



Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos and UN High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres, at the pledging conference. UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

More than USD 1.5 billion pledged for Syria humanitarian response at the International Humanitarian Pledging Conference for Syria

Countries and regional organizations have pledged more than \$1.5 billion, to provide humanitarian assistance to civilians affected by the conflict over the next six months including those taking refuge beyond Syrian borders, at the International Humanitarian Conference for Syria held on 30 January 2013.

"Today, we have seen global solidarity in action," Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told the pledging conference for Syria, which was held in Kuwait City. "Recent months have witnessed an escalation in the conflict, which has left more than 4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including 2 million who have fled their homes and are now living without basic services.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres praised donor countries for pledging more than US\$1.5 billion to help Syrian refugees in neighboring countries and those displaced within the embattled country. The amount pledged exceeded the target, and exact figures are still being calculated. Guterres said that the funding commitments made at the high-level pledging conference were "unprecedented" and "generous" and would "enable us to do much more in support of the Syrian people who are suffering so much . . . to make sure basic needs are satisfied."

"International solidarity in support of the host countries must be urgently reinforced," he indicated. "This is not a question of generosity, but rather one of enlightened self-interest," the High Commissioner added, stating that the crisis constituted a threat to regional and global peace and security. Guterres also stressed that the Syria crisis had escalated at a staggering pace in recent months. In the first year of the crisis up to early April 2012, UNHCR had registered only 33,000 Syrian refugees in neighboring countries.

Now however, the number of people either registered as refugees or waiting to be registered stood at more than 712,000, with an average of 34,000 fleeing Syria every week this month. The High Commissioner said the true figure was likely much higher. Most of the money pledged on Wednesday comes from the region, with unprecedented high multi-million dollar donations from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and conference host Kuwait, reflecting the degree of concern and solidarity with the major host nations.

So far, UNHCR Turkey has received in total of \$23,280,207 from vari-

ous donors to respond to the needs of Syrian refugees in Turkey.

Donors contributed to UNHCR Turkey*	Amount
United States	\$10,000,000
European Commission	\$6,737,147
United Kingdom	\$1,605,136
UN Central Emergency and Response Fund	\$1,299,302
China	\$1,000,000
New Zealand	\$819,001
Switzerland	\$537,634
France	\$ 448, 310
Republic of Korea	\$300,000
Italy	\$313,676
Brazil	\$120,000
Japan	\$100,000

*Donations as of January 2013

Canada to resettle up to 5,000 refugees from Turkey

During a visit to Turkey in January, the Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Minister Jason Kenney announced that Canada would resettle up to 5,000 refugees from Turkey in the period of 2013 to 2018. This announcement followed a meeting held between UNHCR and the Minister and his delegation, during which the UNHCR Representative in Turkey, Ms Carol Batchelor, provided updated information to the Minister about the plight of the refugees currently hosted by Turkey.

Canada is one of the three main resettlement countries worldwide who have progressively increased the number of refugees that UNHCR can refer for resettlement from Turkey. In the past three years, the number of refugees that Canada has agreed to accept on a yearly basis has gradually increased from around 600 to approximately 1,200. Meanwhile, the overall number of yearly resettlement spots made available to UNHCR in Turkey has likewise increased, from 5,000 to almost 8,000. 2012, UNHCR Turkey referred over 7,900 refugees for resettlement consideration to the following countries: the USA, Canada, Australia, Norway, Finland, and Germany. This is the highest number of individual resettlement referrals ever made by UNHCR in Turkey. UNHCR sees resettlement both as a durable solution - providing an opportunity to refugees to rebuild their lives - and as a concrete measure of responsibility sharing amongst states.

"With escalating violence in the region, more people are seeking protection in Turkey, and our commitment to resettle 5,000 mostly Iraqi and Iranian refugees in Canada will help Turkey deal with this growing pressure. We recognize that sheltering such an immense refugee population creates pressures on domestic resources and we commend the Government of Turkey for keeping her borders open to those fleeing the ongoing conflict in the region" said Minister Kenney.

While the final decision on resettlement always rests with the resettlement country, the increased number of places made available for UNHCR referrals means that more vulnerable refugees will have the opportunity to be considered for resettlement, and rebuild their lives in a stable environment, far away from the dangers and conflicts that forced them to flee their countries of origin. Due to the high number of asylum applications and refugees in Turkey and the limited number of resettlement places worldwide, resettlement cannot be offered to every refugee in Turkey. UNHCR welcomes the initiative of the Canada, and encourages States to support refugee hosting countries like Turkey by providing spaces for more refugees to go on resettlement.

UNHCR Turkey's Monthly Statistics as of January 2013*

Active Caseload Breakdown by Gender and Age As of 31.01.2013

Country	0-4		5-11		12-17		18-59		60 +		TOTAL
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	
AFGHANISTAN	360	366	689	829	616	1123	1901	2545	59	86	8574
IRAN	156	152	237	304	207	276	2083	3063	100	105	6683
IRAQ	569	645	924	1024	652	807	3264	4498	282	317	12982
SOMALIA	71	93	150	152	159	194	595	616	14	5	2049
OTHERS	123	160	142	159	111	152	701	1040	17	12	2618
TOTAL F/M	1280	1416	2142	2438	1745	2552	8544	11762	472	525	-
GRAND TOTAL	2696		4610		4297		20306		997		32906

Refugees by Age, Gender and Country As of 31.01.2013

Country	0-4		5-11		12-17		18-59		60 +		TOTAL
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	
AFGHANISTAN	134	134	286	338	281	383	879	1046	23	35	3538
IRAN	59	67	117	148	104	140	970	1368	60	47	3083
IRAQ	426	471	693	767	490	580	2547	3455	234	251	9923
SOMALIA	62	74	133	135	127	156	499	467	12	4	1669
OTHERS	50	66	57	62	47	61	249	384	10	3	990
TOTAL F/M	731	812	1286	1450	1049	1320	5144	6720	339	340	-
GRAND TOTAL	1543		2736		2369		11864		693		19203

Asylum Seekers by Age, Gender and Country As of 31.01.2013

Country	0-4		5-11		12-17		18-59		60 +		TOTAL
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	
AFGHANISTAN	215	220	378	472	316	713	982	1460	35	49	4840
IRAN	96	80	128	160	114	145	1113	1721	44	61	3662
IRAQ	156	184	255	299	169	248	824	1172	56	66	3429
SOMALIA	10	16	16	17	31	34	106	155	2	1	388
OTHERS	75	95	94	96	70	90	484	712	8	8	1732
TOTAL F/M	552	595	871	1044	700	1230	3509	5220	145	185	-
GRAND TOTAL	1147		1915		1930		8729		330		14051

* Syrians are hosted under the temporary protection regime outlined by the Government of Turkey. Therefore the numbers are not included in the statistics, for updated information please visit UNHCR's Information Sharing Portal on Syria: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>