



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT ON STATELESSNESS: RESULTS AND HIGHLIGHTS



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COVER PHOTOGRAPH:

When asked “who does not have nationality documents?”, villagers universally responded “me!” at a meeting organized by the Côte d’Ivoire Women’s Legal Aid Association in Olleo, Côte d’Ivoire, home to 3,000 people. With the help of a legal aid organization, these villagers will be able to complete the complex process of obtaining identity papers, which help to prove eligibility for nationality. As documented citizens of Côte d’Ivoire, opportunities for them expand, including owning land and property, pursuing education and accessing state health services. © UNHCR/Mark Henley

Introduction from the High Commissioner

I am delighted to present the outcomes of the High-Level Segment on Statelessness (HLS) convened on 7 October 2019 by UNHCR as part of its 70th Executive Committee meeting. Around the world millions of people are stateless and experience severe human rights deprivations as a result. Unable to participate fully in society, the stateless are often relegated to the shadows, and statelessness itself is poorly understood. The HLS, held at the mid-point of the ambitious #IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness (2014-2024) (#IBelong Campaign), gave the international community an unprecedented opportunity to better understand and show its support for this urgent cause. The results were truly remarkable. This publication documents those results, including all 360 pledges received from States, international/regional organizations and civil society organizations.

The next five years present a critical window of opportunity for all of us to implement these pledges and take decisive additional steps. While it's clear that there is genuine, widespread political will to achieve the goals of the #IBelong Campaign, much work remains to be done, and the political will is not the same everywhere. The rise of ethno-nationalism in many parts of the world and other negative developments since the Campaign was launched present new challenges and make the need for stepped up action that much greater. I urge States to draw inspiration from each other's achievements to date, to prioritize rapid implementation of their pledges, and to take even bolder action. Statelessness is a solvable problem in a humanitarian landscape in which solutions are desperately needed. For its part, UNHCR will redouble its efforts to champion everyone's right to a nationality and to support States and others working towards a world in which no one has to suffer the indignities of statelessness.

Filippo Grandi,
United Nations High Commissioner
for Refugees

Background to the High-Level Segment on Statelessness

UNHCR is mandated by the General Assembly to identify and protect stateless persons, and to prevent and reduce statelessness.¹ UNHCR fulfils its mandate by working with governments, other UN agencies and civil society.

A stateless person is a person who is not considered a national by any State under the operation of its law. The causes of statelessness are numerous, including discrimination (e.g., on the basis of gender, ethnicity, religion), conflicts between and gaps in nationality laws, lack of birth registration and State succession. Risks of statelessness may also arise in situations of displacement. Statelessness often puts education, employment, healthcare, housing and other important rights out of reach for those it affects. Stateless persons are also typically unable to participate in political processes. They may even be subject to arrest and arbitrary detention in the countries they live in.

On 4 November 2014, UNHCR launched the ambitious [#IBelong Campaign](#). This followed momentum generated through the [2011 Ministerial Event](#) facilitated by UNHCR to mark the 60th and 50th anniversaries of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951 Convention) and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961 Convention) respectively. As a result of this Ministerial Event and the pledges made there, awareness of the problem grew significantly in all regions.

To achieve the goals of the #IBelong Campaign, the [Global Action Plan to End Statelessness: 2014-2024](#) (Global Action Plan) establishes a guiding framework comprising ten actions to be undertaken by States, with the support of UNHCR and other stakeholders. The Global Action Plan is designed to address existing situations of statelessness and prevent new cases of statelessness from occurring.

1 UNGA Resolutions 50/152, 61/137, 67/149.

Regional organizations have played a pivotal role in advocating for legislative and policy changes to protect stateless persons in their Member States. Prior to the HLS, a number of regional preparatory meetings were held in order to prepare States, international/regional organizations and civil society organizations for the HLS.² These meetings included workshops during which UNHCR provided detailed guidance on the types of pledges to be delivered. The outcomes of these preparatory meetings were significant and helped pave the way for hundreds of concrete, timebound and measurable pledges to be made at the HLS itself.

On 7 October 2019, the HLS gave States an opportunity to highlight their achievements to date and make pledges to be implemented during the second half of the #IBelong Campaign. International organizations (including other UN agencies), regional organizations and civil society organizations also made pledges. A total of 360 pledges were made. 252 of these pledges were made by 66 [States](#) and 108 pledges by 32 [international/regional organizations](#) and [civil society organizations](#). Implementation of these pledges will be vital in addressing the myriad causes of statelessness and in identifying and protecting stateless persons pending their acquisition of a nationality.

The HLS included a panel discussion with the UN Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohammed; UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi; High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Lamberto Zannier; UNHCR's Goodwill Ambassador, Cate Blanchett; and an advocate and activist for the rights of stateless persons, who was formerly stateless herself, Maha Mamo. This was followed by a General Debate during which States noted their achievements and made pledges for additional work on statelessness.

The HLS also included a [Treaty Event](#) and a [Civil Society Event](#). During the Treaty Event, Angola acceded to the 1954 Convention and the 1961 Convention and Colombia ratified the 1954 Convention. The Treaty Event also paid tribute to the 15 other States that had become party to either of or both those Conventions since the launch of the #IBelong Campaign.

The Civil Society Event showcased the achievements and vital efforts made by non-governmental organizations in advocating for the right to a nationality for all. Those who shared their experiences at the event came from a range of countries and regional civil society networks. On the evening of 7 October 2019, Azizbek Ashurov, the head of Ferghana Valley Lawyers without Borders, was honored with the prestigious 2019 Nansen Award, becoming the first person ever to win the award for work on statelessness.

² The regional preparatory meetings were held in Abidjan, Almaty, Bangkok, Casablanca, Centurion, Madrid, Minsk, Nairobi, N'Djamena, Nur-Sultan, Saly and Santiago between June 2018 and August 2019. Reports from those meetings are available at <https://www.unhcr.org/ibelong/high-level-segment-statelessness/>.

Also present at the HLS were formerly stateless persons from all regions of the world who now serve as advocates for the cause of ending statelessness. In addition, an exhibition featuring portraits of individual stateless persons and highlighting aspects of their personal stories was displayed for the duration of the HLS and throughout the week-long Executive Committee meeting. A number of those photographs are reproduced throughout this publication.

This publication contains a [full compendium of the pledges](#) made during the HLS and as such serves as a record that will be helpful in tracking their implementation. It also provides an [analysis of the pledges](#) that gives an indication to the international community concerning progress that can be expected in various areas during the remainder of the #IBelong Campaign.



High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi takes part in a panel discussion with Deputy Secretary-General for the UN, Amina Mohammed, during the HLS.

Opening statement from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Extracts from the [opening statement](#) at the 70th session of UNHCR's Executive Committee

By **Filippo Grandi**, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

7 October 2019

Mr. Chairman,

In 2011, my predecessor convened a ministerial meeting on the 60th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention, and the 50th of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. It is fair to say that until then, the statelessness mandate had been a rather peripheral aspect of UNHCR's work. Clearly, you didn't see it that way. More than 60 states and regional entities came forward with pledges aimed at reducing statelessness, and that groundswell of political will and commitment became the catalyst for the #IBelong Campaign, launched in 2014. Spurred on by the energy that had emerged, we decided to fix a time limit – ten years – to bring statelessness to an end.

Now, as we mark the halfway point, it's time to take stock and renew the commitment that set us on the path towards this bold ambition. This is the aim of the High-Level Segment that will follow in a few moments, as part of this Executive Committee meeting.

When we talk about statelessness, we often find ourselves speaking of laws, documents and other technicalities. These are critical, and are where the hard work has to happen, but when we frame statelessness purely in legal terms, we lose sight of the all-encompassing blight it casts on people's lives, pushing them to the margins of society, denying them basic rights and a sense of identity. This is an area in which – for relatively little investment – wide-reaching impact is within our reach.

Some of you, last year, were present at an ExCom side event at which a young woman who had grown up stateless became the citizen of a country for the first time. It was a deeply emotional experience for everyone present – and that moment, more than any speech or list of pledges, captured what it means to finally belong, after years spent living on the margins. She and a number of formerly stateless people are present here today, and I encourage you to talk to them and understand what citizenship has meant to them. Their stories are what will inspire us as we move ahead.

There have been important achievements in the first half of the Campaign – tackling gender discrimination in nationality laws, introducing laws to avoid childhood statelessness, and developing procedures to find solutions for people who would otherwise be stateless. Certain protracted situations were finally resolved. Fifteen States acceded to one or both of the Statelessness Conventions. Kyrgyzstan became the first State to formally announce that all known cases of statelessness on its territory had been resolved – an achievement that should inspire others. I look forward to honoring a Kyrgyz champion of this campaign, Azizbek Ashurov, at the Nansen Award ceremony this evening.

I also wish to acknowledge the work of UNICEF, UNFPA, the World Bank, and civil society and academic networks – and especially the Geneva-based “Friends” of the campaign, who have been persistent in their advocacy and support. The regional preparatory meetings have been characterized by energy and commitment. I am pleased to share that we have received 171 pledges ahead of today’s event, which has also galvanized other initiatives that may become concrete pledges later.

This is particularly commendable at a time when we are asking a lot of you. At UNHCR, we will also step up our efforts even more to achieve the ambitious collective goal of ending statelessness once and for all.

Panel discussion on statelessness

The HLS began with UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador, Cate Blanchett, interviewing statelessness activist, Maha Mamo, about her decades-long struggle to obtain a nationality. This was followed by a [high-level panel discussion](#) among Cate Blanchett; Maha Mamo; UN Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohammed; UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi; and High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Lamberto Zannier. The discussion was moderated by British TV journalist and presenter, Anita Rani. The forum showed the tangible effects of statelessness on individuals, reinforcing to States and other attendees of the HLS that legislative changes to address statelessness are not simply a matter of changing laws but changing lives.

Quotes from the panel discussion

“What does it feel like to be stateless? And how can we make statelessness tangible and visible, and give it the attention it deserves so we can eradicate it once and for all? There are some very tangible items I have that show that I belong. Day-to-day objects that I take for granted, to be quite frank: my passport, my credit card ..., my Medicare card, and something as simple as my drivers’ license. I’d like you just for a moment to think about the items you have in your own wallet or purse, and how they define you, and what they entitle you to, and what doors they open for you, and how difficult your life would be if you lost these documents, or in fact, never had them in the first place.”

“Every inch of our world is divided into States. States, which you all represent. But where do those people go who don’t belong anywhere? Who are stateless? The stateless people that I have had the privilege to meet tell me that they feel invisible. They are a human void, like this empty chair. All of us who occupy chairs here have the right to a nationality. We exist, we belong. Stateless persons are unseen, and unheard”.

Cate Blanchett, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador



A discussion between UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador, Cate Blanchett and stateless activist Maha Mamo opens the high-level segment on statelessness

“The environment that we’re in is actually much more difficult than the one we were in when ... the #IBelong Campaign started. I think that that is something we need to take into account. We are facing, across the world, a lot of pushback, a lot of people becoming more inclusive of their own, and exclusive of others. ... The UN provides us a platform to convene, to have these conversations, and ... in all the speeches ... that all of us here have made in the last year, none has been more powerful than the experience of Maha. That is what really moves hearts and minds and gets you to leave this room and say “[how can I use my power to] make a change?””

Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations

“Two weeks ago, UNHCR gave me the honor of going to Kyrgyzstan to meet the incredible recipient of this year’s Nansen Award, Azizbek Ashurov. ... I got to meet him and to learn about statelessness firsthand. This incredible, remarkable human being ... has ended statelessness in his nation. ... I met some people whose lives have been turned around because of this, and they all said one thing to me. ... They said, “we didn’t feel like human beings.” It is a huge statement to try and comprehend, and I don’t think many of us can unless we have been in the shoes of a stateless person.”

Anita Rani, British TV journalist and presenter

“There are two Conventions related to statelessness. One is more about protecting people that are stateless. The other one is more about working to eliminate statelessness. That is why we are campaigning so hard for States to accede to these Conventions. ... This is highly significant. It is symbolic, and it is also very practical because once you sign a Convention, then you have to develop legislation that matches that Convention and brings your work on statelessness in line with international standards, and this is where my organization can be helpful. ... We understand the big challenges that States face in developing legislation and applying it, and this is why I think we need to work together on that.”

Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

“I have the privilege today to be here and share my story. Many stateless people couldn't have this, and they wouldn't have this because they don't have their own documents. [They are] not even [able] to travel and enter this building. So what we have to do is to empower those stateless people, to give them the opportunity and the chance to raise awareness. How are you going to solve a problem if you don't listen to the people facing it? My story is just one story. You have millions and millions of other stories. ... So, today, you have the power in your hands to change people's lives. To make them really realize that they belong, and they are human beings. The only message I have today is: make this change. Make this world a better place.”

Maha Mamo, Statelessness activist

“The mandate of minorities is very relevant in this context, because our work is a work aimed at promoting inclusion, promoting integration of societies. ... [In cases of] succession of States, [like] in the case of the Soviet Union, or the former Yugoslavia, ... we saw that internal administrative borders, that didn't really divide people ... suddenly became, overnight, international borders, and they really divided people, and they created, also, legal issues. Some of these problems turned into political problems and generated conflicts. ... Of course, these conflicts have an impact on people, on the identity of people. ... You see instances of people who still have Soviet passports, trying to get home with those, and not being able to travel, and having a limited degree of rights. Our role is ... to look at this complex set of issues, and address them”.

Lamberto Zannier, High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

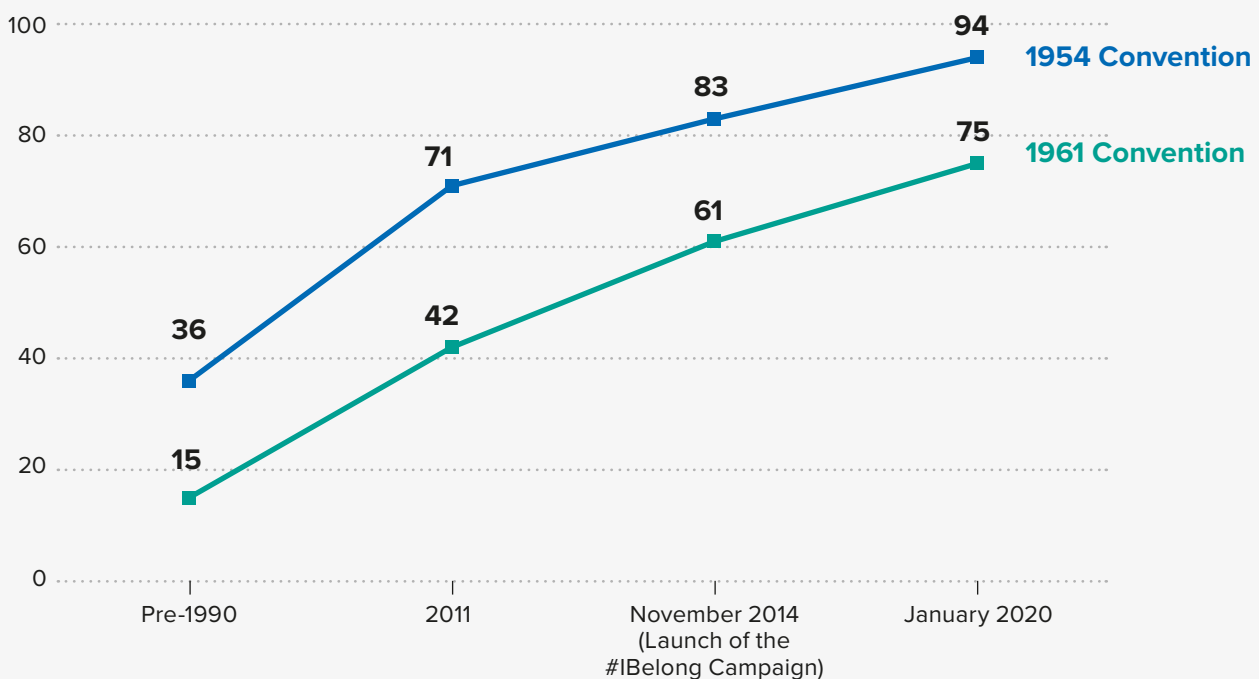
Treaty Event

During the Treaty Event convened at the HLS, Angola acceded to the 1954 Convention and the 1961 Convention, and Colombia ratified the 1954 Convention. Shortly following the HLS, Malta and North Macedonia fulfilled the pledges they made to accede to the 1954 Convention and 1961 Convention, respectively – Malta became party to the 1954 Convention on 11 December 2019, and North Macedonia became party to the 1961 Convention on 3 January 2020. This made the total number of parties to the 1954 Convention 94, and the total number of parties to the 1961 Convention 75.

Between the beginning of 2011 (the year of the intergovernmental event at Ministerial level facilitated by UNHCR to mark the anniversaries of the 1951 Convention and the 1961 Convention) and the HLS, 26 States became party to the [1954 Convention](#) and 36 States became party to the [1961 Convention](#).

Between the launch of the #IBelong Campaign and the commencement of the HLS, 8 States (Chile, El Salvador, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Mali, Niger, Sierra Leone, Turkey) became party to the 1954 Convention, and 12 States (Argentina, Belize, Burkina Faso, Chile, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Italy, Luxembourg, Mali, Sierra Leone, Peru, Spain) became party to the 1961 Convention.

Parties to the Statelessness Conventions





© UNHCR/Jean Marc Ferré

UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi (centre-right) and UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed (centre-left) recognise states that have joined one or both of the UN Statelessness Conventions since UNHCR's #IBelong Campaign was launched in November 2014.

Deputy Secretary-General's remarks at the Treaty Event

By Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

7 October 2019

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I join you today in celebrating the commitment of States to end statelessness. We are here to witness the accession of Angola and Colombia to the Statelessness Conventions. We will also recognize the 15 States that have acceded to one or both of these instruments in the past five years – the first half of UNHCR's decade-long #IBelong Campaign.

I congratulate the people and Governments of all States participating in this ceremony on their commitment to the human rights and dignity of all.

Statelessness makes people invisible. When people are unable to prove their identity, they may be unable to access basic services like education and healthcare.

Statelessness can deny people and communities their identity and sense of self, contributing to the breakdown of family and social relationships and creating legal problems for generations.

And stateless people are voiceless people. Prevented from voting or participating in public life, they are without representation anywhere.

Our world has many problems that are complex and intractable. Statelessness is not one of them. It is a problem we can solve.

The two Conventions on Statelessness help the international community to identify people who are stateless, provide them with a legal identity, assess the reasons for their situation, and find solutions.

The 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness outlines mechanisms to avoid statelessness at birth.

The universal use of these mechanisms would end virtually all statelessness within a single generation.

That is our collective goal and the aspiration of the #IBelong Campaign.

I would also like to acknowledge States that are longstanding parties to these Conventions. These States – whose names appear on the screen in this hall – took action

to end statelessness early, recognizing its very serious impact and consequences. I commend their commitment to the rights and dignity of all.

I understand several States are considering accession. I encourage you to take this step as soon as possible, and assure you that the United Nations – led by UNHCR – will be your committed partner throughout accession and implementation of the Statelessness Conventions.

Finally, I congratulate High Commissioner Grandi and his dedicated staff for their successful Campaign and commitment to ending statelessness by 2024.

The whole United Nations family, and I personally, are fully behind you!



Representative of State Secretary for Human Rights and Citizenship, Ana Celeste Cardoso Januário (far right), Representative of Angola, is recognised by (from left) UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed, and UN Office of Legal Affairs representative Arancha Hinojal, for Angola's accession to both the 1954 Convention and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

NANSEN REFUGEE AWARD



© UNHCR/Mark Henley

UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi presents the 2019 Nansen Refugee Award to human rights lawyer, Azizbek Ashurov. Through his organisation Ferghana Valley Lawyers Without Borders, he has helped well over 10,000 people to gain Kyrgyz nationality after they became stateless following the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Civil Society Event

Civil society actors have played an important role in achieving the goals of the #IBelong Campaign. In the last five years, a number of regional networks made up of civil society organizations focused on statelessness have been established, namely the Americas Network on Nationality and Statelessness (Red ANA), the European Network on Statelessness, the Central Asian Network on Statelessness, the Southern African Nationality Network and the Statelessness Network Asia Pacific.

These regional networks partnered with UNHCR to organize an event, moderated by the European Network on Statelessness, to call attention to the challenges that remain and the efforts of a wide range of actors and activists from around the world to tackle these. The High Commissioner opened the event by stressing the essential nature of the partnership between UNHCR and civil society in affecting change and protecting the right to a nationality; he encouraged those present to keep pressing for UNHCR and others to do more to end statelessness.

The speaker from the Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights addressed its work lobbying for the elimination of gender discrimination in nationality laws, highlighting the progress made in a number of countries around the world, including Madagascar, Sierra Leone and Iran (Islamic Republic of). The speaker from the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion called attention to troubling trends, including higher levels of conflict induced displacement and an increase in discrimination against minorities in many parts of the world. Khalid Hussain, a formerly stateless person, spoke of his experience as a member of the Bihari-Urdu speaking linguistic community in Bangladesh. He petitioned the Bangladeshi Government to ensure his and others' rights to vote in the country, and through community legal empowerment projects, has worked to assist many members in his community to obtain documentation. The speaker from the Southern African Nationality Network addressed linkages in Africa between statelessness and displacement, colonization and Apartheid. Azizbek Ashurov, the [Nansen Award](#) winner for 2019, spoke to convey his hope that the [achievements of the Kyrgyz Republic in eradicating all known cases of statelessness](#) in 2019 could be replicated throughout Central Asia and ultimately worldwide.



© UNHCR/Chris de Bode

The Lyuli community of some 4,600 people live in remote areas of Kyrgyzstan. Their lifestyle is changing from nomadic to sedentary. Azizbek Ashurov, head of the Ferghana Valley Lawyers Without Borders, has joined forces with the Kyrgyz authorities, UNHCR and others to assist the Lyuli community in obtaining documentation and nationality.



