UN Watch
Monitoring the United Nations, Promoting Human Rights

Mr. Christian Saunders
Acting Commissioner-General, UNRWA
PO Box 140157
Amman 11814
JORDAN

24 November 2026

Dear Mr. Saunders,

UN Watch is investigating evidence that more than 800 alumni of UNRWA schools went on to perpetrate terrorist attacks or join terrorist groups, including Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad. These alleged terrorists were educated in donor-funded classrooms where UNRWA pledged to uphold "the highest standards of neutrality" and to "inculcate the values of tolerance, democracy, human rights, mutual respect, and conflict resolution." The public is entitled to know who taught them, who ran their schools, and who in UNRWA's leadership was accountable.

Accordingly, we hereby request that, within 30 days, UNRWA provide the following:

1. **Teachers and school staff:** Names of each identified individual's teachers and principals.
2. **Chain of command:** The Commissioners-General, Field Directors, and education chiefs in charge.
3. **Vetting and discipline:** All neutrality screenings, complaints, and sanctions involving those staff.
4. **Curriculum:** All textbooks and materials used, and any UNRWA review of them.
5. **Assurances to donors:** All representations to donors on staff neutrality and curriculum.
6. **Alumni outcomes:** Any UNRWA study of how many of its graduates joined terror groups.
7. **Preservation:** Confirmation you have ordered your staff to preserve all relevant records..

We further call on the donor states to commission a genuinely independent investigation. Unlike the 2024 Colonna review, which was led by a longtime UNRWA supporter and staffed by its advocates, this inquiry must be conducted by persons with no employment, funding or advocacy ties to UNRWA, with full access to its staff and records, and must publish its findings in full.

UNRWA has previously criticized UN Watch for not submitting our evidence before publishing, "in the way that any credible research organization would invariably require." Yet under prior leadership, UNRWA refused to meet with us despite more than a dozen requests. We trust you will not repeat that approach. I am prepared to meet with you in Amman, Geneva, New York, or elsewhere to present our evidence, and to receive the information requested above.

In the meantime, UN Watch will publish its findings as they are verified, together with UNRWA's response, or its failure to respond.

Sincerely,



Hillel C. Neuer
Executive Director

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