



# COMMITMENTS TO ACTION



WORLD  
HUMANITARIAN  
SUMMIT

ISTANBUL  
23-24 May 2016



*“Governments, people affected by crisis, NGOs, the private sector, United Nations agencies and other partners came together and expressed their support for the Agenda for Humanity and its five core responsibilities. Implementing this Agenda is a necessity, if we are to enable people to live in dignity and prosperity, and fulfil the promise of last year’s landmark agreements on the Sustainable Development Agenda and Climate Change.”*

*- UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon*

This document is based on a review of commitments made as part of the World Humanitarian Summit. Verification of commitments is ongoing. The data and figures used in this report are confirmed as of 16 August 2016.

Cover photo: The closing ceremony of the World Humanitarian Summit unveiled a 30 foot “Share Humanity” mural made over the course of the Summit by participants. This interactive and joint art initiative visualizes a “call to action”. Photo: OCHA / Elif Ozturk



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# WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT FRAMEWORK

ISTANBUL • 23-24 May 2016

7 ROUND TABLES ► 32 CORE COMMITMENTS

## POLITICAL LEADERSHIP TO PREVENT AND END CONFLICTS

- Act early upon potential conflict situations
- Improve capacities to work on multiple crises simultaneously
- Sustain political leadership to prevent conflicts
- Address root causes of conflict
- Share good practices and lessons

## UPHOLD THE NORMS THAT SAFEGUARD HUMANITY

- Promote respect for international law
- Protect civilians from explosive weapons and avoid using civilian infrastructure for military purposes
- Ensure rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance
- Protect humanitarian and health-care workers against attacks
- Speak out and condemn violations of international law

## LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: A COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS FORCED DISPLACEMENT

- Implement a new approach to addressing displacement
- Support durable solutions for refugees and IDPs and reduce internal displacement by half by 2030
- Provide host countries and communities with increased financial and political support
- Share responsibility for refugees
- Strengthen the protection of refugees and IDPs

## WOMEN AND GIRLS: CATALYSING ACTION TO ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY

- Empower women and girls as change agents and leaders
- Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health
- Implement a coordinated global approach to prevent and respond to gender-based violence
- Ensure that humanitarian programming is gender responsive
- Comply with humanitarian policies on women's empowerment and women's rights

## CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES: FROM DELIVERING AID TO ENDING NEED

- Commit to a new way of working that meets immediate humanitarian needs
- Enable coherent financing that avoids fragmentation by supporting collective outcomes

## NATURAL DISASTERS AND CLIMATE CHANGE: MANAGING RISKS & CRISES DIFFERENTLY

- Implement risk reduction and climate change strategies and plans
- Reinforce national and local management of disaster and climate change risks
- Invest in data, analysis and early warning
- Build community resilience as a critical first line of response
- Ensure regional and global humanitarian assistance for natural disasters complements national and local efforts

## FINANCING: INVESTING IN HUMANITY

- Increase and diversify the resource base
- Empower national and local humanitarian action by increasing the share of financing available to them
- Promote and increase multi-year, unearmarked and flexible humanitarian funding
- Invest in risk management
- Adapt global instruments to meet urgent needs and increase resilience

## #1 PREVENT AND END CONFLICT



- Demonstrate timely, coherent and decisive political leadership
- Act early
- Stay engaged and invest in stability
- Develop solutions with and for people

## #2 RESPECT RULES OF WAR



- Respect and protect civilians and civilian objects in the conduct of hostilities
- Ensure full access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical mission
- Speak out on violations
- Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability
- Uphold the rules: a global campaign to affirm the norms that safeguard humanity

## #3 LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND



- Reduce and address displacement
- Address the vulnerabilities of migrants and provide more regular and lawful opportunities for migration
- End statelessness in the next decade
- Empower and protect women and girls
- Eliminate gaps in education for children, adolescents and young people
- Enable adolescents and young people to be agents of positive transformation
- Address other groups or minorities in crisis settings

## #4 WORKING DIFFERENTLY TO END NEED



- Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems
- Anticipate, do not wait for crises
- Deliver collective outcomes: transcend humanitarian-development divides

## #5 INVEST IN HUMANITY



- Invest in local capacities
- Invest according to risk
- Invest in stability
- Finance outcomes, not fragmentation: shift from funding to financing
- Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency



AGENDA FOR HUMANITY  
5 CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

5 CORE RESPONSIBILITIES ► 24 PROPOSED SHIFTS/CHANGES IN DIRECTION





# INTRODUCTION

This Commitment to Action document highlights commitments made in support of the Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity<sup>2</sup> as part of the World Humanitarian Summit. The report is structured according to the five core responsibilities of the Agenda for Humanity, which is annexed to the *Secretary General's Report: One Humanity, Shared Responsibility* and which served as the overarching framework of the World Humanitarian Summit.

Two types of commitments were gathered before, during and after the Summit. The first type is expressions of alignment to 32 core commitments, developed for each of the seven High-level Leaders' Roundtables of the Summit and in support of the 24 strategic, operational and policy shifts called for in the Agenda for Humanity.<sup>1</sup> Stakeholders were also invited to make additional individual or joint commitments. The individual or joint commitments were intended to support implementation of one or more of the core commitments, or more broadly to advance the Agenda for Humanity.

In addition, nearly 20 new initiatives, partnerships and alliances were launched at the Summit in support of the Agenda for Humanity. The Summit generated hundreds of commitments to achieve these new initiatives and many new commitments were also made to support existing areas of work. A list of these initiatives is included in Annex 1.

The analysis that follows is based on commitments submitted by stakeholders through an

online commitments platform or provided to the World Humanitarian Summit Secretariat or the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in writing.<sup>3</sup> In a limited number of cases, commitments made verbally at the Summit have been referenced in this report.

The nature of the commitments varied: some are new, measurable and time-bound pledges, while others are more accurately characterized as expressions of support and intent. A number of the commitments did not fit precisely into a specific category or comprised multiple objectives within a single commitment. Nonetheless, the Commitment to Action document is useful to get an overall picture of the shifts or changes advocated for in the Agenda for Humanity that generated the most momentum and commitments at the Summit and to highlight examples of those pledges.

The commitments made at the World Humanitarian Summit are a point of departure that demonstrate a collective desire to see radically improved outcomes for people affected by crises and living in fragile situations. In September, the Secretary General will submit a report to the 71st General Assembly on the outcomes and the priority areas that emerged from the Summit and provide direction on how we can make progress in those areas and continue to advance the Agenda for Humanity. All commitments will be publicly accessible on the online Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation (PACT) as of the end of September 2016.

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<sup>1</sup> Please see the graphic on page 2 for more information on the 32 core commitments.

<sup>2</sup> The Agenda for Humanity may be accessed on <https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org>

<sup>3</sup> This report includes alignments to core commitments registered through the WHS online commitments platform or by email up until 4 June 2016. Since the core commitments are anchored in the Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity, UN entities were not included in any figures related to alignment to core commitments. Individual and joint commitments catalogued up until 16 August 2016 have been factored into this analysis. The process of verifying individual and joint commitments with stakeholders is ongoing so this number is subject to change.

## SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

The commitments generated through the World Humanitarian Summit indicate broad-based support for the Agenda for Humanity and its five core responsibilities. The sheer volume - more than 3,140 individual and joint commitments collected to date - is a clear indication of a desire of all stakeholders involved in the Summit to achieve better outcomes for the millions of people who are at risk of being left behind due to conflicts and disasters.

The individual and joint commitments cover a broad range of issues comprised within the Secretary General's report and Agenda for Humanity. However, the commitments reveal there was particular emphasis and momentum around the following key areas for future action (not in order of priority):

### **1. Enhance compliance and accountability to international law (Core Responsibility 2: Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity)**

Many stakeholders reiterated their intent to uphold the norms that safeguard humanity, including taking concrete steps to ensure parties to armed conflict comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

Commitments also focused on promoting adherence to core instruments, including the Arms Trade Treaty and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as well as adherence of Member States to the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or crimes of war. The commitments also called upon permanent members of the Security Council to refrain from exercising veto power in the face of mass atrocities.

Gender-based violence prevention emerged as a key issue generating commitments to join, fund and otherwise support global initiatives to end violence against women and girls.

Additionally, multiple stakeholders reiterated their adherence to the humanitarian principles and pledged action to promote and uphold them. The ongoing relevance and prominence of the humanitarian principles were emphasized throughout the Summit deliberations.

### **2. Implement a new approach to forced displacement (Core Responsibility 3: Leave No One Behind)**

The Agenda for Humanity's call to reduce and address displacement received the second highest number of individual and joint commitments related to a single shift proposed in the Agenda for Humanity. Commitments indicate a clear consensus that addressing protracted forced displacement is a humanitarian as well as a political and development priority. A large number of stakeholders committed to address the needs of displaced people and host communities alike, and several provided significant financial pledges to support host countries. There was an acknowledgement of the need to identify durable solution for refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) and for greater effort to develop a new cooperation on predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing among countries of origin, transit and resettlement.

The need for access to quality education, particularly in displacement settings, was highlighted by many as an area for urgent action, with several significant commitments made to guarantee the provision of quality education for refugees and to bolster education support to refugee-hosting countries.

### **3. Achieve gender equality and greater inclusivity (Core Responsibility 3: Leave No One Behind)**

Gender equality and women and girls' empowerment emerged as an overarching theme of the Summit with nearly 20% of all commitments addressing gender issues. In addition to the 446 commitments made in support of the

High-Level Leaders' Roundtable on Women and Girls: Catalyzing Action to Achieve Gender Equality, a desire to see improved gender outcomes was expressed in commitments made at the other six roundtables. This strong emphasis on gender reflects a firm desire for the World Humanitarian Summit to serve as a watershed moment whereby real change is achieved so that the needs of women and girls are systematically met and how their roles as decision-makers and leaders are vigorously promoted.

Important commitments and initiatives were also made in support of core responsibility 3 to increase the inclusion and voices of marginalized groups, such as people with disabilities and young people in humanitarian action, and to better address humanitarian crises in cities and towns.

#### **4. Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems (Core Responsibility 4: Change People's Lives-From Delivering Aid to Ending Need)**

Reinforcing national and local systems, including ensuring accountability to affected people, garnered the most support when taking into account both individual or joint commitments and alignments to core commitments. Of the 32 core commitments, the commitment calling for a new way of working that meets people's immediate needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability, generated the highest number of alignments (117 out of 216 stakeholders aligned to this commitment). In addition, 399 individual or joint commitments in support of reinforcing national and local systems have been cataloged to date, heralding a shift towards more national and locally-led preparedness and response efforts. There was a strong consensus on the need to invest in frontline responders, namely national and local actors. An additional 88 commitments were made under core respon-

sibility 5 to invest in local capacities, including by increasing the amount of funding channeled to local responders.

