WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

Room Document 1

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WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

Introduction

1. The United Nations Secretary-General will convene the first World Humanitarian Summit on 23-24 May in Istanbul, Turkey. The Summit will bring together representatives of government, humanitarian organisations, people affected by humanitarian crises and new partners including the private sector to reaffirm their commitment to take action to prevent and end suffering, enable countries and communities to respond to crises and be more resilient to shocks, and share best practices to help save lives and alleviate suffering.

DAC’s contribution to the Summit

Stockholm Declaration on Addressing Fragility and Building Peace in a Changing World

2. At the 5th Global Meeting of the International Dialogue held in Stockholm on 5 April 2016, DAC members and sponsors of the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and State building from over 40 countries, committed to scaling up their efforts to prevent conflict by tackling its root causes. The Stockholm Declaration represents another DAC commitment to contribute to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to the UN Secretary-General’s Agenda for Humanity presented ahead of the summit. Members notably committed:

- To address the root causes of fragility, conflict and violence, through locally owned processes that include civil society and gender sensitivity;
- To undertake concerted political and financial efforts to operationalise and implement the 2030 Agenda in line with the New Deal principles by taking into consideration the specific context of countries in fragile situations;
- To use development aid in more innovative ways to better respond to protracted crises;
- To work more closely with development and humanitarian actors and promote increased incorporation of conflict-sensitive and longer-term development approaches and financing into humanitarian operations in protracted crisis situations, to achieve context-relevant outcomes.

Gender equality, women’s empowerment and women’s human rights

3. At the Joint Biennial Meeting of the UN IANWGE (UN Inter Agency Network on Gender Equality) and OECD DAC GENDERNET “Implementing 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: A game changer for gender equality, women’s empowerment and women’s human rights” that took place 12-14 January 2016 in Kampala, Uganda, the following key messages were agreed and it is expected that DAC members will support their inclusion in the World Humanitarian Summit outcome document:

- Put an end to gender-blind humanitarian financing by:
  - Improving efforts to track and measure donor funding to gender equality in humanitarian settings through increasing the use of gender markers, such as the DAC gender equality policy marker, the IASC gender marker, and other existing tools.
  - Increasing allocations to local women’s organisations by improving small grant funding and mechanisms.
- Implement a co-ordinated approach to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in humanitarian settings.
• Ensure monitoring and accountability for progress made in closing gender gaps in humanitarian action. These efforts should be inclusive and bring together humanitarian agencies, donors and local women’s groups.

Sharing lessons on resilience building

4. During the World Humanitarian Summit, the OECD DAC will be hosting a major side event on resilience building jointly with Sweden, Germany and Ethiopia. In recent years there has been an increasing focus on ways to strengthen people’s resilience to shocks and threats. These approaches have emphasised risk-informed, cross-sectoral planning and working to longer time frames on the basis of shared analysis from a wide and diverse mix of stakeholders. The focus on strengthening resilience has also emphasised the need for greater coherence between humanitarian and development actors and programming that is integrated across household, community, sub-national and national layers of society. However, these approaches have insufficiently been taken ‘to scale’. The World Humanitarian Summit represents a significant opportunity to share experiences on what has worked on resilience building to help translate the “core responsibilities” set out in the Secretary General’s Agenda for Humanity into practical actions. The side event will therefore focus on systematising experiences and best practices of resilience approaches, but will also identify those actions that can be scaled up to deliver on the World Humanitarian commitments to prevent and end conflicts; leave no one behind; change people’s lives by ending need for aid; and invest in humanity. Through a contribution from Germany, the OECD will develop a series of practical guides for humanitarian donors, to help them deliver on the promises of the World Humanitarian Summit. This will involve translating existing knowledge and cutting-edge thinking into practical “how to” guides for donor headquarter and field professionals. The following areas will be covered:

• Cash programming/social protection
• Localising the response
• Working in urban environments
• Crises in middle income countries
• Greater coherence between different actors (inter-operability, links with peacebuilding, etc)
• Multi-annual financing
• Increasing the effectiveness of the overall humanitarian response
• Other subjects highlighted at the World Humanitarian Summit

5. In addition, the OECD DAC will provide a humanitarian helpdesk to support members looking to improve the way they implement their humanitarian programmes, to share learning across the donor community, and to help donors work on key challenges together.

6. Finally, the DAC peer reviews show that donor approaches to work effectively in fragile, at-risk and crisis affected settings are still work in progress. Commitments, investments, cultural and strategic shifts are required at the highest level of decision making to support the aspiration to deliver change, rather than short-term results. To support this work, the OECD commissioned a study “Good development support in fragile, at-risk and crisis-affected contexts: A short review”. The study reflects the emerging thinking about the nature of fragility and risk and has analysed some of the current best practices structured around 12 lessons. The study is available at: Good development support in fragile, at-risk and crisis affected contexts - Papers - OECD iLibrary
Figure 1. Good development support in fragile, at-risk and crisis affected contexts: A short review

1. CREATE THE ENVIRONMENT TO ENABLE CHANGE
   Review the business process: simplify, clarify, and build common understanding

2. INVEST IN INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY
   New sets of skills, incentives and staff management are required

3. USE THE FULL RANGE OF TOOLS AND INFLUENCE
   Set and communicate common objectives and principles, improve information sharing and communication

4. BECOME ‘SYSTEM PLAYERS’
   Each donor has a role to play: know and explicitly work towards your comparative advantage and the contribution it makes towards the collective response

5. INVEST IN CONTEXT AND PROBLEM-LED PROGRAMMING
   Bring context and problem analysis into the core of donor behaviour

6. RE-CALIBRATE APPROACHES TO MANAGING RISK
   Invest in the capacity to understand, better anticipate, detect, and respond to risks

7. SUPPORT LOCALLY-LED CHANGE
   Broaden the concept of ‘local systems’ to include support to inter-dependent elements at the sub-national and local level

8. LEARN, ADAPT AND ADJUST
   Regularly review programmes against updated context analysis to ensure they remain flexible enough to respond appropriately to changing circumstances

9. RETHINK OUTCOMES
   Incentivise more adaptive problem-solving programming by utilising metrics that measure progress and success along these lines

10. RESPONSIVE INSTRUMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS
    Adapt partnerships and funding to ensure flexible response to crisis situations and shifting priorities

11. ADVOCATE FOR INCLUSION OF THOSE MOST LIKELY TO BE LEFT BEHIND
    Create incentives to support neglected crises and marginalised groups

12. GLOBAL APPROACHES TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES
    Reinforce country-level programming with investment in public goods at the regional and global level