



Tweede Kamer

DER STATEN-GENERAAL

Den Haag, 12 december 2017

Voortouwcommissie: **algemene commissie voor Buitenlandse Handel en Ontwikkelingssamenwerking**

Volgcommissie(s): vaste commissie voor Buitenlandse Zaken

Activiteit: **Gesprek**

Datum: donderdag 21 december 2017

Tijd: 14.15 – 15.00 uur

Openbaar/besloten: openbaar

Onderwerp: VN onder-Secretaris-Generaal voor humanitaire hulp, Mark Lowcock

Agendapunt: **Gesprek met Mark Lowcock, Ondersecretaris-generaal voor humanitaire zaken en noodhulp.**

Zaak: Brief derden - United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) te – 29 november 2017
Verzoek OCHA, namens Ondersecretaris-generaal voor humanitaire zaken en noodhulp, om gesprek met algemene commissie voor Buitenlandse Handel en Ontwikkelingssamenwerking d.d. 21 of 22 december 2017 - 2017Z16908

Griffier: T.J.E. van Toor

Activiteitsnummer: 2017A04099

The Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator (USG/ERC) is responsible for the oversight of all emergencies requiring United Nations humanitarian assistance. He also acts as the central focal point for governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental relief activities. The ERC also leads the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), a unique inter-agency forum for coordination, policy development and decision-making involving the key United Nations and non-United Nations humanitarian partners. The IASC was established in June 1992 in response to resolution 46/182. General Assembly resolution 48/57 affirmed the IASC's role as the primary mechanism for the inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance. In a country affected by a disaster or conflict, the ERC may appoint a Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) to ensure response efforts are well organized. The HC works with government, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and affected communities. An OCHA office will be established to support the HC. Mark Lowcock began the role of OCHA's USG/ERC on 1 September 2017. He succeeded Stephen O'Brien.

MARK LOWCOCK

Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator

In May 2017, Mr. Mark Lowcock of the United Kingdom was appointed as the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, and head of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). With more than 30 years of humanitarian and development experience, Mr. Lowcock serves as the chief coordinator of the world's humanitarian response in times of urgent crisis.

In his most recent position as Permanent Secretary for the Department for International Development (DFID), Mr. Lowcock led the United Kingdom's humanitarian response to conflicts in Iraq, Libya and Syria, and to natural disasters in Nepal and the Philippines.

Prior to his leadership of DFID, Mr. Lowcock served as DFID's Director General for Africa and Asia, coordinating its response to humanitarian emergencies in Haiti, Myanmar and Pakistan. He served previously as Director General for both Policy and Corporate Performance, and as Director of Finance.

Having served for extended periods in Kenya, Malawi and Zimbabwe, and with a subsequent designation as a Qualified Accountant, Mr. Lowcock brings a personal and analytical approach to humanitarian challenges. His leadership of a large and complex public organization has provided critical experience for his work as the world's chief humanitarian advocate.

Mr. Lowcock holds a Master of Science in Economics from the University of London and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and History from Oxford University. He is married to Julia Watson and they have two sons and a daughter.