Commitments to put people at the center of humanitarian action and to ensure their rightful place in decision-making were made by multiple actors. Scores of stakeholders pledged to support the Core Humanitarian Standard as a concrete means of furthering accountability to people affected by crises.

Commitments also demonstrated an important acknowledgement of the potential transformative power of cash-based programming with stakeholders frequently committing to scale-up cash-based assistance. Several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other actors set targets; for example, Mercy Corps pledged to increase cash-based assistance by 25%.

#### **5. Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency (Core Responsibility 5: Invest in Humanity)**

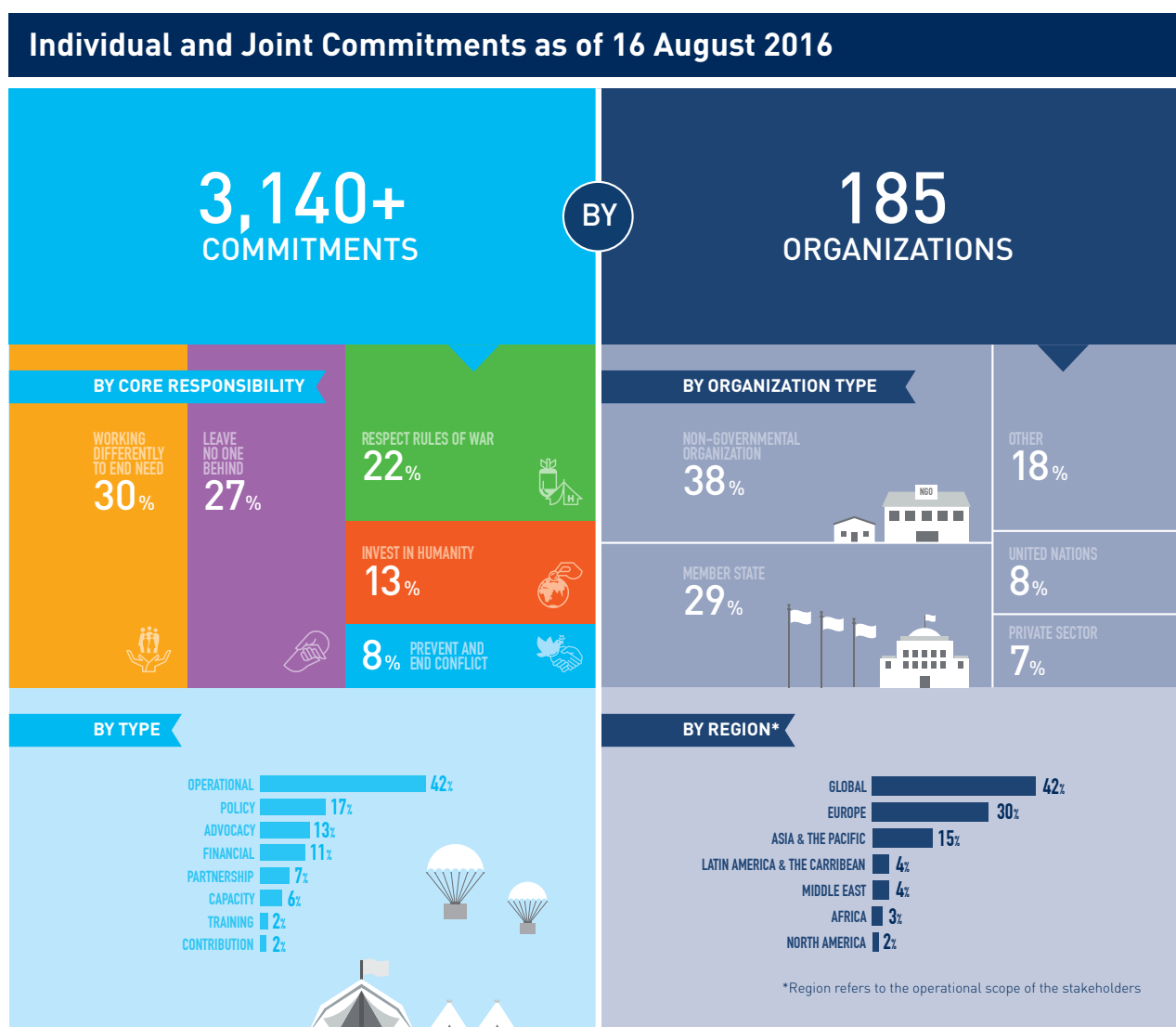
The World Humanitarian Summit outcomes indicate a strong desire to ensure a different way of financing that not only increases resources to meet humanitarian needs but also reduces them through a reduction in risk and vulnerability. There were numerous commitments to increase the quantity, diversity and quality of humanitarian funding, including through the mobilization of Islamic social finance and by bringing in non-traditional partners, including the private sector, and creating a more enabling environment for remittance transfers.

Multiple Member States committed to expand the Central Emergency Respond Fund (CERF) to US\$ 1 billion by 2018. Scores of donors and humanitarian agencies joined forces under a multi-faceted Grand Bargain to commit to increasing the efficiency of humanitarian funding.

## KEY FIGURES

To date **3140** individual and joint commitments have been cataloged from **185** stakeholders. More than **40%** of these are operational commitments. Core responsibility 4 - Changing People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need garnered the most amount of commitments to date (**30%**). Core responsibility 1 - Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflict received the least amount of commitments (**8%**). The majority of the individual and joint commitments were pledged by NGOs (**38%**) followed by Member States (**29%**). The graphic below provides a snapshot of individual and joint commitments.

In addition, **216** private sector organizations, NGOs, academic and research institutions, Member States and individual stakeholders aligned themselves with at least one of the **32** core commitments to date. Of this, **150** stakeholders also presented individual and joint commitments. On average stakeholders aligned themselves to **11** core commitments. **25** organizations aligned themselves with all core commitments. This includes **16** Member States and nine NGOs. The graphic on page 11 provides a breakdown of core commitment alignments.





# KEY RESULTS PER CORE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE AGENDA FOR HUMANITY

## CORE RESPONSIBILITY 1

### Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflict

The commitments generated under core responsibility 1 demonstrate a collective desire to address the root causes of conflict, act early based on risk analysis, increase conflict prevention and resolution capacities and to learn from successful conflict prevention experiences and practices. In support of this, several Member States made financial commitments under core responsibility 5 to improve mediation efforts, ensure predictable resources to the Peacebuilding Fund and provide support for several initiatives around conflict prevention. Substantial commitments were also made to increase the inclusion of women and young people in peacebuilding and reconciliation processes. There were also calls for improved conflict prevention and resolution capacity within the United Nations (UN). However, the low number of individual commitments, in comparison to other core responsibilities, signifies the continued gap between consensus on what is required and action to achieve it. Going forward there needs to be further advocacy and engagement to achieve the objectives of core responsibility 1.

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87 entities supported one or more of the five core commitments under core responsibility 1 and 65 stakeholders made 264 individual and joint commitments.

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#### A. Timely, coherent, decisive political leadership

Timely, coherent, decisive political leadership was supported by 11 commitments which were primarily pledges from Member States either to take action to mediate or de-escalate specific conflicts, or to increase support to regional and international conflict prevention and response mechanisms. For example, Cyprus committed to act as an honest broker and facilitator between parties to regional and bilateral disputes in the eastern Mediterranean. Georgia committed to contribute to the restoration of the Incidents Prevention and Response Mechanism in Gali district of Abkhazia, Georgia, created as a result of the Geneva Discussions, with the view to prevent possible escalation of the situation on the ground. Ethiopia committed to reinforce its contributions to the resolution of conflicts in Africa by continuing to undertake peacemaking efforts in its sub-region and beyond within the framework of Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the African Union and the UN.

#### B. Act early

95 individual and joint commitments - the highest grouping of commitments under core responsibility 1- focused on acting early to prevent conflict from erupting, including by increasing investment in capacity to respond according to early warning data. Brazil, Italy and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Secretariat, among others, pledged to actively use early warning findings to identify, address and defuse critical risks before they deteriorate into intractable conflicts.

The commitments of several Member States focused on the role of the Security Council in engaging early and promoting situational awareness and conflict prevention. Some Member States called for more systematic briefings on human rights violations and on potential crises, with others calling for basic reforms to the way Security Council members responded to warnings of worsening tensions. New Zealand, Ukraine and France committed to use their membership in the Security Council to advocate for the provision of regular Council briefings to ensure it is aware of emerging conflict risks. Several Member States, including Brazil, Cyprus and Eritrea, committed to encourage the Secretary-General to use his prerogative under Article 99 of the UN Charter to brief the Security Council proactively on emerging issues.

Pledges were made to take human rights violations more seriously as an early warning indicator for potential outbreak of conflict, committing to actively focus on addressing longstanding human rights concerns and grievances. This includes patterns of discrimination and marginalization, recognizing this as a key structural cause of conflict and instability within societies.

Some stakeholders, including Brazil, Liechtenstein and Luxembourg, called on the UN to develop a comprehensive conflict prevention strategy, drawing on the strengths and capacities of all relevant parts of the organization. The European Union committed to intensify its partnership on conflict prevention with the

UN and to work with regional organizations to increase their prevention and mediation capacities. Finland pledged to strengthen the normative basis of mediation and enhance the UN mediation support capacities.

There were several calls on the UN, including from Eritrea, Brazil, France, New Zealand, Ukraine and Iceland, to convene a World Prevention Forum, including a number of specific commitments to hold or support preparatory conferences.

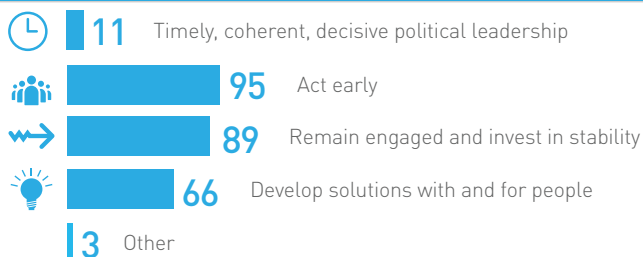
Member States, academic institutions and NGOs committed to learn from past experiences in conflict prevention. Japan pledged to share and demonstrate good practices and lessons learned on conflict prevention and resolution in Asia while the Academic Council on the UN System (ACUNS) will conduct and disseminate special podcast interviews and short analytical articles addressing conflict prevention best practices and lessons learned.

### C. Remain engaged and invest in stability

Many of the 89 commitments supporting engagement and investment in stability addressed root causes of conflict and sought to reduce fragility. Several Member States, including Germany and Sweden, used the occasion of the Summit to re-commit to the Stockholm Declaration on Addressing Fragility and Building Peace in a Changing World.

