental health workers, mental health legislation and in support of psychosocial policies developed by the MoH; ensuring coordination at national and district level and make sure all districts have operating psychosocial coordination committees.

The UN agencies identified in this Plan of Action are playing key roles in this sector. However, the proposed activities take into account complementary activities by other partners operating in this sector: PA Ministries of Health, Social Affairs, Education, Youth and Sports, national NGOs and Palestinian Counselling Centre, Gaza Community Mental Health Program, and AIDA-member NGOs. The strategy designed for this sector is largely promotional and preventative with a smaller group of activities providing for psychosocial treatment. Policy development and advocacy initiatives constitute another pillar of this strategy.

UN psychosocial programming currently builds on, and utilises local capacity in psychosocial interventions. Programmes are being delivered through Palestinian ministries such as the Palestinian Authority MoH, Social Affairs, Education and Youth and Sports, the UNRWA health, education and relief services, as well as various Palestinian NGOs. Technical assistance, such as training, is primarily provided by specialist Palestinian NGOs with the support of limited foreign expertise.

Indicators of impact include decreasing the proportion of the population suffering psychological distress (now 67%), reducing the percentage of the population who develop psychological problems as a result of the current situation (currently 25-30%) and ensuring all counsellors (social workers and psychologists) working in this field are minimally qualified and supported.

Activities

- Train youth and children to provide psychosocial support to their communities, including peer-to-peer projects, youth hotline and psychosocial activities in summer camps; community meetings and trainings to help parents and community leaders, especially women, to identify and deal with psychosocial problems; train teachers, health workers and community/youth workers in development of infrastructure such as playgrounds for psychosocial activities; and develop and use media support (television, radio and print) and psychosocial information/materials.
- Train social workers/psychologists in counselling and develop counselling support activities; develop district level networking: sponsor social workers and psychologists participation in trainings and conferences; and develop strategies to improve university training of psychologists and social workers.
- Provide adequate treatment and rehabilitation through financial and material support to existing treatment clinics, upgrading and expanding treatment and rehabilitation services including increasing staffing and improving facilities; support review and upgrading of referral system, focusing on district level referral; and support Palestinian participation in post-graduate training programmes in clinical psychology and psychiatry.
- Strengthen psychosocial policy and coordination, through providing support to the registration process for mental health workers; conduct conference to improve psychosocial service delivery during crisis; unifying monitoring and evaluation systems to assess impact of emergency psychosocial assistance; support national and district level psychosocial coordination committees; and provide international technical assistance to psychosocial projects.

Targeted Beneficiaries

The activities described in this sector are designed to support the Palestinian capacity to meet the growing need for psychosocial support and counselling. However, in addition to activities at macro level, this Plan of Action is designed to have direct beneficiaries:

- 100,000 people through psychosocial prevention services;
- 10,000 people through treatment and rehabilitation services.

12 MONTHS UN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (US\$) FOR PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT		
UNRWA	Psychosocial Interventions (Counselling Programme)	1,708,560
UNICEF	Psychosocial Support to Palestinian Children	1,600,000
UNFPA	Psychosocial support to women within all reproductive health services	730,000
TOTAL		4,038,560

N.B.: Additional emergency support may be required for other unmet needs in this sector.

Water and Sanitation

Goal

- Supply of adequate quantity and improved quality of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene to all Palestinian communities facing critical water shortages.
- Improved management capacity of Palestinian water suppliers and establishment of a transparent and efficient system for water-resource management.
- Sustainability of private water suppliers and decreased indebtedness of consumers to water-operators.
- Reduced incidence of water-borne diseases and stable environmental health situation throughout the occupied Palestinian territory.

Background

The issue of equitable access to scarce water resources and their fair distribution has long been central to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Chronic in character, the problem has now become one of the most

critical humanitarian issues as the conflict enters its third year. The problem is expected to further deepen and reach dramatic proportions under the premises of the “steady deterioration” scenario.

Long term Israel restrictions on the water sector in the occupied Palestinian territory have prevented its development and ability to meet the growing demands. The consequences of these restrictions are most visible in two key areas: construction of infrastructure to connect the rural population to water distribution networks, and proper maintenance of existing infrastructure. The diminished water supply as a result of recurrent droughts and increased consumption due to population growth has been exacerbated by the current conflict.

In the West Bank alone, more than 200,000 people who depend on supplies brought in by water tankers are left without adequate water supply for long periods because of curfews and closures. In addition to problems caused by access, a number of water systems (water pipes, pumps and wells) were destroyed by the IDF during “Operation Defensive Shield” and the ongoing re-occupation of the Palestinian self-rule areas. Furthermore, a sizeable number of wells and reservoirs in rural areas have been damaged, destroyed or made inaccessible because of violence. A number of the West Bank villages adjacent to Israeli settlements have been and are currently suffering from recurrent closures of main valves on their water networks.

Palestinian communities that are connected to distribution networks suffer from drastic reduction in water supplied by an Israeli private operator – Mekharoth. In certain cases, water currently supplied to Palestinian villages is less than 75% of the normal supply.¹⁴

The economic decline and the depletion of the population’s disposable income have further amplified the water crisis. Against the background of the ongoing impoverishment, the water prices significantly soared reflecting the sharply increased transportation costs borne by private suppliers and security risks associated with operating water tankers.

Currently the average cost for 1 m³ of water is estimated by the Palestinian Hydrology Group at US\$ 0.6 in Palestinian areas with a water network. Recent reports from the Palestinian Hydrology Group also indicate that more than 90% of the population in a number of surveyed villages in the West Bank is unable to pay its water bills. The situation is particularly dire in communities without water distribution networks, where the price of tanker-delivered water currently exceeds US\$ 4 per m³. The chronic indebtedness of water consumers has practically exhausted the ability of tanker operators to provide additional credit for delivered water.

In the absence of regular water supply Palestinian households have depended on harvesting rainwater and water from local springs and wells, and the burden of these constraints falls mainly on women. Combined with tanker-delivered water this practice used to provide relative water-security to tens of thousands of households prior to September 2000. This traditional water harvesting and storage practice has increasingly become unsustainable as a result of repeated destruction/damage of family cisterns and their inability to replace or repair them during protracted curfews.

The aggregate effect of violence, discriminatory water distribution practices and economic decline has led to a sharp decrease in the amount of water consumed by Palestinians particularly in the West Bank. The current level of daily water consumption in the occupied Palestinian territory is half of the amount recommended by WHO – 100 litres per person per day. An increasing number of civilians in rural areas are currently consuming less than 20 litres of water per day. This has serious implications for personal and household hygiene and an increase in water borne diseases has already been recorded.

Collection and disposal of solid waste have also become particularly problematic in towns and villages under curfew and closure. Garbage trucks are not able to move freely to collect waste in population areas under curfew, and often cannot reach the normally used landfills because of closures. In addition, around 25% of the towns and 100% of the rural areas are not served with adequate wastewater systems. The build up of waste constitutes a serious health and environmental hazard, for Palestinians and Israelis, as wells and aquifers are being contaminated. These problems have been made much worse in areas where there has been significant damage to the infrastructure as a result of the March/April 2002 incursions, and more recently during operation “Determined Path”.

¹⁴ “Impact of the current crisis”, Technical Report WASH group, October 2002

The role of Palestinian institutions, and in particular PWA, will continue to be central. UNDP will continue to provide support and lead inter-agency coordination in the water sector. Other partners such as NGOs (e.g. OXFAM) also participate actively. Inter-agency coordination will be led by UNDP.

Strategy

The strategy developed for water/sanitation sector of this Plan is based on a two-tier assistance scheme: it reaches the end-users – consumers in water-scarce communities; and service providers – national water authorities and the private sector providers. In addition to traditional emergency activities, the strategy in the sector emphasises the need for improving the financial sustainability of both consumers and suppliers through subsidisation of closure-related costs. This strategy also outlines emergency preparedness measures and intends to maximise the water storage capacity of individual households and service providers in areas particularly exposed curfews and closure.

Emergency assistance would essentially be channelled through the Palestinian Water Authority, in order to strengthen this Palestinian institution responsible for addressing water needs.

The strategy developed for this sector is intended to provide comprehensive support to the Palestinian forefront operators – specialised services of Palestinian municipalities, the Palestinian Water Authority, major national water NGOs, such as the Palestinian Hydrology group. Also, this sector strategy provides for assistance to private sector operators and end-user of their services through subsidisation of closure-related costs and supporting community credit schemes. The water/sanitation section of this plan is designed to be fully integrated in the assistance strategies developed by two major coordination groups currently operating in the oPt – Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Support group (WASH – chaired by OXFAM/GB) and the Emergency Water Operations Centre (EWOC – chaired by PHG). This programme will be coordinated with the World Bank and is designed to be complementary to its “Emergency Municipal Services Rehabilitation” facility.

Key activities

Support to the PA Water Authority, municipalities and village councils:

- Support the Palestinian Authority in implement the emergency activities of the national plan, including repair and maintenance of major and regional distribution networks, monitoring and ensuring water quality control;
- Supporting the development and construction of waste water networks, provision of vacuum tankers villages with no sanitation facilities;
- Assist municipalities and village councils to develop emergency plans and engineering designs for water and sanitation projects.

Support to Communities and Private Sector:

- Subsidisation of transportation costs for water tankers;
- Supporting community-based water credit schemes;
- Increasing the water storage capacity of households through constructing and rehabilitating communal and individual cisterns;
- Support to community-based water-tanker operators, including repairs to damaged tankers;
- Train local water suppliers in efficient management and conservation of water resources.

Emergency Rehabilitation of water infrastructure:

- Rehabilitation of community water distribution networks damaged/destroyed as a result of military activity;
- Provision of supplementary water sources to rural communities through rehabilitation of approximately 300 water sources/springs;
- Quick customs clearance of essential spare parts.

Contingency Preparedness:

- Support rural communities in pre-positioning emergency water reserves in areas particularly vulnerable vis-à-vis continued closures and subsidising their costs.

In order to respond to emergencies, a system will continuously review the movement of water tankers and solid waste trucks; the quantities of water supplied to the West Bank areas by Israeli companies; the damage/destruction to water delivery and conservation infrastructure; and the mobility of technical staff of

the Palestinian Water Authority, and municipal utility services and their ability to carry out repairs/maintenance works.

The well-documented results of this information system will be used to lobby with relevant authorities through mechanisms outlined in the “Humanitarian Advocacy” section below. These efforts also will be closely coordinated with the Access & Closures Information System (ACIS) described below. The water-information project will benefit from technical assistance of the Humanitarian Information Centre (HIC) that will also disseminate the obtained data.

Targeted Beneficiaries

Through this Plan of Action is targeted at some 300,000 mostly rural residents in the West Bank currently experiencing serious problems with water supply.

Coordination

This sector strategy is integrated with the already ongoing efforts by Palestinian and international agencies in the water/sanitation sectors. Sector-specific coordination will be carried out at national, sectoral and field levels and will include:

- World Bank and municipalities: to ensure the coverage of municipalities and village council that are not currently covered by the World Bank “Municipalities” facility;
- Consortium of international and Palestinian specialised agencies and the already established operations groups – WASH and EWOC headed by OXFAM and Palestinian Hydrology Group – for community and private sector/credit scheme projects;
- Palestinian Water Authority – for national water security and environmental health activities.

12 MONTHS UN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (US\$) IN THE WATER SECTOR		
UNDP	Emergency Assistance to the Palestinian Water Supply and Management Sectors	15,750,000
UNRWA	Water and sanitation – environmental health	3,793,155
TOTAL		19,543,167

N.B.: Additional emergency support may be required for other unmet needs in this sector.

EDUCATION

Goal

To ensure that:

- All children in occupied Palestinian territory are able to complete the 2002-2003 school year with basic skills in numeracy and literacy;
- All Palestinian schools are able to function with basic school supplies and equipment, and the most disadvantaged university students are able to complete their university studies.

Background

The administration of the education facilities in the occupied Palestinian territories was handed over to the Palestinian Authority by the Israeli Civil Administration in 1994. The Palestinian Ministry of Education (MoE) inherited a few empty and decimated school buildings, with overcrowded classrooms and minimal in-service training for teachers. Intensive efforts have been made since to improve the quality as well as the coverage by the Palestinian education system, including their physical environment.

These investments are now unravelling. Learning in the present environment has proved extremely difficult. The current situation is affecting close to one million students (government, private and UNRWA) and over 39,000 teachers in some 1,900 schools.

Continued curfews and impeded freedom of movement imposed by the Israeli military undermine the basic right of all Palestinian children to a quality education. The current conflict underscores the difficulty for the Palestinian Authority to develop a viable system of services provision for the development of children. The absence of freedom of movement, among other constraints, leads to significant loss of time for students and teachers, with severe disruptions to the entire educational system.

Adding to the gravity of the situation, physical injury and loss of life to young children has further aggravated psychosocial conditions of youth and children. School buildings have been shelled and roads leading to schools have been demolished. In early October, statistics reflecting the profile of the injury, death and damage to the educational system since September 2000 revealed that:

- 252 students have been killed;
- 2,615 students have been injured;
- 197 schools have been damaged (three of which have been converted to military bases);
- 275 schools are in the direct line of confrontation;
- Passing grades in Arabic have declined from 71% in 1999-2000 to 38% in 2001;
- Passing grades in Mathematics have dropped from 54% to 26% during the same period.

UN teachers cannot reach their schools

Around 6:30 in the morning on 15 October, 14 women who teach in UNRWA schools in four villages outside Jerusalem set off for work from Ramallah in a UN bus. IDF troops at the Kalandia checkpoint outside Jerusalem prohibited them from crossing. After a three-hour wait, they were finally allowed to proceed. Outside the village of Bir Nabala, however, they were delayed for another 30 minutes at another checkpoint. When they reached the village of Al-Jeeb, they found that the road was blocked by rubble. IDF troops manning the roadblock refused to allow the teachers to continue on foot. The teachers then waited for 45 minutes hoping that the soldiers might relent, but when the soldiers refused them permission to proceed, they returned to Ramallah. As a consequence, 899 students in four schools had no teacher that day.

Factors noted above have undermined the learning environment, have frightened students and have converted schools into potentially hazardous places. The overall atmosphere of violence and conflict undoubtedly affects the ability of students to concentrate both in the classroom and in their studies. During the first month of the current school year, more than 226,000 children and over 9,300 teachers have been unable to reach their regular classrooms and at least 580 schools have been closed due to Israeli military curfews, closures and home confinement. Children living in the districts of Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarem and Hebron have been the most affected.

Affected communities have created substitute-schooling systems in order to deal with this situation, that include parent run home based schools often run by mothers, makeshift classrooms in mosques, basements, and alleyways. These alternative arrangements are a clear indication of the extent to which lives of Palestinian children have been disrupted. At present, the quality of home-based education cannot be assessed or assured, and outcomes are clearly deteriorating. Data from 2000-2001 taken from UNRWA schools in the West Bank alone presents a grim picture. Overall a very high drop out rate from scores on final exams in the main subject areas as a result of the psychological effects of violence and the disruptions that prevent teachers and students from reaching their classrooms has been noted.

Strategy

The education sector strategy was developed in close consultation with the Ministry of Education. While providing for alternative and non-traditional learning opportunities for school-age children in unstable regions, the support for total resumption and uninterrupted educational process constitute the backbone of this initiative. The education sector strategy takes into account the challenges faced by the higher education institutions in the occupied Palestinian territory and makes provisions for university students as well.

Building on the current coordination systems in the education sector, this programme will:

- Develop a strong advocacy campaign to ensure a safe and accessible educational environment throughout the school year;
- Sustain the daily operation of all Palestinian schools through:
 - o Continuation of support to back to school activities
 - o Repair to damages to educational infrastructure
- Prevent further deterioration of education levels of achievement by formulating and developing compensatory educational activities based on a needs assessment;
- Strengthen and expand psycho-social interventions/activities in all schools.

UNRWA will continue to focus on the needs of the refugee population, while UNICEF will lead the efforts in support of the MoE. Assistance is focused on back-to-schools programmes. Other partners, such as NGOs, also participate actively in the education sector. Inter-agency coordination will be led by UNICEF.

Activities

Primary activities to be undertaken through this programme:

- Overall support to Ministry of Education;
- Ensure close monitoring of the situation in terms of school attendance;
- Promote and support the continuation of the Back-to-School Activities, including the provision of school bags, uniforms, educational materials and implementation of a media campaign to ensure that children remain in school;
- Ensure direct support to the schools to compensate for parent's contribution (stationary, school supplies etc.);
- Support the provision of financial assistance to cover daily subsistence expenses to some 700 most disadvantaged university students coming from the most affected areas;
- Undertake repair works to damaged education infrastructures, laboratories and equipment;
- Implement learning achievement assessments in all the schools, focusing on Arabic and Mathematics in the context of the project developed by UNRWA.

Activities to be undertaken to support compensatory education (including remedial and distance education):

- Compensatory activities for schools in areas that have suffered from prolonged curfews such as Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarm and the Old City of Hebron to:
 - o Ensure continued support to community based education projects, utilising materials developed by UNRWA and UNICEF;
 - o Develop self-learning packages for teachers and parents of the communities, emphasizing tolerance;
 - o Train school inspectors, teachers and parents of children whose education has been continuously interrupted due to closures and curfews in providing learning support;
 - o Develop TV or radio support programmes;
 - o Programme supervision and monitoring by school inspectors and external monitors.
- At the end of the school year (July-June 2003) financial and technical support to conduct Remedial Summer Clubs including, training of 200 facilitators prior to the commencement of the clubs and establishment of a monitoring system for summer clubs with partners;
- In the schools that are still in operation, intervention will contribute to make the school a more protective and child-friendly environment for children, by:
 - o Refresher training courses for school counsellors;
 - o Training of teachers in psychosocial activities and methods of recognising signs of distress in children, and referral techniques;
 - o Training and incentives for young volunteers (unemployed graduates) intervening in schools; support to follow-up by NGOs.

Targeted Beneficiaries:

- 244,000 refugee children;
- 90,000 non-refugee children;
- 760 university students;
- 35,000 disadvantaged children;
- 250,000 children in curfewed areas

12 MONTHS UN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (US\$) FOR EDUCATION		
UNRWA	Back to School (in UNRWA schools)	2,625,000
UNRWA	Provision of Remedial Teaching	1,176,924
UNRWA	Distance Learning	3,026,625
UNRWA	Out of School Community Activities	525,000
UNRWA	Scholarships	210,000
UNICEF	Back to School (in Government schools)	6,600,000
UNICEF	Remedial and Distance Education	3,200,000
UNESCO	Emergency Subsistence to most Disadvantaged University Students	600,000
TOTAL		17,963,549

N.B.: Additional emergency support may be required for other unmet needs in this sector.

EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT

Goal

- Boosted purchasing power of Palestinians living in economic hardship through a combination of temporary and sustainable employment opportunities.
- Increased capacity of Palestinian institutions to deliver emergency employment services to the poor.

Background

Two million Palestinians are living in poverty, surviving on an income of less than US\$ 2 per day per person. Poverty rates in the West Bank and Gaza have multiplied over the past two years, rising from 21% of the population in September 2000 to 33% by January 2001. Using household income data, PCBS reports that 66.5% of Palestinian households are living in poverty: 57.8% in the West Bank, and 84.6% in Gaza.

