



# Security Council

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## **Implementation of Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018), 2449 (2018), 2504 (2020), 2533 (2020), 2585 (2021), 2642 (2022) and 2672 (2023)**

### **Report of the Secretary-General**

#### **I. Introduction**

1. The present report is the eighty-third submitted pursuant to paragraph 17 of Security Council resolution 2139 (2014), paragraph 10 of resolution 2165 (2014), paragraph 5 of resolution 2191 (2014), paragraph 5 of resolution 2258 (2015), paragraph 5 of resolution 2332 (2016), paragraph 6 of resolution 2393 (2017), paragraph 12 of resolution 2401 (2018), paragraph 6 of resolution 2449 (2018), paragraph 8 of resolution 2504 (2020), paragraph 3 of resolution 2533 (2020), paragraph 5 of resolution 2585 (2021), paragraph 5 of resolution 2642 (2022) and paragraph 5 of resolution 2672 (2023), in the last six of which the Council requested the Secretary-General to provide a report at least every 60 days on the implementation of the resolutions by all parties to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic.

2. The information contained herein is based on data available to entities of the United Nations system and obtained from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and other relevant sources. Data from entities of the United Nations system regarding their humanitarian deliveries have been reported for the months of December 2022 and January 2023.

#### **II. Major developments**

##### **Key points**

1. Multiple earthquakes and aftershocks rocked southern Türkiye and the northern Syrian Arab Republic on 6 February 2023, causing extensive loss of life and suffering. Details on the consequences and the response will be included in the next report, in line with the reporting period.
2. Hostilities continued in the northern part of the country. Violence, including air strikes, mutual shelling and clashes, continued in the Idlib de-escalation area in the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic amid continued concerning levels of cholera cases.



3. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights verified incidents in which a total of 42 civilians, including 4 women and 13 children, were killed as a result of hostilities. In addition, at least 52 civilians, including 2 women and 17 children, were injured.

4. Cholera cases have been reported in all 14 governorates. Vaccination campaigns have started.

5. Food insecurity has reached record levels, with 12.1 million people food-insecure. Reliable access to sufficient and safe water across the north of the Syrian Arab Republic remains a challenge. Uluk water station has not been operational since 2 November 2022.

6. Humanitarian assistance by United Nations agencies and their partners continued throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, including food assistance from the World Food Programme for 5.7 million people in December 2022 and 4.13 million people in January 2023, across all 14 governorates.

7. On 8 and 9 January 2023, the tenth cross-line convoy, consisting of 18 trucks, crossed into the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic. During the reporting period, 18 consignments consisting of 1,246 trucks crossed into the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic from Türkiye through cross-border operations, all through the Bab al-Hawa crossing.

### **Humanitarian update**

3. Initial assessments conducted following the 6 February 2023 earthquakes indicate that the needs on the ground are massive. United Nations teams were immediately deployed as part of the crisis response to support Turkish and Syrian people in need. Priority needs include search and rescue, emergency shelter, non-food items, health care (including mental health and psychosocial support), food, water and sanitation. The earthquakes struck as humanitarian conditions in the Syrian Arab Republic were worsening, with needs at the highest level since the start of the conflict amid dwindling resources, a cholera outbreak and harsh winter conditions.

4. Hostilities and military operations continued during the reporting period, affecting civilians in the northern part of the Syrian Arab Republic in particular. Civilians were killed and injured as a result of air strikes, ground-based strikes, targeted killings, attacks with various types of improvised explosive devices and gunfire. Hostilities also affected civilian objects, further degrading access to basic services and livelihoods.

5. Air strikes, mutual shelling and clashes between non-State armed opposition groups and government and pro-government forces across contact lines in the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic continued.

6. Limited clashes, air strikes and shelling were reported across the north-west and north-east of the country, in particular in northern rural Hasakah, northern rural Aleppo and northern rural Raqqah, resulting in civilian casualties and damage to civilian objects.

7. Da'esh, which has been designated as a terrorist group by the Security Council, continued attacks, including on civilians, in northern and central parts of the country.

8. According to the 2023 humanitarian needs overview for the Syrian Arab Republic, which was published on 22 December 2022, humanitarian and economic indicators continue to deteriorate, basic services are collapsing and an ongoing

cholera outbreak and climatic shocks are compounding an already dire situation. As a result, it is estimated that 15.3 million people will require humanitarian assistance in 2023. For the first time, Syrians in every subdistrict of the country are experiencing some degree of humanitarian stress. Some 203 out of 270 subdistricts are now classified as experiencing severe, extreme or catastrophic conditions.

9. The ongoing situation in the Syrian Arab Republic has severely affected people's ability to meet their immediate food needs and maintain their livelihoods. Their inability to do so can be attributed to a combination of various factors, including ongoing violence and insecurity, a deteriorating economy, a weakened local currency, rising food prices, drought-like conditions, water scarcity and limited energy supply. About 12.1 million people, or 55 per cent of the country's population, are facing acute food insecurity; out of that number, it is estimated that 2.6 million people are severely food-insecure and fully dependent on humanitarian assistance. The number of food-insecure people is 51 per cent higher than in 2019, while the number of people at risk of sliding into food insecurity has increased by 52 per cent in 2022 alone.

10. In November 2022, the average price of the World Food Programme (WFP) standard reference food basket increased 6.7 per cent compared with October 2022. That same basket cost 79 per cent more than it had in November 2021, and it has seen a fourteen-fold increase in price since November 2019. WFP beneficiaries across the country, except those in camp settings, are already receiving reduced food rations because of funding constraints. Any additional funding constraints would require WFP also to reduce the number of beneficiaries.

11. The fuel crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic is significantly affecting daily lives and humanitarian operations, resulting in fewer field missions and site visits and causing project delays. Life-saving sectors like water and sanitation, health care and shelter are among the most severely affected. Shelter partners had to cancel up to 40 per cent of aid distribution or missions, while lack of fuel for vehicles and equipment affected operations and maintenance work for water and sanitation systems, disrupting water and sanitation interventions and delivery of water to some 4 million people. The health sector had to reduce operation of mobile clinics by up to 40 per cent and ambulance systems by up to 70 per cent, while 87 of the hospitals supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) are operating at reduced capacity. Operational costs for investigation and response to disease outbreaks have increased by up to 80 per cent. Since mid-January, the fuel situation has improved slightly.

12. While the reported number of suspected cholera cases has declined significantly in some areas, the total number of cases continues to increase. Over 77,000 suspected cholera cases have been reported in all 14 governorates up to 7 January, including 100 that had resulted in death. Most of the cases were reported in Idlib, Dayr al-Zawr, Aleppo and Raqqah Governorates. A total of 2 million doses of oral cholera vaccine were delivered to Damascus and 1.7 million doses to the north-west of the country. The oral cholera vaccine campaign was conducted in the most affected areas (Hasakah, Dayr al-Zawr, Raqqah, and Aleppo), with more than 60 per cent of the doses delivered in cross-line areas. According to the final administrative data reported, 1,944,807 people above 1 year of age were vaccinated in the targeted governorates; that number represents 98 per cent of the targeted population. A vaccination campaign is scheduled to be rolled out in late February in the north-west.

13. The cholera outbreak is compounded by severe shortages of water and challenges in gaining access to appropriate and adequate water, sanitation and hygiene services and health care throughout the country. Water deficits have been exacerbated by unusually dry conditions during the wet season and by abnormally high air temperatures. Combined with low water levels in the Euphrates River and damaged water infrastructure, these conditions have reduced access to water for

drinking and domestic use for millions of Syrians, triggered substantial harvest and income losses, increased waterborne disease and malnutrition rates and displacements, and created a need for additional protection against gender-based violence, especially for women and children. Throughout the country, reduced provision of electricity affects access to basic services and the availability of humanitarian services, including water generation, food production and hospital and/or clinic services.

