

After a field visit to Libyan eastern governorates, WHO official stresses that humanitarian efforts are a priority and warns that food and medicine stocks are insufficient for more than a few weeks



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WHO, in collaboration with the Libyan authorities, is directing available support towards ensuring the provision of medicines and surgical commodities, in addition to ensuring the availability of medical staff, through humanitarian partners, to support the medical teams currently working in Libya, especially nurses. Recently 10 surgical kits crossed the Egyptian/Libyan borders into Libya. The kits, funded by the Government of Norway, are sufficient to cover 10 000 persons for 10 days.

Based on direct observation of the flow of medical supplies, initiated by WHO on 17 February, the Regional Office renews its appeal to increase humanitarian aid to the Libyan people, to immediately halt armed operations against civilians, and to stop the increasing bloodshed that has claimed more than 2000 lives so far and many more injuries, according to the available estimates.

WHO, through the Assistant Regional Director, expresses deep concerns over the lack of psychological care and support, lack of sufficient medicines and specialists in this field, and stresses the importance of giving this issue the necessary interest and care. WHO is also concerned about the deterioration of services provided to people with special needs in Libya, a matter that must be addressed immediately. WHO is working closely with concerned partners to meet these needs as much as possible.

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