

IASC PRINCIPALS AD HOC MEETING

World Humanitarian Summit

7 April 2016

Final Summary Record

Summary of Discussions:

The ERC briefed the IASC Principals on the preparations for the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), the role of the IASC Principals at the Summit, Humanitarian Financing and the Grand Bargain, and the process following the Summit. The meeting was an opportunity for IASC Principals to share their views and ask questions. The IOM Director General also provided an update on the Summit on Large Scale Movements of Refugees and Migrants and on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

1. Update on Preparations for the Summit and Role of the IASC Principals

The ERC recalled the decision made at the IASC Principals' meeting with the Secretary-General on 27 January to support the Agenda for Humanity. He then provided a comprehensive update on the structure, participation and activities of the Summit, in particular the Leaders' Segment, the Announcement Plenary, the Leaders' Roundtables Core Commitments, the Special Sessions, Side Events, market place, innovation fair and communications. He suggested eleven key roles for the IASC Principals (attached as annex) and will confirm individual roles in the coming days after consultation with the Secretary-General, who will take the final decision.

The ERC regretted not being able to accept all proposals regarding participation or events and pledged to do his best to accommodate requests. Principals should copy him, when reaching out to the WHS secretariat with questions.

The core commitments of each of the seven High-Level Leaders' Roundtables are anchored in the Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity. While they are voluntary, United Nations entities are expected by the Secretary-General to align with and support all core commitments. The ERC encouraged IASC partners to support as many as they could, and everyone to make additional individual or joint commitments going further than the core commitments, in support of the five (5) core responsibilities set out in the Secretary-General's Report.

The following key issues were raised during the ensuing discussion:

- On the concerns regarding the human rights situation in Turkey, Principals, should continue their principled engagement with the Government of Turkey notwithstanding the Summit.
- On security, the Government of Turkey has extensive experience in managing international events. DSS is working on providing security planning and guidance to participants.
- All Humanitarian Coordinators have been invited to the Summit but not the Resident Coordinators, except for the Resident Coordinator of Turkey.
- Civil society is keen to be actively engaged in the Summit. The Summit must be faithful to the multi-stakeholder process.
- The Secretary-General's Report on the WHS, the Agenda for Humanity and the Report of the High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing call for a new way of working, which requires IASC organizations to rise above their mandates and focus on collective results for affected people while also respecting and meeting humanitarian principles. The IASC will need to improve how it measure results with better data.

- A greater focus on community resilience and national self-reliance will reduce the needs. The current reactive approach does not give enough support to prevention and local capacity building. A number of organizations announced they would prioritise commitments related to protracted emergencies.
- On the proposal for a collective IASC message at the Summit, the ERC was concerned not to create another process given the short timeframe and would prefer to wait until after the Summit. The IASC would be expected to take forward a substantial part of the commitments and this could be discussed at the meeting on 7-8 June in Washington.
- Within the Summit, it was clarified that at times UN Principals would be asked to represent the Secretary-General, and at other times, they would represent their individual agencies and mandates. There would be opportunity for IASC Principals to make statements at the plenary throughout the two days. (see attached)

2. Humanitarian Financing and the Grand Bargain

The ERC presented the Grand Bargain as the first instalment of the new way of working. Part of the Grand Bargain involves the definition of collective outcomes based on a joint vision, which spans humanitarian action and development, built on joint analysis and complementary strategies. Participants provided their views on the Grand Bargain, expressing support for the initiative.

- There will be frustration among donors if the call for change is perceived as one sided. The IASC must send a clear signal that it is gearing up to deliver change too. Likewise, IASC organisations should individually or collectively send a similar message to donors that change in the quantity and quality of funding is urgently required. The Grand Bargain is a grand agreement for everyone to deliver positive change.
- The Grand Bargain must result in stronger support for frontline responders.
- The Grand Bargain is an opportunity to convince donors that tight earmarking and short duration of grants have negative impacts on humanitarian operations and that flexibility is needed.
- The effectiveness of the IASC will be judged by whether or not current discussions are translated into action and change.
- The Grand Bargain is confined to the UN and donors and consideration should be given to engage the G77 given the global nature of the discussions and the role of affected nations.
- Several organizations stressed the need for longer term investment in local capacity, for better quality of resources (not just volume), for multi-year humanitarian funding and for promoting diversity and independence of humanitarian financial structures, while ensuring coherence of different actors.
- The WHS provides an opportunity to reaffirm the unique and central role of the IASC in coordination and delivery of humanitarian assistance, and also to enhance its inclusivity. The ERC agreed with the caveat that it should remain an effective decision-making body. The IASC subsidiary bodies are deemed critical to take forward the changes proposed by the Secretary-General, in particular for humanitarian-development nexus and humanitarian financing.
- The humanitarian-development nexus should be prioritised as it is probably a game changer, although humanitarian principles must continue to underpin the IASC's work.
- Several welcomed the prominence given to forced displacement and migration in the Secretary-General's Report on WHS and at the Summit. This will build momentum for the Summit on Large Scale Movements of Refugees and Migrants scheduled in September in New York.

