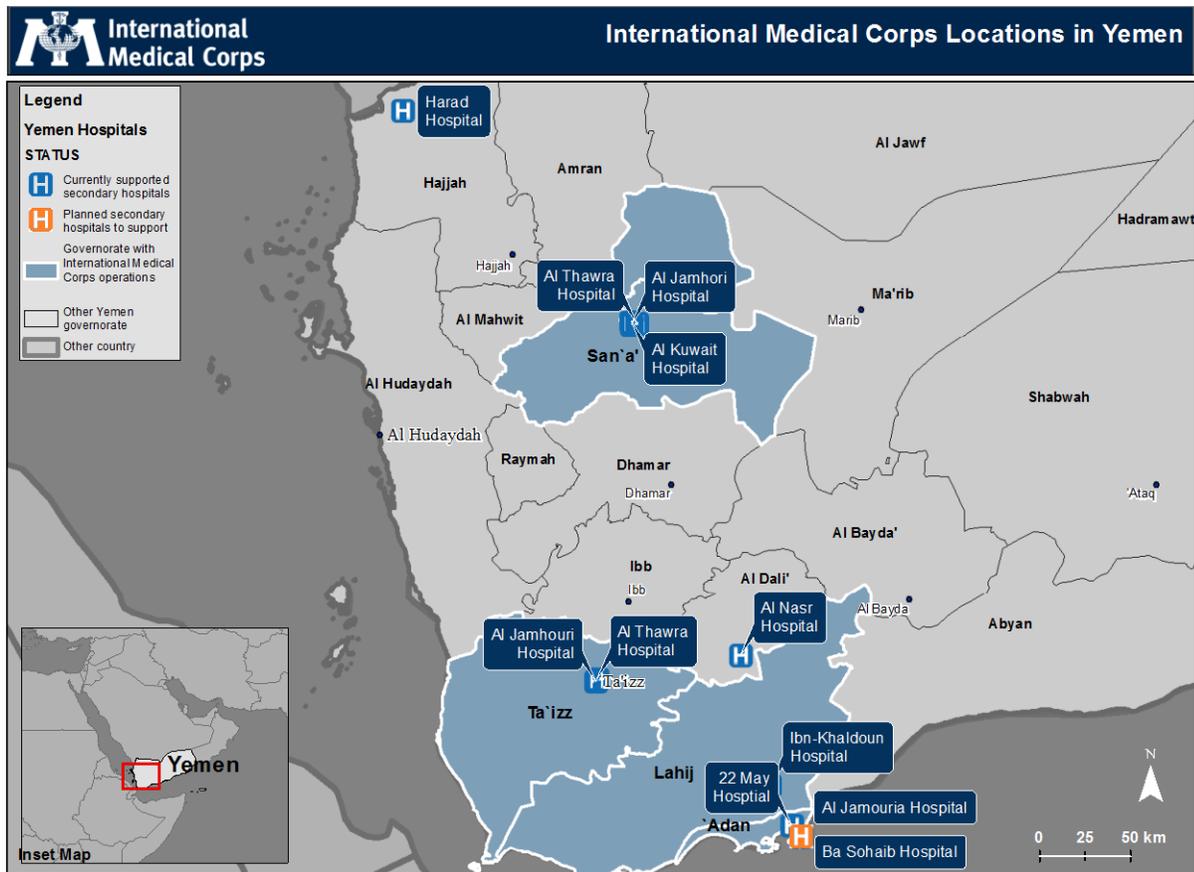


## Yemen External Situation Report #13 – May 18, 2015



Creation Date: 4/16/2015  
Source: GADM (country boundaries); OCHA (symbols)

Note: The boundaries, names, and designations on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by International Medical Corps.

International Medical Corps has delivered medical supplies, emergency pharmaceuticals, and water to the hospitals listed in the map.

### Executive Summary

The five-day humanitarian pause expired on Sunday evening, leaving millions still in need in Yemen. The pause was marred by violence and was insufficient to provide for the needs of the vulnerable. Limitations on the ground, including lack of fuel and security issues, restrained the movement of organizations and prevented access to some of the most-affected communities in Yemen, including in Aden and Lahj. Fuel, food, water and medical supplies are still in shortage, leaving millions at risk. A permanent and safe humanitarian corridor and access to fuel, food, water, and medical supplies is necessary to provide relief for Yemenis.

Following the pause, the violence has resumed in Yemen, including airstrikes in Aden and ground fighting countrywide. Tribal and government leaders are meeting in Saudi Arabia to discuss the situation, but combatant leaders have refused to participate in the talks.

**Significant Events:**

- The humanitarian pause expired at 11pm local time this Sunday, 17 May.
- 545,719 people have been displaced between 26 March and 7 May.
- Humanitarian pause efforts were limited by continuing fuel shortages, which affected transportation of supplies, the communications networks, and electricity.
- The 5-day pause was insufficient to provide relief to the over 12 million food-insecure Yemenis.
- Government and tribal leaders congregated in Saudi Arabia for talks, but combatant leaders have refused to participate.

