



African
Union



4th Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum

CONCEPT NOTE



5TH - 7TH
JULY 2023

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
N'Djamena - Chad



PLACE DE LA NATION



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ORGANIZING TEAM

Lake Chad Basin Commission and the RS-SRR Secretariat

Contact Person

Chika Charles Aniekwe

Head of Stabilization and Senior Advisor

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Over the past two decades, the Lake Chad Region has been severely impacted by the Boko Haram insurgency and other related conflicts. The impacts range from massive internal and cross-border displacement, the destruction of the social fabric and property, human rights abuses, disrupted public services, and limited capacities of government institutions. In response to the security and conflict challenges, the governments of the four riparian countries established a joint military task force called the Multinational Joint Task Force in 2015 to launch a coordinated military counter-offensive against Boko Haram. The establishment of the Taskforce was later followed by the development of a Regional Strategy for Stabilisation, Recovery and Resilience by the Lake Chad Basin Commission with the support of the African Union and UNDP in 2018. The Strategy provides a robust framework for addressing the region's complex and urgent security, humanitarian, and development challenges. It recognises the need for a comprehensive, multi-sectoral, coordinated set of sub-national, national, and cross-border efforts for the region's long-term stabilisation, recovery, and resilience.

The Strategy's (RS-SRR) nine (9) pillars and forty (40) strategic objectives have provided the frame for developing initiatives and programmes to support the implementation of the Strategy.

It also guided the localisation of the Strategy through the Territorial Action Plans (TAPs) in each of the eight states/regions/provinces most affected by Boko Haram in the LCB region. The RS-SRR build on inclusivity, local ownership, and a New Way of Working. Over the past years, the RS-SRR has become a locally anchored and multi-partner effort that has led to rebuilding the social contract between the government and communities by providing essential infrastructure and basic services, security, and livelihood opportunities for affected communities. The Strategy has also recorded success in developing and harmonising regional policies, sharing best practices and producing evidence-based research for policy influencing.

The Governors' Forum, an integral part of the RS-SRR, has served as the most important political platform for cross-border and regional interaction with various stakeholders and interlocutors. Over the years, the Forum has established itself as a platform for stakeholder exchanges and the main platform for political dialogue in the LCB. Since the last Governors Forum in Yaoundé, Cameroon, in October 2021, there have been significant contextual developments and shifts in the conflict pattern in the region. The MNJTF has recorded significant success in the fight against Boko Haram groups by launching two military operations: Operation Yancin Tafki II in December 2021 and Operation Lake Sanity from March to June 2022. Combined with the rebuilding efforts, these operations have led to the rebuilding of new communities and restoring the social order in affected communities. It has created opportunities for displaced persons and refugees to return to their homelands with dignity.



