

## **Qatar Red Crescent gives \$250,000 for Gaza health care**

*12 December 2008*

DOHA: Qatar Red Crescent (QRC) has allocated \$250,000 for Gaza Red Crescent to help increase the stock of medicines in Gaza, which has run out as a result of the Israeli economic blockade.

The QRC said availability of medicines was a problem in the majority of hospitals in Gaza and the condition of equipments in the hospitals was worsening.

This outlay will be executed through the European Mechanism for Socio-Economic Management and Support, and transferred to the Palestinian Health Ministry.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) reported that hospitals in Gaza are running out of even the most basic items and medicines. "There is a lack of painkillers for severe pain, specialised antibiotics and anaesthetics," Katharina Ritz, the ICRC's head of mission for the occupied Palestinian territories, said.

According to Relief Web -- a global hub for time-critical humanitarian information on complex emergencies and natural disasters -- Spain will allocate three million euros for the purchase of medicines to cover the most urgent health needs of the population via the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation.

{Zawya}