Today, millions of people are denied their right to a nationality – often struggling to survive, living on the margins of society around the world

Summary of pledges delivered at the HLS

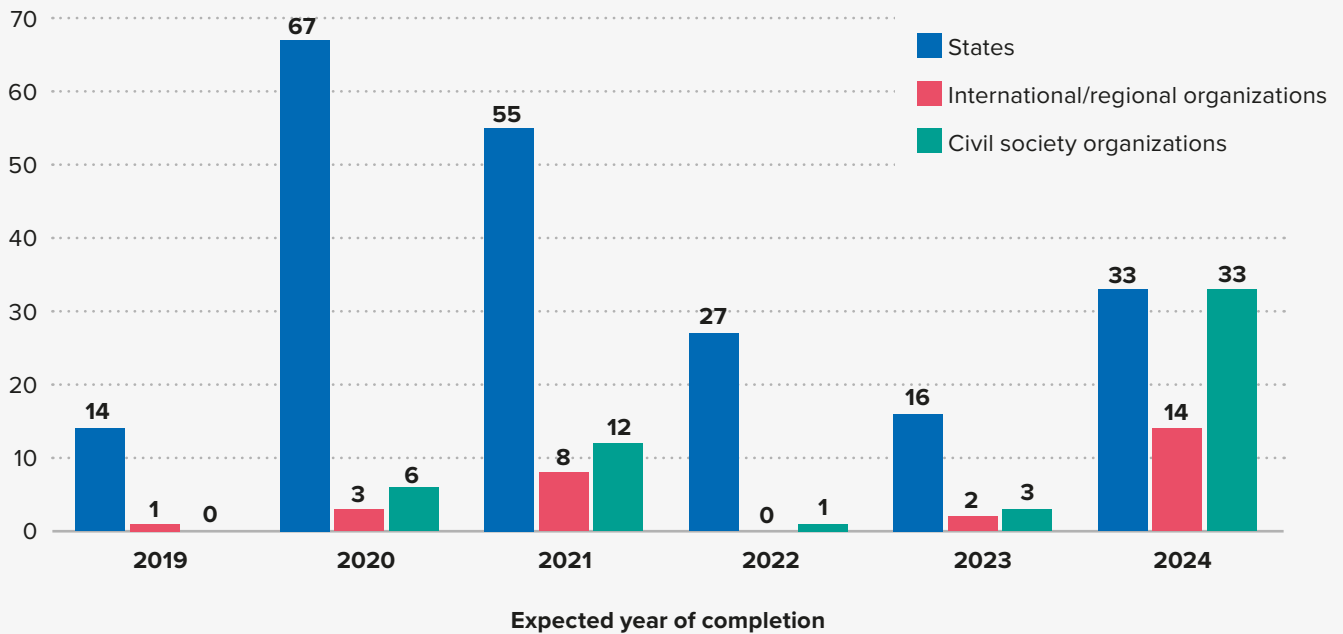
During the HLS, a total of 360 pledges were made by States, international/regional organizations and civil society organizations. A compendium of these pledges, reproduced in full and ordered alphabetically, is [annexed](#) to this publication, and an analysis of the pledges follows below.

Entities	No. of entities	No. of pledges
States	66	252
International/regional organizations	11	38
Civil society organizations	21	70
TOTAL	98	360

Expected dates of completion

The vast majority of the 360 pledges received included an expected date of completion (only 65 pledges did not). Over half the pledges are expected to be completed before 2023.

Number of pledges to be completed in each year



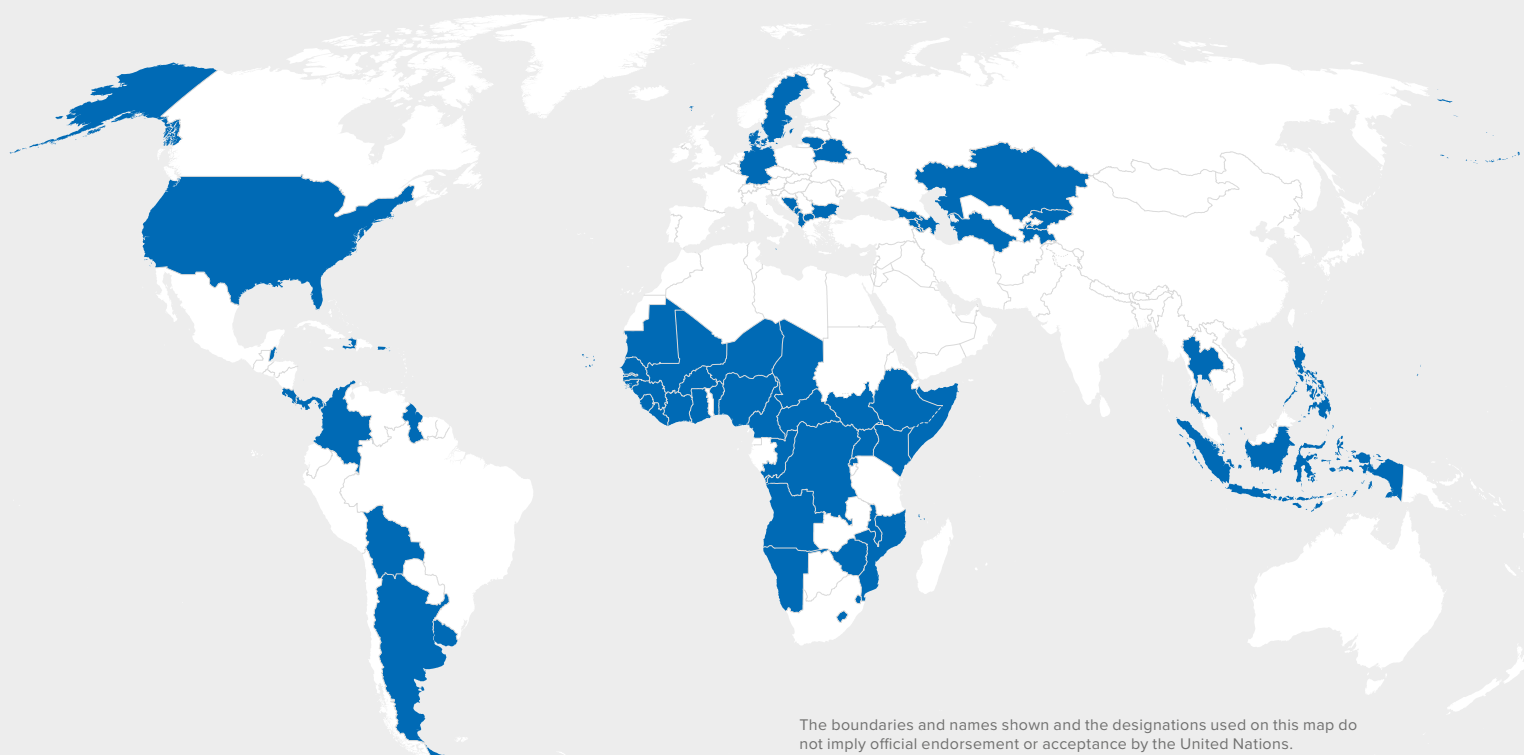
Note: 65 pledges did not include an expected year of completion and are not represented in this graph.

The international/regional organizations that made pledges were:

African Union, Council of Europe, Economic Community of Central African States, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), International Conference of the Great Lakes Region of Africa, Inter-Parliamentary Union, Latin American and Caribbean Council Civil Registration, Identity and Vital Statistics (CLARCIEV), the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the High Commissioner on National Minorities within the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

The civil society organizations that made pledges were:

Americas Network on Nationality and Statelessness (Red ANA), Central Asian Network on Statelessness, Dignity Kwanza, East African Nationality Network, European Network on Statelessness, Fondation Mémoire Albert Cohen, Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights, Innovation and Reform Centre, Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, International Refugee Rights Initiative, Kenya Human Rights Commission, Lawyers for Human Rights, Office of the Public Defender of Georgia, ProBono.Org, Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town, Southern African Nationality Network, Statelessness Network Asia Pacific, United Stateless, World Council of Churches, World Vision Georgia, and Zimbabwe National Council for the Welfare of Children.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Region	No. of States which made	States that made pledges	Total no. of
Americas	10	Argentina, Belize, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guyana, Haiti, Panama, United States of America, Uruguay	35
Asia-Pacific	3	Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand	17
Central Asia	4	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan	12
East and Horn of Africa	6	Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda	29
Europe	14	Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Denmark, Georgia, Germany, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Sweden	40
Middle East and North Africa	1	Mauritania	4
Southern Africa	11	Angola, Comoros, Congo (Republic of), Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe	46
West and Central Africa	17	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone	69

Thematic analysis of pledges

The majority of pledges fall within the scope of one or more of the ten Actions contained within the [Global Action Plan](#), which is the framework for the #IBelong Campaign.

The thematic focuses of pledges which fall directly under one or more of the ten Actions of the Global Action Plan are as follows.

Action 1: Resolve existing major situations of statelessness

Action 2: Ensure that no child is born stateless through establishing or strengthening legal safeguards against childhood statelessness

Action 3: Remove gender discrimination from nationality laws

Action 4: Prevent denial, loss or deprivation of nationality on discriminatory grounds

Action 6: Grant protection status to stateless migrants and facilitate their naturalization

Action 7: Ensure birth registration for the prevention of statelessness

Action 8: Issue nationality documentation to those with entitlement to it

Action 9: Accede to the UN Statelessness Conventions and remove reservations to the Conventions

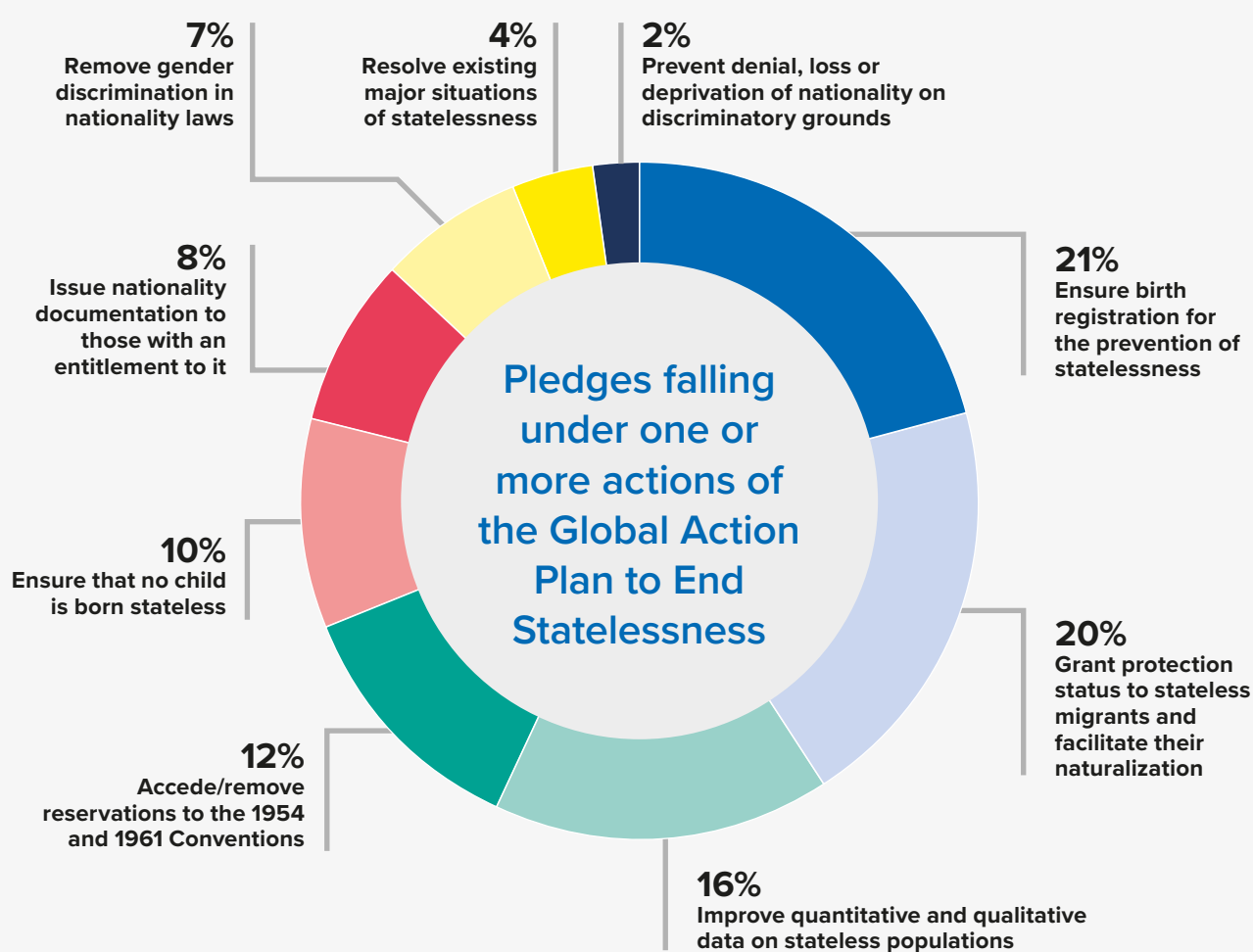
Action 10: Improve qualitative and quantitative data on stateless populations