Most families that have fallen into deep poverty have sold off personal possessions and household assets to survive. The poorest families are no longer able to pay bills for rent or utilities. Increasing numbers of children from the most marginalised families are dropping out of school to beg, particularly in the Gaza Strip.

The economic decline has been driven by a rapid rise in unemployment in the private sector. According to UNSCO, overall unemployment rates have reached 50% during the second quarter of 2002. At the same time, much of the working labour force is largely reliant on day labour, and it is deprived of income during curfews.

The closure and curfew regime has also resulted in an almost complete cessation of productive activity in the main West Bank centres of manufacturing, construction, commerce and private and public services, which account for at least 75% of the goods and services produced in the West Bank.

Large parts of the civilian population are unable to access basic services, while the providers of services are often unable to reach the recipients. In part, this has been the result of the widespread loss of income. An increasing portion of the population is simply no longer able to afford basic services or to meet their basic needs.

Whereas efforts will be made for job creation in all the sectors, to tackle the rich reservoir of trained and skilled Palestinians, UNRWA and UNDP will lead UN efforts in providing temporary employment opportunities to unemployed Palestinians in cooperation with relevant Palestinian counterparts, notably the Ministry of Housing, the Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Agricultural, Local Government and municipalities.

Strategy

The rationale of this strategy consists of supporting the Palestinian economy in general and vulnerable refugee households in particular through:

- Creation of short-term employment opportunities in construction/housing and municipal utility management services;
- Establishment of sustainable labour-intensive and community-based schemes;
- Providing graduate and vocational training to the unemployed;
- Repairing 2,300 shelters.

Employment generation for the non-refugee population is recognised as a major concern to address. It was not possible to identify an appropriate UN capacity to take the lead in planning for this sector. Funding for this sector will have to be met through sources over and above the requirements of the Plan of Action.

International standards promoting the right of all people to secure, equitable and sustainable livelihoods will guide the provision of this assistance. Support for the inclusion of women in job creation initiatives will be emphasised. Geographical targeting will prioritise areas that have been most seriously affected by poverty, unemployment and the exhaustion of household coping mechanisms.

This sector strategy is designed in cooperation with major Palestinian actors playing a key role in job creation and income generation activities, notably the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, and complements the programmes of the World Bank and the ILO. The strategy contained in the

employment action plan is twofold and includes direct activities, such as emergency short-term employment opportunities, and vocational training for the unemployed. Through this programme substantial amount of cash will be injected into the household economy and rehabilitation works will be carried out to the damaged community infrastructure. In addition special attention should be given to small and medium enterprises operating in the private sector.

Activities

- Emergency employment and job creation through labour-intensive public works in urban centres, rural areas and refugee camps, including the repair, reconstruction and development of public infrastructure – water and sanitation, solid waste disposal, etc.
- Graduate training through stipend-based job-experience programmes in public sector and civil society institutions, including the municipalities and NGOs.
- Assistance to micro credit and micro finance institutions capable of supporting the micro-enterprises and the private sector.
- Income generation activities in rural areas.

Targeted Beneficiaries

- Over 6,100 unemployed will benefit from short-term employment opportunities - 1.39 million Job Opportunity Days.
- 100,000 JOD will be created to provide unemployed refugees with sustainable labour-intensive employment.
- 5,000 farmers or 25,000 persons will benefit from labour-intensive employment in agricultural production.

12 MONTHS UN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (US\$) FOR EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT		
UNRWA	Direct Hire	17,410,129
UNRWA	Labour-intensive Community-based Projects	6,685,673
UNRWA	Indirect Hire	23,834,246
UNRWA	Graduate Training	1,385,290
FAO/UNDP	Income Generation Activities	900,000
TOTAL¹¹		50,215,338

N.B.: Additional emergency support may be required for other unmet needs in this sector.

SHELTER

Goal

- To provide adequate homes to families whose dwellings have been damaged or demolished through construction and rehabilitation activities.
- To create short-term 10,000 jobs through shelter construction activities.

Background

Extensive damage has been caused to dwellings and household effects of thousands of families in the occupied Palestinian territory. Damages range from broken windows and doors to extensive structural damage or total destruction of housing units and household effects. Over the last few months the IDF has intensified its house demolition policy.

In April-May 2002, a donor-led damage assessment exercise estimated the number of damaged and destroyed private and refugee housing at over 40,000. Of this, 2,800 dwellings had been destroyed as a result of military activity or demolished by the IDF and the rest - 37,200 had sustained moderate or serious damages.

In spite of major rehabilitation and construction efforts by UNRWA, Palestinian Authority Ministries of Public Works and Housing and donors the problem of homeless Palestinian families remain rather critical. Moreover, the number of damaged and destroyed private housing and especially refugee shelters continued to rise since June 2002, when the IDF launched a new military campaign followed by reoccupation of major Palestinian urban areas.

It is estimated that currently there are over 12,000 damaged and 1,800 demolished homes. This represents some 80,000 persons rendered homeless throughout the occupied Palestinian territory. The

¹¹ Total does not include the US\$ 3 million labour intensive employment component of the World Bank's US\$ 20 million Emergency Municipal Services Rehabilitation Project.

majority of households whose dwellings have been demolished (95%) do not have alternative accommodation.

Strategies

The premises for the shelter sector are based on the urgent need to provide adequate housing to both refugee and non-refugee families and prevent further internal displacement in the occupied Palestinian territory. The shelter sector activities outlined in this plan cover over 50% of the currently identified needs in the occupied Palestinian territory, with an exclusive focus on refugee shelters. The shelter needs of the non-refugee population are enormous. Because of difficulty in identifying a UN capacity to determine the appropriate nature and level of assistance for this sector, this particular need will have to be met through resources over and above the requirements of the Plan of Action.

This Plan makes certain contingency preparedness assumptions and foresees additional shelter needs in the near future given the sustained level of violence and the ongoing construction of the “Separation Wall” in the West Bank. In addition, the contingency resources proposed in this plan are intended to cover shelter rehabilitation needs of communities and individual families residing in areas exposed to violence, e.g. Rafah.

In addition to construction and rehabilitation efforts, the shelter sector of this plan includes cash assistance to victims of house demolitions to cover their relocation fees and to compensate for the loss of household effects.

UNRWA and the Ministry of Public Works will take the lead in providing emergency shelter repairs and reconstruction, especially for the most vulnerable refugee families. The housing/shelter problems of the resident or non-refugee population also need to be addressed through collaborative efforts by relevant Palestinian entities such as municipal authorities and the Ministry of Housing and private entities and national NGOs, with support of UNDP.

This sector strategy will also be geared to the creation of short-term jobs and will employ self-help schemes in construction and repair projects. This strategy also includes a tracking system for shelter needs of the population that will be linked to the HIC and advocacy initiatives outlined in relevant sections of this Plan.

Activities

- Create a comprehensive technical database on affected dwellings.
- Assess damage to dwellings and prepare cost estimates for the repair of damaged and reconstruction of demolished dwellings.
- Construct 900 housing units in refugee camps and in areas of mixed refugee/non-refugee residence.
- Carry out repair works to 15,000 damaged housing units; involve beneficiaries particularly women in these activities work through self-help schemes.
- Identify families whose basic household effects have been damaged or destroyed and issue cash subsidies for replacement.
- Provide homeless families with relocation fee for the duration of construction/repair works.

Targeted Beneficiaries

- Over 5000 people will benefit from house construction, while some 80,000 persons will be targeted through house repair and rehabilitation.
- 10,000 unemployed will be provided with short-term employment opportunities in the construction sector.

12 MONTHS UN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (US\$) FOR SHELTER SECTOR		
UNRWA	Emergency Repair and Reconstruction of Affected Dwellings	31,433,640
TOTAL		31,433,640

N.B.: Additional emergency support may be required for other unmet needs in this sector.

IMPROVING ACCESS AND MOBILITY

The recommendations made by the Secretary-General’s Personal Humanitarian Envoy that were addressed to the Government of Israel primarily focused on improving access by the population to basic services and needs, and to employment and income (see Annex 2). As stressed in her report and in this Plan of Action, the key to improving the humanitarian situation quickly and effectively lies in a rapid

implementation of these principal recommendations. Additional recommendations – and most of the commitments made by the Government of Israel to Ms. Bertini - relate to access constraints affecting aid organisations, which are described in, detail in part II. In addition to these recommendations, the mission proposes the following actions to help improve access and mobility, in particular of UN and other aid providers.

General Measures

The UN and donor community need to adopt a more pro-active and strategic approach to dealing with closure and access issues. This should include:

- Enhanced information sharing on closure conditions and tracking of incidents through the proposed Access and Closure Information System (see below). The active participation by all partners, as well as the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority, is a prerequisite to the success of this initiative;
- All humanitarian actors, and for the UN in particular UNSCO and UNRWA, should interact frequently in relation to their respective liaison efforts and ensure that good practices are shared and a uniform approach to access constraints is maintained. Greater strategic unity and coherence needs to be achieved on the part of the UN and donor community with regard to the degree to which restrictions on movement and access can be accepted in deference to Israeli security concerns;
- The capacity of liaison structures (e.g., the Task Force on Project Implementation) needs to be enhanced in order to more vigorously pursue access related requirements. The appointment of area-based focal points should be considered.

Measures that should be taken up with the Government of Israel:

- Arrangements should be made to allow aid and humanitarian organisations direct access to representatives of the operational and command structures within the IDF to discuss closure measures at a policy and operational level;
- The Government of Israel should provide a complete listing, in writing, of all rules and regulations relevant to assistance activities that are in effect in the occupied Palestinian territory. In addition, each time rules and regulations change, assistance providers need to be informed as soon as possible;
- Agreements reached through existing and new liaison structures, particularly those that relate to the movement of national staff members, should not be terminated or altered unilaterally when political or security realities on the ground change;
- Existing liaison structures should be strengthened through the development of a high-level fast track system to deal with specific problems. An initial listing of problems that would require priority action include:
 - o Enhanced movement of humanitarian transports into Gaza. It must be stressed that such enhanced access cannot be achieved at the expense of normal commercial traffic through Karni or other crossings;
 - o Streamlining and rationalisation of the permit system for national staff requiring access to East Jerusalem and Israel;
 - o Agreement on the exemption for humanitarian transports of “transit fees” at border crossings and the crossings between Israel and the West Bank and Gaza Strip;
 - o Acceleration of security inspections of humanitarian cargoes at the Port of Ashdod in order to reduce delays and storage and demurrage charges;
 - o Resolution of outstanding issues related to the clearance of humanitarian cargoes.
- Procedures for internal communication within the IDF should be improved in order to ensure that agreements reached are implemented quickly on the ground.
- Special efforts are necessary to ensure a more professional and courteous attitude of soldiers at checkpoints vis-à-vis Palestinian civilians and Palestinian Authority employees as well as national and international staff members of UN and other aid organisations. Clear instructions should be issued to IDF soldiers on the ground to respect the privileges and immunities of UN staff and

property and relevant obligations under international humanitarian law. Copies of these instructions need to be made available to aid organisations so that their staff members can, when necessary, bring them to the attention of IDF soldiers on the ground.

Tracking of Commitments

The Secretary-General's Personal Humanitarian Envoy recommended that UNSCO put in place mechanisms that permit the comprehensive tracking of, and appropriate follow-up regarding, compliance with commitments made to the UN. In follow-up to this recommendation, UNSCO has developed a commitment-tracking matrix (attached as Annex 4) in which commitments are linked with a number of monitorable benchmarks. The tracking process is modelled on the system developed by the international community vis-à-vis the implementation by the Palestinian Authority of the commitments for institutional reform as laid down in the 100-day reform plan.

The commitment-tracking matrix will be shared with the Government of Israel. Reliable and regular data sources will be identified and data collected for each benchmark. The outcomes of the tracking exercise will be stored in publicly accessible databases and published in monthly reports, which will be submitted to the Secretary-General, the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority. In addition, efforts will be undertaken to strengthen the ongoing dialogue with the Government of Israel if and when compliance is deemed insufficient. Such engagement can take place at various levels, including the Quartet and locally through the Task Force on Project Implementation (TFPI).

During his meeting with members of the Technical Assessment Mission, then Foreign Minister Peres indicated that focal points have already been identified in his Ministry who would be available for discussions on a weekly basis. In addition, the Coordinator for Government Activities in the Territories, Major General Amos Gilad, indicated that certain actions had been taken or were being envisaged to implement each of the commitments. He also welcomed that the UN was proposing verifiable indicators to track the progress of implementation and assured the mission members of his office's cooperation in this regard.

The Access and Closure Information System

Closely related to the commitment tracking exercise is the current development by the Local Aid Coordination Committee of the Access and Closure Information System (ACIS). The objective of the ACIS is two-fold:

- *Closure tracking:* Information collection, analysis and dissemination concerning the actual implementation of closure on the ground within the occupied Palestinian territory and along the borders of the West Bank and Gaza;
- *Incident tracking:* Information collection, analysis and dissemination concerning access related incidents. Access related incidents include every occurrence when a staff member of a donor, UN, NGOs is denied entrance to, or subject to delay or unnecessary interference at, a particular location inside the West Bank and Gaza as well as staff members that are denied entrance into Israel at international crossing points.

The data collected as part of the incident tracking exercise will provide the main input for the third category of commitments in the commitment tracking exercise. In addition, the ACIS will be used as the depository of commitment tracking data collected while the ACIS website will be used to continually disseminate the outcomes of the commitment tracking effort. The ACIS will be co-located with the HIC and work in close cooperation with its staff.

HUMANITARIAN ADVOCACY

UN agencies, donors and NGO representatives the mission spoke with identified an urgent need for increased humanitarian advocacy by the UN to help address the critical concerns raised in this Plan of Action. Priority areas the mission identified were improved outreach to local and international media and civil society in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory as well as other key Member States. Strategic advocacy on humanitarian issues towards local and international policy makers should also be improved. Joint policy positions based on factual and impartial analysis and consistent messages tailored to specific target audiences should form the basis of these efforts.

It was also recognised that the current capacity for effective humanitarian advocacy is very limited. While some UN agencies, notably UNRWA and UNICEF, have recently strengthened their capacity, many UN agencies have little or no dedicated capacity in Israel or the occupied Palestinian territory for advocacy or public information activities. Agencies that have local capacity have tended to focus more on fundraising and programme communication, and on public statements regarding isolated events. While UNSCO recently expanded its public advocacy and media capability, it remains limited and concentrates primarily on UNSCO's political mandate.

In addition to increasing capacity in individual UN agencies, the mission identified a need for better coordination of humanitarian advocacy activities and strategies. Neither UNSCO nor OCHA currently have staff dedicated to this task. In addition, various coordination groups, including the LACC and the Joint Liaison Committee (JLC), discuss advocacy issues on a regular basis but their joint activities have remained fairly limited. The creation of an advocacy focal point and a standing coordination group for advocacy would assist in the development of common strategies, consistent messages and joint activities on issues of concern to all humanitarian actors. It could also suggest common phraseology and guidance to agencies on how to respond to politically sensitive questions. Dedicated staff within UN agencies and OCHA could also assist in building the capacity of Palestinian partners to conduct effective and principled humanitarian advocacy.

The mission believes that humanitarian advocacy, if used strategically, can help reinforce efforts by the UN and its partners in other areas, including in the political and economic fields. Many of the objectives pursued in these areas are identical to key aims of humanitarian advocacy, including the lifting of closures and curfews, the revitalisation of the Palestinian economy, support to the Palestinian Authority and preventing a further descent into desperation and radicalisation. At the same time, as in other crises, there is a need for humanitarian advocacy to be perceived as impartial and non-political, for example by appealing to universal values and principles enshrined in international humanitarian and human rights law. While joint humanitarian advocacy activities should be coordinated closely with UNSCO and policy coordination fora, humanitarian agencies should also have access to capacity and mechanisms that are solely dedicated to humanitarian advocacy. UNSCO, which has unique access to the political leadership of all parties, will continue to play the lead role in advocating with policy makers in the region.

An essential prerequisite for effective humanitarian advocacy is access to reliable and relevant information about the situation on the ground. Several of the recommendations contained in other sections of this Plan of Action are therefore closely related to efforts aimed at improved advocacy, including the establishment of the Access and Closure Information System, the strengthening of information management through the HIC, and the deployment of field coordination officers to locations in the West Bank and Gaza. A strengthened advocacy capacity would also help target information gathering and research activities towards areas that would serve overall policy and advocacy objectives.

Proposed Actions

- The local capacity of humanitarian agencies for advocacy should be strengthened, including by deploying additional dedicated staff and providing appropriate training for staff already in the region.
- Coordination of humanitarian advocacy should be improved through (i) the deployment by OCHA of a humanitarian advocacy adviser and (ii) the creation of an advocacy coordination group that will be chaired by OCHA and include key UN agencies and representatives of international, Palestinian and Israeli NGOs.
- All joint advocacy activities should be closely coordinated with UNSCO.
- Agencies should help strengthen the capacity of Palestinian NGOs to conduct effective and principled humanitarian advocacy.
- A common humanitarian advocacy strategy should be developed that focuses on the key concerns identified in this Plan of Action and is grounded in joint priorities and policy positions. The strategy should identify key target audiences, individual messages and themes, and encompass public and private diplomacy as well as grass roots activities, while setting realistic goals and priorities in view of limited resources.

HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION¹⁵

Both during the mission of the Personal Humanitarian Envoy in August 2002 and during the technical assessment mission, interlocutors in the region stressed that there was an urgent need to strengthen coordination mechanisms in general and in several specific areas. To be effective, the coordination mechanism should bring together all stakeholders involved in planning, managing and responding to needs. This mechanism must help to support assistance providers' capacity to preserve coherence and long-term focus while addressing current and urgent needs, and help prevent possible disconnects – for example, between nation-building, institutional reform and emergency assistance agendas. This mechanism should be designed to the extent possible to support at national and regional levels the Palestinian authority in effectively fulfilling its role.

The following basic principles should inform the design of the humanitarian coordination structure. It should:

- Be designed to support operations and actors in the field in their efforts to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of relief services, ensuring that priority needs are met and gaps and overlaps are avoided;
- Wherever practically possible, maintain and strengthen Palestinian capacities, whether as coordinators or deliverers;
- Strengthen, not compete with or undermine, existing assistance community coordination structures, notably the Local Aid Coordination Committee and existing sector coordination mechanisms; and,
- Include all actors able to make a contribution to addressing humanitarian needs.

The architecture of aid coordination relating to the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory is remarkably complex, not just internationally but locally. Set up in the wake of the Oslo Accords, it has been characterised as 'politically-driven' and 'top down'. To be effective, humanitarian coordination must be 'needs-driven' and 'bottom up'. While individually, certain coordination mechanisms are performing well, overall humanitarian coordination is rather fragmented. For example, linkages between various sectoral operations groups are limited and policy discussions remain largely *ad-hoc*, with little systemic impact on operational planning and prioritisation.

The proposed coordination mechanism is intended to streamline existing humanitarian structures. It builds on mechanisms established following the Oslo Accords as well as newer fora set up by the Palestinian Authority and international community in response to the deterioration of the situation in April-May 2002.

Effective coordination will have to occur at three different interlocking levels:

- Area-based operational coordination;
- Sectoral coordination in priority areas such as health and food security; and,
- National level coordination – for both operational and policy purposes.

