Launch of the UN SG’s Action Agenda on Internal Displacement

Concept Note

Friday 24 June 2022, 10.30 New York/16.30 Geneva

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has been rising steadily for more than a decade reaching new record highs year after year. At the end of 2021, there were 59 million IDPs worldwide, more than twice the number of refugees.

Heeding a call by Member States from all regions of the world, the UN Secretary-General set up in 2019 a High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement to make recommendations on internal displacement aimed at all relevant actors, with a particular focus on solutions to protracted situations. In September 2021, after extensive deliberations and consultations drawing from governments, international organizations, civil society, the private sector, IDPs and host communities, the Panel submitted its report to the Secretary-General. In follow-up to the Panel’s report, the Secretary-General developed an Action Agenda on Internal Displacement laying out his own vision for comprehensive and stepped-up collective action to address internal displacement. A draft of the Action Agenda was then consulted with Member States and other stakeholders at global and regional level.

The Action Agenda features concrete follow-up commitments by UN system entities as well as calls on other key stakeholders, including Member States and International Financial Institutions, to step up efforts to advance solutions to internal displacement, while strengthening prevention, assistance and protection efforts.

In order to strengthen UN leadership and accountability on durable solutions, the Secretary-General has appointed a time-bound Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, Mr. Robert Piper. He has also established an interagency Steering Group on Internal Displacement Solutions to help galvanize UN wide action and has designated UN Resident Coordinators to lead comprehensive solutions efforts at country level.

The finalized Action Agenda will be officially launched on XX June 2022 during a virtual event including people experiencing situations of internal displacement, as well United Nations representatives, Member States and civil society representatives. It will be opened by Under-Secretary-General Mr. Volker Türk.

Date/time: Friday 24 June 2022, 10.30 New York/16.30 Geneva

Format: Webinar (MS Teams) – broadcast on UN Web TV

Running time: 35-40 minutes

Proposed agenda:

- Opening remarks from Under-Secretary-General Mr. Volker Türk
- Message from an internally displaced person in Ukraine (video message)
• Address by the UN Secretary-General (video message)

• Remarks by the UN Special Adviser on Solutions Mr. Robert Piper

• Remarks by the Permanent Representative of Mexico in Geneva, Ms. Francisca Mendez Escobar of Mexico (TBC)

• Remarks by the Permanent Representative of Switzerland in New York, Ms. Pascale Baeriswyl

• Remarks by the Permanent Representative of Nigeria in New York, Mr. Tijjani Mohammad-Bande (TBC)

• Remarks by Ms. Paula Gaviria, Fundación Compaz and former Member of the UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement

• Message with a young woman internally displaced in South Sudan (video message)