1. We, the members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and representatives of the agencies of the United Nations (UN) met on 6 October 2020 for a high-level roundtable on our shared “Partnership for Peace”. The event, co-chaired by DAC Chair Susanna Moorehead and the UNDP Administrator and co-chair of the Joint Steering Committee to advance Humanitarian and Development Collaboration, Achim Steiner, convened senior officials of the OECD, UN, and Member States to discuss how adhering agencies to the DAC Recommendation on the humanitarian development peace nexus can strengthen our partnerships in fragile contexts to improve collective efforts to end need, sustain peace and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

2. Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, the UN Secretary-General had called on all sectors of society to mobilise for the decade of action to achieve the SDGs. In fragile contexts, home to 76.5% of people living in extreme poverty, and acutely vulnerable to climate, economic and political shocks, the pandemic and its aftershocks will make our shared goals even more challenging to attain. The quality of international support is therefore critical and its effectiveness hinges on the coherence and complementarity of bilateral and multilateral interventions.

3. With this in mind, in February 2019, the DAC adopted a new ground-breaking Recommendation on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus to improve coordination, programming and financing in support of coherent, complementary and effective approaches in fragile contexts to fulfil our shared support for ending need. Since then, four UN agencies have formally adhered to the Recommendation; the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Food Programme (WFP), the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), International Organisation for Migration (IOM). We welcome the announcement at the meeting of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) of its intention to adhere to the Recommendation.

4. This adherence of DAC members and UN agencies is of significance because successful implementation requires action from all actors working in conflict-affected and fragile regions, recognising the cross-cutting role the three UN reform pillars play in implementing the Sustaining Peace agenda. While DAC members account for 80% of development investments in fragile contexts, 89% of ODA for humanitarian action is channelled through the multilateral system. As such, greater coordination, collaboration and complementarity within and between the multilateral and bilateral systems is an essential element of delivering on the nexus, alongside civil society and the private sector.
5. The “Partnership for Peace” roundtable was an opportunity to take stock of progress in implementation of the DAC Recommendation. It provided a forum for DAC members and adhering UN agencies to showcase their experience of implementing nexus approaches, to highlight where the capacity of adhering agencies needs to be strengthened to implement the principles of the Recommendation and identified further actions to strengthen collaboration.

OUTCOMES OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE ROUNDTABLE

6. Participants in the roundtable reaffirmed their support for enhancing effective partnerships in fragile contexts as means to improve collective efforts to sustain peace, end humanitarian needs and drive sustainable development.

7. DAC members and UN adherents to the DAC Recommendation on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus:

   a. Expressed their firm support for increasing efforts to operationalise the DAC recommendation, to contribute to the implementation of its principles and to increase communication, collaboration and coordination between adherents - DAC members and UN agencies - at a country level, working closely with UN Resident Coordinators, UN Country Teams and other key operational partners;

   b. Highlighted progress being made in strengthening coordination between adhering UN agencies (UNDP, WFP, UNICEF and IOM) and between UN and DAC members; along with the need to scale-up support for systematic and shared conflict-sensitivity analysis as a basis for joined-up programming, and to accelerate development investments and coordinated bilateral and multilateral efforts to ‘end need’;

   c. Reiterated the role of the DAC International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF) in supporting shared learning and monitoring progress with implementation, including through existing monitoring mechanisms;

   d. Supported the DAC’s inclusion of UN adherents to the DAC Recommendation in discussions to review progress, highlight remaining gaps and share learning. This will take place through a working group of DAC-UN adherents, facilitated by INCAF, and at a dedicated high-level roundtable in early 2022, as a stepping stone to the five-year monitoring report required by the DAC Recommendation, supported by the OECD data-driven analysis, policy tools and networks;

   e. Invited non-adherents - whether bilateral, UN or multilateral development banks - to take account of the DAC Recommendation and adhere to it.