The world is witnessing its highest levels of displacement on record. An unprecedented 79.5 million people around the world have been forced from their homes. Among them are 26 million refugees, over half of whom are under the age of 18. Nearly one person is forcibly displaced every two seconds as a result of conflict or persecution. The pressure on host countries is on the rise and the impact on host communities significant. These figures call for enhanced mobilization and action.

In this age of increased need for multilateralism and cooperation, UNHCR, the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) have joined forces to organize a virtual Roundtable on ‘Parliamentary Responses to Solutions for Forced Displacement in the IGAD Region’ on 30 September 2020.

The roundtable discussion will bring together members of parliament from IGAD countries as well as from the European Parliament. A key address by H.E Ambassador Affey, UNHCR Special Envoy to the Horn of Africa, will launch the discussions sharing recent developments on forced displacement in the IGAD region, with a particular focus on the IGAD Nairobi Process.

The objective of the meeting is to strengthen parliamentary leadership in this area and develop parliamentary peer-to-peer support and solidarity. The roundtable will furthermore aim to create a North-South parliamentary cooperation connection for strengthening effective parliamentary engagement in support of the processes of Global Compact on Refugees and comprehensive refugee responses at the national and regional levels.

Participation in this closed event is by invitation-only.

Simultaneous interpretation of the Roundtable will be provided in English and French.

Register at https://phap.org/UNHCR-IPU-CEPS-2020

Event time
30 September 2020 (Wed)
CEST (Brussels): 14:00 - 15:30
EAT (Djibouti): 15:00 - 16:30