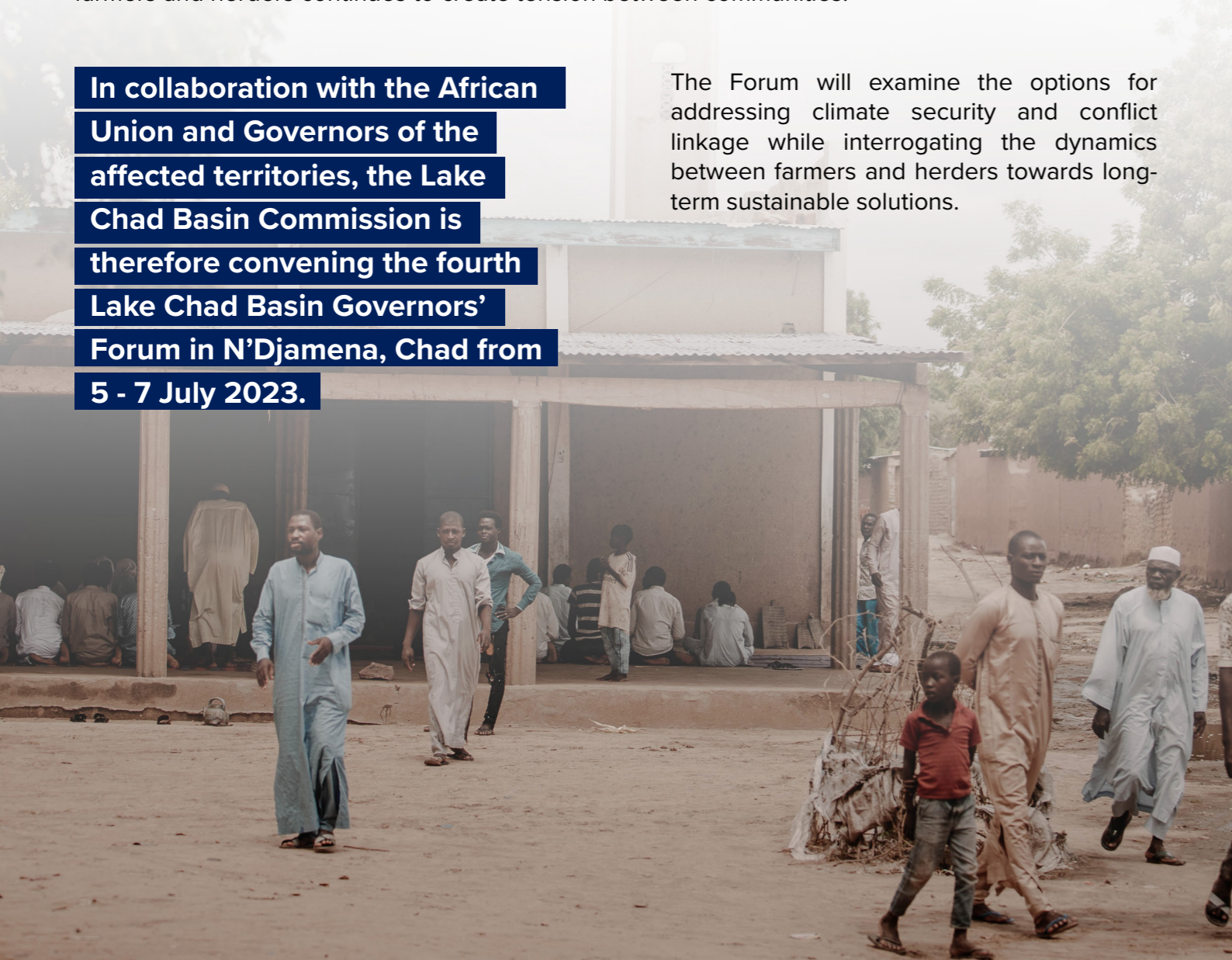
The combined impact of the death of Shekau in May 2021 and the upscale military offensive has triggered massive surrender and the defection of Boko Haram associates. The surrender has, in turn, created a challenge in ensuring comprehensive and effective management of their exit from the Boko Haram groups and an opportunity for a community-centred reintegration process, which recognises the role of transitional justice in the reintegration process. The impact of the insurgency on communities and the discontent from the killing led to the emergence of vigilante groups in some countries in the region. These groups have gained recognition from communities, government and security actors but have also come under criticism for potential human right violation. Moreover, the future of the vigilante groups post-insurgency remains unaddressed.

After nearly 13 years of conflict and insurgency, the Boko Haram group continues to unleash violence and attack on communities, leaving around 3.1 million internally displaced (IDPs), including 2 million in Nigeria alone. The Governors and Governments of the region have prioritised the return of IDPs and refugees to their homelands. The Forum will provide the best opportunity for stakeholders, including Governors, UN entities and local CSOs, to interrogate options for localised and comprehensive solutions for IDPs and Refugees.

The shrinking of the lake and the changes in the climate and environmental conditions have led to the struggle for scarce resources, inter-communal conflict, youth unemployment and restiveness. These urgent issues must be addressed locally, regionally, and globally to strengthen community resilience and pathways for sustainable living. Similarly, whilst the insurgency caused by Boko Haram and other factions has led to severe regional humanitarian and development challenges, the conflict between farmers and herders continues to create tension between communities.

In collaboration with the African Union and Governors of the affected territories, the Lake Chad Basin Commission is therefore convening the fourth Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum in N'Djamena, Chad from 5 - 7 July 2023.

The Forum will examine the options for addressing climate security and conflict linkage while interrogating the dynamics between farmers and herders towards long-term sustainable solutions.



