

Save the Children

Written Submission for the High-Level Leaders' Roundtable "Leaving No One Behind: A Commitment to Address Forced Displacement"

Distinguished Delegates,

At the World Humanitarian Summit, Save the Children invites all stakeholders to join our global call that no refugee child be out of education for more than a month.

We are facing a displacement crisis on a scale not seen since the Second World War. Millions of children are being denied the chance of a future. It's time for this to change. Every displaced child deserves a new deal – one that guarantees their rights to a safe and productive life.

Save the Children is calling for all stakeholders at the World Humanitarian Summit to commit to a 'new deal for every forcibly displaced child'.

We see the Summit as a pivotal opportunity to enshrine the norm that ***no child should lose their right to learn just because they are a refugee***. We're calling on donors and Member States to provide increased support for host-country governments to expand access to quality education to refugee populations. And we call on all countries with forcibly displaced children to commit to fulfilling their moral and legal obligation to ensure both girls and boys can access their right to an education.

At the World Humanitarian Summit, donor governments have a unique opportunity to help close the financing gap and improve planning and co-ordination of education in humanitarian crises, including for refugees, by supporting the ***Education Cannot Wait Fund*** and by making a commitment to become a founding funder of the Fund.

We're also calling for a new approach more broadly for every forcibly displaced child, as laid out in our [policy briefing](#).¹ In addition to commitments on education, our proposed 'new deal' includes commitments to:

- ensure national and cross-border protection for children on the move
- develop a new model for supporting countries that are hosting large populations of refugees or internally displaced people
- uphold existing internationally agreed norms and standards.

We are also pleased to announce our own commitments to play a key role in this 'new deal' and to respond to the needs of displaced children and their families. In support of the Agenda for Humanity, we make priority commitments in the following areas:

- support the provision of access to good-quality education for all internally displaced and refugee boys and girls equally, and to advocate for this to take place within one month of displacement;
- scale up programmatic responses to forcibly displaced children and youth, and to all children on the move;

- support the development of national legislation, policy, strategies and capacities for the protection of conflict-affected IDP and refugee children and youth;
- support:
 - access to child and gender-sensitive social protection;
 - legal rights to a secure stay in host countries;
 - additional and expedited pathways for admission of refugees;
- establish effective regional coordination mechanisms to ensure that our response is one of improved quality across all the divides and sectors;
- strengthen and systematically uphold the best interest of the child both as a principle and as a tool in our programmatic interventions to ensure that every child is supported and cared for according to his or her identified needs – ensuring that unaccompanied and separated children receive priority attention and response in our programmes;
- address the specific needs of adolescents and youth in humanitarian crises;
- advocate for a reduction of the key drivers of displacement, including through enhanced programming that reduces these drivers. Advocacy will be through initiatives such as:
 - promotion of the Safe Schools Declaration and broader work within the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, noting that attacks on education and military use of schools are a key driver of displacement;
 - advocacy work on the grave violations against children and gender-based violence and support for the Children and Armed Conflict agenda and Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies initiative and roadmap;
 - continuing to document within the International Network on Explosive Weapons the harm caused by the use of explosive weapons in populated areas and the work towards a political declaration to reduce such harm, noting that this practice is a key driver of displacement;
 - promotion of international humanitarian law in relation to the protection of healthcare facilities, workers, vehicles and supplies, and ensuring access for medical missions, noting that attacks and disruption of health services are a key driver of displacement;
 - promoting concrete action on Security Council Resolution 2242 [2015], recognising the pivotal link between gender equality and the international peace and security agenda.
- advocate for Member States and other actors to uphold existing rules and standards and to integrate such standards into national-level legislation and policy.

ⁱ A New Deal for Every Forcibly Displaced Child, Save the Children, April 2016, <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/resources/online-library/new-deal-every-forcibly-displaced-child>