



Background Guide

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Agenda A : Social and Economic Implications of Refugees and IDP
Crisis in the Western Asian Region.

Agenda B : Conventional Sources of Energy: Trade & Meeting Energy
Demands.

Letter from the Executive Board

Greetings Delegates!

Welcome to the 7th edition of our school's most awaited event of the year. As delegates of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, We would like to congratulate you all for being allotted your respective countries and we hope that through this simulation you all are able to if not master but be introduced to the art of MUNing.

Delegates are requested to thoroughly research about their respective countries and the agenda at hand. A good delegate is one who is knowledgeable about his/her matter and is able to produce that knowledge in discussion without the use of written support. However, we acknowledge all ways!

This Background Guide is designed to be the beginning of your research process, and by no means should encompass the scope of your research. The agenda of the committee is open-ended but requires focused research in certain key aspects that have been listed in this guide.

We request you to be thorough with the background guide and use it as a starting point of your research. The nature of ESCWA is such that it would require all delegates to get into the smallest technicalities related to the agenda. This is what will make your discussion fruitful.

Please remember, you the delegates, will make the committee. The Executive Board is a mere facilitator. It shall be your prerogative to decide the direction in which you want to take this committee.

As your executive board, we want active participation from all the delegates, and we shall feel more than happy to clear any doubts that you may have, or any clarifications that you may seek. Please feel free to reach out. Happy Researching!

Regards,

Executive Board

Acceptable sources of Information

Within the committee information can be quoted from the following sources:

1. News Sources:

- a. **Reuters** (<http://www.reuters.com/>) – Any Reuters article which clearly makes mention of the fact or is in contradiction of the fact being stated by a delegate in council.
- b. **State operated News Agencies** – These reports can be used in the support of or against the State that owns the News Agency. These reports, if credible or substantial enough, can be used in support of or against any Country as such but in that situation, they can be denied by any other country in the council. **The Executive Board shall remain neutral towards the credibility of these reports.** Some examples are,
 - b.i. RIA Novosti (Russia) <http://en.rian.ru/>
 - b.ii. IRNA (Iran) <http://www.irna.ir/ENIndex.htm>
 - b.iii. BBC (United Kingdom) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>
 - b.iv. Xinhua News Agency and CCTV (P.R. China) <http://cctvnews.cntv.cn/>

2. Government Reports: These reports can be used in a similar way as the State Operated News Agencies reports and can, in all circumstances, be denied by another country. **However, the essential difference is that if a government report is being denied by a certain country, it can still be accepted by the Executive Board as a credible source of information.** Examples are,

- a. Government Websites like the State Department of the United States of America <http://www.state.gov/index.htm>
- b. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of various nations like India (<http://www.mea.gov.in/>), People's Republic of China (<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/>), France

(<http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/>), Russian Federation

(http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/main_eng)

c. Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Reports

<http://www.un.org/en/members/> (Click on any country to get the website of the Office of its Permanent Representative.

d. Multilateral Organizations like the NATO

(<http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/index.htm>), ASEAN

(<http://www.aseansec.org/>), OPEC

(http://www.opec.org/opec_web/en/), etc.

3. UN Reports: All UN Reports and publications are considered as credible sources of information.

a. UN Bodies: Like the SC (<http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/>), GA

(<http://www.un.org/en/ga/>), HRC

(<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/HRCIndex.aspx>)

etc.

b. UN Affiliated bodies like the International Atomic Energy Agency

(<http://www.iaea.org/>), International Committee of the Red Cross

(<http://www.icrc.org/eng/index.jsp>), etc.

Under no circumstances will sources like Wikipedia

(<http://www.wikipedia.org/>), Amnesty International

(<http://www.amnesty.org/>), Human Rights Watch

(<http://www.hrw.org/>) or newspapers like the Guardian

(<http://www.guardian.co.uk/>), Times of India

(<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>), etc. be accepted.

Under no circumstance will any data or information be accepted by the Executive Board, if quoted from this study guide.

UN ESCWA

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA REGION

Committee background

The Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) was established on 9 August 1973 pursuant to the Economic and Social Council's resolution 1818 (LV). The purpose of setting up the Commission was to raise the level of economic activity in member countries and strengthen cooperation among them. It was also intended to meet the need of the countries in Western Asia for the services of a regional economic commission to promote the development efforts in the region.