#### Number of individual and joint commitments per Agenda for Humanity shift or change

  
PREVENT AND  
END CONFLICT  
**264**





A few commitments referenced the need both to prioritize ongoing engagement after a crisis, bringing in development actors and working in a way which will address existing tensions and grievances, and not aggravate these. UN-Habitat, for example, pledged to work more systematically through all stages of a conflict where land is a driver of tension.

Several Member States heeded the Secretary-General's call to increase the skills and capacity of staff working on conflict-related issues. Ethiopia, Eritrea, Switzerland and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) committed to further improve the number or skills of staff working on conflict analysis, prevention and resolution. The European Union pledged to increase expert capacity in its delegations in conflict-affected and fragile states.

Both France and Brazil committed to establish contact groups or group of friends, when possible and feasible, at the onset of a crisis and use their political leverage for continued support through to post-conflict reconstruction.

Several commitments were made to support the UN's role in this work. Canada pledged to increase support for UN peace operations and its mediation, conflict-prevention, and post-conflict stabilization efforts. Germany will provide EUR 3 million to the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA) to strengthen its mediation capacities. Switzerland also committed to increase its financial support to the Joint Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention of DPA and the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

Additional financial commitments include Norway's pledge to enhance the capacity of the African Union Commission and its partners to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts by providing funds in the amount of NOK 45 million to the African Union over the next three years.

## **D. Develop solutions with and for people**

66 commitments were put forward to develop solutions to conflicts with and for people. Gender was a prominent theme among these commitments. There was broad-based support both for the women, peace and security agenda and for UN Security Council resolution 1325, as well as pledges from Nordic countries to national women's mediation networks. Japan committed to promote inclusion of women and women's groups into political decision-making and peace processes, while Oxfam promised to partner closely with women's rights organizations on peace and security.

Greater attention to the role of youth in conflict prevention and mitigation was also highlighted, with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) committing by the end of 2017 to compile, research and share global good practice and progress reports on youth contributions to peace and security. Ukraine, Eritrea and Ethiopia committed to establishing a regular national dialogue with youth on conflict issues. Liechtenstein, France and Germany committed to ensure that the role of youth in conflict prevention and peacebuilding is more systematically considered.

Notably, at the Summit, 160 faith-based leaders and representatives of the world's largest humanitarian organizations signed an outcome document which includes commitments from religious leaders to provide humanitarian assistance to all those who need it and to contribute to peace and reconciliation. The commitments highlight the unique and critical role of faith-based actors, both as first-line responders but also key as actors in the promotion of long-term community reconciliation.

## Core Commitment Alignments

**216** STAKEHOLDERS

**7** ROUND TABLES ► **32** CORE COMMITMENTS

**FINANCING:  
INVEST IN HUMANITY**

**POLITICAL LEADERSHIP TO PREVENT  
AND END CONFLICT**

**UPHOLD THE NORMS THAT  
SAFEGUARD HUMANITY**

### AGENDA FOR HUMANITY

#  
stakeholders  
aligned:



**NATURAL DISASTERS AND CLIMATE CHANGE:  
MANAGING RISKS AND CRISES DIFFERENTLY**

**CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES:  
FROM DELIVERING AID TO  
ENDING NEED**

**WOMEN AND GIRLS:  
CATALYZING ACTION TO ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY**

**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND:  
A COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS FORCED DISPLACEMENT**

## CORE RESPONSIBILITY 2

# Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core responsibility 2 generated a wide range of advocacy, policy and operational commitments to strengthen the protection of civilians by enhancing compliance with international law. Commitments broadly focused on ensuring full access to and the protection of humanitarian and medical missions; affirming and promoting respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law and improving compliance and accountability. There were fewer commitments related to speaking out on violations.

The commitments were tailored to stakeholders' individual policy priorities, needs and capacities thereby fulfilling the Secretary-General's call for Member States to use their political and economic leverage to ensure that parties to armed conflict comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

At least 20% of the individual commitments tagged under this core responsibility focused on the prevention of and response to gender-based violence. Another 7% of commitments focused on the use of explosive weapons in populated

areas. A large number of commitments highlighted actions to further protection of civilians, particularly children, and promoted the centrality of protection.

Support for all the core commitments was greatest among Member States, consistent with the fact that the core commitments were formulated to primarily compel Member States' action. A statement led by the United States, and adopted by 48 other Member States affirmed the importance of, and adherence to, international humanitarian law, addressing all five shifts called for in core responsibility 2 of the Agenda for Humanity.

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109 stakeholders supported at least one of the five core commitments under core responsibility 2 and 110 stakeholders made 684 individual and joint commitments.

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Performers get ready for the World Humanitarian Summit opening ceremony in Istanbul, Turkey on May 23, 2016.  
Photo: OCHA / Berk Özkan



## **A. Respect and protect civilians and civilian objects in the conduct of hostilities**

103 individual and joint commitments focused on upholding the fundamental rules of distinction, proportionality and precautions in attack and minimizing the impact on civilians of bombing and shelling in populated areas. Particularly noteworthy was a joint commitment led by Austria and joined by Costa Rica, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mozambique, Spain and Zambia, which aims to limit the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.

Chile, Canada, Eritrea, Fiji, Finland, Geneva Call, Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining, Germany, Norway, the OIC, and Slovenia, amongst others, presented commitments on mine action, many of which focused on promoting the ratification of, and accession to, the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

Additional commitments focused on preventing military use of schools and universities, and also protecting cultural sites and monuments, including by promoting and implementing the Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict.

Member States, such as Austria and Greece, called for greater protection of journalists and other civilians during the conduct of hostilities.

## **B. Ensure full access to and the protection of humanitarian and medical missions**

170 commitments were made to support full access and to take measures to ensure the protection of health facilities and healthcare workers, as well as humanitarians. ACF International pledged to actively pursue within the year the creation of a special rapporteur for the protection of aid workers.

Several stakeholders, such as Belgium, committed to use leverage and influence to prevent and end any arbitrary withholding of consent to impartial humanitarian relief. InterAction and its

63 members committed to advocate for humanitarian exemptions to legal and policy restrictions that deprive vulnerable people of their rights, and inhibit its ability to assist people in need.

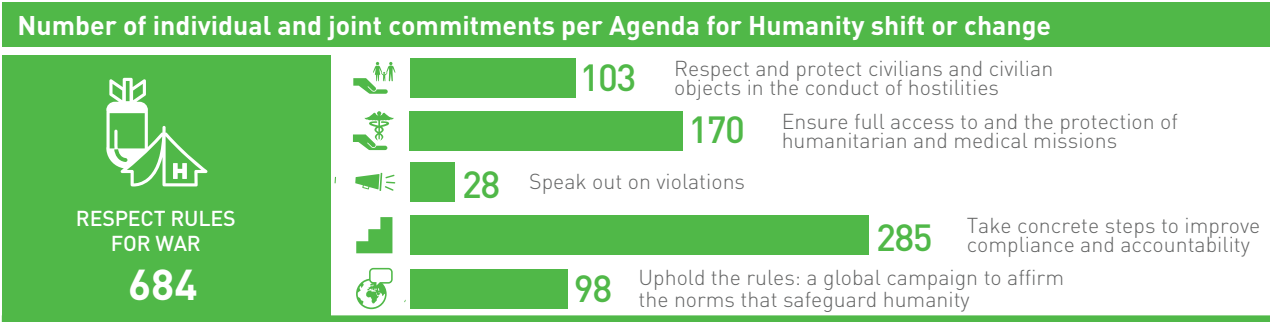
Of the 170 commitments, 58 focused on putting humanitarian principles at the center of humanitarian action. Specifically Chile and Estonia highlighted commitments to humanitarian principles, as did Cordaid, Concern Worldwide and Qatar Charity.

## **C. Speak out on violations**

28 commitments were made to gather facts and systematically condemn serious violations of international humanitarian law. Although this theme garnered a relatively low number of commitments, some noteworthy pledges were made. In particular, Australia committed to speak out and systematically condemn serious violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law and to take concrete steps to ensure accountability of perpetrators when these acts amount to crimes under international law. Cyprus committed to actively support increased efforts to track, collect data, and report on trends of alleged violations of and gaps in compliance with international humanitarian law. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) committed to monitor and report on the impact of armed conflict on humanitarian and healthcare workers and facilities, as well as on other human rights defenders. Several Member States reiterated support for the competence of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission.

## **D. Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability**

285 individual and joint commitments focused on taking concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability to international law. Many of these commitments reiterated a Member States' existing compliance with relevant international law, while others focused on tangible actions such as increased advocacy, capacity-building and the designation of focal points within line ministries to promote respect for international law.



Gender-based violence generated more than 152 commitments including prevention, increased access to education, training, and livelihoods, and response services for survivors, as well as prosecution of perpetrators. Specifically:

- Several Member States pledged support for the United Kingdom-led Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict
- There were new commitments to sign onto and/or promote the Call for Action on Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies, including by Concern Worldwide, France and Luxembourg. Additionally, the United States pledge US\$ 12.5 million in 2016 in support of the Safe from the Start Initiative which will help implement the Call to Action.
- Some stakeholders – in particular the International Organization for Migration (IOM), InterAction and the United Kingdom - committed to considerably increasing efforts to combat sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian actors.

At least 19 Member States pledged to continue to support and promote cooperation with the International Criminal Court. Multiple commitments focused specifically on capacity-building or training on international humanitarian law for police, military or agencies' own staff. Several of these training programs had a particular focus on gender-based violence and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Several Member States committed to promote implementation of the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes and to

urge the permanent members of the Security Council to refrain from using their veto in the face of mass atrocities.

**E. Uphold the rules:  
a global campaign to affirm the norms  
that safeguard humanity**

The majority of the 98 commitments under the shift calling for a global campaign to affirm the norms that safeguard humanity focused on Member States pledging to adhere to and further promote core instruments. For example, as part of a joint commitment initiated by Austria and Chile, Canada pledged to continue to promote ratification of and accession to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention by states. Costa Rica reiterated its national commitment to work for the effective implementation and universalization of the Arms Trade Treaty.

Several Member States including Chile, Finland, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Ireland and Romania, committed to engage in the intergovernmental process as set out in Resolution 2 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2015.

Ukraine offered to host, with donor support, a meeting of Member States and experts on the implementation of international humanitarian law. Additionally, the United Kingdom committed to ratifying the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two Protocols by 2017. Another joint initiative brought together Andorra, Austria, Mexico, Nicaragua, Samoa and El Salvador to continue the humanitarian initiative for a world free of nuclear weapons.

