

**UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY
FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST**

ARAB PARTNERS UPDATE

Issue 5

September – December 2010



The Arab Partners Update is a periodical publication from UNRWA's External Relations Department (ERD) in Amman. The Update reports on UNRWA's latest news and events related to the Arab world. It focuses on the latest generous contributions from our Arab partners and summarises UNRWA's newest programmes and initiatives along with featuring the agency's major needs. The Update is intended for distribution to our donors, our partner NGOs, other UN Agencies and departments as well as UNRWA's staff. Further information and papers can be obtained from the ERD Arab Partners' Unit in Amman.

UNRWA News

Kuwait Raises Annual Contribution to UNRWA



The Ambassador of Kuwait to Jordan, Sheikh Faisal Al-Humoud Al-Malek Al-Sabah, has informed UNRWA of the Kuwaiti Government's decision to raise its annual pledge for UNRWA in 2011 from \$1.5 million to \$2 million. Since 1991, the Government of Kuwait has donated \$1.5 million annually for UNRWA's regular activities, which include the provision of education, health care, and relief and social services to more than 4.7 million Palestine refugees.

Saudi Arabia Contributes \$2 million to UNRWA's Regular Budget



On 27 October the Saudi Ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Fahad Al-Zaid, presented UNRWA with a cheque for \$800,000 representing the balance of the Kingdom's annual payment of \$2 million for UNRWA's regular programmes in 2010. Taking receipt of the cheque, Mr. Peter Ford, Representative of the Commissioner-General, thanked the Kingdom, noting that Saudi Arabia is one of the biggest funders of Agency construction projects (e.g., housing, schools) and also relief projects.

In 2009, the Kingdom announced its decision to raise its annual contribution from \$1.2 to \$2 million. Kuwait's increase in its annual contribution now makes Saudi Arabia and Kuwait equal first in the ranking of Arab contributors to UNRWA's regular budget.

PLO Donates \$2 million for Nahr el-Bared Camp Reconstruction



On 23 November the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) announced a donation of \$2 million for the reconstruction of Nahr el-Bared Camp (NBC) in northern Lebanon. PLO representative in Lebanon, Dr. Abdallah Abdallah said, "This donation reflects our commitment to our people in Nahr el-Bared and to their needs."

Thanking the PLO and President Mahmoud Abbas for this generous support to UNRWA and Palestine refugees, Director of UNRWA Affairs in Lebanon, Mr. Salvatore Lombardo, said: "I am extremely grateful to the PLO for contributing to the reconstruction of Nahr el-Bared. This is another contribution

towards stability for Palestinians and the Lebanese alike and to the reconstruction itself for which additional financial support is vital."

With this donation, the Palestinian Authority will have made its first contribution out of a \$10 million pledge made for the NBC reconstruction project in Vienna in 2008. Currently \$208 million are still required to complete reconstruction of the camp.

Commissioner-General Makes Second Official Visit to Saudi Arabia



From 16 to 19 October UNRWA's Commissioner-General, Mr. Filippo Grandi, paid his second official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a guest of the Saudi government represented by the Saudi Fund for Development. The visit came just

before Saudi Arabia assumed its role as Chair of UNRWA's Advisory Commission in November.

During the visit, Mr. Grandi met a number of distinguished officials, among them HRH Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Deputy Governor of Riyadh Province, HRH Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz, Head of Alwaleed Bin Talal Foundation, Engineer Youssef Al Bassam, Deputy Chairman and Managing Director of Saudi Fund for Development and Mr. Saed Al-Harithi, Chairman of the Saudi Campaign for the Relief of the Palestine People in Gaza. Mr. Grandi also met inter-governmental organisation leaders Dr. Saad Al Ammar, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs of the GCC, Dr. Ahmad Ali Madani, President of the Islamic Development Bank and Mr. Ekmeleddin Ihasnoglu, Secretary-General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

While in Saudi Arabia, the Commissioner-General raised a number of issues of concern to UNRWA, notably the Agency's financial situation, the reconstruction of Nahr el-Bared Camp and reconstruction projects in the Gaza Strip. Mr. Grandi thanked the Kingdom for its strong and continued support to UNRWA.