14. Uluk water station has not been operational since 2 November owing to a lack of electricity supply from the Darbasiyah subpower station. This latest interruption follows another that occurred between 22 August and 19 October 2022. Although there have been frequent disruptions to water pumping since October 2019, the two latest incidents point to yet another negative trend of significant, prolonged suspension periods. Technicians from the water directorate of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic report that they have not been granted access to the Uluk water station since 17 August 2022. Maintenance teams had cross-line access on multiple occasions and were able to carry out repairs when the station was receiving electricity and thus able to operate. Water trucking continues. Shutdowns and low operational capacity regularly affect access to water for over 960,000 people, including those living in camps, such as Hawl.

15. Limited access to potable and agricultural water, including as the result of disruption to the water system, notably the Khafsah water station and the Ayn al-Baydah water pumping station, continued to be reported in the city of Bab and the surrounding areas, affecting some 185,000 people. In October, the United Nations carried out a technical assessment of Ayn al-Baydah water station to identify priority actions for its rehabilitation.

16. Gender-based violence continues to pervade the daily lives of Syrian women and girls. The lives of Syrian women and girls are marked by mutually reinforcing forms of violence and gender inequality, often exacerbated by discriminatory attitudes based on age, displacement status, disability and/or marital status. This situation has created an environment in which women and girls are consistently devalued, controlled, exploited and then blamed for the violence that they face. Women and girls report that the violence against them has become normalized because of years of conflict. Harassment, intimate partner and family violence, child and forced marriage and subsequent pregnancies, and sexual violence and exploitation are consistently reported.

17. Some 53,000 people, 94 per cent of them women and children, remain at Hawl camp. The security situation at the camp remains extremely volatile. Between 29 December 2022 and 2 January 2023, most humanitarian actors, except those providing life-saving assistance such as bread, water, solid waste management and treatment for critical health cases, were denied access to the camp because of ongoing security operations. Access to the camp was reinstated on 2 January. Humanitarian workers, including camp management staff, continue to be threatened. The revised Hawl midterm strategy, costed at \$93 million, has a funding gap of \$62 million.

18. Nearly 6 million people in the Syrian Arab Republic urgently need winterization assistance, an increase of almost 30 per cent compared with 2021. They need such assistance in order to cope with low temperatures, snowstorms and flooding. The resources available to support the winterization response in 2023 are at a historical low, raising concerns for significant health implications among the most vulnerable.

19. The United Nations remained without humanitarian access to up to 10,500 people living in dire conditions in Rukban, who had limited access to essential food items, water and health care and other basic services. The United Nations and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent jointly developed an operational plan for a cross-line

mission to Rukban aimed at providing humanitarian assistance, including immunization, carrying out needs assessments and supporting voluntary departures.

20. Between early 2020 and 31 December 2022, 201,501 confirmed cases of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) had been reported across the country. Some 16.1 per cent of the total population had received at least one dose of the vaccine, and only 10.6 per cent were fully vaccinated.

### **Update on overall developments**

21. The Special Envoy and Deputy Special Envoy of the Secretary-General continued their diplomatic engagements with the Syrian parties and international stakeholders by holding meetings in Geneva, Rome, Vatican City, Beirut, Damascus, Ankara, Brussels and Davos, as well as virtually. They continued to explore opportunities to further the dialogue aimed at identifying and implementing initial, step-for-step confidence-building measures in line with Security Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#). They also continued their efforts to resume meetings of the small body of the Syrian-led, Syrian-owned, United Nations-facilitated Constitutional Committee in Geneva, and to work with the Co-Chairs on finding ways to improve the substance and working methods of the Committee.

22. The Special Envoy continued to prioritize efforts on the issue of detained, disappeared and missing persons. In Damascus, he underlined the importance of sharing information on detainees and detainee releases, and he stressed the need to safeguard detainees' right to communication. In addition, his team maintained regular dialogue with family, victim and survivor associations.

23. The Office of the Special Envoy continued to engage with members of the Syrian Women's Advisory Board, as well as other women civil society activists, on issues relating to women and the political process, as well as ongoing protection concerns for Syrians. Members of the Women's Advisory Board themselves continued to undertake public outreach with Syrian women.

24. The Office of the Special Envoy also continued its regular engagement with a broad range of Syrian civil society representatives through the Civil Society Support Room, in order to strengthen dialogue on issues relevant to the political process and ensure inclusive participation. Participants in the thematic working groups of the Civil Society Support Room continued their regular discussions through digital means on the issues of local governance, decentralization and protection priorities for Syrians, and how they could be addressed through a political process in line with Security Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#).

25. The Deputy Special Envoy continued to engage, within the framework of the International Syria Support Group, with the members of the Humanitarian Task Force on key humanitarian priorities, focusing on securing the necessary support and approvals for unhindered and sustainable humanitarian access across the Syrian Arab Republic, and addressing long-standing issues for which durable solutions are needed. The Special Envoy chaired a plenary meeting of the Ceasefire Task Force at which he conveyed a message to all Member States with influence on the ground to show restraint, protect civilians, restore calm, work to consolidate the patchwork of existing agreements and arrangements into a nationwide ceasefire, and ensure a cooperative approach to countering Security Council-listed terrorist groups, in line with international law.

### **Protection**

26. Civilians across the Syrian Arab Republic continued to suffer the direct and indirect consequences of armed conflict and violence. From 1 December 2022 to

25 January 2023, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) documented incidents across the country resulting in 42 civilians, including 4 women and 13 children, being killed, and at least 52 civilians, including 2 women and 17 children, being injured, including through air strikes, ground-based strikes, attacks carried out with improvised explosive devices, being caught in crossfire during military operations, raids and arrest operations, armed clashes, and targeted killings at the hands of parties to the conflict. In the context of hostilities, many of those attacks appeared to be carried out with little regard to the impact on civilians and civilian objects, in violation of the principles of distinction, proportionality and precautions in international humanitarian law.

27. In the context of the escalations in the northern Syrian Arab Republic, OHCHR raised serious concerns that parties to the conflict have failed to take all feasible precautions to avoid, and in any event to minimize, the incidental loss of civilian life, injury to civilians and damage to civilian objects in the context of military operations. Information received by OHCHR about attacks striking residential areas, including densely populated camps for internally displaced persons, through employing means of warfare that did not seem to be directed against a specific military target are also particularly alarming, raising concerns for indiscriminate attacks, which are prohibited under international humanitarian law.

28. According to OHCHR, in December 2022 and January 2023, pro-government forces stationed at checkpoints reportedly restricted entrance of several essential goods, including fuel, medicine, electronic devices and food, into the Kurdish-majority populated neighbourhoods of Ashrafiyah and Shaykh Maqsud in the city of Aleppo. This led to an increase in the prices of such essential items as fuel and flour.

29. Parties to the conflict continued to systematically commit violations and abuses of human rights, including killing, arbitrary deprivation of liberty, torture and ill-treatment in detention, kidnapping and involuntary or enforced disappearance. In addition, they were responsible for deaths in custody and continued to violate civilians' rights to liberty of movement and freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and freedom of association.

30. Targeted killings continued to be documented across the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular in areas where the security situation is volatile and law enforcement is erratic, including Dar'a, Dayr al-Zawr and Hasakah Governorates.

31. Parties to the conflict continued to detain individuals, including social media activists and journalists and women, in areas under their control. In most cases documented by OHCHR, detainees were denied information about the reasons for their arrest and due process rights, raising concerns about possible arbitrary detentions. The families of the detainees were denied information concerning their whereabouts or their fate, raising concern that, in some cases, such detention may constitute enforced disappearance.

32. During the reporting period, OHCHR also documented a rise in the number of demonstrations and sit-ins organized to protest the deteriorating economic and humanitarian conditions, and to demand the release of detainees and prisoners and the implementation of political and institutional reforms, such as the implementation of the Security Council [2254 \(2015\)](#), including the drafting of a new constitution and holding free elections in Syrian Arab Republic, while also establishing an inclusive transitional governing body. These demonstrations, which have been held mostly in areas under the control of pro-government forces, such as Suwayda' and Dar'a Governorates, have unfolded peacefully on the whole, with no interference or use of force by security forces. However, OHCHR documented at least one incident, which occurred on 4 December in Suwayda' city, in which one protester was killed and dozens were injured in a demonstration organized in the city centre.

