This monthly digest comprises threats and incidents of violence affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. It is prepared by Insecurity Insight with information available from open sources.

All decisions made on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

Editorial team:
Christina Wille  
Insecurity Insight

Larissa Fast  
Insecurity Insight

Adelicia Fairbanks  
European Interagency Security Forum (EISF)

Research team:
Christina Wille  
Insecurity Insight

**South Sudan**

01 September 2016: In Western Equatoria State, a male INGO driver was shot and killed while travelling between Baambaru and Yambio town. No assets were reported stolen. Source: AWSD.

02 September 2016: In Eastern Equatoria State, an INGO contracted driver sustained gunshot wounds when the vehicle he was driving came under fire while on the Magwi-Torit road close to Torit town. Source: AWSD.

06 September 2016: In Yambio town, Western Equatoria State, an INGO national staff member and his family were shot and killed by an armed perpetrator who had broken into their home. Source: AWSD.

09 September 2016: In Juba, an unidentified armed group broke into the compound of an unspecified INGO in Tongping and beat the staff. Dozens of laptops and mobile phones, two Kindles and a safe containing a substantial amount of cash were allegedly stolen. It is the third time the INGO has been robbed in less than two months. Source: Radio Tamazuj.

18 September 2016: In Yei, Central Equatoria State, the refugee settlement of Lasu came under attack, forcing 8,000 people to flee. Armed groups ransacked a health centre and stole medicine, medical supplies and furniture. Health officials were threatened at gunpoint. The assailants also snatched solar panels used to pump water, depriving the population from drinking water. Sources: ACAPS, UNHCR Report via Relief Web.

21 September 2016: In Alek, Gogrial, West Warrap State, a local security guard for an INGO was stabbed to death in a dispute. No specific information is available. Source: AWSD.

21 September 2016: In Yei, Central Equatoria State, SPLA soldiers invaded an orphanage run by an undisclosed international Christian Mission, forcing around 100 children to relocate. Source: Radio Tamazuj.

**Asia**

**Afghanistan**

05-06 September 2016: In the Kabul neighbourhood of Shar-e-Naw, a Taliban-claimed twin suicide car bombing attack was launched near a government building and in front of the office of CARE International, causing damages. Subsequently, three gunmen stormed the agency’s compound leading to an overnight fire-fight with the security forces. Six civilians were injured during the compound attack and the insurgent trio were eventually gunned down. Sources: BBC, Care International and Military.

07 September 2016: The UN warned that the work environment for humanitarian officials in Afghanistan has become increasingly dangerous as the number of abductions this year reached 93. Source: VOA News.

12 September 2016: In Kandahar city, Kandahar Province, two assailants reportedly wearing suicide vests stormed the Mirwais Hospital compound and engaged in an armed confrontation with security forces from the National Directorate of Security. One security officer and a civilian were killed and another person was injured. Both attackers were killed. Sources: Tolo News and VOA News.

**Fiji**

08 September 2016: A three-day meeting focusing on the problems of the sugar industry organised by
The NGO Dialogue Fiji was cancelled by the police, who stated that it did not have the required permit. The NGO claims that it had held public fora without authorisation in the past. Source: Radio NZ.

**Pakistan**
12 September 2016: In Peshawar city, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, gunmen killed a doctor who had taken part in an anti-polio vaccination campaign. Source: AP.

**Philippines**
07 September 2016: In Quezon city, Calabarzon Region, a Facebook user made an online announcement suggesting that a bag containing an improvised explosive device had been placed in Don Alejandro Roces Sr. Science and Technology High School. The building was evacuated and searched, but it turned out that the bomb threat was a hoax. Source: The Philippine Star.

**Europe**

**Greece**
19 September 2016: On the Greek island of Lesbos, the Moria refugee camp was torched amid violence between residents frustrated over living conditions, forcing most to flee the site. Sources: Joel Charny and Reuters.

**Turkey**
27 September 2016: Police across Turkey detained 121 members of Kimse Yok Mu relief organisation on suspicions of having ties to the Gülenist Terror Group. Source: Daily Sabah.

**Middle-East and North Africa**

**Lebanon**
07 September 2016: In Baalbek, Beqaa Governorate, the director of Ibn Sina Hospital was kidnapped from his home by unspecified assailants. The victim was freed on 10 September 2016. Sources: Naharnet, National News Agency and The Daily Star.

22 September 2016: In the Ain el-Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp, South Governorate, fighting flared between members of the Bilal Badr and Fateh groups. Source: National News Agency.

