



AID DEVELOPMENTS

The Council of Ministers approved two grants from China for \$1.2 million

On 27 April 2009, the Council of Ministers approved two grants from China: \$500,000 for land expropriation in the Nahr el-Bared Palestinian Camp and \$680,000 through UNRWA for rehabilitation of Palestinian camps in Lebanon. The land expropriation will be implemented through the Council for Development and Reconstruction.

The United States and the Ministry of Finance amended the Paris III Grant Agreement to allow for the disbursement of \$50 million

On 8 April 2009, the Ministry of Finance and USAID amended the grant agreement signed on 31 August 2007 (and amended last on 17 December 2008). The amendment allows for the disbursement of an additional \$50 million of the \$250 million budget support grant pledged by the United States at Paris III. The United States (through USAID) had disbursed to date \$125 million by repaying Lebanon World Bank debt. The additional \$50 million will be disbursed in the same way directly to the World Bank.

Greece and the Council for Development and Reconstruction signed €1 million grant agreement for the reconstruction of Nahr el-Bared Camp and surrounding areas

On 8 April 2009, the Ambassador of Greece and the Council for Development and Reconstruction signed an agreement for supporting the construction of the Nahr el-Bared 'new camp' and for reconstruction of the camp's off-site infrastructure. The grant is for €1 million, of which €600,000 was disbursed to CDR on 16 April 2009. The grant was approved by the Council of Minister on 26 March 2009 as reported in the last newsletter.

The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development signed three agreements with the Lebanese Government to provide \$6 million in grants

On 7 April 2009, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and CDR signed three grant agreements totaling \$6 million. The grants are funded by the interest earned on the Kuwaiti funds pledged at the outbreak of the July 2006 War (\$300 million). The projects include \$4 million to build a museum in Saïda, \$1.75 million for a drinking water project in Ehden and \$150,000 for rehabilitation of a school in Dennieh. The projects will be implemented by the Kuwait Fund.

The European Investment Bank and the Council for Development and Reconstruction signed a loan agreement for €70 million

On 3 April 2009, EIB and CDR signed a loan agreement for €70 million for a new waste water treatment facility in the Kesrwan region. EIB approved in principle the loan in the first week of December 2008. The Lebanese Council of Ministers reviewed the agreement on 20 December 2009 and delegated signature to the Council of Development and Reconstruction.

IFAD and the Ministry of Agriculture signed a grant agreement

On 1 April 2009, IFAD and the Ministry of Agriculture signed a grant agreement to help the Ministry develop the agricultural sector strategy. The grant amounts to \$200,000.



Qatar reported on its support to Lebanon since the July 2006 War

On 28 February 2009, Qatar reported on its support to Lebanon since the July 2006 War. The report details the activities undertaken in the four adopted villages (Kham, Bent Jbeil, Aita el Chaab and Ainata). Qatar indicated that it had spent a total of \$243 million of the \$300 million pledged at the outbreak of the July War. Of the total, Qatar spent \$181 million in aid for damaged housing units, \$52 million for contractors, and \$10 million in miscellaneous expenses.

Malaysia reported on the implementation of \$1 million grant pledged in the Paris III Conference

Malaysia reported on the activities undertaken with the \$1 million grant pledged at Paris III. Malaysia implemented projects in the South, including: basic utilities: artesian water well in Antara, three units of generators, water purification units in seven schools in different villages; Infrastructure: rehabilitation of an orphanage, a mosque, two schools and home for the elderly; Medical assistance through Malaysian peacekeepers; Education: ICT equipment for schools; Environment: reforestation project and other in-kind contribution.

AID COORDINATION

A Lebanese delegation attended the World Bank / IMF Spring Meetings

A Lebanese delegation (including the Minister of Finance, the Governor of the Central Bank and representatives of the Ministry of Economy and Trade and the Presidency of the Council of Ministers) participated in the World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings on April 25-26 in Washington DC. The delegation updated donors on progress achieved in the implementation of the reform program and discussed funding requirements and resource mobilization in a number of bilateral meetings.

The Monitoring and Support Units at the social ministries met to review progress on reforms

On 23 April 2009, the Monitoring and Support Units met to review developments in implementing the Economic and Social Reform Program and technical assistance needs pertaining to the social ministries. Participants included, in addition to the Government Reform Program Coordination Office at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, representatives from the Ministries of Social Affairs, Education and Higher Education, National Social Security Fund, and Labor.

The Nahr El-Bared Recovery and Reconstruction Cell issued the first briefing note on Nahr el-Bared Camp surrounding area post-conflict development aid

The Nahr el-Bared Recovery and Reconstruction Cell issued the March 2009 Briefing Note that captures donor intervention in the NBC adjacent and surrounding municipalities post conflict development aid. The Note aims at improving donor coordination and increasing the efficiency of development aid to the NBC surrounding area.