



PIANGO

Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations
Association des ONGs des Iles de Pacifique

P. O. Box 17780, Suva, Fiji. 17 Forte Street, Suva, Fiji. Phone: +679 3300060
Fax: +679 3302-936 Email: emele@piango.net Web: <http://www.piango.org>

WHS SUMMIT – Monday 23rd May, 2016

STATEMENT TO MEMBER STATES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS PLENARY

Ms. Emele Duituturaga, PIANGO Executive Director

Agenda for Humanity

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, working together for humanity must defy business as usual under structural arrangements that are no longer fit for purpose. Transforming the humanitarian system must be at the heart of the WHS Agenda for Humanity for which we have all come here to Istanbul, not the least from Pacific Small Island Developing states.

Commitments

Global leadership to prevent and end conflicts is not of governments' alone. As a leading civil society organisation, the Pacific Islands Association for Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO), representing NGOs in 21 Pacific Islands Countries and Territories, is committed to this Agenda for Humanity. As a development actor in the Pacific region for the past 3 decades and witnessing how Category 4 TC Pam and Category 5 TC Winston have recently ravaged our countries, PIANGO is committed to bridge past divide between development and humanitarian action to collaborate more closely with Pacific governments, UN agencies and other stakeholders to develop solutions with and for people, especially in local communities.

Strengthening community resilience

In the Pacific where 80% of our population are rural based, the first and the last response is always the local response and so we need to reinforce local leadership, strengthen community resilience and reprioritize localization of aid. While governments remain the driver at the national level, community engagement is the lever. PIANGO is committed to facilitate effective coordination of local and national civil society organisations with the complimentary role of international NGOs.