**Libya**
Update: 20 September 2016: A North Korean doctor who had been working at a hospital in Jalu, Al Wahat District for seven years, was freed. He had been kidnapped alongside his wife a year ago. It appears that the victim was subjected to harsh conditions at the hands of the Islamic State during his captivity. Source: AP News.

**Syrian Arab Republic**
03 September 2016: In Khan Shikhoun town, Maarrat al-Nu’man District, Idlib Governorate, regime and Russian warplanes bombed a hospital and rendered it inoperable. Source: SN4HR.

03 September 2016: A humanitarian vehicle was hit by cluster bombs. No specific information is available. Source: Majd Khalaf (Syria Civil Defence / The White Helmets).

05 September 2016: Near Marshou circle, Al Hasakah city, Al Hasakah Governorate, a radiologist was killed when a suicide bomber blew himself up at a checkpoint manned by the Democratic Union Party. The Islamic State has claimed responsibility for this attack. Source: SN4HR.
06 September 2016: Four volunteers from the Syria Civil Defence (SCD) were killed and several others injured in two separate attacks. No specific information is available. Source: Syria Civil Defence / The White Helmets.

06 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, a regime helicopter dropped barrel bombs onto the neighbourhood of Al Salhein, killing two SCD members. Source: SN4HR.

06 September 2016: In Khan Shaikhoun, Idlib Governorate, two SCD members were killed by shrapnel when Russian warplanes targeted the southern neighbourhood of the city. The victim was treating the wounded from a previous bombing at the time he was killed. Source: SN4HR.

07 September 2016: In the Al Sheikh Maqsoud neighbourhood of Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, a surgeon was killed amid shelling by the Democratic Union Party forces. Sources: SN4HR I and SN4HR II.

09 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, rebel forces attacked a hospital in the neighbourhood of Al Muhafatha causing damage. Source: SN4HR.

11 September 2016: In Saraqib, Idlib Governorate, alleged Russian warplanes attacked and damaged an SCD compound. Source: SN4HR.

11 September 2016: In Dara’a Governorate, a pharmacist died following torture by regime forces in a detention centre. Source: SN4HR.

12 September 2016: In Douma, Rif Dimashq Governorate, six SCD volunteers were injured when they were hit by alleged Syrian government cluster bombs. Source: Mohamad Katoub (SAMS).

16 September 2016: In Khan Arnabah town, Quneitra Governorate, a female psychological and social support volunteer worker from the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) was killed when she was hit by a number of mortar shells fired from the rebel-held town of Jabata Al Khashab. Source: SN4HR.

19 September 2016: In western Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, warplanes of disputed origin struck a UN humanitarian convoy, from which aid workers had been offloading relief supplies for 78,000 people near the town of Urm al-Kubra. This incident led to the death of 31 people, including 12 aid workers, most of whom employees of SARC, including the head of the SARC branch in Urm al-Kubra town, and the injury of 18. At least 18 of the 31 aid trucks were destroyed, along with a SARC warehouse and a health facility. The bombardment was continuous, and rescue teams were consequently unable to intervene. The United States (US) has blamed Russia for this attack, but the latter denied any involvement. This incident triggered a 48-hour suspension of UN land movements in the country, as a security measure. Sources: AFP news agency, Al Jazeera I, Al Jazeera II, Al Jazeera III, BBC I, BBC II, BBC III, Charles Lister I, Charles Lister II (Middle East Institute), Huffington Post, Khaled Khatib (Syria Civil Defence / The White Helmets), NPR, Reuters I, Reuters II, Reuters III, Reuters IV, Reuters V, Reuters VI, Reuters VII, Reuters VIII, SN4HR, The Daily Beast, The Guardian I, The Guardian II, The New York Times I, The New York Time II and Thomson Reuters Foundation.

19 September 2016: In Deir ez-Zor city, Deir ez-Zor Governorate, a male pharmacist was killed when regime warplanes fired missiles onto residential areas. Source: SN4HR.

21 September 2016: In Khan Tuman town, Simeon District, Aleppo Governorate, a series of suspected Syrian and Russian aerial attacks struck a medical triage centre run by the Paris-based Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations, killing nine medical personnel. Subsequent raids killed two ambulance
drivers, two nurses, and four other medics, as they were evacuating the building. Sources: Al Jazeera, BBC, Reuters, SN4HR I and SN4HR II.

22 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, Syrian and Russian warplanes struck two medical facilities, killing one medic, his wife and their child. Source: The Syria Campaign.

