

## **FIRST TENT CITY SCHOOL NOW OPEN...**

**The opening ceremony, for the first the of 6 prefabricated schools, was held in Süleyman Şah Tent City of Akçakale as planned to be constructed under the cooperation of AFAD, Kingdom of Belgium and UNICEF. Fatih OZER, Head of Department of Intervention (AFAD), Dr. Ayman A. ABULABAN, UNICEF Turkey Representative and Eyüp FIRAT, Akçakale District Governor attended the ceremony appealing considerable attention by hundreds of Syrian citizens consisting mostly of children.**

The school with 16 classrooms, each with 40-student capacity will provide education to a total of 1280 students. Education will be provided in rotations namely in the morning and afternoon. UNICEF supplied interior equipments of the prefabricated school donated by the Kingdom of Belgium. In this scope UNICEF supplied student desks for two, blackboard, and glass case equipment cabinet for each classroom and a meeting table for 10, chairs and multi-sectioned locked cabinet for teachers' room. Additionally, equipments for the headmaster's office were provided.

Influx of Syrian citizens to Turkey due to war, started in March 2011. In these camps that became the living space for the increasing number of Syrians, especially children's education is among the most sensitive topics in the agendas of the Government of Turkey, AFAD UNICEF and other United Nations Agencies, non-profit organizations and.

### **“Partnership for Education”**

Fatih Özer, Head of Department of Intervention, attended the school's opening ceremony in Akçakale Süleyman Şah Tent City, with a child population of 15 thousand, and expressed his thanks to UNICEF for their contributions and said:

“It is not possible that we are happy while Syrian children are in need. We are doing all we can, and will continue to do so. UNICEF supplied the interior equipment of the first of the prefabricated schools donated by the Kingdom of Belgium, as we are here today to open. We are working on numerous projects and trying to put them in practice together with UNICEF, which is always working for the children of the world.”

Dr. Ayman A. Abulaban, UNICEF Turkey Representative expressed that works on education not only saves a day at the camp but saves the future of a country. He further said; “The fact that children, as the most disadvantaged group among Syrians in Turkey, can keep receiving education during their time here is a great fortune. Education is their strongest link with the future and the most efficient means so that they can cope with the challenges they face. Thanks to this opportunity, they will be able to continue their education starting from where it was interrupted, when they return their country. We, as UNICEF, are ready to provide any and all support to the Government of Turkey and AFAD on this issue.”