Member States inform Panel on peace and security dimensions of internal displacement

March 11 - Peace and security cannot be treated as afterthoughts in the search for durable solutions, concluded a consultation with Member States in New York to inform the work of the UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement.

Organized by the Secretariat of the Panel with the support of the Co-chairs of the New York-based “Group of Friends” of the Panel, the Consultation on Peace and Security Dimensions of Internal Displacement saw representatives of Member States and other actors discussing how peace and security can be incorporated systematically into action on solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs).

In opening remarks, Panel Co-chair Federica Mogherini noted that the results of the Panel’s consultations so far have underlined the importance of shared and complementary actions by humanitarian, peace and development actors to advance effective prevention, response and solutions to internal displacement.

"When we consulted IDPs, security consistently was one of their top priorities," she highlighted. "What we have tried to do through our research and consultations is identify where there might be small windows of opportunity to strengthen safety and security for IDPs."

Co-Chairs of the “Group of Friends” H.E. Ambassador Issa Konfowrou, Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations, and H.E. Ambassador Mona Juul, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations, reiterated the need to address the roots of displacement, foster a protective environment for safe and voluntary return and achieve long-term solutions.

The role of protection of civilian policies in reducing...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 3</td>
<td>Participation of Head of Panel's Secretariat in Aswan Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>Secretariat meeting with Expert Advisory Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>Panel meeting with the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation and its partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Meeting between Head of Panel's Secretariat and Co-Chairs of &quot;Group of Friends&quot; Member States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>Secretariat meeting with the Organization of American States (OAS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>Secretariat meeting with the League of Arab States (LAS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Secretariat meeting with OECD Director of Development Co-operation Directorate Jorge Moreira da Silva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>8th Panel Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 29</td>
<td>Urban displacement consultation with the mayor of Mosul, Iraq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Urban displacement consultation with regional authorities and IDP representative in Luhansk Oblast, Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Consultation on Peace and Security Dimensions of Internal Displacement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>Consultation with donor governments of internal displacement responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Secretariat discussion with NGOs and civil society organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>Secretariat meeting with UN DESA Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Chief Economist Elliott Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Secretariat discussion with UN agencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Impacts of conflicts on communities was one of the key themes of the consultation. H.E. Ambassador Adela Raz, Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations, described her country’s national policy on the prevention and mitigation of civilian casualties. She elaborated that the fundamental objective of the policy, adopted in 2017, was to reduce civilian casualties from military operations.

On prevention, the second main theme of the consultation, David Haeri, Director of Division of Policy, Evaluation and Training at the UN Department of Peace Operations (DPO), shared the experiences of various UN peacekeeping missions, underlining that an integrated approach and partnerships are key to detect early warnings, assess threats and build institutional response.

With regard to solutions, Sorcha O’Callaghan, Director of the Humanitarian Policy Group at the Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG ODI), called for a shift in attitude and mindsets to debunk the misconception that internal displacement is solely a humanitarian concern. “Durable solutions are impossible to achieve without peace and security, yet peacebuilding remains an afterthought,” she said, adding that there are limited incentives for peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

In the discussions, interventions were made by Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia, the European Union, France, Georgia, Germany, the Holy See, Indonesia, Morocco, Peru, Poland, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Turkey, the United States of America, the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, InterAction, IOM, UNDP and UNHCR.

Closing the event, Panel Co-chair Donald Kaberuka underscored, first, that IDPs are not just “passive observers” but citizens of their countries whose needs should be integrated in national development plans with the support of international financial institutions. He stressed the importance of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and the need to give it effect in practice.

“It is impossible to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals unless the issue of internal displacement is addressed through the triple nexus with adequate social capital and funding,” concluded Mr. Kaberuka.

Spotted from page 1

Lessons from the private sector: Panel meets with local social enterprises and businesses in the Philippines

March 16 - Private sector engagement is among the priority themes of the Panel’s work. Since its inception, the Panel has conducted more than 25 consultations with the private sector on how to best leverage foundations, businesses and entrepreneurship in supporting durable solutions to internal displacement.