23 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, an SCD makeshift firehouse and two ambulance depots were bombed by Syrian government or Russian warplanes, turning a fire engine upside down and destroying ambulances. An underground installation of SCD was also hit, this time by a bunker buster. Source: The Daily Beast.

23 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, three SCD centres were destroyed and water sources targeted amid 90 or more airstrikes. Sources: Charles Lister (Middle East Institute), The Syria Campaign and Syria Civil Defence / The White Helmets.

23 September 2016: An SCD volunteer was killed in unspecified circumstances. Source: Syria Civil Defence / The White Helmets.

23 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, an SCD centre in Al-Ansari Mashhad District was bombed and reduced to smithereens. Source: The Syria Campaign.

23 September 2016: In an unspecified location, airstrikes destroyed SCD ambulances and life-saving equipment. Source: The Syria Campaign.

23 September 2016: An airstrike hit near an unspecified SCD centre whilst a On the Ground News crew were filming inside the building. Source: On the Ground News.

23 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, Russian warplanes targeted an SCD centre in the neighbourhood of Masakan Hanano and rendered it inoperable. Source: SN4HR.

23 September 2016: In Al Bab city, Aleppo Governorate, Russian warplanes targeted the vicinity of a market controlled by the Islamic State, killing an SCD member in the process. Source: SN4HR.

24 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, six volunteers from SCD were injured whilst responding to an airstrike. Source: Khaled Khatib (Syria Civil Defence / The White Helmets).

24 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, a nurse was killed along with his wife and five children amid alleged Russian shelling in the neighbourhood of Tareeq al Bab. Sources: SN4HR I and SN4HR II.

24 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, an aid worker from Ihsan for Relief and Development, a partner of Save the Children, was killed in an airstrike. Source: Save the Children News.

25 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, an SCD centre in Hanano District was struck by an alleged Syrian government barrel bomb. Source: Khaled Khatib (Syria Civil Defence / The White Helmets).

25 September 2016: In Zakya, located in the Damascene suburb of Eastern Ghouta, regime helicopters allegedly dropped numerous barrel bombs on the countryside and killed a paramedic who was attending to the wounded from a previous bombing. Source: SN4HR.
26 September 2016: Near the Syrian capital of Damascus, the Islamic State closed down the only remaining United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)-affiliated Jarmaq School in the Palestinian refugee camp of Yarmouk, preventing 1,000 students from pursuing education. This move came after volunteer teachers refused to adopt a new Islamic State curriculum at the start of this academic year. Source: *Syria Direct*.

26 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, a national staff member of a local NGO was killed in an airstrike while walking home from work in the afternoon. Source: *AWSD*.

27 September 2016: In eastern Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, two major Syrian American Medical Society Foundation (SAMS)-supported hospitals, known as M2 and M10, were damaged and knocked out of service when they were hit by an airstrike and artillery shells respectively. At the M2, two health officials were killed by shrapnel and three others injured. Over 90 staff and patients were trapped in the basement amid intense aerial bombardments. Sources: Charles Lister (Middle East Institute), Olivia Alabaster, Reuters, SAMS Foundation, The New York Times and UOSSM Suisse.

27 September 2016: In Kafr Hamra town, Aleppo Governorate, the Anadan Educational Complex was targeted and damaged by alleged Russian warplanes. Source: *SN4HR*.

28 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, government forces targeted and destroyed an Aid System ambulance. Source: *SN4HR*.

28 September 2016: In eastern Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, suspected Russian warplanes targeted and damaged Amal Wa’ed school in the neighbourhood of Al Mash’had. Source: *SN4HR*.

28 September 2016: In the Khan Al Sheih refugee camp, in the western suburb of Damascus, regime forces fired mortar shells on the UNRWA-run Beersheba School, injuring a pupil and two teachers. Sources: Action Pal and *SN4HR*.

28 September 2016: In Al Boeheij village, Aleppo Governorate, three SCD volunteers were killed when Russian warplanes attacked the Islamic State-controlled suburb. Source: *SN4HR*.

29 September 2016: In Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, three volunteers from an unspecified organisation were targeted and killed by an airstrike in the Al Bab area. Source: Khaled Khatib (Syria Civil Defence / The White Helmets).

30 September 2016: Warplanes targeted and destroyed an International Pitying Hearts Society (IPHS) ambulance, severely wounding the driver. Source: *IPHS*.


30 September 2016: In Al Lataminah village, Hama Governorate, regime forces attacked and partially damaged Al Lataminah School. Source: *SN4HR*.

