Message from the IASC Secretariat:

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to invite you to discuss the Fordham and Harvard Humanitarian Initiatives, as well as the Lancet article “An Authority for Crisis Coordination and Accountability”. The meeting will take place, exceptionally, on Friday, 18 January 2013, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm in OCHA's Conference Room 1.

Agenda:
11.00 - 11.30 Presentation on the Fordham Humanitarian Initiative
- Alexander van Tulleken, the Helen Hamlyn Senior Fellow at the Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs, will explain the mission and vision of the Fordham Humanitarian Initiative.

11.30 - 12.00 Presentation on the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative
- Dr. Michael J. van Rooyen, Director of the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative will explain the mission and vision of the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative.

12.00 - 12.30 An Authority for Crisis Coordination and Accountability
- Dr. Michael J. van Rooyen, will make the case for “An authority for Crisis Coordination and Accountability” by Frederick M. Burkle.

12.30 - 13.00 Q&A and Discussion
- Daniel Pfister, Officer in Charge of the IASC/ECHA Secretariat will moderate a question and answer session on the establishment of an authority for Crisis Coordination and Accountability.

Background:
Fordham Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs (IIHA) was designed to forge partnerships with relief organizations, publish books, hold training courses, and host symposia relating to humanitarian affairs. The IIHA offers multi-disciplinary training in humanitarian assistance, negotiations, and disaster management through both graduate and undergraduate education, symposia, publications, humanitarian networking, and panel discussions. It provides consultations on humanitarian issues, both within the Fordham academic community and for the larger academic and aid world. Through these, the IIHA creates a unique bridge between the Fordham community and the front line humanitarian action. It strives to involve the skills and knowledge of the entire University in providing common ground for increasing knowledge and improving the methods for action of humanitarian workers.

Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) is a university-wide center involving multiple entities within the Harvard community that provide expertise in public health, medicine, social science, management, and other disciplines to promote evidence-based approaches to humanitarian assistance. The mission of the initiative is to relieve human suffering in war and disaster by advancing the science and practice of humanitarian response worldwide. HHI fosters interdisciplinary collaboration in order to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian strategies for relief, protection and prevention; instill
human rights principles and practices in these strategies; educate and train the next generation of humanitarian leaders.

**Useful links:**
Fordham University IIHA - [http://www.cihc.org/about_the_center/iiha](http://www.cihc.org/about_the_center/iiha)
Harvard Humanitarian Initiative - [http://hh.harvard.edu/](http://hh.harvard.edu/)

**Getting to the venue:**
OCHA’s Conference Room 1 is located on the sixth floor in the Madison Building. Enter the Building at 380 Madison Avenue, (located between 46th and 47th Street) past the lobby, and take the first row of elevators to the sixth floor. Enter the glass doors on the south side. Conference Room 1 is straight ahead (follow the signs).

**Important security information:**
Kindly, let the security personnel know that you are a Conference Participant for the IASC Weekly meeting. A picture ID is required.

**Save the Date:**
The following IASC Weekly will be on 1 February 2013 on “Social Media in Emergencies”.