## CORE RESPONSIBILITY 3

## Leave No One Behind

Commitments under core responsibility 3 include those related to displacement and gender equality as well as connecting business, education, disability, and young people.

### A. Reduce and address displacement

There was a clear consensus that forced displacement, in addition to being a humanitarian challenge was also a political, development and human rights one and that a new approach is needed to address and work to reduce displacement. This new approach should aim at meeting the humanitarian needs of the displaced, while also reducing vulnerability and increasing the self-reliance and resilience of the refugees, IDPs and host communities. Member States (including those with large numbers of displaced), financial institutions, the private sector, UN and other humanitarian and development partners made strong commitments in support of that approach. The need for more equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing was highlighted. The importance of upholding and strengthening the implementation of protection frameworks for refugees and IDPs was also repeatedly stressed.

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100 stakeholders supported at least one of the five core commitments related to displacement with the core commitment to establish a new approach to forced displacement receiving the highest number of alignments. This new approach calls for addressing immediate and longer-term needs. Of the 854 individual commitments linked to core responsibility 3, 347 specifically focused on displacement.

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Individual commitments on the new approach to displacement were made by Hungary, the Tent Foundation, and Greece amongst others. Multiple stakeholders committed to address the root causes of displacement and seek durable solutions. Commitments were also made towards supporting and reinforcing the Solutions Alliance as a central platform for collaborative action in support of solutions to protracted displacement.

Particularly noteworthy commitments include pledges from Brazil, Canada and the United States to resettle more refugees. Canada's target for 2016 is to resettle 44,800 refugees from around the world. This is triple the number of refugees Canada has settled in recent years.

Climate-induced displacement emerged as a recurrent theme. Fiji was joined by Brazil, Canada, Germany, Switzerland and others to issue commitments supporting the Platform on Disaster Displacement.

While displacement commitments focused more on refugees than IDPs, some significant IDP-focused commitments included new policies and approaches, integration of IDPs in national development plans, access to education, development and implementation of regional frameworks, and improved data collection. Several commitments from Ethiopia, Uganda, Finland, Switzerland, RET International and the Norwegian Refugee Committee aimed to strengthen the application of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (the Kampala Convention). Uganda committed to host a secretariat for the Convention with international support.



Several Member States with significant displaced populations - Colombia, Philippines, Somalia, Ukraine – committed to action at the Summit. As an example, Ukraine pledged to expand opportunities for refugees and persons in need of protection to access education, health care, livelihoods and other services.

Foundation Cristosal committed to advocate and work cooperatively with regional actors for the fulfillment of an agreement between the Central American Integration System and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to create a regional observatory on forced displacement. Right To Play pledged to prioritize solutions that improve the self-reliance and resilience of IDPs and host communities, including by implementing programming that promotes life skills development and ensures meaningful participation to support children and youth to become active agents of change in their own development.

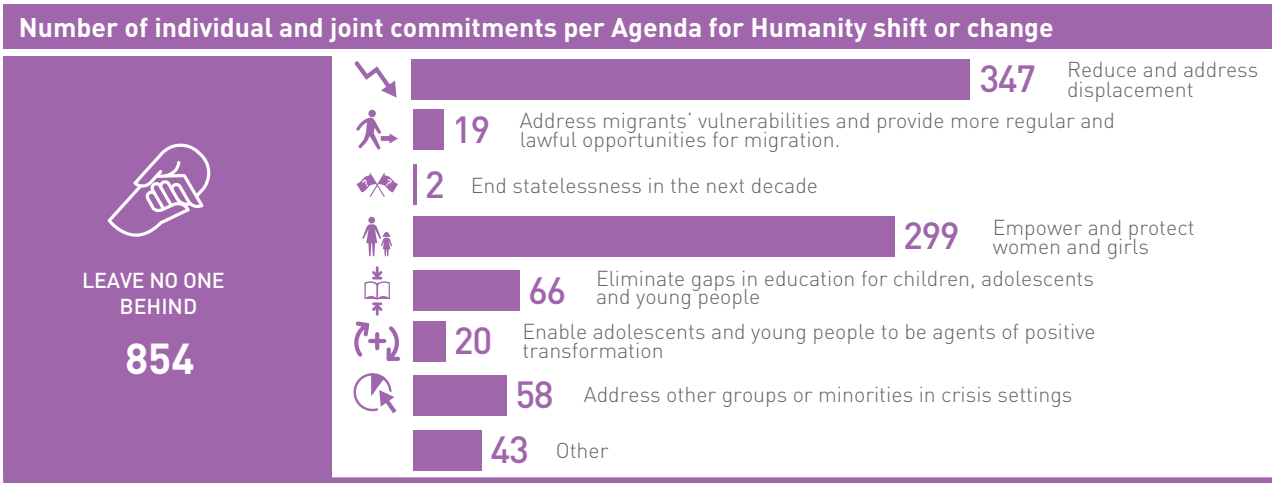
There were several pledges to assist refugee-hosting countries, including for a new Financing Initiative to Support the Middle East and North Africa Region jointly developed by the World Bank Group, the UN and the Islamic Development Bank, which aims to increase concessionality for US\$ 4 billion-worth of loans to Jordan and Lebanon. Several commitments focused on addressing displacement referred to as ‘responsibility-sharing’, with many acknowledging the global public good provided by countries and communities which are hosting large number of refugees.

Several stakeholders committed to catalyze global efforts to address forced displacement through active participation in the preparations for and proceedings of the General Assembly’s high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants on 19 September 2016 and the Leaders Summit on Refugees on 20 September 2016; these commitments aimed at galvanizing new and significant support from Member States for financing, refugee resettlement and admissions, and increasing refugees self-reliance and inclusion.

Individual and joint commitments included more than several billion US dollars in financial pledges from Austria, Canada, Germany, Japan, Norway and the Global Business Coalition for Education.

**B. Address migrants’ vulnerabilities and provide more regular and lawful opportunities for migration**

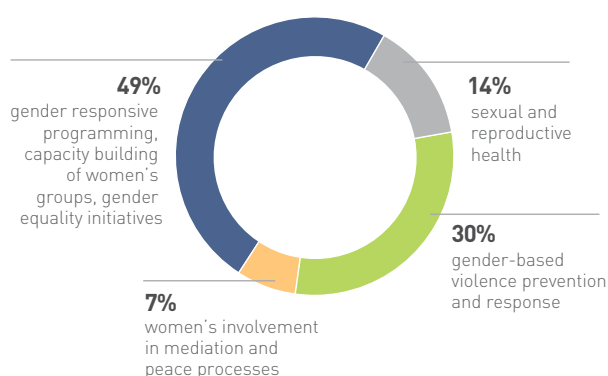
A number of stakeholders took the opportunity of the Summit to stress the particular vulnerabilities of migrants in crisis situations and the need for them to be adequately addressed as part of the humanitarian response, presenting 19 individual commitments. Some commitments focused on further discussing this issue in the aforementioned General Assembly high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants.



## C. End statelessness in the next decade

Statelessness received the lowest number of individual commitments. As many as 10 million people around the world are denied a nationality- often a prerequisite for the enjoyment of a full range of human rights. As a result, stateless people may have difficulty accessing education, healthcare, employment and freedom of movement. Despite the pressing need to end statelessness, individual commitments in support of the topic were few. Particularly noteworthy was UNHCR's pledge to champion an end to statelessness by 2024 (the #IBelong Campaign) and to support Member States in their efforts to end statelessness.

### 509 individual and joint commitments related to women and girls



## D. Empower and protect women and girls

Gender equality and women and girls' empowerment emerged as an overarching theme of the Summit. Of all 32 core commitments, the core commitment to ensure humanitarian programming is gender-responsive received the third highest number of endorsements. Significant commitments were generated to combat structural and behavioral barriers to gender inequality, ensure women and girls' empowerment and secure their rights, and align funding and programming to gender equality principles. Financial support to women's groups was pledged by several Member States and other stakeholders.

111 stakeholders supported at least one of the five core commitments related to gender. In addition to the 446 individual and joint commitments made in support of the High-Level Leaders' Roundtable on Women and Girls: Catalyzing Action to Achieve Gender Equality, a desire to see improved gender outcomes was expressed in commitments made across the other six roundtables. Another 63 gender-related individual and joint commitments were linked to other roundtables.

A large number of commitments pledged to draw on the skills and expertise of local women and women's groups and empower them as central actors, leaders, and agents of change. Chile committed to ensuring 20% participation of women in peacebuilding processes by 2020. Liechtenstein committed to promoting the inclusion and meaningful participation of at least 30% and ideally 50% of women in leadership roles in any peace process.

A scale-up in assistance and support to women's groups was highlighted by multiple stakeholders. On behalf of the MIKTA group of countries – Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea and Turkey – Australia committed to work closely with local and national women's groups to provide them with practical support to increase their capacity to deliver in humanitarian settings. The Oak Foundation pledged to provide 10% of its annual budget to local and national women's groups.

UN agencies and NGOs committed to increasing the percentage of their implementing partners that are women's groups. For example, ActionAid committed to ensuring at least 50% of its implementing partners in humanitarian action are women-led or women's organizations by 2020.

Several stakeholders committed to applying a gender lens, utilizing sex and age disaggregated data, and instituting mechanisms for incorpo-



rating women and girl's engagement in their programming. Australia, Austria, the European Union, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland committed to systematic use of the gender marker in all project proposals as criteria for funding. Germany, amongst others, committed that funding will be allocated only to actions that explicitly include a gender analysis with sex and age disaggregated data by 2018.

A number of Member States highlighted the importance of sexual and reproductive health for women and girls. In total 70 individual commitments focused on sexual and reproductive health. In particular, Myanmar committed to rolling out the Minimum Initial Services Package (MISP) within 48 hours of an emergency, by 2017. Switzerland declared sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights a foreign policy priority. Cordaid, on behalf of Jeune S3, pledging to spend resources on sexual and reproductive health in French-speaking Africa in the next five years.

A number of commitments were made to ensure refugees, IDPs, and migrant women and girls could access services and meaningfully engage in program design and decision-making processes. Trocaire committed to prioritise the equal participation of women and girls to inform solutions that protect and respond to their specific needs.

A number of existing initiatives were supported through new commitments. As an example, France, Myanmar, the Netherlands, RET International, Spain, Sumitomo Chemical, the Women's Refugee Commission, UNFPA, UN Women and World Vision committed to support the Secretary-General's Every Woman Every Child (EWEC) initiative and corresponding roadmap, working to end all preventable deaths of women and adolescent girls in crisis settings. As an example, in support of the EWEC, the UN Foundation's Nothing but Nets campaign and Sumitomo Chemical are delivering on a joint commitment to provide 1 million of Sumitomo Chemical's Olyset Nets to refugees and IDPs by the end of 2016. The nets are being distributed by UN agencies operating in emergency and conflict settings.

