**Joint workshop on the**

**Humanitarian, Peace and Development Nexus**

**The UN Working Group on Transitions and**

**the IASC Task Team on Humanitarian and Development Nexus in protracted crises**

1. **Background**

The years of 2015 and 2016 have been marked by major global policy developments with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, followed by the Peace Operations and Peacebuilding Reviews, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the COP 21 Climate Conference, the World Humanitarian Summit and the Summit for Refugees and Migrants to be held later this year. Each of these major global processes have contributed to the new momentum in improving humanitarian action by strengthening the linkages between humanitarian, peace and development communities of practice.

The World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), in particular, galvanized the international community in a united call to change working modalities to respond to the rapidly changing operational landscape in which both humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors find themselves. The summit outcomes recognized that crises have evolved, both in sheer number and in complexity; with countries and ever growing number of affected communities facing several simultaneous shocks such as climate change, violent conflict, pandemics or population growth. We also face protracted crises, affecting a larger number of people in the long term; they increasingly impede the prospects for peace and development, and compromises opportunities for national capacity building. In addition, resources are fewer and there is a greater need to work more coherently to effectively respond to those in need. In short, we must rethink.

As an outcome of the WHS, through the Commitment to Action[[1]](#footnote-1), UN agencies have taken steps towards delivering on the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to “leave no one behind” by effectively putting those furthest behind at the forefront of their collective efforts and across the spectra of humanitarian, peace and development work. This new way of working will involve operating over multi-year timeframes and playing to the individual strengths of each agency and actor involved to achieve collective outcomes for the most vulnerable people. This commitment entails sharing data relating to vulnerability; undertake joint analysis of needs and response; and collaborate on planning and programming, backed up by financing modalities and stronger leadership in support of collective outcomes.

Moreover, the “Grand Bargain” includes a further list of commitments towards greater transparency and a vision towards the strengthening of local and national frontline responders in a spirit of partnership and complementarity collectively using our respective strengths and comparative advantages whilst ensuring the principles of humanitarian action. In addition, “the Peace Promise” manifested the need to include the peace dimension to the humanitarian development nexus. The implementation of the Agenda 2030, the sustaining peace resolutions[[2]](#footnote-2) and the WHS recommendations and commitments can therefore not be business as usual or done in siloes. It needs greater coherence to achieve results in support of collective outcomes – from delivering aid to changing people’s lives by ending needs on the path towards a sustainable development leaving no one behind.

Against the backdrop of these global processes, and equipped with the significant step changes in normative thinking that they produced, it is now time to start implementing those policies in a coordinated and coherent manner to ensure successful impact on the ground. To this end, it will be key to look into new innovative approaches that can bring the “system” together across the board of humanitarian, peace and development work, and how together we work with national authorities. Importantly, in the spirit of the Secretary-General’s movement to leave no one behind, it will be key also, that work on strengthening the nexus is kept light, in process and architecture while ensuring that vulnerable people are central to its cause. The international support system, inspired by processes such as the Grand Bargain or the Chief Executive Board’s High Level Committee on Management, must ensure greater effectiveness in programming as well as to improve efficiencies in procedures with an overall objective of lowering transaction costs and increasing implementation rates.

The UN Working Group on Transitions (UNWGT) and the newly established Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Team on the Humanitarian Development Nexus in protracted crises (TT HDN), are two natural bodies to bring policy shift and implementation coherence not only among the UN entities but also as the two groups’ extended membership goes which includes civil society organizations and other partners such as the World Bank, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

These two groups, among other key stakeholders, have agreed to take this work forward in a concrete manner by weaving together lessons from the field and various on-going normative and policy discussions. The ultimate vision is ambitious. It is a vision that champions the principle of moving towards “one country, one UN framework”, as articulated in the SG’s report on the QCPR (August 2016), grounded by an overall commitment from all stakeholders to ensure -- where feasible and where context allows -- a single framework towards collective outcomes built around shared strategy, analysis and accountability in support of the sustainable development agenda.

