



## **UN EMERGENCY FUND RELEASES US\$100 MILLION TO ASSIST MILLIONS OF DISPLACED AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN NINE UNDERFUNDED CRISES**

**(Addis Ababa/New York, 29 January 2016)** United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today released US\$100 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for severely underfunded aid operations in nine neglected emergencies. The funds will enable life-saving help for millions of people forced from their homes in Central and Eastern Africa, those affected by conflict and food insecurity in Libya and Mali, and the most vulnerable and at risk of malnutrition in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

“I am allocating US\$100 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund to meet critical humanitarian needs in nine underfunded emergencies,” said the Secretary-General. “This funding is a lifeline for the world's most vulnerable people. It is a concrete demonstration of our shared commitment to leave no one behind.”

Some \$64 million from the CERF allocation will allow humanitarian partners to respond to the displacement crises in Central and Eastern Africa caused by conflict and violence in South Sudan, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Urgently needed funds will help an estimated 1.7 million refugees, internally displaced people and host communities in Burundi (\$13 million), Ethiopia (\$11 million), Kenya (\$4 million), Sudan (\$7 million), Tanzania (\$11 million), and Uganda (\$18 million).

A further \$28 million will help relief agencies address the humanitarian needs of up to 350,000 people affected by conflict and food insecurity in Libya (\$12 million); and in Mali (\$16 million), where an estimated 300,000 people will be assisted, especially in the North.

An allocation of \$8 million will support urgent life-saving humanitarian assistance for more than 2.2 million vulnerable people in DPR Korea, including 1.8 million children who need urgent nutrition assistance.

“With so many crises competing for attention around the world many people in need are forgotten. These CERF grants will help sustain life-saving assistance and protection in emergencies where the needs of the most vulnerable communities are alarmingly high but the resources enabling us to respond remain low,” said the Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien. “I thank our donors for their support to CERF so far in 2016. A strong and well-resourced CERF will help us focus on addressing the most critical needs.”

*CERF is one of the fastest and most effective ways to support rapid humanitarian response. The Fund pools donor contributions into a single fund so money is available to start or continue urgent relief work anywhere in the world at the onset of emergencies and for crises that have not attracted sufficient funding. Since 2006, 125 UN Member States and observers, private-sector donors and regional governments have supported the Fund. To date, CERF has allocated almost \$4.2 billion for humanitarian operations in 94 countries and territories.*

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