

Final Summary Note Grand Bargain Meeting

Bonn, 5-6 September 2016

The 6th Grand Bargain meeting took place on 5-6 September 2016 in Bonn, Germany, co-chaired by Kristalina Georgieva, Vice President of the EU Commission, Rüdiger König, Director-General, German Federal Foreign Office and Nan Buzard, Executive Director, ICVA.

The focus of the meeting was on 1) achieving consensus on the Grand Bargain implementation and monitoring; and 2) clarifying in more detail how some of the specific commitments would be taken forward.

The three co-chairs opened the meeting by encouraging participants to maintain their high-level of ambition and commitment to the Grand Bargain, which was entering into the phase of implementation. Vice President Georgieva called for a visible “big bang” to help propel and communicate the success of the Grand Bargain. She also asked the signatories to focus on the implementation of their commitments in the ‘spirit of giving’ and as a contribution to the ‘bargain character’. Since the commitment areas of the Grand Bargain are diverse, the co-chairs also noted that the implementation of the commitments would be diverse, with several initiatives moving forward.

The co-chairs also asked participants to be flexible around areas of emerging consensus in light of diverse views among the group about the framework for implementation. Since the implementation of the Grand Bargain commitments will take time, the outcome of this meeting could be revisited and adapted in one year if so desired.

Consensus on the way forward

In preparation for the meeting, Germany and ICVA had solicited inputs from individual Grand Bargain signatories around key questions that emerged at the 5th Grand Bargain meeting in June 2016 in New York. Germany and ICVA presented the ‘emerging consensus’ around these key questions, noting that there were very different views of the nature of the Grand Bargain among the members of the group (e.g. focus on efficiencies; reform to improve effectiveness; backdrop for individual change) and that these led to very different views about how the Bargain should be taken forward. As a ‘neutral broker’, Germany and ICVA tried to identify areas of common ground among the signatories. Vice President Georgieva noted that despite different views on the Grand Bargain, a consensus on the process for the way forward, which was more than the lowest common denominator, seemed possible.

Participants thanked Germany and ICVA for the extensive consultations, welcoming and concurring in general with the ‘emerging consensus’ as reflected in the background paper. Views expressed during the discussion are reflected in the points below. Viewing the Grand Bargain as a ‘distinct body of work’ – with links to the WHS – and welcoming others to join the Grand Bargain, there was a general consensus on the following key questions:

- An eminent person at high political level, knowledgeable of the humanitarian system, committed to all stakeholder groups, will continue to keep the high level political momentum and visibility, provide inspiration, assist in problem solving and liaise with Grand Bargain signatories. Vice President Georgieva will assist in the process of identifying an eminent person within the ‘small pool’ of potential candidates.
- A “Grand Bargain Facilitation Group” (*NB.: working title*), reflective of the different GB constituencies, will be established to:
 - Work with the eminent person;
 - Provide continued momentum of the process;
 - Prepare for the annual Grand Bargain meeting in the margins of the ECOSOC HAS;
 - Tender-out the annual report;
 - Act as problem solving mechanism;
 - Support activities across workstreams and encourage coherence.

Members of the “Facilitation Group” will serve for 12 months, starting on 1st October 2016, consisting of Switzerland, ECHO, OCHA, UNWOMEN, WFP, IFRC, and SCHR. The Group will meet before the end of September 2016 together with the co-chairs of the Bonn meeting for a handover. Participants emphasized that the Group should address the need for coordination and information sharing to ensure coherence and reduce potential duplication rather than taking an enforcing managerial role.

The suggestion by some participants to consider a ‘Troika arrangement’ of co-chairs as an alternative to a “Facilitation Group” could be re-considered in one year’s time if the “Facilitation Group” does not meet the group’s expectations.

- The “Facilitation Group” will be supported by a small administrative secretariat function, hosted by the IASC Secretariat, in order to:
 - Support in the preparation of the annual Grand Bargain meeting in the margins of the ECOSOC HAS;
 - Support the tendering of the GB annual report;
 - Ensure information exchange between the different initiatives;
 - Identify potential for synergies and risks for overlap and duplication;



- Liaise with IASC Task Teams and the GHD to encourage coherence;
- Focus on administrative functions rather than speaking on behalf of the whole group.