Pledges which do not fall directly under one or more Actions of the Global Action Plan are nevertheless important to achieving the goals of the #IBelong Campaign.³ For example, several pledges included the establishment of national or regional action plans which will likely encompass various elements of the Global Action Plan.

³ A total of 53 pledges from States, 25 pledges from international/regional organizations and 40 pledges from civil society organizations did not fall directly under one or more of the actions in the Global Action Plan. Some of these pledges do, however, fall into the additional areas of thematic focus identified in this publication. Please also note that some pledges encompassed more than one theme. All pledges are annexed to this publication.

UNHCR identified the following additional areas of thematic focus among the pledges made.

- Establish or implement national and regional action plans on the eradication of statelessness
- Establish a national task force on statelessness
- Conduct fundraising
- Conduct awareness-raising, training and diplomacy towards ending statelessness
- Conduct outreach and provision of legal assistance to stateless persons



Pledges relevant to resolving existing major situations of statelessness (Action 1 of the Global Action Plan)

When the #IBelong Campaign was launched, there were 20 major reported non-refugee statelessness situations. Through changes to legislation or government policies, including measures to recognize populations who did not obtain nationality at the time of State independence, States may resolve these situations.

In July 2019, Kyrgyzstan became the first country to resolve all known cases of statelessness on its territory. Significant reforms pertaining to the resolution of major situations of statelessness have also occurred in Kenya, Malaysia, Thailand and the Russian Federation, and two of these countries made pledges to take further steps. Other States in which major situations of statelessness persist are encouraged to draw inspiration from these efforts and to take the relevant steps to grant nationality to stateless populations on their territory.

Pledges relevant to resolving existing major situations of statelessness	
Total number of entities that made pledges	7
Total number of pledges made	10
Pledges made by States	
Number of States that made pledges	5
States which made pledges	Kenya, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Turkmenistan, Thailand
Number of pledges made by States	7
Pledges made by international/regional organizations	
Number of international/regional organizations that made pledges	0
Number of pledges made by international/regional organizations	0
Pledges made by civil society organizations	
Number of civil society organizations that made pledges	2
Civil society organizations that made pledges	Central Asian Network on Statelessness, Kenya Human Rights Commission
Number of pledges made by civil society organizations	3

Pledges relevant to ensuring no child is born stateless (Action 2 of the Global Action Plan)

The majority of stateless persons have lacked nationality from birth. Since the start of the #IBelong Campaign, 6 States have included provisions in their nationality laws to grant nationality to children born in their territory who would otherwise be stateless, and 2 States have introduced provisions which grant nationality to children of their nationals born abroad who would otherwise be stateless. These developments are positive, but much more must be done in many more States in order to achieve the aim of preventing childhood statelessness entirely. In this regard it is welcome that 27 of the pledges made at the HLS pertain to safeguarding children against statelessness.

Pledges relevant to ensuring no child is born stateless	
Total number of entities that made pledges	27
Total number of pledges made	27
Pledges made by States	
Number of States that made pledges	22
States that made pledges	Albania, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Gambia, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Lithuania, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, South Sudan, Sweden, Uganda, Zimbabwe
Number of pledges made by States	22
Number of pledges involving conferral of nationality on children born in the country who would otherwise be stateless	18
Number of pledges involving safeguarding foundlings against statelessness	13
Number of pledges involving conferral of nationality on children born to nationals abroad who would otherwise be stateless	1
Pledges made by international/regional organizations	

Pledges relevant to ensuring no child is born stateless	
Number of international/regional organizations that made pledges	2
International/regional organizations that made pledges	The High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, UNICEF
Number of pledges made by international/regional organizations	2
Pledges made by civil society organizations	
Number of civil society organizations that made pledges	3
Civil society organizations that made pledges	Central Asian Network on Statelessness, Kenya Human Rights Commission, Statelessness Network Asia Pacific
Number of pledges made by civil society organizations	3

Pledges relevant to removal of gender discrimination from nationality laws (Action 3 of the Global Action Plan)

Gender discrimination in nationality laws can either relate to the conferral of nationality to [children](#) or to spousal acquisition, change and retention of nationality. Such laws create risks of statelessness where, for example, one parent is not permitted to pass their nationality on to their child and the other parent is stateless, unknown, unable or unwilling to complete the administrative requirements to confer nationality or to obtain documentation to prove the nationality of the child.

In 2014, there were 27 States in which women could not confer nationality to their children on an equal basis to men. Since then, Sierra Leone and Madagascar have amended their nationality laws to permit men and women to pass nationality to their children on an equal basis.

In Lesotho, legal reforms have given women the same ability to confer nationality on their spouses as men. At present, over 60 States have nationality laws which discriminate between men and women with respect to spousal acquisition, change and retention of nationality.

The 20 pledges which relate to Action 3 of the Global Action Plan made during the HLS will help ensure that all States have nationality laws which treat women and men equally.

Pledges relevant to removal of gender discrimination from nationality laws	
Total number of entities that made pledges	15
Total number of pledges made	20
Pledges made by States	
Number of States that made pledges	6
States that made pledges	Central African Republic, Congo (Republic of), Côte d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Liberia, Nigeria
Number of pledges made by States	6
Number of pledges involving conferral of nationality on children	2
Number of pledges relating to spousal acquisition, change and retention of nationality	4

Pledges relevant to removal of gender discrimination from nationality laws	
Pledges made by international/regional organizations	
Number of international/regional organizations that made pledges	4
International/regional organizations that made pledges	Inter-Parliamentary Union, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, UNICEF
Number of pledges made by international/regional organizations	5
Pledges made by civil society organizations	
Number of civil society organizations that made pledges	5
Civil society organizations that made pledges	Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights, Lawyers for Human Rights, Southern African Nationality Network, Statelessness Network Asia Pacific, World Council of Churches
Number of pledges made by civil society organizations	9



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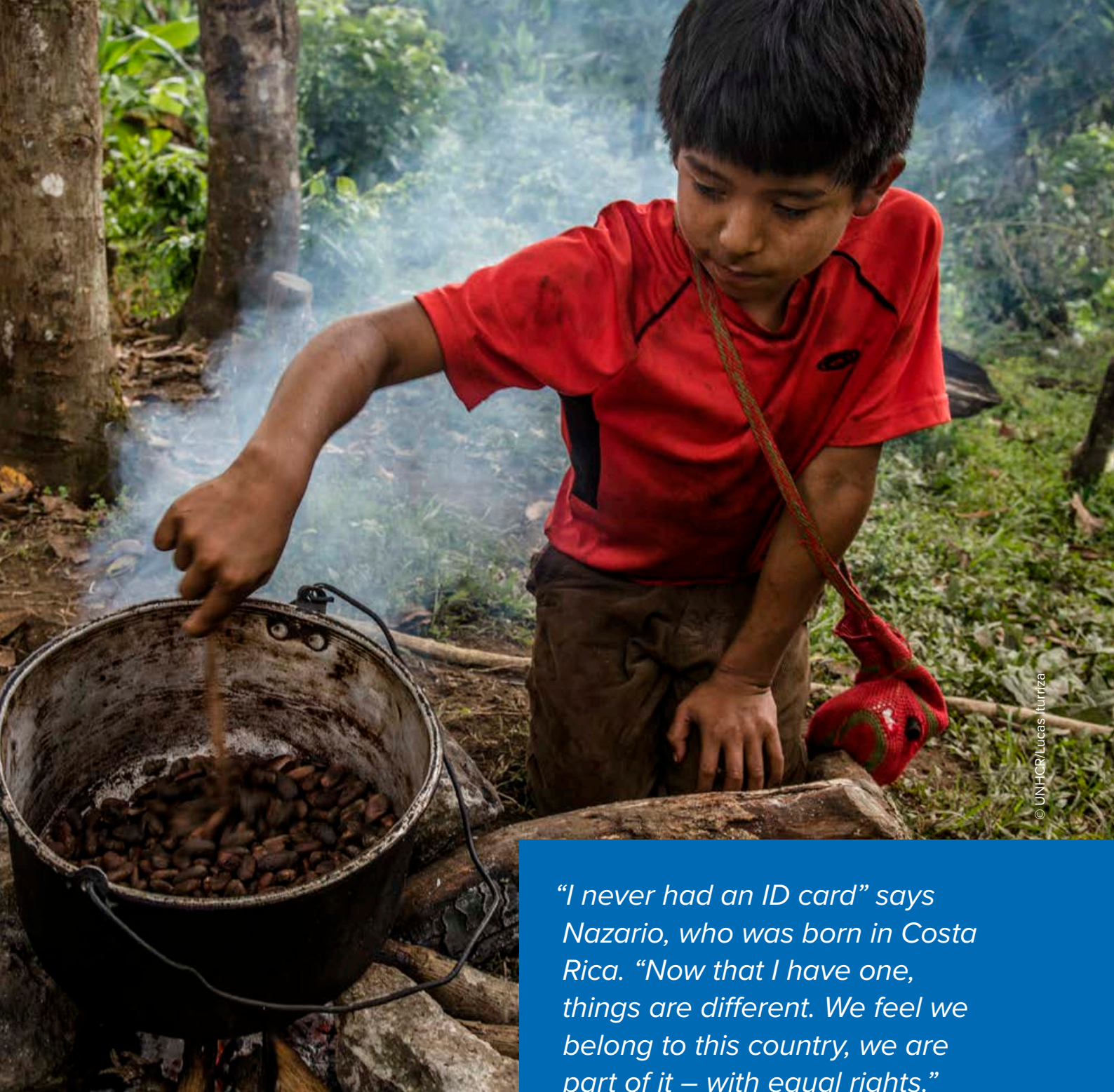
“Because they don’t have a nationality, they face a lot of problems in school and with their friends. They feel so bullied and are always put to shame.”
– Georgia

Georgia is a Liberian citizen. Her children were born in Nigeria to a Nigerian father who passed away. Their births were never registered in Nigeria and thus, they were never able to establish their entitlement to Nigerian citizenship. Now, living in Liberia, Georgia’s children are stateless and unable to obtain nationality documents since local laws prohibit her from passing on her citizenship to them. Liberia is one of 25 countries that maintain such provisions, and is currently revising its nationality law, which may eventually allow Georgia to attain citizenship for her children.

