



Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto  
Dirección General de Política Exterior

## WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT Costa Rica Commitments

### Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity Proposed Core Commitments

**Core Commitment 1:** Commit to promote and enhance the protection of civilians by strengthening compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law.

- a. *We commit to continue promoting the universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. We will continue pushing forward the compliance and adherence to the Convention and to reinforce the norms being established by it.*
- b. *We will uphold our commitment to foster the humanitarian standards set by the Convention and to work for a world without cluster munitions and will condemn its use by any actor.*
- c. *We reiterate our national commitment to work in the effective implementation and universalization of the Arms Trade Treaty, as well as our responsibility to establish structures, systems and procedures necessary to apply it to our national reality. In this sense, we will continue developing the formalization and establishment of a national authority on this topic.*
- d. *We commit to continue promoting the adherence of member States to the Code of Conduct of the Security Council against genocide, crimes against humanity, and crimes of war, ensure its application and motivate the Secretary General to turn to the Security Council in order to warn about any possible emergency or the potential development of situations of crimes against humanity.*
- e. *We commit to restrain from voting for any candidate to the Security Council that has not subscribed the Code of Conduct or that, once in the Security Council does not implement it, according to the acquired commitment.*
- f. *We commit to work towards and to make efforts to include the norms of international humanitarian law in the new project of criminal code that will be considered in the near future in the Legislative Assembly.*
- g. *We commit to continue pushing the approval of a draft bill that establishes a stable cooperation mechanism with the International Criminal Court.*

**Core Commitment 4:** Commit to redouble efforts to respect and protect humanitarian and health care workers and facilities against attacks, threats or other violent acts that prevent them from fulfilling their exclusively humanitarian function.

- a. *We commit to give more dissemination to International Humanitarian Law through courses, seminars and media with the objective of raising awareness on the different sectors of the population on this issue and make efforts so that the basics and importance of this branch of the international law are well known.*



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**Women and Girls: Catalyzing Action to Achieve Gender Equality Proposed Core Commitments**

**Commitment 2:** Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Program 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.

- a. *The National Institute on Women Issues will destine resources (human and material) for the awareness and capacity building of primary attention teams that operate in the country on aspects related to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. Likewise, a module with methodology on pedagogic mediation addressed to women, has been designed. Professional personnel has been trained with the objective that, within the process of capacity building addressed to women, this topic is imparted.*

**Commitment 4:** Ensure that humanitarian programming is gender responsive

- a. *A gender perspective is being incorporated into projects and programs designed by the State in case of crises. This is ensured through consultation processes with the National Institute on Women Issues.*
- b. *We commit to continue prioritizing the implementation of national legislation to eliminate all forms of sexual and gender-based violence.*

**Natural Disasters & Climate Change: Managing Risks and Crises Differently Proposed Core Commitments:**

**Core Commitment 1:** Commit to invest in data, analysis and early warning of natural disaster and climate change risks to improve understanding, anticipation and early action.

- a. *During the last years, Costa Rica has been increasing its investment in information on climate. The National Meteorology Institute, in collaboration with the Emergency National Committee, with its own resources, has been improving the hydro-meteorological network and an early warning system. Moreover, also with public funding, various governmental entities, among of them, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Planning have been developing an inventory on losses associated with extreme climatic events. Additionally, the National Meteorology Institute is executing a project on this topic with Spanish cooperation and other resources currently being processed.*

**Core Commitment 2:** Commit to reinforce the management of natural disaster and climate change risks by enabling national and local leadership, taking a more collective, longer-term approach and focusing, in particular, on strengthening preparedness and predictable response arrangements.

**Core Commitment 3:** Commit to build community resilience as a critical first line of response.



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- a. *Costa Rica has recently launched the National Policy on Risk Management 2016-2030, aligned with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which execution was recently started by the Emergency National Committee. Moreover, the Strategy and Plan of Action for the adaptation of Costa Rica's biodiversity sector to climate change (2015-2025), was also approved. Furthermore, the National Plan on Adaptation is being elaborated, in accordance with the commitments made in the nationally determined commitments presented to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.*

**Core Commitment 4:** Commit to ensure that regional and global humanitarian assistance for natural disasters complements national and local efforts

- a. *The Procedural Manual of Costa Rica for the delivery, transit and reception of International Humanitarian and Technical Assistance in situations of disasters/emergencies will be published. This new manual will be an update of the last Procedural Manual of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Coordination of Humanitarian and Technical Assistance in cases of disaster of 2011.*