



Statement by the Republic of Cyprus

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to UNRWA

New York 23 June 2022
Statement by Mr. Doros Venezis,
Counselor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations.

Mr. Secretary-General,
Mr. President
Mr. Commissioner General,

At the outset, the Republic of Cyprus would like to align itself with the Statement of the European Union on behalf of the European Commission.

I can be very brief as the comments made by other Member States have fully covered the substantive points I also wanted to make in my statement.

In particular, I would like to echo the overwhelming appreciation expressed by also others in the room regarding the vital, indispensable and stabilizing role that UNRWA plays. I would like also to highlight UNRWA's essential contribution especially in providing educational support, health care services, relief and social services to 6 million Palestinian refugees.

Furthermore, I want to add my voice to those who emphasized the importance of finding, as soon as possible, a lasting, two state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This will be to the interest of peace and regional stability and as a means of definitely addressing the longstanding question and struggle of the refugees.

In this context, allow me to stress that the status of all these refugees under International Law should not be put into question and to also extend Cyprus's gratitude to the countries hosting Palestine refugees.

Finally, Mr. President, In the context of my country's consistent support to the Agency, I have the pleasure to announce that the Government of the Republic of Cyprus has decided to once again make a voluntarily, symbolic contribution (of 100.000) towards the indispensable work carried out by UNRWA and its staff.

Thank you