PRESS RELEASE

PLACE
Riyadh, KSA

DATE
25 May 2026

UNHCR and KSrelief sign agreement to strengthen protection services for displaced families and refugees in Yemen

RIYADH – UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief) signed an agreement worth USD 3.1 million to support UNHCR's strengthen protection services for displaced families and refugees in Yemen. The agreement was signed during a virtual signing meeting between KSrelief's Assistant Supervisor General for Operations, Engineer Ahmed Al Baiz and UNHCR Representative to the GCC, Khaled Khalifa.

This contribution will enable approximately 45,000 people to access essential services, including civil documentation, legal assistance, voluntary return support and primary healthcare, helping families rebuild stability and dignity amid ongoing humanitarian challenges.

Through this collaboration, UNHCR and its partners will support thousands of internally displaced people and refugees in obtaining civil documentation and registration, helping restore access to fundamental

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rights, protection mechanisms, and essential services. The initiative will also enable thousands more displaced Yemenis, refugees, and asylum-seekers to access legal assistance to address issues arising from displacement, including eviction risks, housing and property disputes, and family law matters, thereby strengthening their protection and helping safeguard their rights and dignity. This is particularly vital as many families have lost identity documents during displacement, preventing them from enrolling children in school, accessing public services or securing livelihoods.

The initiative will also strengthen UNHCR's capacity to provide counselling, documentation support, and safe sea and air transportation for Somali refugees who have expressed a wish to return home voluntarily. By facilitating informed and voluntary returns in conditions of safety and dignity, the initiative will help reduce reliance on irregular and potentially dangerous journeys.

This initiative will also support UNHCR sustain three primary healthcare centres in Sana'a, Aden and Kharaz refugee camp in Lahj governorate. These facilities will provide medical consultations and essential medicines to refugees and vulnerable host community members, ensuring families can receive care, free of charge.

Engineer Albaiz commented that "King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center affirms its commitment to continuing its strategic partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to support protection services and enhance access to basic services for displaced families, refugees, and host communities in Yemen. This project is an extension of the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, represented by the Center, to support humanitarian work and alleviate the suffering of the most vulnerable groups through interventions that contribute to enhancing human dignity and building a sustainable impact that supports the resilience of communities and their ability to respond to humanitarian needs."

For his part, Khaled Khalifa expressing appreciation for the partnership, commented: "This renewed support from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, through KSrelief, comes at a critical moment for displaced and refugee communities in Yemen. As humanitarian needs continue to soar, this contribution will help strengthen essential protection services

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and ensure that the most vulnerable, particularly women, children, and older persons, receive the assistance, safety, and support they urgently need. Partnerships such as this are vital in enabling us to reach those at greatest risk and restore dignity and hope to families facing immense hardship."

In this regard, Armen Yedgaryan, UNHCR Interim Representative in Yemen, commented on this collaboration, pointing out that "KSrelief's generous support demonstrates a strong commitment to protecting vulnerable communities in Yemen. Our partnership with KSrelief enables us to deliver essential protection services and support families striving to rebuild their lives with dignity."

KSrelief remains a key humanitarian partner in Yemen, supporting communities across multiple sectors and contributing to efforts aimed at easing suffering and strengthening resilience.

[FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:]

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