



AFRICAN UNION HIGH-LEVEL PANEL **HUMANITARIAN EFFECTIVENESS IN AFRICA**

09:00-10:30, in Hisar (330 - Theater)

Lüfti Kırdar Convention and Exhibition Center (LKCC) Building.

May 24, 2016, Istanbul, Turkey

One Humanity: Shared Responsibility



I CALL UPON GLOBAL LEADERS TO PLACE HUMANITY – THE CONCERN FOR THE DIGNITY, SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF OUR CITIZENS – AT THE FOREFRONT OF ALL POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND DECISION-MAKING. THE WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT MUST BE FOR THE PEOPLE LIVING ON THE FRONTLINE OF HUMANITY. THEY COUNT ON US. WE CANNOT LET THEM DOWN.

-BAN KI-MOON

BACKGROUND

The first-ever World Humanitarian Summit, will be held on 23 – 24 May 2016, in Istanbul, Turkey. In accordance with its General Assembly Decision, **AU/Dec.604 (XXVI)**, the African Union (AU) will present a Common African Position (CAP) on *Humanitarian Effectiveness* at the Summit.

The CAP is a contribution of the AU in shaping a future *Agenda for Humanity* proposed by H.E. Ban Ki-Moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his report to the World Humanitarian Summit. The CAP encapsulates Africa Union's (AU) vision on humanitarian issues in line with its Agenda 2063. It represents the voices and concerns of Africa's leaders and people in shaping a future humanitarian architecture.

During the Istanbul Summit, the AU will also host a High-Level Panel on *humanitarian effectiveness* in Africa. The theme of the Panel: *Humanitarian Effectiveness in Africa*, underscores the focus of AU's humanitarian agenda in the next decade. This focus is in response to the call by Africa's leaders and that of the UN Secretary-General for a future humanitarian system which is effective, relevant and fit for purpose.

The Panel is organised in collaboration with the following organisations: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons and Norwegian Refugee Council-Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (NRC/IDMC).

CONTEXT

The World Humanitarian Summit is being convened against a backdrop of a rapidly changing landscape. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his Report to the World Humanitarian Summit: "*One Humanity, One Responsibility*", has underscored the growing problem of forced displacement globally, with a call for action in five core responsibilities.

With over 15 million refugees and internally displaced persons; and another 35 million of its people recently affected by unprecedented El Nino and La Nina phenomena in 40 years, the African continent remains a region where a large sum of humanitarian activity is undertaken. Several humanitarian situations that subsist on the African continent have remained protracted for many years. This trend is likely to grow even bigger in proportion given the changing nature of patterns of displacement. Solutions to address these crises have remained elusive over the years and the humanitarian system over stretched as to deliver effective humanitarian response.

In addition to Agenda 2063, the AU has recently adopted a number of legal and policy instruments a Common African Position on *Humanitarian Effectiveness* to address forced displacement and humanitarian crises on the continent. These are historic and important milestones. Notably, the CAP provides a long-term strategic vision on *addressing* forced displacement and humanitarian issues in Africa. On the other hand, the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (the Kampala Convention), the only legally binding instrument on IDPs cited by the Secretary-General in his report is good model on which regional frameworks and eventually a global instrument on IDPs could be developed.

OBJECTIVES

The AU High-Level Panel aims to provide an interactive dialogue between the African Union and the global community on Africa's humanitarian agenda and ways of aligning it with the Istanbul Plan of Action. The Panel will result in the Chair's Summary, constituting a contribution towards the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit.

Specific objectives of the Panel are to:

- unveil Africa's proposed reforms to its humanitarian architecture to achieve effective humanitarian response and durable solutions,
- share experience on ratification and domestication of the Kampala Convention, including the proposed Conference of States Parties,
- deliberate on the issues of rootcauses and durables solutions,
- discuss the role of displacement data,
- exchange views on the role of Private Sector in humanitarian action.

FORMAT AND STRUCTURE

The High-Level Panel is convened by **H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma** - Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

The Panel will be facilitated by the following Eminent Persons:

- **H.E. Aisha Laraba Abdullahi** - AU Commissioner for Political Affairs.
- **Professor Chaloka Beyani** - UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs
- **Hon. Prof. Tarsis Kabwegyere** – Ugandan Minister for General Duties
- **Amb. (Engr.) Mahboub Maalim** – Executive Secretary of Intergovernmental Authority on Development
- **Ilunga Ngandu** – Ambassador Special Envoy, Office of the President, Democratic Republic of Congo
- **Dr. James Mwangi** - Managing Director Equity Bank-Private Sector.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The High-Level Panel will last for 90 minutes. The Panel is expected to be attended by **100-150** participants, who will include Heads of State and Government, Heads of UN Agencies and high profile personalities, Representatives of Regional Organisations, Multilateral and Bilateral Donors, Humanitarian Organisations, Private Sector, African Diaspora and Civil Society, and Academia. The Panel will be open to media and will be broadcast and webcast live.

REGISTRATION

Please register interest in, and level of participation, for this High Level Panel at <http://goo.gl/forms/1IXgGSZows>.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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African Union High-Level Panel on *Humanitarian Effectiveness in Africa*

09:00-10:30, in Hisar (330 - Theater)

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24 May 2016, Istanbul, Turkey

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Opening Session (15 min)		
	<p>Welcome remarks by H.E. Mrs. TASSYLA DOUMBENENY Marie-Edith- Ambassador of Gabon and the Chair AU Permanent Representative Committee, Sub-Committee on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa</p> <p>Opening Statement by H.E. Erastus J O Mwencha- Deputy Chairperson, African Union Commission</p> <p>Statement by- Mr. Stephen O'Brien- Under-Secretary- General and Emergency Relief Coordinator</p> <p>Statement by Guest Speaker- Mr. Peter Maurer-President of International Committee of the Red Cross</p> <p><i>Moderator: Dr. Khabele Matlosa- AU Director for Political Affairs</i></p>	
Panel Presentations		
1.	Reforming Africa's Humanitarian Architecture (5 min)	H.E. Dr. Aisha Laraba Abudullahi - AU Commissioner for Political Affairs
2.	Kampala Convention: <i>from Policy to Practice</i> (5 min)	Prof. Chaloka Beyani – UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs
3.	Mixed-Migration and Irregular Movement (5 min)	Hon. Prof. Tarsis Kabwegyere – Ugandan Minister for General Duties
4.	Building Resilience: <i>Experience from Eastern African Region and the Horn of Africa</i>	Amb. (Engr.) Mahboub Maalim – Executive Secretary of Intergovernmental Authority on Development
5.	Rootcauses and Durable Solutions: <i>Linking Relief to Development</i> (5 min)	Mr. Ilunga Ngandu – Ambassador Special Envoy, Office of the President, Democratic Republic of Congo
6.	Role of the Private Sector in Humanitarian Action in Africa (5 min)	Dr. James Mwangi - Managing Director Equity Bank
Discussions (40 Min)		
Closing (5 min)		
	Chair's Summary and Closure	

REGISTRATION AND MEDIA ACCREDITATION

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