The mechanism being proposed is intended to provide a framework for interaction and information sharing, collaborative planning, assessment of needs and response capacities, implementation and evaluation of assistance activities. It is also intended to promote discussion of critical policy issues and coherent responses to them. It is designed to link with the following key players:

- Palestinian institutions, including Ministries involved in humanitarian crisis management; Palestinian Governorates and municipalities; provincial and regional emergency committees;
- The Palestinian and international NGO community and other non-state service providers;
- Israeli authorities, whether through the Task Force on Project Implementation or as members of the LACC;
- The donor community: LACC members and some of the LACC sector working groups; the LACC Task Force on Project Implementation; as well as the EU Aid Coordination Group; and,
- UN agencies and their coordination structures.

¹⁵ Humanitarian coordination is subject to final approval.

Area-based Humanitarian Coordination

Current situation:

Following operation “Defensive Shield” in April-May 2002, the Palestinian Authority established regional Emergency Committees at the level of governorates (also known as Governorate Committees for Poverty Alleviation). Their function was to coordinate national and international relief efforts. These Committees brought together governorates, municipal and community authorities, local offices of relevant ministries, in addition to Palestinian NGOs and private service providers. Some proved to be more effective than others; on the whole, they proved to be useful structures for helping the assistance community better understand and prioritise needs as well as for laying a basis for coherent response. While some Emergency Committees still function, their efficiency has significantly declined as a result of isolation of rural communities from urban areas and weakened communication between the national, provincial, municipal and community authorities on the one hand and Palestinian and international service providers on the other. As detailed in this report, the mobility of Palestinian UN staff within the West Bank and Gaza remains severely restricted.

Proposed action:

The mission proposes that UN Field Coordination Offices (FCOs) are established in priority governorates of the West Bank and Gaza. The FCOs will help ensure uninterrupted coordination and information flow among local and national authorities and international service providers, and closely liaise with Palestinian Emergency Committees and UNRWA area/field offices. They will be a crucial source of reliable and up-to-date information and analysis for the entire humanitarian community; in particular through the Sector Emergency Groups and the Humanitarian Operational Coordination Groups (described below), for example regarding area-specific priority needs and access restrictions. The FCOs would also liaise with UNRWA’s Operations Support Officers (OSOs) and help facilitate access and liaison with local IDF officers.

FCOs ideally should be collocated with existing UNRWA offices and should normally be staffed by OCHA. Initially, they will consist of an international humanitarian coordination officer and at least one Palestinian professional officer in key population centres as well as offices in other priority areas that will only be staffed by Palestinian officers. This would enhance local capacities and ensure the continuity of humanitarian coordination in the event that an international presence is no longer deemed necessary or is forced to evacuate in case the conflict intensifies.

Sectoral Coordination

Current situation:

Traditionally technical coordination issues were delegated to LACC Sector Working Groups (SWGs) concerned with long-term development planning and monitoring. They have been playing a relatively modest role in the overall crisis management effort since September 2000 but in several cases (e.g. health and water) have maintained and updated their long-term strategic planning capability. In response to the sharp deterioration of the humanitarian situation in April-May 2002, the assistance community established so-called “operations rooms” to provide rapid relief to affected Palestinian communities with the full involvement of relevant Palestinian Authority ministries. Since then the operations rooms – more usefully described as Sector Emergency Groups – have become permanent sector coordination structures covering the food, health, water/sanitation, and psychosocial sectors. With the notable exception of the health group (HART/Health Information), the sector groups have been rather detached from the LACC SWG or any other existing coordination body and have been mostly focusing on information collection, analysis and dissemination.

Proposed action:

Sector Emergency Groups should be strengthened and linked to the LACC SWGs and the two Humanitarian Operational Coordination Groups, one in Gaza and one for the West Bank. They will also need to address more prominently the response by various actors, in addition to information and analysis. Sector Emergency Groups and the operational agencies serving as their focal points will be a crucial link between the area-based and national coordination structures, not least by relaying their sector-specific information and analysis to the two Humanitarian Operational Coordination Groups. The FCOs and the strengthened Humanitarian Information Centre will be key sources of information and analysis for each of the Sector Emergency Groups and vice versa.

In addition to the existing four sector emergency groups, two more should be established to coordinate the employment/shelter and education activities. The expeditious set-up of these additional groups is a high priority given the sustained massive unemployment and declining school attendance. Sector emergency groups should ensure full participation of Palestinian partners and technical ministries through establishing their locus in areas accessible to local partners. The focal points of sector emergency groups must ensure synergies between the line Ministries of the Palestinian Authority and the relevant SWGs.

The following is a list of sector emergency groups, their focal points and Palestinian Authority and LACC SWG counterparts:

- Food and Nutrition Group – focal point WFP/FAO; links with the PA Ministries of Social Affairs and Health, as well as the newly established LACC Food Security Group (chair EU);
- Emergency Water and Sanitation Group (EWASH) – focal point OXFAM; links with the Palestinian Water Authority and LACC Water SWG (chair Germany);
- Health Action Response Team (HART) – focal point WHO; links with the PA Ministry of Health and the LACC Health SWG (chair Italy);
- Emergency Group on Psychosocial Support – focal point UNICEF; links with the PA Ministries of Health and Education and LACC Health SWG (chair Italy);
- (New) Emergency Employment and Shelter Group – focal point UNDP; links with the PA Ministries of Public Works, Housing, Finance and Economy as well as the LACC Job Creation SWG (chair World Bank);
- (New) Emergency Education Group – focal point UNICEF; links with the PA Ministry of Education and LACC Education SWG (chair France).

Policy and Operational Coordination

Current situation:

Operational coordination takes place in various fora, including for example the UN Programme Steering Group and the four sectoral “operations rooms”. Policy issues are discussed in UN Heads of Agency meetings, EU fora and at the LACC plenary, as well as in occasional meetings of an informal LACC humanitarian policy group. While each of these serve a useful purpose, the connections between them are unclear, and membership not always defined. In addition, the linkages between the humanitarian coordination structures and the Palestinian Authority, notably its coordinating body – the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) – have been rather weak. As the humanitarian aspects of the current crisis deepen, this lack of coherence and coordination has become increasingly problematic

Proposed action:

Full involvement of the donor community in the humanitarian coordination mechanism is essential. Donors in the occupied Palestinian territory are currently exploring alternative structures, proposals including the creation of a humanitarian support group and the establishment of a subsidiary organ of the LACC. There appears to be consensus that at the national level policy coordination and operational coordination should be separately addressed.

Policy Coordination: The objective of humanitarian policy coordination is to promote and support coherent and collaborative approaches and, if appropriate, policy options and papers on key policy issues. These issues would include priority setting as regards different forms of humanitarian intervention; ensuring the complementarity of humanitarian efforts with longer-term nation-building initiatives of international community; resource mobilisation issues; matters relating to International Humanitarian Law and humanitarian advocacy; access and closure related issues, including tracking of the parties’ implementation of commitments made to the international community.

A Humanitarian Policy Group should be established to discuss these issues on the basis of well-prepared information and presentations. Pending clarification of the donor coordination arrangements, the group will consist of major UN operational agencies, plus the ICRC/Red Crescent, representatives of NGOs, and other partners as appropriate. UNSCO will chair this Group and OCHA will provide the secretariat and ensure that outcomes are communicated to operational and technical coordination structures for the purpose of conducting planning and prioritisation exercises.

Operational Coordination: The objective of operational coordination must be to ensure timely identification and efficient response to emergency needs, agreement on sectoral and overall priorities, the

efficient allocation and delivery of resources, and regular flow of relevant information between operational partners. This is most practically done at the Gaza and West Bank levels, each of which already have operational coordination task forces that are chaired by UNRWA. These two Operational Coordination Task Forces should be strengthened, with support from OCHA, which will serve as secretariat for both. Representatives of area-based coordination structures in Gaza and the West Bank would come together on a regular basis, along with representatives of the Sector Emergency Groups, depending upon the agenda items. As is currently the case, meetings will include PA Ministries, representatives of the donor community and NGO coordination bodies.

The secretariat should ensure that there are regular consultations and information flow between the operational coordination fora and the MoPIC.

With assistance from the HIC, the Operational Coordination Task Forces will serve as a clearinghouse for information and analysis channelled by sectoral and area-based coordination groups, thus constantly evaluating ongoing humanitarian activities against the identified needs. The Groups will regularly produce cross-sector humanitarian needs assessments, track ongoing relief efforts and evaluate them against the identified needs, and analyse the existing delivery capacities.

Humanitarian Coordination Support Mechanisms

The present Plan of Action provides for a number of coordination support mechanisms. These include joint inter-agency telecommunications, logistics and information management/dissemination facilities.

Humanitarian Information Centre

Established in late May 2002, the Humanitarian Information Centre (HIC) has by now developed technical capacities to offer information management support to the relief community as a whole. In order to meet the increased requirements for systematic data collection, analysis, and dissemination the HIC will need to undergo a considerable expansion. The HIC will play a key role in facilitating communication between the national, sectoral and geographic coordination structures described above. In addition, the HIC will serve as a dissemination tool for public information and advocacy initiatives. In specific terms HIC will provide the following services:

- Set-up and maintain a central database on humanitarian needs and relief efforts under auspices of Humanitarian Operations Group and in close cooperation with the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS);
- Provide technical assistance to the LACC Access & Closure Information System;
- Provide easy access to documents, statistics and maps on the current situation and ongoing relief efforts;
- Serve as a technical resource centre for production and management of humanitarian information;
- Provide a central repository for information describing the area-based and sectoral humanitarian situation;
- Provide a website for all documents and reports made available by actors in the sector operations and the regional emergency groups;
- Compile and analyse statistics and maps for sectoral and area-based emergency groups; and
- Develop standards for data collection, data management and mapping systems and strategies for data collection.

Logistics and Telecommunications

In order to increase the delivery capacity of agencies participating in the present Plan of Action two additional technical facilities should be established: joint inter-agency logistics and telecommunications.

Telecommunications

Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS) require a dedicated security radio channel and a 24/7 radio room for areas under security phase I. Phase III operations require that individual agency radio rooms be consolidated into a 'UN common' 24/7 radio room to reduce the number of staff required. Currently Jerusalem is in Phase I and the Gaza Strip and the West Bank (less East Jerusalem) are in Phase III.

There are currently two radio rooms in use by UN staff; the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) maintains a 24/7-radio room using predominately VHF/HF equipment for communications with peacekeeping activities in the Middle East. UNRWA has a 24/7 radio room

equipped with a MIRs handset predominately tracking the movements/problems of UNRWA convoys. Neither of these radio rooms, in and of themselves, satisfy the requirements of MOSS.

UNTSO will continue to maintain a communications centre due to its regional responsibilities; therefore the MOSS compliance issue revolves around creating a radio room for use by all civilian agencies, and linking this radio room with the UNTSO communication centre. UNRWA will continue to maintain an operations/radio room for the Operations Support Officer programme.

This Plan of Action provides for the expansion of the UNRWA radio room to become the 24/7 UN radio room linked to UNTSO communication centre. The joint radio room will connect all the UN offices in Jerusalem and in the field, communicate security and access related information to staff travelling in the mission area, and track the movement of humanitarian convoys, trucks and personnel. The radio room/operations centre will be linked to the Field Coordination Offices, which will in turn serve as local area operations centres for agencies in the field.

The set-up of an inter-agency security communications centre will have financial implications. These are covered in an UNSECOORD project proposal under the security section of this Plan of Action.

Logistics Services

UNRWA will play a central role in the creation of a joint logistics capacity through making available its large countrywide logistics base to participating organisations. This includes the UNRWA area and field offices in all governorates of the West Bank and Gaza, its fleet of trucks, storage facilities, etc.

Since mid-2002, WFP has established a sizeable logistics capacity in the occupied Palestinian territory. This includes expanded capacity and number of storage facilities and trucks. The currently existing delivery capacity of both WFP and UNRWA will be sufficient to support the assistance delivery projects outlined in this Plan of Action. In addition, UNRWA and WFP will continue to share expertise to support other humanitarian services providers with no logistics capacities in the occupied Palestinian territory.

12 MONTHS UN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (US\$) FOR COORDINATION		
OCHA	Support to Humanitarian Coordination	1,900,000
TOTAL		1,900,000

N.B.: Additional emergency support may be required for other unmet needs in this sector.

Security

In support of expanded humanitarian operations in the occupied Palestinian territory, UNSECOORD seek funds to deploy two additional Field Security Coordination Officers (FSCOs).

Staff safety is critical in this volatile environment and the FSCOs will work closely with the humanitarian agencies and NGOs to ensure staff safety and security in all aspects of operations. The additional resources will allow for a more flexible approach to ensuring safe access to populations in need and thus improve the impact of humanitarian interventions, while at the same time maintaining a high standard of both staff and operational security. They will also allow for a more proactive response to security threats and thus significantly reduce staff risk. The situation in the occupied Palestinian territory represents one of the most high stress environments in which the UN operates. Funds for the provision of a qualified professional stress counsellor are required to assist staff in dealing with the high levels of stress and anxiety.

A large amount of funds will be required to provide hazard allowances to the UN personnel, including UNRWA national staff operating in areas with precarious security conditions.

12 MONTHS UN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (US\$) FOR SECURITY		
UNRWA	Emergency Operation Support	13,130,018
UNSECOORD	Field Security Coordination	847,000
TOTAL		13,977,018

**Table II : UN Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for
occupied Palestinian territory 2003**

Listing of Project Activities - By Appealing Organisation
as of 15 November 2002

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

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Project code	Sector Name	Sector/activity	Original requirements
FAO			
oPt-03/A03	AGRICULTURE	Emergency repairs to irrigation assets and maintenance of irrigation infrastructure	300,000
oPt-03/A06	AGRICULTURE	Food security and nutrition surveillance and interventions	1,650,000
oPt-03/A04	AGRICULTURE	Input support to cereal producers (Gaza) and commercial greenhouse vegetable producers (oPt)	437,000
oPt-03/A02	AGRICULTURE	Support to backyard vegetable and poultry production targeting the most vulnerable population	2,000,000
oPt-03/A01	AGRICULTURE	Support to small ruminants keepers	3,663,000
oPt-03/A05	AGRICULTURE	Support to the coordination of agricultural emergency and rehabilitation interventions	350,000
oPt-03/ER/I05	ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE	Income generation activities	900,000
Sub total for FAO			9,300,000
OCHA			
oPt-03/CSS01	COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	Support to humanitarian coordination	1,900,000
Sub total for OCHA			1,900,000
UNDP			
oPt-03/WS02	WATER AND SANITATION	Emergency assistance to the Palestinian water supply and management sectors	15,750,000
Sub total for UNDP			15,750,000
UNESCO			
oPt-03/E08	EDUCATION	Emergency subsistence support for most disadvantaged university students	600,000
Sub total for UNESCO			600,000

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Project code	Sector Name	Sector/activity	Original requirements
UNFPA			
oPt-03/H15	HEALTH	Hotline support in reproductive health	525,000
oPt-03/H19	HEALTH	Psycho social support to women through reproductive health services	730,000
oPt-03/H13	HEALTH	Rapid training of community based midwives	800,000
oPt-03/H12	HEALTH	Reproductive health and pregnancy care in three communities	1,100,000
oPt-03/H14	HEALTH	Responding to the needs of the elderly through comprehensive family health initiatives	550,000
oPt-03/H16	HEALTH	Strengthening national statistic and reporting system, especially on reproductive health and migration	480,000
Sub total for UNFPA			4,185,000
UNICEF			
oPt-03/E06	EDUCATION	Back to school (in Government schools)	6,600,000
oPt-03/E07	EDUCATION	Remedial and distance education	3,200,000
oPt-03/H09	HEALTH	Expanded programme on immunisation	3,500,000
oPt-03/H10	HEALTH	Maintaining nutritional status of children and women	900,000
oPt-03/H11	HEALTH	Making maternal and child health services more responsive	400,000
oPt-03/H18	HEALTH	Psycho social support to Palestinian children	1,600,000
Sub total for UNICEF			16,200,000

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Listing of Project Activities - By Appealing Organisation
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Project code	Sector Name	Sector/activity	Original requirements
UNRWA			
oPt-03/ER/I01	ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE	Direct hire	17,410,129
oPt-03/ER/I04	ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE	Graduate training	1,385,290
oPt-03/ER/I03	ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE	Indirect hire	23,834,246
oPt-03/ER/I02	ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE	Labor-intensive community-based projects	6,685,673
oPt-03/E01	EDUCATION	Back to school (in UNRWA schools - WBGEMG1)	2,625,000
oPt-03/E03	EDUCATION	Distance learning (UNRWA/WBEMG5a)	3,026,625
oPt-03/E04	EDUCATION	Out of school community activities (UNRWA/WBGEM6)	525,000
oPt-03/E02	EDUCATION	Provision of remedial teaching (UNRWA/WBGEMG4)	1,176,924
oPt-03/E05	EDUCATION	Scholarships (UNRWA/WBEMG3)	210,000
oPt-03/S/NF01	FAMILY SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS	Emergency repair and reconstruction of affected dwellings [UNRWA/WBGMPW]	31,433,640
oPt-03/F02	FOOD	Cash assistance	12,872,700
oPt-03/F01	FOOD	Emergency food assistance	77,000,000
oPt-03/H04	HEALTH	Hospitalisation	630,000
oPt-03/H01	HEALTH	Medical equipment and supplies	3,106,312
oPt-03/H03	HEALTH	Mobile clinics	900,000
oPt-03/H02	HEALTH	Physiotherapy services	1,274,490
oPt-03/H17	HEALTH	Psycho social interventions/counselling programme) [UNRWA/WBEMG7]	1,708,560
oPt-03/S01	SECURITY	Emergency operation support	13,130,018
oPt-03/WS01	WATER AND SANITATION	Water and sanitation - environmental health	3,793,155
Sub total for UNRWA			202,727,762

**Table II : UN Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for
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Listing of Project Activities - By Appealing Organisation
as of 15 November 2002

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

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Project code	Sector Name	Sector/activity	Original requirements
UNSECOORD			
oPt-03/S02	SECURITY	Field security coordination	847,000
Sub total for UNSECOORD			847,000
WFP			
oPT-03/F04	FOOD	Emergency buffer food stocks	7,209,000
oPt-03/F03	FOOD	Emergency food assistance to victims of the conflict	32,580,000
Sub total for WFP			39,789,000
WHO			
oPt-03/H06	HEALTH	Emergency health supplies	650,000
oPt-03/H08	HEALTH	Strengthen health information management	730,000
oPt-03/H05	HEALTH	Strengthen MoH emergency mental health programme	1,000,000
oPt-03/H07	HEALTH	Strengthen MoH in responding to the malnutrition problem	120,000
Sub total for WHO			2,500,000
Grand Total:			293,798,762

**Table III : UN Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for
occupied Palestinian territory 2003**

Listing of Project Activities - By Sector
as of 15 November 2002

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

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Project Code	Appealing Agency	Sector/Activity	Original Requirements
AGRICULTURE			
oPt-03/A03	FAO	Emergency repairs to irrigation assets and maintenance of irrigation infrastructure	300,000
oPt-03/A06	FAO	Food security and nutrition surveillance and interventions	1,650,000
oPt-03/A04	FAO	Input support to cereal producers (Gaza) and commercial greenhouse vegetable producers (oPt)	437,000
oPt-03/A02	FAO	Support to backyard vegetable and poultry production targeting the most vulnerable population	2,000,000
oPt-03/A01	FAO	Support to small ruminants keepers	3,663,000
oPt-03/A05	FAO	Support to the coordination of agricultural emergency and rehabilitation interventions	350,000
Sub total for AGRICULTURE			8,400,000
COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES			
oPt-03/CSS01	OCHA	Support to humanitarian coordination	1,900,000
Sub total for COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES			1,900,000
ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE			
oPt-03/ER/I01	UNRWA	Direct hire	17,410,129
oPt-03/ER/I04	UNRWA	Graduate training	1,385,290
oPt-03/ER/I05	FAO	Income generation activities	900,000
oPt-03/ER/I03	UNRWA	Indirect hire	23,834,246
oPt-03/ER/I02	UNRWA	Labor-intensive community-based projects	6,685,673
Sub total for ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE			50,215,338