33. Past and present hostilities continue to result in widespread explosive ordnance contamination throughout the country. Approximately one third of communities across the Syrian Arab Republic are reportedly affected by some form of explosive contamination, with the highest percentages in Qunaytirah, Suwayda', Rif Dimashq, Aleppo, Damascus neighbourhoods, Raqqah and Dar'a. Access to agricultural fields, roads, properties, markets, schools and other public buildings and hospitals continues to be compromised by contamination. Clearance is the permanent solution to removing the threat of explosive ordnance.

34. During the reporting period, one attack against education facilities was reported. On 5 December 2022, an explosion occurred inside Urubah school in Qamishli city centre, which is used by the local education authorities as an office. The explosion, which resulted in material damage but no casualties, was caused by an improvised explosive device that had been attached to an education authority vehicle.

### **Humanitarian response**

35. During the reporting period, humanitarian assistance by United Nations agencies and their humanitarian partners continued throughout the Syrian Arab Republic (see table 1). WFP distributed food assistance for some 5.7 million people in December 2022 and dispatched food assistance for 4.13 million people in January 2023 across all 14 governorates. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provided humanitarian assistance and protection services to around 1.4 million people, and supported 127 operational community or satellite centres and over 120 mobile outreach teams. The Mine Action Service provided explosive risk awareness training to over 60 personnel from United Nations agencies and humanitarian partners, while the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reached 77,650 people in 68 locations.

36. In December 2022, UNICEF supported 514,600 people with improved water supply, 102,180 people with improved access to sanitation services and 103,160 people with non-food items. UNICEF also supported almost 65,000 children with education services and supplies and 17,180 children with mental health and psychological support. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) reached 511,000 people with life-saving reproductive health services and services to address gender-based violence.

37. As at the end of December 2022, UNHCR had provided winterization assistance items, such as high-thermal blankets, plastic sheeting, warm clothes and sleeping bags, to a total of 406,600 people, prioritizing vulnerable populations in Hasakah, Raqqah, Idlib, Dayr al-Zawr and Rif Dimashq Governorates, as well as to the population living in camps. Cash assistance was provided as winterization support to 12,827 people and also to 4,230 people seeking asylum in 10 governorates.

38. The United Nations continued to support the COVID-19 response across the country, including by enhancing surveillance and diagnostic capacity, procuring vital medical supplies and equipment, supporting clinical readiness, protecting the delivery of essential health-care services, supporting protective measures in schools, promoting vaccine acceptance and supporting the roll-out of vaccinations.

**Table 1**  
**Average number of people reached each month by the United Nations and other organizations through all modalities throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, December 2022 and January 2023**

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Average number of people reached monthly</i>
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	45 410
International Organization for Migration	162 370
Mine Action Service	–
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	706 140
United Nations Children’s Fund <sup>a</sup>	2 238 110
United Nations Development Programme	466 304
United Nations Population Fund	255 520
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	166 700
World Food Programme	4 951 320
World Health Organization	374 800 <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Data for December 2022 only.

<sup>b</sup> Data for health interventions represents treatment courses and medical procedures over a two-month period.

39. From within the Syrian Arab Republic, WFP provided food assistance for 4.32 million people in December 2022 and for 2.78 million people in January 2023.<sup>1</sup> The implementing partners for clearance activities of the Mine Action Service continued their work in Darayya, Rif Dimashq, where they have cleared around 2 million m<sup>2</sup> of agriculture land and destroyed 488 pieces of explosive ordnance since their deployment in December 2021 and up to December 2022. During the reporting period, WHO distributed 312,700 treatment courses and supported 62,100 medical procedures. UNRWA provided food assistance and cash assistance to 102,270 and 45,160 Palestine refugees, respectively, during the reporting period. Also, 1,980 Palestine refugees received non-food items and 3,730 received psychosocial support interventions.

40. Regarding cross-border humanitarian assistance delivered into the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic, WFP delivered food assistance for some 1.4 million people in December and dispatched food assistance to 1.3 million people in January. UNICEF sent 1,040 tons of life-saving supplies, including cholera, BCG and hepatitis B vaccines, vaccination devices, water purification tablets and hygiene kits. UNFPA pre-positioned 160 inter-agency reproductive health kits, 52,860 sexual and reproductive health bulk items and 90,850 dignity kits to cover the needs of around 1 million people for six months. WHO continued to support primary health-care networks through 41 primary health clinics and mobile teams.

#### *Delivery and monitoring of cross-border assistance*

41. As with aid programming from within the Syrian Arab Republic, cross-border deliveries are conducted in line with humanitarian principles and based on independent assessments of need. All United Nations operations are conducted in response to needs identified in an annual multisectoral needs assessment, as well as regular assessments during monitoring operations. Based on those assessments,

<sup>1</sup> January figures are based on dispatches. The January dispatch cycle will be extended into February to reach all beneficiaries.

individual cross-border shipments are initiated by the United Nations and coordinated with humanitarian partners.

42. Assistance delivered through the United Nations cross-border mechanism is monitored throughout its delivery at four distinct levels: (a) at the border by the United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic; (b) at warehouses inside the country; (c) at distribution points; and (d) after distribution to beneficiaries. In December 2022 and January 2023, the mechanism monitored and confirmed the humanitarian nature of 18 consignments consisting of 1,246 trucks. Some 77 per cent of truckloads consisted of food aid, 12 per cent consisted of non-food items, including shelter assistance and winterization assistances, and the remainder consisted of health, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene supplies.

#### *Cross-border distribution mechanisms*

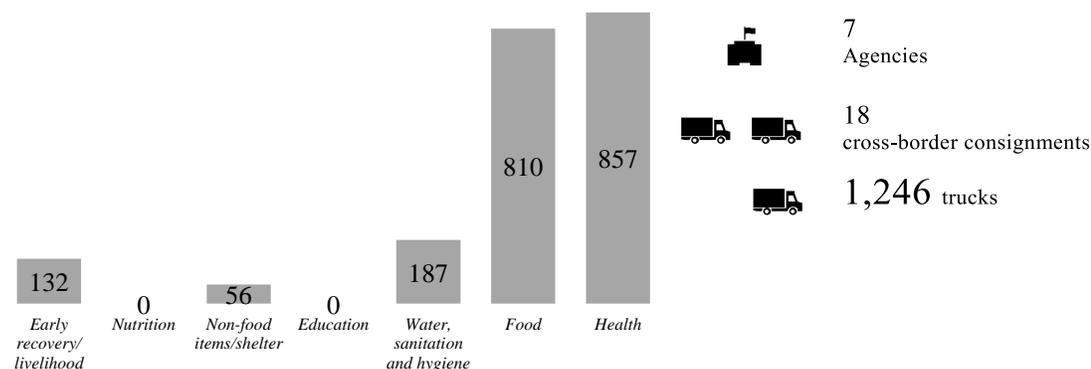
43. In the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic, humanitarian assistance is provided through different cross-border distribution mechanisms. Food and non-food items are provided directly (in-kind assistance) or, in some cases, indirectly through cash or voucher systems. Beneficiaries of in-kind food or non-food items are selected according to needs assessments undertaken by humanitarian organizations and based on agreed eligibility and vulnerability criteria. Humanitarian partners in the north-west perform distributions at a specific time and place, often on a monthly basis, at a market square or other central location, or through door-to-door distributions. People receiving assistance must show proof of identification matching their name on distribution lists verified by the implementing partners.

44. Humanitarian partners work through existing health structures to provide people in the north-west with life-saving health care. Assistance is provided through a wide range of services, including but not limited to supplying essential health items to existing medical facilities, fuel to schools, protection services for gender-based violence survivors and support to livelihood activities. Prescription medications are supplied to pharmacies or medical facilities for their use. Support also includes providing salaries to medical workers and teachers.

Figure I

**Number of beneficiaries targeted by the United Nations and its partners (see annex II) through cross-border humanitarian deliveries, by cluster, December 2022 and January 2023 (monthly average)**

(Thousands)



\* Early recovery and livelihood figures cover the period 1 October–31 December 2022.