## E. Eliminate gaps in education for children, adolescents and young people

The need for access to quality education in displacement settings was highlighted by many as an area for urgent action. 66 commitments were made to work towards quality education in emergency contexts.

Fifty-seven organizations expressed support for Education Cannot Wait, a new global fund that will deliver quality education to all children and youth even in the toughest of circumstances. US\$ 90 million was committed to Education Cannot Wait from Dubai Cares, the European Commission, Norway, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Netherlands. The Global Business Coalition for Education announced the mobilization of an additional US\$ 100 million in financial and relevant in-kind contributions for the Education Cannot Wait fund.

The European Union committed to allocate 4% of its humanitarian aid budget to education in emergencies. Norway committed that from its humanitarian assistance globally, at least 8% will be allocated to education in emergencies in the current parliamentary period.

## F. Enable adolescents and young people to be agents of positive transformation

More than 30 partners – Member States, NGOs, UN agencies and the private sector entities—signed a historic Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action at the World Humanitarian Summit. This compact aims to guarantee that the humanitarian system addresses the priorities and participation of young people and focuses on the following key areas:

- Make humanitarian programmes contribute to the protection, health and development of young women, young men, girls and boys.
- Support systematic engagement and partnership with youth in all phases of humanitarian action, especially decision-making and budget allocations.



A woman receives sorghum and oil at a food distribution point in South Sudan. One billion people with physical and/or mental disabilities worldwide are among the most marginalized in crisis-affected communities, disproportionately impacted by disasters and conflict. Honouring the Summit's commitment to leave no one behind requires reaching everyone in situations of conflict, disasters, vulnerability and risk. Photo: OCHA/Jacob Zocherman.

- Strengthen young people's capacities to be effective humanitarian actors, and support local youth-led initiatives and organizations in humanitarian response.
- Increase resources to address the needs and priorities of adolescents and youth affected by humanitarian crises and use the new gender and age marker for better tracking and reporting.
- Generate and systematically use age- and sex-disaggregated data relevant to young people in humanitarian context.

## G. Address other groups or minorities in crisis settings

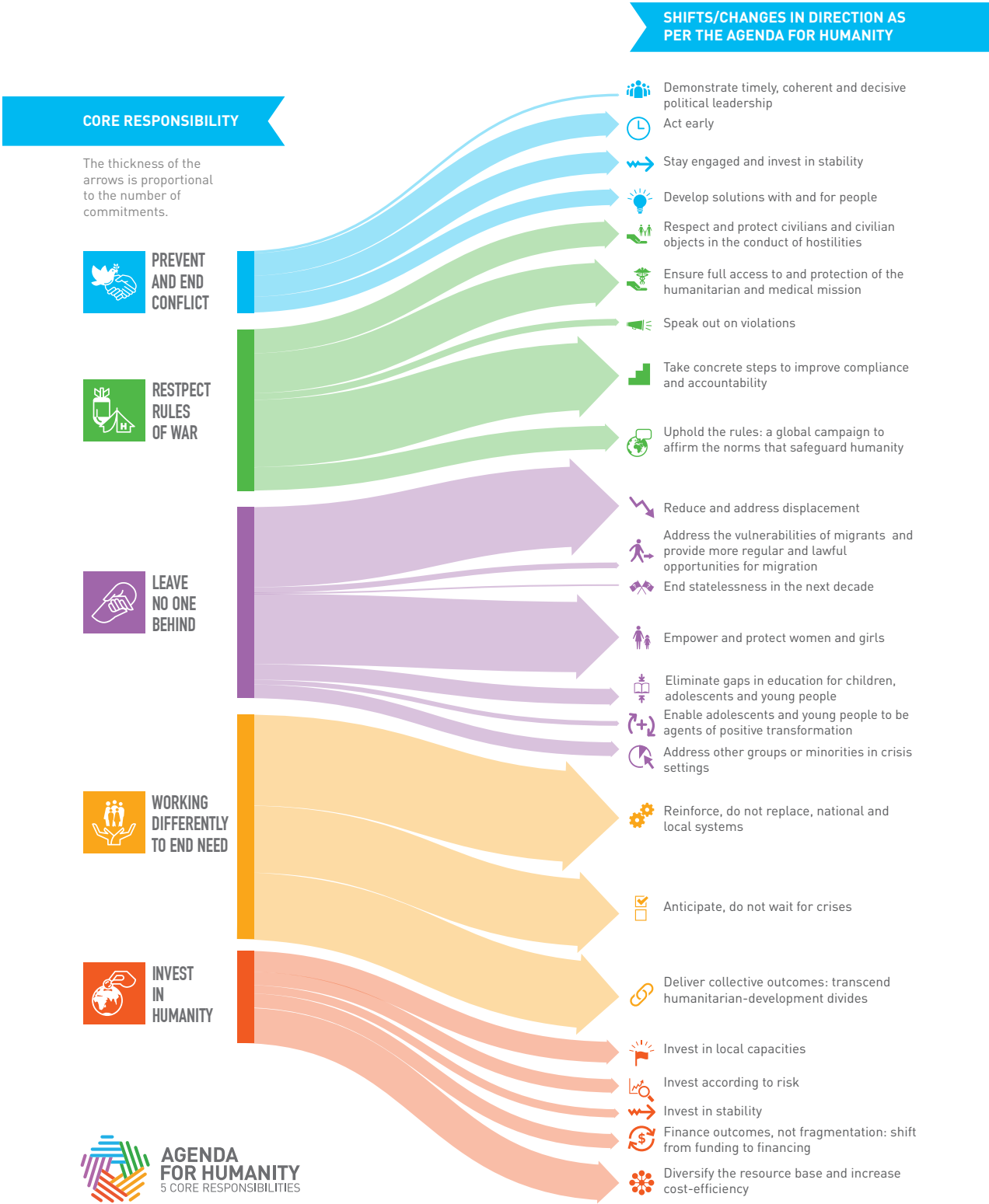
As of August 2016 the Charter on the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action has been endorsed by over 140 humanitarian and human rights networks and organisations, networks of organisations of persons with disabilities, UN agencies and Member States.

As well as endorsing the Charter, participants put forward commitments to develop global guidelines on disability inclusion in humanitarian action, increase data collection, improve access to services and assistance, ensure technical and financial cooperation, and foster partnerships with local and national organizations representing persons with disabilities. A number of operational actors committed to disaggregate data not only by gender and age, but also by type of physical impairment.

Donors and implementing partners pledged to update their humanitarian policies and strategic frameworks to ensure the needs of people with disabilities are fully taken into account in their crisis response policies.

Several stakeholders committed to increase the participation of persons with disabilities in humanitarian decision-making and planning, including in assessment and coordination mechanisms.

# NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL AND JOINT COMMITMENTS PER AGENDA FOR HUMANITY SHIFT OR CHANGE



Please note this graphic does not depict commitments labelled as "Other."

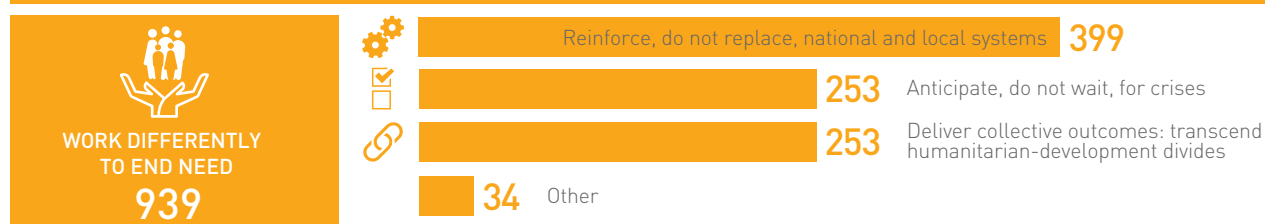
## CORE RESPONSIBILITY 4

## Changing People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need<sup>4</sup>

The Summit generated unprecedented support for a new way of working that meets people's immediate needs, while at the same time reducing humanitarian needs, risk and vulnerability. To transform this into reality, some 939 commitments were made across the two roundtables associated with core responsibility 4; Changing People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need and Natural Disasters and Climate Change: Managing Risks and Crises Differently, as well as other related special sessions and side events. Individual and joint commitments focused on investing in and building on the capacities of local and national actors, including people and communities directly affected by crises and adopting more joined-up approaches between humanitarian and development action, among a range of issues. Disaster risk reduction, early warning, early action and disaster preparedness emerged as a central theme in many of the commitments. Multiple partners highlighted their intentions to invest more in data and risk analysis.

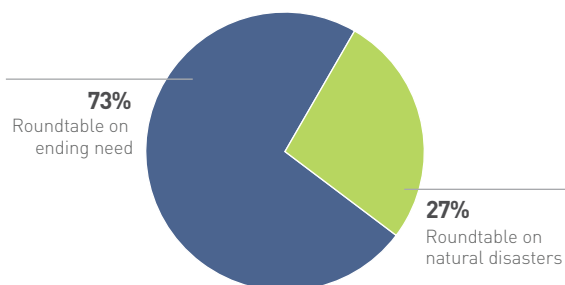
For the ending need roundtable, 117 stakeholders supported at least one of the two core commitments and 686 individual or joint commitments were captured to date. Of all 32 core commitments, the core commitment on a new way of working that meets people's immediate needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability received the highest number of alignments. Resilience building featured heavily in all related commitments. For the roundtable on natural disasters, 106 stakeholders supported at least one of the five core commitments related to disasters and climate change and 253 individual or joint commitments were collected to date in support of this topic.

### Number of individual and joint commitments per Agenda for Humanity shift or change



<sup>4</sup> This core responsibility includes the commitments related to the new way of working, disasters and climate change, putting people at the center, delivering collective outcomes, risk and vulnerability, innovation, regional organizations, health and urban response.

**939 individual or joint commitments relate to core responsibility 4**



**A. Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems**

There were 399 commitments demonstrating support for making ‘as local as possible, as international as necessary’ the de facto rule for crisis response, including a number of pledges to strengthen regional capacities and diversify partnerships. The most significant support came from NGOs, with many identifying strongly with the proposed shifts towards a more people-centered and localized approach. These commitments are further reinforced by commitments made under core responsibility 5 to increase direct funding for local actors and to invest in their capacities.

Many stakeholders committed to investing in community resilience and first-line response, for which there was strong endorsement for the full and effective participation of women and other groups, including several concrete pledges. As example, Afghan Aid committed to strengthen the resilience of 450 communities in Afghanistan against natural disasters and climate change, by 2018.

