

## Grand Bargain Annual Meeting

### Day 2 – 1 July 2022 Principals level

#### 14.00-14.15 Opening remarks by Jan Egeland, Eminent Person

#### 14.15-15.30 Panel Discussion 1: Reaping success in June 2023 – what are we going to do in the next 12 months to achieve the desired transformation? *This will be the panel in which DDG Bechdol will intervene (3 minute statement)*

- Thank you Eminent Person, for your dedication in moving forward the Grand Bargain commitments.
- Today, in the midst of a global crisis of unprecedented magnitude, the original goal of the Grand Bargain is especially critical ... to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the humanitarian system.
- Humanitarian needs are high and they are rising. There is a seemingly unstoppable slide into staggering levels of acute hunger. Families and communities already grappling with food crises are at risk of being left further behind. And, they are being joined every day by more people in desperate need.
- The outlook for the coming year is bleak. And, as needs skyrocket, funding requirements have soared.
- FAO welcomes the considerable additional resources being provided by donors and would underscore the importance of predictable, unearmarked, multi-year funding. This is key to bridging the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and achieving real change on the ground.
- A focus on local leadership AND quality funding that facilitates collaboration across the nexus are essential.
- I'd like to commend the efforts of the Eminent Person and all those who have worked so hard to turn these into practical realities.
- FAO's engagement in the Grand Bargain and implementation of our commitments have driven us to become more accountable, relevant, transparent, effective and efficient in our humanitarian assistance.
- Our cash programming has become much stronger, with the development of corporate procedures and regulations, a better linkage of cash transfers to social protection mechanisms, and the use of more innovative tools.
- As we look to the future, we must remember our objective to transform the humanitarian system to better meet the needs of those we serve.
- We must, with a clear eye, examine how and whether we are achieving this. We can't be satisfied with minor changes to the status quo.

- Localization starts with prioritizing those on the frontline of a crisis. Yes ... it means moving more resources to local groups, but at its core, it means empowering local communities to determine their own priorities and needs.
- We know that at least two-thirds of those experiencing acute hunger are farmers, fishers, herders, foresters, food traders. Are their needs being met in a humanitarian system that dedicates just 8 percent of food security resources to agriculture?
- FAO welcomes the priorities for the coming year, especially giving affected people more meaningful influence over the aid that is provided, more equitable distribution of quality funds, supporting local leadership, and strengthening coordination.
- We are a proud signatory of the Grand Bargain. As we move towards 2023, let's all recall our original commitments. Let's truly deliver a more effective and efficient system and always remain driven by those we serve.
- Thank you.