In recognition of the social component of its work, the Commission was entrusted with new responsibilities in the social field by virtue of Economic and Social Council resolution 69/1985 of July 1985. Its name therefore became the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

ESCWA has been located in a number of Arab capitals. It started in Beirut (1974- 1982), moved to Baghdad (1982- 1991), then to Amman (1991- 1997), and returned to Beirut in 1997, its permanent headquarters.

Objectives

- To support economic and social development in the countries of the region;
- To promote cooperation between the countries of the region;
- To encourage interaction between member countries and promote the exchange of experience, best practice and lessons learned;
- To achieve regional integration between member countries, and to ensure interaction between Western Asia and other regions of the world;
- To familiarize the outside world with the circumstances and needs of the countries in the region.

History-

ESCWA was the fifth in a line of regional commissions created to act under the auspices of ECOSOC, serving Europe, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa. It was formed as the countries that were covered by the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (UNESOB) in Lebanon did not enjoy membership in any regional commission at that time.

These commissions were formed to fulfil the economic and social goals set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, by promoting inter-regional cooperation and integration between the UN Member States. Recessionary forces, coupled with the growing neoliberal influence of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, pushed the Commission's policies from planning and public spending to promoting privatization and integration in the global economy in the nineties.

ESCWA was the first regional commission to elevate water scarcity to priority status and prove its commitment by offering support for institutional development in the field of water resource development. Rapid population growth is also another issue that ESCWA has shed light on; the region's inhabitants more than doubled from 76 million to 160 million in the first 25 years of the Commission's lifetime. However, thanks in part to ESCWA's contribution, fertility rates have nearly halved in the same period. ESCWA also took the lead in collecting data on the effects of war and occupation on the people of Palestine, a practice that it continues to the present day.

This has strengthened its relationship with its members and also contributed to a greater understanding of the role the region can play in addressing socio-economic issues facing the occupied Palestinian Territories. ESCWA has also developed three transport agreements that have been adopted by its Member States, which have led to the facilitation of stronger transport and trade policies at the national-level.

Mandate-

ECOSOC resolution 1818 (LV) lays out that ESCWA is mandated to participate "in the economic reconstruction and development of Western Asia," raise the "level of economic activity in Western Asia," and strengthen "economic relations of the countries of that area both among themselves and with other countries of the world."

The mandate was expanded to include social issues as per Member States' request, and as a reflection of their growing prominence. Labor market, changing population and refugee issues were constantly on the Commission's agenda. It performs this function via investigations and studies into economic and technological problems and developments concerning the region. As such, the commission is responsible for collecting, evaluating and disseminating data and information to supplement said studies. This ultimately percolates into providing advisory services, and technical assistance where needed, to its Member States. In addition to identifying and highlighting development issues, ESCWA is also an exemplary conduit for global UN ideas and regional feedback in the Western Asia region, and provides a "coping" mechanism for delivering global policy guidelines, instead of Member States immediately adopting them without attuning them to their particular needs. ESCWA serves as an invaluable forum for academics, technical experts, and high-level Member State officials via its thematic and periodic meetings.

Functions and Powers -

ESCWA operates within the framework of the UN system, under the supervision of ECOSOC. As such, it provides annual reports of its activities, in addition to adopting resolutions. Resolutions adopted by ESCWA affirm the collective position of its members, underline their individual commitments, and assign the ESCWA secretariat various responsibilities and functions. For example, in ESCWA resolution 292 (XXVI), the commission “declares its commitment to the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.” The resolution also calls upon Member States to “continue to seek the achievement of peace and stability in the region” and to “to enhance development efforts, in particular in countries affected by conflict and occupation.”

Moreover, ECOSOC’s regional commissions are encouraged to set their own priorities, cooperate with each other and other UN agencies in the region on common issues. They are encouraged to share best practices, achievements and experiences. For that reason, ESCWA’s Executive Secretary is a member of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs and a member of the UN Development Group (UNDG). Member States both drive the policymaking and norm-setting in ESCWA as well as benefit from its policies and programs. ESCWA also offers advisory services through training workshops, seminars, study tours and on-the-job trainings. For example, it conducted a workshop on oil and gas pricing parameters and their effect on renewable energy and energy efficiency policies, in partnership with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research in 2013.