Participants emphasized the importance of the Grand Bargain not becoming another layer of bureaucracy and some encouraged consideration of secretariat duties being conducted by members of the “facilitation group”. Some Sherpas noted their interest in providing financial support to such a small secretariat noting the importance of the function.

- There will be an annual meeting in the margins of the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS), at which Grand Bargain signatories can report back on key progress and good practice in the implementation of the GB commitments. The annual meeting might focus on different themes every year.
- An independent annual Grand Bargain report will provide a qualitative trend analysis to see whether the ‘humanitarian system’ is on track to deliver the bargain in the different workstream areas; the report can be presented at the annual Grand Bargain meeting in the margins of ECOSOC.
- The Sherpa group in its original format continues to exist only as a fallback option when progress in the GB implementation is not satisfactory; there will be no regular formalized meetings other than the annual meeting of all Grand Bargain signatories.
- Grand Bargain signatories may report on progress in the implementation of the commitments as part of individual annual reports, Executive Board meetings and other relevant fora.
- Some Grand Bargain signatories may work with experts to monitor progress especially around those commitments which include quantitative targets. Vice President Georgieva urged participants to join such initiatives to measure progress, to move towards greater and quantifiable efficiency savings by 2020.
- Former (or newly interested) co-champions of workstreams will continue to play a role in supporting the implementation of commitments within ‘their’ workstreams without having a formalized and standardized function, allowing for diversity in how co-champions fulfill this role; other fora, such as the IASC and GHD might have a role in taking some commitments forward; ‘co-champions’ should be renamed ‘co-conveners’.

- Some Grand Bargain signatories/workstreams may decide to pilot or field test Grand Bargain commitments; coherence between initiatives could be achieved by using interested HC/RCs as entry points.

The co-chairs acknowledged that some of these proposals required continued personal investment and funding and called on the participants consider such a support in the next phase.

Update on the recommendations of the High Level Panel in Chapter I and II

Some participants highlighted that the Grand Bargain was only one element of the recommendations of the High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing. Vice President Georgieva provided an update on the other two sets of recommendations of the High Level Panel: 1) Shrinking the needs and 2) deepen and broaden the resource base for humanitarian action. She highlighted the following initiatives/developments:

- Increased engagement of multilateral development banks in fragile contexts;
- Growing role of the private sector;
- Increased use of insurance mechanisms such as the African Risk Capacity;
- The Humanitarian Impact Bonds of the ICRC;
- Use of Islamic Social Finance;
- Ongoing discussions with FIFA on a micro-levy;
- The 'SME for Humanity (SME4H)' - initiative launched at the WHS;
- Current efforts of the EU to galvanize greater private sector investment in fragile environments.

Implementation of the Grand Bargain commitments

On the second day, participants discussed within the 10 different workstreams the process to implement the respective Grand Bargain commitments, including 1) progress to date; 2) next steps in the coming 6-12 months; 3) working with external experts; 4) related work of other fora; 5) external monitoring; 6) links to other workstreams; 7) elements of success. All workstream co-champions will finalize 'good-enough' 2-pagers summarizing these discussions for circulation among the wider group.

Most workstream co-champions will continue as 'co-conveners'; FAO and the US have requested to hand over the role of co-convenor for the multi-year funding and planning workstream and UNICEF have agreed to take this forward together with a donor. For the commitments in the participation revolution workstream, participants discussed how best to mainstream these commitments within other workstream commitments. Participants suggested that the workstream be maintained to take this task forward and SCHR have agreed after the meeting to serve as co-convenor. Two donors are actively considering taking on the co-convenor roles for the aforementioned workstreams and further information will be shared when confirmed.

