

Famine in the Horn of Africa: What UN and you can do about it?

Public Lecture by Dr. Catherine Bragg

UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs

Thursday, 24 November, 2011

17:30–18:45

LE9, Library Extension, HKU



About the Lecture

Triggered by drought, conflict and high food prices, East Africa is facing its most severe food crisis in 60 years. The famine spreading in Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya and Somalia is putting 12 million people in need for humanitarian assistance across the region and 750,000 people at risk of death in Somalia alone. The UN and many relief organizations are ready to offer assistance but access restrictions from local officials are hindering the delivery of relief supplies. How can relief organizations overcome the “last-mile” problem and have the assistance delivered to the population in need.

The lecture will cover the current state of the humanitarian system; provide an overview of its evolution over the last few years, its challenges, and what it is like to be a humanitarian worker. The lecture will also focus on the crisis in the Horn of Africa and how each person can help stop the famine in Somalia.

About the Speaker

Dr. Catherine Bragg serves as UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. Dr. Bragg obtained her PhD in Criminal Justice from the University at Albany, SUNY, MPhil in Criminology from University of Cambridge and BSc in Psychology from the University of Toronto.

Dr. Bragg has been serving with the Canadian government in various capacities. She formulated policy advice to the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, worked on human resource issues in the department of National Defense, and evaluated strategic planning in the department of Justice.



For enquiries please contact Ms. Melissa Wong at 2857 8383 or visit CEDARS homepage for registration detail.