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The Director for the Neighborhood South -DG NEAR European Commission Mr. Michael Köhler Visit to the German Jordanian University and EDU-SYRIA Graduated Students Ceremony

Amman, Jordan. On Wednesday 28 March 2018, Mr. Köhler, EU Director, visits the German Jordanian University as part of two days visit to Jordan. The German-Jordanian University (GJU) is a public university located in Amman/Madaba. It was founded in between Jordan and Germany. The University is modelled on the German applied-sciences model, characterized by their focus on putting knowledge into practice and on promoting knowledge transfer.

In addition, he visited three of GJU laboratory that are funded by the European Union, which are: Biogas Production in local communities in Jordan, Vocational Training Centre for Undergraduate University Students and Teachers in Jordan and DESIRE - Development of higher Education teaching modules on the Socio-economic Impacts of the Renewable Energy implementation.

After the tour, Mr. Köhler attended a recognition of achievement ceremony for EDU-SYRIA project graduates. In the ceremony, Mr. Ibrahim Hariri, EDU-SYRIA student, gave a speech about his journey out of Syria and in Jordan.

During the ceremony Mr. Köhler praised the Syrian students to finalize their studies in the challenging conditions and lauded the commitment of Jordan to provide a safe learning environment. In addition, Prof. Manar gave a speech about the Syrian crises and how GJU in collaboration with the EU, played a vital role in alleviating the students suffer by providing scholarships. After the three speeches, EDU-SYRIA talented students performed three talent shows in performing a dramatic composition, a musical piece, and delivering a poetry. At the end of the ceremony, Prof. Manar and Mr. Köhler hand over the certificates to EDU-SYRIA students.

After the ceremony, Mr. Köhler joined prof. Manar and the guests to the dinner.

About EDU-SYRIA Project:

EDU-SYRIA is a framework to help Syrian refugees in Jordan and vulnerable Jordanians from the refugees host communities to get access to higher education through a set of scholarship programs. EDU-SYRIA supports the "No Lost Generation" strategy, which aims to provide those affected by the conflict with the chance to shape a more stable and secure future.

The project consists of two phases: EDU-SYRIA I and EDU-SYRIA II, which gives the students the opportunity to pursue an academic or professional educational degree. Both projects are managed by German Jordanian University (GJU) under the name of GJU president Prof. Manar Fayyad as project director and Dr. Dhiah el Diehn Abou-Tair as project manager.

EDU-SYRIA provides Syrian refugees with advanced training and education, which will contribute to the future efforts of rebuilding the Syrian economy. The European Union provided EDU-SYRIA with an initial fund of Euro 4 Million for the first component and the EU Regional Trust Fund 'Madad' provided a fund of Euro 11 Million for the second phase.

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