



Council of the
European Union

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Eingelangt am 28/05/18

Brussels, 25 May 2018
(OR. en)

9352/18

COHAFA 33
DEVGEN 77
ALIM 3
ONU 42
FAO 13
COAFR 137
MAMA 79
MOG 30
COEST 102
COASI 129
PROCIV 29
RELEX 464

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations

Subject: Outcome of proceedings of the Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and
Food Aid on 17 and 18 April 2018

Delegations will find attached the outcome of proceedings of the Working Party on Humanitarian
Aid and Food Aid held on 17-18 April 2018.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted (CM 2196/18 REV1).

2. Presentation of new features on Delegates Portal

The Council Secretariat provided information on two new features on Delegates Portal.

3. Emergency response in acute conflicts (*incl. an informal exchange of views with MSF*)

As part of an informal exchange of views, MSF representative Monica Castellarnau presented the key findings of the new MSF report on "Bridging the Emergency Gap".

4. Preparations for UNGA 73

The group discussed draft lines to take on humanitarian issues at the forthcoming UN General Assembly.

5. ECHO evaluation report

The Commission presented the key findings and recommendations from the recent report following an independent evaluation of its humanitarian assistance in 2012-16.

6. Response to crises

a) Ethiopia

The groups discussed the humanitarian situation in Ethiopia, where the population is facing a threefold humanitarian emergency due to drought, internal displacement and a substantial influx of refugees from neighbouring countries, leading to a significant increase in the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance.

b) Philippines

The group examined current humanitarian needs resulting from the "forgotten" crisis in Mindanao, where conflicts among rebel groups have caused widespread destruction and contributed to a lack of preparedness for natural disasters.

7. Syria / Brussels II Conference

COHAFA discussed the humanitarian situation in Syria, with a focus on the current conflict hotspots Idlib, Afrin and East. The group also discussed the preparations of the Brussels II Conference, which sought to call for support for the Geneva process and a political transition, raise funding for addressing humanitarian needs, and demonstrate support for refugee-hosting neighbouring countries, as well as the Ministerial-level Day of Dialogue with NGOs.

8. Forced displacement: Follow-up to the Lives in Dignity Communication

(joint session with CODEV)

The groups were briefed by the Commission and the EEAS on the implementation of the Lives in Dignity Communication during the past twelve months.

9. Global Report on Food Crises (incl. an informal exchange of views with WFP and FAO)

(CODEV was invited to join COHAFA for this session)

As part of an informal exchange of views, WFP and FAO jointly presented the key findings of the 2018 edition of the Global Report on Food Crises.

10. Addressing the risk of famine

The EEAS and the Commission briefed on the actions they each had undertaken to address the risk of famine since the adoption of Council conclusions in July last year.

11. AOB

a) Debriefing Civil Protection Forum (Brussels, 5-6 March)

The Commission debriefed on the event, highlighting issues of relevance for humanitarian assistance.

b) Debriefing High-Level Somalia Conference 2018 (London, 6 March)

The UK delegation debriefed on the event, which brought renewed attention to the ongoing crisis in the country.

c) Debriefing Yemen High-Level Pledging Event (Geneva, 3 April)

The Swedish delegation debriefed on the event which they had co-hosted for the second time together with OCHA and Switzerland.

d) Debriefing International Conference on Higher Education in Emergencies (Lisbon, 5 April)

The Portuguese delegation debriefed on the event, which brought together representatives of multilateral institutions, academia and humanitarian organisations.

e) Debriefing DRC Humanitarian Conference (Geneva, 13 April)

The Dutch delegation debriefed on this event which the Netherlands had co-hosted together with the EU and OCHA.

f) Gaza

The Commission briefed the group on the degrading humanitarian conditions in Gaza on the occasion of the violent response to recent protests, and provided a forward look until May 15th.