Pledges relevant to prevention of denial, loss or deprivation of nationality on discriminatory grounds (Action 4 of the Global Action Plan)

Over three-quarters of the world's known statelessness populations belong to ethnic, racial, religious and/or linguistic [minority groups](#). Since the launch of the #IBelong Campaign, no State has amended its laws to remove provisions which permit denial, loss or deprivation of nationality on discriminatory grounds. The 5 pledges made on this subject are therefore notable, and the advocacy efforts of international/regional organizations and civil society organizations will be important in fostering reform in States' nationality laws to remove such discrimination.

Pledges relevant to prevention of denial, loss or deprivation of nationality on discriminatory grounds	
Total number of entities that made pledges	4
Total number of pledges made	5
Pledges made by States	
Number of States that made pledges	2
States which made pledges	Uganda, Congo (Republic of)
Number of pledges made by States	2
Pledges made by international/regional organizations	
Number of international/regional organizations that made pledges	0
Number of pledges made by international/regional organizations	0
Pledges made by civil society organizations	
Number of civil society organizations that made pledges	2
Civil society organizations that made pledges	International Refugee Rights Initiative, World Council of Churches
Number of pledges made by civil society organizations	3



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“I never had an ID card” says Nazario, who was born in Costa Rica. “Now that I have one, things are different. We feel we belong to this country, we are part of it – with equal rights.”

Nazario recently had his Costa Rican nationality confirmed through a cross-border partnership that led to the confirmation of nationality for persons from the indigenous Ngöbe Bugle communities, traditionally residing in both Costa Rica and Panama. Many children were not registered at birth, leaving their right to either Panamanian or Costa Rican nationality uncertain. Through a mapping exercise of more than 2,000 remote coffee farm communities in the border areas, many indigenous children like Nazario are now able to access the rights that Costa Rican nationality brings, including schooling and health care.

Pledges relevant to granting protection status to stateless migrants and facilitating their naturalization (Action 6 of the Global Action Plan)

The 1954 Convention establishes a regime to protect the rights of stateless persons. While it does not explicitly require the establishment of statelessness determination procedures, it is implicit in the 1954 Convention that States must identify stateless persons within their jurisdictions so as to provide them appropriate treatment in order to comply with their Convention commitments. A large proportion of the pledges made at the HLS pertained to establishing statelessness determination procedures and facilitating the naturalization of stateless persons.

Pledges relevant to granting protection status to stateless migrants and facilitating their naturalization	
Total number of entities that made pledges	42
Total number of pledges made	57
Pledges made by States	
Number of States that made pledges	37
States that made pledges	Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chad, Colombia, Congo (Republic of), Costa Rica, Denmark, Eswatini, Gambia, Georgia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Malawi, Mali, Montenegro, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Number of pledges made by States	52
Number of pledges including implementation/strengthening of statelessness determination procedures	33
Number of pledges including facilitating naturalization for stateless persons	15
Number of pledges including enhancing human rights protection for stateless persons	7

Pledges relevant to granting protection status to stateless migrants and facilitating their naturalization

Pledges made by international/regional organizations

Number of international/regional organizations that made pledges	2
International/regional organizations that made pledges	Council of Europe, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
Number of pledges made by international/regional organizations	2

Pledges made by civil society organizations

Number of civil society organizations that made pledges	3
Civil society organizations that made pledges	European Network on Statelessness, Office of the Public Defender of Georgia, Americas Network on Nationality and Statelessness (Red ANA)
Number of pledges made by civil society organizations	3



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“The future is clearer and brighter. It’s as if you are giving us a kerosene light to brighten our path and give us hope!”

Niba’s grandmother, Wanita, a 70 year old of Sama Bajau ethnicity, said this about the pilot project to register the births of 1,500 people. Niba, 19, pictured here with her son Gabriel, 4 months, are Sama Bajau, an indigenous and nomadic ethnic minority who live mostly on the sea in the southern Philippines and often cross borders into Malaysia and Indonesia. They have been without documentation for decades, and Niba’s family hopes that the registration process, beginning September 2019, will allow younger generations of Sama Bajau to go to school.

Pledges relevant to birth registration for the prevention of statelessness (Action 7 of the Global Action Plan)

Birth registration constitutes important proof of nationality or eligibility for nationality, and lack of birth registration creates risks of statelessness. Over one-fifth of pledges received at the HLS relate to improving birth registration procedures. It will be important to build on this momentum to ensure an end to statelessness owing to lack of birth registration.

Pledges relevant to birth registration for the prevention of statelessness	
Total number of entities that made pledges	44
Total number of pledges made	60
Pledges made by States	
Number of States that made pledges	36
States which made pledges	Albania, Angola, Argentina, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Republic of), Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Mauritania, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Montenegro, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Number of pledges made by States	50
Pledges made by international/regional organizations	
Number of international/regional organizations that made pledges	3
International/regional organizations that made pledges	Council of Europe, International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa, High Commissioner for Minority Rights and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
Number of pledges made by international/regional organizations	3

Pledges relevant to birth registration for the prevention of statelessness	
Pledges made by civil society organizations	
Number of civil society organizations that made pledges	5
Civil society organizations that made pledges	Central Asian Network on Statelessness, Lawyers for Human Rights, Statelessness Network Asia Pacific, World Council of Churches, Zimbabwe National Council for the Welfare of Children
Number of pledges made by civil society organizations	7



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*“I feel like I am born again.
Now I am free.”*

Tina is one of some 6,000 Makonde people who have received ID cards and citizenship from Kenya in 2017, after the Government declared the Makonde community its 43rd tribe, paving the way for eventual naturalization. Makonde communities have been in the country since the British colonial period, having originally arrived as labourers from Mozambique.

Pledges relevant to issuing nationality documentation to those with entitlement to it (Action 8 of the Global Action Plan)

While lack of documentation alone does not usually mean a person is stateless, denial of nationality documentation due to discrimination against particular groups who are not recognized as nationals is a major cause of statelessness. To address statelessness caused in this way, procedures to obtain documentation should be affordable, accessible and implemented in a non-discriminatory manner.

Since the launch of the #IBelong Campaign, Kyrgyzstan is the only State which has issued nationality documentation to all persons with entitlement to it. Progress has also been made in Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Iraq, Kenya, Latvia, Malaysia, Niger, Philippines, Tajikistan, Thailand and Yemen.

Pledges relevant to issuing nationality documentation to those with entitlement to it	
Total number of entities that made pledges	18
Total number of pledges made	21
Pledges made by States	
Number of States that made pledges	14
States which made pledges	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Montenegro, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda
Number of pledges made by States	17
Pledges made by international/regional organizations	
Number of international/regional organizations that made pledges	2
International/regional organizations that made pledges	Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Pledges relevant to issuing nationality documentation to those with entitlement to it	
Number of pledges made by international/ regional organizations	2
Pledges made by civil society organizations	
Number of civil society organizations that made pledges	2
Civil society organizations that made pledges	Kenya Human Rights Commission, Statelessness Network Asia Pacific
Number of pledges made by civil society organizations	2

Pledges relevant to accession and/or removal of reservations to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions (Action 9 of the Global Action Plan)

The 1954 Convention and the 1961 Convention are key international treaties designed to prevent and reduce statelessness and ensure that stateless persons enjoy appropriate treatment. 83 States were party to the 1954 Convention and 61 States were party to the 1961 Convention at the time that the #IBelong Campaign was launched. As of January 2020, there are 94 parties to the 1954 Convention and 75 parties to the 1961 Convention. 25 States made pledges involving accession to and/or withdrawal of reservations to one or both of the Conventions.

Pledges relevant to accession and/or removal of reservations to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions	
Total number of entities that made pledges	30
Total number of pledges made	33
Pledges made by States	
Number of States that made pledges	25
States which made pledges	Belarus, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo (Republic of), Democratic Republic of the Congo, Germany, Ghana, Mauritania, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Malta, Namibia, North Macedonia, Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sweden, Tajikistan, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Number of pledges made by States	28
Number of pledges involving accession to one or both of the UN Statelessness Conventions	24
Number of pledges involving removal of reservations to the UN Statelessness Conventions	4

Pledges relevant to accession and/or removal of reservations to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions	
Pledges made by international/regional organizations	
Number of international/regional organizations that made pledges	1
International/regional organizations that made pledges	Council of Europe
Number of pledges made by international/regional organizations	1
Pledges made by civil society organizations	
Number of civil society organizations that made pledges	4
Civil society organizations that made pledges	Central Asian Network on Statelessness, Dignity Kwanza, Americas Network on Nationality and Statelessness (Red ANA), Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town
Number of pledges made by civil society organizations	4



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“I feel that I belong here, too.”

Mivtar and his daughter Lirije are members of the Roma population in North Macedonia. They were left stateless by the dissolution of Yugoslavia in the 1990s. Lacking birth certificates and other forms of documentation, Roma were given a window of twelve months in 1992 to apply for naturalization; but many missed the application period. As a result many Roma children could not be registered. Recently, with the assistance of a legal association, there have been positive changes, and children like Lirije have been able to obtain birth certificates and access to schooling. Such initiatives play an important role in countering the widespread discrimination and poverty affecting the Roma community.

Pledges relevant to the improvement of quantitative and qualitative data on stateless populations (Action 10 of the Global Action Plan)

Measuring statelessness is challenging given that stateless persons often live in precarious situations on the margins of society. In addition to often being undocumented, stateless persons are frequently uncounted in administrative registries, national databases and population censuses. Since 2014, qualitative studies on stateless populations have been conducted in 25 States. Currently, quantitative population data on stateless populations in 78 States, and qualitative analyses on stateless populations in at least 70 States, is publicly available.

The 46 pledges made on improving data on stateless persons represent a growing awareness of the need to collect further information on stateless persons. It is particularly notable that 9 pledges were made by States to include questions pertaining to statelessness in their national population census questionnaires.

Pledges relevant to the improvement of quantitative and qualitative data on stateless populations	
Total number of entities that made pledges	42
Total number of pledges made	46
Pledges made by States	
Number of States that made pledges	34
States that made pledges	Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Belize, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Republic of), Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Zimbabwe
Number of pledges made by States	38
Number of pledges involving conducting studies to obtain new data	30
Number of pledges that encompass including questions on statelessness in census questionnaire	9

Pledges relevant to the improvement of quantitative and qualitative data on stateless populations	
Pledges made by international/regional organizations	
Number of international/regional organizations that made pledges	3
International/regional organizations that made pledges	African Union, Economic Community of Central African States, International Conference of the Great Lakes Region of Africa
Number of pledges made by international/regional organizations	3
Pledges made by civil society organizations	
Number of civil society organizations that made pledges	5
Civil society organizations that made pledges	ProBono.Org, Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town, Southern African Nationality Network, Statelessness Network Asia Pacific, United Stateless
Number of pledges made by civil society organizations	5

National/regional action plans on ending statelessness and national task forces on statelessness

16 States (Angola, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Liberia, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe) made a total of 16 pledges involving the establishment or implementation of national or regional action plans on ending statelessness. 4 States (Angola, Comoros, Kenya, Rwanda) pledged to create a national task force on statelessness.

