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The United Nations team in Belgium comprises 25 specialized agencies, funds and programmes covering the range of United Nations humanitarian and development, human rights and peace and security mandates, including the UN Regional Information Centre, the UN University in Bruges, and the International Organization for Migration (UN affiliated intergovernmental organization). The team is coordinated by the UN Director who is the representative of the UN Secretary-General to the European Union institutions.

The United Nations team seeks to maintain, nurture and develop the UN partnership with institutions of the European Union, notably the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, and the European Commission. The United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the eight internationally-agreed Millennium Development Goals guide the extensive and vibrant partnership that exists [between the UN and the EU], in support of developing countries. The United Nations’ strong presence in Brussels is a testament to the importance of the European Union to furthering the goals of the United Nations and multilateralism.

With its wide range of mandates, the United Nations team in Belgium constitutes a substantial pool of expertise that can be drawn upon to support the work of decision-makers, officials and civil society. The present UN Directory provides contact details for each agency in the country.

In addition, in contribution to the work of the UN team in Belgium, several other entities of the United Nations, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency, UN Volunteers or UNAIDS are not located in Belgium but partner with the team and add value to its policy work.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can support you in your work.
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Founded in 1945, the FAO has 194 Member Nations, two associate members and one member organization, the European Union. Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO’s efforts – to make sure people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. Our three main goals are: the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition; the elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all; and, the sustainable management and utilization of natural resources. The FAO Brussels Office provides policy advice, strengthens FAO’s visibility and fosters exchange of information in areas of relevance for FAO to EU institutions.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

The International Labour Organization is the tripartite UN agency that brings together governments, employers and workers of its 185 member states in common action to promote decent work throughout the world, drawing up and overseeing international labour standards. The ILO Office for the European Union and the Benelux countries has been working with the institutions of the EU since 1958. The EU actively participates in discussions and negotiations at the institutional meetings of the ILO and the ILO from its part contributes to EU internal and external policies and programmes.
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

The OHCHR is in charge of the promotion and protection of human rights worldwide. The Regional Office for Europe follows developments relevant to human rights in the European Union and its Member States, as well as several other European States. It promotes the integration of the UN’s human rights standards into EU-wide legislation, policies and implementation measures, including the EU’s external policies as well as in the legislation, policies and implementation measures of the individual States. It works with EU Institutions, governments, national human rights institutions and civil society organizations.

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

UNCDF has a unique financial mandate within the UN system. It provides investment capital and technical support to both the public and the private sector. The ability to provide capital financing -- in the forms of grants, soft loans and credit enhancement -- and the technical expertise in preparing portfolios of sustainable and resilient capacity building and infrastructure projects, makes its mandate a very useful complement to the mandates of other UN agencies. UNCDF has proven its ability to deliver true leverage on smaller and more risky investments and interventions within its core areas of expertise: Inclusive Finance and Local Development Finance.
United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF Brussels Office
UN House, Rue Montoyer 14
2nd Floor
1000 Brussels
Tel: +32 2 51 32 251
Email: brussels@unicef.org
www.unicef.org

The United Nations Children’s Fund is the main UN organization defending, promoting and protecting children’s rights. It works towards protecting the world’s most disadvantaged and vulnerable children by collaborating with institutions such as the European Union, to overcome obstacles affecting children, such as poverty, violence, disease and discrimination. The UNICEF Brussels office works together with the EU in all areas relevant to UNICEF’s work. It is a hub for coordination with UNICEF country offices on EU-UNICEF cooperation, mobilising resources for field offices and to strengthen the EU-UNICEF partnership.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDP Brussels Representation Office
UN House, Rue Montoyer 14
6th floor
1000 Brussels
Tel: +32 2 50 54 620
Email: brussels.office@undp.org
www.undp.org/eu

UNDP’s Representation Office in Brussels partners with the institutions of the European Union. Our goal is to promote and advance the global development agenda and international UN standards both in EU policy discussions and in the external action of the European Union. UNDP and the EU have been working together for 15 years, and engaging in a strategic partnership ever since 2004. The cooperation takes place at the policy, advocacy, knowledge sharing and programmatic levels, each complementing one another. The Brussels office also coordinates the UN Team in Brussels and its Director is the UN Director and the representative of the UN Secretary-General to the EU institutions.
UNESCO works to create the conditions for dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, based upon respect for commonly shared values. UNESCO focuses on a number of overarching objectives such as attaining quality education for all; protecting tangible and intangible cultural heritage; fostering cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace; mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development; addressing emerging social and ethical challenges; building inclusive knowledge societies, as well as two global priorities: Africa and gender equality.