**Table 2**  
**Number of beneficiaries targeted by the United Nations and its partners through cross-border deliveries, by sector and by district, December 2022 and January 2023 (monthly average)**

<i>Governorate</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Early recovery/ livelihood<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Non-food items/shelter</i>	<i>Nutrition</i>	<i>Water, sanitation and hygiene</i>
Aleppo	Afrin	9 984	–	25 000	–	–	–	–
Aleppo	Bab	7 197	–	2 050	–	–	–	–
Aleppo	I'zaz	15 774	–	172 500	119 106	3 400	–	–
Aleppo	Jarabulus	7 210	–	–	–	8 640	–	–
Aleppo	Jabal Sim'an	13 760	–	–	–	–	–	–
Idlib	Harim	58 511	–	610 000	730 572	24 974	–	134 000
Idlib	Idlib	7 713	–	–	7 500	18 650	–	53 250
Idlib	Jisr al-Shugur	11 720	–	–	–	–	–	–

<sup>a</sup> Early recovery and livelihood figures cover the period 1 October–31 December 2022.

45. The Russian Federation sent informational bulletins to the United Nations from the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides and Refugee Migration Monitoring that outlined the provision of bilateral relief assistance. Other Member States continued to provide bilateral and other forms of humanitarian assistance.

#### *Early recovery and livelihood activities*

46. Early recovery and livelihood activities represent one of three core pillars of the humanitarian response. The United Nations and its partners support early recovery and livelihood projects across five distinct domains: (a) the repair and rehabilitation of critical civilian infrastructure; (b) the removal of debris and solid waste; (c) income-generating activities and market-based interventions; (d) vocational and skills training; and (e) social cohesion and community interventions.

47. Early recovery and livelihoods sector partners focus on restoring essential, life-sustaining services and infrastructure for affected communities. Between 1 October and 31 December 2022, more than 9,120 tons of solid waste were removed in Hasakah, Hama, Ladhqiyyah and Rif Dimashq Governorates, and 32 neighbourhoods were cleaned. UNDP repaired 5 km of electrical networks, and UNDP and UNHCR rehabilitated four water stations in Hasakah, Raqqah and Dayr al-Zawr Governorates.

48. UNDP, UNHCR and partners rehabilitated 40 productive infrastructure assets in Aleppo, Hasakah, Raqqah, Damascus, Ladhqiyyah and Rif Dimashq Governorates. Some 6,180 people were supported by early recovery and livelihood sector partners to rehabilitate, develop or start a business initiative, while 125,500 people received vocational and business training. UNICEF provided cash transfers and case management for 2,227 children with severe disabilities in order to improve their livelihoods and access to essential services in Dayr al-Zawr, Hama, Homs and Rif Dimashq Governorates. UNDP provided market-based modalities assistance to 130 vulnerable households in Raqqah, Dayr al-Zawr, Hama, Ladhqiyyah and Rif Dimashq Governorates. A total of 1,290 long-term jobs and 480 short-term jobs were created. In addition, some 440 micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises were supported with grants in 12 governorates. More than 940 individuals were involved in soft skills training sessions and 2,400 community members and representatives participated in capacity-building activities.

49. In December 2022, UNICEF rehabilitated 36 water and four sanitation networks in Hasakah, Dayr al-Zawr and Hama Governorates, benefiting 274,226 people. UNHCR completed the installation of solar panels in 110 community centres (34 in Aleppo, 20 in Homs, 17 in Tartus, 13 in Damascus, 13 in Suwayda', 11 in Qamishli and 2 in Dayr al-Zawr) before the end of 2022 to mitigate the effects of frequent power shortages. UNHCR also installed 3,970 solar streetlights in December 2022 and January 2023 in Damascus, Rif Dimashq, Dar'a, Dayr al-Zawr, Hama, Homs and Idlib Governorates.

50. WFP reached 6,300 people with e-vouchers in Aleppo and Raqqah Governorates for agricultural inputs. In December, WFP completed the rehabilitation of the Tawarij silo in Hasakah Governorate, providing storage for 12,000 tons of wheat for bakeries that serve bread to as many as 100,000 people daily. WFP continued to rehabilitate the irrigation scheme in Nashabiyah in Rif Dimashq and a pumping station in Dar'a Governorate, and to clean drainage canals across Aleppo and Raqqah Governorates.

51. UNFPA built the resilience of local communities and ensured access to essential services for 42,650 people in eastern rural Aleppo by providing sexual and reproductive health services, services to address gender-based violence, through a community midwifery group, a social norms pilot project to prevent and mitigate behaviours associated with gender-based violence and the rehabilitation of health infrastructure.

52. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) supported 90,820 people: 1,000 young persons attended entrepreneurship workshops; 3,000 households in Homs Governorate received 200 kg of wheat seeds each and received livestock feed; 540 farmers in Hasakah Governorate were supported with cash vouchers and training; and milk processing units were established in Dayr al-Zawr and Homs Governorates to assist 350 cattle farmers. In Hasakah Governorate, 500 sheep herders received cash vouchers and training to maintain feed supplies for their animals during the winter season. FAO completed rehabilitation of the water pumping station in sector 7 in Albu Kamal district, Dayr al-Zawr Governorate, restoring irrigation water supplies from the Euphrates River to about 7,500 hectares of land owned by 10,000 farming households, and enabling restoration of crop and livestock production.

53. In the north-west and north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic, early recovery and livelihood sector partners repaired 30 km of roads, 5 km of sewerage pipes and 12 markets and warehouses in Aleppo and Idlib Governorates, as well as 11 basic productive infrastructure assets in Aleppo. Nearly 270 tons of solid waste were removed in Aleppo and Idlib Governorates, and 175 m<sup>3</sup> of debris were removed in Idlib. The rehabilitation of public infrastructure provided temporary jobs for 412 people in Aleppo, Hasakah, Dayr al-Zawr and Idlib Governorates.

54. In order to strengthen access to livelihoods, 3,722 individuals received vocational and business training in Aleppo, Hasakah, Raqqah and Idlib Governorates. Some 68 village savings and loans association groups were supported in Aleppo and Idlib Governorates, and 394 micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises received support grants in Aleppo, Hasakah, Raqqah and Idlib Governorates. Sector partners supported 3,589 entrepreneurs to rehabilitate, develop or start a business entrepreneurship in Aleppo, Hasakah, Raqqah and Idlib. In total, 250 long-term jobs and 5,770 short-term jobs were created, while 3,234 vulnerable households received market-based modalities assistance in Aleppo, Hasakah and Raqqah Governorates.

### **Humanitarian access**

55. The provision of humanitarian assistance requires timely, safe, sustained and unimpeded access by the United Nations and all humanitarian partners to people in

need across the Syrian Arab Republic. Principled humanitarian action depends on the ability to independently assess needs, deliver assistance and monitor and evaluate impact independently, including by engaging regularly and directly with affected people. The access landscape in the Syrian Arab Republic remains complex, with different geographical areas and types of services requiring the use of a variety of operating modalities. There are 2,100 United Nations staff members based in the country, with over 600 deployed in humanitarian hubs outside Damascus, in Aleppo, Dayr al-Zawr, Hama, Homs, Ladhqiyyah, Qamishli, Suwayda' and Tartus. A further 3,867 United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) staff members are deployed across the country. This decentralized presence contributes to greater access and proximity to affected people. Across the Syrian Arab Republic, humanitarian aid is distributed and implemented primarily by national actors, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent.

#### *Access in government-controlled areas*

56. United Nations personnel and third-party contractors continued to travel to field locations along with national NGOs and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent to conduct assessment, monitoring, logistics and administrative support missions. Between 1 November and 31 December 2022, 3,432 regular programmatic movements were conducted with programme or blanket approvals (see table 3).<sup>2</sup>

57. Recent military activity in various locations within Dar'a Governorate have impeded humanitarian partners from maintaining their humanitarian activities for the vast majority of the final quarter of 2022 and January 2023.