_Yemen_

05 September 2016: In the district of al-Tjary, Al Hudaydah City, Al Hudaydah Governorate, Saudi warplanes destroyed a building belonging to Doctors’ Syndicate. Source: *Saba News*.
21 September 2016: In the Yemeni capital of Sanaa, Houthi militiamen kidnapped an American manager of an English language centre and took him to an unknown destination. Source: Aden GHD.

The Americas

Guyana

23 September 2016: In the Guianese capital of Georgetown, two motorcycle-borne robbers snatched a handbag from two employees of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), containing around 50 US dollars, a tablet, an electronic dictionary, and some documents. Source: Jamaica Observer.

Trend Reporting: January-September 2015 and January-September 2016

Number of aid staff reported killed, kidnapped, injured or assaulted (severe events) by open sources, disaggregated by category of aid staff for the first 9 months of 2015 and 2016.

The total number of aid staff killed, injured, assaulted or kidnapped increased by over 60% in 2016 (487) compared to 2015 (301), based on a comparison of the first 9 months of each year. The breakdown by category of affected aid staff shows that the most important increase covers incidents that affected health workers. During the first 9 months of 2016, 138 health workers (local and attached to international aid agencies) were reportedly affected compared to 56 during the same period in 2015, which is a rise nearly approaching 150%. The second biggest rise affected ‘other aid workers’, mainly local organisations working in Syria. The number of affected Red Cross Red Crescent and UN staff also increased. The level of aid workers affiliated with large international organisations not working in healthcare remained relatively unchanged. However, if we add the aid workers affiliated to international organisations working in healthcare to the total count of aid agency aid workers, we see an overall increase of over 30% in numbers of affected aid workers (207 in the first 9 months of 2016 compared to 150 in the first 9 months of 2015).

Note: Humanitarian Aid Workers include individuals employed or attached to recognised aid agencies. Red Cross and Red Crescent includes the ICRC and all personnel or volunteers of National Societies. Other Aid Workers include missionaries, development agencies and local relief agencies serving a particular community. Drivers/Security Guards refers to those employed or contracted by aid agencies. Humanitarian Health Workers include medical personnel affiliated with a humanitarian aid agency, while Other Health Workers include health personnel from the local health structures. Humanitarian Deminers refers to deminers working for a humanitarian demining organisation. Private deminers are those working for a commercial company. Teachers include all educational staff of any affiliation. UN personnel include staff contracted or working for the UN in a civilian, non-military capacity.

Data collection is ongoing and these numbers may change as new information is made available. Where the number of people affected is unspecified, one is counted.
Security-related access constraints

Africa

Central African Republic
14 September 2016: The International Rescue Committee (IRC), INTERSOS and Solidarity temporarily suspended their activities in the northern town of Kaga-Bandoro, Nana Gribizi Prefecture, following a series of armed robberies and attacks. This move has deprived more than 120,000 people of emergency humanitarian assistance. Sources: OCHA CAR and RFI.

29 September 2016: In some areas outside Central African Republic’s capital, Bangui, children were unable to start their school year because schools have been turned into bases by armed groups. Sources: BBC and Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Ethiopia
23 September 2016: Protests across Ethiopia have completely restricted the delivery of food assistance to four regions: Afar, Amhara, Oromia, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples’ Region (SNNPR). Malnutrition has increased significantly as a result. Sources: ACAPS I and ACAPS II.

Kenya
15 September 2016: The Government of Kenya reaffirmed its plan to close Dadaab’s complex for Somali refugees on 30 November 2016. Meanwhile, Human Rights Watch has accused the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) of not giving refugees accurate information about the risks they would face should they return to their homeland. Source: Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Mali
07 September 2016: In Mali’s capital Bamako, at least 100 refugees from Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire and the Democratic Republic of the Congo joined a sit-in protest in front of the office of the UNHCR, demanding better protection and living conditions from the UN body. Source: aBamako.

Sudan
19 September 2016: The Government of Sudan has threatened to close its frontiers with South Sudan within days, thereby blocking the flow of humanitarian aid, if the latter fails to expel armed movements from its territory. Source: Radio Tamazuj.

22 September 2016: The Government of Sudan announced that it will reject any humanitarian assistance to the Blue Nile and South Kordofan States delivered through neighbouring countries. Source: Radio Tamazuj.

South Sudan
27 September 2016: In Unity State, 38 aid workers from UN agencies and other humanitarian organisations, including the Danish Refugee Council, were flown out of two villages, Jazeera and Nhialdu, ahead of imminent fighting between government and opposition forces. Sources: Radio Tamazuj, Thomson Reuters Foundation I and Thomson Reuters Foundation II.

