CERF Advisory Group
Meeting on 21 and 22 March 2016, New York

27th floor, Conference Room (S-2727) UN Secretariat
Entrance on First Avenue and 46th Street

ANNOTATED AGENDA

MONDAY, 21 MARCH 2016

8:30 – 09:00 ARRIVAL (coffee served)

09:00 – 09:15 SESSION I
WELCOME TO ALL MEMBERS
Objective: An overview of the meeting and review the agenda
Chair: Ambassador Manuel Bessler
Speakers: Ambassador Bessler
ERC Stephen O’Brien
Ms. Lisa Doughten (Chief of the CERF secretariat)

09:15 – 10:30 SESSION II
UPDATE ON THE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF CERF
Objective: Provide a strategic overview of CERF: The use, management and operations of the Fund

Expected outcome: A shared understanding of the use and management of CERF and the Fund’s position within recent humanitarian developments

Documents:
- Recommendations and Conclusions, CERF Advisory Group meeting of 27 and 28 October 2015 - A/70/615 (A, E, F, R, S)
- Recipients of CERF funds 2016 as at 2 March 2016
- Recipients of CERF funds 2006 – 2016 at 2 March 2016

Chair: Ambassador Bessler
Speaker: ERC Mr. O’Brien

10:30 – 10:45 COFFEE BREAK
10:45 – 11:40   SESSION III
CERF FIT FOR THE FUTURE

Objective: In the context of the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), discuss the recommendation proposed in the Secretary-General’s Report for the WHS to expand CERF to $1billion by 2018

Expected outcome: Guidance and advice on a roadmap to increase CERF’s funding target

Documents:
- A CERF for the Future: Discussion Paper

Chair: Ambassador Bessler
Speakers: ERC Mr. O’Brien
Ms. Doughten

11:40 – 11:50  PHOTO OPPORTUNITY WITH SECRETARY-GENERAL BAN KI-MOON

11:50 – 14:30  SESSION IV
RESOURCE MOBILISATION, ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATIONS, including working lunch

Objective: To provide an overview of CERF’s resource mobilisation approach covering donor engagement, advocacy and communication plan for 2016, including an update on innovative financing

Expected outcome: Guidance on way forward in reaching the General Assembly annual funding target of US$450 million for 2016

Documents:
- $1 Billion CERF: Building Blocks for an Advocacy and Engagement Strategy
- 2016 Resource Mobilisation and Communications Approach
- Advocacy and Engagement Plan as of 15 March 2016
- Donor Engagement Plan as of 15 March 2016
- Contributions to CERF 2016 as at 2 March 2016
- Contributions to CERF: 2006 – 2016 as at 2 March 2016

Chair: Ambassador Bessler
Speakers: ERC Mr. O’Brien
Ms. Doughten
Mr. Robert Filipp, President of the Innovative Finance Foundation

14:30 – 15:30  SESSION V
PERFORMANCE AND POLICY ISSUES

Objective: Discuss key CERF performance and policy issues, including
1. Presentation and discussion of CERF SOP for Managing Fraud Cases
2. Briefing on reported cases of potential fraud under CERF grants
3. Key trends and findings from RC/HC CERF report analysis 2014
4. CERF monitoring guidance for field staff

**Expected outcome:** Advisory Group discusses key performance and policy issues, reviews and evaluations and provides advice on the way forward

**Documents:**
- Standard Operating Procedures - Central Emergency Response Fund Handling of Potential Fraud with CERF Funds – December 2015
- Communicating the Fraudulent Use of CERF Funds - Guidance Note – July 2015
- Analysis of performance data from Resident/Humanitarian Reports - 2014
- CERF Guidance: Monitoring of CERF Allocations
- Updated CERF Risk Action Plan (for information)

**Chair:** Ambassador Bessler
**Speakers:** Ms. Doughten

15:30 – 15:45  **COFFEE BREAK**

15:45 – 17:30  **SESSION VI**

**INTER-AGENCY DISCUSSION**

**Objective:** An opportunity for the Advisory Group members to interact with the IASC partners¹ represented in the humanitarian financing working group to discuss the following issues:

1. Agencies’ experience and challenges with the use of CERF funds
2. Sub-granting and forward disbursements of CERF funds, and the potential misuse of funds/fraud

**Expected outcome:** Shared understanding of agencies’ experiences and challenges with the use of CERF funds

**Documents:**
- Analysis of performance data from Resident/Humanitarian Reports – 2014
- Standard Operating Procedures - Central Emergency Response Fund Handling of Potential Fraud with CERF Funds
- Communicating the Fraudulent Use of CERF Funds - Guidance Note – July 2015

**Chair:** Ambassador Bessler
**Speakers:** IASC Humanitarian Financing Task Team members
Mr. Omar Abdi, Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF

¹ IASC partners within the Humanitarian Financing Working Group include the UN, UN agencies, funds and programmes and NGOs – both international and national.
Mr. Amir Mahmoud Abdulla, Deputy Executive Director, WFP

18:30 – 20:00  RECEPTION - 1 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, 885 Second Avenue, 28th floor
Hosted by the United Kingdom Permanent Representative to the United Nations
His Excellency, Mr Matthew Rycroft

TUESDAY, 22 MARCH 2016

08:45 – 09:00  ARRIVAL (coffee served)

09:00 – 10:30  SESSION VII
PERFORMANCE AND POLICY ISSUES (continues)

Objective: Discuss key CERF performance and policy issues, including
  1. Findings from the review of CERF’s response to South Sudan crisis
  2. Findings from the review of CERF’s response to Syria crisis
  3. Experience with using updated Indicators from the CERF Performance
     and Accountability Framework (PAF)

Expected outcome: Advisory Group discusses key performance and policy issues, reviews and
 evaluations and provides advice on the way forward

Documents:
  o Independent review of the value added of CERF in the South Sudan crisis
  o Independent review of the value added of CERF in the Syria crisis
  o Revised Performance and Accountability Framework Indicators

Chair: Ambassador Bessler
Speakers: Mr. Glyn Taylor (Independent Consultant)
          Mr. Jock Baker (Independent Consultant)

10:30 – 11:45  COFFEE BREAK

11:45 – 13:30  SESSION VIII
WRAP-UP

Objectives: Agreement on the main Draft Conclusions and Recommendations to the
Secretary-General, the Advisory Group 2016 - 2017 work plan. Election of Vice-Chair

Document: Advisory Group work plan 2016 - 2017

Chair: Ambassador Bessler
       CERF Advisory Group