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LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: A COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS FORCED DISPLACEMENT

HIGH-LEVEL LEADERS' ROUNDTABLE

Core Responsibility Three of the Agenda for Humanity

"One of the most visible consequences of conflict, violence and disasters has been the mass displacement of people."

Report of the Secretary-General for the World Humanitarian Summit

CORE COMMITMENTS

Every day people are forcibly displaced within countries and across borders by conflict, violence and persecution. At the end of 2014, the estimated number of internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and asylum-seekers fleeing persecution, violence and armed conflict, had reached the historic height of 60 million. As crises become protracted so does displacement, with many unable to return home for decades. Over half of those forcibly displaced reside in urban areas. Forcibly displaced people are often at risk of unemployment or low-paid work, and are without access to education, sufficient health care and secure housing. Those in camps may survive on humanitarian assistance, but have little opportunities for self-reliance. Displacement does not only have severe impacts on individuals and families, but on entire host communities and countries. National and local health and education systems, social protection mechanisms and infrastructure may be unavailable or overwhelmed by the volume of demand or to meet the specific needs of those forcibly displaced.

Forced displacement is therefore not only a humanitarian challenge; it is also a complex political and development one. To ensure people displaced can be safe, have dignity, and the opportunity to thrive, a fundamental shift is needed by States and the international community that goes from not only meeting humanitarian needs to an approach that preserves the dignity and improves the lives and self-reliance of displaced persons and contributes to the development of their host communities. To achieve this approach, close cooperation is needed between the United Nations, national and regional structures, as well as NGOs, bilateral development agencies, international financial institutions and the private sector. Stronger leadership and political resolve is also needed at national, regional and international levels to address the root causes of displacement. And the critical role of the civil society in fighting xenophobia and creating a positive environment for the displaced and their host communities must be recognised.

In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States recognized the reality of growing human mobility and the benefits of managing it well. They also pledged that "no one will be left behind" and committed to empower the most vulnerable, including refugees and IDPs. Besides receiving humanitarian assistance and protection, forcibly displaced people must now benefit from and contribute to sustainable long-term development. This will require rethinking



#1

PREVENT AND
END CONFLICT



#2

RESPECT RULES
OF WAR



#3

LEAVE NO ONE
BEHIND



#4

WORKING DIFFERENTLY
TO END NEED



#5

INVEST IN
HUMANITY

our operational, policy, and financing instruments and approaches at national, regional and international levels. The World Humanitarian Summit and this High-Level Leaders' Round Table provide a unique opportunity for a range of stakeholders to demonstrate their resolve to make this happen.

The five proposed core commitments for this roundtable are anchored in the Core Responsibility Three of the Secretary General's Agenda for Humanity.

- **Core Commitment 1:** 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.
- **Core Commitment 2:** 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 programmes 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.
- **Core Commitment 3:** 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 number 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.
- **Core Commitment 4:** 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.
- **Core Commitment 5:** 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.





Leave No One Behind: A Commitment to Address Forced Displacement

HIGH-LEVEL LEADERS' ROUNDTABLE SAMPLE COMMITMENTS

Core Commitment 1: 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.

- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will integrate refugees and IDPs into national development plans, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by 20XX.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization] commit to work across institutional divides and mandates and in multi-year frameworks to achieve clear outcomes and develop required policy, financial and operational tools by 20XX to that effect.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization], will develop or support the development of national [legislation/ policies/ strategies/ and capacities] for the protection of IDPs and refugees, by integration into [national social safety nets/ education programmes/labour markets/development plans] by 20XX, in a way which leverages the varying levels of capacity, indigenous and traditional knowledge, and resources embedded in communities.
- [Name of Member State] will provide access to quality education, at all levels, to all internally displaced and refugee children and youth within three months of displacement.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization/Private Sector] will put in place improved data collection and analysis systems to identify and monitor the needs and required skillsets of IDPs and refugees and host communities, particularly in urban areas, by 20XX.

Core Commitment 2: 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 programmes 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.