There was a strong emphasis on local and national capacity-building. A range of stakeholders including Luxembourg, France, the OIC Secretariat, the Humanitarian Leadership

Academy, Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation and others made multiple concrete commitments to invest in the capacity and ability of frontline responders.

Another major trend was the important acknowledgement, by Member States and other stakeholders, of the potentially transformative power of cash-based programming, particularly in empowering affected people. 99 individual commitments including from Switzerland, Germany, Islamic Relief, Tearfund and MasterCard International, as well as other actors, focused on scaling-up cash programming and funding in humanitarian crises, and using multi-purpose cash transfers, where feasible.<sup>5</sup>

At least 15 stakeholders emphasized the importance of extending and improving social protection systems. These include Ethiopia, FAO, France, the International Labor Organization, Italy, Ireland and the World Food Program (WFP).

A number of actors, including Denmark, France, the Nigerian Economic Summit Group and UN agencies - including the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and UNDP - made commitments to systematically mainstream gender sensitive projects in building community resilience, scale-up the collection, analysis and dissemination of sex- and age-disaggregated data on the needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls, and ensure all humanitarian responses are informed by gender analyses for outcomes dictated by need, context and gender sensitivity.

The Principles of Partnerships were reaffirmed by several stakeholders, including the People’s Disaster Risk Reduction Network and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies. Thirty international NGOs endorsed the Charter4Change, which commits them to fully implement eight commitments related to way in which organizations work with, relate to and fund national and local actors in humanitarian action.

<sup>5</sup> Commitments on cash programming can also be linked to core responsibility 5, Invest in Humanity



### ***Put People at the Centre: Build Community Resilience***

Accountability to affected people was an important theme in the commitments under core responsibility 4 and throughout the Summit, demonstrating a clear recognition that people are the central agents of their lives and are the first and last responders to any crisis. 45 stakeholders made individual commitments related to accountability to affected people.<sup>6</sup>

As a means of promoting accountability, multiple stakeholders committed to adopt the Core Humanitarian Standard, International Aid Transparency Initiative Standard, and the IASC statement on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation at the individual agency level.

Noteworthy individual commitments include the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network's pledge to create an Asian Local Resilience Forum to strengthen the capacity of local actors. The UN Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) committed to establishing a common platform to strengthen communication and community engagement.

Turkcell adopted the GSMA-led Humanitarian Connectivity Charter for mobile network operators and pledged to make mobile services more accessible to those affected by crises through the provision of free or subsidized network access.

ESOA and the GVF launched the Crisis Connectivity Charter to facilitate communications between those responding to humanitarian emergencies including affected communities.

## **B. Anticipate, do not wait, for crises**

There was clear recognition that national and international actors need to focus more of their financial and human resources on increasing preparedness and reducing vulnerability rather than on costly crisis response and post-conflict interventions. Consequently, there was broad support for all five core commitments related to the Roundtable on Natural Disasters and Climate Change: Managing Risks and Crises Differently.<sup>106</sup> stakeholders supported at least one of the five core commitments related to disasters and climate change and 253 individual and joint commitments were collected to date in support of this topic.

The commitments demonstrated a strong willingness to invest more in disaster preparedness, including early warning, risk analysis and capacity strengthening, including of national actors.

Multiple stakeholders, including Costa Rica, Turkey, Finland, Norway, Mexico, Japan and Italy, reaffirmed their commitment to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Notably, there was broad support for the new global preparedness partnership led by the Vulnerable Twenty (20) Group of Ministers of Finance of the Climate Vulnerable Forum. The objective of the partnership is to strengthen national and local emergency management systems in a first set of 20 countries, so they attain a minimum level of readiness by 2020.

There were significant numbers of commitments relating to disaster risk reduction. Brazil, Japan, the European Union, and the Japan CSO Coalition for Disaster Risk Reduction committed to investing in early warning and early action mechanisms.

<sup>6</sup> Some of the commitments highlighted in this section were made verbally at the WHS.

Disaster and climate-induced displacement was highlighted as a growing concern. There was a call for an international mechanism and legal framework for the protection of these displaced populations. Eritrea committed to strengthen measures to prevent and avoid disaster-induced displacement by integrating this risk into climate change adaptation and disaster risk management strategies. Fiji pledged to reduce vulnerability and address displacement risk through its Integrated Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment Tool.

The Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) made a political commitment to actively engage with other Member States so that the appointment of a Special Representative on Climate and Security can be one of the lasting legacies of the World Humanitarian Summit.

Multiple actors made commitments to address climate change. Costa Rica committed to

increase its investment on climate data including by improving the hydro-meteorological network and early warning system.

Significantly, Japan committed to provide US\$ 4 billion to disaster risk reduction whereas the United Kingdom committed to invest £5.8 billion over the next 5 years to tackle climate change. Switzerland promised to dedicate one-sixth of its total humanitarian budget to disaster risk reduction and resilience building.

The private sector also offered tangible commitments. For example, the UPS Foundation committed to invest in risk analysis and to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact and frequency of known risks and hazards on people. DHL committed to extend its long-standing partnership with the UN to build up better airport preparedness structures in countries exposed to risk and assist airport logistics during crises.



A woman listens to Radio Lego Ti la Ouaka at the Sangaria site for IDPs in the Central African Republic. The Summit marked a major shift in humanitarian action to truly empower affected people as the driving force of any humanitarian response. Affected people must be consistently engaged and involved in decision-making, ensuring participation by women at all levels. Photo: OCHA/Gemma Cortes..

### *Risk and Vulnerability Analysis<sup>7</sup>*

Multiple commitments were made to support better data, assessments and risk analysis so that the humanitarian system moves from a supply-driven approach to one driven by addressing the greatest risks and needs of the most vulnerable.

More than 50 organizations committed to support the UNDP-led Global Risk Platform that aims to bring together risk experts from all fields to synthesize analysis into multi-risk data and information.

Commitments received during the Special Session on Risk and Vulnerability Analysis recognized the need of increased understanding of the complexity of risk issues and resulted in the emergence of strong partnerships to support the establishment of the Global Risk Platform.

Catholic Relief Services committed to including risk analysis and the integration of risk reduction, mitigation and/or response plans into all new development and humanitarian programming by 2020.

## **C. Deliver collective outcomes: transcend humanitarian-development divides**

253 individual and joint commitments broadly addressed improved working with a greater diversity of partners, toward shared results. Many specifically highlighted better collaboration between humanitarian and development actors.

A Commitment to Action was signed by the Secretary-General and seven UN agencies (WHO, UNDP, WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA,

OCHA), and endorsed by the World Bank and IOM to implement a “new way of working” that meets people’s immediate humanitarian needs while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability by working together towards collective outcomes over multiple-year time frames and based on comparative advantage in each context.

Several Member States including Ireland, the Netherlands and Switzerland, as well as several UN agencies, also committed to enabling shared analysis of needs and risks and shared planning between humanitarian and development sectors, to better align humanitarian and development planning tools and interventions while respecting the principles of both.

IMPACT Initiatives, UNOSAT and ACTED committed to generating evidence and contextual understanding as a basis for decision-making, aid planning and delivery, in both protracted and sudden onset crises, including in hard-to-reach areas. There was a widespread recognition of the need to reduce levels of humanitarian need by working across mandates, sectors and institutional boundaries to achieve collective outcomes for people affected by crises. Many commitments highlighted the importance of considering humanitarian principles and preserving emergency capacity in humanitarian action. For example, recognizing the rising severity and number of humanitarian emergencies, the International Rescue Committee commits to dedicate resources to respond concurrently to four emergencies and support survival at scale within 72 hours of breaking crises, by 2020.

Some commitments stood out for their intention to break the cycle of protracted crises by introducing crisis modifiers to switch from humanitarian and development funding and back. The United States committed to supporting the World Bank’s intent to establish a platform and to introduce a mechanism to prompt regular review of and a shift to development programming in protracted crises.

<sup>7</sup> Some of the commitments highlighted in this section were made verbally at the WHS.

## Related Initiatives under Core Responsibility 4

### *Global Alliance on Humanitarian Innovation<sup>8</sup>*

There was a clear desire for innovation to become a bedrock of humanitarian assistance. Twenty-eight organizations expressed intent to join the Global Alliance for Humanitarian Innovation (GAHI).

Denmark pledged to support the GAHI with DKK 2 million and Australia pledged to provide US\$ 450,000 over three years to support the secretariat of the GAHI. The Humanitarian Leadership Academy committed to investing over 50% of its total budget to identify and incubate new, innovative solutions in humanitarian learning.

### *Regional Organizations Humanitarian Action Network*

The importance of regional organizations was also highlighted by multiple actors. Thirteen regional organizations committed to the establishment of the Regional Organizations Humanitarian Action Network (ROHAN). Members announced their intention to:

- deepen cooperation within ROHAN and externally with other key humanitarian actors;
- further humanitarian principles and international humanitarian law;
- reinforce local systems; and
- invest in and share data and risk analysis.

Specifically, the OIC Secretariat committed to work with its Member States to develop

a network of crisis management centers to facilitate bilateral and regional cooperation in preparedness and response and to share lessons through ROHAN. The Overseas Development Institute committed to continuing to serve as the secretariat for ROHAN.

### *Global Health*

Fifty-five entities – Member States, international organizations, NGOs, civil society, and the private sector – registered support for a coherent collective action to address health action in crises. There were 72 individual commitments made to address better health outcomes; preparedness for response to infectious hazards and outbreaks; access to essential health service package and better quality resourcing for health in crises.

Highlights of the commitments and alignments include support for global health security as a shared strategic concern with an imperative to strengthen the international architecture for health action, including a leading role for World Health Organization (WHO). Better preparedness, enabling all crisis affected people to access a basic healthcare package, and expanding practical capacities to deliver this are the other key operational priorities, in the context of much greater investment in national health systems.

There were numerous references to the Ebola crisis throughout the Summit and pledges by Member States and others to prioritize health interventions, including for HIV, tuberculosis and malaria as chronic health problems.

<sup>8</sup> Some commitments noted in this section were expressed verbally at the Summit.

### *Global Alliance for Urban Crisis*

Crises increasingly take place in urban areas and consequently, there is a need to expand partnerships and ways of working to better meet the humanitarian needs of urban residents. The Summit saw the launch of the Global Alliance for Urban Crisis, a partnership bringing together over 65 organizations of local government networks, humanitarian and development actors and professional associations to affect a fundamental shift in humanitarian action in towns and cities.

51 individual commitments were made in support of the Global Alliance or more generally focused on urban-related issues. Commitments aimed to increase humanitarian actors' access to expert advice on urban issues, on building urban resilience, and on adopting humanitarian tools and practices to urban settings. As an example, World Vision committed to strengthen its institutional capacity for response to urban humanitarian crises by ensuring a basic understanding of urban contexts for staff engaging in urban crisis response by 2020 and to tailor humanitarian response to the urban context by developing shared assessment and profiling tools, promoting joint analysis, and adapting coordination mechanisms.

