



SIDE EVENT

United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel

Towards an inclusive strategy to address sustainable
development and security challenges in the Sahel

Background

A recent review of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel (UNISS), which was launched in 2013, concluded that further efforts were needed to accelerate implementation of that strategy and that a long-term, holistic approach involving all relevant stakeholders as well as improved data collection and analysis were needed to facilitate implementation of the strategy and monitor progress achieved.

In view of the above, and under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General and in line with the “One United Nations” initiative, the United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel was adopted in order to build on progress already achieved and align UNISS objectives with the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 of the African Union. The United Nations Support Plan is not a new strategy or programme, but was adopted with a view to enhancing coordination among existing initiatives and mechanisms and accelerating the achievement of concrete results on the ground. The Support Plan was, moreover, formulated to support the national priorities of the 10 UNISS countries and address existing crisis response and preparedness gaps related to regional, subregional and cross-border challenges. The Support Plan underscores the importance of the humanitarian-development and security-peace nexus, and adopts a proactive crisis prevention-oriented approach.

Objective

The high level event will be convened, primarily, to update government officials and other relevant stakeholders on implementation of the Support Plan and other initiatives undertaken by ECA in the Sahel. It will also provide participants with a unique opportunity to be briefed on a prospective socioeconomic study on the Sahel carried out under the aegis of ECA.

Expected outcomes

- Participants will be updated on implementation of the Support Plan and the event will facilitate collaboration among government officials, development partners and donors with a view to promoting implementation of UNISS;
- Participants will be updated on the prospective socioeconomic study on the Sahel carried out under the aegis of ECA.

Target audience

- Government officials from ministries of finance, economic planning and industry
- Investors

- Development partners
- Intergovernmental organizations
- Africa Union Commission and United Nations entities
- Civil society and private sector stakeholders

Venue, date and time:

- Conference room 5 (Oliveraie), Palais des Congrès de la Palmeraie in Marrakech, Morocco.
- Sunday, 24 March 2019 from 3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

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