Statement by the Executive Unit for IDP Camps

26 February 2021

- Marib governorate has received most of the displaced people fleeing form violence in Houthi-controlled areas since the coup in September 2014.
- Marib has received so far (2,231,000) two million and two hundred and thirty-one thousand displaced persons.
- That is 60% of the total number of IDPs in Yemen and is equivalent to 7.5% of the total population in Yemen.
- The total population in Marib has increased to 2,707,544.
- According to the survey done by the field teams of the Executive Unit for IDP Camps, there are 139 camps in Marib which host 31,411 displaced families with total number of 219,877 individuals.
- While there are 282,122 families in the host community with a total number of 1,974,845 individuals.
- These numbers are going up every day while the waves of displacement into Marib continue.
- The Houthis have resumed their assault on Marib since beginning of February, leading to the second displacement of 1,517 families, with 12,005 individuals, in Sirwah district West of Marib.
- In Sirwah alone, there are 9 camps with 2,460 families (17,220 individuals)
- The field teams of the Executive Unit for IDP Camps have documented the following violations by Houthis:
Lafaj Al-Melh Camp

The Houthis started on 8 February shelling the camp (49 families) with artillery and mortars, leading to the second displacement of the whole families to Al-Sawabeen Camp.

Al-Zour Camp

On 10 February, the Houthis started shelling the camp, pushing the 570 displaced families to leave towards the city of Marib.

On 14 February, Houthis stormed Al-Zour camp, burned some homes, and planted mines on the road leading to the camp and within homes.

Dhanna Al-Sawabin and Dhanna Al-Hayal Camps

The Houthis targeted the camps directly with field heavy artillery and mortars, pushing 450 families to leave for Rawdat Sirwah,

Houthis have prevented 470 families from fleeing, using them as human shields.

Till today, many families in the camps are still trapped by the Houthis.

Urgent calls:

The Executive Unit for IDP Camps calls on the Houthis to respect International Humanitarian law and stop targeting civilians and displaced persons, and to open safe corridors in order to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid to them.
It appeals to the United Nations and International community to exert pressure on the Houthis to stop targeting the IDPs and to spare them from the second wave of displacement.

It appeals to the international humanitarian organisations in Yemen to act urgently to provide relief to the IDPs and alleviate their suffering.

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