The Royal Institute of British Architects and its partners will build a 'UK Built Environment Advisory' to provide the international humanitarian and development community with specific expertise (i.e. architects, engineers and town planners) for strategic policy-making and technical capacity in the field.

The Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP) committed to furthering understanding of urban contexts through research and by working to meet the growing needs around evidence and knowledge management of urban contexts.

### *Connecting Business*

Forty-three organizations expressed support for the Connecting Business initiative which aims to facilitate private sector engagement in disaster reduction, preparedness, response and recovery. The role of the private sector was highlighted throughout the Summit, with concrete commitments made to better harness the full potential and partnership with the private sector, including in displacement contexts or through cash-based programming.

The UPS Foundation committed to partnering with the Connecting Business initiative to establish a private sector-led network for Turkey and the region and to replicate the program in Mexico and Central America. Other private sector actors that announced support to the initiative include Ericsson, Deloitte, Deutsche Post DHL Group, Salesforce, Hewlett Packard, Conrad Hilton Foundation, Henry Schein and Vantage Partners.

The Philippines Disaster Recovery Foundation committed to set up and advise networks globally and in the Asia Pacific region. Additionally, the Madagascar Private Sector Humanitarian Platform committed to support the creation and strengthening of national private sector-led networks in the Africa region.

On behalf of partners in Sri Lanka, Capital Maharaja announced the formation of an Alliance for Disaster Risk Management and the intent to work with the Connecting Business initiative to implement a multi-sectoral mechanism.

Three Member States and one private sector organization committed funding to the initiative totaling US\$ 1.2 million (equal to 50% of its projected annual budget).





CORE RESPONSIBILITY 5

Invest in Humanity

The commitments related to core responsibility 5 underscored the Secretary-General’s call that to deliver on the aforementioned core responsibilities there must be much greater investment in humanity: in local capacities, in reducing and acting on risk, in increasing stability in fragile contexts, and in increasing the scale and efficiency of financial resources.

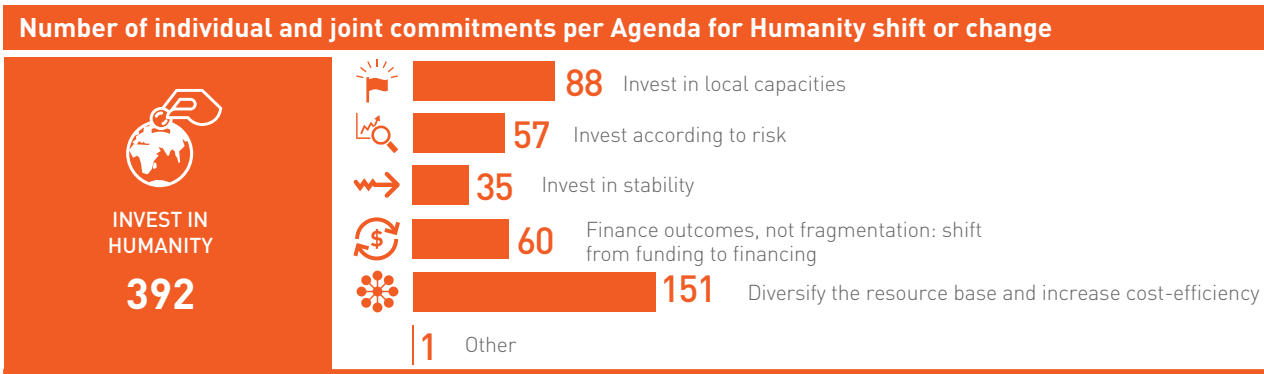
The Summit also emphasized that the quantity, diversity and quality of humanitarian funding needs to be increased in order to meet urgent humanitarian needs and reduce human suffering. There was also a strong push to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian action, including by empowering national and local humanitarian actors and channeling funding to them as directly as possible. Significant commitments were also made to increase flexible and predictable funding, develop multi-year financing solutions, and scale-up the use of cash-based programming.

103 stakeholders supported at least one of the five core commitments under core responsibility 5 and 392 individual or joint commitments were catalogued from 89 stakeholders.

A. Invest in local capacities

88 commitments were made to strengthen or empower local NGOs and frontline responders. There was strong and broad-based support among Member States, UN agencies and international NGOs for increasing the agency of and securing predictable funding for local actors in responding to and recovering from crisis. The Grand Bargain includes a commitment to channel 25% of financing to national and local responders as directly as possible by 2020. Oxfam will pass at least 30% of its own humanitarian funding directly to local NGOs by May 2018 and introduce its partners to its donors so they can directly access funding. By 2018, in collaboration with Start Network partners, Christian Aid will significantly strengthen the humanitarian capacities of at least 100 local and national NGOs. Sweden committed to increasing the share of Sida’s humanitarian support which is channeled to local organizations and first responders, including through support to country-based pooled funds. New Zealand committed to strengthen the core capacities of regional organizations in South East Asia and the Pacific.

A key joint commitment was the Charter4Change signed by 30 international NGOs and more than 100 national NGOs that, among other components, includes the commitment to increase direct funding to southern NGOs for humanitarian action by at least 20% by May 2018.



There were several concrete commitments for scaling-up and more systematically considering the use of cash transfers in conjunction with national social protection schemes. Commitments on cash were made by a variety of stakeholders, with technical solutions pledged by the private sector.<sup>9</sup> Innovative new partnerships were announced between humanitarians and private sector financial and technology companies. For example GSMA, MasterCard, WEF and Ericsson committed to lend their expertise in digital payments, mobile money and other areas to help meet people's needs more quickly and efficiently.

## B. Invest according to risk

Commitments in support of investing according to risk focused on helping at-risk countries and regions develop early warning systems, supporting the development of disaster insurance and collecting evidence to ensure that investments in preparedness focused on the most at-risk areas, and support for community resilience.

Among the 57 individual and joint commitments was strong support for working with governments on a range of risk financing mechanisms, including insurance and mobilizing climate finance. Japan committed to make use of various financial schemes to promote better disaster response and recovery using as an example its Post Disaster Stand-by Loan to the Philippines in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan.

In addition, several Member States committed to increasing resources to risk management. For example, Switzerland committed to allocate one-sixth of its international humanitarian aid budget to disaster prevention and preparedness interventions and initiatives between 2017 and 2020.

The World Bank announced the establishment of a Global Financing Response Platform which would provide long-term, extremely low-interest development projects to address fragility. Support to this platform, as well as for a range of international preparedness and climate initiatives, was pledged by several stakeholders.

### Number of stakeholders pledging individual and joint commitments per core responsibility



The UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) committed to develop a program of action to increase the knowledge and confidence in risk financing, including how it links to preparedness and response.

## C. Invest in stability

Investing in stability received 35 individual and joint commitments in support of its implementation. However, several commitments related to investing in stability were made in relation to other core responsibilities- including financing for education in emergencies, support to refugee hosting countries and funds to increase the mediation capacities of the UN.

Multilateral development banks committed to close collaboration in order to generate more evidence and data to guide solutions in fragile states with an objective of promoting economic resilience.

Concrete commitments include Malta targeting a percentage of its official development assistance (ODA) to situations of fragility and to support national and local capacity-building in vulnerable countries. Ukraine promised to work with partners to establish a Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Peacebuilding and Recovery in Ukraine.

<sup>9</sup> Commitments to scale-up cash programming were largely cataloged under core responsibility 4, Ending Need.



Children perform during the closing ceremony of the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey on May 24, 2016.  
Photo:OCHA /Metin Pala

#### **D. Finance outcomes, not fragmentation: shift from funding to financing**

60 individual and joint commitments were made to shift from funding to financing with several stakeholders pledging to employ a fuller range of financial options. For example, Start Labs commits to continue exploring the benefits of alternative funding mechanisms, such as social impact investing, and their applications to humanitarianism in order to bring new innovations to humanitarian financing. Sweden committed to expanding preventative and risk-driven public-private partnerships, from development budgets such as through risk insurance and social protection.

The Republic of Korea, France, and Malta pledged to expand support to country-based pooled funds. In addition, the United States, a donor that has not previously channeled humanitarian funding through these mechanisms, committed to begin such funding on a pilot basis by 2017.

The humanitarian-development nexus drew strong support. For example, Turkey will continue to strengthen the ongoing coordination among its national institutions in charge of development and humanitarian assistance in order to ensure the planning and distribution of financial resources in a most efficient and effective manner. The recognition that players traditionally focused on development situations should play a stronger role earlier in the continuum was clearly recognized through commitments to expand lending and related advising, so as to promote economic resilience by financing increased infrastructure needs and related services, stimulating entrepreneurship and strengthening education and health systems.

#### **E. Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency**

151 individual and joint commitments were made to diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency. These were made as part of broader support to the Grand Bargain and with

a focus on expanding the donor base, strengthening the CERF, making humanitarian aid more transparent, and ensuring funding is delivered more flexibly.

There was broad support from Member States to increase the CERF to US\$ 1 billion. Italy committed to double (from EUR 1 to 2 million) its contributions to the CERF by 2018. Canada pledged to provide CAD\$ 147 million over five years.

A small number of donors either recommitted to their 2006 pledge to dedicate 0.7% of gross national income (GNI) to ODA or, in the case of Norway, to dedicate 1.1% of GNI to ODA.

Several donors committed to increase the transparency around funding decisions, and pledged to begin or sustain support to the International Aid Transparency Initiative. International NGOs also pledged support, committing to publish information on overhead costs and around implementing partner selection.

A few donors, including the Netherlands, made commitments to streamline and harmonize reporting requirements, reducing the administrative burden on implementing partners. CIVICUS in collaboration with the Netherlands, Mastercard International and Hilton Conrad

launched a Generosity Tracker to track the entirety of financial flows.

There were several measures taken to pre-fund partners and pre-position resources so that response times were reduced when crises struck. Commitments were made to increase resources available for humanitarian action and widen the donor base, including through expanding financing streams and mechanisms, ramping up risk insurance, strengthened partnerships with the private sector, and mobilization of Islamic social finance. Accordingly, Islamic Relief committed to encourage the use of Islamic social finance for humanitarian response.

In the related special session on Islamic social financing,<sup>10</sup> Maybank Islamic and Norwegian Refugee Council announced a global humanitarian waqf (endowment fund) aimed to provide stronger support to displaced people, as well as protracted, underfunded and forgotten emergencies. The Central Bank of Indonesia launched an international standards setting body for Islamic social finance instruments with principles developed in collaboration with the Islamic Development Bank (IDB). The goal is to improve use and governance of zakat (almsgiving) and waqf (endowment fund) for humanitarian action. UNDP and IDB co-established the Global Islamic Finance and Impact Investing Platform.

