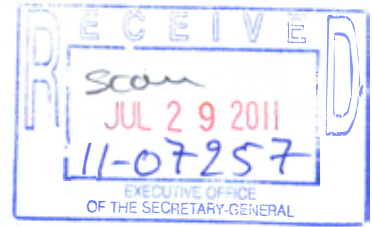


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Note to the Secretary-General



ECOSOC HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS SEGMENT, 19-21 July 2011

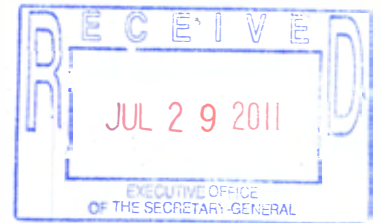
The Economic and Social Council Humanitarian Affairs Segment concluded its work on 21 July by adopting a consensus resolution on *Strengthening of the coordination of the emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations* (E/2011/L.33). This year's overarching theme was 'Working in partnership to strengthen coordination of humanitarian assistance in a changing world'.

2. During the General Debate, I presented your report on *Strengthening of the coordination of the emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations* (E/2011/117 – A/66/81), which was well received. Member States acknowledged that humanitarian needs are increasing due to protracted and new conflicts, the frequency and intensity of natural disasters, and the effects of global challenges such as population growth and climate change. Statements also highlighted the need to strengthen partnerships for preparedness and response.
3. On the resolution, the able stewardship by the ECOSOC Vice-President for Humanitarian Affairs (Belgium), the constructive role played by the co-facilitators (Australia and Indonesia) as well as a strong negotiation lead of the Group of 77 & China (Kenya), created a conducive negotiation dynamic. As a result, considerable progress was made in this year's resolution, which includes a reference to cluster coordination, accountability, acceptance as part of security risk management strategies, and funding for preparedness.
4. OCHA organised two well-attended panel discussions on humanitarian financing and on strengthening resilience, preparedness and capacities for humanitarian response. Both panels comprised high-level Government, UN and private sector officials. During the first session, panel members stressed the need to systematically fund preparedness measures and better address the transition from emergency relief to recovery and development. However, more emphasis is needed on mobilizing new resources, not least from the private sector.
5. The second panel focused on the need to do more to improve support to regional, national and local partners in improving their preparedness levels so that they can more ably respond to humanitarian needs when they arise. While this needs the buy-in of national and local government, partnerships need to be built at the international level – including with UNDP, the World Bank, regional organizations, the private sector as well as private individuals – to support these efforts. Clarifying the roles and responsibilities of international actors to support such efforts was identified as an area for further work.
6. In the margins of the Segment, 12 well-attended informal side-events were organized by humanitarian and development partners. In addition, the Vice-President and I decided to hold a special event on the humanitarian situation in the Horn of Africa on the last day.

Valerie Amos
28 July 2011



Hu07/03/003



Note to Mr. Nambiar

**NOTE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE ECOSOC HUMANITARIAN
AFFAIRS SEGMENT 2011**

I attach a note for the attention of the Secretary-General on the humanitarian discussions that took place during the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment in Geneva. The segment concluded its work on 21 July 2011, with the adoption of a consensus resolution on 'strengthening the coordination of the emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations'.

Valerie Amos

Valerie Amos
28 July 2011