



6 August 2016 – WHO has established a humanitarian hub in Hodeida governorate, together with United Nations agencies, including the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Development Programme.

The new office will further enhance the presence of WHO in Hodeida and neighbouring governorates, including Hajjah, Al-Mahweet and Raima.

"The expansion of WHO presence in Hodeida enables us to better respond to the huge health needs in these governorates," said Dr Ahmed Shadoul, WHO Representative for Yemen.

"The office will also contribute to improving coordination between local and international organizations to provide well-managed health and humanitarian interventions."

During his visits to Hodeida, Dr Shadoul met with local authorities and health officials to discuss ways of scaling up WHO's health response in Hodeida and neighboring governorates. Dr

Shadoul also opened a WHO-supported medical oxygen gas plant with the capacity of filling gas for 24 oxygen cylinders to relieve shortage of oxygen supplies in Al-Thawra Hospital.

Health situation in Hodeida

WHO's scaled-up presence in Hodeida comes as the governorate suffers from a seasonal outbreak of diseases, deteriorating nutritional status, loss of electricity with weak health services and lack of essential health needs such as water, sanitation and food. These challenges have been further aggravated by the arrival of more than 100 000 displaced people to Hodeida, mostly from Sa'ada and Hajjah.

Malaria and dengue are endemic in Hodeida and this year has seen an outbreak of dengue fever in many districts.

"We reaffirm WHO's commitment to supporting Hodeida with life-saving health interventions to ease the burden on health facilities and relieve the pain of people in need across Yemen," added Dr Shadoul.

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