



MARCH 2021

Monthly Snapshot

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



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 Heggernes
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 Kälin**, Former Representative of UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

SPOTLIGHT

Member States inform Panel on peace and security dimensions of internal displacement



Photo: Member States representatives in New York and relevant actors joined in the Consultation on Peace and Security Dimensions of Internal Displacement to inform the work of the Panel. (March 11, Virtual)

March 11 - Peace and security cannot be treated as afterthoughts in the search for durable solutions, concluded a consultation with Member States in New York to inform the work of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement.

Organized by the Secretariat of the Panel with the support of the Co-chairs of the New York-based "Group of Friends" of the Panel, the Consultation on Peace and Security Dimensions of Internal Displacement saw representatives of Member States and other actors discussing how peace and security can be incorporated systematically into action on solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs).

In the opening, Panel Co-chair Federica Mogherini noted that the results of the Panel's consultations so far have underlined the importance of shared and complementary actions by humanitarian, peace and

development actors to advance effective prevention, response and solutions to internal displacement.

"When we consulted IDPs, security consistently was one of their top priorities," she highlighted. "What we have tried to do through our research and consultations is identify where there might be small windows of opportunity to strengthen safety and security for IDPs."

Co-Chairs of the "Group of Friends" H.E. Ambassador Issa Konfrourou, Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations, and H.E. Ambassador Mona Juul, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations, reiterated the need to address the roots of displacement, foster a protective environment for safe and voluntary return and achieve long-term solutions.

Among the key themes discussed in the consultation...

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MARCH EVENTS

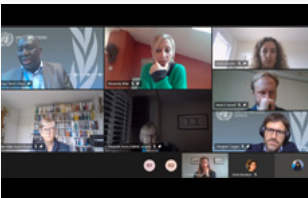


Participation of Head of Panel's Secretariat in Aswan Forum
March 3, Virtual



SPOTLIGHT

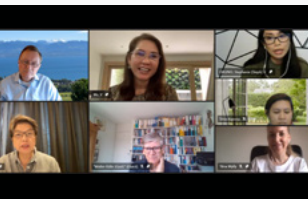
Consultation on Peace and Security Dimensions of Internal Displacement
March 11, Virtual



Secretariat meeting with Expert Advisory Group
March 15, Virtual



Consultation with donor governments of internal displacement responses
March 16, Virtual



SPOTLIGHT

Panel meeting with the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation and its partners
March 16, Virtual



Meeting between Head of Panel's Secretariat and Co-Chairs of "Group of Friends" Member States
March 18, Geneva

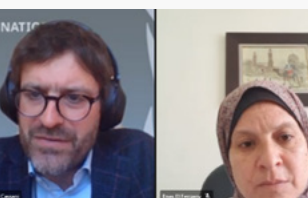


Secretariat meeting with the Organization of American States (OAS)
March 22, Virtual

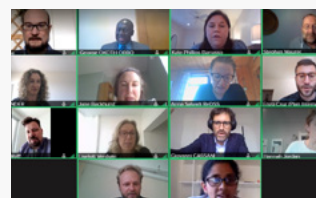


SPOTLIGHT

Urban displacement consultation with local authorities in Medellín, Colombia
March 23, Virtual



Secretariat meeting with the League of Arab States (LAS)
March 24, Virtual



Secretariat discussion with NGOs and civil society organizations
March 25, Virtual



Secretariat meeting with OECD Director of Development Co-operation Directorate Jorge Moreira da Silva
March 25, Virtual



SPOTLIGHT

8th Panel Meeting
March 26, Virtual

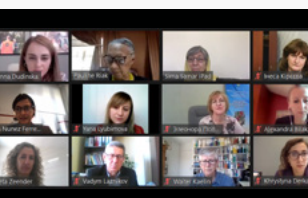


SPOTLIGHT

Urban displacement consultation with the mayor of Mosul, Iraq
March 29, Virtual

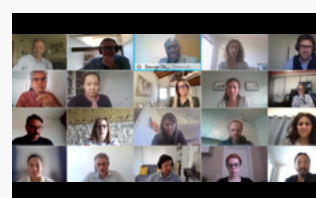


Secretariat meeting with UN DESA Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Chief Economist Elliott Harris
March 30, Virtual



