UNHCR Progress Report Highlights Substantial Impact of UAE Health Assistance to Syrian Refugees in Jordan

A total of 98,710 registered Syrian refugees accessed and benefitted from the provision of health services in 2014 through the UAE’s support

Abu Dhabi, 19 March 2015: Following the delivery and completion of the 2014 health projects funded by the UAE through United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR has recently issued its final progress report, highlighting the significance and impact of the UAE’s contribution of AED 7 million, which has benefitted a total of 98,710 registered Syrian refugees in Zaatari and Azraq camps in Jordan. Aided the provision of health services in 2014, women and children make up 78 per cent of the registered beneficiaries.

Additionally, the report revealed that the health services funded by the UAE were available to all those residing in Zaatari and Azraq camps, where the UAE’s grant covered the costs of more than 200,000 primary healthcare consultations, 3,000 deliveries, and 16,000 referrals for secondary or tertiary healthcare. The UAE-funded health services also covered mental health services, reproductive health consultations, and treatments for individuals suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

“The UAE is committed to improving the lives of those in need, and has worked persistently to alleviate the conditions of Syrian refugees since the crisis began – and among the critical priorities for this refugee population is the provision of health services. We have been working closely with UNHCR to ensure that the UAE’s contribution delivers positive impact, and are grateful to see the number of individuals in in Zaatari and Azraq that have benefitted from this aid,” said HE Sheikha Lubna bint Khalid Al Qasimi, UAE Minister of International Cooperation and Development.

Praising the timely support of the UAE Government, Nabil Othman, UNHCR Acting Regional Representative to the GCC Countries noted, “We are grateful to the UAE Government for their generous contribution towards the provision of health assistance to Syrian refugees in Zaatari and Azraq refugee camps in Jordan. This unstinting gesture allowed UNHCR to reach those populations most in need and is a true reflection of the UAE’s long-standing commitment to alleviating the suffering of vulnerable persons and, of course, the strategic partnership with UNHCR”.

Since the previous progress report, for which figures on the impact were released in November 2014, UNHCR has recorded that the number of individuals provided with various health services through UAE-funded health facilities has increased by over 13,000 in just Azraq camp, and the number of primary health care consultations increased by 70 per cent. Meanwhile, the amount of
mental health services provided rose from just 143 to more than 1,200 individuals, and treatments for individuals suffering from SAM increased by 50 per cent.

At Zaatari camp, the total number of primary health consultations provided through the UAE’s contribution has risen from 127,781 at last record to more than 175,000, while the number of individuals who benefitted from the provision of mental health services increased from 134 to more than 900 individuals. Furthermore, over 71,554 reproductive health consultations were provided at Zaatari camp, compared to the 52,755 noted in the previous progress report.

The activities are part of a total contribution of AED 18 million made by the UAE to UNHCR, made in early 2014, to relieve the suffering of Syrian refugees in Zaatari and Azraq camps in Jordan. Of the AED 18 million, AED 7 million was allocated to health activities while the remaining amount was distributed to water and sanitation activities.

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Notes to the Editor:

About MICAD:
MICAD was established on 12 March 2013 following a Cabinet decision endorsed by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and announced by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. Her Excellency Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid al Qasimi was appointed as Minister. The Ministry is based in Abu Dhabi with a branch office in Dubai.

For further information please visit: www.micad.gov.ae or contact:

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