

Action For Humanity Welcomes Syria Cross-Border Renewal

9th January 2022

We welcome the unanimous decision by the UN Security Council to reauthorize the extension of UNSC resolution 2672 - the cross border mechanism - continuing access to 4.1 million Syrians who rely on this mechanism for vital humanitarian assistance.

The decision to extend the mandate for an additional six months comes as humanitarian needs have reached the highest levels since the start of the conflict in 2011.

We also strongly welcome the unity of council members for their support for the renewal of this mandate.

But shorter mandates contribute to a cycle of contingency planning which limits our capacity to reach those who require assistance. Humanitarian conditions are worsening, and agencies inability to plan ahead for longer than six months risks assistance that is less effective and more expensive. We continue to call for a 12 month mandate, and hope a 12 month mandate will be the subject of future discussions. This would enable humanitarian agencies to scale up response with the predictable, long-term support needed to respond to such complex contexts.

Today the UN Security Council has played its role in supporting the people of Syria, but humanitarian access across Syria must be expanded and humanitarian activities must be broadened through investment and political will.

This is the only sustainable means of reducing the suffering of the people of Syria.