Established in 2010 to accelerate progress on women’s rights worldwide, UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. The UN Women Brussels Office supports the coordination and the implementation of the strategic partnership signed between the European Union and UN Women in 2012. Working with EU institutions and other Brussels based institutions, it contributes to strengthening gender equality and women’s empowerment in EU policies and programmes, through policy exchange, advocacy, training and programmatic cooperation.
Established in 1972, UNEP is the voice for the environment within the UN system. UNEP’s mandate is to be the leading global environmental authority that sets the environmental agenda, promotes a coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development and serves as an advocate for the global environment. UNEP promotes the wise use of the planet’s natural assets for sustainable development at the global, regional and national levels. Since 2001, the UNEP Liaison Office in Brussels has worked closely with the EU institutions to facilitate and enhance policy dialogue and cooperation to achieve shared objectives of sustainable development.

UNHCR is the UN agency mandated to ensure respect for the rights of people fleeing war and persecution and to find lasting solutions to their plight. UNHCR has been present in Brussels since 1951. The Representation of UNHCR in Brussels comprises the Bureau for Europe and the Regional Representation for Western Europe. It works to ensure that international refugee protection norms are respected at national and EU levels; it contributes actively to the development of EU and national laws and policies on asylum; it mobilizes public, political and financial support for refugees. The Regional Representation for Western Europe supports and coordinates the work of UNHCR offices in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the UK.
UN-Habitat Office for Liaison with European Institutions
UN House, Rue Montoyer 14
1000 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 (0) 2 503 3572
info@unhabitat.eu
www.unhabitat.org
Follow us on @UNHabitatEU

UN-Habitat is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities and to provide adequate shelter for all. UN-Habitat supports national and local governments in areas such as urban planning and design, urban legislation, local fiscal systems, slum upgrading, water, sanitation and mobility, land governance, urban resilience and reconstruction after disasters. The agency conducts a global policy dialogue as a support to the preparation of the Third UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III, 2016).

United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)

UNIDO Brussels Office
UN House, Rue Montoyer 14
1000 Bruxelles, Belgium
Tel.: +32 2 511 16 90
Email: office.brussels@unido.org
www.unido.org

UNIDO is the Specialized Agency that has the central role within the United Nations system of promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) to harness the full potential of industry’s contribution to the achievement of sustainable development, and lasting prosperity for all. To respond to the “diversified needs” of its Member States, UNIDO organizes global forum activities to share industrial knowledge and best practices and technical cooperation in the areas of Poverty Reduction through productive activities, Trade Capacity Building, Energy and Environment. The Brussels Office has the mandate to develop the cooperation with European Union institutions and the Governments of Belgium and Luxemburg.
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

UNISDR Regional Office for Europe
UN House, Rue Montoyer 14
1000 Bruxelles, Belgium
Tel.: +32 (0) 22 902 588
Email: isdr-europe@un.org
www.unisdr.org/europe

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) serves as the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among the disaster reduction activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations and activities in socio-economic and humanitarian fields. The UNISDR Regional Office for Europe delivers on this mandate and implements the strategic objectives in all countries of the Europe Region.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

OCHA Brussels Liaison Office
UN House, Rue Montoyer 14
1000 Bruxelles, Belgium
Tel.: (+32) 02 213 82 90
Email: herroelen@un.org
www.unocha.org

OCHA is responsible for bringing together humanitarian organizations and Governments to ensure a rapid and coherent response to emergencies around the world. Established in 2007, the OCHA Brussels Liaison Office engages with the European Union, NATO, UN agencies and civil society on humanitarian policy development and crisis response. The office facilitates dialogue on issues of common concern, including on protection of civilians, resilience, International Humanitarian Law and humanitarian financing. Furthermore it contributes to discussions on political and military planning, particularly to ensure attention to humanitarian strategies and respect for humanitarian principles.
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime assists UN Member States in their fight against illicit drugs, organised crime, corruption and terrorism. It is the guardian of most of the related global conventions and works on 3 levels to enhance health, justice and security for all: field-based technical cooperation projects, research and analysis, and normative work to assist States in the ratification and implementation of the relevant international treaties. The UNODC Liaison Office in Brussels is fostering policy exchange and operational partnership with European Union institutions, and works with other international organizations headquartered in Brussels, such as NATO and the World Customs Organization.

