

Mr. Chairman, your excellences, distinguished delegates,

We all agree that there are far too many persons in the world who are displaced for far too long. And we all agree that displacement leads to intolerable suffering and immense social, economic and political consequences for all, including for host communities. Now is the time for us to agree on improving our ability to find lasting, meaningful and effective solutions to protracted displacement. Affected governments, donors, UN agencies, civil society organizations and multilateral development banks must join hands in breaking new ground in the search for solutions to displacement.

Last December, I visited the refugee camp in Kakuma in Kenya. With more than 180.000 inhabitants, it is more a city than a camp. People have lived there on average for 18 years, meaning that many were born there. Young people get an education in the camp, they meet and talk about democracy and conflict solution. But they – for example a clever 17 year old girl who stood up and spoke with courage and conviction - cannot use their education inside or outside the camp, where conditions are harsh. This shows that we must move in new directions. People need development solutions and opportunities, not short term humanitarian assistance for long term needs.

Denmark has for many years given particular priority to addressing this challenge. We have worked with UNHCR and the World Bank in developing new, creative and solutions-oriented approaches to displacement - and we were among the founders of the Solutions Alliance as a platform for building partnerships across the humanitarian-development divide in support of solutions. We are committed to continuing this work.

And it is for this reason that we have placed on record our full support behind the core commitments related to forced displacement. However, we intend to go even further.

We will reinforce our support for the Solutions Alliance as a platform for collaborative action in support of solutions to conflict-induced displacement.

We will focus our strategic partnership agreements on long-term, solutions-oriented approaches in protracted humanitarian crisis situations.

And we will make a completely new strategy for our development assistance and humanitarian action that seeks to ensure strategic and operational coherence across all Danish efforts in and around fragile countries.

Thank you.