3 international/regional organizations (Economic Community of Central African States, Economic Community of West African States, International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa) made a total of 4 pledges involving the drafting, adoption or implementation of a regional action plan.

5 civil society organizations (Dignity Kwanza, East African Nationality Network, Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights, Lawyers for Human Rights, Southern African Nationality Network) made a total of 5 pledges involving supporting governments in the establishment or implementation of national or regional action plans.

Fundraising, awareness-raising, diplomacy and training

9 States (Angola, Argentina, Bolivia (the Plurinational State of), Cameroon, Chad, Georgia, Guyana, Sierra Leone, Uruguay), 1 international organization (Inter-Parliamentary Union) and 6 civil society organizations (East African Nationality Network, Kenya Human Rights Commission, Lawyers for Human Rights, Americas Network on Nationality and Statelessness (Red ANA), Southern African Nationality Network, United Stateless, World Council of Churches) made a total of 22 pledges involving awareness-raising, training or fundraising initiatives on statelessness.

5 States (Montenegro, Philippines, Thailand, United States of America, Uruguay) and 2 regional organizations (Economic Community of West African States and The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) made a total of 8 pledges involving diplomacy to advocate for the eradication of statelessness.

Outreach and assistance to stateless persons

6 civil society organizations (Innovation and Reform Centre, Lawyers for Human Rights, ProBono.Org, Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town, Southern African Nationality Network, World Vision Georgia) made a total of 7 pledges involving outreach and provision of (legal) assistance to stateless persons.

Closing statement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Extracts from the closing statement at the 70th session of the Executive Committee

By Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

11 October 2019

I am grateful to all of you for your strong engagement on statelessness, and the many concrete pledges that have been made. We will all take away from the debate a much deeper understanding of the causes and consequences of statelessness in people's lives, and the very practical steps that can help resolve this deeply harmful form of exclusion. The strong commitment of the Deputy Secretary-General, of the many high-level delegations that participated in the debate, and of civil society, was evident.

[...]

[The pledges on statelessness received] relate to many of the actions in the Global Plan to End Statelessness, including the protection of stateless people, ratification or accession to the two statelessness conventions (or removal of reservations), naturalization provisions, and birth registration.

They also included pledges from five States to take action in relation to gender discrimination in their nationality laws. These are enormously significant and will help ensure a future in which no child is born stateless. I wish to strongly encourage the remaining States who still have some form of gender discrimination in their nationality legislation to address this as a matter of urgency. This is a critical issue for women, and a fundamental aspect of the #IBelong Campaign going forward.

Pledges were also made on ensuring better data, including through census exercises. These will help spur awareness and ensure that action is strategic and targeted. I was also very encouraged by the high level of media attention – including social media – which the event and our Nansen Award laureate have helped generate – giving the issue of stateless a visibility that it has never had before. I wish to thank all of you for your very strong support and engagement.

The concrete and time-bound pledges we received this week will undoubtedly help propel the second half of the #IBelong Campaign forward, with positive consequences for stateless people around the world. The pledges will feed into the Global Refugee Forum outcome document and will be followed up through the mechanisms associated with it. I want to assure you of UNHCR's strong commitment over the next five years to supporting your work to implement them. To achieve these by 2024, action needs to start now, as there is much work to do.

And for those of you who did not submit formal pledges, I hope that our discussions will have inspired you to become advocates for this issue in your capitals. I understand that some States plan to announce their intention to accede to the Statelessness Conventions in the very near future, and others will do so once they have introduced the systems needed for their implementation. These will be significant and critical contributions to our collective goal to end statelessness by 2024.



UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Cate Blanchett and formerly stateless activist Maha Mamo take a selfie at a press conference after the opening of UNHCR's 70th Executive Committee meeting.

Annex: Compendium of pledges delivered at the HLS

This is a compendium of all 360 pledges received. Pledges that were submitted in languages other than English have been translated into English. These are unofficial translations.

Pledges made by States

252 pledges on statelessness were made by 66 States.

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Albania		
By 2020, the Republic of Albania commits to establish by law, and implement, a dedicated statelessness determination procedure, which includes basic procedural safeguards, and the rights and obligations (legal status) of stateless persons in line with the provisions of the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.	2020	6
By 2019, the Republic of Albania commits to align its Law on Citizenship with, and effectively reduce the risk of statelessness in accordance with, the key provisions of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, and of the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons as regards the naturalisation of stateless persons.	2019	2, 6
By 2021, the Republic of Albania commits to fully implement the 2018 legislative amendments that improve access to birth registration procedures for children of Roma and Egyptian communities, and for children born outside the territory of the Republic of Albania whose parents are nationals of the Republic of Albania.	2021	7
Angola		
The Government of Angola hereby commits to broaden the basis of civil status registration for nationals born in Angola, irrespective of their nationality, as well as for Angolans living abroad.	2024	7
The Government of Angola hereby commits to establish a Technical Group for the Eradication of Statelessness and a National Action Plan.	2020	Other (National Action Plan)
The Government of Angola hereby commits to sensitize the local population and the implementation of the two United Nations Conventions on statelessness from 1954 and 1961.	2024	Other (awareness raising/training)
Argentina		
The Government of the Republic of Argentina hereby commits to provide CONARE with the necessary resources and trainings to implement the statelessness determination procedure no later than 6 months from the enactment of the Law.	2020	6
The Government of the Republic of Argentina hereby commits to take the necessary administrative measures so that the children of naturalized Argentine citizens who are in a situation of statelessness or at risk of statelessness abroad can have access to the procedure for opting for the Argentine nationality.	2020	6
The Government of the Republic of Argentina hereby commits to take all the necessary measures before the pertinent judicial authorities in order to facilitate and promote the naturalisation of persons recognised as stateless, in accordance with Article 32 of the 1954 Convention.	No year of completion indicated	6
The Government of the Republic of Argentina hereby commits to develop studies, in coordination with UNHCR, in order to find out about the problems of under-registration of births in all provinces of the country.	2022	7, 10

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
The Government of the Republic of Argentina hereby commits to develop awareness and sensitisation campaigns aimed at mothers and fathers on the importance of birth registration and the subsequent acquisition of documentation, with a focus on public healthcare centres, as well as training and awareness activities for authorities of healthcare facilities and for officials of the Civil Registry, especially for those outside of the capitals, so that they register births correctly, without discrimination and without demanding additional documents to those established by current law.	2023	7
The Government of the Republic of Argentina hereby commits to strengthen the coordination through the Federal Council of Civil Registries, as a formal institutional space for the exchange of good practices and challenges and to coordinate efforts in favour of birth registration.	2023	7
The Government of the Republic of Argentina hereby commits: Within the framework of the Latin American and Caribbean Council for Civil Registration, Identification, and Vital Statistics Annual Conference (CLARCIEV), to promote the exchange of good practices to prevent and solve cases of statelessness within the scope of the Civil Registry, and to foster, in coordination with other relevant bodies, a comparative study of the laws, policies, administrative practices and jurisprudence concerning the birth registration, thus allowing the identification of existing standards and gaps that cause cases of statelessness or that hinder the solution of existing cases.	2022	7
The Government of the Republic of Argentina hereby commits to promote awareness and training activities on statelessness within the framework of MERCOSUR, both within the CONARES Meeting and the High-Level and Human Rights Authorities Meeting.	2021	Other (awareness raising/training)
The Government of the Republic of Argentina hereby commits to undertake, in coordination with UNHCR, seminars on statelessness for officials of the Judiciary, in order to facilitate comprehension of the problem as an issue of human rights, to increase the level of knowledge about this problem and to favour its prevention.	2022	Other (awareness raising/training)
Armenia		
The Government of the Republic of Armenia hereby commits: To review the national legislation on Nationalities (“Citizenship”) to establish legal grounds for decreasing the number of stateless persons and ensure proper mechanisms for guaranteeing the exercise of their rights.	2024	6
The Government of the Republic of Armenia hereby commits: To conduct a comprehensive study on the status of stateless persons in order to reveal the gaps in the sphere, to map issues and to make suggestions on addressing the main challenges of the field.	2020	10
The Government of the Republic of Armenia hereby commits: To further amend the provisions of the national legislation on Nationalities (“Citizenship”) that may cause statelessness (i.e. pursuing the legislative initiative to amend the citizenship law for putting safeguards during renunciation process).	2020	Other

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Azerbaijan		
The Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan hereby commits to carry out measures in order to ensure naturalization of 545 stateless persons permanently residing in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan within the next 3 years.	2022	6
Belarus		
The Government of the Republic of Belarus hereby commits to implement a project aiming at providing assistance to vulnerable categories of stateless persons willing to acquire the citizenship of the Republic of Belarus and regularize their status in the territory of Belarus.	2020	6
The Government of the Republic of Belarus hereby commits to accede to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on Reduction of Statelessness after finalizing all relevant internal proceedings.	2020	9
The Government of the Republic of Belarus hereby commits to include a statelessness-related question into the 2019 census of the population of the Republic of Belarus.	2020	10
Belize		
<p>The Government of Belize hereby commits: A well-functioning system of birth registration events promotes the civil rights and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the management and delivery of government services, including health and social welfare benefits to the people. It is also the source of reliable, current and continuous information on vital events that would support informed decision at all levels. Although the birth registration system has been operational in Belize for many decades, it has not yet reached its full potential.</p> <p>In 2015 UNICEF and the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) conducted a Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey which revealed that approximately four percent of children remain outside of the system and are not registered at all. The children from poor families and those in rural areas are least likely to have a birth certificate. Children in the Toledo district are somewhat less likely to have their births registered than other children, as are children in the poorest households. It is good that the country has achieved a birth registration coverage rate of 96% and very few countries have this record. But in terms of child's rights and other human rights, four percent of the population between the ages of 0 - 5 is still not registered and therefore not counted.</p> <p>In 2016 the Government of Belize commissioned the development of a Bottleneck Analysis of Birth Registration. The analysis was commissioned in order to provide an opportunity to take stock of the current performance practices and levels and serve as a foundation to devise comprehensive and holistic strategies to effectively ensure the attainment of an effective and efficient Birth Registration (BR) system. During the assessment of the birth registration system and the bottleneck analysis, a Steering Committee was set up after a thorough analysis of all the stakeholders. The committee is composed of governmental institutions and UN agencies closely associated with the BR system. These key institutions are those that are important and influential in the system and are important to the outcome of the reform process.</p>	2022	7

