

**King Salman Humanitarian Aid & Relief Centre Speech for the
69th session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme
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- **Chairman, Excellences, Distinguished Delegates, Mr. Filippo Grandi,** Commissioner of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, delegations from participating countries and national and international organizations, ladies and gentlemen, in the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful, greetings:
- I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the staff of the Organization for inviting us to the 69th session of the High Commissioner's Programme.
- According to UNHCR statistics, the number **forcibly displaced people** worldwide reached **68.5 million** among them **25.4 million are refugees**. This is a **10%** increase in the global refugee population – the largest increase to date.
- Refugees around the world are facing many challenges, and the large annual increase in their proportion calls for the development of a program of action based on the good practices, effective and sustainable measures in the Global Compact on Refugees.
- **Chairman, Excellences, Distinguished Delegates,** The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia carry its humanitarian responsibilities towards the world nation, especially those who need humanitarian, developmental and charitable assistance, as well it plays a vital role in reducing the sufferings of the affected population. In the past eight years, Saudi Arabia has provided humanitarian assistance to refugees around the world in the amounting to 1.03 billion US Dollars. The funding provided by KSA through UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in the same period amounted to 239.7 million US Dollars and 93.2 million US Dollars respectively.

- For example, Saudi Arabia has provided **Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and Malaysia with 18.1 million US Dollars'** worth of humanitarian for **13 projects**. In addition to this we funded IOM to provide assistance to the IDPs inside Myanmar. Syrian refugees in Jordan have received 178.3 million US Dollars in aid, 88.7 million US Dollars have gone to Syrian refugees in Turkey, 95.7million US Dollars to Syrian refugees in Lebanon and 219.6 million US Dollars in aid to Syrian refugees in many other countries, including Iraq and Egypt. **A total of 198 projects have been implemented for the refugees in these countries.** These amounts are in addition to the humanitarian and development assistance provided to Jordan, as a host country for many refugees, in the amount of **203.3 million US Dollars**.
- **Chairman**, Saudi Arabia has provided **500 million US Dollars** in funding through the United Nations for the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan 2018. Of this amount, 31 million US Dollars was allocated to UNHCR, and 23.3 million US Dollars to IOM to provide humanitarian assistance to Yemeni refugees and IDPs. The total humanitarian and development assistance provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Yemen from 2015 to date reached **11.18 billion dollars**.
- As for Palestine, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was and still among the biggest donors. From the year 2000 to date we have provided humanitarian, developmental and charitable assistance worth 5.55 billion dollars.
- In Somalia, Saudi Arabia has provided **177.3 million US Dollars** in humanitarian and development assistance **for 29 projects**. We have also funded UNHCR and IOM with 10 million US Dollars for a project to repatriate Somali refugees from Yemen and help them to stabilize and resettle upon their return.
- Saudi Arabia has committed **10.0 million dollars** for humanitarian and relief projects in **Nigeria**. Currently, the work is going on to implement projects for the IDPs in the affected areas.
- **Chairman, in Pakistan**, Saudi Arabia has funded humanitarian and development **85 projects** from 2005 to 2018 worth **107.3 million dollars** for the Internally Displaced People (IDPs) affected by floods and earthquake.

- **In Afghanistan**, Saudi Arabia has provided humanitarian and charitable funding for **32 projects** for IDPs worth **22.8 million dollars**.
- **Saudi Arabia** also hosts an estimated **1.07 million refugees** (Our Visitors as we call them) within its borders – including **561,911 Yemenis**, **262,573 Syrians** and **249,669 Rohingya** from Myanmar; this number is equal to **5.26%** of the total number of Saudi citizens.
- These visitors do not live in camps in the Kingdom, as is the case in many countries. Instead, they have the right to stay in the country, where they receive free education and health care services and access to employment opportunities – the same privileges enjoyed by Saudi citizens.
- **Chairman**, according to **United Nations Financial Tracking System (FTS)** data for September 2018, Saudi Arabia ranked fourth among the top humanitarian donor countries, and its humanitarian and relief assistance **reached 40 countries**. We all know that humanitarian assistance is, of course, focused upon countries in crisis – many of which have large numbers of IDPs and refugees.
- Lastly, we would like to inform you that we are currently working in the Kingdom to build a comprehensive refugees database, based on international standards, to register information about refugees (visitors) living in Saudi Arabia. This platform will be launched soon.

Thank you for listening