

ESCWA vs UNRWA Leadership Names, Nationalities, and Terms of Service

ESCWA – Executive Secretaries	Nationality	Term	UNRWA – Commissioners-General	Nationality	Term
Mohammad Said Al-Attar	Yemen	1974–1985	John Davis	United States	1959–1963
Mohammad Said Al-Nabulsi	Jordan	1985–1988	Laurence Michelmore	United States	1964–1971
Tayseer Abdel Jaber	Jordan	1989–1993	John Rennie	United Kingdom	1971–1977
Sabah Eddin Shukri Bakjaji	Syria	1993–1995	Thomas McElhiney	United States	1977–1979
Hazem El-Beblawi	Egypt	1995–2000	Olof Rydbeck	Sweden	1979–1985
Mervat Tallawy	Egypt	2000–2007	Giorgio Giacomelli	Italy	1985–1991
Bader Al-Dafa	Qatar	2007–2010	■lter Türkmen	Turkey	1991–1996
Rima Khalaf	Jordan	2010–2017	Peter Hansen	Denmark	1996–2005
Mohamed Ali Alhakim	Iraq	2017–2018	Karen Koning AbuZayd	United States	2005–2010
Rola Dashti	Kuwait	2019–present	Filippo Grandi	Italy	2010–2014
			Pierre Krähenbühl	Switzerland	2014–2019
			Philippe Lazzarini	Switzerland	2020–present

ESCWA Executive Secretaries have consistently been appointed from Arab States of the region served. By contrast, UNRWA Commissioners-General have been appointed exclusively from outside the refugee and host-country context.