



World Humanitarian Summit Commitments

Caritas Internationalis

2019

Individual commitments

Develop solutions with and for people

Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Caritas are committed to promoting equal rights and responsibilities of men and women and will promote Security Council resolution 1325, that stresses the equal participation and full involvement of women in all efforts for the promotion of peace and security. It also calls on all parties to take special measures to protect women and girls from sexual abuse in situations of armed conflict.	Policy	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts	134002
Caritas will continue to support and strengthen Catholic/religious leaders engagement in conflict prevention, mediation as well as peace and reconciliation activities. Caritas will also promote inter-faith collaboration where it can increase protection of people affected by conflict	Policy	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts	134012
Caritas will foster respect for religious diversity and work to eliminate all forms of religious fundamentalism by promoting the right to live in peace.	Advocacy	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts	134013

Ensure full access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical missions

Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Caritas commits to advocate for ensuring effective (legal) protection of humanitarian aid workers in conformity with international humanitarian law and human rights law.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	134003

Caritas commits to continue to maintain and reinforce its promotion and application of humanitarian principles across its network, which are in line with the body of Catholic social teaching that serves as the basis of Caritas mission in humanitarian action	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	134006
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2E Uphold the rules: a global campaign to affirm the norms that safeguard humanity

Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Caritas will strongly advocate in the UN Human Rights Council for strengthening human rights of the most vulnerable and enhancing compliance with international humanitarian law, especially in protracted crisis situations. As a core component of the work of the Caritas Confederation and through concrete actions of its members at local, regional and global levels, key decision-makers will hear the voices of those caught up in humanitarian crisis, influencing and leading to changes in humanitarian policies and laws, ensure better protection of the most vulnerable and prevent conflicts.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	134015

3A Reduce and address displacement

Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Caritas strongly advocate for the protection of refugees and migrants as well as the responsibilities of host governments to recognize and guarantee the right to a secure stay in host countries, with adequate access to safe and dignified services and support	Advocacy	Leave No One Behind	134011

3B Address the vulnerabilities of migrants and provide more regular and lawful opportunities for migration

Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Caritas strongly advocate for the protection of refugees and migrants as well as the responsibilities of host governments to recognize and guarantee the right to a secure stay in host countries, with adequate access to safe and dignified services and support	Advocacy	Leave No One Behind	134011



Address other groups or minorities in crisis settings

Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Caritas has endorsed the Charter on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action and commits to practical action to its effective implementation.	Policy	Leave No One Behind	134010



Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems

Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Caritas acknowledges cash transfers as an effective humanitarian tool and commits to using or facilitating use of cash wherever feasible and appropriate in humanitarian response.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	134001
Caritas commits to build a stronger Caritas Confederation by strengthening the knowledge and adherence of its members to international standards in emergency responses - enshrined in Caritas Internationalis Management Standards - to ensure accountability to the people we serve.	Training	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	134005

Caritas commits to invest in quality assurance to demonstrate its adherence to humanitarian standards and good practices, including in how it demonstrates accountability to people affected by crisis, in line with Caritas Internationalis' Management Standards.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	134008
Caritas will strengthen its network by building the capacity of each organization to effectively identify and respond to needs, developing specific (aid) services, leadership and responsibilities. Each national Caritas will be the point of reference for other member organizations in a given country. This in turn will allow us to empower grassroots to fully participate in decision-making and promote greater resilience of affected communities.	Capacity	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	134014
In line with the preferential option for the poor, Caritas Internationalis has always put people at the heart of its humanitarian action and will continue doing so to support them to rebuild their lives in full respect of their dignity. In doing so, Caritas will strive to uphold the highest ethical and professional standards of accountability to the people it serves.	Policy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	134016

4B Anticipate, do not wait, for crises

Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Caritas commits to reduce the impact of humanitarian crisis by promoting programmes aimed at enhancing disaster preparedness and response, and by supporting communities to design and implement appropriate risk reduction strategies, including ensuring adequate resources for risk mitigation	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	134009

Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency

Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Caritas commits to be transparent about the full cost of humanitarian action, including the resources transferred to members.	Financial	Invest in Humanity	134004
Caritas commits to harmonize and simplify reporting tools and procedures, and further invest in strengthening joint needs assessments and appeal mechanism.	Operational	Invest in Humanity	134007

Core Commitments

Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts

POLITICAL LEADERSHIP TO PREVENT AND END CONFLICTS

- Commit to act early upon potential conflict situations based on early warning findings and shared conflict analysis, in accordance with international law.

Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

UPHOLD THE NORMS THAT SAFEGUARD HUMANITY

- Commit to promote and enhance respect for international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and refugee law, where applicable.
- Commit to ensure all populations in need receive rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance.
- Commit to speak out and systematically condemn serious violations of international humanitarian law and serious violations and abuses of international human rights law and to take concrete steps to ensure accountability of perpetrators when these acts amount to crimes under international law.

Leave No One Behind

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND - A COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS FORCED DISPLACEMENT

- Commit to a new approach to addressing forced displacement that not only meets immediate humanitarian needs but reduces vulnerability and improves the resilience, self-reliance and protection of refugees and IDPs. Commit to implementing this new approach through coherent international, regional and national efforts that recognize both the humanitarian and development challenges of displacement. Commit to take the necessary political, policy, legal and financial steps required to address these challenges for the specific context.
- Commit to actively work to uphold the institution of asylum and the principle of non-refoulement. Commit to support further accession to and strengthened implementation of national, regional and international laws and policy frameworks that ensure and improve the protection of refugees and IDPs, such as the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol or the AU Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala convention) or the Guiding Principles on internal displacement.

WOMEN AND GIRLS: CATALYZING ACTION TO ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY

- Empower Women and Girls as change agents and leaders, including by increasing support for local women's groups to participate meaningfully in humanitarian action.

Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES - FROM DELIVERING AID TO ENDING NEED

- Commit to a new way of working that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years through the achievement of collective outcomes. To achieve this, commit to the following: a) Anticipate, Do Not Wait: to invest in risk analysis and to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact and frequency of known risks and hazards on people. b) Reinforce, Do Not Replace: to support and invest in local, national and regional leadership, capacity strengthening and response systems, avoiding duplicative international mechanisms wherever possible. c) Preserve and retain emergency capacity: to deliver predictable and flexible urgent and life-saving assistance and protection in accordance with humanitarian principles. d) Transcend Humanitarian-Development Divides: work together, toward collective outcomes that ensure humanitarian needs are met, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years and based on the comparative advantage of a diverse range of actors. The primacy of humanitarian principles will continue to underpin humanitarian action.

NATURAL DISASTERS AND CLIMATE CHANGE: MANAGING RISKS & CRISES DIFFERENTLY

- Commit to accelerate the reduction of disaster and climate-related risks through the coherent implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as well as other relevant strategies and programs of action, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.
- Commit to reinforce national and local leadership and capacities in managing disaster and climate-related risks through strengthened preparedness and predictable response and recovery arrangements.

HUMANITARIAN FINANCING - INVESTING IN HUMANITY

- Commit to increase substantially and diversify global support and share of resources for humanitarian assistance aimed to address the differentiated needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises in fragile situations and complex emergencies, including increasing cash-based programming in situations where relevant.
- Commit to empower national and local humanitarian action by increasing the share of financing accessible to local and national humanitarian actors and supporting the enhancement of their national delivery systems, capacities and preparedness planning.

Invest in Humanity

HUMANITARIAN FINANCING - INVESTING IN HUMANITY

- Commit to promote and increase predictable, multi-year, unearmarked, collaborative and flexible humanitarian funding toward greater efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of humanitarian action for affected people.