58. Various movement constraints, mainly at checkpoints, blocked the delivery of humanitarian assistance and fuel to the Shaykh Maqsud area in Aleppo Governorate in the final quarter of 2022 and early 2023. As of late January, humanitarian partners reported that restrictions had started to ease.

Table 3

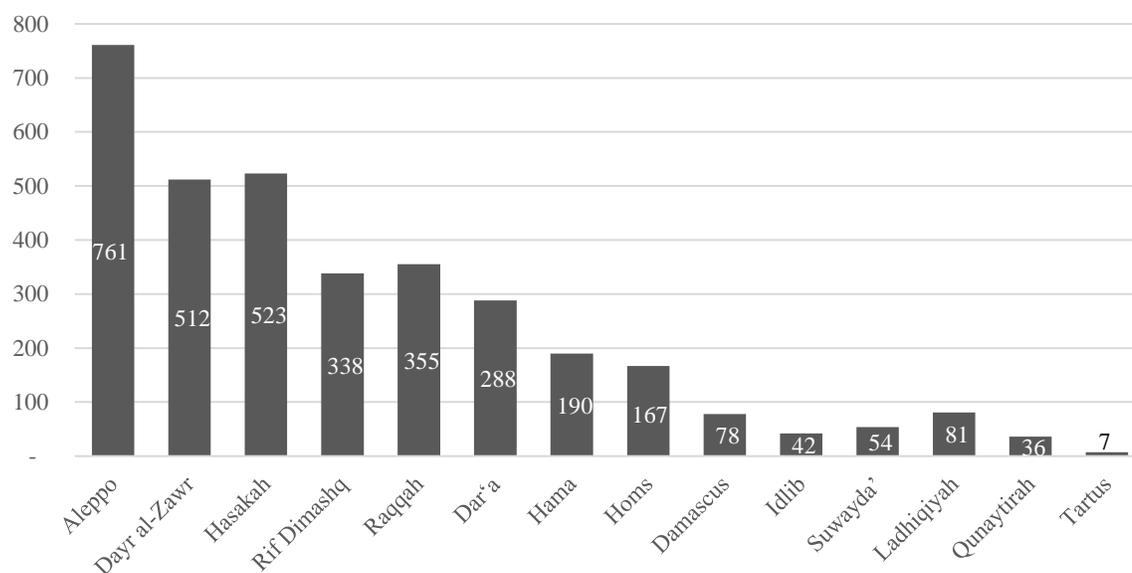
#### **Total number of missions conducted with programme or blanket approvals from within the Syrian Arab Republic by United Nations agencies and third parties/facilitators, by type, 1 November to 31 December 2022**

<i>Type of mission</i>	<i>Blanket approval</i>	<i>Programme approval</i>	<i>Total number</i>
Assessment missions	94	7	101
Missions accompanying aid deliveries	256	1	257
Monitoring missions	2 915	–	2 915
Security, logistics and administrative support missions	159	–	159
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 424</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3 432</b>

*Note:* Missions conducted with programme or blanket approvals do not require specific approval from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations personnel and third-party contractors operating at humanitarian hubs outside of Damascus obtain "blanket approvals" to carry out movements as part of their regular programming. These approvals enable regular access and reduce bureaucratic requirements.

Figure II  
**Total number of missions conducted with programme or blanket approvals from within the Syrian Arab Republic by United Nations agencies and third parties/facilitators, by governorate, 1 November to 31 December 2022**



59. For missions requiring specific approval by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, the United Nations submitted 192 new requests, of which 138 (72 per cent) were approved (see table 4). This takes into account the 10-day response period by the Ministry and does not negatively count requests that were submitted but are still under process.

Table 4  
**Missions from within the Syrian Arab Republic requiring specific approval by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, 1 November to 31 December 2022**

Type of request	Number requested	Number approved	Percentage approved
Assessment missions	35	31	89
Missions accompanying aid deliveries	68	56	82
Monitoring missions	63	33	52
Security, logistics and administrative support missions	26	18	69
Explosive ordnance assessment missions	–	–	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>72</b>

Notes: Missions by United Nations personnel departing from Damascus or travelling cross-line generally require specific approval from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates. Figures outlined in table 4 are based on data internally reported by United Nations agencies and reflect approvals received within the period 1 November to 31 December 2022. These figures may therefore differ from those recorded by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, with which discussions are currently ongoing to align methodologies.

*Cross-line access in the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic*

60. Since the adoption of Security Council resolution [2585 \(2021\)](#) in July 2021, United Nations agencies have successfully completed 10 inter-agency cross-line missions to Sarmada in the north-west, pre-positioning 152 truckloads of supplies (5,187 tons) from WFP, UNHCR, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO. The most recent mission, which took place on 8 and 9 January 2023, was the fifth since the adoption of Security Council resolution [2642 \(2022\)](#). An inter-agency convoy of 18 trucks carried 567 tons of food, along with other humanitarian supplies, including water, sanitation and hygiene items, health kits, medicine, education materials, non-food items and female dignity kits. The assistance delivered by UNICEF included health supplies for 1,000 health-care workers and 300 acute watery diarrhoea patients, emergency water, sanitation and hygiene supplies for 2,500 households and information materials containing cholera prevention messages sufficient for 58,500 people. WFP completed the December 2022 and January 2023 rounds of cross-line distributions of food and nutrition items.

61. Since the first cross-line mission in August 2021, the United Nations has continued to serve an average of 43,500 beneficiaries per month through its cross-line convoys. Since August 2022, the volume of food supplies dispatched cross-line has increased, which helps to mitigate against irregular access or unpredictable delays. The United Nations continues to do everything in its power to scale up cross-line assistance to people in need, in order to complement the cross-border response. It has renewed its plan for inter-agency cross-line convoys for an additional six months. Timely security guarantees from parties to the conflict to ensure the safe passage of cross-line convoys and their personnel need to be provided to further scale up cross-line response, while additional funding is urgently needed to ensure supplies can be procured for all people in need.

62. Notwithstanding the progress made, challenges still need to be overcome to achieve regular and sustained cross-line operations in the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic. Receiving the adequate clearance to expand these operations by allowing multiple cross-line convoys each month and an increased number of trucks taking part in each convoy remains necessary. Commitment by all parties to non-interference in humanitarian activities of the cross-line delivery at all stages is essential. Ensuring accountability for affected people is another important aspect that needs to be considered, including both securing community acceptance of the deliveries and engaging with neighbouring communities or other groups in order to minimize the possibility of negative responses after the aid is delivered.

*Cross-line access in the north-east and other parts of the Syrian Arab Republic*

63. In December 2022, the United Nations was able to dispatch 266 trucks carrying 7,335 tons of humanitarian assistance to areas in the north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic, including Dayr al-Zawr, Hasakah and Qamishli.

64. On 26 December 2022, the local authorities imposed movement restrictions in Raqqah Governorate as part of a security operation against a non-State armed group. As a result, WFP voucher distribution points and WFP-contracted shops were closed. The measures were lifted on 5 January 2023 and all WFP activities resumed. WFP operations were also affected by the security situation along the northern Aleppo frontlines, temporarily interrupting distribution operations to 15,000 people in north-west Qamishli.

65. Despite some access and operational challenges, delivery of assistance remained consistent. During the period, 24 tons of medical supplies were received by the WHO warehouse in the north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic. The shipments contained

essential medications for non-communicable diseases and for paediatric patients, as well as critical cholera response supplies, including oral rehydration salts, chlorine powder for water treatment and cholera kits. UNICEF delivered supplies worth \$773,800.

66. During the reporting period, UNHCR, in coordination with partners, replaced 2,557 tents that were in very poor condition in various camps in the north-east of the country.

67. Access to most communities in Manbij and Ayn al-Arab districts remained constrained for United Nations agencies operating from Damascus, owing to the lack of agreement between the parties in control. Notwithstanding that challenge, in December 2022, UNICEF, through a partnership with a local NGO, delivered emergency preventive nutrition supplies to 3,500 children under 5 years of age and 1,400 pregnant and lactating women, sufficient for three months, as well as emergency nutrition supplies sufficient to treat 100 severely malnourished children in Manbij and Ayn al-Arab districts. In 2022, UNICEF, through local partners, delivered assistance to 61,332 children in Manbij and 26,212 children in Ayn al-Arab, including immunization, health consultations and nutrition activities.