UNRWA Deputy Commissioner-General Inaugurates New Dubai Cares-Funded Zarqa School

On 20 December Deputy Commissioner-General Margot Ellis and the CEO of Dubai Cares, Mr. Tarek AlGurg, presided over an inauguration ceremony for the new Zarqa Boys School in Jordan. The Zarqa School was reconstructed thanks to a generous contribution of \$1.5 million from Dubai Cares, a humanitarian establishment launched by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.



In the presence of the representative of the Jordanian government, Mr. Mahmoud Akrabawi, and representatives of the community

and school pupils, Ms. Ellis praised Dubai Cares: "With this generous contribution, Dubai Cares reaffirms its commitment to support the human development of Palestine refugees and helps UNRWA to ensure a better future and higher employability for them."

Dubai Cares' contribution has allowed UNRWA to tear down the original, rundown school in Zarqa and provide in its place a brand new school building to accommodate 839 refugee students.

UNRWA's 2010 Finances Rescued by additional donations



Facing a forecasted deficit of \$33.1 million in early November, UNRWA's 2010 finances were rescued by the end of the year thanks to generous additional contributions from the US, Japan, Australia, Luxembourg and Sweden. The US and Japan each came forward with donations of \$10 million and Australia, Luxembourg and Sweden followed suit by donating \$5.4 million, \$1.98 million and \$1.74 million, respectively. Earlier in the Autumn, the European Commission, the United Kingdom and Italy also made sizeable, supplementary contributions to support the Agency's core activities.

UNRWA Dedicates Jenin School to the Late Sheikh Ahmed Bin Zayed

On 4 October UNRWA's Commissioner-General, Mr. Filippo Grandi, presided over a ceremony to dedicate the Jenin School for Boys to the late Sheikh Ahmed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who headed Abu Dhabi's sovereign wealth fund and was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation. Sheikh Ahmed tragically passed away in a flight accident in March.

In the presence of officials of the Palestinian Authority and UNRWA's Director for the West Bank, Ms. Barbara Shenstone, Mr. Grandi spoke warmly of Sheikh Ahmed's generosity recalling that the Zayed Foundation funded the expansion of Jenin School for Boys in 2008, along with the rehabilitation of four other schools in the West Bank. He recalled with gratitude that it was Sheikh Ahmed's father, His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, who financed the rebuilding of Jenin Camp which was completed in 2005.

Mr. Grandi praised the United Arab Emirates government and people for having been strong and consistent supporters of UNRWA and Palestinian refugees for many years. "We have lost a friend and benefactor in the shape of the late Sheikh Ahmed Bin Zayed," he said. "The renamed school however will be a constant reminder to us not only of the good works which he did but also the need to take forward his noble vision of helping the dispossessed and the least privileged, among them of course Palestinian refugees."



UNRWA's Biannual Advisory Commission Convenes at Dead Sea



On 30 November UNRWA's Advisory Commission (AdCom) convened for its second biannual meeting at the Dead Sea in Jordan. Opening the meeting and representing Saudi Arabia in its new role as AdCom Chair was Mr. Fahad Al Zaid, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Jordan.

During the meeting, representatives from host and major donor countries gathered with UNRWA officials to discuss the financial situation and its potential impact on the Agency's capacity to provide essential services to more than 4.7 million Palestine refugees. UNRWA's Commissioner-General, Mr. Filippo Grandi, said: "The imperatives of human dignity, protection and assistance to the vulnerable are being tested in the context of UNRWA's work for Palestine refugees. I appeal to each of you to rise to the challenge of passing that test and to ensure that in the coming years, there will be full support for UNRWA's needs".

The Advisory Commission was established in 1949 to advise and assist the Commissioner-General of UNRWA in the execution of its programmes. The participants in the Advisory Commission are Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, the European Commission, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Jordan, League of Arab States, Lebanon, The Netherlands, Norway, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America

UNRWA Bids Farewell to Kuwaiti Ambassador Sheikh Faisal Al-Humoud Al-Sabah



On 3 November, Mr. Peter Ford, Representative of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA, called on Sheikh Faisal Al-Humoud Al-Malek Al-Sabah, Ambassador of Kuwait to Jordan, to thank him for his consistent support for the Agency and bid him a fond farewell.

