



**World Humanitarian Summit Commitments**  
**United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for**  
**Human Rights (OHCHR)**  
**2019**

## Individual commitments

### 2A Respect and protect civilians and civilian objects in the conduct of hostilities

#### Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
OHCHR commits to monitor and report on the human rights impact of the use of explosive weapons with wide-area effects in populated areas.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232017

### 2B Ensure full access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical missions

#### Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
OHCHR commits to continue to advise Member States on their counter-terrorism and counter-violent extremism laws and responses to ensure that they are in compliance with international human rights law and do not impede humanitarian action.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232006
OHCHR commits to further promoting the relevance of the economic, social and cultural rights legal framework for the assessment of the impact of restrictions on humanitarian access.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232015

### 2C Speak out on violations

#### Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
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<p>OHCHR commits to continue monitoring, investigating, analysing and reporting on human rights violations and abuses, as well as violations of international humanitarian law where relevant, through its field presences, by mandating and conducting fact-finding missions and by supporting United Nations mandated commissions of inquiries and other mechanisms with a view to establishing facts, contributing to accountability and enhancing the protection afforded by international human rights law and international humanitarian law.</p>	<p>Operational</p>	<p>Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity</p>	<p>232004</p>
<p>OHCHR commits to monitor and report on the impact of armed conflict on humanitarian and health care workers and facilities, as well as on other human rights defenders in view of ensuring the enjoyment of human rights, as part of its overall reporting on violations of international humanitarian law.</p>	<p>Operational</p>	<p>Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity</p>	<p>232018</p>
<p>OHCHR commits to strengthen national protection mechanisms and increase its support for national human rights actors, including national human rights institutions and civil society organisations in their effort to monitor and report on violations of international human rights and humanitarian law during emergencies.</p>	<p>Operational</p>	<p>Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity</p>	<p>232022</p>
<p>OHCHR will continue to speak out and systematically condemn violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law through various forms of advocacy including bilateral engagement with relevant parties.</p>	<p>Advocacy</p>	<p>Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity</p>	<p>232027</p>

OHCHR will support increased efforts to track and collect data in situations of armed conflict on alleged violations of international human rights law and where relevant international humanitarian law, and strengthen its work in reporting on trends regarding such allegations and gaps in compliance with these bodies of law.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232030
OHCHR will work, in coordination with UN and other partners, to ensure that information of potential, emerging or actual violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and broader threats to populations, is efficiently brought together, managed and jointly analysed to provide early warning information and to guide early UN responses.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232032

## Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability

### Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
Through its humanitarian funds, OHCHR commits to continue providing direct assistance to victims of torture and of modern slavery by means of grants awarded to non-governmental organisations in emergency situations.	Financial	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232001
OHCHR commits to continue advocating for accountability and the right of victims to an effective remedy, including gender-sensitive reparations and due regard for the protection of victims and witnesses, for gross human rights violations and abuses, including those amounting to crimes under international law, and providing technical assistance to States on specific accountability mechanisms.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232003

OHCHR commits to continue reminding parties to a conflict of their obligations under international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as well as third states of their obligation to ensure respect of these bodies of law, through advocacy, training and technical assistance.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232005
OHCHR commits to continue to offer training in international human rights law and where appropriate international humanitarian law, to armed forces and relevant law enforcement agencies as well as to continue engaging with armed groups on compliance with relevant legal norms and standards.	Training	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232007
OHCHR commits to continuing to raise awareness about the international human rights treaties and their optional protocols, to produce trainings materials and to offer advisory services to States in this regard.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232009
OHCHR commits to contribute to the development of guidance and methodology to investigate sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian personnel.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232010
OHCHR commits to providing capacity building and/or other support to civil society organisations and Member States in addressing SGBV and holding perpetrators accountable, including the investigation, prosecution and punishment of persons responsible for SGBV and ensuring an effective remedy, including gender-sensitive reparations, for victims.	Capacity	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232021
OHCHR commits to strengthening policy guidance and capacity for monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence (MARA) in UN peace operations and other relevant contexts, including better coordination and strategies with other humanitarian actors in this regard.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232023

OHCHR will continue to offer technical assistance to States in drafting national legislation fully encompassing genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other gross human rights violations.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232026
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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
OHCHR will join a global effort to mobilize states, civil society and global leaders to enhance respect for international humanitarian and human rights law.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity	232028

## 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
OHCHR commits to developing principles and practical guidance on the human rights protection of migrants in situations of vulnerability within mixed movements in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders.	Policy	Leave No One Behind	232011
OHCHR commits to enhance its own capacity to monitor the human rights situation of migrants in humanitarian contexts and to build the capacity of relevant stakeholders to uphold the human rights of migrants.	Operational	Leave No One Behind	232014

## 3D Empower and protect women and girls

### Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
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OHCHR commits to continue to promote and support implementation of the Technical Guidance on the application of a human rights based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes for the reduction of preventable maternal mortality and morbidity (A/HRC/21/22), including the development and dissemination, in collaboration with partners, of reflection guides for health policy makers, national human rights institutions, health workers and the judiciary.	Operational	Leave No One Behind	232008
OHCHR commits to enhance engagement with children, adolescents and women, including by facilitating national multi-stakeholder dialogues and capacity building activities with civil society actors on the international norms related to sexual and reproductive health and rights.	Partnership	Leave No One Behind	232012
OHCHR commits to partner with local and national women's groups to provide women's groups with capacity building tools and training to increase their ability to claim their rights in humanitarian settings.	Operational	Leave No One Behind	232019
OHCHR commits to strengthening tools and capacity for integration of gender into its monitoring and investigation work in humanitarian contexts to ensure rights-based responses that do not perpetuate discrimination, promote equality and give greater recognition and support to women's roles as peace makers and agents of resilience in communities affected by conflict or natural disasters.	Operational	Leave No One Behind	232024



