



Press Release

UNDP/PAPP and the PA sign a US\$2 million agreement for emergency job creation in Gaza

Ramallah, October 23rd, 2008 - The Palestinian Authority, through its Job Creation Programme under the Presidents office, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme/Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (UNDP/PAPP) signed two memorandums of understanding, worth US\$2 million, on Thursday, 23rd October 2008, during a ceremony at the President's Office in Ramallah. Mr. Marwan Abdel Hamid, Chairman of the Job Creation Programme in Gaza, and Mr. Jens Toyberg-Frandzen, UNDP Special Representative of the Administrator attended the ceremony.

The Emergency Response and Planning for Early Recovery Programme is designed to address urgent needs of the population in the Gaza Strip under the difficult prevailing conditions and planning for early recovery. The Job Creation Programme under the President's office aims at creating over 120,000 workdays in the areas of solid waste management, waste sorting, and recycling activities throughout the Gaza Strip.

"This programme is an important initiative not only for UNDP but more importantly for Gaza and the oPt," stated Mr. Jens Toyberg-Frandzen, UNDP Special Representative of the Administrator. "UNDP is committed to broader and deeper engagement with multiple civil society partners, in both supportive and strategic ways, to complement the work of the United Nations with the PA, to adopt new voices and to remain a relevant player in the dynamic development landscape in the oPt", he added.

The memorandums signed today are part of a US\$15 million programme funded by the United Arab Emirates, Islamic Development Bank, and UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery to address the areas of sustaining livelihoods through emergency job creation, promoting social cohesion and sustaining the NGO's services to vulnerable groups in the society.

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