

AG  
21/10/15

Note to the Secretary-General  
(Through the Deputy Secretary-General)

**UPDATE ON THE HIGH LEVEL PANEL ON HUMANITARIAN FINANCING**

1. I wish to inform you on the progress and next steps in the work of the High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing.
2. **Process:** The Panel has functioned through a very interactive *modus operandi*. It has consulted and continues to engage with a wide range of stakeholders from the humanitarian community and beyond, including "traditional" and emerging economies' donors, private sector and civil society. It has also successfully co-hosted a number of side events, notably during the Financing for Development Conference in Addis with the United Kingdom on 14 July and during the General Assembly on 26 September together with Norway. Both events brought together high-level representatives from development and humanitarian organizations, member states and civil society. These events saw unprecedented political support for bridging the humanitarian and development divide, through joint planning. The Panel also met with representatives of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations and the Advisory group of Experts on Review of peacebuilding Architecture to identify common findings and make linkages. The latter meeting concluded that more needed to be done by the United Nations on prevention of disasters and conflict and that the current architecture and mandates heighten competition for resources and undermined peace, security, development and humanitarian efforts. All the above meetings and events have helped the panel gather evidence to support its upcoming recommendations.
3. **Content:** The Panel report will frame the humanitarian financing debate for the World Humanitarian Summit by focusing on the factors exacerbating humanitarian needs and emphasising both new avenues for financing and structural reforms in the existing model. It will propose creative, yet actionable ideas focused on: 1) crowding in more funding actors (e.g. new donors, private sector, development banks) and financial instruments, as well as tailoring the financing architecture to specific contexts for it to be fit for purpose in the future; 2) dealing more effectively with protracted humanitarian and displacement crises, which account for the bulk of humanitarian needs and looking for more adapted financing for middle income countries hosting large numbers of refugees; and 3) forging an agreement between donors and implementing agencies aiming to increase flexible funding and harmonized reporting to operational humanitarian agencies. This will come in exchange for greater cost and process efficiency as well as transparency, therefore increasing the existing resources for those in need.
4. **Next steps:** The Panel will submit its recommendations to you in early December and wishes to launch its report together with you in mid-January in the Gulf, as part of our strategy of engagement with new donors. The Panel has taken an interactive approach to gather support and align commitments behind its emerging recommendations. Therefore it believes its report should not be the end of a process but a step towards the World Humanitarian Summit. With your support it wants to remain active until the Summit to ensure the buildup of commitments and the advancement of the concrete solutions and initiatives proposed in the report.

*Stephen O'Brien*

Stephen O'Brien  
12 October 2015

cc: Mr. Eliasson  
Ms. Malcorra  
Mr. Feltman  
Mr. Ladsous



Hum 10/10/15



**Fw: Note to the Secretary-General - Update on the High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing**

SGCentral to Hazel Foster

Sent by: Jill Annitto

12/10/2015 01:35 PM

— Forwarded by Jill Annitto/NY/UNO on 12/10/2015 01:35 PM —

From: Stephen O'Brien/OCHA/NY@OCHA  
To: Jan Eliasson/NY/UNO@UNHQ  
Cc: Susana Malcorra/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Jeffrey Feltman/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Herve Ladsous/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Kyung-Wha Kang/OCHA/NY@OCHA, SGCentral/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Silva Armani/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Maria Zaroui/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Dora Przybylek/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Maura Lynch/OCHA/NY@OCHA, Daniel Pfister/OCHA/NY@OCHA  
Date: 12/10/2015 01:32 PM  
Subject: Note to the Secretary-General - Update on the High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing  
Sent by: Amelework Desta@OCHA

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Dear Jan,

Please find attached a note to the Secretary-General on the the progress and next steps in the work of the High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing.



Note to the SG - Update on the High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing.pdf

Many thanks,

Stephen