

Submission¹ to the UN Secretary-General's High-

The High-Level Panel will present its report and recommendations to the UN Secretary-General.³ Following the Secretary-General's consideration of the Panel's report, it is essential the UN develop a roadmap for follow-up. The roadmap for strengthened global response to internal displacement must set out ambitious but realistic objectives, specific timelines, clearly defined responsibilities for implementation, and resource requirements. Monitoring and reporting of implementation of the roadmap should occur annually, preferably by an independent entity.

2. Intensified direct engagement and advocacy by the UN Secretary-General

It is our hope and expectation that the Secretary-General, upon receipt of the Panel's report and review of its recommendations, will report publicly back to the UN his reflections on the Panel's recommendations, provide any updates regarding their implementation or other relevant major developments of relevance, and, most importantly, set out priorities and action points for the way forward by the UN.

The Secretary-General has indicated that among his priorities during his second term of office, to

, underscoring that "

".⁴ The Secretary-General's personal leadership would

be instrumental to ensuring a more joined-up approach by the UN system to internal displacement.

One important vehicle for ensuring a whole of system UN approach would be the Senior Management Group (SMG), which the Secretary-General chairs. This is a forum for policy-related matters, planning, and information-sharing on cross-cutting issues, which the global crisis of internal displacement certainly is. Moreover, the issue of internal displacement is directly relevant to mandate and role of the vast majority of the members of the SMG.

3. Coordination and managerial oversight by the Deputy Secretary-General of a whole-of-system approach

The UN Deputy Secretary-General should play a key role in coordinating and overseeing implementation of the Secretary-General's follow-up to the Panel's report and recommendations. Doing so

outside of the UN, e.g. international and regional financial institutions and the private sector as well as the Red Cross Movement, the DSG's office would provide a " one-

important that awareness of the issue be raised among RCs and exchanges of good practice and lessons learned be facilitated. The recent initiative by the Regional DCO in Asia to bring together UN RCs in the region to discuss issues of internal displacement and the RCOs' role provides a good example.

At the same time, UN RCs need to be able to count on support, both at the technical level, when needed, and at the highest-level, from the UN system when they tackle the inherently political issue of internal displacement. They also point to the need for a clear focal point within the UN to whom they can turn for such support. Should RCs require support to carry beyond what can be mobilized from within the UNCT or other local resources, the DCO should be equipped with information of global resources for potential support on internal displacement, whether substantive support on a particular issue (e.g. from UN SR on IDPs, JIPS, IDMC etc.) or opportunities for secondment of staff with specialized expertise on internal displacement via UN/IASC or donor rosters (e.g. ProCap, SDC etc.).

5. Improved humanitarian responses to internal displacement under the leadership of the Emergency Relief Coordinator and Inter-Agency Standing Committee

Within the humanitarian system, the Emergency Relief Coordinator has a pivotal role to play. While important enhancements have been made over the years, most notably with the IASC's introduction of the "cluster approach" in 2005 and subsequent humanitarian reform processes, there remains a need for strengthened accountability, leadership, and delivery of effective response. We dod Inter

8. A global support network or alliance of actors outside of the UN and its established funding mechanisms.

Strengthen and expand partnerships and resource mobilization opportunities beyond the UN system, and at Chief Executive level, e.g. with the Presidents of international and regional financial institutions, the private sector, and non-traditional donors in a position to provide substantial support to constructive State, sub-national, and regional responses to internal displacement that otherwise struggle to secure financial support from existing mechanisms;

Coordinate and oversee, on behalf of the UN Secretary-General, follow-up to the Panel's recommendations, including development and implementation of a roadmap of the Secretary-General for addressing the global crisis of internal displacement⁸, in close consultation with Member States, UN agencies and offices, regional organizations, civil society.

Advise the UN Secretary-General, including recommending when the "good offices" of the UNSG may be needed with States or when the direct engagement and authority of the UNSG is needed to resolve critical gaps in the UN response.

Key characteristics of a senior UN official to lead international efforts on internal displacement must include:

Authority and clout within the UN system to lead a "whole of system" response to internal displacement. At country level, UN RCs have a key leadership role to play in this regard. At global level, RCs require the support of and access to all 3 pillars of UN response. We believe this is best done via the office of the Secretary-General,

Convening power of all pillars of the UN at senior-level is essential to ensure implementation of the reforms needed and access to the support required by UN RCs to ensure effective responses to internal displacement. This convening power would need to be able to mobilize the UN Senior Management Group (chaired by the Secretary-General), the UN Sustainable Development Group at global and regional levels (both chaired by the UN Deputy Secretary-General), other relevant UN senior-level inter-agency forums plus, on a bilateral basis, relevant individual UN entities, all at Principals level;

Established oversight and accountability chain with UN RCs (see above),

Direct and regular access to the UN Secretary-General,

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Is there political support to establish such an office? To what extent has the proposal already been floated with States experiencing internal displacement, including those who are complicit in the creation of internal displacement, and among those States on record as voicing concerns about international engagement on issues of internal displacement given their concerns re: sovereignty? What potential obstacles could frustrate such efforts? What are the envisaged strategies for overcoming political resistance to the proposal? Is the UN Secretary-General prepared to personally advocate for this? What role, if any, is envisaged for the Group of Friends to help mobilize political will to support such efforts?

What is the envisaged duration of the SRSG position? If time-bound, for how long it is envisaged to exist? What would be key benchmarks for success and for dismantling the office? Given that the global crisis of internal displacement is unlikely to be a temporary problem, what handover arrangements would be envisaged? If the office is temporary, as appears to be suggested by the Panel's proposal, what are the arguments for not immediately skipping directly to the handover arrangements for ensuring more sustainable global leadership, accountability and response?

We look forward to further discussing these matters with the HLP.