68. On 27 October 2022, WHO and UNICEF organized the first humanitarian cross-line mission from Qamishli to Ra's al-Ayn since 2019. Discussions with parties are ongoing for further support to Ra's al-Ayn based on the findings of the rapid assessment carried out during the mission.

69. The most recent United Nations humanitarian convoy to reach Rukban from within the Syrian Arab Republic was conducted in September 2019. Access by commercial trucks, using informal routes, has been sporadic. Since the decision by the Government of Jordan in March 2020 to close the border as a preventive measure to contain the spread of COVID-19, people from Rukban who require medical care have been unable to gain access to the United Nations clinic on the Jordanian side of the border. Critical health cases continued to be referred to Damascus, in coordination with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent; no departures, whether voluntary or for medical reasons, out of Rukban have been registered since 7 November 2022. Residents of the Rukban area continue to live in dire conditions, with limited livelihood opportunities, access to food, water, health care and other basic services. The United Nations continues to advocate full access in order to be able to provide regular humanitarian assistance, including seeking assurances regarding the necessary security guarantees for humanitarian staff. From March 2019 to 31 January 2023, a total of 20,614 people left the camp. The decision by families to leave Rukban is voluntary, and the United Nations provides assistance to people in places to which they choose to return. The United Nations continues to advocate to ensure that necessary access and security conditions are in place to support principled, voluntary and informed departures from Rukban camp.

#### *Cross-border access in the Syrian Arab Republic*

70. On 9 January, the Security Council adopted resolution [2672 \(2023\)](#), under which the Council extended the use of the Bab al-Hawa border crossing for cross-border delivery of humanitarian aid into the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic until 10 July 2023. Since the adoption of Security Council resolutions [2533 \(2020\)](#), [2585 \(2021\)](#), [2642 \(2022\)](#) and [2672 \(2023\)](#), all United Nations humanitarian assistance in the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic has continued to be routed through the Bab al-Hawa crossing.

71. The United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic continued its operations as mandated under Security Council resolutions [2165 \(2014\)](#), [2191 \(2014\)](#), [2258 \(2015\)](#), [2332 \(2016\)](#), [2393 \(2017\)](#), [2449 \(2018\)](#), [2504 \(2020\)](#), [2533](#)

(2020), 2585 (2021), 2642 (2022) and 2672 (2023). The Mechanism monitored and confirmed the humanitarian nature of 18 consignments consisting of 1,246 trucks that crossed into the country from Türkiye in December 2022 and January 2023, all through the Bab al-Hawa crossing. That brought the number of trucks monitored since the beginning of operations to 60,573 (50,601 through Bab al-Hawa, 5,268 through Bab al-Salam, 4,595 through Ramtha and 109 through Ya‘rubiyah). The humanitarian nature of each of these consignments was confirmed. For every shipment that crossed the border, the United Nations provided 48-hour advance notice to the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, including information on the humanitarian goods to be delivered, the number of trucks, the United Nations owner and the destination (district). The Mechanism continued to benefit from the excellent cooperation of the Government of Türkiye.

### Visas and registrations

72. The United Nations continued to work with the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to allow for the timely provision of visas to staff (see table 5).

Table 5

#### Requests for United Nations visas, 1 November to 31 December 2022

<i>Type of request</i>	<i>Number requested</i>	<i>Number approved</i>	<i>Number rejected</i>	<i>Number pending</i>
Visas requested during reporting period	83 <sup>a</sup>	70	0	10
Renewals requested during reporting period	127	126	0	1

<sup>a</sup> The United Nations withdrew or cancelled three visa requests during the reporting period.

73. A total of 47 international NGOs are registered with the Government to operate in the country.

74. The United Nations and international, national and local NGOs continued to implement programmes in areas affected by frequent armed clashes, including but not limited to air strikes, regular exchanges of indirect artillery or mortar fire and other types of attacks conducted by the various parties to the conflict. In addition, humanitarian relief personnel operated in areas highly contaminated with unexploded ordnance, explosive remnants of war and landmines, which remained a major threat in the field.

75. Since the beginning of the conflict, hundreds of humanitarian workers have reportedly been killed, including 22 staff members of the United Nations system in the Syrian Arab Republic and of other United Nations entities, 20 of whom were personnel of UNRWA; 2 national staff of Oxfam International; 66 staff members and volunteers of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent; and 8 staff members and volunteers of the Palestine Red Crescent Society.

76. Nine personnel of the United Nations system (all from UNRWA, five staff and four are non-staff personnel) were detained or missing as at 29 January 2023.

### Observations

77. The earthquakes that struck Türkiye and the Syrian Arab Republic on 6 February 2023 were one of the biggest natural disasters to hit the region in recent memory. I was deeply saddened to hear of the extensive loss of life that they caused. Thousands of buildings have collapsed. Tens of thousands of people are exposed to unforgiving winter conditions. Schools and hospitals have been destroyed. Children are enduring terrible trauma. While the United Nations is responding, much more support will be

needed. Humanitarian access must be granted through all possible avenues to get emergency assistance and personnel into all affected areas, and massive resources need to be mobilized. The overall level of funding for the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan in 2022 was very low. In the face of this disaster, I call for greater solidarity and an urgent increase in the level of humanitarian funding to save lives and prevent further suffering. An immediate ceasefire on the ground is essential for rescue and aid delivery efforts. I share the concerns expressed by the Special Envoy about ongoing violence and civilian casualties across the Syrian Arab Republic.

78. People in the Syrian Arab Republic have already endured 12 years of conflict and humanitarian crisis. As 2023 begins, they face the worst year yet. Some 15.3 million people, nearly 70 per cent of the country's population, were in need of humanitarian assistance even before the earthquakes. Humanitarian and economic indicators continue to deteriorate, basic services are collapsing and an ongoing cholera outbreak and climatic shocks are compounding an already dire situation. Moreover, severe fuel shortages, high levels of inflation and reduced access to electricity have affected every aspect of life in the Syrian Arab Republic, driving up prices of essential commodities and exacerbating humanitarian needs.

79. Hostilities in the northern part of the country continue to exacerbate the suffering of civilians, putting them at risk of death, injury and further displacement. I reiterate my call to all parties to the conflict to respect their obligations under international humanitarian law, including by taking constant care to spare civilians and civilian objects when conducting military operations. All States, particularly those with influence over parties to the conflict, must do everything within their power to ensure the protection of civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic.

80. I am seriously concerned about low funding levels for the Syria humanitarian response. The 2022 Syria Humanitarian Response Plan has received less than 50 per cent funding, the lowest funding level ever. The response for winterization is even more poorly funded, at only 29 per cent. I call for greater solidarity and increased humanitarian funding, including for early recovery and livelihood programmes, which are critical to allow Syrians to build dignified lives.

81. I have recently reiterated the importance of providing clear reassurances that no unilateral sanctions will interfere with relief operations benefiting the Syrian population. I welcome, in this regard, the recent introduction of earthquake-related standing exemptions in several unilateral sanctions regimes. The United Nations will continue to engage bilaterally with relevant actors on these issues to identify measures to remedy the chilling effects of sanctions, as well as operational hurdles, if any, to the delivery of humanitarian assistance in response to the growing needs of the Syrian population in the current dramatic circumstances.