(Delegates, if they choose to, can access the mandate and general overview of the roles enacted by the ESCWA. This shall act as the boundaries to the debate that shall take place in committee. <http://www.escwa.un.org/about/ESCWAinbrief.pdf>)

Agenda:

Social and Economic Implications of Refugees and IDP Crisis in Western Asian Region.

We would like the delegates to have methodical pattern to discuss various issues which they choose to and us this study guide as a reference to that pattern. Under no circumstance will any data or information be accepted by the Executive Board, if quoted from this study guide.

1.0 BRIEF OVERVIEW-

The Member States that compose the United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) host a large amount of forcibly displaced persons from the ESCWA region. Forcibly displaced persons, including refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), are persons

fleeing their homes due to armed conflict and seeking safety in another location either within or outside their home country. By the end of 2014, there will be an estimated 3.59 million refugees as a result of the Syrian civil war. In comparison, at the end of 2013, there were an estimated 2.47 million Syrian refugees, and roughly 4 million IDPs.

Furthermore, current UN predictions indicate that neighbouring countries to Syria are to receive 1.1 million additional refugees by June 2015, if the civil war continues, and more refugees will continue to arrive throughout the region. In addition to the Syrian refugees, there are an estimated 1.2 million Iraqi IDPs and 850,000 refugees due to the growing conflict with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that by the end of 2013, Yemen hosted an estimated 500,000 refugees from Somalia, 344,000 Yemeni IDPs, and 649,300 refugees from Sudan.⁹⁷ Additionally, there are the 58 recognized Palestinian refugee camps and an estimated 5 million registered Palestinian refugees throughout the ESCWA region. The increasing amount of refugees within the ESCWA region is a concern for the economic and social development for all ESCWA Member States.

As refugees move into host countries, they compete with citizens for resources, public services, and jobs; this can hinder economic and social progress.¹⁰⁰ Additionally, Member States in conflict areas, such as Syria, also experience social and economic consequences of refugees leaving the country.

Meanwhile, refugees and IDPs are victims of conflict, and lose opportunities and access in relation to economic and social development. As the purpose of ESCWA is to promote regional support in order to achieve sustainable economic and social development, it is up to the members of ESCWA to find solutions to address the influx of refugees for Member States and solutions for the economic and social needs of the refugees.

In response to the continuing Syrian conflict, ESCWA created the National Agenda for the Future of Syria in 2012, which through coordinated efforts of ESCWA, neighboring Member States, the Syrian government, and the Syrian people, finds solutions to end the civil war and create short-and long-term reconstruction plans. Also in 2012, ESCWA, in collaboration with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), introduced a workshop for representatives from various ESCWA Member States about implementation of sustainable development guidelines in conflict-afflicted countries.

2.0 Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons-

In order to address the issues surrounding refugees within the ESCWA region, it is necessary to know the definitions and categories of refugees.

2.1 Refugee-

A person or persons having to leave their home in order to escape war, persecution, or terror is known as a forcibly displaced person. Refugees, IDPs, asylum seekers, and stateless persons are different categories of forcibly displaced persons. In addition to leaving their homes because of war, persecution, terror, or a natural disaster, refugees also leave their country of origin.¹⁴⁴ Refugees

differ from migrants in two fundamental ways: refugees leave their nation of origin under threat of harm, and they seek protection through international law.

2.2 Internally Displaced Person(s)-

Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized border.

2.3 What is the difference between an internally displaced person and a refugee?

According to the 1951 *Convention on the Status of Refugees*, a "refugee" is a person who, "owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it." Subsequent international instruments (such as the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees and the Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa) have expanded this definition for some states to persons fleeing the general effects of armed conflict and/or natural disaster.

A crucial requirement to be considered a "refugee" is crossing an international border. Persons forcibly displaced from their homes who cannot or choose not to cross a border, therefore, are not considered refugees, even if they share many of the same circumstances and challenges as those who do. Unlike refugees, these internally displaced persons do not have a special status in international law with rights specific to their situation. The term "internally displaced person" is merely descriptive.

3 Rights of Refugees and IDPs- Legal Status, Protection, Liberties

3.1 CONVENTION ON THE STATUS OF REFUGEES-

Grounded in Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of human rights 1948, which recognizes the right of persons to seek asylum from persecution in other countries, the United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, adopted in 1951, is the centrepiece of international refugee protection today. The Convention entered into force on 22 April 1954, and it has been subject to only one amendment in the form of a 1967 Protocol, which removed the geographic and temporal limits of the 1951 Convention.

