



Türk Tabipleri Birliđi

_____ Turkish Medical Association _____

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
380 Madison Avenue (6th floor)
United Nations
New York

1141/2014


21 August 2014

Dear Lisa Doughten

Chief of CERF

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 extend relief on the Turkish border to 15 to 20 thousand out of hundreds of thousands of people affected by this crisis while the FAO can reach some 100,000 people in Duhok. It is the mission of international relief agencies to identify the needs of displaced people and immediately extend services so as to cover at risk groups in particular. In this context, a rapid assessment of state of health will guide the activities of health ministries in Iraq, Syria and Turkey. It is an urgent responsibility to plan for services on the basis of urgent shelter, water and food needs of these people displaced as a result of ISIS attacks. 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

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