

THE LANCET





Health of Palestinians & Palestine Refugees: 70 years after Nakba (Catastrophe) No health without dignity #DignityIsPriceless

May 15th, 2018 marks the 70th anniversary of the mass displacement of Palestinians known as "the Nakba" or "the Catastrophe", an event which led to the establishment of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), which is mandated by the UN General Assembly. About 750,000 people either fled from their homes or were forced to flee, creating one of the world's longest standing and largest refugee crises. This anniversary is also a reminder that this population of over five million Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA has been deprived of rights, dignity, and justice for such a long period.

In the meantime, UNRWA continues its humanitarian mission through the delivery of critical services and robust advocacy, including comprehensive primary health care (PHC) for Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Gaza and the West Bank. UNRWA health services are very important for Palestine refugees. Over the past 68 years, its services covered from the basic needs of survival through outpatient medical care, maternal and child health services, and the most recent, on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and mental health. UNRWA is committed to universal health coverage.

Currently, UNRWA is facing a major challenge in upholding its mandate and preserving key services for Palestine refugees and is calling on the good will of people all over the world to stand with UNRWA in solidarity and help #FundUNRWA to protect human welfare and dignity #DignitylsPriceless. UNRWA launched a global campaign to keep its operations open in 2018 and beyond. Through this campaign, UNRWA aims to maintain its primary health-care operations, education, food assistance, water and sanitation, and protection services so that the welfare and dignity of a disadvantaged and venerable population is preserved.

Date & Time: Wednesday 23 May 2018, 19:00 - 21:00

Venue: Moscou Room, Intercontinental Geneva Hotel / Geneva / Switzerland



Dr. Richard HortonChief Editor, THE LANCET

Moderator



Dr. Jawad AwwadMinister of Health,
Palestine



Dr. Gerald Rockenschaub

Head of Office/ WHO

Occupied Palestinian Territory



Dr. Akihiro SeitaUNRWA Health Director & WHO
Special Representative



Prof. Alastair Ager
Director, IGHD & Prof. of Population &
Family Health



Mr. Neil Sammonds
Advocacy & Campaigns Director,
Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), UK



Dr. Hend HarbHead Health Centre, UNRWA
Health Programme, Gaza



Ms. Batool Al-wahdani IFMSA, Vice President for External Affairs



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Venue

Moscou Room, Intercontinental Geneva Hotel, 7-9, Chemin du Petit Saconnex/ 1209 Geneva / Switzerland

Tel: +41(0)22 919 38 38