(Delegates are requested to provide solutions, corrections and changes to the existing convention as a suggestive measure to the United Nations High Commission of Refugees, the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council.)

Note: The following section explains the principles on the convention, however should not be taken in entirety of its given scope in the document.

3.2 PROTECTING REFUGEES-

WHAT DOES THE CONVENTION PROTECT?

The 1951 Convention protects refugees. It defines a refugee as a person who is outside his or her country of nationality or habitual residence; has a well-founded fear of being persecuted because of his or her race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion; and is unable or unwilling to avail him— or herself of the protection of that country, or to return there,

for fear of persecution (see Article 1A(2)). People who fulfill this definition are entitled to the rights and bound by the duties contained in the 1951 Convention.

IS REFUGEE PROTECTION PERMANENT?

The protection provided under the 1951 Convention is not automatically permanent. A person may no longer be a refugee when the basis for his or her refugee status ceases to exist. This may occur when, for example, refugees voluntarily repatriate to their home countries once the situation there permits such return. It may also occur when refugees integrate or become naturalized in their host countries and stay permanently.

CAN SOMEONE BE EXCLUDED FROM REFUGEE PROTECTION?-

Yes, the 1951 Convention only protects persons who meet the criteria for refugee status. Certain categories of people are considered not to deserve refugee protection and should be excluded from such protection. This includes persons for whom there are serious reasons to suspect that:

- they have committed a crime against peace, a war crime, a crime against humanity or a serious non-political crime outside their country of refuge; or
- They are guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

WHAT RIGHTS DO REFUGEES HAVE UNDER THE 1951 CONVENTION?-

The 1951 Convention contains a number of rights and also highlights the obligations of refugees towards their host country. The cornerstone of the 1951 Convention is the principle of non-refoulement contained in Article 33.

According to this principle, a refugee should not be returned to a country where he or she faces serious threats to his or her life or freedom. This protection may not be claimed by refugees who are reasonably regarded as a danger to the security of the country, or having been convicted of a particularly serious crime, are considered a danger to the community.

Other rights contained in the 1951 Convention include:

- The right not to be expelled, except under certain, strictly defined conditions (Article 32);
- The right not to be punished for illegal entry into the territory of a contracting State (Article 31);
- The right to work (Articles 17 to 19);
- The right to housing (Article 21);
- The right to education (Article 22);
- The right to public relief and assistance (Article 23);
- The right to freedom of religion (Article 4);
- The right to access the courts (Article 16);
- The right to freedom of movement within the territory (Article 26); and
- The right to be issued identity and travel documents (Articles 27 and 28).

4.0 Situation in the ESCWA Region-

On the Member State level, five countries (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey) are currently hosting Syrian refugees and refugee camps and coordinating with the Syrian Crisis Response through the UN World Food Programme (WFP).

In order to coordinate its estimated 600,000 Syrian refugees, Jordan has established the Syrian Refugee Affairs Department (SRAD), a branch of the Ministry of Interior. SRAD coordinates with government agencies such as the Office of the Civil Registrar and the Sharia Court, the Jordanian Armed Forces, and the 51 national and international NGOs to provide aid, protection, and legal protection for the Syrian refugees within the many camps in Jordan. In Lebanon, the UNHCR and the Ministry of Social Affairs Lebanon (MOSA) are the lead coordinators for the protection and humanitarian needs of the over 1.1 million Syrian refugees and the 53,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria. MOSA coordinates with several international, regional, and national actors such as Social, Humanitarian, Economic Intervention for Local Development (SHEILD), a Lebanese based and operated NGO.

Egypt is currently hosting the smallest amount of Syrian refugees, and therefore is coordinating heavily with international and NGO partners, such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and CARE International, to aid the Egyptian government with protection and humanitarian aid efforts.

4.1 Impacts on hosting countries-

But the conflict in Syria halted cross-border trade and employment, leaving the Lebanese with few resources to spare. By the summer of 2012, these host communities had largely exhausted their ability to support more people, and Lebanese government funds for refugees had run dangerously low.

