

UNFPA's statement at the Grand Bargain annual meeting 2021

UNFPA remains strongly committed to the Grand Bargain and its spirit of reform, and wishes to thank the Eminent Person, the Facilitation Group, and the Grand Bargain Secretariat for their leadership. We are also pleased to bid welcome to the new Eminent Person, Jan Egeland.

The Grand Bargain is clearly at a juncture - we should use this momentum to strengthen reform steps. UNFPA would like to see a strong and revised Grand Bargain that can impact the humanitarian system and continue as a unique forum for donors and aid actors for dialogue and joint initiatives.

The new structure should facilitate political elevation of challenges, while benefitting from joint technical work in relevant workstreams.

It is of utmost importance that we get the output targets in the results framework in place soon, so as not to lose momentum. Our commitments need to be ambitious and measurable to ensure that signatories can be held accountable; not least within the two important enabling priorities - localization and quality funding. And we must ensure strong inclusion of gender considerations in all aspects of our work as well as a focus on empowering local women-led organizations.

The Grand Bargain commitments have been instrumental in changes made within the humanitarian system, and also in UNFPA as organization:

We have strengthened our localization approach. In 2020, 39 percent of UNFPA's humanitarian funding went to local and national actors. We have enhanced our IATI (International Aid Transparency Initiative) reporting, we have facilitated the receipt of quality funding, we have contributed to the Joint Intersectional Analysis Framework, and we have joined the UN Partner Portal, among other examples.

UNFPA stands ready to take further steps to collectively increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the humanitarian system. The commitments we make must not remain words, but should lead to tangible improvements in how we meet the needs of affected population in emergencies.

Thank you.