INVITATION: POC Week High-Level Roundtable

Breaking the deadlock: practical actions for implementing UNSC Resolution 2286 & protecting healthcare from attack

Hosted by the Governments of Spain, Poland, France, Canada, Mexico, the European Union and the International Rescue Committee and Safeguarding Health Coalition

Tuesday 24th May, 10:00 am – 11:30 am EST/4:00 – 5:30 pm CET, Zoom Webinar

RSVP HERE

Discussion moderated by David Miliband - President & CEO, IRC

Speakers include, Director of the Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Development, Mr. Antón Leis, Assistant Deputy Minister, Global Issues and Development, Global Affairs Canada, Mr. Peter MacDougall,

May 2022 marks six years since Security Council Members unanimously adopted UNSCR 2286 in which a broad coalition of States called for action to prevent attacks on healthcare and for an end to impunity for those responsible for attacks. The adoption of the resolution represented a strong political commitment to protect the sanctity of healthcare in armed conflict.

Since the resolution was adopted, many parties have been influenced to comply with the commitments set out, however the numbers of attacks on healthcare have followed an upward trajectory and will continue to rise without further meaningful action. Much warranted global attention has been given to the impact of attacks in Syria, but the trend is global, spanning countries from Myanmar to Sudan, and now Ukraine where in the first two months of the war the WHO has confirmed more than 200 attacks.

This demonstrates that the international community is failing to take effective measures to implement the calls in resolution 2286, prevent attacks or hold perpetrators accountable. It is therefore a critical moment to assess the lessons learned including looking at existing best practice and the cause of failures on implementation to provide the evidence base for developing a common set of practical measures that can be taken forward at national and global levels to reverse this deeply concerning trend.

This event will bring together Member States, the UN and civil society to share new research and analysis on the global trends of attacks on health care, and to discuss the steps that can be taken to fully implement Resolution 2286, prevent attacks and better work towards ending impunity. It will also allow participants to share good practices in the implementation of Resolution 2286 and identify ways in which member states and relevant entities can follow-up on initiatives to better protect healthcare. Participants will be invited to discuss and interrogate actions that have and can be taken at three levels to implement critical components of UNSCR 2286:

- First, through domestic policy, legislation, and military operational practice, including participation by Ministries of Health and Defence;
- Second, through bilateral engagement and influence with parties to conflict;
- Finally, at the multilateral level through, including but not limited to, improvements in data collection on attacks on health care and promoting UNSC and other multilateral action to ensure accountability.