



JULY 2021

# Monthly Snapshot

## UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement



### SPOTLIGHT

## From the frontline of internal displacement: Panel hears impacted States



Photo: The Panel held a dedicated consultation with nearly 20 Member States impacted by internal displacement to discuss its emerging recommendations. (July 29, Virtual)

### PANEL MEMBERS

**Co-chair: Mr. Donald Kaberuka**  
Chair of the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

**Co-chair: Ms. Federica Mogherini**  
Former High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

**Ms. Paula Gaviria Betancur**  
Director-General of Fundacion Compaz, Colombia

**Mr. Mitiku Kassa Gutile**  
Commissioner for Emergency Response, Ethiopia

**Mr. Per Heggnes**  
CEO of IKEA Foundation

**Mr. Nasser Judeh**  
Senator, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

**Ms. Pauline Riak**  
Chair of the Board of Directors at the Sudd Institute, South Sudan

**Ms. Sima Samar**  
Member of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Board on Mediation

The Expert Advisory Group (EAG) is comprised of **Mr. Chaloka Beyani**, Associate Professor of International Law at the London School of Economics; **Ms. Alexandra Bilak**, Director of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre; **Ms. Elizabeth Ferris**, Research Professor at Georgetown University; and **Mr. Walter Kaelin**, Former Representative of UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

July 29 - Some 20 States shared their views with the Panel on its emerging recommendations in a virtual consultation held on July 29 in collaboration with the Panel's "Group of Friends". For the Panel, Co-chair Donald Kaberuka, who chaired the discussion, was joined by his colleagues Paula Gaviria Betancur, Nasser Judeh and Sima Samar. Ambassador Nasir Andisha, Permanent Representative of Afghanistan and Co-chair of the Panel's "Group of Friends," represented the Group.

In his opening remarks, Co-Chair Kaberuka recalled the consultations that the Panel has had since inception with more than 60 States. Over half of these States have been affected by internal displacement driven by the full range of causes including conflict, violence, disasters and the impacts of climate change. He underlined that, in the final phase of the Panel's work, the voices of States directly impacted by internal displacement remained even more critical.

Ambassador Andisha agreed with the importance of the feedback of impacted States. In looking ahead to when the Panel would submit its report, he reflected that this should not be seen as the end of the process but rather the moment when the global momentum on internal displacement issues should be strengthened.

"Although the report is about to be submitted, it is only the beginning. More work will be needed for the roll-out

and implementation of the Panel's recommendations," said Ambassador Andisha.

Statements were then heard from States across the spectrum of the Panel's work and emerging recommendations. Drawing on their respective experiences on the frontline of the global internal displacement crisis, they expressed support for the priority that the Panel has placed on finding solutions. The sovereign responsibility of States for the issue and the importance of national political will, ownership and a concerted effort by governments at all levels were echoed. The roles of civil society and the international community were also acknowledged. Views were also expressed, a number of clarifications sought and support underscored for the Panel's recommendations on the establishment of a "Global Fund on Internal Displacement Solutions," creation of the position of a Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on internal displacement and state-to-state engagement to support the capacities of governments, enhance coordination and strengthen national and international accountability in advancing solutions to internal displacement.

On behalf of the Panel, Co-Chair Kaberuka thanked the States for their candid views. He assured that the Panel will continue to reach out and give importance to the views and concerns of the States affected by internal displacement.



**JULY EVENTS**



**Principal briefing with Martha Newton, Deputy Director-General for Policy of ILO**  
July 1, Virtual



**SPOTLIGHT**

**Meeting between Secretariat and Panel's "Group of Friends" Member States**  
July 2, Virtual



**Principal briefing with Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR**  
July 6, Virtual



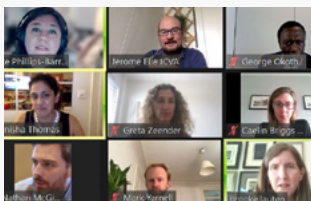
**Meeting between the Panel's Co-chairs, USAID and the U.S. Department of State**  
July 8, Virtual



**Principal briefing with Qu Dongyu, Director-General of FAO**  
July 9, Virtual



**Principal briefing with Jean-Pierre Lacroix, UN Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations**  
July 9, Virtual

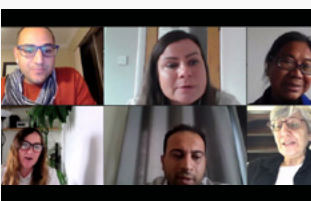


**SPOTLIGHT**

**Secretariat briefing with NGOs**  
July 12, Virtual



**Meeting with Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs**  
July 13, Geneva



**Panel member Sima Samar's participation in webinar on "Achieving quality education for internally displaced children and young people"**  
July 14, Virtual



