

ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment 2016

One month on from the World Humanitarian Summit: What next for humanitarian financing?

Organized by the Members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Team on Humanitarian Financing and Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative

Monday, 27 June, 18:15 – 19:30
Conference Room 1, United Nations Secretariat, New York

This is one of the side-events to be convened during the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment, in keeping with this year's theme: *Restoring Humanity and Leaving No One Behind: Working together to reduce people's humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability.*

Background and objectives

Following the outcomes of the World Humanitarian Summit in May financing to meet humanitarian needs and reduce risk and vulnerability is more important than ever. The Grand Bargain on efficiency, signed up to at the World Humanitarian Summit, provides an invigorated platform from which to address the growing gap between needs and available resources – but in order to close this gap, we need to begin to better understand what resources are available and where additional investments are most needed. The objective of this side event is to discuss the delivery of the Grand Bargain commitments, with a particular focus on aspects related to transparency, funding to local and national actors, and innovative and flexible multi-year funding.

Discussion points

Against this backdrop, the side-event will focus on the following suggested questions:

The overarching focus of the event will be to explore ways to achieve more efficient and effective financing, building upon good practice, and making finite humanitarian resources go further to bring about better results for crisis affected populations. To achieve this, discussions will be centered around answering three key questions which comprise key elements of the Grand Bargain commitments, including:

1. How can we ensure transparent data on all relevant resource flows to ensure that funding reaches those most in need of assistance?
2. How can humanitarian financing support the critical role of local and national actors in crises affected areas?
3. How can we better achieve innovative, flexible and multi-year humanitarian financing?

Intended outcomes/conclusions/recommendations

This side event provides one of the first opportunities for a diverse range of stakeholders to reflect upon the impact of the World Humanitarian Summit on important aspects related to humanitarian financing. Participants will be encouraged to provide concrete, results-oriented

suggestions to take commitments made as part of the Grand Bargain and other initiatives forward.

Format

Chair:

- Jemilah Mahmood, Under Secretary General of Partnerships, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society

Co-Moderators:

- Ambassador Hesham Youssef, Assistant Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs, Organization of Islamic Cooperation
- Nan Buzard, Executive Director, International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)

Panel composition:

Scene setting to inform panel discussion:

Sophia Swithern, Head of Research & Analysis, Development Initiatives: Presentation on current financing landscape related the three key discussion questions, drawing upon key findings in the forthcoming 2016 Global Humanitarian Assistance Report

Panellists:

- *Rüdiger König, Director-General for Crisis Prevention, Stabilisation, Peacebuilding and Humanitarian Assistance, Germany Federal Foreign Office (responding to question one and two)*
- *Smruti Patel, Interim Executive Director, Near (responding to question two)*
- *Philippe Lazzarini, Deputy Special Coordinator for Lebanon, Humanitarian and Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative (responding to question three) (tbc)*

Background Material

- *The Grand Bargain – A Shared Commitment to Better Serve People in Need*
- *One Humanity, Shared Responsibility, Secretary General*
- *Looking Beyond the Crisis, Future Humanitarian Finance*
- *Too Important to Fail —addressing the humanitarian financing gap, High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing*
- *Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2016, Development Initiatives*
- *Better Information for a Better Response: The basics of humanitarian transparency, Development Initiatives*
- *Less Paper More Aid: Reporting, Partner Capacity and Assessment, and Audit – ICVA*

Contact

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