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
<p>The same Steering Committee oversees the entire reform planning exercise and have developed a drafted plan with a multitude of activities to be carried out between 2019-2022 with the goal of carrying out a holistic review of the National Birth Registration system and address the gaps identified in the bottleneck analysis by proposing the change of some existing government processes, while reinforcing good practices.</p> <p>The plan has been drafted and is currently undertaking implementation through utilizing public funding, and other available external resources that are offered through the support of UNHCR, UNICEF and other stakeholders.</p> <p>This commitment corresponds to recommendation “6.90. Continue and expand the current efforts to make birth registration more accessible and efficient (Guyana)” of the Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review Thirty-first session, Geneva, 5–16 November 2018.</p>		
<p>The Government of Belize hereby commits: Belize is party to both conventions on statelessness and acknowledges the recommendation on the adoption of a comprehensive internal legislation establishing a statelessness determination procedure to identify and guarantee the rights and protection of stateless persons. Statelessness in Belize is not perceived, however, as a major issue.</p> <p>Belize has a birth coverage rate of 96%. Furthermore, the Belizean Constitution guarantees through the Immigration Act that any individual born in Belize, notwithstanding the immigration status of the parents, is automatically a Belizean; and any individual born in any jurisdiction or any undefined jurisdiction, having one parent as a Belizean, is automatically deemed to be a Belizean by descent. Considering this, it is a rare occurrence that a Belizean should remain stateless. This notwithstanding, there may be instances of statelessness along the border communities of Belize. In this regard, Belize commits to undertake a gap analysis on the national level to determine the scale of the challenge of statelessness in Belize, and further establish an appropriate mechanism to guarantee the rights and protection of stateless persons in Belize. This would be a necessary step in determining the need for possible legislative review with a view to making appropriate amendments.</p> <p>Acknowledging the gravity of the situation of a stateless person and the current legal gap of a concrete structure on statelessness, Belize identifies this as a pragmatic approach in the work toward combating statelessness.</p> <p>This commitment corresponds to recommendation “6.97. Adopt national legislation on statelessness, in particular regarding a statelessness determination procedure to identify and guarantee the rights and protection of stateless persons (Mexico)” and recommendation “6.98. Adopt comprehensive legislation establishing a statelessness determination procedure to identify and guarantee the rights and protection of stateless persons (Serbia)”, of the Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review Thirty-first session, Geneva, 5–16 November 2018.</p>	2024	6, 10

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Benin		
The Government of the Republic of Benin hereby commits to reform the Beninese Nationality Code by 2020 at the latest in order to remove the discriminatory provisions contained in Articles 12 and 13.	2020	Other
The Government of the Republic of Benin hereby commits to undertake a rapid review of Benin's National Plan of Action to combat statelessness with a view to bringing it into line with the Banjul Plan of Action subsequently adopted.	2019	Other (National Action Plan)
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		
The Bolivian State is committed to coordinating and working with UNHCR to conduct training workshops and/or seminars on statelessness and refugees, to raise awareness and foster a common understanding around these topics.	2020	Other (awareness raising/training)
Bosnia and Herzegovina		
By 2022, Bosnia and Herzegovina commits to develop dedicated statelessness determination procedure and provide stateless persons rights in accordance with international conventions (the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons).	2022	6
By 2023, Bosnia and Herzegovina commits to improve birth registration of all children regardless of their status or status of their parents or lack of identity documents through changes to the legislation on civil registration and through improvement of birth registration practice. These actions will facilitate registration of children born abroad by BiH parents and registration of children born in BiH by undocumented parents (asylum seekers and migrants).	2023	7
By 2022, Bosnia and Herzegovina commits to ensure issuance of nationality documents to persons who are entitled to nationality under law but cannot acquire documentary proof are enabled to do so. Furthermore, Bosnia and Herzegovina commits to create mechanism for regulating status of persons in situation of displacement who stay in BiH for a long time (citizens of former SFRY) and who never registered residence.	2022	8
By the end of 2020, Bosnia and Herzegovina will develop a state action plan for ending statelessness by 2024 in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders at state, entity, Brcko District, cantonal and municipal/city levels.	2020	6, 7, 8, Other (National Action Plan)
Bulgaria		
The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria hereby commits to initiate the procedure under national law to withdraw the reservation imposed by the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to Article 31 of the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.	2021	9
The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria hereby commits to a regular review of the relevance of the reservations imposed by Bulgaria in 2011 to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.	2022	9

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria hereby commits to take action to improve the procedure to grant statelessness status and to consider the necessity of introducing a quality assessment mechanism for this procedure.	2023	6
The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria hereby commits to include stateless persons among persons subject to the National census 2021.	2021	10
Burkina Faso		
The setting up of a law relating to the status of stateless persons will consist of the preparation and the submission by the Government of a draft bill on the status of stateless persons to the National Assembly for adoption, in accordance with the legislative procedure in force in Burkina Faso.	2020	6
Establish a Statelessness Determination Procedure in Burkina Faso in relation to Action 6 of the Global Plan of Action.	2021	6
Reforming the law on nationality and civil status with a view to correcting the shortcomings that can lead to statelessness, as revealed by the study on statelessness in Burkina Faso concluded in 2018. This commitment is linked to Action 2 of the Global Action Plan.	2020	2
Cabo Verde		
Accede to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. In order to meet this commitment, it is necessary to request the opinion of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the entity responsible for external relations. After the opinion is delivered, the accession process is referred to the President for approval by Presidential decree.	No	9
Accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. In order to meet this commitment, it is necessary to request the opinion of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the entity responsible for external relations. After the opinion is delivered, the accession process is referred to the President for approval by presidential decree.	No	9
Cameroon		
The Government of the Republic of Cameroon hereby commits to finalize the process leading to Cameroon's accession to the United Nations Conventions on Statelessness and to deposit its instruments of accession to the said Conventions.	2020	9
The Government of the Republic of Cameroon hereby commits to incorporate a course on statelessness and citizenship in the curriculum of the Training Centre for Municipal Administration (TCMA).	2021	Other (awareness raising/training)
The Government of the Republic of Cameroon hereby commits to conduct a qualitative study on the risks of statelessness by December 2020.	2020	10

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
<p>The Government of the Republic of Cameroon hereby commits to implement the Government decision of March 2019 on the regularization of the civil registry for persons living without birth certificates.</p> <p>The Minister in charge of Decentralization and Local Development has instructed municipal judges to take all measures deemed necessary to carry out a census of all persons without birth certificates in their units of command and to regularize the situation of such persons in conjunction with hospitals (certificate on apparent age) and courts of first instance (judgements in lieu of birth certificates).</p>	2020	7
Central African Republic		
By 2022, the Central African Republic commits to simplify and facilitate access to the issuance of nationality documentation to returnees of Central African origin (former refugees) who have returned to Central African territory in the context of voluntary repatriation with the assistance of UNHCR and who do not or no longer have nationality documentation and are entitled to them.	2022	8
By 2020 and at the latest by the end of 2021, the Central African Republic, in collaboration with other regional actors such as the Commission for the Economic and Monetary Community of Central African (CEMAC) and UNHCR, commits to undertake and publish a study to better understand the situation of individuals and groups of stateless persons or at risk of statelessness living on its territory and/or subject to its jurisdiction, with a final aim to finding a solution to their situation.	2021	10
By 2021, the Central African Republic hereby commits to improve access to birth registration procedures, including the late birth registration in order to ensure the registration of all births that have taken place on its territory and, in particular, to strengthen the institutional capacity of vital registration services in localities of return of returnees (former refugees) and internally displaced persons to ensure that all these persons who were born on the territory have a birth certificate.	2021	7
By December 2019, the Central African Republic hereby commits to finalize and to adopt a national plan to eradicate statelessness in the Central African Republic by 2024.	2019	Other (National Action Plan)
By the end of 2021, the Central African Republic hereby commits to insert a provision into the Central African Nationality Code of 1961 subsequently amended providing for the conferral of Central African nationality at birth to children born on its territory who would otherwise be stateless.	2021	2
The Central African Republic hereby commits to accede to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons by June 2020 at the latest, and to fully implement these provisions in its domestic legislation.	2020	9
The Central African Republic hereby commits to accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness by June 2020 at the latest and to fully implement these provisions in its domestic legislation.	2020	9
The Central African Republic hereby commits to reform the Nationality Code of 1961 subsequently amended in order to allow Central African men and women to transmit their nationality to their spouses on an equal footing by the end of 2021.	2021	3

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Chad		
The Government of the Republic of Chad hereby commits to include one or more questions in the next national population census to identify stateless persons living on the national territory (Related to Action 10 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness).	2021	10
The Government of the Republic of Chad hereby commits to adopt a national plan to combat statelessness.	2020	Other (National Action Plan)
The Government of the Republic of Chad hereby commits to improve access to birth registration procedures, including late birth registration to guarantee universal birth registration.	2024	7
The Government of the Republic of Chad hereby commits to contribute to a qualitative study under the lead of the African Union (AU), and the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC) to gain a better understanding of the situation of individuals and groups of stateless persons living on its territory and in the subregion, with a view to finding a solution to their situation.	2024	10
The Government of the Republic of Chad hereby commits to issue identity documents to all Chadian returnees with particular emphasis on returns from the Central African Republic and those from the Lake Chad Basin estimated at over 30,000 persons (Related to Action 8 of the Global Plan of Action to end Statelessness).	2021	8
The Government of the Republic of Chad hereby commits to establish a statelessness determination procedure to grant protection status to stateless persons identified on its territory.	2020	6
The Government of the Republic of Chad hereby commits to work with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to raise national awareness and foster a common understanding of statelessness over the next 5 years of the #IBelong Campaign to eradicate statelessness.	2024	Other (awareness raising/training)
Colombia		
The Government of the Republic of Colombia hereby commits: Once the Migration Law is enacted, through its regulations an administrative procedure will be established to determine the stateless condition.	2020	6
The Government of the Republic of Colombia hereby commits to promote the monitoring of the implementation measures adopted for the prevention of statelessness in the case of children born in Colombia of Venezuelan parents.	No year of completion indicated	2
To promote before the Congress of the Republic the process of the Bill whereby the Colombian State's comprehensive migration policy is established, and which includes a legal framework on statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	6

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Comoros		
The Government of the Union of the Comoros hereby commits to insert into the Nationality Act provisions for conferring Comorian nationality to children born in the Comoros who would be stateless and to children of unknown origin found in the country. There is no gender discrimination in the Comorian legislation with regard to the transmission of nationality.	2022	2
The Government of the Union of the Comoros hereby commits to sign and ratify the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.	2021	9
The Government of the Union of the Comoros hereby commits to conduct surveys to identify cases of statelessness. There are no officially known cases in the Comoros.	2020	10
The Government of the Union of the Comoros hereby commits to simplify access to procedures for birth registration with the civil registry services, including for late birth registration. Raise awareness among mothers about the need to undertake birth registration for children born out of wedlock. Many children from underprivileged families do not yet have a birth certificate.	2020	7
The Government of the Union of the Comoros hereby commits to raise awareness among the population on the importance for every citizen to have a nationality certificate.	2021	8
The Government of the Union of the Comoros hereby commits to set up a national inter-ministerial commission (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, National Assembly, etc.) to prevent and combat statelessness.	2020	Other (national task force)
Congo (Republic of)		
Finalize the process of accession to the Convention of 28 September 1954 Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention of 30 August 1961 on the Reduction of Statelessness by end of 2019.	2019	9
The Government of the Republic of the Congo hereby commits to: Complete the legislative reform started on 30 May 2016 on the Persons and Family Law in order to eliminate all discriminatory provisions and other articles that may cause statelessness by 2021.	2021	2, 3, 4
The Government of the Republic of the Congo hereby commits to: Set up a national body for the status determination and protection of stateless persons.	2022	6
The Government of the Republic of the Congo hereby commits to: Support the process of adoption, signature and ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Specific Aspects of the Right to Nationality and the Eradication of Statelessness in Africa.	2022	Other
The Government of the Republic of the Congo hereby commits to: Ensure that any person identified without a birth certificate in the national census for civil registry purpose shall obtain a birth certificate by 2019. Ensure that there is zero child in the Republic of the Congo without a birth certificate by 2022.	2022	7