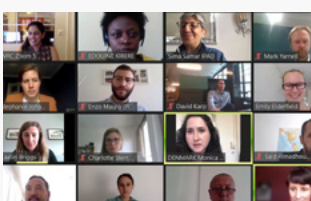
**Principal briefing with Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of UNFCCC**  
July 14, Virtual



**Principal briefing with Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN-Habitat**  
July 15, Virtual

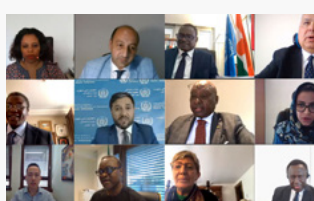


**Principal briefing with Jagan Chapagain, Secretary-General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)**  
July 15, Virtual



**SPOTLIGHT**

**AGD (Age, Gender, Diversity) Roundtable**  
July 22, Virtual



**SPOTLIGHT**

**Panel consultation with States impacted by internal displacement**  
July 29, Virtual



**New Submission to the Panel**



**Additional Submission of Switzerland**

"This submission concentrates on exploring and suggesting ways in which global leadership, accountability, and response could be strengthened within the UN and, by extension, the broader international system to better address the global crisis of internal displacement."

[Download](#)

**SPOTLIGHT**

**Panel sustains engagement with States on its conclusions**



Photo: Ambassador Nasir Andisha, Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations in Geneva and Co-chair of the Panel's "Group of Friends" (GOF), opened the GOF Meeting with Member States. (July 2, Virtual)

July 2 - With two months to go to the submission of its final report, the Panel has ramped up its stakeholder engagements to garner input on its emerging recommendations. On July 2, the Panel outlined to States the findings and recommendations it is considering for its report in a meeting with the Panel's "Group of Friends" (GOF) Member States chaired by the Co-Chair of the Group, Ambassador Nasir Andisha, Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations in Geneva. Of the 30 States taking part in the meeting, nearly half were countries affected by internal displacement.

Ethiopia, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United States of America and Nigeria spoke to the presentation by the Panel. In the plenary discussion which then followed, reflections were heard on the full range of issues the Panel outlined. Overall, there was convergence that the Panel initiative provides a "unique opportunity" to advance "real change" and "long-term solutions" for the world's internally displaced. The importance of ensuring that solutions are owned at both the national and local levels as national sovereignty was underlined. National capacity and ample and predictable financing to support all aspects of the response to internal displacement were also highlighted. With regard to the specific mechanisms, processes or arrangements that the Panel is considering to improve uptake, accountability and coordination of the issue, there was both support and encouragement to the Panel fully to explore how existing mechanisms would be optimized and enhanced.

Participants were assured that the final recommendations of the Panel will reflect the voices from the meeting as well as those from other consultations throughout the process.

**SPOTLIGHT**

**NGO community voice reflections on Panel's recommendations**



Photo: NGOs representatives shared their reflections on the emerging recommendations of the Panel in a briefing with the Panel's Secretariat hosted by InterAction. (July 12, Virtual)

July 12 - Some 20 NGOs were briefed by the Secretariat on the last stretch of the Panel's work and its emerging recommendations a meeting hosted by InterAction on July 12. As a whole, they were received positively, in particular the need for strengthened coordination and accountability in driving forward solutions for the world's internally displaced. In that regard, it was stressed that the views and needs of IDPs had to be placed at the heart of all solutions decisions. In the discussions relating to specific issues and recommendations, including the proposal for the establishment of a Global Fund on solutions and the creation of the position of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) on Solutions to Internal Displacement specific feedback was provided and questions for clarification posed, which the Secretariat responded to accordingly.

**The meeting concluded with the following broad conclusions which have been drawn to the Panel's attention:**

- IDPs and civil society should be at the center of decision making for solutions and IDPs should be considered the primary stakeholders as the affected population.
- The unique experience of IDPs should underpin data collection and analysis for internal displacement, and efforts should be made to build on existing data systems.
- The role of regional bodies and national actors is equally critical as that of HQ/global actors for advancing solutions for IDPs.
- To drive forward, the role of the proposed SRSG and other actors in the nexus space needs to be further explored.
- Accountability on solutions is required across all areas and relevant actors.
- The proposed Global Fund on Internal Displacement Solutions should address a significant gap in existing humanitarian and development funding mechanisms.
- Follow-up of the Panel's report and recommendations is crucial to maintaining momentum and driving solutions for IDPs.

