

Press Release

New UNDP Special Representative arrives at the occupied Palestinian territory

Jerusalem, 27 May 2015 – UNDP Administrator, Helen Clark, appointed Mr Roberto Valent as her Special Representative to UNDP's Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP), to replace Mr Frode Muring, who served as Special Representative from February 2011 to May 2015.

"I feel privileged by the opportunity of serving again in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip in my new capacity as UNDP Special Representative," said Mr Valent. "UNDP will continue supporting the Palestinian people in fulfilling their own aspirations and improving their lives".

Mr Valent assumed his responsibilities on Wednesday 27 May 2015. Prior to this appointment, Mr Valent was the UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in El Salvador and Belize.

From 2007-2010, Mr Valent was Deputy Special Representative at PAPP. From 2005 – 2007 he was Deputy Country Director in the Democratic Republic of Congo and before that he was assigned as Deputy Resident Representative in Sudan from 2002-2005. He was also Deputy Resident Representative in Comoros from 2001 – 2002 and UN Municipal Administrator at UNMIK/DPKO in Kosovo between 1999 and 2001. Mr Valent began his career with UNDP in 1995 as a Junior Professional Officer in Albania.

An Italian national, Mr Valent holds a BA and a Master's Degree in Political Sciences from Bologna University, Italy, followed by another Master's Degree in International Relations from Sussex University, U.K.

For further information, please contact:

Dania Darwish, Communications Specialist, Tel. +972-2-6268229 – e-mail: danial.darwish@undp.org.
For more information on UNDP/PAPP see <http://www.ps.undp.org>.

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