**Table III : UN Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for
occupied Palestinian territory 2003**

Listing of Project Activities - By Sector
as of 15 November 2002

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

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Project Code	Appealing Agency	Sector/Activity	Original Requirements
EDUCATION			
oPt-03/E06	UNICEF	Back to school (in Government schools)	6,600,000
oPt-03/E01	UNRWA	Back to school (in UNRWA schools - WBGEMG1)	2,625,000
oPt-03/E03	UNRWA	Distance learning (UNRWA/WBEMG5a)	3,026,625
oPt-03/E08	UNESCO	Emergency subsistence support for most disadvantaged university students	600,000
oPt-03/E04	UNRWA	Out of school community activities (UNRWA/WBGEM6)	525,000
oPt-03/E02	UNRWA	Provision of remedial teaching (UNRWA/WBGEMG4)	1,176,924
oPt-03/E07	UNICEF	Remedial and distance education	3,200,000
oPt-03/E05	UNRWA	Scholarships (UNRWA/WBEMG3)	210,000
Sub total for EDUCATION			17,963,549
FAMILY SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS			
oPt-03/S/NF01	UNRWA	Emergency repair and reconstruction of affected dwellings [UNRWA/WBGMPW]	31,433,640
Sub total for FAMILY SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS			31,433,640
FOOD			
oPt-03/F02	UNRWA	Cash assistance	12,872,700
oPT-03/F04	WFP	Emergency buffer food stocks	7,209,000
oPt-03/F01	UNRWA	Emergency food assistance	77,000,000
oPt-03/F03	WFP	Emergency food assistance to victims of the conflict	32,580,000
Sub total for FOOD			129,661,700

**Table III : UN Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for
occupied Palestinian territory 2003**

Listing of Project Activities - By Sector
as of 15 November 2002

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

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Project Code	Appealing Agency	Sector/Activity	Original Requirements
HEALTH			
oPt-03/H06	WHO	Emergency health supplies	650,000
oPt-03/H09	UNICEF	Expanded programme on immunisation	3,500,000
oPt-03/H04	UNRWA	Hospitalisation	630,000
oPt-03/H15	UNFPA	Hotline support in reproductive health	525,000
oPt-03/H10	UNICEF	Maintaining nutritional status of children and women	900,000
oPt-03/H11	UNICEF	Making maternal and child health services more responsive	400,000
oPt-03/H01	UNRWA	Medical equipment and supplies	3,106,312
oPt-03/H03	UNRWA	Mobile clinics	900,000
oPt-03/H02	UNRWA	Physiotherapy services	1,274,490
oPt-03/H17	UNRWA	Psycho social interventions/counselling programme) [UNRWA/WBEEMG7]	1,708,560
oPt-03/H18	UNICEF	Psycho social support to Palestinian children	1,600,000
oPt-03/H19	UNFPA	Psycho social support to women through reproductive health services	730,000
oPt-03/H13	UNFPA	Rapid training of community based midwives	800,000
oPt-03/H12	UNFPA	Reproductive health and pregnancy care in three communities	1,100,000
oPt-03/H14	UNFPA	Responding to the needs of the elderly through comprehensive family health initiatives	550,000
oPt-03/H08	WHO	Strengthen health information management	730,000
oPt-03/H05	WHO	Strengthen MoH emergency mental health programme	1,000,000
oPt-03/H07	WHO	Strengthen MoH in responding to the malnutrition problem	120,000
oPt-03/H16	UNFPA	Strengthening national statistic and reporting system, especially on reproductive health and migration	480,000
Sub total for HEALTH			20,704,362

**Table III : UN Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for
occupied Palestinian territory 2003**

Listing of Project Activities - By Sector
as of 15 November 2002

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

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Project Code	Appealing Agency	Sector/Activity	Original Requirements
SECURITY			
oPt-03/S01	UNRWA	Emergency operation support	13,130,018
oPt-03/S02	UNSECOORD	Field security coordination	847,000
Sub total for SECURITY			13,977,018
WATER AND SANITATION			
oPt-03/WS02	UNDP	Emergency assistance to the Palestinian water supply and management sectors	15,750,000
oPt-03/WS01	UNRWA	Water and sanitation - environmental health	3,793,155
Sub total for WATER AND SANITATION			19,543,155
Grand Total			293,798,762

**PROJECT SUMMARIES
FOOD SECURITY**

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Emergency Food Assistance (UNRWA/WBGRSSEM1)
Project Code:	oPt-03/F01
Sector:	Food
Theme:	Food Security
Objective:	To supplement the income capacity and food security of mainly refugee households affected by the current crisis.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	1,050,000 persons throughout the oPt
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA social workers in both fields will work with camp committees, village and municipal councils, charitable organisations and emergency committees in identifying the families most in need of food assistance. UNRWA will also coordinate with service providers to avoid duplication of assistance as much as possible.
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 77,000,000

Project Summary

The collapse of the economy in the occupied Palestinian territory has resulted in a dramatic loss of income at the household level, with most families now able to afford basic commodities. Under its emergency appeal, UNRWA has massively expanded its food distribution programme; whereas before the Intifada distribution was limited to Special Hardship Cases (approximately 115,000 persons in both fields), the Agency now distributes regular parcels to over 1,000,000 persons.

Throughout 2003, UNRWA intends to reach 90,000 families in the West Bank with a food package once every quarter and in Gaza 132,000 families once every month and half. A standard food package consisting of basic food items will be established for a household of two persons; larger households will receive multiples of the standard package. The package will ensure a nutritional level of calories and protein at an average of 70% of the calorific requirements.

The food aid will target affected refugee households – those who have lost their income or their source of income and those whose incomes have been severely disrupted. In addition, a limited number of non-refugee affected households living in locations with a high refugee concentration will be assisted. UNRWA will also respond to requests for assistance from charitable organisations serving disadvantaged groups and whose ability to raise funds has been severely reduced by the current crisis. The criteria for the selection of the beneficiaries have been developed in coordination with WFP, ICRC, and the Ministry of Social Affairs.

Distribution is carried out by UNRWA distribution teams and through existing administrative, logistics and finance structures. Distribution lists are always verified with the local community to ensure that the eligibility criteria are being met. UNRWA coordinates with other service providers in order to avoid duplication of assistance as much as possible. Whenever possible, UNRWA will share logistics with WFP in particular. This has already been the case in 2002 and will be further developed.

Distribution of assistance will be carried out by UNRWA's finance distribution teams and through existing structures and rules and regulations. Lists of beneficiaries are verified with the local communities.

Recent surveys have revealed increasing levels of malnutrition, particularly in Gaza. In response, has recently started distributing iron-fortified flour under its regular and emergency programmes in Gaza. In the West Bank UNRWA will commence distribution of iron-fortified flour in 2003.

In Gaza corned beef will, for the first time, be included in the food parcel - in addition to the milk already offered under previous appeals - to provide the required quantities of animal proteins

In the West Bank the Agency plans to offer locally produced olive oil as a way of providing an income to farmers in the territory who, because of closures and restrictions on movement, have been unable to market the olive oil they produce, many for the second year in a row.

HUMANITARIAN PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Cash assistance (not including shelter repair or relocation fees)
Project Code:	oPt-03/F02
Sector:	Cash assistance, food, health
Themes:	Cash assistance, food, health
Objective:	To provide cash to refugee and non-refugee families to enable them to meet urgent Intifada-related needs
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Over 1,500,000 refugees in Gaza Strip and West Bank and some non-refugees
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 12,872,700

Project Summary

Since January 2001 UNRWA has extended cash assistance to families facing severe economic hardship, initially with the intention of preventing them from falling deeper into debt. With poverty increasingly pervasive the Agency finds more and more that it is assisting families who are now destitute and consequently reliant on external aid for their basic needs. In the majority of cases amounts are used to cover the cost of food, clothing and schooling. In other cases the assistance is used to buy cooking gas or to replace damaged household effects or to carry out repairs on shelters. Under this appeal, help will also be given to Special Hardship cases.

The size of the cash grant is determined by UNRWA's social workers after a careful assessment of the household's financial situation, taking into consideration income prior to the start of the Intifada and assistance from other sources, which might be available.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
West Bank	
Emergency selective cash assistance Including US\$ 2 million for SHCs	6,000,000
PSC	300,000
Gaza	
Loss of breadwinner	328,000
Lost income	4,800,000
Post-injury	130,000
SHCs	1,000,000
PSC	314,700
Total	12,872,700

Appealing Agency:	WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME
Project Title:	Emergency Food Assistance to Victims of the Conflict
Project Code:	oPt-03/F03
Sector:	Food
Themes:	Food Security
Objective:	Meet immediate food needs amongst the non-refugee population
Targeted Beneficiaries:	550,000 persons in oPt
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Social Affairs, local and international NGOs
Parties to an Agreement:	ICRC
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 32,580,000

Project Summary

In view of the continuing deterioration of the economic situation in the oPt and the prevalence of acute malnutrition, WFP will extend its emergency operation in 2003. The main objectives will be to halt the deterioration of the nutritional situation, particularly targeting children, and to meet the basic food requirements of the poorest and most vulnerable groups in the Palestinian non-refugee population. Special attention will be given to addressing the specific needs of the various affected groups in the population. In prevention of anaemia, wheat flour distributed by WFP will be fortified with iron.

For the planning of relief activities and distribution of food commodities, WFP will work closely with the Ministry of Social Affairs, the ICRC, CRS, Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC), Corporate Housing Foundation (CHF) and other NGOs. WFP will sign Letters of Understanding (LOU) with each partner separately. These partners will work in close cooperation with the provincial sub-committees for emergency relief, which have been very active, and in some cases quite efficient, in handling relief commodities. Under current circumstances, most of the NGO partners and some of the WFP counterparts at the regional level are not in a position to distribute food directly to targeted beneficiaries and have to rely and work with the relief committees at the provincial and village level.

It is to be noted that the above requirements are based on the current WFP emergency operation. However the total needs for 2003 may change subject to prevailing conditions. WFP will thoroughly re-assess the food aid needs of the non-refugee population at the beginning of 2003 in order to prepare a more detailed plan of operation and funding requirements.

With the objective of supporting local agricultural production, local purchase of agricultural produce (i.e. olive oil) from poor farmers will take place whenever possible.

Targeting of food aid, selection criteria of beneficiaries and mechanisms for implementation will take place in close coordination with the other main players in the food security sector, in particular UNRWA, FAO, and the ICRC.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Total project budget - 8,000 MTs per month will be distributed throughout 2003	43,250,000
Carry-over	10,670,000
Total	32,580,000

Appealing Agency:	WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME
Project Title:	Emergency food buffer stock
Project Code:	oPt-03/F04
Sector:	Food
Theme:	Food security
Objective:	Stockpile two months of food aid rations for vulnerable Non-Refugees in WB &Gaza
Targeted Beneficiaries:	540,000 vulnerable
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Social Affairs, ICRC, Int. & Nat. NGOs (CRS, CHF, PARC)
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 7,209,000

Project Description

The project is aiming at stockpiling two months of food aid rations to face a sudden and acute deterioration of the situation and possible closures of borders due to a regional conflict. The food will be stored in WFP warehouses in the Gaza and West Bank and should cover the basic food needs for two months for some 540,000 targeted non-refugee beneficiaries; 290,000 in Gaza and 250,000 in the West Bank. The food will be distributed through usual partners, according to the criterion and methodology already in place for regular distributions. The buffer stock will be rotating every 3 months in order to maintain high quality food commodities.

Appealing Agency:	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION IN COOPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Project Title:	Support to Small Ruminant Keepers
Project Code:	oPt-03/A01
Sector:	Food
Theme:	Food security
Objective:	To maintain animal husbandry activities in rural areas throughout the oPt
Targeted Beneficiaries:	5,000 farmers or 25,000 beneficiaries (5 persons per family), including 15,000 children and 5,000 women
Implementing Partners:	PA Ministry of Agriculture and NGOs
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 3,663,000

Project Summary

Small ruminants, especially goats and sheep, are a major source of protein for the people of West Bank and Gaza Strip. Through the provision of meat, milk and milk products (cheese, yoghurt, etc.) a significant contribution is made to food security within the territory. Continued curfews and closures, compounded by years of drought, have made it very difficult for the livestock keepers to take care and adequately feed their small ruminants. The result is that these animals are in a very weak state, are non-productive and the national flock is numerically threatened.

The aim of this project is to maintain and possibly increase animal husbandry activities in rural areas. This will be achieved through the provision of basic feed requirements, vaccines and medications. This process should assist to maintain existing flock sizes and structures to ensure a viable and sustainable starting point for rehabilitation when the political and environmental situation improves.

Barley Grain: Beneficiaries will be stock keepers with 50 or more sheep/goats since these are the livestock keepers most affected by continued droughts and closures. Grain will be supplied at the rate of 16kg/month/animal for three months (May, December, January). It is assumed that a total number of about 400,000 animals will receive a total of 19,200 MTs of barley.

Vaccine: for enterotoxaemia (one application) and other necessary veterinary medicines will be provided for the total ruminant population, as needed, of about 750,000 animals.

The MoA will arrange for the internal distribution of grain to the beneficiaries and will also provide veterinary care and other essential medications for the national flock as a whole.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Supply of 19,200 MTs of barley at US\$ 140 per MT	2,688,000
Supply of vaccines – 750,000 units at US\$ 0.25 per unit	187,000
Supply of other medication	538,000
General and direct operating costs	250,000
Total	3,663,000

Appealing Agency:	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION IN COOPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Project Title:	Support to Backyard Vegetable and Poultry Production Targeting the Most Vulnerable Population
Project Code:	oPt-03/A02
Sector:	Food Security
Themes:	Support to backyard vegetable and poultry production
Objective:	To enable rural and urban dwellers to improve their household nutrition
Targeted Beneficiaries:	9,000 families or 45,000 beneficiaries (5 persons per family) throughout the oPt, including 27,000 children and 9,000 women
Implementing Partners:	PA Ministry of Agriculture and NGOs
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 2,000,000

Project Summary

The current situation within the oPt with curfews, closures and lack of access has resulted in widespread unemployment, and hence poverty amongst a substantial part of the population. As a result, many people do not have the means to procure or cover the costs of their minimum food requirements.

This project is designed to address food security at household level with a focus on vulnerable groups, particularly female-headed households, households with disabled members, small households without resources etc. Project beneficiaries, who will be identified together with the relevant Palestinian ministries, will be supported in getting access to agricultural inputs and technical advice.

The objectives are to assist the vulnerable groups to improve their nutritional and health status through their own food production activities. Production in excess of beneficiaries' needs will be sold, thus generating a modest cash income for some of their other urgent needs.

Project beneficiaries will be carefully selected. Pre-condition for households to be selected is their access to land and water, as may be necessary and interest in agriculture. Inputs to be provided will include: vegetable seeds/seedlings and fertilisers; chicken and feed for meat (broilers); chicken (pullets) plus feed for eggs (layers); ewes and goats for household milk; beehives and honey bees for the production of honey.

The beneficiaries will be expected to provide the labour for taking care of the crops/poultry. The Ministry of Agriculture, with FAO's support, shall provide intensive training and extension services, as needed.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Inputs, equipment and animals	1,800,000
General and direct operating costs	150,000
International and national consultants	50,000
Total	2,000,000

Appealing Agency:	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION IN COOPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Project Title:	Emergency Repairs to Irrigation Assets and Maintenance of Irrigation Infrastructure
Project Code:	oPt-03/A03
Sector:	Food Security
Themes:	Water and irrigation
Objective:	To take immediate action to initiate repairs to irrigation assets that have been damaged or destroyed.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Throughout oPt impossible to estimate, in advance, the total number of beneficiaries due to the emergency nature of the proposed project.
Implementing Partners:	PA Ministry of Agriculture and NGOs
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 300,000

Project Summary

Irrigated farming is the most productive sector in the Palestinian agriculture. Though it is practiced on about 6% of the agricultural land, it produces over 50% of the local agricultural production.

Irrigation is a basic prerequisite for intensive agriculture. The scope of the proposed project is to ensure a ready access to cash for needed emergency repairs on irrigation equipment, including wells, in order to re-supply water to crops and livestock with a minimum of delay. The project will serve as a model for future replication and expansion.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Equipment	150,000
General and direct operating expenses including local contract for rehabilitation of irrigation schemes	150,000
Total	300,000

Appealing Agency:	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION IN COOPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Project Title:	Input support to Cereal producers (Gaza) and Commercial greenhouse vegetable producers (oPt)
Project Code:	oPt-03/A04
Sector:	Food Security
Themes:	Provision of fertilizers for Gaza Cereal Producers and seeds/seedlings for commercial vegetable producers
Objective:	(i) To increase production of rain fed cereals grown on about 25,000 donums in Gaza; (ii) provide an incentive, through the provision of seeds and seedlings for vegetable growers to continue their greenhouse farming operations.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	(i) For cereal producers 1,500 families or 7,500 beneficiaries in Gaza (5 persons per family), including 1,500 women and 4,500 children; (ii) for vegetable producers 1,000 families or 5,000 beneficiaries (5 persons per family) throughout the oPt including 3,000 children and 1,000 women
Implementing Partners:	PA Ministry of Agriculture and NGOs
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Total Project Budget:	US\$ 437,000 (out of which US\$ 237,000 for the Gaza Cereal producers and US\$ 200,000 for vegetable producers)
Funds Requested:	US\$ 437,000

Project Summary

(i) For Gaza Cereal producers

This project aims to supply fertilizers to approximately 1,500 farmers who grow wheat and barley in Gaza. Collectively they grow about 25,000 donums (2,500 hectares) of cereals mostly in marginal lands. It is noted that rainfall in the region is erratic and that continued incursions by the IDF have caused considerable damage and uncertainty to farmers in the area. This project is intended to encourage the most affected producers through incentives in the form of fertilizers to enable them to continue their activities. It is to be considered that the oPt produces only about 8% of its cereal requirements.

Based on the agro-ecological analysis of the targeted areas, a standard fertilizer application recommendation for wheat and barley will be prepared taking into account the targeted yield and the most cost effective fertilizer product mix. Advice on agronomic issues at and after sowing to ensure good crop production will also be provided as part of the project.

(ii) For greenhouse vegetable producers

Vegetable production in Palestine, both rainfed and irrigated, includes tomatoes, squash, green peppers and cucumbers, as well as broad beans, okra and peas. Eighty per cent of this production is grown under greenhouses. The project aims to support about 1,000 greenhouse vegetable farmers to continue with their farming operations.