82. I remain concerned about the significant number of reports of arbitrary deprivation of liberty by parties to the conflict, and further reiterate the importance of the unilateral release of persons arbitrarily deprived of their liberty who are especially vulnerable owing to the COVID-19 pandemic and now face further risks owing to the cholera outbreak. I am alarmed that among those reported to be arbitrarily deprived of their liberty, OHCHR continued to document the cases of journalists, social media activists and other people expressing peaceful dissent against the views of or actions taken by the relevant authorities. These incidents appear indicative of a pervasive pattern of shrinking civic space across the Syrian Arab Republic. Such is the situation that people exercising their rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and freedom of association continue to be subjected to acts of violence and intimidation by the relevant authorities. The majority of detainees are held by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic. I call upon the Government and non-State armed groups to account for the fate and whereabouts of detainees and

allow humanitarian and human rights agencies access to all places of detention. Where detainees are suspected of crimes, they must be promptly informed of the charges against them, afforded fair and prompt trials, and released immediately if they are found to have been arbitrarily detained. Prompt, effective, thorough and transparent investigations should be conducted to establish the cause and circumstances of deaths that occur while in custody. Perpetrators must be held accountable. Furthermore, in cases of wrongful death, families and dependants of victims should be informed and receive full and adequate reparations within a reasonable time. My Special Envoy will continue to focus on the issue of detained, abducted and missing persons. My recent report on missing people in the Syrian Arab Republic (A/76/890) could contribute to finding a path forward to address the issue in a humanitarian and holistic manner that is victim-, survivor- and family-centric.

83. I call upon the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to develop legislative and policy measures aimed at eliminating discrimination against women and girls in all spheres of life and to achieve substantive gender equality, including through the use of quotas and special measures. Parties must refrain from measures that infringe upon the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of women and girls or that impede their basic rights, including work and education.

84. I recall Human Rights Council resolutions S-18/1 and 19/22, in which the Council called upon the Syrian authorities to cooperate with the special procedures of the Council, and I continue to encourage the Syrian authorities to allow the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to visit the Syrian Arab Republic and to establish a field presence there.

85. Perpetrators of serious violations and abuses of human rights and serious violations of international humanitarian law must be held accountable. I call upon all parties to the conflict, in particular the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as all States, civil society and the United Nations system, to cooperate fully with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011, in particular by providing relevant information and documentation. Accountability for serious violations and abuses of human rights and serious violations of international humanitarian law is central to achieving sustainable peace in the Syrian Arab Republic. I reiterate my call for the situation in the country to be referred to the International Criminal Court.

86. The Special Envoy continues his efforts to advance a confidence-building, step-for-step process in line with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), and to convene a ninth session of the small body of the Syrian-led, Syrian-owned, United Nations-facilitated Constitutional Committee at the earliest, in Geneva, and to address the substantive challenges that have faced the Committee. I appreciate his efforts to promote inclusive Syrian-Syrian dialogue through the Women's Advisory Board and the Syrian Civil Society Support Room. Engaging with women and civil society also remains an essential component of the political process and building sustainable peace.

87. Waking up in the Syrian Arab Republic today means looking at a bleak future. For the Syrian Arab Republic, and the north-west in particular, the earthquakes are the latest in a series of tragedies that have deepened the trauma of nearly 12 years of conflict and destruction. We must continue to do our utmost to bring hope to the Syrian people for a dignified life and a better future. All parties must place the needs of the Syrian people first.

## Annex I

### **Reported incidents affecting civilians recorded by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights between December 2022 and January 2023<sup>3</sup>**

#### **Idlib Governorate**

- On 2 December, three civilians, including one boy and two men, were killed reportedly as a result of ground-based strikes in the village of Ubin, in western rural Idlib, inside the house of one of the victims, which is located in a residential area.
- On 5 January, four civilians, including one woman, two boys and one girl, were injured as a result of a ground-based strike in Furusiyyah camp near the town of Kafraya, in north-eastern rural Idlib. The woman and her children were inside their makeshift house in a camp for internally displaced persons when a shell exploded near their house.
- On 6 January, a boy was killed reportedly by the detonation of an explosive remnant of war while he was working with his family on agricultural land on the outskirts of the town of Zardana, in northern rural Idlib.
- On 18 January, one civilian man was killed and three others were injured when a ground-based strike hit a residential area in the town of Barah, in the Jabal al-Zawiyah area, in southern rural Idlib.

#### **Aleppo Governorate**

- On 2 December, a 63-year-old woman was reportedly arrested and taken from her home in the village of Adah, near Afrin city, in north-western rural Aleppo. No information has been provided to her family about her fate and whereabouts since her arrest.
- On 5 December, an armoured vehicle that was part of a military convoy ran over an elderly woman and her granddaughter as the convoy passed through the city of Atarib, in western rural Aleppo, killing them instantly. The incident provoked anger among the city's residents. At the police station, the officer in command of the convoy pledged to take responsibility for the incident and compensation was provided to the affected family.
- On 11 December, a social media activist was arrested by members of an armed group in the city of Atarib, in western rural Aleppo. Reportedly, the man was not provided with the reasons for his arrest, nor was he allowed to contact his family or a legal counsel. Moreover, the family was denied information about the man's fate and whereabouts.
- On 14 December, a girl was killed reportedly when a shell fell near her home during ground-based strikes in the village of Fafirtin, in north-western rural Aleppo. The strikes also damaged two houses.

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<sup>3</sup> The list of incidents exemplifies human rights issues of concern raised in the report. However, verifying incidents is increasingly difficult owing to the changing patterns of conflict and the loss of networks of credible and/or reliable sources in many conflict-affected areas. The list, which contains only those incidents that were reported to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and that have been verified according to its methodology, should not be considered comprehensive.

- On 20 December, a man was seriously injured and three civilians, including one woman and two men, were slightly injured, reportedly as a result of a drone strike in Bab city, in north-eastern rural Aleppo.
- On 21 December, a man was arrested for unknown reasons and reportedly taken from his home in the village of Kakhrah, near Afrin city, in north-western rural Aleppo. No information has been provided to his family about his fate and whereabouts since his arrest.
- On 22 December, three civilian men were injured reportedly as a result of ground-based strikes in the village of Shuyukh, near Ayn al-Arab city, in eastern rural Aleppo. The men, who worked as technicians at the water directorate in Ayn al-Arab city, were attending a maintenance workshop when a missile reportedly fell nearby.
- On 22 December, the family of a male detainee, who worked as a lawyer, learned about his death in custody in Afrin city, in north-western rural Aleppo. The man had been reportedly arrested and taken from his home on 19 December by unknown armed men, who provided no reasons for his detention. His fate and whereabouts remained unknown until his death was acknowledged on 22 December, and his body was received from a hospital in Afrin city.
- On 25 December, a boy was killed, and another boy and a civilian man were injured, reportedly as a result of ground-based strikes in the village of Tanab, near Afrin city, in north-western rural Aleppo. The victims, all from the same family, were inside their home when a missile reportedly hit the house. The shelling also reportedly damaged three houses.
- On 1 January, a man was reportedly arrested and taken from his home for unknown reasons in the town of Maydan Ikbis, near Afrin city, in north-western rural Aleppo. No information was provided to his family about his fate and whereabouts.
- On 7 January, a man was reportedly arrested and taken from his home in the village of Samha, near Afrin city, north-western rural Aleppo. The reasons for the arrest remain unknown and no information has been provided to his family about his fate and whereabouts since his arrest.
- On 13 January, a man was reportedly shot and killed when he approached a checkpoint at the entrance of the village of Khattaf, close to Manbij city, in eastern rural Aleppo. The man reportedly had not complied with a request to stop, after which he was shot in the chest.
- On 22 January, a civilian woman was killed inside her home in a residential area, reportedly as a result of ground-based strikes, in Kafr Nuran village, in western rural Aleppo.
- On 20 January, five civilians, including four men and one boy, were injured, reportedly as a result of ground-based strikes hitting southern residential areas of I'zaz city, in northern rural Aleppo. The shelling also reportedly damaged four buildings and three shops.

### **Hama Governorate**

- On 19 January, five civilians, including three boys, one woman and a man, were reportedly injured as a result of ground-based strikes outside their homes in a residential area in the village of Qastun, Sahl al-Ghab area, in western rural Hama.