### Address other groups or minorities in crisis settings

#### Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID

OHCHR commits to enhance its capacity to monitor, report and advocate for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all stages of the humanitarian management cycle, upholding international human rights standards.	Operational	Leave No One Behind	232013
OHCHR will support the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action and follow-up actions related to the development of internationally agreed guidelines for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all stages of the humanitarian management cycle.	Policy	Leave No One Behind	232031

#### **4A Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems**

##### **Individual Commitments**

<b>Commitment Description</b>	<b>Commitment Type</b>	<b>Core Responsibility</b>	<b>Commitment ID</b>
OHCHR commits to keep a focus on the entire population that is affected by a crisis, strive to identify particularly vulnerable individuals and groups and ensure that they are at the centre of the response.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	232016

#### **4B Anticipate, do not wait, for crises**

##### **Individual Commitments**

<b>Commitment Description</b>	<b>Commitment Type</b>	<b>Core Responsibility</b>	<b>Commitment ID</b>
OHCHR will continue to advocate for the integration of human rights considerations in climate policy and disaster risk reduction and resilience, and for the effective implementation of existing commitments in this regard, and will seek support for these efforts.	Advocacy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	232025
OHCHR will produce relevant guidance materials related to human rights, climate change and natural disasters including a frequently asked questions publication on human rights and climate change by 2017.	Policy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	232029



## 4C Deliver collective outcomes: transcend humanitarian-development divides

### Individual Commitments

Commitment Description	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility	Commitment ID
OHCHR also commits to continue supporting the leadership role of RC/HC to deliver effective responses to humanitarian crises and empower them to address serious violations, link human rights mechanisms and institutions with humanitarian actors and support national protection mechanisms.	Capacity	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	232002
OHCHR commits to promote greater integration across all the pillars of the United Nations - human rights, development, humanitarian, peace and security - by supporting joint analysis, advocacy and programming, and working towards collective outcomes for the achievement of the SDGs and national priorities.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need	232020

## 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.
- Commit to improve prevention and peaceful resolution capacities at the national, regional and international level improving the ability to work on multiple crises simultaneously.
- Commit to sustain political leadership and engagement through all stages of a crisis to prevent the emergence or relapse into conflict.
- Commit to address root causes of conflict and work to reduce fragility by investing in the development of inclusive, peaceful societies.
- Commit to make successful conflict prevention visible by capturing, consolidating and sharing good practices and lessons learnt.

### 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 promote and enhance the protection of civilians and civilian objects, especially in the conduct of hostilities, for instance by working to prevent civilian harm resulting from the use of wide-area explosive weapons in populated areas, and by sparing civilian infrastructure from military use in the conduct of military operations.
- Commit to ensure all populations in need receive rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance.
- Commit to promote and enhance efforts to respect and protect medical personnel, transports and facilities, as well as humanitarian relief personnel and assets against attacks, threats or other violent acts.
- 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.

#### WOMEN AND GIRLS: CATALYZING ACTION TO ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY

- Implement a coordinated global approach to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in crisis contexts, including through the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies.
- Fully comply with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.

### 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 promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions for internally displaced persons and refugees. Commit to do so in a coherent and measurable manner through international, regional and national programs and by taking the necessary policy, legal and financial steps required for the specific contexts and in order to work towards a target of 50 percent reduction in internal displacement by 2030.
- Acknowledge the global public good provided by countries and communities which are hosting large numbers of refugees. Commit to providing communities with large numbers of displaced population or receiving large numbers of returnees with the necessary political, policy and financial, support to address the humanitarian and socio-economic impact. To this end, commit to strengthen multilateral financing instruments. Commit to foster host communities' self-reliance and resilience, as part of the comprehensive and integrated approach outlined in core commitment 1.
- Commit to collectively work towards a Global Compact on responsibility-sharing for refugees to safeguard the rights of refugees, while also effectively and predictably supporting States affected by such movements.
- 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.
- Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the Outcome documents of their review conferences for all women and adolescent girls in crisis settings.
- Ensure that humanitarian programming is gender responsive.

### **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.

- Commit to enable coherent financing that avoids fragmentation by supporting collective outcomes over multiple years, supporting those with demonstrated comparative advantage to deliver in context.

#### **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.
- Commit to improve the understanding, anticipation and preparedness for disaster and climate-related risks by investing in data, analysis and early warning, and developing evidence-based decision-making processes that result in early action.
- Commit to increase investment in building community resilience as a critical first line of response, with the full and effective participation of women.
- Commit to ensure regional and global humanitarian assistance for natural disasters complements national and local efforts.

#### **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.
- Commit to invest in risk management, preparedness and crisis prevention capacity to build the resilience of vulnerable and affected people.
- Commit to broaden and adapt the global instruments and approaches to meet urgent needs, reduce risk and vulnerability and increase resilience, without adverse impact on humanitarian principles and overall action (as also proposed in Round Table on "Changing Lives").