'Leave no stone unturned' to secure aid funding for Central African Republic, senior UN official urges

9 November 2017 — One out of every four people in Central African Republic (CAR) is either displaced or living as a refugee in another country, a senior United Nations official said Thursday, urging the international community to provide more resources for a humanitarian plan that up to now is only partially funded.

"The aid community has very limited capacities and is struggling to provide basic services" outside of the main two cities, Najat Rochdi, told journalists in New York, saying the situation hinders on "life and death."

Briefing on the latest humanitarian developments in CAR — where she is the Deputy Special Representative for the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSCA) and UN Resident Coordinator — Ms. Rochdi said the nearly \$500 million Humanitarian Response Plan for 2017 is only about 39 per cent funded.

"This is not the time to give up on the people of CAR," Ms. Rochdi said, highlighting "unprecedented levels of hunger" in a country where people are dependent on agriculture, and where women and children are particularly vulnerable.