

<u>Clarification on the reception and distribution of humanitarian aid in the Gaza and Northern Gaza Governorates</u>

(29/11/2023): The Palestine Red Crescent Society led the distribution of the largest amount of humanitarian aid that reached the Gaza and Northern Gaza Governorates. However, this mission entrusted widely to PRCS faces many challenges and difficulties, including:

- 1. The difficulty of receiving and unloading Egyptian trucks for re-loading onto the Palestinian trucks due to the inadequacy of the Rafah Crossing, which cannot accommodate a large number of trucks at the same time.
- 2. The entry of a large number of trucks designated for other agencies, which are mostly placed in the front rows and must be unloaded and removed from the crossing point to allow for the entry of the trucks designated for PRCS.
- 3. PRCS can only use the aid designated to its name and needs a lot of time to identify the whole trucks, load, coordinate and send them to the North. The process is lengthy and delays may compel staff and volunteers to work till dawn to complete the transportation and unloading in the north and return to the south to work on new trucks.
- 4. PRCS transports and distributes the aid designated to it in the north of the Gaza Strip; it has been able to enter a total of 233 trucks of humanitarian aid to North Gaza as of 28/11/2023 (included). The aid included food, water, medical and relief supplies like blankets and mattresses.
- 5. PRCS has not been able to enter fuel to date. Efforts continue to bring 10,000 litres of fuel to operate PRCS ambulances for two weeks as these ambulances continue to operate in North Gaza.

It's worth noting that PRCS coordinates the flow of aid across Wadi Gazza Checkpoint via the United Nations Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Aid (OCHA), whose efforts are highly appreciated.

PRCS is committed to delivering the largest number possible of humanitarian aid to North Gaza, which had not received any aid prior to the humanitarian pause agreement. The almost half a million civilians who stayed in North Gaza are in dire need of humanitarian aid, especially those in the designated shelters at schools or staying with host families, or citizens in different neighborhoods in the City of Gaza and North Gaza.

PRCS calls on the international community to facilitate the entry and increase humanitarian aid and act to open other crossing points for entry of aid including Karm Abu Salem. It also calls on the international community to facilitate entry of aid from the West Bank and work to re-establish the trade of consumer goods and products to cover the needs and revive the local market.