



Conclusions of the Special Meeting of a Group of Supporters of UNRWA New York, 26 September 2013

We, members of the League of Arab States and other supporters* of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), met today in New York under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States to reassert our support for UNRWA's mandate in providing assistance and protection to Palestine refugees and to identify practical ways to strengthen that support.

We recalled that Palestine refugees represent the world's largest and most protracted refugee situation and that nearly sixty four years have passed since the UN General Assembly established the United Nations Relief and Works Agency to assist Palestine refugees, until a just and lasting resolution is reached in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions (General Assembly Resolutions 194(III) and 302(IV)).

We welcomed UNRWA's achievements in providing health, education, social safety-net, infrastructure, microfinance, emergency assistance, protection and other humanitarian and human development services to the 5 million Palestine refugees currently registered with the Agency and in helping to alleviate their plight, to achieve sustainable livelihoods and self-reliance and to cope in times of crisis and upheaval.

We expressed awareness of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation and reiterated that the effective functioning of the Agency remains essential in all these fields.

We underlined that UNRWA's work has been made possible by the active engagement, and generous support and assistance from the international community, notably the members and observers of the UNRWA Advisory Commission, and in particular those hosting Palestine refugees.

*The five biggest donors (the US, EU, UK, Sweden, and Norway), regional representatives (Japan and Brazil) and the Chair of the Fourth Committee Group on the Financing of UNRWA (Turkey)