During Sheikh Faisal's service as Ambassador, HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, donated \$34 million to UNRWA's emergency operations in Gaza following the devastating war in 2009 while the ambassador advanced Kuwait's prospective membership of UNRWA's Advisory Commission, and was instrumental in securing an increase in its annual contribution.

On behalf of UNRWA, Mr. Ford thanked Sheikh Faisal for his exemplary support and wished him well in the future.

Visits

UNRWA Commissioner-General Meets with HRH Prince Alwaleed bin Talal



During his visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in late October, UNRWA's Commissioner-General, Mr. Filippo Grandi, met HRH Prince Alwaleed bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Chairman of Alwaleed bin Talal Foundation. Mr. Grandi expressed UNRWA's gratitude to HRH Prince Alwaleed for his past support to UNRWA and sought further assistance to advance the human development of the Palestine refugee community.

In 2008, Alwaleed bin Talal Foundation made a donation of \$411,000 in support of UNRWA's health programme. The project, which is still ongoing, was designed to provide medical training for UNRWA's health care staff in the Gaza Strip. The first phase of this project during which 12 doctors and three nurses received intensive courses in public health was recently completed.

UNRWA Delegation Travels to Kuwait



From 7 to 9 November, an UNRWA delegation headed by the Representative of the Commissioner-General, Mr. Peter Ford, visited Kuwait. Mr. Ford met Mr. Abdulwahab Al Badr, Director General of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, Mr. Waleed Alkhobaizi, Director of International Organisations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other senior officials from the Arab Fund, Kuwait Red Crescent Society and the International Islamic Charitable Organisation.

The visit comes while preparations are under way for Kuwait's prospective membership of UNRWA's Advisory Commission, which comprises donors and countries hosting Palestinian refugees. Kuwait will be the second Arab donor after Saudi Arabia to take on membership of the Commission.

UNRWA Delegation Visits UAE



Led by Mr. Peter Ford, an UNRWA delegation visited Abu Dhabi shortly before Christmas. The delegation reviewed with the UAERC, the Khalifa Foundation, and the Zayed Foundation progress in existing programmes and identified promising areas for future cooperation, especially against the background of the slight easing of the Gaza blockade which is allowing some construction projects to go forward, and the success of UNRWA's Adopt A School Programme, pioneered with the Khalifa Foundation, which UNRWA hopes to expand in 2011.

Donor Contributions

UAERC Donates Food and School Bags to Poor Refugees in Gaza



November saw a wave of new donations from the UAE Red Crescent Authority (UAERC) for the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip. In early November, a 35-truck convoy carrying 500 tonnes of basic food items left Egypt heading for the Gaza Strip. Arranged by the UAE

Embassy in Cairo on behalf of the UAERC, the donation was sent under the directive of the generous Emirati leadership. This donation, valued at \$408,440, was the fourth of its kind in 2010.

On the occasion of Eid el-Adha, the UAERC generously contributed fresh meat to address alarming levels of food insecurity amongst refugee families in the Gaza Strip. In line with the holiday's customs and traditions, 458 sheep were slaughtered to be distributed to destitute refugee families in Gaza. This donation, worth \$136,240, was distributed during the Eid holiday.

In addition, the UAERC donated \$11,490 to provide poor, orphan refugee pupils at UNRWA schools with school bags.



Saudi Fund for Development Approves Rafah School Construction Project



In early December, the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) gave its approval for the construction of the Riyadh Elementary Coeducational School, the final school to be built under the SFD-funded Rafah Re-Housing Project in

the Gaza Strip. The Fund earlier generously agreed to increase its pledge by \$321,608, bringing the final cost of this project to approximately \$1.2 million.

