

Leaders Round Table on Forced Displacement

Remarks

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Excellencies,

Protecting IDPs and supporting solutions to their plight requires national leadership, strong political will and commitment, cooperation between, and working through local and national systems by international actors – both humanitarian and development, and first and foremost, the consultation and participation of IDPs themselves. It requires prioritizing solutions that improve self-reliance, by integrating IDPs into national safety nets, education programs, labor markets and development plans, building on local capacity and knowledge. Simply closing a camp does not equate durable solutions.

This is what the United Nations should do to fulfil the Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity's vision on internal displacement.

In support of core commitment One, the United Nations should enable a new approach to internal displacement, through joint development-humanitarian assessments, analysis, and multi-year planning & programming for collective outcomes between humanitarian and development partners; as well as flexible additional and multi-year financing. The UN should also capacity to address the specific vulnerabilities and protection needs of IDPs.

In support of core commitment Two, the United Nations should generate better evidence on internal displacement, and support strategies on durable solutions for the millions of IDPs in protracted displacement solutions. This will allow to work towards the goal set out by the Secretary-General to reduce internal displacement by 50 percent by 2030. A specific initiative I am spearheading with the Joint IDP Profiling Service is the development of a system to measure progress towards durable solutions.

In support of core commitment Three, the United Nations should collaborate to the greatest extent possible with local authorities, civil society and the private sector to support inclusive economic opportunities and improve services for both IDPs and host communities, including in urban settings.

Finally, in support of core commitment Five, the United Nations should support the strengthening of policy and legal frameworks to protect and foster inclusion of displaced people. It should continue to work closely with the African Union and its members to ratify and implement the Kampala Convention on internal displacement. It should also strengthen its technical capacity services to provide relevant expertise to Member States and regional bodies, as required, to develop national laws, policies and strategies on internal displacement, in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.