In discussions among the co-chairs of these two groups in the run up to the WHS, a joint workshop was proposed as the first of several opportunities to take stock of, and harmonize progress towards achieving this ambitious goal. The suggestion was endorsed by the constituencies of both groups which, in turn, put forward a planning group consisting of DOCO, EOSG’s Analysis and Planning Capacity, FAO, OCHA, PBSO, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP and WHO to elaborate the framework and suggested agenda for a 1 ½ -2 days joint UNWGT - IASC TT HDN retreat. Further to this, it is envisioned that the outcomes of this retreat and subsequent events will be informed by the global processes mentioned above and also aim to reflect back through substantive contributions to the relevant informal and formal discussions tackling these major issues. Accordingly, and as appropriate, the UNWGT and the IASC TT HDN will share its findings with those interested in the proceedings of this as well as any further collective events.

Therefore with the recognition that frequent and consistent collaboration as well as pragmatic introspection will be required, the sections that follow outline the key elements of this first joint retreat.

1. **Objectives**

The objective of the joint workshop is to agree on a coordinated IASC TT HDN and UNWGT post-WHS implementation roadmap, outlining innovative ways to operationalize the humanitarian, peace and development nexus, delineating collective outcomes, especially focusing on analysis and planning. To this end, the workshop should:

1) Be an opportunity for both communities to **jointly drill down on the key elements of the operationalization of the humanitarian, peace and development nexus**, using as a base the think piece “Better Humanitarian-Development Cooperation for Sustainable Results on the Ground”, as well as being informed by progress made through the transformative agenda;

2) Identify **synergies and coordination gaps amongst the IASC HDN TT and UNWGT** and **harmonize work plans**;

3) Given the plethora of ongoing processes at the global level on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, **map out the processes and suggest a way forward for coordination of work**, including the demand driven **identification of countries** for implementation on the ground.

1. **Content**

The content and agenda of the workshop is suggested to partly focus on i) a **normative discussion** and gaining a common understanding of the key elements of the humanitarian, peace and development nexus: and ii) **substantive conversations** on identifying key elements for joint analysis and planning, including risk, focusing on the operationalization at country level, based on lessons learnt and experiences/ and the development of a roadmap laying the foundation for concrete recommendations for the field.

The IASC HDN TT started mapping relevant humanitarian processes and documents to see how they apply to protracted crises and the nexus. An analysis is undertaken to see what needs to be strengthened or put in place for the operationalization of the nexus. This process helps to identify where and what kind of connections are required with peacebuilding and development, and thus topics to discuss at the retreat.

Discussions should be informed by field perspectives. The workshop should be an opportunity for each community of practice to demonstrate current work and thinking. The meeting should be seen as the beginning of a thereafter, continued close dialogue amongst the two constituencies. The agenda should therefore be pragmatic with regards to its ambitions, avoid overloading but constructively outline further steps in a road map that may see annual or biannual retreats of sorts to take stock of the progress made as the work develops.

1. **Main outcomes**

* Drill down and **agree what needs to be done** in order to implement the new way of working at global, regional and country level;
* **Develop a Roadmap** for supporting the implementation of the Commitment to Action, focusing on analysis and planning (with clear roles, responsibilities, deliverables and timeframes);
* **Agree on a light structure** that will oversee the implementation of the roadmap;
* **Recognise good practices currently in place** addressing nexus issues
* **Map out the countries** currently discussed in different forums to explore the possibility of implementing the new way of working, and provide recommendations on how to move forward collectively and coherently;
* **Identify areas** addressing the humanitarian-peace-development nexus **that could inform and strengthen the Interim UNDAF Guidance and the HRP guidelines.**
* **Partnerships**, with the aim to share findings and advancements contributing to practice and policy development.

1. **Date, Duration, Location and Format,**

A day and a half on **20-21 October 2016**, with an extra half day for each team to break out for a standalone retreat. **New York City**, with venue tbc.