Continued incursions by the idf, closures and curfews have prevented many greenhouse producers from providing adequate care to their crops due to limited or delayed access to inputs. This has disrupted the normal production cycle and led to severe losses either in the field or during the harvesting periods. The end result is that many farmers are reluctant to continue with their operations in view of the above constraints and uncertainties. The purpose of the project is to assist vegetable producers of greenhouse vegetable crops who have been negatively affected in the past, to continue with their farming activities. Seeds and seedlings will be distributed to the most affected vegetable producers for one cycle of production. This, in turn, will provide beneficiaries with an income and improve market supply in vegetables.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Gaza cereal producers	
625 metric tons of Ammonium sulfate x US\$ 200/MTs	125,000
200 metric tons of Super phosphate x US\$ 200/MTs	40,000
250 metric tons of Potassium sulfate x US\$ 240/MTs	60,000
General & direct operating costs	12,000
Sub-total	237,000
Cost of seedlings and other essential agricultural inputs	190,000
General and direct operating costs	10,000
Sub-total	200,000
Total	437,000

Appealing Agency:	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
Project Title:	Support to the Coordination of Agricultural Emergency and Rehabilitation Interventions
Project Code:	oPt-03/A05
Sector:	Food Security
Themes:	Support, Coordination
Objective:	To coordinate and enhance the overall coherence of agricultural and food security related interventions, to provide a well argued agricultural emergency and rehabilitation assessment and follow-up and disseminate ad hoc information material to the Governments, UN Organisations, Donor Community and NGOs.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	The total population of the oPt
Implementing Partners:	FAO in cooperation of UNDP, the PA Ministry of Agriculture and local NGOs
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Total Project Budget:	US\$ 350,000
Funds Requested:	US\$ 350,000

Project Summary

The Ministry of Agriculture has requested FAO's assistance in:

- (i) The preparation of an Agricultural Revitalisation Programme for submission to donors for funding and,
- (ii) The appointment of an FAO Coordinator in the oPt to provide support to food security coordination, technical assistance and advice to all parties engaged in agricultural assistance and to assist in monitoring any commitments reached or to be reached in the Agricultural Sector by the Parties.

The present proposal aims at seeking donor support in:

- a) Finalising the Agricultural Revitalisation Programme for submission to donors;
- b) Assuring the presence of an FAO coordinator in the oPt. FAO has, since October 2002, posted a Coordinator, for three months. However, funds will be needed to secure his services beyond December 2002 (i.e December 2002 – December 2003).

The Coordinator, who will serve as FAO Focal Point for oPt, shall be responsible for the following:

Strategy Formulation: (i) develop and refine agriculture sector/food security strategy setting for the oPt, within the framework of the overall humanitarian assistance efforts; (ii) participate in the formulation of an FAO intervention programme for agriculture revitalisation;

Coordination and liaison: (i) lead the development, expansion and implementation of FAO's food security and agriculture activities and projects in the oPt; (ii) design and set-up an operational structure to coordinate, plan, monitor and follow-up on assistance for the agricultural sector; (iii) strengthen the coordination process for agriculture recovery and food security through participation in various existing sectoral working groups; (iv) seek and provide cooperation with other UN agencies, the concerned Government organisations and agencies, NGOs and the Donor Community involved in agriculture sector activities.

Resource Mobilisation: participate in resource mobilisation efforts for the implementation of priority projects/interventions for agriculture/food security enhancing.

Technical assistance, information-sharing and reporting: (i) facilitate the mobilisation of necessary specialised expertise from FAO, Palestinian Authority, academic institutions, the private sector and expatriate Palestinian community; (ii) represent the Organisation at inter-agency coordination meetings in the field and provide advice and guidance to the numerous humanitarian actors involved in agriculture, food security and related activities whenever needed; (iii) take the lead in information-sharing on agriculture, food and nutrition and sustain advocacy on agriculture requirements.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
FAO emergency coordinator (international consultant) and related office expenditure	200,000
Agricultural Revitalisation Programme preparation	150,000
Total	350,000

Appealing Agency:	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
Project Title:	Food security and nutrition surveillance and interventions
Project Code:	oPt-03/A06
Sector:	Food Security
Themes:	Food security and Nutrition
Objective:	To establish a food security and nutrition surveillance system for improved targeting and programming
Targeted Beneficiaries:	The malnourished and food insecure
Implementing Partners:	PA Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 1,650,000

Project Summary

The Ministry of Agriculture has requested FAO's assistance to assess the food security and nutrition situation and to take appropriate remedial measures. A recent FAO mission concluded that though food, health and nutrition-related information was being collected by a number of parties, there is need for the establishment of an information system and mechanism that would facilitate the better use of this information for improving food security and nutrition.

The aim of this project is to establish a food security and nutrition surveillance system that can monitor trends, identify those households and groups who are most nutritionally vulnerable, food insecure and in need, and make this information more readily available to decision-makers in an effective manner so that policies, programmes and interventions are appropriately targeted and designed to have maximum impact on reducing the impact of the current situation on food security, nutritional well-being and livelihoods. This is to be achieved by reviewing available data, identifying data needs through conducting a user needs survey, reaching a common understanding amongst all stakeholders of the major food security and nutrition problems and trends, and providing inputs and recommendations for improving food security and nutritional status.

The project will build capacity of national and international institutions in the collection of data on nutritional status, including both primary (survey, interviews) and secondary information. This will include monitoring the food supply situation using the standard FAO methodology and access to food as well as of health and nutrition indicators and of livelihoods. An important part of this will be the development and adoption of a set of guiding principles and practices, standards and systems for collecting, analysing, interpreting and disseminating this information as well as a framework for using this information for project targeting, design and implementation.

Multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder cooperation will be strengthened and linkages for monitoring the food security and nutrition situation at national and sub-national levels and for advocating, planning and implementing food security programmes will be facilitated. The project will be implemented closely within the national nutrition surveillance system with other partners (WFP, UNICEF, WHO and UNFPA).

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Technical assistance	520,000
Surveys and system development	580,000
Equipment	250,000
General and direct operating costs	150,000
Project formulation for a food and nutrition surveillance system	150,000
Total	1,650,000

HEALTH

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Medical Equipment and Supplies
Project Code:	oPt-03/H01
Sector:	Health
Theme:	Health
Objectives:	To meet the increasing demand for medical care at its health centres in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, the Agency will purchase additional quantities of medical supplies, including drugs, first aid supplies, equipment, physiotherapy accessories, ambulances and supplies. UNRWA will also extend assistance to other providers of health care in the event of an emergency.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Over 1,500,000 refugees in Gaza Strip and West Bank
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 3,106,312

Project Summary

With 51 primary health care centres, UNRWA is the second largest health provider in the Gaza Strip and West Bank after the Palestinian Authority. Significant increases in the rate of outpatient medical consultations and active family files have been observed since the eruption of the Intifada. Many refugees who used to seek medical care at private clinics or from other health care providers have turned to UNRWA for primary health care services due to the increasing economic hardship and/or problems of mobility and access.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
West Bank	
Medical supplies 1 year	657,200
Project support cost	32,800
Gaza	
Medical supplies 1 year	2,117,500
Ambulances	183,750
Project Support Cost	115,062
Total	3,106,312

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Physiotherapy Services
Project Code:	oPt-03/H02
Sector:	Health
Theme:	Physiotherapy Services
Objective:	Provide physiotherapy services to refugees, prosthetic devices in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank
Targeted Beneficiaries:	1,500,000 refugees
Implementing Partner:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 1,274,490

Project Summary

Since the outbreak of the Intifada the demand for physiotherapy treatment has been high. In response to this UNRWA has supplemented its provision of physiotherapy services and stock of specialist equipment under its emergency appeals. With the number of those requiring treatment increasing and with courses of treatment fairly long term, UNRWA is continuing to seek investment in this field. In the Gaza Strip, four of the Agency's key health centres are not able to offer physiotherapy services, although the space is available on-site at each centre to accommodate a clinic. The Agency is appealing for staffing and equipping of these clinics. In the West Bank the Agency currently operates clinics in health centres in six refugee camps. UNRWA is seeking funding for the staff and to procure the necessary equipment to provide treatment over the course of the year.

UNRWA will also provide assistance to enable to newly disabled to help them regain their mobility and reintegrate into society. UNRWA will also provide care to relieve the burden placed on family members. The assistance will take the form of physical rehabilitation, counselling, vocational rehabilitation, prosthetic devices and modification to homes, including toilets, bathrooms, kitchens, entrances and floor plans.

Increasing numbers of families who might have, in the past, been able to provide for the needs of a disabled loved one can now no longer afford to do so. Many cannot now meet the cost of hearing aids, physical or vocational therapy.

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Mobile Clinics
Project Code:	oPt-03/H03
Sector:	Health
Theme:	Health
Objective:	Provide 700,000 refugees and non refugees with medical care and treatment
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Refugees and non refugees residing in remote villages under strict siege or curfews who lack minimum medical care services and medicines
Implementing Partner:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 900,000

Project Summary

The prevailing constraints in terms of sieges, reoccupation of territories has divided the West Bank into numerous isolated areas. As a result refugees and non-refugees residing there are denied accessibility to medical care facilities. For instance, community health programme for the elderly who are suffering from Diabetes Mellitus and Hypertension in Western villages of Jerusalem has been affected; 15 out of 50 elderly and lonely patients have died last year, the rest are suffering from uncontrolled levels of blood sugar and blood pressure. This situation obliged UNRWA to establish four mobile teams each composed of a Medical Officer, Practical Nurse, Clerk, Assistant, Pharmacist and Driver to provide medical care and medicines. The teams will be located in Nablus, Jerusalem and Hebron Areas. Provision of vehicles has been made from the current appeal; however, an additional vehicle is needed to facilitate the transportation of teams to the villages.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Staff costs	466,500
Drugs	400,000
1 Vehicle	23,500
Running cost for vehicle	10,000
Total	900,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Hospitalisation
Project Code:	oPt-03/H04
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Hospitalisation expenses
Objective:	Provide 626,532 refugees with partial coverage of hospital expenses
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Intifada Casualties, Social hardship cases, Premature babies in need of further extension in the neonatal unit, Chronically ill patients in need or further stay at hospitals as well as patients who could not reach contracted hospitals.
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 630,000

Project Summary

The regular hospital services in the West Bank cover secondary and tertiary care to refugees through contractual agreements with hospitals located at the three areas namely Jerusalem, Nablus and Hebron. For instance, refugees residing in the North receive hospital services at Ittihad and St. Luke's Hospitals, in the South at Al Ahli Hospital in Hebron and Holy Family and Caritas Hospitals in Bethlehem, while in the Middle, refugees are referred to Palestinian Red Crescent in Ramallah, Augusta Victoria and Makassed Hospitals in Jerusalem. This kind of arrangement does not work in the critical emergency situation due to strict curfews and sieges imposed on the cities and villages of the West Bank. Therefore, such hospital services have been seriously hampered and interrupted. First of all, refugees could not reach Jerusalem except for those residing within the boundaries of the city and holders of Jerusalem Identity Cards. Patients in other areas and in need of urgent hospitalisation could not reach the contracted hospitals. Instead they had to call on the services of local private hospitals which are accessible to them.

UNRWA is in the process of contracting hospital services with private hospitals in Jenin, Nablus and Ramallah to assist patients who are deprived of the normal contracted services due to the severe restrictions.

Moreover, it is worth noting that the Health Programme's policy is to cover the cost of one week in full coverage of neonatal hospitalisation of babies born premature and chronically ill patients irrespective of the duration of stay. Such policy could not be applied in the current situation due to the hardships refugees are facing. Any additional assistance by UNRWA would relieve patients from a heavy financial burden and enable them receive proper medical care. In addition, there are certain direct Intifada cases that are in need of long hospital care and should be fully covered by the expenses. Accordingly, any contribution toward the hospitalisation programme would enable UNRWA to alleviate the sufferings of many people.

Appealing Agency:	WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
Project Title:	Strengthen MoH emergency mental health programme
Project Code:	oPt-03/H05
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Mental Health, Training, Psycho-social Support
Objective:	To reorganise the Mental health services according to a Community Mental Health approach at primary, secondary and tertiary health care in order to allow health services better cope with Mental health problems.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoH • Health Service providers • Population at risk
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Health
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 1,000,000

Project Summary

The current emergency calls for a rapid adaptation of the existing MoH mental health system and services using a Community Mental Health approach at all levels including primary, secondary and tertiary in order to help staff and patients better cope with emerging mental health problems. This will require review and formulation of new mental health policies and plans, development and evaluation of pilot projects in selected settings and rapid up-scaling of pilot projects.

Activities

- Set up three Mental Health Centres
- Set up one protected home
- Integrate urgent treatment of MH disorders in General Hospitals
- Train health workers at primary health care, mental health centres, secondary health care and tertiary levels in the management of MH disorders
- Distribute supplies of MH essential drugs
- Contribute to the elaboration of a policy document on MH
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the project

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
3 Mental health centres	300,000
1 pilot protected home	100,000
Training Health staff	375,000
Distribute supplies of MH essential drugs	200,000
Monitor and evaluate implementation	25,000
Total	1,000,000

Appealing Agency:	WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
Project Title:	Emergency Health Supplies
Project Code:	oPt-03/H06
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Emergency Health Supplies
Objective:	To support the MoH to be able to give a quick response in health emergency
Targeted Beneficiaries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoH • Population of oPt
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Health
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 650,000

Project Summary

The capacity of the Ministry of Health to respond to emergency situations is often limited by the constraints of selected equipment, drugs, and technical guidelines on public health issues. In the absence of these supplies and guidelines it is difficult for the MoH to provide the services needed and/or to maintain standardized health care procedures. This project will provide targeted back-up support to the Ministry of Health and will help coordinate, together with other health-related agencies, technical advice, procurement and distribution of selected medical kits that have been specially developed for use in emergency settings.

Activities

- Supply emergency medical kits
- Supply public health guidelines, selected equipment and supplies

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Emergency Medical Kits	500,000
Public Health Items	150,000
Total	650,000

Appealing Agency:	WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
Project Title:	Strengthen MoH in responding to the malnutrition problem
Project Code:	oPt-03/H07
Sector:	Health
Theme:	Nutrition
Objective:	To strengthen the Ministry of Health to better respond to the occurring Emergency Malnutrition problem
Targeted Beneficiaries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoH • Health Service providers • Population of oPt
Implementing Partner:	Ministry of Health
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Total Project Budget:	US\$ 230,000
Funds Requested:	US\$ 120,000

Project Description:

In response to the growing threat of malnutrition in the oPt the Ministry of Health will set up a nutrition unit to be responsible for preparing standards, reviewing trends, identifying special needs and vulnerable populations. The project will be supported by WHO and will bring together and consolidate all recent information on clinical treatment/management of, and public health response to, the malnutrition crisis in the oPt. It will make available technical experts and materials, and will create a body of knowledge and expertise within the Ministry of Health that can be made available to the municipalities, governorates, NGOs and others in defining how best and when to take action on nutrition-related problems. It will also provide technical support to international agencies, NGOs and others on clinical aspects of malnutrition.

Activities:

- Support the MoH in establishing a Department of Nutrition within the MOH
- Provide training in:
 - Clinical Nutrition
 - Management of Malnutrition
 - Food Safety; Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP)
 - Nutritional Surveillance
 - Management of nutrition programmes
- Establish a system for flour fortification with iron.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Provide training	120,000
Establish system for flour fortification (refer to UNICEF project, oPt-03/H10)	See UNICEF
Total	120,000

Appealing Agency:	WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
Project Title:	Strengthen Health Information Management
Project Code:	oPt-03/H08
Sector:	Health
Theme:	Health Information, Early Warning, Surveillance System, Statistics and Planning
Objective:	To strengthen the Health Information Management and to enhance MoH capacity for surveillance, monitoring, planning of health protection
Targeted Beneficiaries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoH • Health Service providers • Population of the oPt
Implementing Partner:	Ministry of Health, Palestinian Bureau of Statics
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 730,000

Project Summary

To strengthen the MoH and the health service providers by collecting and sharing accurate, detailed and up-to-date information about health situation and emergency response. This will be done through bi-weekly Emergency Health Coordination meetings with all partners related to health services and by the Health Inforum, Health emergency Operation Room.

In order to better respond to the burden of communicable diseases that is emerging as a result of the emergency and at the same time maximise the use of available PA and international resources, a coordinated approach to disease incidence and prevalence surveillance, monitoring and planning will be strengthened. This will include close technical support to and involvement of the Ministry of Health and the Palestinian Bureau of Statistics. The initiative will be coordinated with UNFPA and UNICEF.

Activities

- Build on the comprehensive web site
- Build on the contact data base and regional contact sheets
- Up-date of the physical and electronic maps of health care facilities
- Produce activities overviews and workshops
- Produce bi-weekly news letters
- Alert mechanisms for urgent medical supply needs
- Bi-weekly emergency health information meetings
- Set up of a integrated Communicable Disease Control programme
- Training on communicable disease surveillance
- Strengthening of the network of external partners for technical support
- Development of new key tools and standards

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Build on the current web-site	75,000
Workshops	75,000
Produce bi-weekly news letters/overviews	10,000
Facilitate in urgent medical supply needs	60,000
Emergency health information meetings	10,000
Set up integrated CD control programme	100,000
Technical support	100,000
Training Health staff	200,000
Develop new key tools and standards	75,000
Monitor and evaluate implementation	25,000
Total	730,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Project Title:	Expanded Programme on Immunisation
Project Code:	oPt-03/H09
Sector:	Health
Theme:	Child Health Services
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To sustain high immunisation coverage rates with the 6 basic Antigens for under-15 months old children and first grade school entrants. • To sustain a Polio and neonatal free status through implementing supplementary immunisation campaigns in the West Bank and Gaza
Targeted Beneficiaries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 450,000 of under 15 months old children • 100,000 of First Grade students • 200,000 of under-five children
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Health, UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 3,500,000

Project Summary

The project is aiming at maintaining the high immunisation rates achieved in the recent years. The country has been Polio-free since 1984 and with Neonatal Tetanus been eliminated. In 2002, there have been prolonged delays (up to 6 months) in remote areas in providing routine immunisation to children and in providing tetanus toxic to mothers. Maintaining high immunisation coverage rate, robust cold chain system, adequate monitoring and efficient reporting is of prime importance in protecting not only the Palestinian children, but also in reducing the risk of spread of infectious diseases to children in all neighbouring countries.

The following activities are included in the project:

- Procurement of vaccines and vaccination related items;
- Upgrading the Cold Chain system;
- Capacity building of the health care providers;
- Monitoring and evaluation.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Procurement of vaccines	2,500,000
Upgrading Cold Chain System	450,000
Logistic support to routine immunisation	100,000
Monitoring and evaluation of EPI Programme	400,000
Sero-survey on efficacy of vaccines	50,000
Total	3,500,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Project Title:	Maintaining Nutritional Status of Children and Women
Project Code:	oPt-03/H10
Sector:	Health
Theme:	Nutrition
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support prevention and early detection of malnutrition among children • To support prevention of micro-nutrient deficiencies • To support promotion of breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding
Targeted Beneficiaries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 600,000 children under-five • Reproductive age women group
Implementing Partners:	MoH, UNRWA, NGOs
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 900,000

Project Summary

The results of recent nutrition surveys conducted in the West Bank and Gaza indicate deteriorating trends of the nutritional status of children and women. Increased trends of stunting and wasting as well as high prevalence of anaemia were reported. The project aims at providing guidelines on micronutrient supplementation of vulnerable groups within the framework of the national nutritional policy.