Germany and ICVA summarized the highlights from the feedback of the workstream discussions:

- Significant work underway in all workstream areas;
- Sincere effort by all to build upon existing mechanism and not create duplications;
- While there are many linkages between and among workstreams there did not seem to be duplication (e.g. multiple workshops or field overload);
- Work and progress will look different in the various workstreams;
- Appreciation for clarifying language and definitions;
- A call to adopt a 'gender sensitive' lens on the Grand Bargain commitments;
- Importance of avoiding workstreams turning into silos;
- Need for leadership in some specific areas;
- Importance of sharing learning in a safe space; and
- Need for financial and personal investment to ensure the follow-through.

The co-conveners were asked to share the updated 'good-enough' 2-pagers with the Secretariat by Wednesday, 14 September 2016 for subsequent circulation and feedback by the wider group. The 2-pagers will be finalized before the end of September.

In closing, the co-chairs thanked all participants for their depth of commitment and flexibility in order to stay together in the next phase of the Grand Bargain and to meet again in the margins of the 2017 ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment to share meaningful progress and accomplishments.



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List of Participants 5-6 September 2016 – Bonn, Germany Hosted by the Germany and ICVA

High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing	-	Kristalina Georgieva (supported by Daniel Giorev)
Australia	-	Jamie Isbister
Australia	-	Tristen Slade
Belgium	-	Peter Van Acker
Bulgaria	-	Mihail Kravaev
Canada	-	Alexandra Mackenzie
Canada	-	Hong-Won Yu
Catholic Relief Services	-	Jennifer Poidatz
Christian Aid	-	Michael Mosselmans
Christian Aid	-	Nick Guttmann
Denmark	-	Jette Michelsen
European Commission	-	Androulla Kaminara
European Commission	-	Henrike Trautmann
FAO	-	Sandra Aviles
Germany	-	Rüdiger König (Co-chair)
Germany	-	Peter Felten
Germany	-	Annett Günther
Germany	-	Björn Hofmann
ICRC	-	Helen Alderson-Reat-Noch
ICRC	-	Clare Dalton
ICVA	-	Nan Buzard (Co-chair)
ICVA	-	Melissa Pitotti
IFRC	-	Jemilah Binti Mahmood
IFRC	-	Ajay Madiwale
ILO	-	Peter Rademaker
ILO	-	Donato Kiniger-Passigli
InterAction	-	Patricia McIlreavy
IOM	-	Vincent Houver
IRC	-	Nazanin Ash
IRC	-	Stefan Lehmeier
Italy	-	Marta Collu
Japan	-	Hiroshi Kudo Nagayama
Luxembourg	-	Florence Ensch
Luxembourg	-	Georges Bley
Mercy Corps	-	Michael Bowers
Netherlands	-	Joost Andriessen
Netherlands	-	Eva-de Ridder
Norway	-	Reidun Otteroy
NRC	-	James Munn
OCHA	-	John Ging
OCHA	-	Karuna Hermann



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Relief International	-	Kate Hart
Relief International	-	Samantha Crago
SCHR	-	Kate Halff
Sweden	-	Per Örnéus
Sweden	-	Peter Kvist
Switzerland	-	Olivier Bangerter
Turkey	-	Berk Baran
UN Women	-	Daniel Seymour
UN Women	-	Elizabeth Cafferty
United Kingdom	-	Ruth Andreyeva
United Kingdom	-	Sheila Ahmed
UNDP	-	Bruno Lemarquis
UNDP	-	Tajja Kontinen-Sharp
UNFPA	-	Sietske Steineker
UNFPA	-	Annemarie Schuller
UNHCR	-	Daniel Endres
UNHCR	-	Hiroko Araki
UNICEF	-	Olav Kjørven
UNICEF	-	Marie-Louise Wandel
UNRWA	-	Richard Wright
U.S.A	-	Jeremy Konyndyk
U.S.A	-	David DiGiovanna
WFP	-	James Harvey
WFP	-	Gordana Jerger
WFP	-	Heiko Knoch
WHO	-	Rudi Coninx
WHO	-	Guillaume Simonian
World Bank Group	-	Jos Verbeek
World Bank Group	-	Andrew James Roberts
World Vision International	-	Julian Srodecki
Secretariat	-	Tensai Asfaw