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COHAFA 83
ALIM 5
DEVGEN 143
CSDP/PSDC 550
ACP 77
COLAC 96
COAFR 248
MAMA 113
RELEX 871
INTER-REP 65

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 6 July 2023
To: Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA)
Subject: Hunger and conflict
- presentation by AAH

Following the COHAFA meeting of 5-6 July 2023, delegations will find in Annex the presentation made by AAH⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾.

¹ ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM, identification number in the EU Transparency Register: 272646820681-30.

² This document contains a presentation by an external stakeholder and the views expressed therein are solely those of the third party it originates from. This document cannot be regarded as stating an official position of the Council. It does not reflect the views of the Council or of its members.





**IN CONFLICT, HUNGER
IS DEADLIER THAN BULLETS.**



BREAKING THE CYCLE BETWEEN CONFLICT AND HUNGER – TIMELINE OF KEY UN DEVELOPMENTS

- 2017-18: adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2417
- 2019-2022: UN White Papers on UNSCR2417 published
- 2020: UN Group of Friends on Conflict and Hunger established



**of 258 million people
facing crisis levels of acute
food insecurity were
living in conflict-affected
countries in 2022**



NO MATTER WHO'S FIGHTING, HUNGER ALWAYS WINS

REPORT KEY FINDINGS

🌱
🔵 Conflict remains the main driver of food insecurity in terms of the people affected.
85% of the people facing acute food insecurity live in countries affected by conflict

🌱
🔵 6 types of violent behaviours detailed:

- Obstructing access to crops and pastures
- Looting or theft of productive assets and crops
- Obstructing access to humanitarian assistance and basic means of survival
- Mine contamination
- Destruction of basic services and infrastructure
- Forced displacement

🌱
🔵 Food security as a driver of sustainable peace



CASE STUDIES



Colombia

Severe movement restrictions imposed by non state armed groups

"We are a population of farmers and when safety returns in our fields, we will be able to resume our work. We hope it's going to be okay but we also need education as our kids have not gone to school for a long time."



Democratic Republic of Congo

Ituri region has been hit by conflict. 79 health centres have been destroyed and 160 schools damaged from armed attacks

Interview conducted in DRC, 2021



CASE STUDIES



Niger

Agricultural land is made inaccessible by NSAG control of territories. This is linked to illegal economy activities. Herders and farmers are forbidden so they don't witness and report illegal activities.



Nigeria

State military attacks on villages in Borno state in ISWAP controlled areas but diplomatic action has influenced the Nigerian government and military in the past



Syria

Switzerland opened a humanitarian dialogue with the Syrian government focused on humanitarian access and overcoming the administrative barriers



ACTION AGAINST HUNGER'S WORK

- 🌱 Two global reports (2022-2023)
- 🌱 Established global NGO working group on research and advocacy
- 🌱 Global public awareness raising and political action campaigns & parliamentary and officials engagement
- 🌱 Monitoring and Evaluating Food Insecurity in Conflict Confidential reports
- 🌱 Global dialogue series now launched (Nairobi, Amman, Dakar, etc)

Supported by ECHO and AECID



CALL TO ACTION TO THE EU AND MEMBER STATES

EU LEVEL

- Include hunger and conflict as long-term priority for the EU, including in the next presidencies' programme.
- Strengthen European humanitarian diplomacy and its coordination with EU Member States humanitarian diplomacy initiatives
- Defend unimpeded humanitarian access to populations in crises
- Produce guidelines on the role of humanitarian diplomacy in promoting compliance with IHL and protection of humanitarian space.



CALL TO ACTION TO THE EU AND MEMBER STATES

MEMBER STATE LEVEL

-   Make implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2417 a priority and call for enhancing compliance and accountability with international humanitarian law in a systematic and context specific manner through collective channels (UNSC, regional bodies such as the EU).
-   Ratification by EU Member States that are party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court of the Rome Statute 2019 amendment on starvation as a method of warfare in non-international armed conflict.
-   Reinforcement of the EU and member states bilateral diplomacy initiatives on specific contexts where member states have leverage potential by equipping them with humanitarian objectives and strong evidence.
-   Include hunger and conflict in all member state national humanitarian strategies as a theme of approaches to Protection of Civilians.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 🌱
🔵 How is the Council of the EU planning to move forward on UNSCR 2417 implementation and ensure better monitoring of violations ?
- 🌱
🔵 How do the EU and member states plan to strengthen its support and engagement to protect food security through humanitarian diplomacy ?
- 🌱
🔵 What opportunities does the EU identify to enhance its engagement on this topic and how can NGOs support these processes?

