

Secretary-General urges increased support to Lake Chad countries following latest Boko Haram attack

The recent killing of villagers in Nigeria's Borno State has been [condemned](#) by the UN Secretary-General.

At least 19 people were killed when fighters with the terrorist group Boko Haram attacked the village of Malairi on Sunday, according to media reports.

UN chief António Guterres is calling for those responsible for their deaths to be brought to justice.

"The Secretary-General remains deeply concerned about the persisting violence in the Lake Chad Basin region," said his spokesman, in a statement issued on Monday evening.

"He commends national and regional initiatives to bring peace and stability to the area and to address the root causes of the conflict."

The Lake Chad Basin region includes Cameroon, Chad and Niger, as well as Nigeria.

The Boko Haram insurgency began in north-eastern Nigeria nearly a decade ago, spilling over the border to the neighbouring countries.

The group's activities, which include abductions and forcing captives to serve as suicide bombers, have displaced around 10 million people, as of 2017.

The Secretary-General again called on the international community to increase support to regional efforts to fight the militants, which include the establishment of a Multinational Joint Task Force.