



Sydney, NSW, Monday 17 October 2016

## Arab Council urges all Australians to help Syrian families

**The Arab Council Australia is urging all Australians to help Red Cross Red Crescent provide urgently needed aid for Syrian families.**

“This is the biggest refugee crisis since World War II and three out of four Syrians need help to survive,” said Ms Randa Kattan, Chief Executive Officer of Arab Council Australia.

“More than 18 million Syrians are relying on humanitarian aid to survive: from food parcels to emergency health care and safe drinking water.

“Half the country’s entire population has been forced from their homes and many more are trapped in besieged areas and face starvation. They need help more than ever.

“Recently a convoy of Red Cross Red Crescent and United Nations trucks carrying aid was bombed near Aleppo in northern Syria and 21 humanitarians were killed.

“Humanitarians and health workers are killed all too often in Syria and tragedies like this show us just how desperate this crisis is.

“After days of mourning, Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers and staff have returned to their life-saving work and are reaching millions of people every month with aid.

“We’re pleased to support Red Cross Red Crescent work to provide neutral and impartial aid to the people of Syria.

“They’re providing practical items, from mattresses and blankets for people whose homes have been destroyed to medical care, nutrition supplements for children, food parcels and water.

“Imagine trying to raise a family while struggling to find enough clean water to drink, a place to sleep and enough food for daily meals.

“The crisis in Syria is large and complex, but there are ways we can help. A small donation can make a big difference for a Syrian family.

“I urge all Australian families to donate to the Australian Red Cross Syria Crisis Appeal,” Ms Kattan said.

**Please give to the Syria Crisis Appeal at [www.redcross.org.au](http://www.redcross.org.au) or call 1800 811 700. Donations of goods cannot be accepted.**

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media release



### Media Enquiries

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