In February 2005, UNRWA and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed a grant agreement under which the Kingdom agreed to fund the construction of 844 housing units, four schools, a cultural centre, a sub-health centre, a market area, a kindergarten and nursery and a mosque in addition to the required infrastructure works in Rafah, Gaza. Due to the Israeli blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip in 2007, works on the Rafah project was halted. Recently however permission was granted to continue the Rafah School.

Works Resume on Halted Zayed Foundation School Projects in Gaza



On 28 November, the Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation approved UNRWA's request to resume works on three school projects in the Gaza Strip, which were halted due to the blockade imposed in 2007. The three school projects are part of a larger Zayed Foundation grant for \$6 million to construct and rehabilitate eight schools in Gaza and the West Bank. The five schools in the West Bank were completed by 2009.

In allowing UNRWA to restart building on the three school projects in the Gaza Strip, the Zayed Foundation has generously approved a budget increase of roughly \$630,000 bringing the total Zayed Foundation pledge to approximately \$6,630,000.

The cost increase for the Gaza projects is attributed to the price hike in construction materials. The Zayed Foundation school projects are among the first construction activities approved by Israeli authorities since their limited easing of access and import restrictions to Gaza.

JHCO Sends In-Kind Donation for the Palestine Refugees in Gaza



On October 7, the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation (JHCO) dispatched a generous donation consisting of roughly 6 tonnes of clothing, 275 cartons of bedding, blankets and second hand clothing and approximately 1,250 pairs of shoes. The

convoy, which included basic food items as well, was sent for needy Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip.

The JHCO has been one of UNRWA's steadfast partners since the Gaza war, facilitating the delivery of much-needed aid items into the Gaza Strip. UNRWA extends its utmost thanks to the JHCO team for its consistent support in aid of the beleaguered refugees of Gaza.

Dubai Cares Funds Deworming Campaign in UNRWA's oPt Schools

In early September, Dubai Cares, through the Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases of the Sabin Vaccine Institute, donated \$109,000 to support a deworming campaign against intestinal worm infestation in UNRWA's schools in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt). The one-year campaign will treat 258,000 refugee schoolchildren enrolled in Agency schools.



دبي العطاء
Dubai Cares

Intestinal worm infections affect children of school-going age. Caused by improper sanitation and personal hygiene practices, these worm infections are responsible for the high prevalence of poor physical and intellectual growth, impaired cognitive functionality, anaemia, and increased vulnerability to other diseases. Thanks to the generosity of Dubai Cares, UNRWA in the oPt is working to control intestinal worm infestation in its schools through a comprehensive deworming campaign, which includes iron supplementation and education on preventive hygiene practices.

ASMP Continues Support for UNRWA Emergency Activities in oPt



In September 2010, the Association Solidarité Maroc-Palestine (ASMP, Morocco-Palestine Solidarity Association) generously contributed \$85,000 towards UNRWA's mobile health clinic programme, which delivers essential medical services to isolated and vulnerable Palestinian communities in the West Bank. This contribution is the second ASMP donation for UNRWA's emergency activities in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt). In late 2009, the ASMP contributed \$50,000 to enable 13 refugee families to repair their homes, which were damaged during the Gaza War in 2008-2009.

Created in February 2005, the Association Solidarité Maroc-Palestine is a non-profit organization that aims to support the educational, socio-economic and cultural development of the Palestinian community. Working with local partners in the oPt, it has implemented several projects, including cultural exchanges, conferences, humanitarian work and scholarships.

IICO Donates to Health and Education Programmes in Jordan



In 2010, the Kuwait-based International Islamic Charity Organization (IICO), made its first contribution ever to UNRWA to support the Agency's activities in Jordan. The generous donation's aims were twofold: \$50,000 was used to provide dental chairs for UNRWA's clinics and another \$50,000 covered the cost of purchasing 80 computers for 16 UNRWA schools. To thank the IICO, UNRWA held a ceremony at the Nuzha Elementary Boys School and unveiled a plaque recognizing the IICO for this generous donation.

