

: Programme

As at: 29 April 2016

sef: Policy Lunch 2016 **The World Humanitarian Summit –** **What will the EU bring to the table?**

Brussels

Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the EU
Rue Montoyer 47, Brussels

11 May 2016, 12.00 hrs

Conference language

English

Cooperating Partner

CIDSE - International Alliance of Catholic Development Agencies, Brussels



Supported by

Minister for Federal Affairs,
Europe and the Media of
North Rhine-Westphalia



#sefLunch

BACKGROUND

The first *World Humanitarian Summit* will be held in Istanbul on 23-24 May 2016. Ahead of the Summit, comprehensive consultations have taken place with key stakeholders – governmental and non-governmental alike – from all regions of the world. Drawing on these consultations, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has set out his *Agenda for Humanity* in preparation for the Summit and hopes to secure a commitment to its implementation from as many stakeholders as possible. The Agenda defines five core responsibilities, which are underpinned by numerous proposals on action to be taken by states and their leaders:

1. Assume responsibility to prevent and end conflict.
2. Affirm the responsibility to uphold the norms that safeguard humanity.
3. Leave no one behind.
4. Change people's lives by moving from delivering aid to ending need.
5. Invest in humanity.

The Secretary-General has also set up a High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing, tasked with developing proposals on increasing the funding to this field of work. The proposals are set out in a report published in January 2016, in which the Panel identifies three key strategies:

1. Reducing humanitarian needs by addressing their root causes.
2. Mobilising additional funds.
3. And improving the efficiency of humanitarian assistance.

The Panel also proposes that a much larger percentage of official development assistance (ODA) resources be allocated to managing protracted emergencies and situations of fragility. In funding humanitarian assistance, governments should not only make more efficient use of existing resources, but should also reach agreement in Istanbul on a mechanism for a “solidarity tax”.

What view should be taken on the demands laid out by the *Agenda* and the *High-Level Panel*? What were the main results of the preparation process so far? What do governments and civil society expect the Summit to achieve? What will and should the European Union bring to the table? And what will be necessary steps to follow the Summit?

These are the issues that we are keen to explore with representatives of the European Union, international and civil society organisations and others shortly before the Summit.

: Programme

12.00 HRS REGISTRATION AND DRINKS

12.15 HRS WELCOME

Rainer Steffens

Director

Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the EU, Brussels

Dr Gerd Harms

Deputy Chairperson of the Executive Committee

Development and Peace Foundation (sef:), Bonn/Potsdam

12.30 HRS INPUT AND ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Chair

Patrick Leusch

CEO DW-Media Services GmbH, Bonn

Input

Professor Hans-Joachim Heintze

Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict

University of Bochum

Round Table Discussion

Veronika Burget

External Relations Officer

UNHCR Brussels

Dr James Munn

Interim Director/Head of Humanitarian Policy

Norwegian Refugee Council, Geneva

Gosia Pearson

Policy Officer – Focal point for WHS

Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

European Commission, Brussels

Followed by discussion with the audience

14.00 HRS RECEPTION

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