Asia

Afghanistan
05-06 September 2016: Following an armed attack on its compound in Shar-e-Naw, Kabul, CARE International reportedly evacuated all staff. Sources: Military.
India
27 September 2016: At least 744 NGOs have been identified by the Indian authorities as alleged violators of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, claiming that they failed to abide by the provisions of the same act. Source: The Financial Express.

Myanmar
19 September 2016: In Putao township, Kachin State, the Myanmar authorities have ordered that any donations from humanitarian bodies towards Lung Tsut - a camp for the internally displaced - must be first authorised by state authorities. Source: The Irrawaddy.

Europe
United Kingdom
28 September 2016: Britain’s exit from the European Union could trigger a decline in funding for humanitarian organisations, depriving protection to millions of people fleeing violence and human rights abuses. Source: Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Middle-East and North Africa

Egypt
10 September 2016: In a lawsuit filed by Caritas Egypt NGO against the Ministry of Social Solidarity and other government institutions, an administrative court ruled that the NGO has the right to receive foreign funding. Previously, the authorities had denied funding to the organisation from Caritas Germany, citing national security concerns. Similar cases are currently being reviewed by the courts and at the same time, numerous NGOs, including Nazra for Feminist Studies, are being investigated for receiving funding from abroad. Source: Ahram.

18 September 2016: An Egyptian court has ordered the freezing of assets of five prominent human rights activists and three NGOs. They are accused of receiving funds from abroad. This move paved the way for criminal proceedings, which may lead to life imprisonment if found guilty. Source: Citizen TV.

Iraq
28 September 2016: For the first time in two years, food aid has reached vulnerable communities in the town of Shirqat, Salah ad-Din Governorate, a week after the Islamic State were pushed out from the district by the Iraqi military. Source: Reuters.

Occupied Palestinian Territories
09 September 2016: World Vision International laid off around 120 contractors in the Gaza Strip because its bank accounts in Jerusalem had been frozen by the Israeli authorities on 29 August 2016, making it impossible to pay them. Source: Reuters.

Syrian Arab Republic
08 September 2016: In a position paper, a coalition of 73 NGOs, including SAMS and SCD, operating in opposition-held areas, announced that they were suspending cooperation with a UN information-sharing scheme, accusing the world body of allegedly allowing the regime to influence its aid deliveries to rebel-held areas. Sources: IRIN, The New York Times and Thomson Reuters Foundation.

13 September 2016: Two 20-truck humanitarian convoys, containing a month’s worth of food rations for 185,000 people in Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, could not enter Syria via the Turkish border owing to the failure of the regime to issue the necessary permits. Sources: France24 I, France24 II, IRIN, Reuters, The

18 September 2016: In the rebel-held besieged Damascus suburb of Moadamiya, food aid packages delivered by the UN were rendered unusable because the contents had been reportedly tampered with. Source: Annie Sparrow.

19 September 2016: A SARC humanitarian convoy ferrying supplies for more than 80,000 people reached the town of Talbiseh, Homs Governorate. Source: Reuters.

20 September 2016: Following the 19 September 2016 deadly humanitarian convoy attack, the ICRC postponed the delivery of relief assistance to four Syrian towns pending a security reassessment. Sources: Reuters I and Reuters II.

22 September 2016: UN trucks loaded with humanitarian relief for 35,000 people arrived in the besieged Damascene suburb of Moadamiya. Sources: BBC and Reuters.

25 September 2016: For the first time in almost six months, a 70-truck humanitarian convoy managed to reach four besieged areas in Syria, namely Madaya and al-Zabadani, Rif Dimashq Governorate, and the villages of al Foua and Kefraya, Idlib province. Source: Reuters.


26 September 2016: In the eastern part of Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, rescue efforts have been severely hampered as aerial attacks rendered roads impassable and destroyed civil protection centres and rescue equipment. Source: Reuters.

27 September 2016: The regime has not yet approved the selection of the UN for the currently vacant position of UN resident humanitarian coordinator in Syria, Mr Ali Al-Za’tari. Source: IRIN.

28 September 2016: A three-hour non-emergency strike by medical workers from several hospitals across Syria, including the Women and Children Hospital in Atmeh, Idlib Governorate, took place, calling for an immediate end to the deliberate attacks on health facilities, medical officials, and aid workers. Sources: Hand in Hand for Syria and Swiss Info.

30 September 2016: The security situation in Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, has prevented the World Health Organisation (WHO) from delivering urgently needed medical equipment into the city. Source: Reuters.