

# **INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT**

## **Protecting and Promoting the Human rights of Internally Displaced Persons**

### **Side Event, Concept Note**

#### **Background**

The mandate of the Representative of the Secretary General on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) was established by the Commission on Human Rights in 1992. Almost twenty five years on, the mandate – now Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons – is more relevant than ever, with 40.8 million persons internally displaced at the end of 2015 due to conflict and violence and countless more due to disasters, criminal violence and development projects. At a time when numbers are on the rise, and solutions seem to be elusive, the international community must come together and agree on new and collaborative approaches to meet the challenges of internal displacement today and in the future. Recently adopted frameworks and initiatives such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement and the World Humanitarian Summit all have the potential to be catalysts for change and essential progress on IDP issues – helping States to approach the next decade with stronger tools to prevent and respond to internal displacement, assist and protect IDPs worldwide, and secure durable solutions for them.

#### **Objectives**

This event aims to serve as a stock-taking exercise and shall reflect on progress made over the past two decades since the creation of the mandate on IDPs as well as on the challenges ahead to better promote and protect the rights of internally displaced persons. It will be the opportunity for the Special Rapporteur to reflect on his tenure, on lessons learnt, issues requiring new or enhanced attention, and on a possible roadmap for the future. It will also provide a valuable opportunity to discuss how existing agencies and mechanisms may enhance their functioning, structure and practice in order to advance IDPs' rights within and outside the United Nations.

#### **Modalities**

The side event will be held on 21 June 2016 from 16:00-18:00 in Room XXIII, Palais des Nations.

**Opening remarks and moderation** by **H.E. Mr. Thomas HAJNOCZI**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations in Geneva

After the opening remarks, the iDMC will give a presentation (max 10 minutes) on the findings of its recently published **“Global Report on Internal Displacement 2016”**.

## **Panelists**

**Mr. Chaloka BEYANI**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons

**Ms. Maria Luisa SILVA**, Director of the UNDP Office Geneva, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

**Ms. Louise AUBIN**, Deputy Director, Deputy Director, Division of International Protection, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

**Mr. Karim GHEZRAOUI**, Chief, Special Procedures Branch, OHCHR

**Mr. Walter KÄLIN**, Former United Nations Representative of the Secretary General on the human rights of internally displaced persons (tbc)

**Mr. Justin Ginnetti**, Head of Data and Analysis, Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (iDMC)

**The event will be followed by a reception for SR Chaloka Beyani at the Permanent Mission of Austria, starting at around 18:30h.**