OBJECTIVES

Under the overarching theme of “New Opportunities for Peace in a Shifting Security Context”, the Fourth Lake Chad Basin Governors’ Forum objectives are to offer:



Specifically, the forum seeks to:

1. Enhance understanding of the emerging security trends in the region and the implications of the ongoing efforts to complete the restoration of state authority.
2. Take stock of the progress of the five years of the RS-SRR and propose key strategic priorities for the next phase of the RS-SRR.
3. Discuss pathways for community reintegration and transitional justice in the region.
4. Examine the role and implication of Vigilante Groups and Government-affiliated non-state security actors in the region
5. Find ways of scaling up and building partnerships for solutions to the situation of the forcibly displaced (refugees and IDPs).
6. Provide options for Climate Security and Natural Resource Management in the region.
7. Examine the agropastoral, farmer-herder dynamics, and implications for community resilience and sustainable peace in the LCBC Region

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Stakeholders will agree on a shared understanding of the trajectory of the security situation in the Lake Chad Basin region and proffer different programmatic and policy pathways to long-term Stabilization, Peacebuilding and Sustainable Development in the region.

METHODOLOGY FOR THE 4TH LAKE CHAD BASIN GOVERNORS' FORUM

FORUM FORMAT

Drawing from lessons of the past Forum and to ensure broader participation of critical actors in the Forum, the 2023 Governors' Forum will consist of three distinct but integrated parts:



The first part, a “pre-forum”, consists of pre-forum events, including the CSO Forum to be implemented by partners. The pre-forum events will be self-organized by the entities whose entries have been accepted. The outcomes of the pre-event will feed into the Forum discussions.



The main forum will be a three-day event split into thematic sessions where the Governors will serve as the main panellists alongside international experts and local stakeholders. The Governors will also have closed-door deliberations.



The third part is the technical follow-up on the key recommendations and decisions of the Forum between February –March 2024 to take stock of progress and facilitate actions.

DATE AND VENUE



5-7 JULY 2023



N'DJAMENA, CHAD

PARTICIPATION

The Forum will welcome up to 200 participants from state/regional governments, Regional Economic Communities, the African Union, MNJTF, civil society, UN agencies, international organisations, and the private sector.

For the pre-Forum side events, each hosting organisation can determine the participants. However, there will be no guarantee that all side event participants can participate in the Forum. The meeting will be conducted in English and French. Simultaneous interpretation services shall be provided. Meeting documents will be circulated in both English and French languages.



The 4th Lake Chad Basin
Governors' Forum for
Regional Cooperation on
Stabilization, Peacebuilding
and Sustainable
Development

AGENDA

PRE-FORUM ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION

Monday 03 & Tuesday 04 July 2023

Arrival of Participants

Day One: Wednesday 05 July 2023

Opening Ceremony

- 9:00 - 11:00 Arrival, registration and Coffee Break
- 11:00 - 11:05 National Anthem of the Republic of Chad
- 11:05 - 11:10 Welcome Remarks by the Mayor of the City of Ndjamena
Batchiret Fatime Zara Douga
- 11:10 - 11:15 Remarks by Outgoing Chairperson of the Governors' Forum (Far North)
H.E Midjiyawa Bakary
- 11:15 - 11:20 Remarks by Germany, Co-Chair of the International Support Group, Director for Civilian Crisis Prevention and Stabilization, German Foreign Office
Heike Thiele
- 11:20 - 11:25 Remarks by UN Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Assistant Administrator, and Regional Director for Africa
Ahunna Eziakonwa
- 11:25 - 11:30 Remarks by Remark by UN Under Secretary-General and Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel
Abdoulaye Mar Dieye
- 11:30 - 11:35 Remarks by the Commissioner, Political Affairs, Peace and Security, African Union Commission
Amb. Adeoye Bankole
- 11:35 - 11:40 Remarks by the Executive Secretary of LCBC and Head of Mission of MNJTF
Amb. Mamman Nuhu
- 11:40 - 11:45 Address and Official Opening of the Forum by the President of the Transition, President of the Republic of Chad
His Excellency Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno

11:45 - 12:00 Family Photo

- 12:00 - 12:05 Remarks by IOM's Deputy Director General for Operations
Ugochi Daniels
- 12:05 - 12:10 Remark by a Representative of UN SRSG UNOWAS, Deputy SRSG
Giovannie Biha
- 12:10 - 12:15 Remarks by Representative of the President of the African Development Bank, Director of the Transition States Coordination Office
Yero Baldeh