[Click here](#) to read about the outcomes of the meeting in further details.



SPOTLIGHT

## Leaving no one behind: Panel participates in second Age, Gender, Diversity dialogue

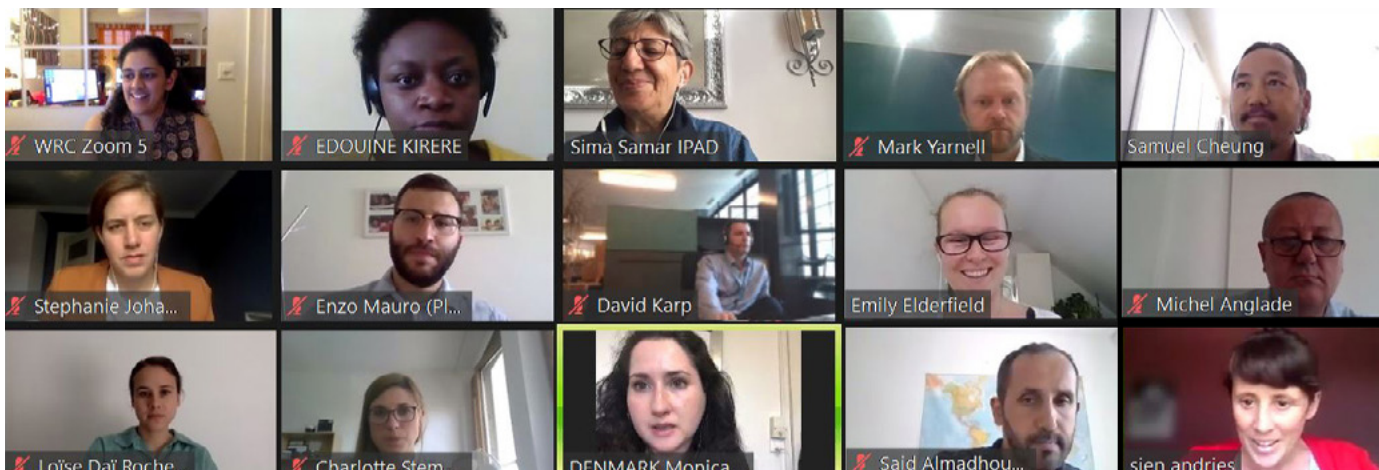


Photo: Representatives of NGOs, States and UN agencies called for an inclusive approach to addressing internal displacement in a virtual consultation on Age, Gender and Diversity. (July 22, Virtual)

July 22 - The Panel, represented by member Sima Samar and its Secretariat, benefited from a discussion with NGOs, States and UN agencies on Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) in a roundtable on July 22 co-organized by the Women’s Refugee Commission (WRC), Danish Mission in Geneva, Danish Refugee Council, Plan International and Save the Children. The event built upon the outcomes of an earlier [AGD Dialogue](#), held in November 2020, and a [joint AGD submission to the Panel](#) with over 50 signatories comprised of NGOs and States.

The importance of mainstreaming human rights and AGD approaches throughout the Panel’s report in order to achieve inclusive recommendations that reflect the rights of IDPs in all their diversities was underlined. In this connection, the voices and needs of IDPs were reiterated as central to all solutions processes and

decisions. As the majority of the world’s IDPs are overwhelmingly women and children, the special risks and challenges faced by the two groups were given special attention including gender-based violence, education barriers and exclusion from participation in peace processes and decision-making. The need for improved data collection in order to obtain disaggregated data on gender, age, disability, among other criteria in different settings.

Concluding the session, Panel member Sima Samar highlighted that the internal displacement crisis is a shared responsibility across all actors. She assured participants that the “dignity of people” of all the different ages, gender and diversities is very much at the top of the Panel’s agenda.

### Discussion Papers on Panel’s Recommendations

**Ensuring Strengthened Financing for Action on IDP Solutions: Proposal to establish a Global Fund for Internal Displacement Solutions**

[Download](#)

**State-to-State Engagement on Internal Displacement**

[Download](#)

**Strengthening global UN leadership on solutions to internal displacement: Proposal to establish a Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General**

[Download](#)

**UN Leadership and Coordination for Solutions at Country-Level**

[Download](#)

**Financing for Action on Internal Displacement**

[Download](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**AUG**

**Principal briefings**

The Panel’s Secretariat will continue to brief the principals of UN agencies and NGOs on the Panel’s emerging recommendations.

**05  
AUG**

**10th Panel Meeting**

The Panel will convene its 10th meeting to comprehensively review its work towards the finalization of its report and recommendations.