With the support of the Connecting Business initiative (CBI), an initiative co-managed by OCHA and UNDP, Panel member Per Heggenes and Expert Advisory Group member Walter Kälin met with the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) and its partners on March 16 to learn from the experiences of local social enterprises and businesses in the Philippines to learn from their experiences in supporting IDPs and host communities in the country. (March 16, Virtual)

March 16 - Private sector engagement is among the priority themes of the Panel’s work. Since its inception, the Panel has conducted more than 25 consultations with the private sector on how to best leverage foundations, businesses and entrepreneurship in supporting durable solutions to internal displacement.

With the support of the Connecting Business initiative (CBI), an initiative co-managed by OCHA and UNDP, Panel member Per Heggenes and Expert Advisory Group member Walter Kälin met with the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) and its partners on March 16 to learn from the experiences of local social enterprises and businesses in supporting IDPs and host communities in the Philippines. Representatives from the Weaving Hope project in Marawi, the “School in a Bag” initiative, PDRF’s Innovation for Social Enterprise Development and Livelihood Program (Sari-Sari Store Project/Mom and Pop), and Pepsi Cola Products Philippines Inc shared their experiences on providing short- and long-term livelihood assistance to IDPs, including income-generating, capacity-building and education opportunities.
UPCOMING EVENTS

08 APR
Consultation on urban displacement: Somalia
With the support of UN-Habitat, JIPS and IIED, the Panel will meet with the Benadir Durable Solutions Unit of Somalia.

19 APR
Global urban displacement event
The series of local urban displacement consultations will culminate in a global event on “Internal Displacement in an Increasingly Urbanized World,” co-organized by the UN-Habitat, JIPS, IIED and the Secretariat of the Panel.

28 APR
Consultation with IDPs in South Sudan
With the support of ICRC, the Panel will hold a semi-virtual consultation with IDPs in Rumbek, South Sudan.

March 26 - The Panel convened for the eighth time on March 26 to consolidate its work towards the conclusion. Panel members exchanged their thoughts on the emerging recommendations, drawing from the body of research, submissions and consultation results collected over the past 13 months.

Since its inception, the Panel has consulted with more than 12,500 IDPs and host community members, and engaged with more than 65 Member States, over half of whom are affected by displacement. Over 90 written submissions were received from Member States, UN agencies, NGOs, academic institutions and other initiatives. In moving forward, the Panel will continue to actively engage with stakeholders and finetune its recommendations to ensure that the final report will speak to the reality of internal displacement. The Panel is expected to hold its next meeting in May 2021.

March 2021

SPOTLIGHT

Meeting the needs of urban IDPs: the experiences of Medellín, Mosul and Luhansk Oblast

March 26 - The Panel convened for the eighth time on March 26 to consolidate its work towards the conclusion. Panel members exchanged their thoughts on the emerging recommendations, drawing from the body of research, submissions and consultation results collected over the past 13 months.

Since its inception, the Panel has consulted with more than 12,500 IDPs and host community members, and engaged with more than 65 Member States, over half of whom are affected by displacement. Over 90 written submissions were received from Member States, UN agencies, NGOs, academic institutions and other initiatives. In moving forward, the Panel will continue to actively engage with stakeholders and finetune its recommendations to ensure that the final report will speak to the reality of internal displacement. The Panel is expected to hold its next meeting in May 2021.

SPOTLIGHT

Building towards the Panel's conclusions

March 26 - The Panel convened for the eighth time on March 26 to consolidate its work towards the conclusion. Panel members exchanged their thoughts on the emerging recommendations, drawing from the body of research, submissions and consultation results collected over the past 13 months.

Since its inception, the Panel has consulted with more than 12,500 IDPs and host community members, and engaged with more than 65 Member States, over half of whom are affected by displacement. Over 90 written submissions were received from Member States, UN agencies, NGOs, academic institutions and other initiatives. In moving forward, the Panel will continue to actively engage with stakeholders and finetune its recommendations to ensure that the final report will speak to the reality of internal displacement. The Panel is expected to hold its next meeting in May 2021.