- 12:15 - 12:18 Remarks by the World Bank Country Manager
Mr. Raşit Pertev
- 12:18 - 12:21 Recorded Goodwill Message from the UK High Commissioner for Nigeria
Richard Montgomery CMG
- 12:21 - 12:25 Recorded Goodwill Message from the EU Special Representative for the Sahel
Emanuella Claudia Del Re
- 12:25 - 12:29 Remark Representative of the Lake Chad Basin Civil Society Platform

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch

Session 1: Security Trends and Dynamics in the Lake Chad Basin Region

- 14:00 - 14:45 Moderator: Commissioner for Political Affairs, African Union Commission
H.E. Amb. Bankole Adeoye
 - Co-Convenor: MNJTF
 - Presentation by the Force Commander of the MNJTF.
 - Presentation of Humanitarian Situation and Trends by the Representative from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
- 30 Minutes – Comments, Questions and Summary of Discussion*

Session 2: The Future of Stabilisation, Recovery, and Resilience: Sustaining and Scaling Impact - Laying the Foundations for Peace & Development

- 14:45 - 15:55 Moderation and setting of the scene: UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa
Ahunna Eziakonwa
- Co-Convenor: UNDP Sub-Regional Hub for West and Central Africa
- Presentation of RSF Impact in the Lake Chad Basin and key outcome from the 2023 Lake Development Forum by Chair of Governors Forum, Governor of Far North, Cameroon, H.E Midjiyawa Bakary

Panelists

- Chairperson of Guitte Stabilization Committee, Chad, Adjidé T
 - Governor of Borno State, Nigeria, H.E, Prof Babagana Zulum
 - Commissioner for Political Affairs, AUC, H.E. Amb. Bankole Adeoye
 - Counsellor, LCB, UK High Commission, Nigeria, Alexandra Maclean
- Moderated discussion and questions/interventions from the floor*

- 15:55 - 16:00 Video showcasing community voices and stabilisation impact.

Financing RS-SRR implementation (Panelists)

- Director for Crisis Prevention and Stabilization, GFFO, Heike Thiele
- Counsellor, LCB, UK High Commission, Nigeria, Alexandra Maclean
- Director of the Transition States Coordination Office, AfDB, Dr Yero Baldeh
- World Bank Programme Leader, Regional Integration, Vickram Cuttaree

- 17:00 - 17:15 Summary of discussion: UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa, Ahunna Eziakonwa

- 17:15 - 18:45 **Governors Consultation** | **Showcase and Display** | **Coffee and Tea Break**
- 19:00 Welcome reception hosted by the Chadian Government (invitation only)

Thursday 06 July 2023

Session 3: Community Reintegration and Transitional Justice

- 9:00 - 10:30 Moderator: IOM's Deputy Director General for Operations
Ugochi Daniels
- Co-Convenor: IOM
- A 5-minute testimony from an ex-associate (extremism to reintegration)
- An eight-minute story from a female leader representing the affected community to share the community's perspective on reintegration.

Panelists

- Executive Governor of Borno State, H.E, Prof Babagana Zulum
 - Governors of Diffa, Smaine Younouss
 - Vice-Provost and Director, McMaster Centre for Human Rights and Restorative Justice, McMaster University Canada Prof Bonny Ibhawoh
 - Director, Conflict Management, AUC, Alhadji Dr Sarjoh Bah
 - UNDP – Resident Representative for Nigeria, Mohamed Yahya
 - Executive Director ALDEPA. Cameroun, Marthe Wandou
- 30 Minutes – Comments, Questions and Summary of Discussion*

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break

Session 4: Scaling Up and Partnering for Solutions to the Situation of Forcibly Displaced (Refugees and IDPs) in the Lake Chad Basin

- 11:00 - 12:30 Moderator: Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria
Matthias Schmale
- Co-Convenor: UNHCR
- 5 mins presentation on situations by UNHCR
- 2 Minutes story from IDPs as Voice from the Field

Panelists

- Governor of North Cameroon, Abate Edi'i Jean
 - Governor of Lac, Djibrine Ratou
 - Deputy Director, UNHCR, Ms Bernadette Castel
 - Chief of Mission, IOM Nigeria, Mr Laurent De Boeck
 - UNDP Resident Representative for Chad, Kamil Kamaluddeen
 - Counsellor, LCB, UK High Commission, Nigeria, Ms. Alexandra Maclean
- 30 Minutes – Comments, Questions and Summary of Discussion*

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch

Session 5: Vigilante and Government-Affiliated Security Actors in the LCB

13:30 - 15:00 Moderator: Director for Civilian Crisis Prevention and Stabilization, GFFO.