United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

UNOPS provides project management, procurement and infrastructure services customized to meet individual partner’s needs. UNOPS mission is to serve people in need by expanding the ability of the United Nations, governments and other partners to manage projects, infrastructure and procurement in a sustainable and efficient manner. In November 2008, UNOPS signed the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement with the European Commission, which facilitates cooperation between the two institutions. Under this partnership, UNOPS has implemented projects with the Directorates-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid, Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection, and Enlargement. The aim of our presence in Brussels is to increase understanding and coordination between the organisation and the EU.
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

The United Nations Population Fund delivers a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled. UNFPA accelerates progress towards universal access to sexual and reproductive health, including voluntary family planning and safe motherhood. UNFPA helps countries use population data to anticipate tomorrow’s challenges and ensures that the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and young people remain at the very heart of development. The UNFPA Brussels Office represents the Fund vis-à-vis the European Union institutions, several EU Member States and the ACP Group of States on all matters of mutual interest.

United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe (UNRIC)

The United Nations Regional Information Centre is the UN European communications hub based in Brussels. UNRIC covers 22 countries of Western Europe and works closely with other UN Information Centres around the world. UNRIC’s mandate is to inform but also to engage Europeans in global communication priorities. The UNRIC library provides documentation and backgrounders on UN issues and related material. UNRIC’s outreach activities extend to all segments of society and joint projects, events and campaigns are organized with key partners, including governments, the media, NGOs, educational institutions and local authorities and the European creative community. UNRIC also provides liaison with institutions of the European Union in the field of information and communication.
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and is mandated to provide assistance and protection to a population of some 5 million registered Palestine refugees. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip to achieve their full potential in human development, pending a just solution to their plight. UNRWA’s services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, and microfinance. UNRWA Representative Office to the EU advocates UNRWA’s mandate within the EU, and among the key partners as well as with the wider public.

UN University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS)

UNU-CRIS is a research and training institute of the United Nations University. Based in Bruges, UNU-CRIS specializes in the comparative study of regional integration, monitoring and assessing regional integration worldwide and in the study of interactions between regional organizations and global institutions. Its aim is to generate new and policy-relevant knowledge about new forms of governance and cooperation, and to contribute to capacity building on issues of regional integration, particularly in developing countries.

World Food Programme (WFP)

WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food in emergencies and working with communities to build resilience. In 2013, WFP assisted more than 80 million people in 75 countries. Voluntarily funded, WFP works to ensure that no child goes to bed hungry and that the poorest and most vulnerable, particularly women and children, can access the nutritious food they need. WFP’s Strategic Plan provides the framework for WFP’s operations and its role in achieving a world with zero hunger. Our Brussels office is the eyes, ears and voice of WFP at the heart of the EU.
World Health Organization (WHO)

The WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries, and monitoring and assessing health trends. WHO Brussels office facilitates the relations with the European Union and its institutions. It also builds and strengthens alliances for health with the European Parliament and with a rich and diverse variety of Brussels-based stakeholders.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

WMO Brussels Liaison Office was established in 2006 as joint effort with network of European National Met Services (EUMETNET EIG), the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecast (ECMWF) and the European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT). The Brussels office strengthens the Hydro-Meteorological Community’s profile among the EU Institutions, interacts with EU institutions and the Permanent Representations of EU Member States, and facilitates the strategic positioning and contributions of WMO on critical political, environmental, developmental and climate related issues.

The World Bank Group (WBG)

The World Bank Group provides vital financial and technical assistance to developing countries, with the twin goals of ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity. The EU Member States (largest shareholder group) and the European Commission (third largest contributor to WBG-administered trust funds) are important partners. There is hardly a developing or transitional economy in which the two parties do not work together. In recent years, climate change, disaster risk reduction, private sector development and fragility have been key areas of co-operation, with regional emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa and MENA, but also increased collaboration in EU and EU accession countries.
UN Liaison Office for Peace and Security (UNLOPS)

UNLOPS represents the three departments of the United Nations Secretariat in New York charged with overseeing international peace and security: the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), Political Affairs (DPA), and Field Support (DFS). UNLOPS partners with the EU, NATO, and other organizations in Brussels on the full range of conflict prevention and crisis management activities falling under the purview of the DPKO, DPA and DFS.

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental body, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants. The IOM Brussels Office for the European Economic Area, EU and NATO acts as IOM’s regional liaison and coordination office to the European Union and covers the countries in the EU, Norway and Switzerland. The regional office also supports IOM offices worldwide on EU-related matters.