The following activities are included in the project:

- Massive awareness raising campaign on promoting breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding, affordable nutritious food, supplementation and universal consumption of iodised salt;
- Strengthening Iron and Folic Acid supplementation programmes for children and women as well as supporting iron flour fortification in close cooperation with WFP will be implemented in prevention of anaemia.

This will be implemented using the existing surveillance system.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Awareness raising Campaign	250,000
Iron and Folic Acid Supplements	600,000
Flour fortification with Iron	50,000
Total	900,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Project Title:	Making Maternal and Child Health Services more responsive
Project Code:	oPt-03/H11
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Maternal and Child health
Objective:	Upgrading the capacity of the Mother and Child Health staff towards providing quality services to children and mothers
Targeted Beneficiaries:	2,500 doctors, midwives and nurses of the MCH staff in the PHC setting of the MoH
Implementing Partner:	Ministry of Health
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 400,000

Project Summary

A stronger and more decentralised MCH service needs to be developed to meet the increased need of children and mothers who are not able to access central level services due to severe mobility restrictions. The preventive services and the health promotion activities carried out at the MCH services have proved to be quite efficient in maintaining the health and well being of mothers and children. A high level of knowledge and skills of the MCH staff at decentralised level, in early detecting of any disorder, appropriate management, timely referral and follow up is the main element in caring for and providing quality service to both children and women. A great deal of disorders that may afflict children and women could be simply prevented and /or appropriately dealt with at the MCH level with a resulting significant cost effectiveness and benefit. The activities will be carried out in close collaboration with UNFPA.

The following activities are included in the project:

- Training programmes for all MCH cadres of doctors, midwives and nurses on management of common childhood illnesses, growth monitoring, nutrition aspects, combating micro-nutrient deficiencies;
- Upgrading of MCH centres (equipment);
- Support the MoH in strengthening the management of MCH centres.

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND
Project Title:	Reproductive Health and Pregnancy Care in three communities
Project Code:	oPt-03/H12
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Hebron, El Bureij and Jabalyia response to risk factors affecting pregnancy outcome, maternal mortality, and newborn health; identification of low-tech and low-cost ways of intervening to protect pregnancy; women's health, reproductive health counseling, support to women's groups, health personnel training
Objective:	To protect and promote the reproductive health and social development of women in crisis situations
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Over 300,000 women of reproductive age (15 - 49)
Implementing Partners:	AIDOS, MoH, Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counseling, Palestinian Red Crescent Soc., Palestinian Family Planning & Protection Association, Women's Health Counseling Center
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 1,100,000

Project Summary

The health and social development of women, especially but not only as a result of pregnancy, is being seriously threatened by the emergency. Women are at growing risk because of the complex social load and responsibility they are carrying. This project responds to the needs of women in three communities that are considered to be seriously under-served, namely Hebron, El Bureij and Jabalyia. It strengthens the capacity of local community based institutions and health-related personnel to respond proactively and comprehensively to the needs of pregnant and non-pregnant women through a mix of medical, social and legal support services. It provides for innovative outreach activities that permit women to be seen at home if necessary by health personnel and volunteers, and ensures support to these efforts by developing and adapting guidelines and training for health personnel with different levels of expertise and experience. It involves recruiting and training new as well as existing staff, and contributing to job creation and the strengthening of the women's access to professional mobility. It will be monitored carefully so that a sound database can be developed and permit on-going refinement to these and other similar actions.

Financial Summary

US\$ 1,100,000 is being sought to undertake comprehensive support to pregnant women in the three areas, including systematic monitoring and analysis of factors affecting pregnancy, health and social support personnel, procurement of equipment and drugs, public information on reproductive health and care of pregnancy, psycho social support and legal support to women in need, self-help groups, vehicles for outreach, supervision and quality assurance.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Training and support to health, social and legal staff	165,000
Vehicle support	335,000
RH equipment and supplies	600,000
Total	1,100,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND
Project Title:	Rapid training of community-based midwives
Project Code:	OPt-03/H13
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Training of midwives, emergency support to protection of maternal health, women's health, safe motherhood
Objective:	To prepare frameworks of community-based midwives who can protect safe motherhood in communities
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Women of reproductive age (15–49) in difficult-to-reach settings and communities
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Health, Palestinian Red Crescent Society, Nursing College
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 800,000

Project Summary

The growing number of maternal deaths and loss of newborn infants has highlighted the need for urgent attention to safe motherhood initiatives. In many cases the problem is linked to the difficulty women have in reaching trained birth attendants in time to be assisted with deliveries. This project seeks to urgently train cadres of midwives who can work at a community level and be with available to women throughout their pregnancies and deliveries. The project thus meets an urgent humanitarian need and also provides a solid base for the future by creating new skills and enhancing the scope of the health care system. It also promises to contribute to job creation and the strengthening of health care services in and through municipalities and communities. The project will be monitored and will provide a database on which future training of midwives and nurses can be built.

Financial Summary

US\$ 800,000 is being requested to support this emergency initiative through two nursing colleges in the West Bank and Gaza. The training will involve preparation of curricula, guidelines, procurement of training equipment, and equipping midwives once in the field.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Development and testing training curricula	35,000
Development, adaptation, and pre-test training materials, including videos	65,000
Procurement dummies and other equipment	200,000
Training health staff, consultants, quality assurance and supervision	100,000
Procurement of midwifery kits	200,000
Recruitment and support to midwives	200,000
Total	800,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND
Project Title:	Responding to the needs of the elderly through comprehensive family health initiatives
Project Code:	oPt-03/H14
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Assessment of needs of the elderly in and outside of a family environment, development of guidelines, training of staff, mobilisation of community based action.
Objective:	To enhance the health and welfare of elderly people living in the oPt.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	All Palestinian people aged over 65 living in the oPt.
Implementing Partners:	Palestinian Red Crescent Society, MoH, Gaza Community Mental Health, Ministry of Social Affairs
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 550,000

Project Summary

Among the people most adversely affected by the occupation and closures, people aged 65 and over have been especially hurt. This is especially true of elderly women who have lost spouses. In all populations this group is typically vulnerable to a range of difficult-to-manage physical and psychosocial problems, but in situations of conflict their vulnerability is exacerbated and the load they place on the family and relatives (if present) is high. This project seeks to respond to this emergency and will find alternative ways of reaching this population with relevant, low-cost, and easy-to-implement actions within the family and community, ensuring that key medical and psychosocial problems are understood by health care personnel and the public.

Financial Summary

US\$ 550,000 will be required to undertake a rapid analysis of the situation (family), needs (physical and psychosocial), and options (formal and informal services and care) that are emerging, develop guidelines, recruit and train existing staff, establish facilities designed to meet special needs of the elderly (social centres, feeding centres, bathing facilities, designated beds in hospitals and other health care centres).

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Needs assessment and awareness raising	100,000
Special equipment	450,000
Total	550,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND
Project Title:	Hotline Support in Reproductive Health
Project Code:	OPt-03/H15
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Rapid hotline communication support (RHCS), emergency database development, use of specialized referral personnel, rational use of human resources/ institutions in emergencies
Objective:	To strengthen the capacity of health workers at all levels and throughout the oPt to have timely access to specialised technical guidance on pregnancy and other reproductive health decisions (diagnostic and treatment).
Targeted Beneficiaries:	All health workers in the oPt.
Implementing Partners:	Palestinian Red Crescent Society, MoH
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 525,000

Project Summary

Restricted movement of health care personnel as well as patients has imposed new and unique demands on health workers at all levels of the health care system. Many of them are being called to respond to medical complications they are not necessarily trained to deal with. Rapid communication hotline support to decision-making offers a way of dealing with this problem and enhancing health outcomes in emergencies. It involves linking health workers to specialised communication/health centres and to medical specialists who are on 24-hour call and who can provide guidance over designated communication lines (telephone, radio) to health personnel requesting help.

Financial Summary

US\$ 525,000 is being requested to rapidly put in place a comprehensive programme of management of emergency distance-care, including procurement of hardware and software, establishment of telecommunication links, identifying and training key medical specialists, developing referral systems, training staff and preparing field guidelines.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Development of new guidelines, standards and procedures	50,000
Training and support of key specialists in selected referral centres	175,000
Communication equipment and maintenance	300,000
Total	525,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND
Project Title:	Strengthening national statistic and reporting system, especially on reproductive health and migration
Project Code:	oPt-03/H16
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Routine collection of population statistics, linking data exchange at community, municipality, governorate and central level, systematic analysis of data using standardised techniques, regular reporting and evidence-based advocacy
Objective:	To strengthen the capacity of the PCBS, municipalities, governorates and MoH in regular collection, analysis and reporting of population statistics.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Entire population of occupied Palestinian territory
Implementing Partners:	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, MoH
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2002
Funds Requested:	US\$ 480,000

Project Summary

The capacity of the Palestinian Authority (MoH) to systematically gather, analyse and report on reproductive health, family formation, population movement and other vital events has deteriorated significantly during the course of the occupation. In the absence of robust and regularly generated data and reports it is difficult for the MoH and its other sector partners to monitor population dynamics and plan, monitor and evaluate health related policies and programmes. This project seeks to strengthen the capacity of the Palestinian Authority (MoH) and its line ministries through the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics to develop, manage a technically robust oPt-wide statistical reporting system. This will be done in close collaboration with UNICEF and WHO.

Financial Summary

US\$ 480,000 is being sought to cover a comprehensive programme of staff training, procurement of equipment, repair of physical facilities, development of guidelines, quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Development of guidelines, standards and procedures	60,000
Training and support of key specialists in selected referral centres	85,000
Communication equipment and maintenance	335,000
Total	480,000

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Psycho-Social Interventions/Counselling Programme
Project Code:	oPt-03/H17
Sector:	Psycho-Social/ Education
Themes:	Psycho-Social Intervention
Objectives:	Planning, implementing and evaluating a comprehensive crisis intervention programme in the schools. Assisting in creating a learning environment, which enhances achievement and develops positive pupils' behaviour. Training head teachers and teacher counsellors in the schools to cope with crisis intervention. Providing selected families of pupils with counselling services to reduce psychological disorders among the school children.
Targeted Beneficiaries	Refugee population of Gaza and West Bank, particularly children
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA, local NGOs.
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 1,708,560

Project Summary

Over the course of the next 12 months in the Gaza Strip and West Bank psychologists and other mental health professionals will provide training for teachers, social workers and health care workers to equip them with the necessary skills to detect signs of psychological distress and provide the required support to sufferers.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
West Bank	
School-based project for 1 year	324,800
Psychological counselling project	602,400
Project Support Cost	46,360
Gaza	
Cost for two programmes	700,000
Project Support Costs	35,000
Total	1,708,560

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Project Title:	Psychosocial Support to Palestinian Children
Project Code:	oPt-03/H18
Sector:	Psychosocial
Themes:	Mental Health, Psychosocial Support
Objective:	Increase the psychological and social resilience of the Palestinian population of the oPt to effectively deal with and overcome the adversities they are facing in the current situation.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Children and their families. The project aims to provide basic psychosocial information or support to 250,000 families (i.e. 70% of the population). It aims to provide counselling services to prevent acute psychosocial distress to 16,000 children or parents.
Implementing Partners:	The project will be implemented in cooperation and partnership with sectional ministries, such as the Ministries of Planning and International Cooperation, Education, Health, Social Affairs and Ex-Detainees and a coalition of Palestinian NGOs.
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 1,600,000

Project Summary

Promotion of psychosocial well being and helping children and their families overcome their problems are the main foci of UNICEF programming. While the clinical approach to psycho-social care is important, to create the most conducive environment in which the Palestinian children are nurtured, special emphasis will be given to community and group approach to meeting these psycho-social needs. The four main areas of intervention are as follows:

Support a range of promotion activities

- Advanced training of summer camp facilitators and community child workers in psychosocial activities and supporting them to conduct activities in their centres and summer camps.
- Development of mentoring and peer support programmes through schools and youth clubs.
- Continue support to youth support hotline.
- Training of kindergarten and nursery teachers in psychosocial interventions.
- Community meetings and trainings to help parents and community leaders to identify and deal with psychosocial problems.
- Integration of psychological issues into the protocol and training of primary health care workers on Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses.
- Ensure psychosocial TV spots are regularly aired, and increase utilisation by regional media outlets.
- Distribute 5000 psychosocial kits to economically disadvantaged families.

Provide support to prevention mechanisms

- Continued support (training, supervision and materials) to Ministry of Social Affairs to conduct support groups with children and families.
- Provide training, supervision and material support to counselors in district level psychosocial committees in eight areas to conduct fun days, group and family counseling and community meetings for children and families.
- Improve university training of psychologists and social workers through the provision of internship opportunities throughout the psychosocial projects.

Strengthen psychosocial policy and coordination

- Supporting conference to improve psychosocial policy and service delivery during crisis.
- Unifying monitoring and evaluation systems to assess impact of emergency psychosocial assistance.
- Chair UN psychosocial coordination committee, participate in National Psychosocial Coordination Body, and support (technically and financially) 8 district level psychosocial coordination committees.

Strengthen psychosocial advocacy

- Participate in the identification of key messages for UN advocacy in the psychosocial sector and further develop the psychosocial component of UNICEF's advocacy strategy.
- Review and evaluate regularly the psychosocial advocacy strategy.

HUMANITARIAN PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Promotion	500,000
Prevention	490,000
Policy and coordination	70,000
Advocacy	40,000
Activities to be implemented in schools (teachers and students)	500,000
Total	1,600,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND
Project Title:	Psychosocial Support to Women through Reproductive Health Services
Project Code:	oPt-03/H19
Sector:	Health
Themes:	Health, Psychosocial Problems, Support and Care
Objective:	To strengthen capacity of health care staff to respond to psychosocial problems of women attending pregnancy and family planning centers.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Over 150,000 women of reproductive age (15 – 49)
Implementing Partners:	Palestinian Family Planning and Protection Association, MoH, Red Crescent Society, The Culture and Free Thought Association (CFTA)
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 730,000

Project Summary

One of the major problems emerging in the context of the occupation and restriction on movement is the increase in psychosocial difficulties experienced by the population in general, but women in particular. These problems, including trauma, chronic anxiety, domestic problems including separation, physical abuse, gender violence, poor relationships with children, are often presenting in the context of visits to maternity and family planning facilities. This project seeks to reach women of reproductive age attending these facilities in ways that will permit the timely identification of, and response to psychosocial difficulties, including domestic violence. It recognises that although many women raise their problems at maternity and family planning facilities, there are currently few personnel in these facilities to respond technically and soundly to these types of issues. The project thus emphasizes training and fielding of personnel with experience in the management of psychosocial problems and integrating them with health staff responsible for providing pregnancy related care and family planning promotion.

Financial Summary

US\$ 730,000 is being requested to develop an emergency but sustainable response to the psychosocial problems women are faced with using pregnancy care, family planning and reproductive health services in general as a vehicle.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Rapid assessment and quantification of needs	120,000
Training and support of multi-disciplinary staff, provision technical support	390,000
Awareness raising and advocacy	220,000
Total	730,000

WATER AND SANITATION

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Water and Sanitation - Environmental Health
Project Code:	OPt-03/WS01
Sector:	Water and Sanitation
Themes:	Maintain and improve quality of basic environmental health
Objective:	To ensure an uninterrupted supply of water in the refugee camps of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and help ensure the removal of solid waste
Targeted Beneficiaries:	1,500,000 refugees
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 3,793,155

Project Description

The environmental health of the occupied Palestinian territory is suffering as a result of the continued fighting and the restrictions on movement. Water and sewer lines have regularly been damaged, resulting in a disruption of supplies of fresh water and an increased likelihood of contamination. Under this intends to procure spare parts for water and sewage facilities in Gaza to enable it to carry out repairs when possible. In the West Bank UNRWA will purchase chlorine pumps, disinfectants and mobile incinerators and deploy water tankers at several of its health centres to ensure an interrupted supply. The damaged water network in the Askar refugee camp will also be repaired.

In Gaza a provision is also being made to acquire additional supplies of fuel lubricants and chlorine to enable the Agency to operate the municipal water, sewage and drainage systems serving the camps. Funds are requested to furnish persons whose houses have been demolished with a temporary water supply.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
West Bank	
19 Chlorinating pumps x US\$ 1,200	45,600
Chlorine Pills, Disinfectants, Insecticides	80,000
Mobile Incinerators (3 Jerusalem, 3 Nablus, & 2 Hebron)	144,000
15 Large Water tanks x US\$ 1,500	45,000
3 Tankers	300,000
Water Supply for Far'a Camp	700,000
Repair of damaged parts of Water network at Askar	240,000
Running cost for vehicles	150,000
Sub-Total	1,704,600
Gaza	
Repair of water and sewage lines	525,000
Additional supplies of solar oil, lubricants and water	904,050
Disinfectants	
Providing a temporary water supply for families whose shelters are demolished	71,505
Sanitation tools and supplies	273,000
Removing solid waste and construction debris from Refugee camps	315,000
Sub-Total	2,088,555
Total	3,793,155

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Project Title:	Emergency Assistance to the Palestinian Water Supply and Management Sectors
Project Code:	oPt-03/WS02
Sector:	Water and Sanitation
Themes:	Water and Sanitation, Environmental Health
Objectives:	Improve the quantity and quality of water supplied to communities throughout oPt; Improve the management capacity of Palestinian water suppliers; Stabilise the environmental health situation throughout the oPt;
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Over 300,000 rural residents in the West Bank and Gaza
Implementing Partners:	Palestinian Water Authority, Palestinian Hydrology Group, local NGO and beneficiary communities
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 15,750,000

Project Summary

This project is designed to bring immediate relief to communities that have limited or intermittent access to water, help Palestinian water and sanitation service providers to conduct emergency repair and maintenance activities to the damaged water infrastructure and to enhance financial sustainability of private water suppliers and creditworthiness of rural communities. In addition, the project aims at establishing a viable tracking system to monitor the overall water supply throughout the oPt; and an advocacy mechanism to address issues of arbitrary denial of access to water and equitable distribution of available water resources.

Activities envisaged under this project are macro (support to the PA emergency water plan) and micro (emergency assistance to local communities, local service providers and repairs to community infrastructure) in character. Individual project designs and implementation will be ensure through close cooperation with the PA Water Authority and the currently active sector coordination groups: WASH (chaired by OXFAM) and EWOC (chaired by the Palestinian Hydrology Group). In addition, the implementation of community water-security project will be closely coordinated with the Regional Coordination Offices to be established within this Action Plan.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Emergency repairs and maintenance to the damaged regional and municipal water infrastructure, purchase of equipment and machinery such as vacuum tankers	5,000,000
Community water-credit schemes, and subsidisation of water-transport costs	3,000,000
Emergency Rehabilitation of community water-distribution networks	6,000,000
Pre-positioning and building-up water reserves in areas with chronic water shortages and assistance	1,500,000
Monitoring and advocacy (personnel and software costs)	250,000
Total	15,750,000

EDUCATION

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Back to School (in UNRWA Schools – WBGEMG1)
Project Code:	oPt-03/E01
Sector:	Education
Themes:	Education, Advocacy
Objective:	Reduce the threat of dropouts from school resulting from poverty. Promote self-confidence/integrity among the school children. Bring about smiles on the faces of destitute children.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	83,250 school children
Implementing Partner:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 2,625,000

Project Summary

With US\$ 2,625,000, a total of 83,350 of the poorest refugee school children enrolled in UNRWA's 263 elementary and preparatory schools in the West Bank and Gaza will be provided with school clothes, bags and stationery. Each stationery kit will include two dozens of notebooks, a dozen of pencils with erasers, two plastic rulers, nine coloured pens and a set of geometric instruments. The benefiting pupils will be identified through the School Social Committee, chaired by the Head-teacher in each school, in coordination with the local community, including the Parents' Councils. All items will be procured through UNRWA from local vendors, whenever feasible.