- [Name of Member State (s)/ Organization] will commit to actively reduce internal displacement in [country/ region] by 50 percent by 2030, through the following [programs/actions].
- [Name of Member State] will work to address the causes of internal displacement, and to support the voluntary return home in safety and dignity, local integration or settlement elsewhere if needed.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization/Private Sector] will prioritize solutions that improve the self-reliance and resilience of IDPs and host communities, including by [integration into the local labour market/ education programs at all levels, etc.,] of [X number / percentage of IDPs] by 20XX.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization], through its lending and assistance programmes, will create incentives [such as xx] for [## countries/ or xx country/ region] with large IDP populations and ensure IDPs' full enjoyment of their rights, in accordance with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, by 20XX.
- [Name of Member State/organization] will prioritize facilitating the equal participation of internally displaced women and girls through their groups and the civil society to inform solutions that protect and respond to their specific needs by 20XX.

Core Commitment 3: 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 populations or receiving large of number of returnees with the necessary financial, political and policy 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.

- [Name of Member State/ Organization/ Foundation] will provide long-term, predictable technical and financial support to [## countries/ or name of country/ region] and communities with large number of refugees and IDPs, in such ways that improve services and inclusive economic opportunities.
- By 20XX, [Name of Member State/ Organization] will direct [x per cent] of its international assistance and financing towards national and local systems that address the needs of IDPs, refugees and host communities.
- By 20XX, [Name of Member State/ Organization] will invest [x per cent] of international assistance and financing to strengthen the capacities of IDPs and refugees, from the onset of an emergency through to the attainment of durable

solutions, and in local and civil society partners to play a greater role in the response.

- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will provide technical support/## funding to [name of Member State/ Organization/ Private Sector] to collect data disaggregated by sex, age and other social factors, and assess needs of urban IDPs/refugees and the impact of displacement on host communities in urban areas, and enhance coordination with local actors and implement solutions that benefit the displaced and their host communities in urban areas.
- [Name of Member State / International Financial Institution] commit to establish by 20XX a long-term financing platform, including a range of instruments and types of financing for low and in some cases middle income countries hosting significant protracted refugee populations, in close collaboration with United Nations agencies, other humanitarian actors, bilateral donors and host government to ensure complementarity of efforts.
- By 20XX, [Member State/ International Financial Institutional Institution] commit to review grant and loan criteria and operations so as to improve access to concessional and development financing, where appropriate, in support of the protection and provision to protracted refugee populations.
- In support of localized programs, [Name of Member State/ Organization] will improve the predictability of both humanitarian and development financing through grant-based and/or concessional loans to [## low- and middle-income countries/ or name country] with large numbers of refugees and IDPs.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will develop partnerships with [Organization/ Private Sector partner] to encourage innovative approaches to support the self-reliance of refugees and IDPs, through [list action – for example job creation, vocational training and income generation schemes], by 20XX.

Core Commitment 4: 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.

- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will strengthen its ability to identify and address the drivers and triggers of forced displacement, as early as possible, by [list action] and take rapid action to prevent situations from becoming protracted.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will ensure refugee legal rights to a secure stay in host countries, including through adequate, safe and dignified reception conditions and robust registration.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization/ Private Sector] will expand the [legal/ social and economic opportunities] for refugees to access [education at all levels/ health care and other services/ livelihoods and labour markets etc], without discrimination, and in a manner which also supports host communities.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will put in place additional and expedited pathways for admission of refugees, including resettlement and humanitarian admission, family reunification, private sponsorship, labour mobility and educational opportunities.



Core Commitment 5: 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.

- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will accede and/or ensure the full and effective implementation of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol by 20XX.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will lift reservations to the Convention the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees by 20XX.
- [Name of Member State/ Organisation] will support the establishment of a permanent Secretariat for the Kampala Convention, by [for example providing \$xx financial/ or list type of technical support] by 20XX.
- [Name of Member State/ Organisation] commits to hold the next conference of State parties to the Kampala Convention in 20XX.
- [Name of Member State] will enact legislation to ratify and implement the Kampala Convention, as relevant, by 20XX.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will adopt legislation facilitating access to civil registration and documentation for refugees and IDPs, including birth registration, national identity cards and other personal documentation, by 20XX.
- [Name of Member State/ Organization] will lead consultative processes to develop regional frameworks to protect and address the needs of IDPs by 20XX, based on the Guiding Principles on internal displacement.