4.1.1 ECONOMIC IMPACT

- From the moment of arrival, refugees compete with the local citizens for scarce resources such as land, water, housing, food and medical services. Over time, their presence leads to more substantial demands on natural resources, education and health facilities, energy, transportation, social services and employment. They may cause inflationary pressures on prices and depress wages.
- The presence of a large refugee population in rural areas inevitably also means a strain on the local administration. Host country national and regional authorities divert considerable resources and manpower from the pressing demands of their own development to the urgent task of keeping refugees alive, alleviating their sufferings and ensuring the security of the whole community.
- Host governments expect, at the very least, that the international community will help compensate for the costs incurred in providing asylum for the refugees. No government of a low income country is prepared to contract loans or reallocate its previous development funds to programmes designed for, or required because of, large numbers of refugees on their land.

4.1.2 SOCIAL IMPACT

- If refugees are from the same cultural and linguistic group as the local population, there is often identification with and sympathy for their situation. There are many examples of refugees being given shelter in local people's houses. Different ethnicity, however, can be a basis for problems. Traditional animosities may exist between groups. Even if it is not the case, failures in communication and understanding caused by language and/or culture can form serious barriers.
- There are commonly complaints that refugees have added to security problems in general and crime rates, theft, murder etc., in particular. Concomitantly, other social problems such as prostitution and alcoholism are also claimed to rise in the refugee areas.
- A common source of discontent for a local population, especially one that is poor, is to see refugees receiving services or entitlements which are not available to them. Refugees may have access to services such as education and health while local people do not, although UNHCR, as a matter of principle, strives to promote an integrated approach to human services which respect the local policies.

4.2 Economic and Social Conditions of the Refugees

According to a 2014 humanitarian report to the Security Council, the Syrian population is constantly under threat by the Syrian military, the armed opposition, as well as ISIL claiming an Islamic Caliphate in the area between Aleppo Governorate, Syria to Diyala Governorate, in eastern Iraq.

The report illustrates that Syrian refugees and IDPs in Syria and Iraq are a direct result of armed conflict from ISIL and the Syrian civil war. When refugees arrive in refugee camps outside of Syria, they lack basic necessities like toiletries and bedding. Aside from material needs, many refugees are women and children, who can have particular needs such as prenatal care and paediatric care; women also often become the head of the household in the camps and worry about the safety and security of their children. Women and other refugees compete for food aid and other materials with the resources available to both refugees and the citizens of the host country.

The socio-economic conditions, political upheavals, and border conflicts throughout the ESCWA region have made it difficult for humanitarian agencies to provide secure locations for refugees to receive aid and food, as well as safe havens for women who are vulnerable to harassment and physical attacks.

4.3 Situation in various host countries

(Note: the following nations are not to be considered as the only nations facing the problem. These have been included to give a start-up to the research of the delegates)

IRAQ

As Syria's civil war has dragged on, the direction of forced migration for many Iraqi refugees has reversed. Tens of thousands of Iraqis who sought refuge in Syria between 2003 and 2011 have returned home, joining about a million Iraqis who were already internally displaced seeking safety in the Kurdistan Region. Though a number of camps have been established for the refugees, the majority live outside those camps and struggle to get by in the cities and towns of the KRI. Social services structures and programs are underdeveloped and ill-equipped to handle such a heavy load.

Also this year, the advance of the Islamic State group in central Iraq forced more than three-quarters of a million people from their homes, bringing the total number of Iraqi IDPs to roughly two million.

Internally displaced Iraqis are extremely vulnerable and live in constant fear, with limited access to shelter, food, and basic services. Although the Iraqi government announced plans in January 2011 to address internal displacement issues, the vast majority of Iraqi IDPs continue to live in temporary shelters. The unemployment rate among IDPs remains high, and women, children, and persons without official identification documents are particularly vulnerable.

SYRIA

The humanitarian situation in Syria remains extremely challenging. In the fourth year of the conflict, there are more than 3 million Syrian refugees in the region. In addition, over 50,000 Syrians have sought asylum in more than 90 countries outside the region. Inside Syria, an estimated 10.8 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, including some 6.5 million internally displaced people (IDPs). The security situation remains volatile, and humanitarian access is a continuing challenge. Between January and September 2014, UNHCR supported more than 3 million IDPs with more than 11 million core relief items (CRIs).

The refugee population has remained heavily dependent upon humanitarian aid because employment opportunities are few. However, UNHCR has had to cut back its capacity by almost half due to the conflict, leaving some Iraqis without protection and services. Tens of thousands of Iraqis had fled back to Iraq as of June 2013 and are facing sectarian conflicts back home, as well as a lack of basic services and high unemployment.

