

HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

05 - 11 December, 2022



Human Rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of the nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language or any other status without discrimination. These rights are all universal, inalienable, interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

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Monday

05 Dec 2022

LEBANON

Tuesday 06 Dec 2022

Wednesday 07 Dec 2022

Lebanon – Electricity charges aggravate refugee crisis

The decision by Lebanese authorities to collect payment for electricity supplied to Palestinian refugees in the country will aggravate the crises in refugee camps, Quds Press reported on Monday. The authorities have informed the Palestinian factions of the decision, which will also affect Syrian refugees. Along with the cuts in services provided by the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), the electricity charges will exacerbate living conditions for refugees, who already live in poverty and lack basic necessities. Human rights activist and researcher Hassan Al-Sayyeda explained that many Palestinian refugees are unable to afford food for their families or pay their rent and other basics. "They suffer as refugees in a country which is itself going through very serious economic and social difficulties, and now the burden of having to pay for electricity is being placed on them." Refugees have said that they are ready to cooperate with the government and pledged to accept any "appropriate mechanism" for collecting the electricity charges.

Lebanon – <u>Lebanon Signed Memorandum With UNIFIL To Support The Lebanese</u> <u>Army</u>

UNIFIL Head of Mission and Force Commander Major General Aroldo Lázaro and the Lebanese Minister of Defense Maurice Sleem signed a memorandum on Monday regarding the establishment of Resolution 2650. Resolution 2650 is the six-month extension of Resolution 2591 where "temporary and special measures" are taken by UNIFIL to support the Lebanese Army with basic necessities amidst Lebanon's economic crisis. Accordingly, the Lebanese Army in South Lebanon recently received from UNIFIL 30,000 meals, 40,000 liters of diesel fuel, and 72kg of medical supplies.

Lebanon - Lebanon says cholera outbreak under control

The Lebanese Ministry of Health announced that the cholera outbreak is "under control", given the limited number of confirmed daily cases. Minister of Health, Firas Al-Abyad, told reporters that "the number of confirmed cases has reached 635, while the cumulative number, to which suspected cases are added, has reached 4,912 cases." He pointed out that the vaccine has been administered to about 500,000 people, who constitute 80 percent of the targeted population. He warned that even if the cholera outbreak was under control, the measures to limit its spread are not only related to the Ministry of Health but involve other measures starting with securing safe drinking water and rehabilitated sanitation networks. He stressed that the ministry is cooperating with other departments to contain the outbreak, noting that the rapid cholera test is available in all government hospitals and is free for those who show symptoms.

Thursday 08 Dec 2022

Friday 09 Dec 2022

Saturday and Sunday 10 and 11 Dec 2022

Lebanon - Lebanon fails for 9th time to elect a president

Lebanon's divided parliament failed to elect a new president Thursday for the ninth time, despite the damage that the political deadlock is doing to efforts to bail out its bankrupt economy. Legislators will again meet next Thursday to attempt to fill the vacancy, according to a statement on Lebanon's News Agency (NNA). Only 105 of parliament's 128 lawmakers showed up for the vote and as many of them spoilt their ballots. Some MPs wrote in mock choices for the vacant presidency, with one vote cast for the late South African leader Nelson Mandela. Parliament speaker Nabih Berri reiterated calls for dialogue among lawmakers to find a consensus candidate to prevent the process from dragging on for months.

Lebanon – <u>UN-Habitat and National Commission for Lebanese Women Launch</u> National Implementation of Women and Land Campaign in Lebanon

UN-Habitat Lebanon Country Programme and the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) launched the National Women and Land Campaign in Lebanon through a roundtable event in Beirut. Gathering key stakeholders, media, women's organizations, and legal entities, the event shed light on the legal context of women's rights to housing, land, and property (HLP rights) in Lebanon. The event offered an opportunity for some women to share how having their HLP rights safeguarded has empowered them and ensured the socio-economic well-being of their families and communities. "Improving women's housing, land, and property rights in Lebanon is absolutely essential. By ensuring these rights, the socioeconomic development opportunities and well-being of families and communities can significantly improve. The protection of women's housing, land, and property rights contributes to the realization and enjoyment of a wide range of human rights such as the right to an adequate standard of living, adequate housing, health, work, and education," said Taina Christiansen, Head of UN-Habitat Lebanon Country Programme.

Lebanon - Father mortgages car to hospital in exchange for infant son's body

Lebanese citizen Hussein Al-Baarini was forced to mortgage his car at the hospital until the latter accepted the release of his son's body due to his inability to pay the hospital bill. Pictures and videos circulated on social media showing the father carrying his infant wrapped in a blue blanket after taking his final breath inside the Khalaf Al-Habtoor private hospital in Akkar, northern Lebanon. Al-Baarini, from the town of Fneideq, told Anadolu Agency that he had to mortgage his car to retrieve the body of his infant, who died 25 days after birth. His bill amounted to \$2,400. He added that he had received a call from Khalaf Al-Habtoor Hospital informing him that his son had passed away after 25 days in the NICU, after suffering health problems since birth. Al-Baarini added, "I went to the hospital to receive the body of my child, and the accounting employee asked me for \$2,400. I did not object, but I only had 400 dollars. I offered it to her in exchange for receiving the body, but she refused without obtaining a guarantor." The father then left his car keys at the hospital and walked out to get a taxi.