

On Nov 27, 2019, at 4:51 AM, Kassem Aina <kassemaina@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear respected partners and friends of Beit Atfal Assumoud

Our warmest greetings,

I believe you're fully aware of the immense demonstrations that are currently happening in Lebanon and the harsh economic situation we're facing in light of the current events.

For this reason, we decided to develop a concise summary through several bullet points found below in order to clarify the extreme severity of the situation.

- The Lebanese Lira is almost on the brink of collapse, as it's on the risk of devaluation. As of today, the dollar rate in the central bank is equal to **1,516 L.L.** and **2,000 L.L.** at the exchange dealer
- Due to the increase in the value of the currency, the price of goods and services are gradually increasing
- ***The price of resources such as petrol/gas have drastically increased - In addition, the price of edibles increased by 30%***
- Goods and services are only purchased through the Lebanese Lira
- Pay cuts are becoming a reality, as both Palestinian and Lebanese employees are receiving half their salaries by the end of the month
- Jobs are on the firing line due to downsizing and/or several shortages
- Daily workers and/or workers who are paid by the hour (***e.g. the ones who work in shops/stores/agriculture***) are unable to work, as there are ongoing difficulties in transferring goods and services to their stores due to several roadblocks
- The country's transportation, including the banking system and several businesses/corporations are currently in constant paralysis
- ***There are certain regulations regarding cash withdrawal - with a limit of \$1000 / month, depending on each bank and/or on the Central Bank of Lebanon (BDL)'s instructions***
- ***No transfer of any amount of money is allowed outside Lebanon***
- Donations from our supporting NGOs and individual partners are being transferred and/or received to our Institution's official bank account - ***However, we are unable to withdraw the money in light of the recent bank laws and/or regulations***

Now that Lebanon's under the verge of economic collapse, Palestinian refugees pay the biggest price - Beit Atfal Assumoud is currently facing difficulties in supporting its obligations toward the families as well as our center expenses, employees/social workers.

Thanking you for your time and your thoughtfulness donations to BAS in these extremely tough times.

Kind regards

Kassem

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Kassem Aina

General Director

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