Co-Convener: **Heike Thiele**

MFA

Stabilisation

Germany

Panelists

- Governor of Borno, H.E Prof Babagana Umara Zulum
- Governor of Far North Cameroon, Midjiyawa Bakary
- Director General, OSPRE, Chris Ngwodo
- CSO Representation, Center for Social Cohesion, Peace and Empowerment, Borno, Nigeria, Abubakar Abdullahi Suleman
- Senior Researcher, Managing Exits from Armed Conflict, Kato Van Broeckhoven

30 Minutes – Comments, Questions and Summary of Discussion

15:00 - 15:30 Coffee Break

Session 6: Beyond Adaption: Building Local and Regional Capacity for Tomorrow's Climate Security Challenges in the Lake Chad Basin

15:30 - 17:00 Moderator: Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Chad

Co-Convener: **Violet Kakyomya**

NUPI

- Presentation of Finding by NUPI

Panelists

- Governor of Hadjer Lamis. Satadjim Succes Noel
- Representative of Governor of Adamawa, Sunday Edgar Amos
- Civil Society Representative Executive Director ACHDR, Chad, Idriss Foudoussia
- Senior Research Fellow and Manager of the Training for Peace (TFP) Programme at NUPI, Dr. Andrew E. Yaw Tchie
- Regional Director for UNFPA WARO, Dr. Sennen Hounton
- Head of Regional Development Cooperation in Africa, Embassy of Sweden, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Ulla Andrén

30 Minutes – Comments, Questions and Summary of Discussion

Friday 07 July 2023

Session 7: Agropastoralism, Farmer-Herder Dynamics, and Community Resilience in the Lake Chad Borderlands

9:00 - 10:30 Moderator: Director, UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa

Co-Convener: **Moderator: Matthias Naab**

UNDP Africa

Borderlands

Centre

- Presentation – Highlights from the UNDP flagship research Promise, Peril, and Resilience; Voices from Africa's Border regions - Lily Murei, UNDP Africa Borderlands Centre – 5 minutes

Panelists

- Governor of Yobe, Mai Mala Buni
- Governor of Lac, Djibrine Ratou
- UNDP Hub Manager for Sub-Regional Hub for West and Central WACA, Njoya Tikum
- Borderlands Leader, Nigeria - Niger borderlands, Dr. Aisha Balarabe Bawa
- Chairman of Yobe network of CSOs, Mohamed Babakucici
- Representative of the World Bank, PROLAC Project

30 Minutes – Comments, Questions and Summary of Discussion

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 - 13:00

Governors
Deliberations

Parellel Session/
Showcase

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 16:00

Governors Deliberations
Continue

Parellel Session/
Showcase

Coffee and
Tea Break

Hand Over, Presentation of Communique and Closing Ceremony

16:00 - 16:10 Official handover of the Chairperson of the Governors Forum from Governor of Far North to incoming Chair of the LCB Governors' Forum

16:10 - 16:10 Address and Presentation of the Forum Communique by the incoming Chair of the LCB Governors' Forum

16:20 - 16:30 Acceptance of next hosting rights for the 5th LCB Governors' Forum

17:00 - 17:05 Closing Remarks by Representative of International Support Group, Director for Civilian Crisis Prevention and Stabilization, German Foreign Office
Heike Thiele

17:05 - 17:10 Closing Remarks by UN Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Assistant Administrator, and Regional Director for Africa
Ahunna Eziakonwa

17:10 - 17:15 Closing Remarks by Commissioner, Political Affairs, Peace and Security, AUC
H.E. Amb. Adeoye Bankole

17:15 - 17:20 Closing Remarks by the Executive Secretary of LCBC
H.E. Amb. Mamman Nuhu

17:20 - 17:30 Official Closure of the Governors Forum by the Transitional President of Chad,
His Excellency Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno

4th Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum

CONCEPT NOTE

In Partnership with



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