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Answer given by Ms Lahbib
on behalf of the European Commission
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The EU welcomes the ceasefire in Gaza as a crucial step for alleviating suffering of civilians. EU humanitarian partners are scaling up their assistance and reopening services but the humanitarian situation in Gaza remains deep concerning.

While some aid is entering Gaza, more needs to get in. The registration process for International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) is an obstacle to humanitarian partners scaling up operations. INGOs must be able to operate without interruption, especially at this critical moment. The EU consistently calls on Israel to allow unimpeded access and distribution of humanitarian assistance into Gaza.

The EU doesn't have precise figures on the aid waiting entry in the Strip but remains in constant contact with partners regarding stocks and distribution.

EU partners have strong capabilities and if the bureaucratic obstacles are removed, the EU expects aid stockpiles waiting at the border to decrease, as humanitarian partners deliver assistance.

The extent of damage to EU-funded infrastructure in Gaza will be assessed through the post-conflict Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment¹, a joint initiative by the EU, the United Nations (UN) and the World Bank. An overview of the delayed or damaged aid will be available as partners conclude operations and submit final reports, which will be analysed by Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations.

The UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East remains crucial for humanitarian support in Gaza and the West Bank and its collapse would have severe repercussions on operations and Palestinian society, as it is one of the largest local employers, particularly important as Gaza may enter the recovery phase under the first stage of the ceasefire agreement.

¹ <https://palestine.un.org/en/289429-gaza-and-west-bank-interim-rapid-damage-and-needs-assessment-february-2025#:~:text=The%20Interim%20Rapid%20Damage%20and%20Needs%20Assessment%20%28IRDNA%29%2C,the%20West%20Bank%20after%2015%20months%20of%20conflict.>