

# Media Update

12 April 2016

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## WFP

Press Release

### KSA DONATES DATES FOR RELIEF ASSISTANCE

**ISLAMABAD** - The World Food Programme (WFP) has received a contribution of 396 metric tons of Dates from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia is one of the largest producers of dates worldwide. The dates will be distributed as part of WFP's relief assistance programme. Approximately 148,000 registered families will receive the dates between April and June 2016.

"I will avail this opportunity to cherish the time tested history of close fraternal relations between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan. The two nations have observed exemplary relations at political, religious, cultural and economic fronts. The wellbeing of people of Pakistan carries very special importance for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia." Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

"Dates provide a range of essential nutrients, vitamins and minerals, and their consumption contributes towards ensuring diet diversity and helps reduce micronutrient deficiencies," said Lola Castro. "WFP welcomes this donation and we are looking forward to further the partnership with the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre in a joint effort with the Government of Pakistan to improve food security and nutrition in the country," she added.

Between 2016 and 2018, WFP aims to assist 7.7 million people in close partnership with the Government to ensure the improvement of food security and nutrition among displaced and returnee populations, reinforce the resilience of communities living in the most hazard-prone areas, address malnutrition among the most vulnerable segments of the society, particularly pregnant and nursing women and children under five years of age, as well as support a favourable environment for women to achieve social and economic equality.



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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in 80 countries.

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