



ECOSOC Special Meeting

Impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon: Reducing risks and capturing opportunities

ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters

6 May 2016, 10am -1 pm

Organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) in collaboration with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Programme

10:00 – 10:30 Opening

Welcoming remarks by **His Excellency Oh Joon**, President of the Economic and Social Council

Opening remarks by **Mr. Robert Glasser**, Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (*via video-link*)

Opening remarks by **Ms. Elena Manaenkova**, Assistant Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization (*via video-link*)

10:30 – 10:40 *[Break for adoption of draft decisions related to the programme of work of ECOSOC]*

10:40 – 10:50 Video on the Impacts of El Niño

10:50 – 12:00 Panel Discussion

The panel discussion will provide an opportunity for countries affected by 2015-16 El Niño to share their experiences and discuss effective measures and practices to reduce its socio-economic and environmental impacts. Panelist will focus their presentations on a specific sector in their country that has been adversely affected by El Niño, such as food security, agriculture, health, environment, water or energy.

Moderator:

Ms. Pamela Falk, CBS News UN Resident Correspondent and Foreign Affairs Analyst

Keynote presentation

His Excellency Juan Manuel Benites Ramos, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Peru

Panelists:

His Excellency Juan Manuel Benites Ramos, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Peru

His Excellency Mitiku Kassa, Commissioner for Disaster Risk Management, Ethiopia

His Excellency Ahmed Sareer, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Maldives and Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)

His Excellency Dian Triansyah Djani, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

Ms. Mercedita A. Sombilla, Director for Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment, National Development Office-Planning, National Economic and Development Authority, The Philippines (*via video-link*)

Mr. Telmo de la Cuadra, Officer on Risk Assessment of the Secretary for Risk Management (SNGR), Ecuador (*via video-link*)

12:00 – 12:50 Interactive Discussion

An opportunity for open discussion on the impact on the social and economic impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon. Member States and the UN system will be able to share their perspectives and propose questions to the panelists.

At the end of the interactive discussion, the Moderator will summarize the meeting and reflect on preliminary recommendations to address the risk of socio-economic and environmental impacts of future El Niño phenomena.

12:50-13:00 Closing Remarks

Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

His Excellency Oh Joon, President of the Economic and Social Council