



**UNRWA
PRESS RELEASE**

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UNRWA new Director in Syria

Mr Panos Moutziz, a Greek national, assumed his duties as Director of United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees' Affairs in Syrian Arab Republic (UNRWA) on 19 June 2006.

Prior to joining UNRWA, Mr Moutziz worked during the last 15 years in the management of emergency humanitarian refugee operations with UNHCR in Iraq, Somalia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Ivory Coast and Rwanda. During his last assignment he managed the UNHCR operations related to the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of Rwandan refugees back home.

The new Director holds a Bachelor degree in Political Science and International Relations from Athens Law School, Greece and a Masters degree in Middle East Politics and Economics from the University of Exeter, United Kingdom. In addition to his mother tongue, Greek, Mr Moutziz is fluent in Arabic, English and French.

With Headquarters in Gaza and Amman, UNRWA provides education, health, relief, social and micro-credit services to some 4 million refugees living in its area of operations in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and Gaza strip. In Syria, UNRWA educates about 64,000 children and young people, delivers health care in its 23 health centre and assists over 30,800 refugees in special hardship.

UNRWA, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, is a humanitarian and human development Agency providing education, health care, social services, micro-credit and emergency relief to over 4 million registered refugees living in the Gaza Strip, West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic. In Syria, the Agency provides assistance to over 430,000.

For information only

For further information please contact:
Hala Mukhles
Office: 6133035 ext 314
Mobile: 093-416591

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