SPOTLIGHT

Urban displacement consultation with regional authorities and IDP representative in Luhansk Oblast, Ukraine
March 31, Virtual



Secretariat discussion with UN agencies
March 31, Virtual



Continued from page 1

...was the role of protection of civilian policies in reducing impacts of conflicts on communities. H.E. Ambassador Adela Raz, Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations, described her country's national policy on the prevention and mitigation of civilian casualties. She elaborated that the fundamental objective of the policy, adopted in 2017, was to reduce civilian casualties from military operations.

On prevention, the second main theme of the consultation, David Haeri, Director of Division of Policy, Evaluation and Training at the UN Department of Peace Operations (DPO), shared the experiences of various UN peacekeeping missions, underlining that an integrated approach and partnerships are key to detect early warnings, assess threats and build institutional response.

With regard to solutions, Sorcha O'Callaghan, Director of the Humanitarian Policy Group at the Overseas Development Institute (HPG ODI), called for a shift in attitude and mindsets to debunk the misconception that internal displacement is solely a humanitarian concern. "Durable solutions are impossible to achieve without peace and security, yet peacebuilding remains an afterthought," she said, adding that there are limited incentives for peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

In the discussions, interventions were made by Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia, the European Union, France, Georgia, Germany, the Holy See, Indonesia, Morocco, Peru, Poland,

Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Turkey, the United States of America, the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, InterAction, IOM, UNDP and UNHCR.

Closing the event, Panel Co-chair Donald Kaberuka underscored, first, that IDPs are not just "passive observers" but citizens of their countries whose needs should be integrated in national development plans with the support of international financial institutions. He stressed the importance of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and the need to give it effect in practice.

"It is impossible to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals unless the issue of internal displacement is addressed through the triple nexus with adequate social capital and funding," concluded Mr. Kaberuka.

NEW SUBMISSIONS

Connecting Business initiative (CBi) [Download](#)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP):
Additional Submission [Download](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent
Societies (IFRC) [Download](#)

[Click here](#) to view all public submissions to the Panel

SPOTLIGHT

Lessons from the private sector: Panel meets with local social enterprises and businesses in the Philippines



Photo: Panel member Per Heggenes and Expert Advisory Group member Walter Kälin met with representatives from social enterprises and businesses in the Philippines to learn from their experiences in supporting IDPs and host communities in the country. (March 16, Virtual)

March 16 - Private sector engagement is among the priority themes of the Panel's work. Since its inception, the Panel has conducted more than 25 consultations with the private sector on how to best leverage foundations, businesses and entrepreneurship in supporting durable solutions to internal displacement.

With the support of the Connecting Business initiative (CBi), an initiative co-managed by OCHA and UNDP, Panel member Per Heggenes and Expert Advisory Group member Walter Kälin met with the Philippine Disaster

Resilience Foundation (PDRF) and its partners on March 16 to learn from the experiences of local social enterprises and businesses in supporting IDPs and host communities in the Philippines. Representatives from the Weaving Hope project in Marawi, the "School in a Bag" initiative, PDRF's Innovation for Social Enterprise Development and Livelihood Program (Sari-Sari Store Project/Mom and Pop), and Pepsi Cola Products Philippines Inc shared their experiences on providing short- and long-term livelihoods assistance to IDPs, including income-generating, capacity-building and education opportunities.



SPOTLIGHT

Building towards the Panel's conclusions

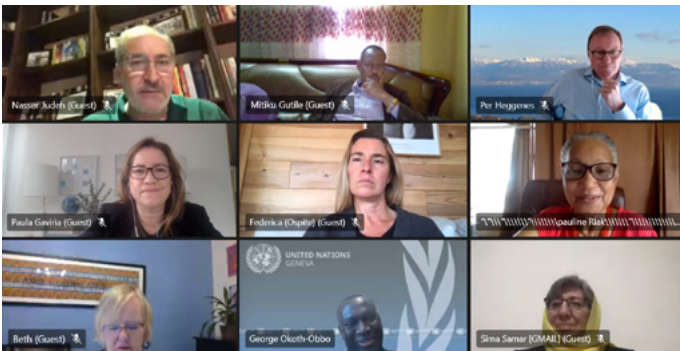


Photo: With five months to go to the completion of its mandate, the Panel deliberated its emerging conclusions and recommendations in its eighth meeting. (March 26, Virtual)

March 26 - The Panel convened for the eighth time on March 26 to consolidate its work towards the conclusion. Panel members exchanged their thoughts on the emerging recommendations, drawing from the body of research, submissions and consultation results collected over the past 13 months.

Since its inception, the Panel has consulted with more than [12,500 IDPs and host community members](#), and engaged with more than 65 Member States, over half of whom are affected by displacement. Over [90 written submissions](#) were received from Member States, UN agencies, NGOs, academic institutions and other initiatives. In moving forward, the Panel will continue to actively engage with stakeholders and finetune its recommendations to ensure that the final report will speak to the reality of internal displacement. The Panel is expected to hold its next meeting in May 2021.

SPOTLIGHT

Meeting the needs of urban IDPs: the experiences of Medellín, Mosul and Luhansk Oblast



Photo: Representatives from the Municipality of Medellín and Colombia's Victims' Unit spoke of the city's response to urban internal displacement including the creation of the Secretariat of Non-violence in the Mayor's Office. (March 23, Virtual)

March 31 - With the majority of the world's IDPs residing in or moving to urban settings, internal displacement in the urban context is a priority theme of the Panel's work. The month of March saw the Panel meet with municipal and local authorities in Colombia, Iraq and Ukraine as part of a series of urban displacement consultations organized by the Panel's Secretariat jointly with UN-Habitat, the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS) and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). The consultations allow Panel members to speak directly to municipal and local actors and get their perspectives as frontline responders to urban displacement. The first consultation of the series was held with four mayors from Burkina Faso in late February.

On March 23, Panel member Paula Gaviria Betancur held discussions with representatives from the Municipality of Medellín and the Colombia's Victims' Unit. On March 29, Panel members Pauline Riak and Sima Samar and Expert Advisory Group member Walter Kälin met with the Mayor of Mosul, Iraq. The same group met with regional authorities and an IDP



Photo: Regional authorities and an IDP representative from Luhansk Oblast highlighted the work of the IDP Council, created in 2020 as part of the displacement response. (March 31, Virtual)



Photo: Zuhair Al-Araji, Mayor of Mosul, shared his experiences in addressing the needs of IDPs in the second most populous city of Iraq. (March 29, Virtual)

representative from Luhansk Oblast, Ukraine on March 31 together with Expert Advisory Group member Alexandra Bilak. The series will conclude with a consultation with the Benadir Durable Solutions Unit of Somalia on April 8, followed by a joint global urban displacement event on April 19.

UPCOMING EVENTS

08
APR

Consultation on urban displacement: Somalia

With the support of UN-Habitat, JIPS and IIED, the Panel will meet with the Benadir Durable Solutions Unit of Somalia.

19
APR

Global urban displacement event

The series of local urban displacement consultations will culminate in a global event on "Internal Displacement in an Increasingly Urbanized World," co-organized by the UN-Habitat, JIPS, IIED and the Secretariat of the Panel.

28
APR

Consultation with IDPs in South Sudan

With the support of ICRC, the Panel will hold a semi-virtual consultation with IDPs in Rumbek, South Sudan.