**Title:**

**Conflict and Hunger: Implementing United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2417 for Humanitarian Impact**

**Sponsors and Organizers:**

World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Concern Worldwide, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations, Norwegian Refugee Council, ACBAR Afghanistan

**Date and Time: Tuesday 25 June 17:45 – 19:15 pm**

**Place: Room XXI, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

This is one of the side-events to be convened during the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS), which builds on this year’s HAS theme**:** “*Promoting action to save lives, reach those in need and reduce humanitarian risk, vulnerability and need: looking towards the seventieth anniversary of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General*”.

**Background and objectives**

Global hunger has increased after a decade of decline, and conflict is the leading cause. The 2019 Global Report on Food Crises once again highlighted that conflict and insecurity was the key driver of hunger in 2018. Last year, some 74 million people – two thirds of those facing acute hunger – were in 21 countries and territories affected by conflict or insecurity.

In 2018, the UNSC unanimously endorsed Resolution 2417, which paves the way for addressing conflict-induced hunger. The Resolution is a recognition of the unanimous condemnation of starvation, recognizing that it poses a threat to international peace and security, and places the protection of the most vulnerable in situations of conflict on the agenda of the UNSC and international community.

This side event will seek to identify concrete actions different stakeholders (member states, UN agencies, humanitarian partners and affected communities) can take to support full implementation of UNSC resolution 2417.

Conflict remains the greatest barrier to achieving SDG2 (Zero Hunger) and the realization of the right to food.

Wars and conflicts are driving hunger in a way we’ve never seen before. Almost 60% of the world’s hungry people live in countries affected by conflict, and more than 80% of resources requested by UN humanitarian appeals in recent years have been for action in conflict situations. Food insecurity inevitably worsens when fighting drives large numbers of people from their homes, their land and their jobs, and this can ultimately lead to famine or famine-like conditions. At the same time, hunger can exacerbate conflict and further deepen communal tensions.

UNSC Resolution 2417, for the first time, provides the international community with a compass to address conflict and hunger. However, further engagement from Member States and intergovernmental organisations (including regional bodies) is needed. This event will seek to leverage the platform provided by HAS to advance discussion between different stakeholders and generate concrete recommendations for the full implementation of this landmark declaration.

Objectives of the Side Event:

1. To raise the level of political support for the full implementation of UNSC Resolution 2417 and engage with key member states who could act as champions for 2417 at regional intergovernmental bodies.
2. Strengthen understanding of the approaches that enable early action, before affected populations lose their livelihoods and assets.
3. Identify concrete steps that Member States and agencies must take to address obstacles to the delivery of needs-based humanitarian assistance and to ensure humanitarian and development responses are improved to address hunger in situations of armed conflict and lay the foundations for peace.

**Discussion points**

* Why UNSCR 2417 is critical for food security and what actions Member States can take/are taking to support its full implementation. How the resolution can be implemented through regional and national fora and mechanisms.
* What approaches enable early action, before affected populations lose their livelihoods and assets.
* What concrete steps must be taken to address obstacles to the delivery of needs-based humanitarian assistance and to ensure humanitarian and development responses are improved to address hunger in situations of armed conflict and lay the foundations for peace.

**Key concrete action points and recommendations/take away messages**

* Actions Member States can take at the international, regional and national levels to ensure full implementation of UNSCR 2417.
* Approaches that donors and agencies can use to enable early action to prevent loss of livelihoods and assets.
* Actions that must be taken to ensure needs-based humanitarian assistance, improve humanitarian and development responses to hunger in armed conflict and lay the foundations for peace.

**Format**

Interactive panel discussion followed by questions and answers and discussion.

1. Introductory remarks and introduction of panelists by the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations
2. Presentations by panelists
3. Questions and Answers/Discussion
4. Closing remarks and summary by the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations

**Chair and moderator:**

* Ambassador Michael Gaffey, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations

**Panel composition:**

* Caitriona Dowd, Humanitarian Policy Adviser, Concern Worldwide, Author of Breaking the Cycle
* Bashir Khaliqi, Chairman, Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development (ACBAR)
* Member State on behalf of a Regional Organization (speaker will depend upon the time slot given)
* Norwegian Refugee Council (speaker will depend upon the time slot given)
* Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations (speaker will depend upon the time slot given)

**Background Material**

* [S/RES/2417 (2018)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2417(2018))
* [S/2019/106](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2019_106.pdf)

**Contact**

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