

Information on Gaza

Meetings of UN Bodies

- 10th Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly - Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory on 15-16 January 2009, United Nations Headquarters - Video on-demand, resolutions, records of meetings:
<http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/interactive/special.shtml>
- Earlier meetings: <http://www.un.org/ga/sessions/emergency.shtml>
_ Security Council Meetings on the Middle East situation, including the Palestinian question
- 2009 meetings - meeting records, press releases and resolutions:
<http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/scact2009.htm>
- 2008 meetings - meeting records, press releases and resolutions:
<http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/scact2008.htm>
- Earlier years: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/scact.htm>
_ 9th special session of the Human Rights Council: "The Grave Violations of Human Rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory including the recent aggression in the occupied Gaza Strip" - January 2009
- Documents, oral statements, general information, NGO information, press releases:
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/specialsession/9/index.htm>

UN Entities

- United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA): <http://www.un.org/unrwa>
- Office of the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO): <http://www.unsco.org/about.asp>
- United Nations Department for Political Affairs. Division for Palestinian Rights: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/mideastpeacepro.html>
- Question of Palestine: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/qpal/index.html>

- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – Occupied Palestinian Territory:
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/MenaRegion/Pages/PSIndex.aspx>
- Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967:
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/countries/ps/mandate/index.htm>
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) - Occupied Palestinian Territory: <http://www.ochaopt.org/>
- Gaza Crisis 2008 – 2009: <http://www.ochaopt.org/gazacrisis/>
- ReliefWeb – Complex Emergency: Occupied Palestinian Territory:
<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc104?OpenForm&rc=3&cc=pse>
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) - FAO Brief on Gaza: <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/9960/icode/>
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People: <http://www.undp.ps/en/index.html>
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) – Crisis in Gaza:
http://www.unicef.org/emerg/index_24930.html
- World Food Programme (WFP) – Getting Food to Gaza:
<http://www.wfp.org/countries/occupied-palestinian-territory>
- World Health Organization (WHO) -The occupied Palestinian territory:
<http://www.who.int/hac/crises/international/wbgs/en/index.html>
- WHO West Bank & Gaza Office: <http://www.emro.who.int/palestine/>
- UN Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT) – Gaza Strip maps: http://unosat.web.cern.ch/unosat/asp/prod_free.asp?pid=1304

Selected Statements and Speeches by UN Officials

- Statements by Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General:
<http://www.un.org/apps/sg/sgstats.asp>; <http://www.un.org/sg/articles.asp>;
<http://www.un.org/apps/press/latestSG.asp>;
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocus/sgspeeches/>

- Statements and messages by Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann , President of the 63rd Session of the General Assembly:
<http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/statements/statements.shtml>
- Statements by Navanethem Pillay, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights:
<http://www.unhchr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/NewsroomByType?OpenView&Start=1&Count=15&Expand=6#6>
- Statements by Richard Falk, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights on Palestinian territories occupied:
<http://www.unhchr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/FramePage/SRPalestine?OpenDocument&Start=1&Count=7&Expand=2>
- Statements and speeches by John Holmes, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator:
<http://ochaonline.un.org/AboutOCHA/Organigramme/TheUnderSecretaryGeneral/SpeechesandStatements2009/tabid/5280/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
- Statements by Karen AbuZayd, Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and by Filippo Grandi, UNRWA Deputy Commissioner- General:
<http://www.un.org/unrwa/news/index.html>
- o Interview with Karen AbuZayd, Commissioner-General of UN Relief & Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East 30 (December 2008):
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/newsmakers.asp?NewsID=5>
- o Interview with John Ging, Director of Operations, Gaza, UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (20 January 2009):
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/newsmakers.asp?NewsID=8>
- Statements by Robert H. Serry, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process: <http://www.unsco.org/scs.asp>

Further Information

- UN News Focus: Middle East
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=70&Body=palestin&Body1=>
- Issues on the UN Agenda: Question of Palestine

<http://www.un.org/issues/m-qpales.html>

- Middle East Quartet Statements:

<http://www.unsco.org/q.asp>

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/docs.asp?Topic=Middle%20East&Type=Quartet%20statement>

UN Databases

- UNISPAL - UN Information System on the Question of Palestine

<http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf>

Special focus - Situation in Gaza:

<http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/SubjectGaza!OpenView>

The United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine (UNISPAL) was established and is being developed by the Division for Palestinian Rights in response to successive General Assembly mandates. The main collection contains the texts of current and historical United Nations material concerning the question of Palestine and other issues related to the Middle East situation and the search for peace. UNISPAL contains largely the English texts of United Nations documents with a growing number of links to the texts of the other official UN languages

This backgrounder was compiled by the Library of the UN Regional Information Centre for Western Europe (UNRIC) – 11 March 2009