Frequently Asked Questions Guide
Ministerial Roundtable for the Central Sahel

1. What countries are meant by “Central Sahel”?
This Ministerial Roundtable focuses on the countries of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

2. Where can I find the documents related to this event?
The event website is the main depository of all documents related to the event. Please visit www.unocha.org/centralsahel2020 to view the invitation, background documents from the Senior Official’s Meeting, outcome documents from the ECHO-led country workshops and side events that will take place the week of October 12.

3. When is the event taking place?
The Ministerial Roundtable for the Central Sahel is taking place on Tuesday, 20 October 2020 at 8:30 am- 12:30 pm EST/ 12:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. GMT/ 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. CEST.

4. What’s the format of the event?
The Ministerial Roundtable will be held virtually using WebEx for the virtual platform.

5. How can I register? Will I get a confirmation email on my registration?
You can register using this link. At the end of your registration, you will see a confirmation page for your registration. No further emails will be sent to your mailbox.

6. What does the delegation size of 1 + 3 mean? Can 1 + 3 participate via WebEx and all other interested from the same member state/organization watch via the livestream?
To ensure the stability of the WebEx system, only the principal will be connected to the WebEx. Other colleagues (i.e. +3 and others) are welcome to follow the webcast. The webcast is open to all.

7. How can my principal dial in to the WebEx?
If you have registered your head of delegation to deliver a statement, they will receive an email (copied to the registered focal point) in advance of the meeting with a link to the WebEx. To ensure a stable connection for the meeting, all other colleagues are welcome to follow the webcast through webtv.un.org.

8. Does our delegation have to deliver a statement?
Your delegation can indicate whether or not they will deliver a statement during the registration process. Delegations are not required to deliver a statement to register their participation in the meeting.

9. Who can participate in the event?
All UN Member States and partners are welcome to register for this event. Partners may include UN affiliated offices, agencies, funds and programmes; Local, regional, national and international non-governmental organizations; intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, IFRC National Societies; and other partners.
10. **What types of announcements can our Government/Organization make?**
For this Ministerial Roundtable, there are two types of announcements to be made:

(a) **Financial Announcements:** As mentioned in the invitation, the humanitarian community estimates that the humanitarian response will reach US $2.4 Billion. To support humanitarian response in the Central Sahel, your support is urgently needed. To that end, your government or organization may wish to announce financial support to one or more of the affected countries humanitarian response plans; to UN Agencies; Non-Governmental Organizations; and/or other partners. The updated regional document that details the current humanitarian needs and requirements overview for the three countries will be published online the week of 12 October. Announcements of financial support to the Central Emergency Response Fund are also welcome.

(b) **Policy Commitments** (non-financial Announcements): Last July, ECHO organized a series of country workshops that resulted in political, operational and policy recommendations made by non-governmental organizations and other partners in the areas of basic services, protection and humanitarian principles, access and civil-military coordination. Member States and partners are encouraged to review those recommendations and consider adapting some/all of them into commitments to the region. Member States/organizations may have other areas that they wish to identify as their own commitments to supporting a stronger humanitarian response in the Central Sahel.

11. **Can we deliver a statement even when we don’t have an announcement to make?**
Yes, you can request to be included in the speaker’s list to deliver a statement without making an announcement of financial or non-financial commitments.

12. **How can we submit an announcement?**
You can download the fillable announcement form from [www.unocha.org/centralsahel2020](http://www.unocha.org/centralsahel2020) and submit it by email to ocha-ftrm@un.org.

13. **Will the event be publicly webcast? What is the difference in participating via WebEx or watching via livestream?**
Yes, the event will be livestreamed via UN Web TV for those who wish to listen to the proceedings and are not making statements. Colleagues are highly encouraged to use this option by visiting webtv.un.org at the start of the event.

Only those principals with a speaking slot will be connected to the WebEx. All other colleagues are highly encouraged to follow the webcast.

14. **What would be the role of the NGOs invited to participate in the event? If they will not be given/taking the floor, should they still participate via WebEx?**
NGOs and partners are welcome to register for the event and request to be added onto the speaker’s list. We will do our best to accommodate all speaker’s however, given the overwhelming interest by Member States to make announcements, it is possible that we may run out of time in the announcement session.
15. **What space is there for NGOs to deliver statements during the Ministerial Roundtable?**
   As is the past practice, the co-hosts have invited the NGO consortia in each country to nominate a speaker on behalf of the consortia. The NGO consortia will decide on who would speak on their behalf. These three slots are guaranteed to ensure that there are NGO voices heard during the Ministerial Roundtable. If there are other opportunities for statements from NGOs, we will certainly do our best to accommodate them.

16. **Can our Head of Delegation participate via recorded message?**
    Participating via pre-recorded message is highly discouraged. It is unlikely that this will be possible due to technological constraints. Please reach out to OCHA to discuss your specific case.

17. **Is there going to be interpretation of the event? If yes, what languages would be available?**
    Yes, the event will have the interpretation option in French and English languages.