

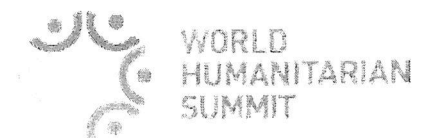
REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

**BOTSWANA STATEMENT
AT THE WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT**

ANNOUNCEMENT PLENARY

23 -24 MAY, 2016

Istanbul, Turkey



**Your Excellencies,
Honourable Ministers
Representatives of the Private Sector and NGOs**

1. We appreciate the opportunity extended to us to participate in this historic gathering which, for the first time, focuses our joint attention on the humanitarian needs of millions around the World. We congratulate the Secretary General for his leadership and his team for this tremendous resourcefulness.
2. The synergy amongst the roundtable sub themes on the need for Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflict, and the urgent need to Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity is unmistakable. The profitability of investing in humanity, prevention, inclusiveness, sustainable development and gender equality is also not debatable, be it in economic or political terms.
3. While it has taken the international community rather long to fully realise and accept this paradigm, we are proud for the steps taken to the right direction.
4. Botswana is a firm believer that living a dignified life should not be a luxury that is accessible to some and denied to others. Taken together with democratic development, within an environment of good

governance, they contribute to desirable objectives as well as being means to achieve higher levels of human progress.

5. In our almost 50 years of self-rule, these have been our guiding principles. We periodically review our faith in them, and use them to guide us in promoting the nexus between social development, job creation and inclusive growth to ensure a positive change in our people's lives. Given our experience, we can be pardoned for suggesting that man made humanitarian disasters can be avoided through the use of such principles.

Chair, Excellencies;

6. Sustainable solutions are within reach as long as we share the same perspective. Botswana is concerned by protracted conflict situations and even more worrisome, the eruption of new conflicts around the world, which threaten any efforts we make towards development. Similarly, climate change and its devastating consequences cannot be ignored anymore. It is for these reasons that Botswana aligns herself with the following Core Commitments:

- all five commitments to Prevent and End Conflict,
- all commitments under Gender Equality,
- Commitments 2-5 under Natural Disasters and Climate Change,
- commitment 1 under Delivering Aid and Ending Need
- commitments 3 and 5 under Leaving No one Behind.

7. In line with our national policies, Botswana also commits specific action:

- to pursue new sustainable ways of working together, bringing on board various actors in society, through collective efforts that can change people's lives from delivering aid to ending need.
- to actively use early warning findings to identify, address and defuse critical risks before they deteriorate into intractable conflicts by using preventive diplomacy tools at national, regional and international levels to ensure peace and development and
- to achieve an overall emissions reduction of 15 percent by 2030 through the introduction of renewable energy such as solar and bio-fuels as well as the use of cleaner technologies for the agricultural sector.

I Thank you.