Stories from the Field

UNRWA's Health Programme Reaches Refugees Isolated by the Barrier

Since 2002, the State of Israel has been building the West Bank Barrier in an effort to physically separate the West Bank from Israel. So far, 60 per cent of the Barrier has been constructed on estimated 85 per cent of its route deviates from the 1949 "Green Line", violating international law and the ruling of the 2004 Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

For the Palestinian communities in the West Bank, this means that many are cut off from their lands, their families and their communities. Thousands of

Palestine refugees, Bedouins and herder communities lack or have inadequate access to basic humanitarian services such as food, primary health care and education, forcing large numbers of refugees to take long alternative routes to address their essential needs and to seek out livelihoods. Vulnerable groups such as the elderly, women with children, disabled people and the chronically ill are often unable to make such gruelling voyages. Impoverished families are also often unable to afford the additional transportation costs.

To mitigate the impact of the Barrier and closures on the health status of the Palestinians residing in isolated or remote areas of the West Bank, UNRWA has developed the mobile health clinic

programme. In 2010, five mobile health clinics provided primary health care such as preventive and curative primary health care, blood testing, health awareness and advice and mental health counselling to more than 178,016 refugees living in 81 isolated locations.

UNRWA has been able to undertake this project thanks to the generosity of many partners including the Gaddafi International Charity and Development Foundation, Ayuntamiento de Castellón and the Association Solidarité Maroc-Palestine. More funds are however needed in 2011 to sustain this programme.



A mobile health team in Umm al Kher, West Bank. (J.C. Tordal)

Needs in the fields

Relief and Recovery in the Nahr el-Bared Camp in 2011

Since the destruction of the Nahr El- Bared refugee camp (NBC) in mid-2007, UNRWA has attended to the most basic needs of its 27,000 displaced residents, offering temporary housing, food aid, basic health and education services. As reconstruction works started in late 2009, some of NBC's displaced refugee families will be able to return to their reconstructed homes in NBC in 2011. By the end of January 2011, the first group of refugee families will return to their new homes. By mid-2011, the number of returning families will reach 300, and by the end of October, another 455 displaced families are expected to return to their newly built homes.

However, while reconstruction works are still underway, the displaced NBC refugees will continue to rely on UNRWA to address their most basic needs. In the coming year, the Agency's seeks \$19.81 million to carry out the following relief and recovery activities:

- providing adequate temporary shelters for 5,670 families until their homes are reconstructed;
- ensuring the food security of 18,889 individuals;
- enhancing access for 611 displaced Palestine pupils to proper education;
- providing basic health and medical services to 25,866 individuals; and
- promoting economic recovery within the refugee community.



UNRWA Launches Website for 'Peace Starts Here' Campaign

On 24 October, UNRWA launched a new multimedia micro-site, www.peacestartshere.org, to mark the advent of United Nations Day. The site invites visitors to look into the lives of Palestine refugees and features a series of short films from UNRWA's five fields of operation. The series, Peace Starts Here, offers an insider's perspective into the lives of Palestine refugees, highlighting stories of perseverance and resilience in the face of the most challenging of circumstances.



15 lives. 15 refugee camps. 15 stories. Check out the new campaign by UNRWA featuring 15 short, personal stories about Palestine refugees from all over the Middle East at www.peacestartshere.org.

2010 in Brief

Arab Partners Pledge \$90 million for UNRWA in 2010

The New Year was heralded in with the **appointment of a new UNRWA Commissioner-General, Filippo Grandi, and Deputy Commissioner-General, Margot Ellis**. Wasting no time, the new leadership and the Arab Partners Unit set out to bolster UNRWA's relationship with its supporters in the region.

Since March, newly-appointed Commissioner-General and his representative, Peter Ford, have travelled throughout the region to call on governments, charitable foundations and non-governmental partners. **Mr. Grandi, accompanying UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, attended the 22nd Arab Summit in Sirt, Libya** at the end of March and encouraged Arab governments to support the Palestine refugee communities in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) after an earlier Israeli announcement to build 1,600 new homes in East Jerusalem.

In April, **an official UNRWA delegation travelled to Dubai to attend the DIHAD conference where UNRWA's Commissioner-General, featured as a keynote speaker**, spoke of the growing importance of partnerships between UNRWA and Arab governments and humanitarian organizations. Simultaneously, **UNRWA's Director of Operations in Gaza, John Ging, made his first appearance in the Gulf, visiting Doha and Sharjah**, and met HH Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, Ruler of Sharjah, in the latter half of his visit.