UNRWA Back to School campaign will be implemented in close collaboration with UNICEF's campaign for the most disadvantaged children in government schools.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
School clothing	1,670,000
School bags and stationery	830,000
Project Support Cost	125,000
Total	2,625,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Provision of Remedial Teaching (UNRWA/WBGEMG4)
Project Code:	oPt-03/E02
Sector:	Education
Themes:	Compensatory Education
Objectives:	To continuously identify children's areas of weakness in Arabic language and Mathematics; Produce remedial materials to overcome children's deficiencies. Revise remedial materials based on feed-back. To train teachers on implementing remedial activities to sustain acceptable standards among children. To evaluate the numeracy and literacy programme.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	90,000 school children
Implementing Partner:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 1,176,924

Project Summary

The programme will focus on children's achievement in Language (Arabic) and Mathematics. Children will be divided into two groups: grades 1-4 and grades 5 – 7. Experts (external) will design diagnostic tests to identify areas of weakness. Post-tests will be conducted to evaluate progress of children's achievement and the success of the programme. The remedial materials will be revised in the light of feedback received from teachers.

The numeracy and literacy project will be monitored along the same lines as other regular school activities. Administrative aspects would be in accordance with UNRWA's standing rules and regulations. Evaluation will link directly to the proposed outcome and activities of the projects.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
West Bank	
Three experts	36,000
Production of materials	200,000
Supplementary teaching aids	73,000
Miscellaneous	9,000
Project Support Cost	15,900
Sub-total	333,900
Gaza	
Remedial programme	802,880
Project Support Cost	40,144
Sub-total	843,024
Total	1,176,924

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Distance Learning (UNRWA/WBEMG5a)
Project Code:	oPt-03/E03
Sector:	Education
Themes:	Compensatory Education
Objectives:	Engage children productively when they are not school. Compensate for valuable time lost away from their classroom. Stop further deterioration of learning achievement levels.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	All school children prevented from reaching school
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 3,026,625

Project Summary

With schooling now disrupted for a third year UNRWA is increasingly concerned that a remedial education programme offered in schools will not be sufficient to ensure that students are adequately prepared to continue their studies. Additional programmes outside the classroom are needed. Accordingly, in the 2002-3 academic year UNRWA intends to provide students with distance learning programmes, making use of audio and video cassette tapes, as well as radio and TV programmes.

The Agency also plans to provide younger school children with story books, educational games and toys, puzzles and cartoons, so that they will have stimulating, creative pastimes in their homes. In Gaza, UNRWA will run a mobile library to give children who are unable to reach school because of mobility restrictions the opportunity to exchange books and toys from home. A similar project may run in the West Bank. Activities will be implemented in close collaboration with UNICEF.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
West Bank	
Learning packages	40,000
TV Programmes	30,000
Project Support Cost	3,500
Sub-total	73,500
Gaza	
Mobile library	1,000,000
Education kits	1,740,000
Self-learning kits	72,500
Project Support Cost	140,625
Sub-total	2,953,125
Total	3,026,625

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Out of school community activities (UNRWA/WBGEM6)
Project Code:	oPt-03/E04
Sector:	Education
Theme:	Recreational Activities
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To safeguard children's rights under difficult circumstances. ▪ To give children the opportunity to express their feelings and emotions, particularly those emanating from their exposure to different forms of violence. ▪ To promote children's creative expression and hobbies. ▪ To create a peaceful environment in counter contradiction with the realities of the prevailing political situation.
Targeted Beneficiaries	65,000 school children (25% of school population).
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA + Local Specialised NGOs
Project Duration:	Summer Vacation (2 months: mid June 2003 – mid August 2003)
Funds Requested:	US\$ 525,000

Project Summary

To cover 263 UNRWA schools, a wide variety of activities are proposed, a great number of which requires the support and participation of NGOs, institutions and specialists from the community. Such activities cover theatrical performances, films and puppet shows, fine arts and musical activities, computer training, creative writing, and sports.

It is to be understood that because of the various constraints UNRWA schools presently function under - geographical, closures, financial resources, human resources, physical resources etc - not all activities can be implemented in a single school. Each school will have to select its own activities according to the dictates of its own environment.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Supplies	56,000
Staff Cost (covering training)	426,000
Transport Expenses (children)	18,000
Total	500,000
Project Support Cost	25,000
Total Cost	525,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Scholarships (UNRWA/WBEMG3)
Project Code:	oPt-03/E05
Sector:	Education
Theme:	Scholarships
Objective:	To provide the most disadvantaged university students subsistence expenses to cover their studies.
Targeted Beneficiaries:	200 refugee university students.
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2003 – December 2003
Total Project Budget:	US\$ 850,000
Funds Requested:	US\$ 210,000

Project Summary

The subsistence expenses will cover the education of 200 of the most disadvantaged refugee university students at the rate of US\$ 1,000 per student.

The selection criteria and payment conditions will be governed by the same technical instructions applicable to UNRWA's scholarship programme. Administrative aspects will be in accordance with UNRWA's standing rules and regulations.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
200 Scholarships	200,000
Project Support Cost	10,000
Total	210,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Project Title:	Back to School (in Government Schools)
Project Code:	oPt-03/E06
Sector:	Education, Human Rights and Protection
Themes:	Rights of the Child
Objective:	To ensure that every Palestinian Child is able to go to school
Targeted Beneficiaries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Most disadvantaged Palestinian Children (35,000 children); ▪ Parents, teachers for advocacy, 250 schools for direct support to schools.
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Education and NGOs
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 6,600,000

Project Summary

As the economic situation of many Palestinian families worsens, many parents cannot afford the costs associated with schooling their children. To ensure that all primary school children are able to return to and remain at school, a Back to School "Al-Awda Ila Al-Madrassa" campaign will be launched in partnership with the Ministry of Education in all 17 districts. To ensure the involvement and participation of the local community in the Back to School initiative, messages promoting education will be published in local newspapers. As part of the campaign, posters, billboards and stickers will be developed and will be distributed throughout the West Bank and Gaza. Radio and T.V. spots will also be produced and will be aired throughout the school year. To support the neediest children in government schools, UNICEF will provide school uniforms and school bags to children in the most affected areas in the West Bank and Gaza.

UNICEF's Back to School campaign will be implemented in close collaboration with UNRWA's same campaign for the poorest refugee school children.

The following activities are included in the project:

- Advocacy campaign: production and dissemination of messages, production of posters, billboards; UNICEF will also work with its Palestinian counterparts on the monitoring of lost school days;
- Promotion of peace education in school curricula;
- Maintenance and equipment in schools;
- Provision of school bags and uniforms, provision of education materials to compensate the non-payment of schools fees by the parents.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Advocacy	200,000
Provision of School bags, uniforms and education material for students	3,900,000
Direct support to schools (equipment, stationary, school materials and maintenance)	2,500,000
Total	6,600,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Project Title:	Remedial and Distance Education
Project Code:	oPt-03/E07
Sector:	Education
Theme:	Rights of the Child
Objective:	To ensure that every Palestinian child is able to continue with the curriculum and stay in school
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Palestinian Children in areas most affected by crisis (Jenin, Tulkarem, Nablus and Old City of Hebron) (250,000 children)
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Education and NGOs
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 3,200,000

Project Summary

The Hebron Remedial Distance Education model supported in 2001 has proved very successful in rapidly mobilising the local community to provide high quality distance education. This model will form the basis of interventions in other areas – such as the Jenin, Tulkarem and Nablus districts – where education has been severely disrupted. The project includes the assessment of learning achievements for children living in most effected areas, the provision of worksheets for the students, training materials, the production of a training manual, the broadcasting of TV lessons. In addition, the new project will include non-academic subjects and extracurricular activities, such as art, drama, play, sports and creative writing. These activities were not included in the Hebron project lessons, and are particularly important for the psychological health of the children in such difficult circumstance. Activities will be implemented in close collaboration with UNRWA.

For schools in areas that have suffered from prolonged curfews such as Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarem and the Old City of Hebron, UNICEF will continue to support community based education projects and compensatory education. The aim of the plan will be to support:

- Assessment of Learning Achievement;
- Develop self-learning packages for teachers and parents of the communities;
- Train school inspectors, teachers and parents of closed schools in providing learning support to children unable to attend school;
- Develop the TV or radio support programme;
- Supervise the programme by school inspectors.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Assessment of Learning Achievement	400,000
Production of self-learning packages for children who have missed days of school and development of TV lessons	700,000
Training of teachers	500,000
Remedial summer camps	1,500,000
Monitoring of project	100,000
Total	3,200,000

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
Project Title:	Emergency Subsistence support for most disadvantaged university students
Project Code:	oPt-03/E08
Sector:	Education
Objective:	To allow some 560 most disadvantaged university students to complete their academic studies by providing financial support for their daily subsistence expenses
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Some 560 university students in the West Bank and Gaza Strip
Main Outputs:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some 560 university students have completed their studies successfully, despite the lack of cash/income of their families. • A short impact assessment is carried out to highlight the benefits of the activity
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) in cooperation with individual universities in West Bank and Gaza Strip
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Total Project Budget:	US\$ 600,000

Project Summary

Within the context of the two-year-old Intifada, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education is facing several challenges to attempt to keep the education system running, despite all the difficulties.

One of the major challenges is linked to the severe economic situation, which has been affecting the population of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, where it is estimated that some two thirds of the families live under the poverty line. As a direct result of the high unemployment rate and the loss of some 160,000 jobs in the last two years, several families are not in a position any longer to cover the daily subsistence expenses, like transportation, books, stationeries and food for the students to commute to the university and attend the courses. Several funding mechanisms have been put in place in the past two years to support the university students who study abroad and can no longer be supported by their families. However, very little funds have been made available by the donor community to facilitate the studies of the students who are learning in the Universities of the West Bank and Gaza, but whose families have lost their income.

This project aims at covering part of the financial gaps, which has occurred as a consequence of the difficult economic situation of several families. The project will utilise a working mechanism already established between the ministry and UNESCO, whereby selection criteria are developed to identify the most disadvantaged students, who can benefit from the scheme. The project will target 560 students who will receive some US\$ 1,000 as a contribution to the daily expenses for the academic year 2002-2003. A short impact assessment will be carried out in coordination with the ministry in order to provide more detailed information on the activity.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Financial support to students	560,000
Impact assessment	10,000
Support cost	30,000
Total	600,000

EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Direct Hire
Project Code:	oPt-03/ER/I01
Sector:	Employment Generation
Theme:	Emergency Employment
Objective:	Provide Job Opportunity Days to unemployed Palestinians
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Unemployed Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 17,410,129

Project Summary

Unemployment in the occupied Palestinian territory continues to rise, resulting in a further deterioration in the living situation of families. UNRWA will continue to support employment generation through a diversified programme, including a direct recruitment scheme. As part of this UNRWA plans to create 1,785 personnel in the West Bank and maintain an average of 4,400 contracts a month in Gaza.

In both fields short-term contracts will be offered to skilled, unskilled and manual workers who will be assigned to various departments in UNRWA' s Field Offices and HQ in Gaza. The non-wage component of many of the contract will be low.

By targeting large families, jobs created in the direct hire programme will provide income support for an average of six dependants per person employed. At a wage equivalent to US\$ 12-13 per working day, this provides income support of approximately US\$ 2 per day for each dependant. This is expected to be sufficient only to maintain households at subsistence levels and prevent them from sinking into deeper poverty. This daily rate is below the general market rate and so ensures an element of self-targeting among those in greatest need - while also encouraging workers to seek regular employment opportunities as soon as the economy improves.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Gaza	
Administrative Unit	73,494
Contracts	11,707,582
Project Support Cost	589,053
West Bank	
Contracts	4,800,000
Project Support Cost	240,000
Total	17,410,129

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Labour-intensive Community-based Projects
Project Code:	oPt-03/ER/I02
Sector:	Employment Generation
Theme:	Emergency Employment
Objective:	Provide around 250,000 Job Opportunity Days to unemployed Palestinians
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Unemployed Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 6,685,673

Project Summary

By having camp committees and village councils accept responsibility for hiring and procurement, UNRWA can create further job opportunities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In the West Bank these projects will be used to improve infrastructure, including the construction of pathways, drains and roads. It is envisaged that eight-man work crews will be rotated every ten days in order to maximise the numbers of unemployed able to benefit. The work will be supervised and monitored by UNRWA. Approximately 65,500m² of pathways, 12,000m of drains and 8,700m² of retaining walls will be constructed and 74,750m² of road asphalted - yielding in total approximately 100,000 days of work.

In Gaza UNRWA will pay for administrative and professional positions within Community Rehabilitation Centres and other local institutions and fund positions for sanitation labourers within the municipalities

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Gaza	1,367,308
PSC	68,365
West Bank	5,000,000
PSC	250,000
Total	6,685,673

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Indirect Hire
Project Code:	oPt-03/ER/I03
Sector:	Employment Generation, shelter, environmental health
Themes:	Emergency employment, shelter, environmental health
Objective:	To provide short and medium-term employment opportunities through private-sector contracts to carry out works aimed at improving the living conditions in the refugee camps of the Gaza Strip and West Bank
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Over 1,500,000 refugees in Gaza Strip and West Bank
Implementing Partner:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 23,834,246

Project Description

UNRWA's Job Creation Programme remains one of the main focuses of the Agency's Emergency Appeals in the Occupied Palestinian territory. Under the indirect-hire arm of this programme, the Agency has already completed the construction of several schools, classrooms and shelters and completed many paving projects in the refugee camps of the territory, which have improved the environmental health conditions of the camps. Under this project, the Agency plans to continue such projects. In Gaza construction work on six schools and 82 classrooms will commence as will the renovation of 300 shelters belonging to refugee families registered with the Agency as Special Hardship Cases. A number of other maintenance, paving and other public works projects will also be undertaken.

In the West Bank, UNRWA will award contracts for the construction of 194 classrooms and 34 specialised rooms at Agency schools, as well as maintenance work at other premises. Pathways, drains and retaining walls will also be constructed.

The Agency estimates the labour force costs of indirect hire projects to be approximately 33% of the total cost.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
West Bank	
Private sector contracts	8,026,445
Project Support Cost	401,332
Sub-Total	8,427,777
Gaza	
Construction and equipping 6 schools	5,169,758
Construction and equipping of 82 classrooms and specialised rooms	1,470,025
Construction of medical store	130,657
Reconstruction of 300 shelters for SHCs	4,177,388
Maintenance of UNRWA premises	500,000
Interlock block pavement of roads at Rafah and Nuseirat camps	1,200,000
Concrete pavement of alleys at various camps	1,500,000
Pavement of main eastern entrance to Jabalia Camp	450,000
Construction of water wells at Jabalia camp	75,000
Programme support Cost	733,641
Sub-Total	15,406,469
Total	23, 834,246

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Graduate Training
Project Code:	oPt-03/ER/I04
Sector:	Employment Generation
Themes:	Emergency Employment
Objective:	Provide training opportunities to school leavers and graduates in the West Bank and Gaza
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Unemployed Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza
Implementing Partner:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 – December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 1,385,290

Project Summary

Under this project UNRWA will provide both temporary employment and practical work experience in various UNRWA programmes and departments, including schools, clinics, pharmacies, warehouses, engineering, construction and in general administration. Work experience, combined with technical supervision, will enhance participants' job-skills and contribute to family income. This part of the direct-hire programme will aim to fill 30 to 50% of positions with female graduates from universities and training colleges whose job prospects have been limited by the shrinkage of the labour market.

In the West Bank UNRWA will use funds to accommodate greater numbers of young people between the ages of 16-25 in its vocational training centres in short-term courses. The Agency will consult with local business owners and potential employers in an effort to design courses that respond to local labour market demands and technological change.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Gaza	1,033,824
West Bank	285,500
PSC	65,966
Total	1,385,290

Appealing Agency:	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION IN COOPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Project Title:	Income Generation Activities
Project Code:	oPt-03/ER/I05
Sector:	Economic Recovery
Theme:	Employment generation/food security
Objective:	To enhance poor rural household food security
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Up to 5,000 families or 25,000 beneficiaries (5 persons per family) throughout the oPt, including 5,000 women and 27,000 children and youth
Implementing Partners:	PA Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 900,000

Project Summary

The imposition of closures, curfews and the absence of employment in general have resulted in a current unemployment rate in excess of 50%. This is expected to rise to 60% by the end of 2002. After two years of Intifada, the financial coping capacities of individuals in the oPt has been completely exhausted. The savings of many families have been spent and assistance from the extended family and friends is becoming less available. Therefore, there is a need to assist some of these individuals through cash for work.

Cash for work programmes in the agriculture sector identified include, support to sustainable cottage industries mainly involving women (cheese production, embroidery, etc), repairing damaged stone walls in terraces, and improvement of forest management practices, including clearing, pruning and building fire breaks in the national forests. The latter firebreaks will be kept weed-free during the entire year.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Mapping and initial needs assessment	30,000
Project activities cash support	820,000
General and direct operating costs	50,000
Total	900,000

SHELTER

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Emergency Repair and Reconstruction of Affected Dwellings (UNRWA/WBGMPW)
Project Code:	oPt-03/S/NF01
Sector:	Shelter / Social services, cash assistance
Themes:	Housing
Objective:	To provide those households whose dwellings have been damaged/demolished and who have no alternative accommodation with furnished, structurally sound and hygienic dwellings, and related cash assistance (relocation, purchase of shelter supplies etc)
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Refugee and non- refugee households whose dwellings have been damaged or demolished throughout the oPt.
Implementing Partners:	UNRWA and the Ministry of Public Works
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 31,433,640

Project Description

Extensive damage has been caused to the dwellings of refugees and non-refugees in the oPt, in cities, towns, villages and refugee camps. Most of the destruction has taken place over the last twelve months and in particular since March 2002, due to an intensification of the IDF's house demolition policy. Both UNRWA and the Ministry of Public Works have intervened in the repair/reconstruction of affected dwellings using special donations – UNRWA through its Emergency Appeals and the Ministry of Public Works through special donations from several governments and NGOs.

Implementation will be through self-help schemes and contractual. Both UNRWA and the Ministry of Public Works will continue to carry out their interventions within their standing rules and technical instructions.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Gaza	
Reconstruction of destroyed homes (816 units)	20,370,000
Repairs to damaged housing 800 units	1,066,800
Relocation fees	588,000
Shelter supplies (in-kind)	316,000
Cash for shelter repair	36,000
Project Support Cost	1,118,840
West Bank	
Year of relocation fees, cash for shelter repairs for around 200 families	7,560,000
Project Support Cost	378,000
Total	31,433,640

COORDINATION

Appealing Agency:	OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS
Project Title:	Support to Humanitarian Coordination
Project Code:	oPt-03/CSS01
Sector:	Coordination
Themes:	Coordination, Advocacy, Information
Objective:	To strengthen and support humanitarian coordination in oPt
Targeted Beneficiaries:	The humanitarian community as a whole, including the donors, the PA, the NGOs and UN agencies
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 1,900,000

Project Summary

The humanitarian Plan of Action is built on several coordination and inter-agency support mechanisms. The humanitarian coordination structure described in this Plan includes thematic, sectoral and geographic coordination.

