

World Humanitarian Summit

Istanbul, 23-24 May 2016

Plenary Session

Statement by

H.E. Ambassador. Amr Ramadan

Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt

to the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. Chairperson
Mr. Secretary General
Distinguished Representatives,
Ladies and Gentlemen

At the outset, I would like to express our thanks to the people of Turkey for their kind welcome to participants and would like to share with you some reflections:

The world today is facing many Humanitarian crises and aggravating Humanitarian problems. Armed conflicts and natural disasters are the biggest threat to human development. As the world faces the greatest displacement crisis since the second world war, there is now more than ever an urgent need for a unified humanitarian vision, inclusive and universal action, to address properly the current challenges and face them towards ending humanitarian suffering.

Hosting countries and countries with humanitarian crises are looking for the summit with aspirations and hope for deliberating on solutions for the ongoing challenges they face. International solidarity with refugees hosting countries and hosting communities is highly required. Responsibility sharing is a must, it should be planned and institutionalized, together with practical solutions to bridge big funding gaps, and to support stressed economies.

Egypt as one of the major hosting countries receives more than a million of refugees from Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Yemen, Sudan and other African countries. According to that situation the country faces many challenges that address policy makers at all levels.

Our primary responsibility should be addressing root causes for massive humanitarian influx in underdeveloped countries and assisting them in economic reform and development plans, promoting investments, building industries in order to create more jobs, investing in promoting employment and education to create an appealing domestic environment and therefore decreasing illegal migration.

Cessation of hostilities and finding Political solutions for armed conflicts is essential. The pursuit of peace in these armed conflicts is the main solution to end humanitarian suffering, side to side with stopping meddling in internal affairs of other neighboring countries. Creating safe environment in countries of origin is one the main elements towards voluntary, safe and dignified repatriation. Post conflict recovery with particular attention to the vulnerable group as women, children and the elderly is also required.

Our conference today is a multistake holder process, yet we emphasize the role of the governments in policy making, and implementation of social and community based programs through long term partnerships in collaboration with humanitarian donors.

Channeling a percentage of the official development assistance ODA towards humanitarian aid is not practical, and will negatively affect the development plans in receiving countries. Nevertheless, it has to be emphasized that donors have not fulfilled completely their pledges for humanitarian crises and subsequent to this the united nations operations in areas of need are negatively affected. We also share our concerns with regards to calls for religious engagement and Islamic social financing for humanitarian action. Incepting a religious factor to humanitarian assistance should be avoided.

Creating a more sustainable funding base for international humanitarian organizations is a must, We call for availing sufficient funds to support Humanitarian activities worldwide and bridging the annual financial gap in funding humanitarian aids, with the involvement of all international donors and global financial institutions.

The government of Egypt looks forward to working with all international partners to ensure that refugees and migrants rights are preserved and protected. Egypt will continue its efforts according to available capabilities to avoid emergence of more conflicts leading to aggravated humanitarian situations, and will also continue its endeavors towards reaching political solutions for current conflicts in the region.

Thank you Mr. Chair.