

**SPECIAL SESSION 4: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN TIMES OF CRISIS:  
NGOs' EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p align="center"><i>Brief Note</i></p>             | <p>Regional conflicts, wars, natural disasters, climate change and decreasing agriculture areas lead to disequilibrium between food supply and demand. This situation results in less food supply than expected, which further causes emergency food crises particularly in the fragile states. Therefore, the food crisis necessitate increased coordination of all stakeholders for ensuring food security and providing food assistance. In this respect, food assistance, which encompass disaster assistance and humanitarian operations, has become the primary tool of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for emergency situations and has continued to play a leading role in responding to emergencies. Emergency food assistance that NGOs, along with public and private sector, undertake aims to ensure the consumption of sufficient safe and nutritious food during and after a food crisis, when food consumption would otherwise be insufficient or inadequate to remove acute malnutrition, chronic hunger and excess mortality.</p> <p>In food crisis, there are a wide range of interventions by the NGOs, including in-kind food aid, cash transfers, vouchers, provision of agricultural inputs, provision of fodder, stocking, veterinary services, skills or knowledge transfer. A debate continues over the emergency response policies of NGOs and whether food assistance is primarily a humanitarian instrument or it should be used in emergency as well as transition and development contexts. As some of the least developed countries (LDC) in the Islamic world have also been suffering from food crisis, it is incumbent for the Islamic world to take necessary actions for improving the response and intervention capacity of the NGOs along with facilitating logistics and access to food.</p> |
| <p align="center"><i>Objective of the Panel</i></p> | <p>The main objective of this session is to provide a platform that articulates on coordination of emergency responses among public, private and civil society, to focus on the instruments and methods of the NGOs in responding emergency food crisis and to analyze new and more effective mechanisms for international engagement in long-running crisis.</p>  |
| <p align="center"><i>Issues and Topics</i></p>      | <p>Possible points of discussion include but not limited to the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The possible actors/stakeholders in responding the emergency situations in a given country</li> <li>• The roles of the NGOs in emergency situations</li> <li>• Which actors are more effective in timely responding to the needs of the people in crisis situation?</li> <li>• Which mechanisms can promote better coordination among NGOs, governments and private sector and other possible stakeholders in providing food assistance in emergency situations?</li> <li>• The emergency response strategies and instruments of NGOs during and after food crises, particularly in fragile states to overcome food crisis?</li> <li>• Which methods/instruments could be utilized by the NGOs in disasters and humanitarian operations along with continuing to play a significant development role in transition situations?</li> </ul>  |

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <i>Participation</i>    | All delegations of the OIC Member States, the representatives of the OIC Institutions and various International Organizations attending the 35th COMCEC Ministerial Session are invited to participate in the special session. Representatives of civil society, businessmen, academicians and other relevant stakeholders will also be invited to attend this Session. |
| <i>Venue &amp; Date</i> | Istanbul Congress Center, İstanbul / Turkey, November 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2019<br>For more information, please contact:<br>Selim UYAR<br>COMCEC Coordination Office, Necatibey cd. No:110 CANKAYA- ANKARA<br>Ph: +90 312 294 57 07<br>E-mail:suyar@comcec.org  |

**SPECIAL PANEL 4:  
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN TIMES OF CRISIS:  
NGOs' EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 / 10.30 – 11.45**

**Istanbul Congress Center**

**(Beylerbeyi 1 Hall)**

**10:30-11:30**

**Moderator**

- **Ms. Yvonne FORSEN**  
Chief of Food Security Analysis Service  
Research, Assessment & Monitoring Division  
UN World Food Programme  
Rome/Italy

**Speakers**

- **Ms. Rajali MAHARJAN**  
Researcher (PhD)  
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Tokyo Institute of Technology  
Tokyo/Japan
- **Mr. Mohammed ABDUS SALAM**  
Programme Head  
Humanitarian Crisis Management Programme  
BRAC  
Cox's Bazar/Bangladesh
- **Mr. Niyazi Özgür YÜCE**  
Executive Board Member  
IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation  
Istanbul/Turkey

**11:30-11:45**

**Questions and Answers**