

CONCEPT NOTE

Global Humanitarian Overview 2020, Geneva Launch

4 December 2019, 10:00 – 11:30

Council Chamber, Palais des Nations

Background

On 4 December 2019, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) will host in Geneva the launch of the 2020 United Nations Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO). Geneva is the global event and simultaneous launches will be held in Berlin, Brussels, London, and Washington, D.C.

The GHO is the world's most comprehensive, authoritative and evidence-based overview of the current state and future trends in humanitarian action.

Overview

The event will present humanitarian needs in 2020, amplify the voices of affected people, and engage humanitarian decision-makers and partners.

In addition to the presentation of the GHO 2020 publication, an interactive panel will take place with the theme of ***“Driving better response in a challenging world”***. The purpose of the panel is to discuss how humanitarian response continues to evolve and improve in a challenging and changing world in which needs are persistently greater than available resources. Panelists will discuss longer-term approaches, donor engagement, regional refugee plans, GBV prevention and response, anticipating disasters, persons living with disabilities, and the role of youth and advocacy.

The panel members will include a mix of senior diplomats and representatives from different sectors of the humanitarian community, each recognized as a leader in their field of expertise.

Member States, aid agencies, international organizations, and the research community have been invited to the event, thus providing a unique opportunity for high-level discussion with leading practitioners, thinkers and decision-makers in the humanitarian field.

Event Format

The GHO event will be moderated by Mr. Mark Lowcock, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (USG/ERC).

The event will begin with a welcome and brief opening remarks by Mr. Lowcock, followed by a video that includes a message from the UN Secretary-General and an overview of the efforts of the international community to respond to crises.

Next, Mr. Lowcock will present the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) 2020, including the coordinated response plans, and the latest trends, analysis, challenges and opportunities in humanitarian action.

This will be followed by a lively and engaging panel discussion moderated by Mr. Lowcock, which will include presentations by panellists, interventions from the floor and a question and answer session.

Mr. Lowcock will give closing remarks on the GHO 2020 and upcoming high-level resource mobilization events.

Panel Discussion Format

The panel, moderated by USG/ERC Lowcock, is composed of the following leaders and experts:

- **H. E. Ms. Lena el-Sheikh Omer Majhoub**, Minister of Labour and Social Development, *Republic of Sudan*
- **H. E. Mr. Khalifa Jassim Al-Kuwari**, Director General, *Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD)*
- **Ms. Kelly Clements**, *Deputy High Commissioner, UN Refugee Agency*
- **Ms. Pascale Meige**, Director Disaster and Crisis Prevention (Prevention, Response and Recovery), *International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies*
- **Mr. Vladimir Cuk**, Executive Director, *International Disability Alliance*
- **Ms. Aya Abdullah**, UNHCR Supporter and Alumni Delegate, **UNHCR Global Youth Advisory Council**

Following the panelists' interventions, the moderator will then open the floor for interventions and questions.

Additional Information

Please tag #InvestinHumanity in social media messaging and follow the conversation online.

For more information, the GHO documents, updates, registration information, and a link to the live-stream of the event, please visit <https://www.unocha.org/GHO2020>

OCHA focal point: Julie Thompson - thompson8@un.org

Annex 1 – Programme

10:00 – 10:05	Opening
10:05 – 10:08	Film and recorded message from UN Secretary-General
10:08 – 10:20	Introduction by the USG/ERC to the launch of the Global Humanitarian Overview 2020 and presentation of the key data
10:20 – 11:00	Moderated panel discussion
11:00 – 11:20	Interventions and questions from the floor
11:00 – 11:30	USG/ERC closing remarks and announcements