

REFERENCE: OCHA/NV/227/2016

The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) presents its compliments to the Permanent Representative to the United Nations and would like to inform His/Her Excellency's Government of the opportunity to nominate a candidate to serve as a member of the Advisory Group of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for a single three-year term.

On 15 December 2005, the General Assembly, as part of its resolution on *Strengthening the Coordination of the Emergency Humanitarian Assistance of The United Nations (A/RES/60/124)*, decided to upgrade the Central Emergency Revolving Fund to the Central Emergency Response Fund by including a grant element, funded by voluntary contributions, in order to ensure a more timely, predictable and equitable response to humanitarian crises.

As envisioned by the Secretary-General's report on Improving the Central Emergency Revolving Fund (A/60/432) and as endorsed by the General Assembly, a CERF Advisory Group was established to provide guidance and expert advice to the Emergency Relief Coordinator on the use and impact of the Fund, and to make recommendations on Fund replenishment. The CERF Advisory Group meets twice a year.

As per the Terms of Reference, Advisory Group members will be selected from a range of partners and stakeholders, including Member States, non-governmental organizations, international organizations, practitioners, academic and research institutions, and the private sector.

The Secretary-General will select Advisory Group members according to the composition above and based on demonstrated, senior-level experience and relevant expertise in working in a range of humanitarian emergencies. In addition, the scale of financial commitment to CERF and support of the Agenda for Humanity, and particularly the call for a \$1 billion CERF, will be factored into selecting new Advisory Group members. Specific emphasis will be placed on ensuring that membership is geographically diverse and possesses gender balance. Consideration will also be given to skills required for the effective supervision of the Fund.

Member States are encouraged to nominate high level experts both from within and outside their government, and also to note that experts will serve in their personal capacity.

Please note that English is the working language of the Advisory Group.

The attached terms of reference provide additional details on the principal functions and procedures of the CERF Advisory Group.

Should His/Her Excellency's Government wish to make a nomination to the CERF Advisory Group, kindly respond to this note by providing the name, current title, contact information and detailed professional resume of the candidate by 5th August 2016, with the electronic copy of the documents addressed to loupforest@un.org and frandsen@un.org. It is expected that the Secretary-General will announce selected candidates by 15th September 2016. The next Advisory Group meeting, including the new members, will take place in Geneva on 27th and 28th October 2016.



New York, 18 July 2016