



**Title:**

**High-Level Side Event on Strengthening the Humanitarian and  
Development Partnership in the Lake Chad Region**

**Sponsors and Organizers:**

**Permanent Missions of Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria to the United Nations**

**Date and Time: Wednesday, 20 June 2018, 13:00 – 14:45**

**Place: ECOSOC Chamber, UN Secretariat, New York**

**Background and objectives**

The humanitarian emergency across the Lake Chad region is one of the world's most severe. In 2018, around 10.7 million people need relief assistance to survive. The Lake Chad Basin is also plagued with a multiplicity of development challenges, impeding any real opportunities for sustained peace and development. These challenges include high levels of poverty, food insecurity, malnutrition, violent extremism and the devastating impacts of climate change.

There is a general understanding amongst the UN and its partners that addressing humanitarian and development challenges in the Lake Chad region requires different approaches, strategies and partnerships. In this regard and building on global processes, including the World Humanitarian Summit and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 'New Way of Working' (NWOW) aims at meeting people's immediate humanitarian needs while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability, and in doing so, helping reduce these needs over time and contributing to the longer-term vision embedded in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Advancing the humanitarian-development nexus in practice can only be done at country level and through concerted efforts to do business differently. In addition to empowered leadership, this needs to be bolstered by strengthened coordination between humanitarian, development and, where applicable and appropriate, peace actors in terms of shared analysis, joined-up planning and programming, and financing modalities that can deliver on collective outcomes over longer timeframes, in particular in protracted crisis settings. It is on the strength of the above that the Permanent Missions of Cameroon, Chad, Niger and

Nigeria, in collaboration with humanitarian and development partners, will hold a high-level Side Event on **Strengthening the Humanitarian and Development Partnership in the Lake Chad Region.**

### **Discussion points**

This event will discuss the progress and good practices emerging from the countries in the Lake Chad Region in advancing the humanitarian-development collaboration, and further enhancing national, regional and international responses needed to systematically reduce need, risk and vulnerability and achieve the 2030 Agenda.

### **Intended outcomes/conclusions/recommendations**

The High-Level Side Event will place specific emphasis on the ongoing efforts to mitigate the impact of the crisis and prevalent environmental conditions in the Lake Chad Region, which includes parts of Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria. The outcome of the event is a coming together of key stakeholders in the region to share experiences and further enhance the dialogue around the humanitarian and development partnership in the Lake Chad Region. The event will also explore ways and means of ensuring the protection of civilians and creating durable solutions that enhance the socio-economic development of the area, in order to reduce needs, risk and vulnerability.

The event will build on existing strategies and initiatives in the region as well as on recent discussions on and in the region, including the 2017 General Assembly Ministerial Roundtable on the Lake Chad region and the recent Lake Chad Basin Governor's forum in Maiduguri, Nigeria. The outcomes will also pave the way for greater commitment in the lead-up to the follow-up event to the Oslo Humanitarian Conference on the Lake Chad region.

Intended outcomes:

- (a) Commitment to strengthen partnerships and cooperation among partners working in the Lake Chad Region to ensure a more synergized delivery of assistance to people in the affected areas;
- (b) Commitment to a periodic forum of interaction on Lake Chad (**'Lake Chad countries and partners coordinating forum'**) among affected countries, partners and donors to further discuss the situation in the Lake Chad Basin, sustain international attention on the crisis, provide critical political leveraging and review progress made on advancing humanitarian-development collaboration as well as on exiting initiatives in the region;
- (c) Facilitate the implementation of the relevant goals of Agenda 2030 in the affected areas.

## **Format**

1. Introductory remarks by the Chair, H.E. Professor Tijjani Muhammed-Bande, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations – 3 minutes
2. Ministerial High-Level Remarks by Nigeria (H.E. Khaddijah Abba Bukar Ibrahim, Honorable Minister of State for Foreign Affairs), Cameroon, Chad and Niger, donors and other Member States – 30 minutes
3. Panel Discussion with the United Nations Resident/Humanitarian Coordinators for Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria – 25 minutes
4. Interventions from the floor [to be given based on rank/request] – 30 minutes
  - a. Member States
  - b. Regional organizations
  - c. Operational actors (UN agencies, NGOs)
  - d. International Financial Institutions
5. Closing remarks by the Chair –3 minutes

**Chair and moderator:** H.E. Professor Tijjani Muhammed-Bande, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations

## **Panel composition:**

Ministerial High-Level Opening Remarks by representatives from Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria, donors and other Member States

Panel Discussion with the United Nations Resident/Humanitarian Coordinators (in person or via teleconference):

- Ms. Allegra Baiocchi, United Nations Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Cameroon;
- Mr. Stephen Tull, United Nations Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Chad;
- Ms. Bintou Djibo, United Nations Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Niger; and,
- Mr. Edward Kallon, United Nations Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria.

## **Background Material**

Printed handouts in English and French

## **Contact**

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