**International Medical Corps Response:**

- Nutrition commodities were distributed to 18 health facilities in Sana'a and 21 health facilities in Taiz, serving 23,432 children 6-59 months
- Primary care drugs were distributed to 18 health facilities in Sana'a and 21 health facilities in Taiz, serving 20,581 beneficiaries
- 2,500 hygiene kits were prepositioned internally displaced persons in Al Hymah al Kharijia district in Sana'a.

## Detailed Report

**Key Developments**

The humanitarian pause, which began on 12 May, expired at 11pm local time this Sunday, 17 May. The truce had largely held, despite multiple violations and ongoing acts of violence in many parts of the country. Coalition forces resumed air strikes almost immediately in Aden and al-Dalih.<sup>1</sup> Earlier on Sunday in Saudi Arabia, U.N. envoy to Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed requested more time for the pause, stating, "I call on all parties to renew their commitment to this truce for five more days at least. This humanitarian truce should turn into a permanent ceasefire."<sup>2</sup>

UN OCHA reports 1,820 deaths and 7,330 injuries have been recorded in health facilities due to conflict since 19 March. An additional 545,719 people have been displaced between 26 March and 7 May.<sup>3</sup>

Humanitarian pause efforts were limited by continuing fuel shortages, which affected transportation of supplies, the communications networks, and electricity. Security also limited movements and delivery of assistance to some communities, especially in Aden and Al Dhale'e, where humanitarian supplies were not permitted to enter the governorate. Food was unable to be delivered to Aden or Haradh as it was difficult to find transportation and staff to deliver the food. UN OCHA reports that in the first four days of the pause, 273,411 people received one month of food. An additional 1.2 million people now have access to safe water because of fuel delivery, and 32,000 people were distributed essential non-food items.

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<sup>1</sup> Al Jazeera: [Bombing resumes as Yemen cease-fire ends](#). 17 May 2015

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> OCHA: [Yemen: Humanitarian Pause Situation Report No. 4](#). 16 May 2015

This weekend, hundreds of Yemeni politicians and tribal leaders met in Riyadh for peace talks. However, combatant leaders in Yemen refused to participate, citing the venue in Saudi Arabia and the goal of reinstating ousted Yemeni president Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi as the barriers to participation.<sup>4</sup> Iranian politicians also objected to the venue, stating that Saudi Arabia's role in the coalition airstrikes violated the neutrality needed for effective discussions.

Yemen's Foreign Minister Riad Yassin stated that there were no further discussions to renew the humanitarian pause with combatants.<sup>5</sup> The U.N. envoy requested the coalition "refrain from any action that disturbs the peace of the airports, main areas, and the infrastructure of transport" in case the pause was able to be renewed.<sup>6</sup>

The violence had somewhat abated during the humanitarian pause, but news reports stated that fighting in Taiz killed at least 12 civilians and injured 51 over the weekend. An additional 40 fighters from different parties of the conflict were also killed during the fighting.<sup>7</sup> Reports also indicated that coalition air forces completed numerous fly-overs during the pause, although airstrikes were limited.<sup>8</sup>

UN OCHA reported several other violations of the pause, including clashes and shelling in Aden, Taiz, Marib, Lahj, Abyan, Al Dhale'e, and Sa'ada.<sup>9</sup>

An Iranian cargo ship is scheduled to reach Hodaida port on 21 May, challenging coalition naval forces and the UN's request that the ship, carrying aid and activists, re-route to Djibouti to coordinate with the larger humanitarian effort during the pause.<sup>10</sup> The coalition has demanded the ship be searched for weapons, and Iranian officials have stated that coalition representatives will not be allowed to inspect the ship.

At the close of the pause, UNICEF representative Julien Harneis stated, "Humanitarian assistance cannot replace the needs of 26 million people who have been cut off from a regular supply of commercial imports of food and fuel," reiterating that the pause was insufficient to provide for the over 12 million people that are food-insecure.<sup>11</sup>



*Hygiene promotion activities for IDPS in Al Sabt village*



*Hygiene promotion activities for IDPs in Bani Mansur*

<sup>4</sup> The Washington Post: [After truce, Saudi-led coalition resumes airstrikes in Yemen](#). 18 May 2015

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> BBC: [Yemen conflict: Saudi-led air strikes resume as truce ends](#). 18 May 2015

<sup>7</sup> Al Jazeera: [Civilians killed in Taiz as Yemen truce unravels](#). 16 May 2015

<sup>8</sup> Al Jazeera: [Bombing resumes as Yemen cease-fire ends](#). 17 May 2015

<sup>9</sup> OCHA: [Yemen: Humanitarian Pause Situation Report No. 4](#). 16 May 2015

<sup>10</sup> Reuters: [Iranian ship carries aid and activists into waters off Yemen](#). 17 May 2015

<sup>11</sup> BBC: [Yemen conflict: Saudi-led air strikes resume as truce ends](#). 18 May 2015

## Priority Humanitarian Concerns and International Medical Corps Response

### International Medical Corps Humanitarian Pause Activities

#### Sana'a

In Sana'a governorate, International Medical Corps prepositioned hygiene kits for 2,500 IDPs in Al Hymah Al Kharijiya district, and provided hygiene promotion for 257 IDPs. Hygiene promotion activities were curtailed because of conflict within the community. In the same district, International Medical Corps provided 15.2 metric tons of drugs, consumables, and nutrition commodities for four health facilities. The nutrition commodities will supply 1,954 pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) and 1,665 children 6-59 months with necessary supplements and supplies. The pharmaceuticals will serve 1,800 adults and 1,200 children.



