

United Nations Says 120,000 Displaced by Rising Violence in Syria in October



United Nations, October 27 (RHC)-- At least 120,000 people have been displaced by ongoing violence in the Syrian provinces of Aleppo, Hama and Idlib since early October, the United Nations says.

"This is up from 50,000 we reported last week," Vanessa Huguenin, a spokeswoman for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), told journalists in the Swiss city of Geneva on Monday.

Huguenin added that most of the people have been displaced internally in their own provinces, but some have fled to camps in the Qah area near the Turkish border. "They mainly need tents, basic household items, food and water and sanitation services," she said, adding that six mobile health clinics have been established in Aleppo to help the injured. The spokeswoman also noted that negotiations were continuing concerning the provision of additional humanitarian supplies to the displaced.

Syria has been gripped by foreign-backed militancy since March 2011. The crisis has claimed the lives of more than 250,000 people and left over one million injured, according to the UN.

The world body says the crisis has also displaced more than 7.3 million Syrians internally, and compelled over four million others to take refuge in neighboring countries.

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