
UN Security Council Looks At Humanitarian Impact of Syria Crisis

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The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Valerie Amos briefed the Security Council on humanitarian access in Syria on Tuesday.

In her report she talked about the past two months and limited distribution of food and medical assistance.

In the presentation, Amos warned that the World Food Program will have to leave Syria if they don't receive more funds in the next two months.

She added that the coming of the cold weather in the region will complicate the deliveries of aid, especially if the violence persists and at the moment the “violence continues unabated”, including areas that were previously not so badly affected.

Amos said to the Security Council that civilian areas and hospitals were “systematically targeted” and that all sides have “utter disregard” for civilians.

The situation in Syria is dire, with an estimated death toll of close to 200,000 and in excess of 3 million refugees and 6.4 million internally displaced people. Almost half of the population, 10.8 million, require humanitarian assistance, and of those 4.7 million are in hard-to-reach areas and 241,000 are in besieged areas.

This meeting is the first Syria-specific Security Council meeting since US-led airstrikes against the Islamic State began on September 22.

The U.N. Secretary-General Ban ki-Moon has said that there is no military solution to the conflict, and calls for the actors involved in the crisis and the international community to do more to come to a peaceful solution.