In late May, **Commissioner-General Grandi made his first official visit to Saudi Arabia**, on the eve of the **Kingdom's assumption of the chairmanship of UNRWA's Advisory Commission in July**. Saudi Donors in 2010 provided extensive support in the areas of camp reconstruction (**Saudi Fund for Development**) and relief (**The Saudi Campaign for the Relief of the Palestinian People in Gaza**).

This year was also marked by new partnerships. Of particular note were the pledges worth \$52.1 million for oPt relief and development projects made by the **Gaddafi International Charity and Development Foundation (GICDF)**. The Agency also embarked on a fruitful partnership with Jeddah-based **Islamic Development Bank** and signed two agreements worth a total \$6.8 million for the rehabilitation of shelters and bridge construction in the Gaza Strip. Smaller first-time donations were also received from Kuwait's **International Islamic Charity Organisation (IICO)** and Organisation of the Islamic Conference subsidiary, **Islamic Solidarity Fund**.

UNRWA's steady and long-time partners also stepped forward in 2010 to make important contributions to the Palestine refugee communities across the region. The **Saudi Campaign for the Relief of the Palestinian People in Gaza**, under the directive of HRH Prince Nayef, sent an aid package worth \$3.9 million to support relief efforts in Gaza and the West Bank. The **Sultanate of Oman** handed out cash payments totalling \$1.54 million to impoverished refugees in Gaza and Lebanon. The **Kuwait Red Crescent Society** made generous donations towards emergency activities in the Gaza Strip; humanitarian establishment **Dubai Cares** contributed towards a one-year deworming campaign in UNRWA schools in the oPt; and the **World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY)** made a contribution to support aid efforts for refugees of the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood in East Jerusalem. In addition, the **Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation** and **Egyptian Red Crescent** were instrumental in delivering aid to Gaza, facilitating the transportation of much-needed goods and in-kind donations into the Strip. The two organisations even made their own contributions to support the refugees under UNRWA's care.

UAE donors were also supportive. UNRWA's most recent initiative, the **Adopt a School Initiative**, gained considerable ground in 2010 with the **Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation (KHBZ)** making a pioneering adoption of "Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan Boys School" in Beit Lahia. In Ramadan 2010, KHBZ also donated to feed the fasting in the Gaza Strip.

In October, **Commissioner-General Grandi dedicated the Jenin Boys School to the late Sheikh Ahmed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan** to serve as a reminder of his generosity and past contribution for the refugees of Jenin. Sheikh Ahmed, who tragically passed away in March, headed Abu Dhabi's sovereign wealth fund and was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the **Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation**.

Political developments in relation to the Israeli-imposed blockade on Gaza gave way to renewed pledges and resumption of construction activity, albeit on a limited scale. In late March, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on his second visit to the Gaza Strip since the devastating conflict in 2009, announced Israel's decision to ease restrictions on construction materials to **complete 151 residential units, part of a UAE Red Crescent-funded project** to construct 600 units in Khan Younis. Other construction projects were finalised this year and approval was received for a new wave of projects for 2011 among them a school construction project being funded by



the **Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) in Rafah** and **three school construction projects funded by the Zayed Foundation.**



The Nahr el-Bared Camp project picked up speed with the full endorsement of the Lebanese government. Construction works began on Package 2, part of which is funded by **SFD's generous contribution of \$25 million for the project**, as well as on **UNRWA's NBC schools**, supported by a \$5 million contribution by the **OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)** and another \$1.6 million from **Welfare Association and Cayan Development Company**. In late November, the **Palestinian Liberation Organisation** stepped forward with a contribution of \$2 million for NBC reconstruction, closing the funding gap for Package 3 from \$12 to \$10 million.



In 2010, UNRWA received approximately \$89.4 million in pledges and contributions from its Arab partners in support of the Agency's regular activities, emergency interventions and projects. As of 30 November, these donations accounted for 10 per cent of all contributions to UNRWA.



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