- The language on urban aspects in core commitments should be strengthened.
- Reviewing its financial structure, the World Bank Group is working on expanding its crisis response window and has given additional funding to Lebanon and Jordan. It will offer ideas on issues that donors may not be able to address like multi-year funding, as multilateral financial have already developed solutions. Progress on securing multi-year funding is critical.

3. After the Summit

The ERC noted that there will be a number of opportunities following the Summit to already begin discussing the outcomes of the Summit with Member States, including the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment, possibly the High Level Thematic Debate on Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, the omnibus humanitarian resolution, the Summit on Large Scale Movements of Refugees and Migrants and the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Report (QPCR). The Secretary-General's Report to the General Assembly will outline recommendations for monitoring the follow up to the Summit over the next three years. There are Core Commitments that can be acted on without an intergovernmental process. The ERC expects the IASC to be the main forum to take forward substantial areas of Agenda for Humanity.

- InterAction will host the next face-to-face Principals meeting on 7-8 June and the meeting should also focus on the outcomes of the WHS.
- IASC members requested that the ERC ensured close consultation with the IASC in preparing the Secretary-General's Report to General Assembly and use it as an opportunity for the IASC to speak as a collective system and to get buy in from the General Assembly for the Agenda for Humanity.

4. AOB

- *Cash Assistance:* The World Bank reported on the progress made by the Strategic Cash Task Group. WFP said that they were under pressure from donors to share the results of this IASC work with the group working on cash under the Grand Bargain. Several organizations asked that the Principals review and endorse the paper on cash prior to the WHS. The ERC will either convene an ad hoc meeting or circulate it for electronic endorsement.
- *Summit on managing large-scale movements of migrants and refugees:* IOM DG gave an update on the preparations for the Summit on Large Scale Movements of Refugees and Migrants, noting the perceived consensus that migrants who do not fall under any international framework at present should get more predictable assistance and protection.
- *Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse:* IOM expressed disappointment that the side event on PSEA proposed for WHS had been utterly rejected although there is nothing more important to the credibility of the humanitarian enterprise. The ERC will review the situation.
- *Yemen:* The ERC asked IASC Principals to be ready to scale up response in Yemen in view of the upcoming ceasefire.
- *L3 Renewal in South Sudan:* The ERC will convene a meeting on this soon. Cash may also be discussed then.

IASC Secretariat, 8 April 2016

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Suggested Key Roles of the IASC Principals

(Some is subject to change and agreement by the Secretary-General)

- 1. Attend and champion the Summit and the Agenda for Humanity**
- 2. Develop individual or collective commitments with other organizations and Member States.**
- 3. Contribute to the Grand Bargain to optimise the humanitarian system and advance the way in which we work with others.**
- 4. Support the communications campaign by highlighting the Summit in media engagements and by offering your Goodwill Ambassador, promote through your social networks and look at hooking the WHS, its objectives and the Agenda for Humanity to media opportunities. Use #ShareHumanity and #WHSummit. Also promote the impossiblechoices.org campaign.**
- 5. Outreach to Member States, including the G-77, to ensure strong participation from all Member States at the highest level.**
- 6. Representing the Secretary-General in the plenary (for UN).**
- 7. Moderate/Taking over from the SG in the Roundtables. This includes closing remarks and press briefing. Some might be participating in the RTs in their own right (for UN).**
- 8. Moderate/convene or participate in the Special Sessions.**
- 9. Engage and lead in side-events, market place and innovation fair.**
- 10. Opportunities for bilateral meetings and media engagement.**
- 11. Post-Summit: Mobilise agencies, staff and other stakeholders to deliver on the Agenda for Humanity and the commitments.**