Palestinians in Syria also face a difficult choice: to live in danger, or to seek refuge in a nearby country that may not welcome them. There have been reports of Palestinians inside Syria being specifically targeted by both governments' forces and rebels, as well as simply

being caught in the crossfire. Scores of Palestinians who left for Jordan during 2012 have been held at a transit center on the border, forbidden to enter the country and unable to return to Syria in safety.

JORDAN

As of October 2014, more than 600,000 Syrian refugees had registered in Jordan after fleeing violence in their home country. This large influx has been a cause of concern within the government. Tens of thousands of Syrian refugees are living in urban settings instead of camps, and they need support from the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and its partners as the costs of food and shelter continue to rise.

Iraqi refugees began arriving in Jordan in large numbers in 2003, with about 30,000 currently registered with UNHCR. In recent months, however, Iraqis fleeing the Islamic State group have started streaming into Jordan. As in Lebanon, UNHCR provides lifesaving services to Iraqi refugees, but these Iraqis generally cannot obtain legal status in Jordan, nor can they return to Iraq safely. Their most likely prospect for a long-term solution is resettlement – usually a long and slow process.

LEBANON

As of July 2013, more than half a million Syrian refugees have registered in Lebanon. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and its partners – including the Lebanese government – have been providing assistance with food, shelter and medical care, as most Syrians arrived with few resources and little money. Many of the refugees were received by Lebanese host families or supported by communities with strong ties to Syria and its people.

Syrian refugees continue to arrive through Lebanon's open border, and aid agencies and NGOs are struggling to meet their needs while supporting the host communities. Refugees in Lebanon are not entitled to work permits, and have to compete with a large population of migrant workers even for illegal employment with sub-standard wages.

Iraqi refugees in Lebanon receive services from the UNHCR, but their long-term situation holds few prospects for self-sufficiency or safe return to Iraq. Iraqis are also vulnerable to detention for being in the country without valid documentation. Iraqi refugees can be resettled out of Lebanon, but the process can be very slow.

Approximately 400,000 Palestinians remain in Lebanon in a dozen camps, some of which have existed for more than 50 years. The rights of Palestinians in Lebanon are limited, and the majority live in dismal living conditions in restricted areas. With little political or

economic power, the residents of the camps remain heavily dependent upon humanitarian aid for survival.

Turkey

- Since the Syrian crisis began in 2011, Turkey - estimated to host over one million Syrians - has maintained an emergency response of a consistently high standard and declared a temporary protection regime, ensuring *non-refoulement* and assistance in 22 camps, where an estimated 217,000 people are staying. Turkey is currently constructing two additional camps.
- In 2014, Turkey also witnessed an unprecedented increase in asylum applications from Afghans, Iraqis and Iranians. Deteriorating security in Iraq saw a sudden increase in Iraqi refugees: an estimated 81,000 were in Turkey by September 2014, with numbers expected to grow to 100,000 by year-end.
- The number of refugees and asylum-seekers in Turkey in 2015 is expected to rise to nearly 1.9 million, including 1.7 million Syrian refugees. UNHCR will continue to work closely with the Government of Turkey to support protection measures and facilitate access to public services and assistance available to both Syrian urban refugees and non-Syrian people of concern.

5. 0 Additional Topics to be discussed (these topics are suggested by the executive board and will be praised if discussed in committee)

- ✚ Impact on Foreign exchange reserves and foreign trade due to expenditures on refugees and IDPs
- ✚ Laws Violated by countries due to incapacity
- ✚ Flaws in International Laws relating to treatment of Refugees and IDPs
- ✚ Creation of Employment opportunities for displaced persons
- ✚ Methods to establish Identity of Refugees
- ✚ Legal protection & Rights
- ✚ Statelessness
- ✚ Issue of Child refugees and their rights
- ✚ Sexual and Gender based violence
- ✚ Food and Nutritional status
- ✚ Freedom of Movement and Employment

Links of use-

Iraq crisis poses economic threat to Lebanon and Jordan: ESCWA. (2014, July 8). The Daily Star: Lebanon. Retrieved 11 July 2014 from: <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/Business/Local/2014/Jul-08/263004-iraq-crisis-poses-economic-threat-to-lebanon-and-jordan-escwa.ashx#axzz37D35SAti>

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Background Guides for the second agenda will be uploaded on the 16th of June 2015