### Number of stakeholders aligning to one or more core commitment per round table



**216** stakeholders

<sup>10</sup> Some commitments noted here were expressed verbally at the Summit.



# CONCLUSION

This report highlights some of the thousands of commitments generated at the World Humanitarian Summit in support of the Agenda for Humanity. Together the commitments demonstrate the desire of hundreds of stakeholders to work differently to meet and reduce people's humanitarian needs.

There was a clear recognition that a new way of working is required that supports the leadership and capacity of national and local actors; that brings humanitarian and development actors together to work toward collective outcomes that not only meet needs but aims to reduce them; that more needs to be done collectively to prepare for disasters; and that we work differently so we can leverage the diversity of capacities, resources and experience of diverse stakeholders to improve people's safety, dignity and resilience.

A new approach to forced displacement is required to meet the immediate needs of people displaced at the same time as addressing the longer term resilience needs of both displaced and host communities. There was unequivocal support to promote and respect international humanitarian law and international human

rights law, leading to greater compliance and strengthened accountability for violations. And there was an unwavering call to ensure that the rights of women and girls are upheld and that they are empowered to lead and participate in decision-making. The Summit has accelerated the pledge to leave no one behind by launching initiatives and garnering commitments to ensure that women and girls, disabled persons, young people and older people, can actively participate in the planning, design and delivery of programs and have their specific needs and rights systematically met in crises.

Our next responsibility – individually and collectively – is to translate these commitments into meaningful, measurable actions and to continue to advance the Agenda for Humanity. The shared hub for these commitments, PACT, will enable ongoing engagement and offer guidance on making new commitments. In this way, the spirit of collaboration and shared responsibility demonstrated at the World Humanitarian Summit will continue to flourish, helping to transform the lives of the 130 million people living in crisis-affected areas, and reaffirming and renewing our commitment to humanity.



The World Humanitarian Summit convened 9,000 participants from 173 Member States, including 55 Heads of State and Government (pictured), hundreds of private sector representatives and thousands of people from civil society and NGOs. In its 70 years, this is the first time that the UN came together at this scale, with this many different stakeholders, to discuss the pressing challenges that are resulting in so much suffering today. .



# ANNEX 1: Mapping of Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives and Areas of Work by Core Responsibility

The following partnerships, initiatives, alliances and areas of work were either newly developed or strengthened through the World Humanitarian Summit process and will help implement the core responsibilities of the Agenda for Humanity.

## Core Responsibility 1: Political leadership to prevent and end conflicts

- **Stockholm Declaration on Addressing Fragility and Building Peace in a Changing World (*strengthened*)**

A renewed commitment to the principles of the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States that seeks to prevent and address the root causes of conflict and fragility as a way of ensuring that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development leaves no one behind in fragile and conflict-affected settings. The Stockholm Declaration also insists upon the provision of more effective financial support and the reinforcement of partnerships.

- **World Prevention Forum (*new*)**

A proposed global forum whereby the UN would address key issues related to conflict prevention.

## Core Responsibility 2: Uphold the norms that safeguard humanity

- **Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict (*strengthened*)**

This United Kingdom-sponsored declaration contains a set of practical and political commitments to end the use of rape and sexual violence as a weapon of war, sending an important message to the victims of these crimes that the international community has not forgotten them, and to the perpetrators of rape that they will be held to account.

- **Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies (*strengthened*)**

A commitment by all humanitarian partners to change how they work so that every humanitarian response provides safe and comprehensive services for those affected by gender-based violence and mitigates risk. Its corresponding Road Map outlines concrete steps all humanitarian stakeholders can take over the next five years to build this change into the policies, systems, and mechanisms used to respond to emergencies.

## Core Responsibility 3: Leave no one behind

- **Education Cannot Wait (*new*)**

Education Cannot Wait is a fund which aims to transform the delivery of education in emergencies for children and youth affected by crises – joining-up governments, humanitarian and development efforts. The fund aims to raise funding to close the \$8.5 billion gap needed to provide safe, free and quality education to 75 million children and youth.

- **Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action (*new*)**

The Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action commits to render humanitarian action inclusive of persons with disabilities by lifting barriers persons with disabilities face in accessing relief, protection and recovery support and ensuring their participation in the development, planning and implementation of humanitarian programmes.

- **Compact for Youth People in Humanitarian Action (*new*)**

The first-ever Compact commits to not only fund, research and address youth's needs in crisis



settings, but also to ensure that young people are part of designing and leading humanitarian responses.

- **Solutions Alliance (*strengthened*)**

The Solutions Alliance supports collaborative approaches between humanitarian and development actors to enable the transition of displaced persons away from dependency on aid towards increased resilience, self-reliance, and development while also supporting solutions to protracted displacement.

- **Every Woman, Every Child (*strengthened*)**

Every Woman, Every Child was launched by the Secretary-General in 2010 and serves as a global movement to mobilize and intensify international and national action by governments, international organizations, the private sector and civil society to address the major health challenges facing women, children and adolescents around the world.

- **Global Acceleration Instrument for Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action (*strengthened*)**

A time-bound (5-year), multi-stakeholder financing mechanism dedicated to addressing the financing gap for women's engagement in peace and security, particularly for women's organizations - accelerating the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

- **Platform on Disaster Displacement (follow-up to the Nansen Initiative)**

The Platform is an initiative to follow-up the work started by the Nansen Initiative consultative process, and to implement the recommendations of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda, endorsed by 109 governmental delegations in October 2015 and focused on addressing the needs of people displaced across borders in the context of disasters and climate change.

## **Core Responsibility 4: Changing people's lives: from delivering aid to ending need**

- **Commitment to Action on New Way of Working (*new*)**

An agreed approach by eight UN agencies and endorsed by the World Bank and IOM on how to strengthen the UN's ability to meet needs, reduce vulnerabilities and manage risk better by working together towards collective outcomes over multi-year time frames and based on comparative advantage in each context.

- **Global Partnership for Preparedness (*new*)**

The Global Partnership for Preparedness is led by the Vulnerable Twenty (20) Group of Ministers of Finance of the Climate Vulnerable Forum, with the collaboration of a number of UN agencies. The partnership will strengthen preparedness capacities initially in 20 countries, so they attain a minimum level of readiness by 2020 for future disaster risks mainly caused by climate change.

- **One Billion Coalition for Resilience (*new*)**

This initiative is a commitment from individuals, communities, organizations, business and governments to mobilize the potential of collective networks and to coordinate shared resources in order to anticipate, prepare for and reduce the impact of disasters, crises, and underlying vulnerabilities.

- **Inclusion Charter (*strengthened*)**

The Inclusion Charter consists of five steps that can be taken by humanitarian actors to deliver impartial and accountable assistance that responds to vulnerability in all its forms and reaches the most marginalized people - supporting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

- **Network for Empowered Aid Response (NEAR) *(new)***

NEAR is a network of civil society organizations from the global south who share a common goal of promoting fair, equitable and dignified partnerships at all levels of development and disaster management, and ensuring that effective aid is delivered to people in need. Their focus is to close the widening gap between aid resources and people in need.

- **Charter4Change *(new)***

An initiative, led by both national and international NGOs, to practically implement changes to the way the humanitarian system operates to enable more locally-led response.

- **Global Risk Platform *(new)***

A UNDP initiative to map and unite the existing risk, vulnerability and threat analysis initiatives into one global community of practice. The platform will aim to promote collaboration, transparency and accountability by developing common policies and standards and by enabling open-source data and helping to establish context-specific thresholds.

- **Global Humanitarian Data Center *(new)***

This OCHA-led center will be part of an innovation hub being established in the Hague, Netherlands in order to bring together the UN, NGOs, the private sector and academia in a collaborative environment to provide data services, data sharing and to increase the data literacy of humanitarians. The initiative is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

- **Global Alliance on Urban Crises *(new)***

This alliance is a multi-stakeholder initiative to provide knowledge, build capacities and develop data-informed and evidence-based approaches in order to more effectively prevent, prepare for, and respond to humanitarian crises in urban setting. It is guided by a series of principles as laid out in the Urban Crises Charter.

- **Global Alliance for Humanitarian Innovation (GAHI) *(new)***

GAHI brings together people and organisations from across different areas and with different expertise to collaborate on innovative and transformative solutions to the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. By focusing on addressing challenges no single actor would be capable of addressing on its own, GAHI will limit duplication and ensure multiplication of impact. To deliver on this ambition, the GAHI works by matching problems to people that might solve them, mobilizing social, intellectual, and financial resources, and sharing knowledge of what works.

- **Regional Organisations Humanitarian Action Network (ROHAN) *(new)***

ROHAN was established to strengthen capacities and collaboration within and between regional organisations working in humanitarian action and with the aim to complement both national and international humanitarian response and preparedness efforts.

- **Connecting Business Initiative *(new)***

This initiative brings together 11 national private sector networks representing hundreds of companies worldwide. It aims to assist local businesses and business associations to utilize existing networks to create platforms for disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness, response and recovery among other activities.

- **Putting health at the center of collective humanitarian action *(new)***

A multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to achieve better health outcomes in crisis areas. This collective undertaking to address health action in crises promotes preparedness for response to infectious hazards and outbreaks, improved access to essential health service package and better quality resourcing for health in crises.



## Core Responsibility 5: Invest in humanity

- **Financing Initiative to Support the Middle East and North African region (*strengthened*)**

A new initiative to support the Middle East and North Africa region, developed by the World Bank Group, in partnership with the UN and the Islamic Development Bank Group, which aims to provide urgent development support to countries impacted by the Syrian refugee crisis, conflict, and economic instability.

- **The Grand Bargain (*new*)**

The Grand Bargain refers to a package of reforms to humanitarian funding launched at the World Humanitarian Summit. Donors and aid financing agreed to 51 commitments to make emergency aid finance more efficient and effective in order to better serve people in need.

- **Humanitarian Impact Bond (*strengthened*)**

Launched by the ICRC and the Belgian government, the Humanitarian Impact Bond is a payment-by-results mechanism designed to encourage innovative responses to key social issues. Investors take on the risk of providing money to finance an innovative social program, which is run by a social service provider (e.g. NGO). If the programme is successful an organization known as an outcome funder (generally a foundation, a government agency, or a corporate) repays the investors with a return.

- **Global Financing Response Platform (*new*)**

This World Bank Group-led response platform will provide resources for risk mitigation and crisis response to low- and middle-income countries with an immediate focus on countries hosting refugees. The World Bank Group plans to launch this platform in September at the UN General Assembly.







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