



Türk Tabipleri Birliđi

_____ Turkish Medical Association _____

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency
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Dear Carol Batchelor
UNHCR Representative of Turkey

About 700,000 people have fled to Sinjar Mountains as a result of complex humanitarian crisis caused by the ISIS. According to information given in your website, there are 400,000 people in Duhok and 200,000 others in Erbil unable to provide for their most basic needs as refugees. It is known that an equal number of people are presently trapped in Sinjar Mountains. Tens of thousands of refugees are now struggling for life in various provinces of Turkey including Şırnak, Diyarbakır, Batman, Mardin and Silopi. There are problems such as safe passage, access to safe water and emergency health services, treatment of chronic illnesses and food security.

According to our observations, the UNHCR can now extend help, on the Turkish border, only to 15- 20 thousand of these hundreds of thousands of people. Meanwhile there is need to settle the status of these people as guest/refugee and to register accordingly to enable them to benefit from UNHCR assistance. It is an urgent responsibility to identify the needs of these displaced people and extend essential services so as to cover at risk groups as a priority task. It must be stressed that there is urgent need for interventions geared to preventing sexual and gender-based violence. With our belief that you will soon give start to necessary work, we want to state our commitment to contribute to services to be delivered in the region adding that chambers of medicine are already engaged in dedicated efforts and ready for cooperation.

Dr. Bayazıt İlhan
Turkish Medical Association
President

Türk Tabipleri Birliđi Merkez Konseyi

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