
Press release 15 August 2006

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Sweden issues invitation to an international conference on the humanitarian situation in the Palestinian territories

Sweden, Spain and Norway will jointly host a conference in Stockholm on 1 September 2006 on the humanitarian situation in the Palestinian territories, focusing especially on Gaza. The conference is being held in close consultation with the United Nations and the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. Minister for Foreign Affairs Jan Eliasson and Minister for International Development Cooperation Carin Jämtin have invited a large number of countries and international organisations to participate in the conference.

"At the same time as the eyes of the world are rightly directed towards the ongoing crisis in Lebanon, we must not forget the situation in the West Bank and Gaza. The humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian territories is deteriorating all the time. The human suffering in Gaza especially is getting worse by the day," says Minister for International Development Cooperation Carin Jämtin.

The conference will primarily focus on humanitarian relief, humanitarian access and early recovery. It is a follow-up to a meeting with the same focus held in Geneva on 14 July 2006.

The conference will be held in Stockholm on Friday 1 September, the day after the international conference on Lebanon. This is in order to facilitate the participation of countries and organisations proposing to attend both conferences.

Contact

John Zanchi

Press Secretary to Carin Jämtin

work +46 8 405 59 39

cell +46 70 2602664

[email to John Zanchi](mailto:john.zanchi@ut.sve.se)

Kerstin Olsson

Press Secretary to Jan Eliasson

work +46 70 272 34 06

[email to Kerstin Olsson](mailto:kerstin.olsson@ut.sve.se)