

Follow up Meeting Bchare Municipality

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| **Name** | Bchare MuncipalityTensions | **Meeting Date** | Wednesday 15th November, 2017 |
| **Meeting Location** | Seraya Tripoli | **Meeting Time** | 12:00-12:45 |
| **Purpose of Meeting** | Ongoing Advocacy efforts for children to stay in schools and against eviction in Bchare Town | **Participants** | \*Governor of North Lebanon; \*Head of Municipality Departments in North Lebanon Governate  \*Head of Bchare Municipality  \*Deputy Head of Bchare Municipality  \*Governor Advisor for Child Rights  \*UNHCR- liaison  \*UNICEF – CD  \*UNICEF- Security  \*UNICEF- Education  Liason, UNDP North, UNDP Coordinator, UNICEF ( Chief of Field Office) , UNICEF Security Officer , UNICEF Education Officer |

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| Head of Municipality Department a:  \*As per Governor’s request we are meeting for the following reasons  \* reduce tension between host Lebanese Community and refugee community in the town of Bchare & the whole district of Bchare  \*We need to look at the Syrians living in the town of Bchare  \*Syrian students at Bchare public School  \*minimize the spread of tension from Bchare village to other the whole district.  Head of Bchare Municipality ( Freddy Kayrouz)  \*After crime in Mizyara fear and tensions against Syrians increased dramatically  \*Under the guidance of Governor, Qa’m Maqam, municipalities need to control and organize presence of Syrians as per the following conditions  A. Valid residency & sponsorship from Lebanese in Bchare  B. Valid UNHCR certificate  C. Registered rent in Muncipality  D. Qaza Physician visit place of residency and provide health certificate.  \*A lot of tension between Host community and refugee community  \*If one crime occurs in Bchare hundreds of Syrians could be killed.  \*Role of religious leaders who are promoting Bchare for the Lebanese Syrians should go back to Syria  \*Look at Bible classes. Only six people from Bchare used to attend Bible classes. Now the number increased to 100.  \*Local organizations promoting that Syrians should leave after November 15, 2017  \*Demonstration in front of the public school ( against the second shift)  \*Lebanese Secondary school students leaving school early to demonstration in front of the public school  \*Lebanese from Bchare against Syrians include ( Religious Leaders, 7 Mukhtars, Local charities )  \*Request for support to hospital. Only thirty beds available at the hospital. Always occupied by Syrians. Lebanese can not find place at hospital and need to be transported to Koura . Two Lebanese died due to shortage of space in the hospital.  \*Increase in Solid Waste production. We have 30 tons of waste. Provide us with trucks to collect solid waste.  \* We need a whole package of assistance for improving relationship between Host and refugee community  \*We can sustain 1,000 Syrian . But can not accomdate 4,000  **Deputy Head of Muncipality ( Joseph Fakhry)**  \*I am present in Bchare every day. I am a farmer and local contractor. I have 10 Syrians working for me. All of them have valid papers. The rent is registered with the municipality and they do not leave the residence after 7 pm  \*We are asking for all Syrians who need to stay in Bchare to follow same procedure  \*After Nov 15, 2017 the municipal police will visit every apartment. Any apartment rented to Syrians and is not registered The municipality will issue a fine to the Lebanese owner and the name of the Syrian will be shared with the Qaem ma Qam for the police to take action.  \*Yes the public school was renovated but the contractors were not from Bchare. ( I gave a full explanation of the school renovation process, who benefits from all the support, and who benefits  Mr. Melhem Melhem  \*Release of tension in Bchare is not promising at all  \*Second shift school no signs of opening  \*Regular Coordination meeting with Mr. Melhem Melhem regarding Bchare and other areas of tension highly needed. | |
|  | **Action Points** |
| 1. The Head of Bchare Muncipality suggested meeting with local religious figures, Mokhtars and local charities who are against the Syrian presence in Bchare 2. UNICEF suggestions move ahead with plan B UNICEF / Caritas find alternative public school for the 137 children registered at Bchare Public School Second shift 3. UNICEF / Caritas can advocate for Syrian students remaining in Bchare to be transported to second shift school in Koura. OR with special approval to first shift public school in Abdine 4. UNICEF to continue advocacy at both local level and senior level with influential key points to keep school open | |