

Background Note (as of 16 June 2022)
2022 United Nations Economic and Social Council Meeting on the Transition from Relief to Development

Recurrent crises and sustainable solutions: building resilience and addressing rising food insecurity and displacement

Monday 20 June 2022, 10:00-13:00 & 15:00-18:00 (New York time)

ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, New York

The meeting will discuss ways to strengthen collaboration and complementarity between humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors to address multi-dimensional challenges and drivers of humanitarian need, such as displacement, acute food insecurity and risk of famine. Global food insecurity and displacement are at unprecedented levels, due to the compounding effects of conflict, climate change and challenging recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, food prices are 34 per cent higher than this time last year. Conflict remains the main driver of food insecurity, and this has been further exacerbated by the global impact of the conflict in Ukraine. At the same time the adverse effects of climate change and extreme weather events (e.g. drought, floods, storms, sea level rise, glacier melt), are ravaging the lives of many communities and countries and together with conflict are fueling record levels of displacement. This meeting will discuss ways to strengthen joined-up approaches that reduce need, risk and vulnerability, build resilience, and achieve the transition from relief to sustainable development. The discussion will address challenges, best practices and enablers of success at country and regional level and for further improvements, in particular on strengthening food security and durable solutions. It will include consideration of the impacts and role for women who provide such important support to their communities and are often front-line responders. It will consider the inter-connection of regional, national and local efforts. In accordance with General Assembly [resolution 75/290 A](#), the meeting will focus on countries in situations of conflict, post-conflict countries and countries facing humanitarian emergencies, and also consider the existing ECOSOC agenda items on the issues related to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, South Sudan, the Sahel and any country-specific item, under the sub-item on African countries emerging from conflict for in-depth discussion to guide coordinated support at the country level.

The one-day meeting will be co-chaired by the ECOSOC Vice-Presidents in charge of the Humanitarian Affairs Segment and the Operational Activities for Development Segment. The meeting will include two roundtable sessions. The morning session will focus on assessing the scale and impact of food insecurity and on mobilizing collective action to address food insecurity and prevent famine in the most affected countries and regions, including through anticipatory approaches. The afternoon session will focus on displacement to deepen understanding of current and future challenges and impacts and to discuss mobilizing action and support for durable solutions. Both sessions will include discussion on collaboration, coherence and complementarity

across humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts. The discussions will focus on the issues faced by countries and regions that are most affected currently and projected to be impacted further, including Haiti, South Sudan and the Sahel. While Haiti, South Sudan and the Sahel will feature prominently in the discussions, the sessions also address other emergency contexts to share good practices and lessons learned.

Both the afternoon and morning session will also consider mobilization of financing across humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts to maximize the impact on the ground for affected people and communities. The cost of responding to protracted crises continues to rise sharply and a stronger ecosystem to address root causes and to pave the way for accelerating and achieving the 2030 Agenda is needed. The sessions will include discussions on how international financial institutions and regional development banks can support these efforts in humanitarian settings, and to prevent conflict, build resilience and strengthen recovery, in partnership with the United Nations, governments and civil society. The sessions will also explore the role of the Peacebuilding Fund in promoting conflict prevention, peacebuilding and cross-pillar coherence.

The discussions in these sessions – to be facilitated through thought-provoking questions – will be framed within the context of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, humanitarian emergencies and other global challenges, including the impact of climate change. Sufficient time will be provided for interaction with participants from the floor.

Co-Chairs

- H.E. Ambassador Diego Pary Rodríguez, Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the United Nations & Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the Humanitarian Affairs Segment
- H.E. Ambassador Miia Rainne, Chargée d’Affaires a.i. of Finland to the United Nations & Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the Operational Affairs for Development Segment

Keynote Statements

- H.E. Ambassador Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the Economic and Social Council
- Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

10:00-13:00

Roundtable Session 1

Recurrent crises and sustainable solutions: building resilience and addressing rising food insecurity

Remarks and moderation: OCHA and DCO

Panelists

1. Ms. Valerie N. Guarnieri, Assistant Executive Director, World Food Programme
2. Mr. Masatsugu Asakawa, President, Asian Development Bank (TBC)
3. Mr. Maximo Torero, Chief Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
4. H.E. Ambassador Ms. Rabab Fatima, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations & Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission
5. H.E. Ambassador Mr. Robert Keith Rae, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations & Chair of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti
6. Mr. Abdoulaye Mar Dieye, Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel
7. Mr. Fernando Quevedo, General Manager of the Country Department for Central America, Haiti, Mexico, Panama and the Dominican Republic, Inter-American Development Bank
8. Mr. Robert Powell, Special Representative to the United Nations, International Monetary Fund
9. Ms. Laura Jaitman, Acting Director of Multilateral and International Affairs and Special Representative to the United Nations, World Bank Group
10. Ms. Laurence Gros, Deputy Country Director in Burkina Faso, Action Against Hunger

Guiding questions for the morning roundtable session on food insecurity:

- What actions are critical and most impactful across humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts to prevent and respond to further escalation of food insecurity and risk of famine? How should these actions be accelerated and scaled up and key initiatives leveraged? What role can anticipatory approaches, joint analysis, joined-up planning and shared strategic objectives play?
- What lessons can be learned from building resilience through strengthened social protection systems, anticipatory approaches, and investing in climate-sensitive agriculture and livelihoods?
- What are the financing solutions required to strengthen anticipatory and early action and to reinforce humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts to prevent, mitigate, and reduce needs, risk and vulnerability and build resilience in the context of food insecurity? What role do international financial institutions currently play in support of these efforts and what further actions should they undertake?
- What measures have been successful to ensure that women are centrally involved in decision-making and receive funding, investments and assistance, as they are essential actors and vital to future solutions while also disproportionately affected by food insecurity and risk of famine?

15:00-18:00

Roundtable Session 2

Recurrent crises and sustainable solutions: building resilience and addressing rising displacement

Moderator: United Nations Development Coordination Office and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Panelists

1. Mr. Robert Piper, Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement
2. Ms. Kelly T. Clements, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees
3. Ms. Ugochi Daniels, Deputy Director-General, International Organization for Migration
4. Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President, African Development Bank Group (TBC)
5. Mr. Michael Köhler, Director-General a.i, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid
6. Ms. Sara Beysolow Nyanti, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, South Sudan
7. Ms. Rose-May Guignard, Présidente du Comité de Liaison Inter ONG, Haiti

Guiding questions for the afternoon roundtable session on displacement:

- What actions are needed across humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts to address rising displacement and build resilience?
- What are successful examples of joined-up approaches that reduce vulnerability, build resilience and achieve solutions for the internally displaced? How can the efforts and resources of the UN system, working together with Member States, relevant partners and affected people and communities, be leveraged to advance durable solutions to internal displacement?
- How do humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts complement one another to advance resilience and solutions to displacement from the outset of humanitarian emergencies, during emergencies, and after emergencies?
- How can solutions to displacement be better integrated in national development plans?
- What are the challenges of mobilizing resources for advancing for durable solutions to displacement and how can they be overcome? What role do the development banks currently play and what further can be done?

Arrangements for the meeting

The meeting format will be in-person, in the ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations Headquarters.

Outcome of the meeting

The outcome of the Transition Meeting will be a summary prepared by the ECOSOC Vice-Presidents in charge of the Humanitarian Affairs Segment and the Operational Activities for Development Segment. While substantive discussions on issues related to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, South Sudan and the Sahel region will take place during the Transition Meeting, the procedural consideration of reports, resolutions and decisions will take place during the ECOSOC Management Segment on 21-22 July 2022.