



**Vice-President of the
Economic and Social Council**

7 June 2022

Excellency,

In my capacity as the Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and Chair of the Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS), I have the pleasure to invite your delegation to attend this year's HAS, which will take place in person from 21 to 23 June in New York.

This year's Humanitarian Affairs Segment comes at a time of unprecedented humanitarian need and suffering and will be a critical opportunity to take stock of the challenges facing the humanitarian system, to reflect on lessons learned from recent crises, and to discuss action-oriented steps to prepare for future challenges and deliver for the people we serve.

The theme of this year's Segment is *“Strengthening humanitarian assistance: good practices and mobilizing action in the application of international humanitarian law, the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and in response to the climate crisis”*. The opening session of the HAS will take place on Tuesday, 21 June, at 10 a.m. The opening will include keynote addresses and the voices of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, focusing on bringing realities of people's agency, aspirations and solutions to the fore at the beginning of our Segment. This opening session will also include a general debate for statements by Member States and ECOSOC-accredited organizations.

Three high-level panels will take place on 21, 22 and 23 June. The first panel, entitled *“Humanitarian assistance and lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic: working together to ensure children and women are not left behind”*, at 3 p.m. on 21 June, will focus on exploring lessons learned from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and consider the implications for future action particularly through the lens of children and women, who are disproportionately affected by humanitarian crises.

The second panel, *“Reaching people in need, supporting humanitarian assistance for all in times of conflict and promoting good practices in the application of international humanitarian law”*, on Wednesday 22 June, at 10 a.m., will discuss ways of supporting humanitarian assistance, facilitating humanitarian access and ensuring the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance to reach people in need in times of conflict.

Continuing on Thursday 23 June, at 10 a.m., the third high-level panel will take place entitled *“Humanitarian impacts of the climate crisis: escalating risks, challenges and actions”*. The panel will discuss the humanitarian impacts of slow-onset and sudden-onset climate-related disasters and their consequences, explore the humanitarian implications and what steps are needed, particularly in light of the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report.

The closing session of the HAS will take place on Thursday 23 June, at 3 p.m., where we look forward to the adoption of this year's HAS resolution and to the continuation of the general debate

statements by Member States and ECOSOC accredited organizations. The session will conclude with closing remarks by Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr Martin Griffiths, and myself where I will also deliver my Presidential Statement, including a Call to Action on the theme of this year's HAS.

Also, on behalf of H.E. Ambassador Miia Rainne, Chargée d'Affaires a.i. of Finland to the UN, Vice-President of the ECOSOC and Chair of the Operational Activities for Development Segment and myself, I am honoured to invite you to the ECOSOC Meeting on the Transition from Relief to Development, which will take place on 20 June. The theme of the meeting is "*Recurrent crises and sustainable solutions: building resilience and addressing rising food insecurity and displacement*". The meeting will discuss ways to strengthen collaboration and complementarity between humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors to address the multi-dimensional challenges of rising food insecurity and displacement. A first Roundtable Session at 10 a.m. will focus on "*Recurrent crises and sustainable solutions: building resilience and addressing rising food insecurity*". The second Roundtable will take place at 3 p.m. and focus on "*Recurrent crises and sustainable solutions: building resilience and addressing rising displacement*".

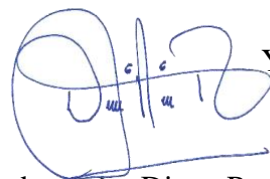
Throughout the week, side events will also be held as they highly enrich and complement the HAS and elaborate on key areas of focus that are critical to our work and amplify the discussion throughout the Segment. A calendar of side events is attached. More details, including on registration, are located on the ECOSOC HAS website (<https://www.unocha.org/ecosoc-2022>).

I encourage delegations to join at the highest level possible, given the critical importance of humanitarian work in saving lives and alleviating suffering and the enormous challenges of our time.

The draft programme for the week is attached accompanied by a calendar. More information and any updates to the programme can be found at the following website: <https://www.unocha.org/ecosoc-2022>. An Information Note for Participants, with more details on participation and logistics, is attached to this letter and can also be found at that website. I encourage you to check the website for updates to the programme and for more information and registration for the side events.

Questions on the HAS can be addressed to the focal point at the Permanent Mission of Bolivia, Ms. Bolivia Delgado (boliviadelgado1993@gmail.com). Questions on the Meeting on the Transition from Relief to Development can be addressed to Ms. Sole Abrahamsen (Sole.Abrahamsen@formin.fi) and boliviadelgado1993@gmail.com. You may also contact the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (ochaecosochas@un.org) for queries on arrangements and logistics.

I look forward to your active participation and productive engagement to support humanitarian action and coordination for those in need.



Yours sincerely,

Ambassador Diego Pary Rodríguez
Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the United
Nations and Vice-President of the ECOSOC