In order to meet the increased requirements for coordination support, humanitarian advocacy and information OCHA office in the oPt will, under this project, expand its presence. Through its expanded presence in the field and Jerusalem, OCHA team will ensure adequate support to:

- Area-based operational coordination structures;
- Sectoral coordination in priority areas such as health and food security; and
- National level coordination –both operational and policy.

At the local level, OCHA will support and staff (Regional) Coordination Offices (RCOs) established in priority governorates of the West Bank and in Gaza. The RCOs will help ensure uninterrupted coordination and information flow among local and national authorities and international service providers, and closely liaise with area-based emergency committees. They will be a crucial source of reliable and up-to-date information and analysis for the entire humanitarian community, regarding area-specific priority needs and access restrictions. OCHA presence will be established in various locations in the West Bank, notably Jenin, Nablus, Qalqilya, Ramallah, Hebron, and the Gaza and Jerusalem offices will be strengthened.

OCHA will also strengthen the Sector Emergency Groups, linked to the LACC Sub-Working-Groups and the Humanitarian Operational Coordination Groups. OCHA will serve as a Secretariat for the Humanitarian Operational Coordination Groups that will channel information and analysis by sectoral and area-based coordination groups, constantly monitoring ongoing humanitarian activities and evaluating them against the identified needs. OCHA will also carry out secretariat functions for the Policy Coordination Group intended to promote and support coherent and collaborative approaches and policy options and papers on key policy issues.

OCHA will continue to offer information management support to the relief community as a whole through the HIC. It is envisaged that the Humanitarian Information Centre will be expanding and will play a key role in facilitating communication between national, sectoral and geographic coordination structures described above. In addition, the HIC will serve as a dissemination tool for public information, monitoring and advocacy initiatives.

Finally, OCHA will provide support to the NGOs, notably through partly funding the AIDA Facilitator's position.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
International Staff (10 internationally recruited staff)	996,000
National Staff (professional and support staff)	248,000
Humanitarian Information Centre	350,000
Overhead costs and administrative support	306,000
Total	1,900,000

SECURITY

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
Project Title:	Emergency Operation Support
Project Code:	oPt-03/S01
Sector:	Security
Theme:	Operation Support
Objective:	To meet Intifada related needs which are not addressed elsewhere in this document
Targeted Beneficiaries:	Over 1,500,000 refugees in Gaza Strip and West Bank and some non-refugees
Implementing Partner:	UNRWA
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 13,130,018

Project Summary

Security measures and restrictions on movement enforced by the Israeli authorities since the start of the Intifada have put an increased financial strain on the Agency. Damage to UNRWA installations; accommodating staff member who are unable to return home because of roadblocks; providing communications equipment and protective clothing to staff members out in the field; renting additional warehouse space; expanding the Agency's Operational Support Officer scheme; covering the cost of short term consultancies - these are just some of the Agency's requirements under this heading.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Gaza	11,100,000
Project Support Cost	555,555
West Bank	1,438,500
Project Support Cost	35,963
Total	13,130,018

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COORDINATION
Project Title:	Field Security Coordination
Project Code:	oPt-03/S02
Sector:	Security
Theme:	Coordination, telecommunications
Objective:	To ensure adequate security and safety of aid workers (UN and partners)
Targeted Beneficiaries:	The humanitarian community as a whole
Project Duration:	December 2002 - December 2003
Funds Requested:	US\$ 847,000

Project Summary

Under the overall guidance of the UN Designated Official for Israel and the oPt, UNSECOORD will enhance the security management mechanisms currently in place. This includes deployment of additional personnel, procurement of safety equipment and establishment of a telecommunications centre.

- There is currently a Field Security Coordination Officer (FSCO) assigned to Gaza (with responsibility for Gaza), and a FSCO assigned to Jerusalem (with responsibility for Israel and the West Bank). As the threats to UN staff are completely different in Israel (where the threat is suicide bombers and hence a requirement for continual training and awareness on the part of all staff) and the West Bank (where the threat is staff being in an area of unannounced curfews and IDF operations and hence a requirement for continual communications and liaison with the IDF); there is a requirement for one FSCO for Israel and one for the phase III areas of the West Bank. Therefore, this project proposal makes provisions for deployment and equipping of an additional FSCO.
- Security Communication Centre: Even with the ongoing military activity and curfews UN civilian agencies are delivering life saving goods and services. It is therefore an absolute requirement that the delivery of goods and services convoys is coordinated with the IDF, and that information is able to be delivered in a timely manner to convoys who may already be 'on the road' when a situation changes. In addition to life-saving operations several UN agencies have their offices in phase III areas of the West Bank, and thus there is also a need for these agencies to have the ability to be in continual contact with the UN security structure. The only way to do this is with a joint system communication centre, manned round-the-clock. This will enable all movements in a phase III area to be conducted in as safe a manner as possible providing for the safety of both the UN civilian staff and the Palestinian beneficiaries. This budget item makes provision for equipping a communications centre with the minimal necessary communications facilities to ensure MOSS compliance as well as the requisite staffing; information technology equipment and a small pool of portable telecommunications devices to be used by mission personnel.
- Body Armour: There are continual missions from outside Israel, West Bank and Gaza to this region to see the situation first hand. There is also requirement (depending on the situation) that missions to the West Bank wear body armour – yet many of the agencies do not have a supply of extra body armour available for mission personnel. It is proposed that the FSCO Office keep a small supply of pool body armour to be used on an inter-agency basis.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	
Budget Items	US\$
Field Security Coordination Officer (salary and equipment)	350,000
Security Communications Centre	400,000
Safety equipment	20,000
Project support costs (10%)	77,000
Total	847,000

ANNEX I.

RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PERSONAL HUMANITARIAN ENVOY

I. Measures that should be taken by the Government of Israel

Access by the Population to Basic Services and Needs

Health: In addition to the commitments made with regard to the transit of patients and ambulances through checkpoints, Israel should ensure: (i) full access by all people in need of medical services to areas in which they are provided; (ii) the free flow of all medical supplies, including medicines, vaccines and medical equipment, to and within the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including when they are imported or transported by the Palestinian Authority or Palestinian NGOs; and (iii) that all efforts are made to further reduce waiting time for ambulances to the absolute minimum required for security purposes, if possible even below the agreed 30-minute maximum.

Education: Israel should ensure that all children, students and teachers have full access to schools and universities throughout the West Bank and Gaza. In particular, it should take all measures to protect children from exposure to military conflict on their way to and from school.

Water and Sanitation: In addition to the commitments made with regard to the movement of water tankers, Israel should: (i) ensure free access by rural communities to alternative water sources they are entitled to access; and (ii) provide adequate protection to rural communities and water infrastructure.

Access by the Population to Employment and Income

Israel should ensure the movement of goods and people to allow trading, farming and other forms of economic activities inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory. In particular, the free movement of workers and Palestinian trucks should be made a priority, including a review of the "back-to-back" system within the West Bank.

Transshipments operations at the Karni commercial crossing and other crossings between Israel and Gaza should be streamlined and expanded to allow all commercial and humanitarian goods to enter and leave Gaza in the quantities and with the speed required.

Israel should gradually increase the number of permits for Palestinian workers to allow them to work in Israel and Israeli settlements.

Israel should take immediate measures to allow farmers to harvest olives and to produce and market olive oil. In particular, Israel should provide adequate protection to rural communities and enable farmers to have free access to their fields.

Access by Aid Organisations

In addition to the general commitment made to facilitate the activities of international assistance providers, Israel should: (i) accelerate the import procedures for aid supplies through all international entry points, including supplies intended for the Palestinian Authority and Palestinian NGOs; (ii) ensure full access by aid workers to the West Bank and Gaza, including international aid workers of Arab origin; (iii) ensure freedom of movement for all aid workers, including Palestinian UN and NGO staff, and for aid supplies to and within the West Bank and Gaza; (iv) improve access of aid workers and supplies to areas under curfew; and (v) ensure full respect of the privileges and immunities of all UN staff and assets.

Release of Funds to the Palestinian Authority

To avoid the consequences on the humanitarian situation described in this report, Israel should urgently accelerate the release of funds it holds on behalf of the Palestinian Authority.

II. Measures that should be taken by the Palestinian Authority

Integrity of Aid Activities and Supplies

The Palestinian Authority should ensure with all means at its disposal that its supplies and assets, including ambulances and other means of providing services, are not used for unlawful activities or contain any contraband. It should prosecute and effectively bring to justice any personnel and other individuals suspected of being involved in criminal activities.

Emergency Management Plan

The Palestinian Authority should develop, in full consultation with relevant parties, an emergency management plan that will ensure that all available resources are properly prioritised and used in an effective and transparent manner.

ANNEX II.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

	FAO	OCHA	UNDP	UNESCO	UNFPA	UNICEF	UNRWA	UNSECOORD	WFP	WHO	TOTAL	
<i>Food Security</i>	8,400,000						89,872,700		39,789,000		138,061,700	47%
<i>Health</i>					3,455,000	4,800,000	7,619,362			2,500,000	18,374,362	6.3%
<i>Psychosocial Support</i>					730,000	1,600,000					2,330,000	0.8%
<i>Water</i>			15,750,000				3,793,155				19,543,155	6.7%
<i>Education</i>				600,000		9,800,000	7,563,549				17,963,549	6.1%
<i>Emergency Employment</i>	900,000						49,315,338				50,215,338	17.1%
<i>Shelter</i>							31,433,640				31,433,640	10.7%
<i>Coordination</i>		1,900,000									1,900,000	0.6%
<i>Security</i>							13,130,018	847,000			13,977,018	4.8%
	9,300,000	1,900,000	15,750,000	600,000	4,185,000	16,200,000	202,727,762	847,000	39,789,000	2,500,000	293,798,762	
	3.2%	0.6%	5.4%	0.2%	1.4%	5.5%	69%	0.3%	13.5%	0.9%		

ANNEX III.

MATRIX FOR TRACKING OF COMMITMENTS

COMMITMENT	BENCHMARKS
<p>1. <u>Health:</u></p> <p>1.1 Palestinian ambulances will wait no more than 30 minutes at any checkpoints (Gol to Bertini Mission, 12-19 August 2002)</p> <p>1.2 Effective mechanisms will be put in place to ensure that Palestinians seeking critical medical services (e.g. giving birth, dialysis, chemotherapy) can quickly pass all checkpoints. (Gol to Bertini Mission, 12-19 August 2002)</p>	<p>1.1.1 Instructions issued to all checkpoint commanders concerning maximum time for ambulance delay at checkpoint;</p> <p>1.1.2 PA MoH, PRCS, UNRWA and hospitals no longer report ambulance delays at checkpoints.</p> <p>1.2.1 Mechanism established and Palestinian public informed;</p> <p>1.2.2 Explicit instructions issued to all checkpoint commanders;</p> <p>1.2.3 No more instances of Palestinians seeking critical medical services denied passage at checkpoints reported.</p>
<p>2. <u>Water:</u></p> <p>2.1 Problems related to water deliveries to Palestinian towns and villages will be addressed to ensure that daily water deliveries in proper quantities can be supplied by Palestinian water tankers. (Gol to Bertini Mission, 12-19 August 2002)</p>	<p>2.1.1 Instructions issued to all checkpoints allowing for the easy transfer of water tankers through all checkpoints;</p> <p>2.1.2 The IDF removes barriers that prevent the access by water tankers to villages that rely on tankered water;</p> <p>2.1.3 Absence of any reports on lack of water or delay/stoppage of water tankers at checkpoints.</p>
<p>3. <u>International organisations:</u></p> <p>3.1 Israel will fully facilitate the assistance activities of international organisations, with particular reference to UNRWA (Gol to Bertini Mission, 12-19 August 2002)</p> <p>3.2 Israel agreed to review and strengthen the liaison arrangements between international agencies and the IDF to facilitate assistance activities (Gol to Bertini Mission, 12-19 August 2002)</p>	<p>3.1.1 Free access for all international staff of international organisations throughout the West Bank and Gaza and at international crossings at all times;</p> <p>3.1.2 Free access for all Palestinian staff of international organisations throughout the West Bank and Gaza at all times;</p> <p>3.1.3 No delays/stoppage of international organisation's transport of development and humanitarian goods at any point (i.e. at international borders, borders between Israel and the West Bank or Gaza, within the West Bank or Gaza) or at any time;</p> <p>3.1.4 Palestinian drivers (with either Jerusalem or West Bank ID) allowed to drive humanitarian transports for international organisations, in particular UNRWA, WFP and ICRC.</p> <p>3.2.1 Procedures established that provide direct access by international organisations to operational and command structures within the IDF.</p>

<p>4. Additional commitments:</p> <p>4.1 Israel will improve the situation at checkpoints, including the deployment of more experienced IDF personnel (Prior commitment reconfirmed to Bertini Mission)</p>	<p>4.1.1 IDF has deployed more experienced personnel at checkpoints throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip;</p> <p>4.1.2 IDF has published (in writing) guidelines on procedures for crossing checkpoints;</p> <p>4.1.3 IDF established regional liaison structures that can be contacted at all times in case of delays and other incidents and that have authority to intervene if so required. All delays and other incidents are addressed expeditiously;</p> <p>4.1.4 IDF has provided facilities such as water and sanitation facilities for all persons waiting to pass checkpoints;</p> <p>4.1.5 IDF instructs IDF soldiers at checkpoints to ensure unrestricted access across checkpoints for all employees of international organisations and other humanitarian actors on the basis of organisational ID (including MoH IDs).</p>
<p>4.2 The fishing zone for Palestinian fishing boats off the Gaza coast will be extended to 12 nautical miles. (Previous commitment reconfirmed to Bertini Mission; Foreign Minister Peres to Task Force on Reform, 25 July 2002).</p>	<p>4.2.1 Extension of fishing zone fully implemented;</p> <p>4.2.2 No arrests or confiscation of fishing boats within the 12-mile zone.</p>

ANNEX IV.

Humanitarian Plan of Action for the occupied Palestinian territory for 2003

Allocation of financial requirements by quarter

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing agencies

APPEALING AGENCY	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	QUARTER				TOTAL US\$
		FIRST US\$	SECOND US\$	THIRD US\$	FOURTH US\$	
FAO	Support to small ruminant keepers	1,831,500	0	1,831,500	0	3,663,000
	Support to backyard vegetable and poultry production targeting the most vulnerable population	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	2,000,000
	Emergency repairs to irrigation assets and maintenance of irrigation infrastructure	300,000	0	0	0	300,000
	Support to Gaza cereal producers	0	200,000	237,000	0	437,000
	Support to the coordination of agriculture emergency and rehabilitation interventions	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	350,000
	Food security and nutrition surveillance and interventions	475,000	475,000	350,000	350,000	1,650,000
	Income generation activities	450,000	0	450,000	0	900,000
	Sub-total	3,756,500	1,225,000	3,418,500	900,000	9,300,000
OCHA	Support to humanitarian coordination	475,000	475,000	475,000	475,000	1,900,000
UNDP	Emergency assistance to the Palestinian water supply and management sectors	2,000,000	4,000,000	8,000,000	1,750,000	15,750,000
UNESCO	Emergency subsistence support for most disadvantaged university students	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	600,000
UNFPA	RH and counseling: El Bureij, Hebron and Jabaila	0	500,000	500,000	100,000	1,100,000
	Rapid training of community based midwives	80,000	300,000	220,000	200,000	800,000
	Strengthening national statistics and reporting system, especially on RH an migration	200,000	200,000	50,000	30,000	480,000
	Psycho-social support to women with all RH services	200,000	300,000	130,000	100,000	730,000
	Hotline support in RH	150,000	200,000	100,000	75,000	525,000
	Responding to the needs of the elderly through comprehensive family health initiatives	100,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	550,000
	Sub-total	730,000	1,650,000	1,150,000	655,000	4,185,000
UNICEF	Health- Immunisation	2,930,000	190,000	190,000	190,000	3,500,000
	Health – Nutrition	300,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	900,000
	Health – MCH	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	400,000
	Back to School	1,500,000	1,500,000	2,500,000	1,100,000	6,600,000
	Remedial Education	1,600,000	800,000	400,000	400,000	3,200,000
	Psycho-social	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	1,600,000
	Sub-total	6,830,000	3,190,000	3,790,000	2,390,000	16,200,000

HUMANITARIAN PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

Humanitarian Plan of Action for the occupied Palestinian territory for 2003

Allocation of financial requirements by quarter

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing agencies

APPEALING AGENCY	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	QUARTER				TOTAL US\$
		FIRST US\$	SECOND US\$	THIRD US\$	FOURTH US\$	
UNRWA	Water and sanitation	1,517,262	758,631	758,631	758,631	3,793,155
	Back to school activities	0	2,625,000	0	0	2,625,000
	Subsistence expenses to university students	0	0	105,000	105,000	210,000
	Provision of remedial teaching	350,000	365,000	350,000	111,924	1,176,924
	Distance learning	750,000	750,000	750,000	776,625	3,026,625
	Summer clubs	0	262,500	262,500	0	525,000
	Health programmes	3,047,746	1,523,872	1,523,872	1,163,872	7,619,362
	Direct hire	5,410,129	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	17,410,129
	Indirect hire	7,334,246	5,500,000	5,500,000	5,500,000	23,834,246
	Graduate training	485,290	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,385,290
	Labor-intensive community-based projects	1,735,673	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	6,685,673
	Emergency repair and reconstruction of affected dwellings	8,933,640	7,500,000	7,500,000	7,500,000	31,433,640
	Emergency operation support	4,130,018	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	13,130,018
	Emergency food assistance	19,250,000	19,250,000	19,250,000	19,250,000	77,000,000
Cash assistance	3,872,700	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	12,872,700	
	Sub-total	57,176,704	50,485,003	47,950,003	47,116,052	202,727,762
UNSECOORD	Field security coordination	211,750	211,750	211,750	211,750	847,000
WFP	Emergency food assistance	4,000,000	9,526,667	9,526,667	9,526,666	32,580,000
	Emergency food buffer stock	7,209,000	0	0	0	7,209,000
	Sub-total	11,209,000	9,526,667	9,526,667	9,526,666	39,789,000
WHO	Mental health	375,000	375,000	200,000	50,000	1,000,000
	Nutrition	120,000	0	0	0	120,000
	Health Information	280,000	150,000	250,000	50,000	730,000
	Health Supplies	330,000	0	320,000	0	650,000
	Sub-total	1,105,000	525,000	770,000	100,000	2,500,000
TOTAL		83,643,954	71,438,420	75,441,920	63,274,468	293,798,762

ANNEX V.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACIS	Access and Closures Information System
AIDA	Association of International Development Agencies
COGAT	Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FCO	Field Coordination Office
HIC	Humanitarian Information Center
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDF	Israeli Defence Forces
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ILO	International Labour Organization
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
JOD	Job Opportunity Days
LACC	Local Aid Coordination Committee
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoH	Ministry of Health
MOSS	Minimum Operating Security Standards
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSO	Operations Support Officer
PA	Palestinian Authority
PARC	Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees
PCBS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
PRCS	Palestine Red Crescent Society
SWG	Sector Working Group
TFPI	Task Force on Project Implementation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNSCO	United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process
UNSECOORD	United Nations Security Coordination
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization