



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

SPOTLIGHT

In the search for durable solutions: Panel's roundtable reviews coordination challenges and opportunities

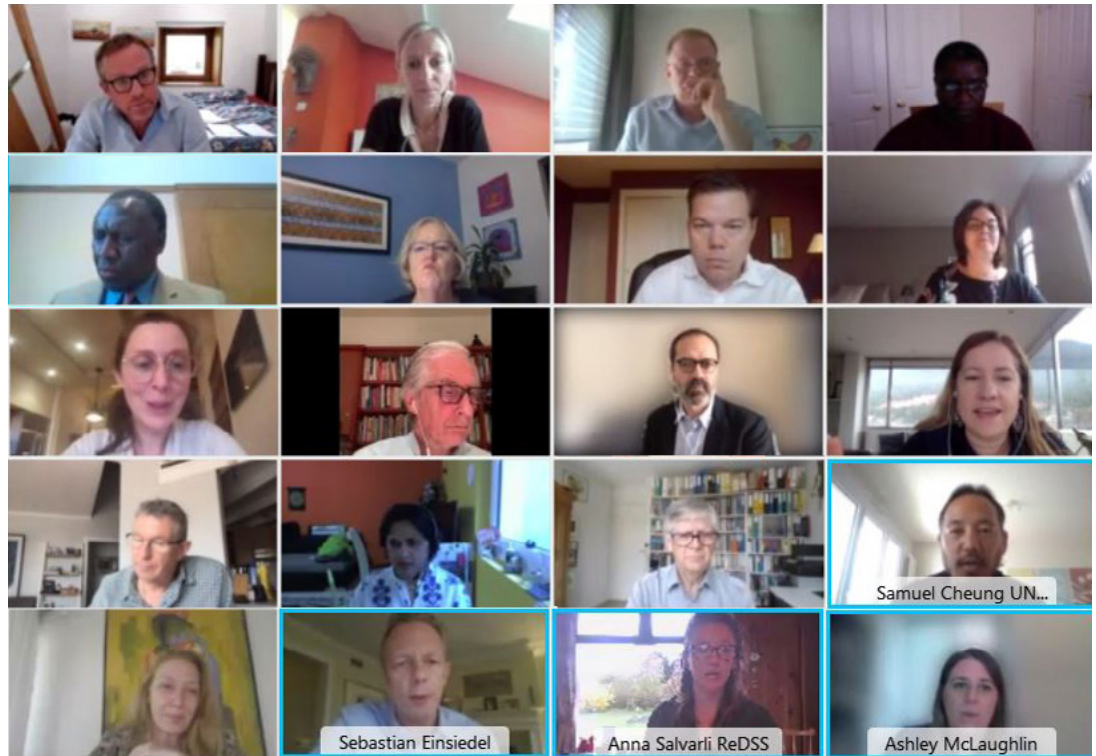


Photo: Representatives from States, UN agencies and NGOs joined in the Panel's third roundtable to discuss and explore how the international system can be optimized to support solutions to internal displacement. (May 5, Virtual)

May 5 - The UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement convened a third virtual roundtable on 11 May as part of its current phase of testing and refining its recommendations. More than 30 representatives of States, UN agencies and NGOs across the headquarter and country levels provided feedback on how the international system could be optimized to support solutions to today's protracted displacement. Discussions centered particularly on the role of the UN Resident Coordinators (RCs), solutions strategies, appeals and system performance management on internal displacement.

Opening the meeting, Panel member Paula Gaviria Betancur reiterated the role of national governments

as the "primary duty bearers" in internal displacement contexts. Nevertheless, UN and other international actors also play an important role in "laying the groundwork for solutions". She highlighted the importance of integrating solutions efforts as part of development agendas, not seeing internal displacement as a stand-alone humanitarian issue, and for all accountability holders to work together in complementarity across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus as the Panel has heard stressed throughout its consultative process.

"Each context is unique, and in some cases, the role of international actors may be minimal. But in general speaking, the Panel has observed the challenges of



realizing the nexus in practice," she said.

Participants strongly endorsed the importance of integrating durable solutions into national development plans in the first session. As stated by the Panel's Expert Advisor Walter Kaelin: "Integrating IDPs is a clear political message to say that these are citizens and they are not left behind." In this light, the crucial role of RCs in leading the collective engagement of international actors in the development of strategies for durable solutions, as elaborated in the UN Secretary-General's Policy Committee Decision 2011/20, was reiterated. However, participants also recognized the capacity and resource constraints faced by RCs and the need to empower and support them in a more predictable way.

In the second session, the elaboration of solutions strategies, plans and appeals attracted a number of reflections. There was caution

against proliferating appeals while the benefit of costed plans in raising catalytic funding was also highlighted.

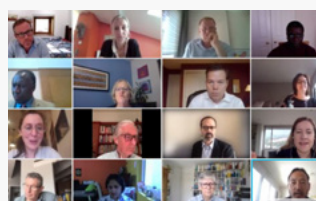
Support for strengthened accountability to affected populations was widely underscored in the last session of the roundtable. However, different views and concerns were expressed when it comes to the specific ways in which this accountability could be institutionalized or reinforced in performance management systems.

For more information, [click here](#) to read the discussion paper which serves as a background document for this roundtable.

MAY EVENTS



Panel meeting with H.E. Martha Delgado Peralta, Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico, and other members of the Mexican government
May 3, Virtual

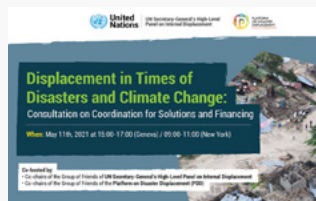


SPOTLIGHT

Roundtable: Leadership and Coordination for Solutions to Internal Displacement
May 5, Virtual

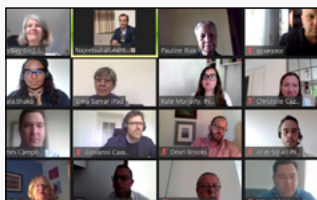


Secretariat meeting with Sam Worthington, CEO of InterAction
May 6, Virtual



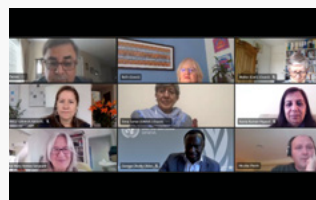
SPOTLIGHT

Displacement in Times of Disasters and Climate Change: Consultation on Coordination for Solutions and Financing
May 11, Virtual

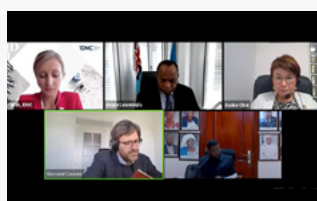


SPOTLIGHT

Roundtable: Realising a quality, inclusive and safe education for internally displaced children and youth
May 12, Virtual



Panel meeting with the World Bank Climate Change and GFDRR Experts
May 18, Virtual



Secretariat's participation in IDMC's launch of the 2021 [Global Report on Internal Displacement \(GRID\)](#)
May 20, Virtual

NEW REPORT

Synthesis Report: "Internal Displacement in an Increasingly Urbanized World"

[Download](#)

This report captures findings and recommendations drawing from the series of [local urban consultations](#) and [global roundtable](#) co-organized by UN-Habitat, the Joint Internal Displacement Profiling Service (JIPS), the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and the Secretariat of the Panel.



Out now: IDMC's Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID) 2021
[Download](#) | [Watch the launch event](#)



SPOTLIGHT

As disaster displacement rises, Member States reflect on ways forward



Photo: Member States representatives, based in Geneva and New York, gathered virtually for the joint consultation on "Displacement in Times of Disasters and Climate Change: Consultation on Coordination for Solutions and Financing" to exchange best practices, lessons learned and reflections on financing and coordination for solutions to internal displacement. (May 11, Virtual)

May 11 - Member States sounded the alarm on disaster displacement in a virtual joint consultation on coordination for solutions and financing on May 11. The event, titled "Displacement in Times of Disasters and Climate Change: Consultation on Coordination for Solutions and Financing," was co-organized by the Co-Chairs of the "Group of Friends", respectively, of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel of Internal Displacement and the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) based in Geneva and New York.

Issues related to disaster displacement have been highlighted strongly by stakeholders to the Panel since the start of its work. More than 5,000 IDPs and host community members affected by disasters have voiced their concerns to the Panel. Moreover, some 60 submissions received by the Panel from States, UN agencies, NGOs, academia and others called into attention the key role of disasters and climate change in contributing to displacement. PDD in particular underscored in its submission the need to invest more in prevention and preparedness, work early towards solutions, and integrate IDP protection concerns into disaster response.

Opening the meeting, Panel member Mitiku Kassa Gutile highlighted the growing magnitude of today's global disaster displacement landscape. Recalling the World Bank's projections, he alerted that over 143 million people could be internally displaced in three world regions by 2050 by the slow-onset impacts of climate change alone.

"No region or country, be it in the Global North or South, is spared from the devastating effects of disaster events and climate change. As we speak now, people are being displaced by these causes," stressed Mr. Gutile as he elaborated the Panel's exploration of this area ranging from prevention and mitigation to solutions imperatives.

Representatives of Afghanistan, Ethiopia, the European Union, Fiji, Mauritius, Morocco the Netherlands and Norway then made interventions, underlining their experiences, approaches, concerns and suggestions to the Panel. Their reflections touched on best practices, lessons learned and ways to strengthen coordination and financing for prevention and solutions to disaster displacement.

A whole-of-government approach involving key ministries, other national and local authorities involved in disaster management was highlighted in the meeting, in particular to foster home-grown solutions, in developing and implementing national adaptation plans. At the same time, the complementary engagement of international humanitarian, disaster risk reduction and climate actors with local and national authorities was urged to give effect to the "triple nexus" and build technical capacities and partnerships for solutions.

Against the backdrop of a worsening climate crisis, States alerted that the global demand for resources will inevitably rise to respond to the realities of increasing displacement. Many views were expressed on the feasibility of creating new financing mechanisms and to maximize



the use of existing tools. Financing for prevention, encompassing early warning systems, climate insurance and forecast based financing was highlighted as critical but challenges remain in terms of systematic scaling up.

Summarizing the discussions, Panel Expert Advisor and Envoy of the Chair of PDD, Prof. Walter Kaelin, highlighted the intersection between solutions and prevention.

“Durable solutions are one way to prevent recurrent displacement, but they need to go beyond narrow and limited approaches. One has to look at the underlying causes and risks” he said. He went on to underline that the search for durable solutions demands a shift from the reactive approach to one that is proactive, in which prevention of displacement is part of a comprehensive package.

The outcomes from this joint consultation will inform the Panel recommendations to the UN Secretary-General in September this year. The Panel will continue to ramp up its engagement with stakeholders, including States impacted by disaster displacement and risks, to fine-tune its thinking.



Photo: Panel member Mitiku Kassa Gutile opened the joint consultation, stressing the urgency of disaster displacement in light of the climate crisis. (May 11, Virtual)

The consultation on “Displacement in Times of Disasters and Climate Change: Consultation on Coordination for Solutions and Financing” was convened by the Permanent Missions of Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Norway in Geneva and Mali and Norway in New York, Co-chairs of the Group of Friends of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement and the Permanent Missions of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Delegations of the European Union in Geneva and New York, Co-chairs of the Group of Friends of the Platform on Disaster Displacement.

SPOTLIGHT

Teachers and education experts voice challenges and lessons to Panel

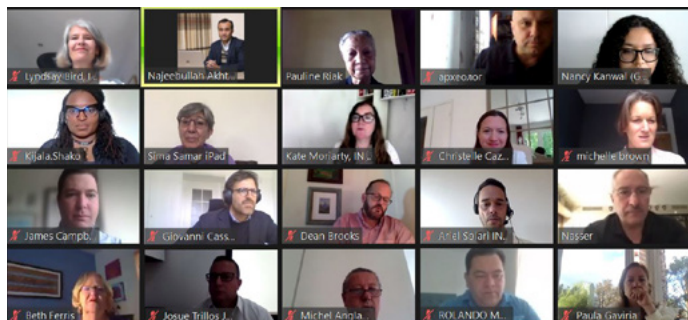


Photo: The roundtable gathered teachers, government representative and NGO workers to discuss IDP education issues with the Panel. (May 12, Virtual)

May 12 - Teachers and education experts voiced their recommendations to the Panel on May 12 in a virtual roundtable jointly organized by the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE), Save the Children, the Global Education Cluster and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). Participants, including teachers from Colombia and Ukraine, the Director-General of the Ministry of Education of Afghanistan and NGOs workers, shared their experiences, challenges and best practices for delivering quality, safe and inclusive education for internally displaced children and youth. Representing the Panel were its members Paula Gaviria Betancur, Nasser Judeh, Pauline Riak and Sima Samar, as well Expert Advisory Group member Beth Ferris.

The top six collective recommendations from this consultation are listed below:

- 1) **Listen to the voices of internally displaced children and young people** and facilitate their participation in decisions affecting their education.
- 2) **Ensure equal access to formal, accredited education for all displaced children and young people.** Where that is not possible it is critical that Governments invest in flexible education programmes and pathways into the formal education system to address the complex needs of internally displaced children and young people.
- 3) **Build education sector resilience** to respond to conflict and disaster risks that could cause displacement.
- 4) **Protect all schools and learning spaces,** and ensure they are safe places for internally displaced children and young people.
- 5) **Improve the collection of data** on displaced populations.
- 6) Governments should develop or strengthen frameworks to **include internally displaced teachers** in national education workforces and support all teachers' wellbeing, their professional development and certification.

For more information, [click here](#) to read the event report.
[Click here](#) to read Save the Children's report with recommendations
[Click here](#) to read INEE's report with recommendations

UPCOMING EVENTS

02
JUN

Consultation with former IDPs in Rumbek, South Sudan
 With the support of ICRC, the Panel will consult with former IDPs residing in Rumbek, South Sudan to hear about their experiences of displacement.

03
JUN

Roundtable with NGOs: National Accountability and International Responsibility
 With the support of Plan International, World Vision and ICVA, the Panel will hold this roundtable as part of its testing phase.

08
JUN

9th Panel Meeting
 Panel members will convene its 9th meeting to discuss its on-going work and progress since the last meeting held in March.