Facilitation by Ms. **Sarah Cliffe**, Centre on International Cooperation (CIC at New York University), plenary with a mix of preassigned presentations, inter-active discussion and group work as necessary. **Participation limited to 1 or 2 technical experts** per participating organization/agency with exception for organizers demanding additional staff.

Relevant DSA rates by **participant’s parent organization to cover travel, accommodation and meals**. Arrangements for venue, facilitation and coffee breaks by HDN TT and WGT organizers.

1. **Proposed background documents to be developed (draft leads)**

* Draft mapping of relevant processes and policy documents on the humanitarian-development-nexus (**WHO**)
* Mapping of field level efforts and pilot countries associated with these efforts (**all agencies**)
* Draft Paper on Typologies of Response Scenarios, based on the HDAG think piece (**WHO**)
* Peace placement in the Nexus, one pager on the inclusion of Peace into the Humanitarian Development Nexus (**PBSO**)
* A summary of financing implications (**by whom?)**
* Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Key concepts and common understandings (**by whom?**)
  + Analysis of operational current guidance of (Transformative Agenda protocols, UNDAF)
* Share work plan + Draft ToRs of IASC HDN TT & UNWGT (**DOCO, WHO, UNDP PBSO**)[[3]](#footnote-3)
* Two pager, summary of planning tools and process mapping of tools (**UNDP, DOCO, OCHA**)
* Draft Principles of ‘Advancing Collective Outcomes’ (**FAO, UNDP, OCHA**)
* Compendium of Relevant Documents with links (**UNDP**)
* ……

1. **Existing background documents**

* HDAG think piece: After the World Humanitarian Summit. Better Humanitarian Development Cooperation for Sustainable results on the Ground. May 2016.
* Commitment to Action, Istanbul, May 2016.
* The Peace Promise, Istanbul, May 2016.
* The Grand Bargain, Istanbul, May 2016.
* Draft concept paper on United Nations and World Bank Collaboration on Operationalizing the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus in pilot countries.
* IASC Principles paper - Making the Links Work: how the humanitarian and development community can help ensure no one is left behind (the World Bank and FAO)
* Interim UNDAF Guidance
* UN Strategic Framework for Lebanon (draft)
* ……..

1. **Time line - planning and action points** - to be updated

* Zero draft **Concept Note** developed by IASC TT HDN chairs and UNWGT secretariat, for review and further work by retreat planning group, by Tuesday 13Sept.
* Draft **Concept Note** revised and circulated to IASC TT HDN and UNWGT by TT HDN chairs and UNWGT secretariat, by 15 Sept.
* Zero **draft Agenda** and **draft** **invitation** developed by UNWGT secretariat and TT HDN chairs, for review and comment by retreat planning group, by Friday 23 Sept.
* Background documents compiled and organised in adherence with suggested draft agenda by IASC TT chairs.
* UNWGT secretariat to contact facilitator and seek venue.
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1. **Potential target countries [[4]](#footnote-4)**

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| * Afghanistan | * Iraq | * South Sudan |
| * CAR | * **Lebanon** | * **Sudan** |
| * Congo | * Libya | * Syria |
| * Cote D’Ivoire | * Mali | * ….. |
| * **DRC** | * **Somalia** | * ……. |
| * Haiti | * State of Palestine | * ……… |

1. Signed on 23 May 2016 at the WHS in Istanbul by: Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations; Margaret Chan, Director-General, WHO; Helen Clark, Administrator, UNDP; Ertharin Cousin, Executive Director, WFP; Filippo Grandi, UNHCR; José Graziano da Silva, Director-General, FAO; Anthony Lake, Executive Director, UNICEF; Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director, UNFPA; Stephen O’Brien, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator; and endorsed by the World Bank and the IOM. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. A/70/RES/262 and S/RES/2282 (2016) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. With the understanding that individual work plans may change after the retreat. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Initial interest expressed by actors in states in bold [↑](#footnote-ref-4)