### **Dayr al-Zawr Governorate**

- On 31 December, a man was killed in the village of Shanana, in eastern rural Dayr al-Zawr, reportedly during a search and arrest operation. The man was reportedly shot in his upper back while he was fleeing the house after he had received verbal warnings to stop.
- On 17 January, a boy was killed reportedly by the detonation of an explosive remnant of war on the outskirts of the town of Baghuz, in eastern rural Dayr al-Zawr. The boy was alone and herding in an open area when the explosion occurred.
- On 20 December, a boy was killed reportedly when an explosive remnant of war detonated near the village of Mar'iyah, in eastern rural Dayr al-Zawr. The boy was playing in an open area in the village when the explosion occurred.
- On 30 December, 10 men were reportedly killed and another 2 were injured near the Taym oilfield, in eastern rural Dayr al-Zawr, when an improvised explosive device detonated near two minibuses carrying the men, who were workers at the oilfield. Unknown armed perpetrators then opened fire on the minibuses.

### **Dar'a Governorate**

- On 1 December, a man was reportedly killed by unknown perpetrators in the village of Jamlah, in western rural Dar'a. The man was outside his house when unknown armed men on a motorbike fired at him. The victim was a former member of armed groups who had agreed to conduct the government reconciliation process in 2018.
- On 2 December, a municipal head (mukhtar) was reportedly shot and killed in the town of Tayyibah, in eastern rural Dar'a. He was reportedly outside his house when unknown armed men on a motorbike fired at him.
- On 6 December, one boy was killed and another two boys from the same family were injured, reportedly by the detonation of an explosive remnant of war near the town of Shaykh Miskin, in northern rural Dar'a. The boys were working on a farm near the village when the explosion occurred.
- On 12 December, one boy was killed and another three boys were injured reportedly by the detonation of an explosive remnant of war in the village of Karak al-Sharqi, in eastern rural Dar'a. The boys were working agricultural land on the outskirts of the village when the explosion occurred.
- On 14 December, a man was reportedly killed by unknown armed men on a motorbike while he was outside his house in the town of Kafr Shams, in northern rural Dar'a. The man, who was a religious leader (imam), had reportedly given a public sermon criticizing security forces a few days prior to the incident.
- On 17 December, a man was reportedly killed by unknown perpetrators on a motorbike as he was outside his house in the city of Dar'a. He was a former member of the armed groups who had agreed to conduct the government reconciliation process in 2018.
- On 28 December, a man was killed reportedly by the detonation of an explosive remnant of war on the outskirts of the city of Busra al-Hariri, in eastern rural Dar'a. The man was working on agricultural land when the explosion occurred.
- On 28 December, a man was reportedly killed by unknown perpetrators on a motorbike as he was standing outside his house in the city of Tafas, in western

rural Dar‘a. The man was a former member of armed groups who had agreed to conduct the government reconciliation process in 2018.

- On 3 January, a man was reportedly killed during an exchange of gunfire between security forces and unknown armed men that erupted at a checkpoint in the town of Simlin, in northern rural Dar‘a. The victim was waiting for a bus a few metres from the checkpoint when the gunfire erupted.

### **Raqqah Governorate**

- On 11 December, a civilian man was killed reportedly as a result of ground-based strikes in the village of Hawijah, near Ayn Isa city, in northern rural Raqqah, when a shell fell near him while he was working on his farm.
- On 20 December, a man was reportedly arrested and taken from his home for unknown reasons in the town of Ali Bajliyah, near the town of Tall Abyad, in northern rural Raqqah. No information has been provided to his family about his fate and whereabouts since his arrest.

### **Hasakah Governorate**

- On 5 December, a boy was killed reportedly as a result of a landmine explosion in the village of Arba‘in, near Ra’s al-Ayn city, in northern rural Hasakah. The boy was playing in an open area in the village when the explosion occurred.
- On 5 December, a magnetic improvised explosive device, reportedly attached to a vehicle, exploded in the parking lot of Urubah School in the city of Qamishli, in northern rural Hasakah, causing damage to the vehicle and injuring the driver. The school’s windows shattered as a result of the explosion.
- On 1 January, two men were reportedly arrested during a house raid and detained in the town of Markadah, in southern rural Hasakah. Their families have been denied information about their fate and whereabouts.
- On 5 January, a male refugee was killed reportedly while getting on a motorbike outside his home in the village of Ayn al-Hassan, near the city of Ra’s al-Ayn in northern rural Hasakah. The man was a representative of refugees in Ra’s al-Ayn city.
- On 14 January, five people, including a man, a woman and three boys from the same family, were killed reportedly as a result of a landmine explosion on the outskirts of the village of Dubay, in eastern rural Hasakah. The family was inside their vehicle in an open area when the explosion occurred.

### **Suwayda’ Governorate**

- On 4 December, 1 man was killed and another 18 men were injured reportedly as a result of shooting in the city of Suwayda’ that occurred during a demonstration and also as a result of a subsequent exchange of fire. A member of security forces was also killed.
- On 24 December, two men from the town of Qanawat, in north-east rural Suwayda’, were reportedly arrested, for unknown reasons, while they were passing by a checkpoint on the road between Suwayda’ and Damascus. No information has been provided to their families about their fate and whereabouts.

## Annex II

### List of United Nations humanitarian cross-border operating partners

1. AFAQ
2. Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
3. Al Resala Foundation
4. Al Sham Humanitarian Foundation
5. Al-Ameen for Humanitarian Support
6. Alseeraj for Development & Healthcare
7. ATAA Humanitarian Relief Association
8. BAHAR
9. Basma for Relief and Development
10. Basmeh & Zeitoonh for Relief and Development
11. Big Heart Foundation
12. BINAA for Development
13. Bonyan Organization
14. Bunyan Genclik Ve Kalkinma Dernegi
15. CARE International
16. Children of One World
17. Deutsche Welthungerhilfe e.V. (German Agro Action)
18. Doctors of the World Türkiye
19. Ghiras Al Nahda
20. Global Communities
21. GOAL
22. Hand in Hand for Aid and Development
23. Handicap International
24. Hope Revival Organization
25. Human Appeal Türkiye
26. Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief Foundation
27. Humanitarian Initiative Association
28. Humanitarian Relief Association
29. Ihsan for Relief and Development
30. Ihsan Insani Yardim Ve Dayansma Dernegi
31. Independent Doctors Association
32. Insan Charity
33. Insani Inisiyatif Dernegi

34. Insani Yardimlasma Ataa Humanitarian Relief Association
35. International Humanitarian Relief Association
36. Iodine Global Network
37. Islamic Relief Worldwide
38. KUDRA
39. Maram Foundation for Relief and Development
40. Massrat – The Establishment for Human Care and Development
41. Medina Association
42. Mercy without Limits
43. Mercy-USA for Aid and Development
44. Muzun for Humanitarian and Development
45. NAS
46. Nasaem Khair
47. Norwegian Refugee Council
48. Orange
49. Orient for Human Relief
50. People in Need
51. Physicians Across Continents
52. POINT Organization
53. Qatar Charity
54. Qatar Red Crescent Society
55. REACH Initiative
56. Relief Experts Association – UDER
57. Relief International
58. Sadad Humanitarian Organization
59. Saed Charity Association
60. SANED Organization
61. SENED Organization
62. Shafak Organization
63. SKT Organization
64. Social Development International
65. Solidarités International
66. Space of Peace
67. Syria Relief
68. Syria Relief and Development
69. Syrian American Medical Society Foundation
70. Syrian Engineers for Construction and Development

71. Syrian Expatriate Medical Association
  72. Takaful Alsham Charity Organization
  73. The HALO Trust
  74. The Mentor Initiative
  75. The Syrian Association for Relief and Development
  76. Toplum Kalkinma Dernegi Binaa Binnaa for Development
  77. Turkish Red Crescent
  78. Ufuk for Relief and Development
  79. Ufuklar Insani Yardim Dernegi
  80. Uluslarasi Insani Yardimlasma Dernegi
  81. Uluslararası İnsani Yardım Organizasyonu (IHH) International Humanitarian Relief
  82. Union of Medical Care and Relief Organization
  83. Violet Organization
  84. War Child Holland
  85. Watan Foundation
  86. White Hands
  87. White Hats Organization for Sustainable Development
  88. Woman Support Association
  89. World Vision International
  90. Yol Rehberi İnsan Hakları Dernegi
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