For the third consecutive year, the countries of the Sahel and West Africa are facing a food and nutrition crisis of exceptional proportions. Hunger and malnutrition could affect 38.3 million people by June if appropriate measures are not taken. Countries in central Sahel and Lake Chad are by far the most affected. This situation is a result of long-term structural issues including poverty, a lack of availability and access to basic social services and chronic insecurity. Recent socio-economic shocks, extreme weather events and the impacts of Covid-19 and the war in Ukraine are all exacerbating the food and nutrition situation.

In order to respond effectively to the current emergency and in the search for sustainable responses to these multifaceted, recurrent food and nutrition crises, the Sahel and West Africa Club, the European Union and the Global Network Against Food Crises are co-organising a high-level consultation with the region’s partners from the international community.

Objectives:

• Mobilise emergency food and nutrition assistance for the most affected populations.

• Renew a strong and long-term political commitment to structural policies addressing the underlying causes of food and nutrition crises and integrating humanitarian, development and peace dimensions.

High-level participants expected to attend

1. H.E. Mr. Mohamed BAZOUM, President of Niger, Chair of the UEMOA High Level Committee on Food and Nutrition Security
2. H.E. Mrs. Josefa Leonel CORREIA SACKO, Commissioner, African Union
3. H.E. Mr. Jean-Claude BROU, President of the Commission, ECOWAS
4. H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye DIOP, President of the Commission, UEMOA
5. H.E. Mrs Adam KAMOUGUÉ née DÉNÉ-ASSOUM, Coordinating Minister, CILSS
6. H.E. Mr. Mathias CORMANN, OECD Secretary-General
7. H.E. Dr. Ibrahim ASSANE MAYAKI, SWAC
   Honorary President
8. H.E. Mr. Jean-Yves LE DRIAN, Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France (video message)
9. H.E. Mr. Josep BORRELL FONTIELLES, High Representative of the European Union, Vice-President of the Commission
10. H.E. Mr. Janez LENARČIČ, European Commissioner for Crises Management
11. H.E. Mrs. Jutta URPILAINEN, European Commissioner for International Partnerships
12. H.E. Mr. David BEASLEY, Executive Director, World Food Programme
13. H.E. Mr. Laurent THOMAS, Deputy Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organisation
SAHEL AND WEST AFRICA: FOOD AND NUTRITION OUTLOOK

38.3 million people expected to face “Crisis” or worse (phases 3-5)

Projected situation: June-August 2022

Phases of food insecurity

Source: Cadre harmonisé analyses, regional concertation, Saly, Senegal, March 2022

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