

## **Towards a global compact on refugees**

### **Thematic discussion three:**

#### **Meeting needs and supporting communities**

**Palais des Nations, Geneva**

**18 October 2017**

#### **PANEL 1: How can we mobilize more resources for humanitarian and development assistance to host States?**

##### **German Intervention**

Ladies and gentlemen,

We align ourselves with the statement given by the EU on behalf of its member states.

Humanitarian needs in protracted refugee crises can only be met and addressed, but cannot be prevented, reduced and ended by humanitarian assistance alone. We need political, diplomatic and development actors to play their part actively. This is the essence of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

Providing timely and reliable funding for both humanitarian and development purposes to those countries is paramount. The bottom line should be, that ODA per capita to ODA-receiving states does not decline due to the influx of refugees. This could become part of a monitoring framework for the GCR.

Therefore, we encourage and support the intensified partnership of UNHCR with development actors, and in particular the World Bank. This cooperation between UNHCR and the World Bank in the implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework is an excellent example of the benefits of the complementarity of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. The World Bank's increased support for refugee host countries towards more sustainable solutions is an important step in the right direction. We warmly welcome the World Bank's approach towards risk management and preparedness in the refugee context.

Additional humanitarian funding can also be freed up by increasing the overall effectiveness of humanitarian assistance. Germany remains committed to humanitarian reform processes,

such as Grand Bargain, whose ultimate aim is to get more means into the hands of people in need.

Since September, Germany is part of the 2017/2018 Grand Bargain Facilitation Group. In this role, we will actively promote a strengthened quid-pro-quo spirit as well as tangible progress in the field. We believe that alleviating reporting requirements is an important part of what we committed ourselves to as donors at the Grand Bargain. We have taken concrete action in this regard by launching a two-year pilot project.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Germany acknowledges the global public good delivered by the many refugee-hosting countries around the globe. We must not forget that low- and middle-income countries host roughly 90 per cent of the refugees worldwide and bear the brunt of population movements from nearby conflicts due to their geographical proximity.

The Syria Conference in London in 2016 is a good example of how funds are raised to bridge humanitarian and development assistance. To address longer term needs - next to immediate needs - strengthening resilience by creating economic opportunities and jobs and providing education opportunities is indispensable.

Actors on the ground – both from the humanitarian and the development world – need to continue to work closely together to ensure that the immediate and mid- to long-term needs of both refugees and host communities can be met.

This alone, however, will not be enough – we need long-term and predictable partnerships between multilateral and bilateral humanitarian and development actors on an international level.

Germany therefore proposed the idea of a Response Group as a core group that has the convening power to bring all relevant actors on board at the outset of a refugee crisis. The response group should mobilise political commitment, resources, and early joint assessment and joined-up planning between humanitarian, development and other relevant actors, as well as opportunities for legal pathways - in due time and in a concerted manner.

By supporting States in fulfilling their responsibilities vis-à-vis refugees development actors can not only help to address refugees' developmental needs, but also provide strong

incentives to States and Governments to initiate conceptual and structural changes with the aim to integrate refugees into their national and regional development plans.

Thank you.