

2019/20 CERF Calendar of Events

Background

At the CERF Advisory Group meeting held on 23 and 24 October 2018 in New York, the members of the Group asked OCHA to revisit the CERF events calendar and reconsider the planning of pledging conferences in December where availability of ministers and Advisory Group members is limited. Instead, OCHA should explore if a pledging conference could be organized at another time during the year where high-level representatives can gather to pledge for CERF. It was also suggested that the calendar also includes different opportunities throughout the year where CERF's added value can be promoted, highlighting where relevant an active advocacy role the members of the AG could play. This event calendar was developed in the beginning of 2019 as a planning tool for outreach and visibility, and updated on a regular basis.

The events are identified into three broad categories: i) CERF-focused events (**green**); ii) high-level financing events or conferences where CERF could feature prominently (**orange**); and, iii) regional partnerships events as public awareness and peer-to-peer advocacy opportunities (**grey**).

| Date | Location / Venue | Event | Opportunity for CERF | Potential role for CERF AG | OCHA's Support |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| First Quarter 2019 | | | | | |
| 26 Feb | Geneva | High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen | Highlight the catalytic role CERF has played in enabling rapid scale up humanitarian response in Yemen as the 2nd largest recipient in 2018 and 5th largest overall | Outcome: With the \$32 million released from CERF in January 2019, the SG, the USG and participants highlighted the Fund as an important instrument to unlock resources quickly to ramp up humanitarian logistical operations. | |
| 30 March - 4 April | Sudan | ODSG Field Trip | Gain insight into the added value of CERF and its complementarity with CBPFs | Outcome: Participants were able to see humanitarian projects supported by the Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SHF) and the CERF, in particular OCHA's efforts to strengthen the level of complementarity between the SHF and the CERF through consultations with the HCT, Inter-sector Coordination Group and the SHF Advisory Board. | |
| Second Quarter 2019 | | | | | |
| 23-24 May | Oslo | Ending Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Humanitarian Crises | Highlight CERF's role in enabling life-saving GBV and sexual and reproductive health interventions in a multitude of contexts | Outcome: Significant unearmarked and core funding to humanitarian organizations and respond to SGBV were noted with gratitude, including funding to the CERF. | |
| PAST EVENTS | | | | | |
| 19-20 June | Dublin | 2019 first CERF AG meeting | | | |
| 24-26 June | Geneva | ECOSOC HAS | An ECOSOC HAS side event on 'Anticipatory Financing' is planned. This is an opportunity to present CERF efforts to present CERF's future role in anticipatory action and flag recent key achievements. | If AG members attending, voice support for a larger CERF as an effective system and global in reach. Support CERF's broadening the area of intervention to include systematic financing for anticipatory action. | Co-organize the side event with EU, Kuwait and Germany; Provide Key Messages and visibility on CERF's role in anticipatory humanitarian action |
| Third Quarter 2019 | | | | | |
| end-July (TBC) | TBC | Launch of CERF underfunded round II | Bring UFE-selected crises to the attention of different audiences; promote visibility for CERF and its donors; highlight CERF's increased focus on four priority areas often underfunded and lacking appropriate consideration - gender, disabilities, education and protection; promote data-driven analysis and comprehensive country selection methodology. | Support peer-to-peer and internal advocacy for support to UFE-selected crises and for CERF; promote awareness of the allocation using social media | Provide a suite of communications products and toolkits |

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| 19-Aug | Globe | World Humanitarian Day | This is a day when the spirit of humanitarian work around the world is celebrated. OCHA leverages the day to raise public awareness of humanitarian needs and the importance of humanitarian assistance. It is also an opportunity raise awareness of CERF and CBPFs and campaigns usually include an online awareness and fundraising component for CERF. | Actively participate in the online/off-line public awareness campaign for CERF in their respective regions | Provide a suite of communications products and toolkits |
| Fourth Quarter 2019 | | | | | |
| Oct-Nov 2019 | Brussels | The Council working party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA) briefing on CERF under Finnish presidency | An opportunity to champion CERF among all EU Member States, particularly those not yet contributing to the fund (including France, Austria, etc). Also an opportunity to set the scene and build momentum for the high-level meeting in the margins of EU Council of Ministers. | Active peer-to-peer advocacy by Finland and CERF top donors with other EU Member States | A senior OCHA representative to brief the COHAFA; provide relevant visibility/promotion materials. |
| End-Nov | Brussels | EU Council of Ministers | Finland's may use its EU presidency in the second half of 2019 to promote CERF and raise the profile of humanitarian crises. A special session/ side event in the margins of the Council of Ministers meeting together with ERC will be explored. | Also an opportunity to continue to engage EU development ministers on CERF's added value. | OCHA Donor Relations Section will further discuss with Helsinki on forward planning |
| Dec | Global | Launch of Global Humanitarian Overview 2020 in Geneva, Brussels, London, Berlin and Washington DC (tbc). | The launch highlights global trends, challenges and the world's humanitarian requirements through this comprehensive, authoritative and evidence-based assessment document. This is an opportunity for a call to support CERF and CBPFs. | Explore potential role CERF AG members can play at the launch of GHO in various capitals, in particular for members from Belgium, UK, Germany. | |
| Second Half of 2019 or 2020 | TBD | Regional CERF event hosted by the Australian CERF AG member | Awareness building and advocacy with Asia Pacific region | Active peer-to-peer advocacy by Australia and Asian AG members | |
| Dec (TBC) | New York | 2019 Second CERF AG meeting | | | |
| Dec (TBC) | New York | CERF HL Pledging Conference for 2020 | Following the donor survey on the most convenient timing for the next CERF HL pledging conference, retaining December timing was considered as the preferred option given donors' budget cycles, visibility for top-ups announced by year-end, and the fact that UNGA was deemed inappropriate to hold a 3-hr pledging conference and that ministerial participation was still not guaranteed. Findings of the survey to be further presented at the AG meeting. | | |

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|---------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| First Quarter 2020 | | | | | |
| Jan/Feb | TBD | Launch of CERF Underfunded round I | Bring UFE-selected crises to the attention of different audiences; promote visibility for CERF and its donors | Support peer-to-peer and internal advocacy for support to UFE-selected crises and for CERF; promote awareness of the allocation using social media | Provide a suite of communications products and toolkits |
| 2020 | Kuwait | Gulf regional event co-hosted by Kuwait and Germany | Awareness building and advocacy in the Gulf region | Active peer-to-peer advocacy by Kuwait and Germany | |