Also in Sana'a, International Medical Corps distributed 40 metric tons of supplies to 10 health facilities in Sanhan district; the nutrition supplies will serve 2,417 PLWs and 2,170 children 6-59 months. The pharmaceuticals will serve 1,700 adults and 1,100 children.



In Bani Matar district, Sana'a governorate, International Medical Corps distributed 30 metric tons of drugs, consumables, and nutrition commodities to four health facilities. The nutrition supplies will serve 2,417 PLWs and 2,170 children 6-59 months. The pharmaceuticals will serve 930 adults and 622 children.

In Bani Mansour and Al Sabt villages, Sana'a, International Medical Corps provided 372 health consultations and nutrition screening for IDPs through a mobile medical unit. Activities were limited because of conflict within the community.

*International Medical Corps received a cargo flight with 10 MTs of supplies today in Sana'a.*

International Medical Corps received a cargo flight with 10 metric tons of medical supplies in Sana'a today. The cargo flight originated in Djibouti and carried 5 trauma kits A&B for 500 trauma cases. The kits will be distributed to hospitals.

**Taiz**

In Taiz, International Medical Corps distributed 4.7 metric tons of supplies to seven health facilities in Mawiya district, serving the nutritional needs of 190 PLWs and 1,555 children 6-59 months. The pharmaceuticals will provide treatments for 3,509 adults and 1,365 children.

In Dimnat Khadir, one metric ton of supplies was distributed to one health facility, serving the nutritional needs of 50 PLWs and 220 children 6-59 months, as well as the pharmaceutical needs of 501 adults and 195 children.

In Maqbanah district, 5.6 metric tons of supplies were distributed to seven health facilities, serving the nutritional needs of 148 PLWs and 2,221 children 6-59 months.

International Medical Corps distributed 3.8 metric tons of supplies to six health facilities in Attaziah. Two other health facilities in the district have closed, and four are in areas of heavy conflict, preventing access. The six health facilities received nutrition supplies for 30 PLWs and 2,070 children 6-59 months as well as pharmaceutical supplies for 2,005 adults and 780 children.

**Aden/Lahj**

In Lahj, International Medical Corps distributed pharmaceuticals to 26 health facilities in Al Maqateriah, Al Musymeer, and Al Milah districts. The drugs will provide treatments for 870 women and 18,070 children. Distribution is ongoing in small quantities.

Surgical kits, trauma kits A&B, and pharmaceuticals were distributed to 22 May Hospital, Al Musyfa Hospital, and Al Mansoura Health Centre in Aden. The supplies will serve 350 injury cases. The pharmaceuticals will provide treatments for 820 adults and 340 children. Al Jamori and Ba Sahib hospitals are facing massive staff shortages and are not accessible for most beneficiaries; International Medical Corps focused the distribution on the more accessible hospitals.

In Lahj, a similar distribution of surgical kits, trauma kits A&B, and pharmaceuticals took place in Radfan Hospital and 10 October Hospital in Al What. The kits were originally intended to be distributed to Ibn Khaldoon Hospital in Al



*International Medical Corps distributes nutrition commodities at a health facility in Taiz*



*International Medical Corps distributes nutrition commodities for health facilities in Taiz governorate*

Howta, but the facility was inaccessible and closed due to insecurity. The modified distribution plan was completed in coordination with the Government Health Office and the District Health Office. The kits will provide treatment for 110 injury cases and pharmaceuticals for 1,750 adults.

Surgical kits were provided in Al Dhala's Al Nasr Hospital for 150 injury cases. Activities were limited due to security and inaccessibility.

### **Gaps and Constraints**

International Medical Corps, due to logistics issues in the broader humanitarian community, did not receive allocated fuel and was unable to facilitate mobile medical units in all locations. Only one mobile team was operational in Al Hymah Al Harijah district for health consultations and nutrition screening.

Security issues prevented access of the Government Health Office's warehouse in Taiz, preventing the distribution of Plumpy'Nut. 500 boxes of Plumpy'Nut were received on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the pause in Sana'a, and these will be distributed in the coming weeks.

Violence in Taiz, including outside International Medical Corps' offices, prevented the full distribution of supplies. Roads were blocked, and heavy conflict in Attaziah resulted in closed health facilities. Some health facilities were also occupied by conflict parties.

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*Hygiene kit distribution in Sana'a by International Medical Corps*