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
The Government of the Republic of the Congo hereby commits to: Pursue awareness-raising activities among the population to encourage the registration of every birth.	No year of completion indicated	7
The Government of the Republic of the Congo hereby commits to: Undertake a quantitative and qualitative study to gain a better understanding of the situation of groups and individuals living on its territory who are stateless or at risk of becoming stateless, with a view to have reliable data on these population and to find a solution to their situation.	2021	10
Costa Rica		
The Costa Rican Government undertakes to reduce the time for the resolution of applications to determine the status as a stateless person.	2020	6
The Government of Costa Rica commits to make periodic visits to areas of the country where a high incidence of possible cases of statelessness or persons at risk of statelessness are identified. During these visits, consultations will be attended, requests may be submitted to start the statelessness determination procedure and interviews will be conducted in the places. This to facilitate access to the procedure for everyone, especially for vulnerable population or have difficulty traveling to the capital.	2020	6
The Government of Costa Rica hereby commits to make the necessary modifications to the Regulation for the Statelessness Determination Process, Executive Decree 39620-RE-G, the Migration Regulation, Executive Decree 36769-G, and the General Law on Migration and Foreigners Regulation, Executive Decree 19010-G, in order to formally include statelessness regulations, specifically so that stateless persons and applicants for the condition have the chance to request an identification document and a travel document that allows them to leave, travel and enter the country freely.	2021	6
The Government of Costa Rica hereby commits to generate mechanisms for durable solutions that guarantee the integration of stateless persons. The Costa Rican Government commits to provide accompaniment, follow-up and legal advice to stateless persons declared by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, to guarantee that the access to the necessary information is correct and help them to eradicate their status as a stateless person. This accompaniment will consist of providing the corresponding information about the options that are available so that they can make an informed decision about the process of naturalisation or permanent residence that are available. They will also be provided with institutional and legal advice and also support to carry out procedures before governmental instances. The Government of Costa Rica commits to create and provide informative documents about the process of naturalisation and permanent residence. A database will be created, containing the information of all the persons declared stateless, to periodically monitor their integration process.	2020	6

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
The Costa Rican Government undertakes to reinforce the mechanisms for the registration of all births in the country, increasing efforts for the registration of births in border areas, indigenous territories and rural areas with difficult access. The Costa Rican Government commits to ensure the presence of workers who will directly assist the population in the field, specifically in the rural areas of the northern border, through the mechanism "Model of differentiated care for the prevention of statelessness in indigenous areas and borders".	2020	7
Côte d'Ivoire		
The Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire hereby undertakes to adopt its National Action Plan for the Eradication of Statelessness to provide a more formal and structured implementing framework to the commitments.	2019	Other (National Action Plan)
The Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire hereby commits to introduce into its nationality law a provision providing for the conferral of Ivorian nationality to children from unknown parents, stateless parents, who are born or found on its territory who would otherwise be stateless.	2022	2
The Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire hereby commits to reform the provision of the nationality law providing that a woman, unlike a man, may only confer her nationality to her children if she is unmarried, divorced or widowed.	2021	3
The Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire hereby commits to repeal the provision of its Nationality Law providing that the deprivation of the Ivorian nationality to a man may be extended to his spouse and minor children, regardless of their own responsibility for the commission of the offence punished.	2021	Other
The Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire hereby commits to validate the existing qualitative and quantitative studies with a view to deepening them in order to accurately identify the number of confirmed stateless persons and persons in the process of becoming stateless, living on its territory, with a view to understanding their situation and finding a definitive solution to their problem.	2020	10
Democratic Republic of the Congo		
The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo hereby commits to accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.	2019	9
The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo hereby commits to reform the system of civil registry and production of statistics on vital events, take initiatives such as identifying cases of statelessness and persons at risk of statelessness, institutionalize the collection of data on stateless persons and persons at risk, and prevent statelessness through the establishment of national mechanisms, including civil registration/ issuance of national identity documents.	2024	7, 8, 10
The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo hereby commits to bring its legal framework in line with the provisions of the above-mentioned statelessness conventions and ensure compliance with the international standards and principles on nationality and the prevention of statelessness.	2021	Other

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Denmark		
Denmark recognizes the overall importance of the statelessness conventions and pledges to continue its efforts for the general avoidance of statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Denmark will work to improve cooperation between relevant authorities regarding the identification of stateless persons.	2021	6
Eswatini		
The Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini hereby commits to undertake and publish a qualitative and quantitative study by 2021 to better understand the situation of groups and individuals who are stateless or at risk of statelessness in the territory with a view to finding a solution to their situation.	2021	10
The Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini hereby commits to establish by 2022 a procedure to determine the status of stateless migrants in line with the 1954 Convention.	2022	6
The Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini hereby commits to undertake national consultations on gender equality in nationality laws and initiating the necessary reforms to uphold citizens' equal ability to confer nationality on spouses and children by end of 2024.	2024	3
The Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini hereby commits to introducing a provision in our nationality law to grant nationality to all children of unknown origin found in our territory and those born in our territory who would otherwise be stateless by 2024.	2024	2
Ethiopia		
The Government of Ethiopia commits to simplify and improve access to birth registration procedures, including late birth registration to ensure universal birth registration to refugee children in our territory.	2022	7
Gambia		
By the end of 2021, the Gambia commits to undertake and publish a qualitative study to better understand the situation of statelessness groups and individuals living in its territory with a view to finding a solution to their situation (Action 10 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness).	2021	10
By the year 2022, the Gambia commits to introduce a safeguard in its nationality law to grant nationality to children born on the territory including foundlings who would otherwise be stateless (Action 2 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness).	2022	2
Consider legal reform regarding the nationality and citizenship provisions in the 1997 Constitution to facilitate naturalisation of refugees and stateless persons by 2020.	2020	6
To include late birth registration into all health facilities, including outreach to Reproductive and Child Health Services across the country, by the end of 2020 (Action 7 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness).	2020	7

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Georgia		
The Government of Georgia hereby commits: The “door-to-door” campaign to identify and document stateless persons will be undertaken.	2021	10
The Government of Georgia hereby commits to work with UNHCR to raise awareness and foster common understanding about statelessness in an inclusive manner.	2021	Other (awareness raising/training)
The Government of Georgia hereby commits to facilitate naturalization for stateless persons by introducing legislative amendment to the law on Citizenship of Georgia aimed at reducing the 10-year residence period required for naturalization by half.	2021	6
The Government of Georgia hereby commits: Georgia will include the stateless status applicants in the emergency outpatient and emergency inpatient care of the State universal healthcare program.	2021	6
The Government of Georgia hereby commits: Stateless status applicants will enjoy the right to State free legal aid. To this end, applicants will receive both legal counselling and representation to the administrative bodies and courts by the state funded Legal Aid Service.	2021	6
The Government of Georgia hereby commits: The fee for statelessness determination procedures will be reduced in half in order to increase accessibility of the status determination procedure.	2021	6
Germany		
The Government hereby commits: Germany will examine its reservations towards the Convention on Statelessness from 1961 which were made upon ratification and start a review process within our line ministries to evaluate the necessity of those reservations.	2019	9
Ghana		
The Government of Ghana hereby commits: To accede to the two Statelessness Conventions by the end of 2021.	2021	9
The Government of Ghana hereby commits: To support efforts of UNHCR and UNFPA in identifying groups at risk of Statelessness in Ghana.	2021	10
Guinea		
The Government of the Republic of Guinea hereby commits to develop subsidiary legal acts to implement provisions of the Civil Code, in particular for securing nationality certificates.	2022	8
The Government of the Republic of Guinea hereby commits to monitor the implementation of the National Strategy for the Reform and Modernization of Civil Registry in Guinea 2018-2022.	2022	7
The Government of the Republic of Guinea hereby commits to the adoption by 2021 of a law on the status of stateless persons and the statelessness determination procedure.	2021	6

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Guinea-Bissau		
The Government of Guinea-Bissau hereby commits: To domesticate the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons through the adoption of laws to protect stateless persons and the establishment of a national statelessness commission.	2021	6
The Government of Guinea-Bissau hereby commits: To expand the presence of mobile birth registration units to the north of the country, and to start registering children's births in the main health centers in the north of the country before the end of the #IBelong Campaign.	2024	7
The Government of Guinea-Bissau hereby commits: To finalize the issuance and distribution of the following documents: identification cards for refugees that are 8-years-old or above; birth certificates for refugees under 8 years of age; and certificates of nationality for all 7000 naturalized refugees through a simplified process with reduced costs.	2019	7, 8
Guyana		
The Government of Cooperative Republic of Guyana hereby commits to continue to simplify and improve access to birth registration procedures including late birth registration to ensure universal birth registration.	No year of completion indicated	7
The Government of Cooperative Republic of Guyana hereby commits to ensure that particular groups which are entitled to nationality under law, but that have not acquired documentary proof of nationality, are able to do so, by improving access of such persons to individual nationality documentation services.	No year of completion indicated	8
The Government of Cooperative Republic of Guyana hereby commits over the remaining years of the #IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness, Guyana, commits to work with the UNHCR, to raise awareness and foster common understanding about statelessness nationally, with outreach activities, especially in remote locations of Guyana.	2024	Other (awareness raising/training)
The Government of Cooperative Republic of Guyana hereby commits to implement its obligations under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in a manner that is inclusive of stateless persons in its territory.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Haiti		
The Government of Haiti hereby commits to review the legislation on nationality.	2024	2
The Government of Haiti hereby commits to continuing the reform of the civil registry system.	2024	7
The Government of Haiti hereby commits to simplify and improve access to birth registration procedures in order to prevent the risk of statelessness in rural and hard-to-reach areas.	2022	7

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Indonesia		
The Government of the Republic of Indonesia hereby commits to increase the scope of operation and the provision of infrastructure related to its national citizenship registry.	2020	8
The Government of the Republic of Indonesia hereby commits to increase the utilisation of a digital platform for citizenship registry and citizenship documentations such as the issuance of birth certificate and single identity number.	2020	7, 8
The Government of Indonesia hereby commits to enhance cooperation with UNHCR in handling refugees and asylum seekers.	2020	Other
The Government of the Republic of Indonesia hereby commits to work with all countries, particularly the two Statelessness Conventions, to learn together, increase capacities, and exchange technology in addressing statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Kazakhstan		
The Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan hereby commits to improve access to birth registration procedures through amendment of the national legislation to ensure that every child is registered at birth.	2020	7
Kenya		
The Government of Kenya hereby commits: By, 2019, re-establish taskforce on statelessness.	2019	Other (national task force)
The Government of Kenya hereby commits: In, 2019, validate the draft National Action Plan to eradicate Statelessness followed by its implementation.	2019	Other (National Action Plan)
The Government of Kenya hereby commits: By 2020, recognize and register Kenyan citizens members of the Shona community, who qualify for citizenship under the law.	2020	1
The Government of Kenya hereby commits: By 2020, enact a new Births and Deaths Registration Act that provides safeguards to prevent statelessness.	2020	2, 7
The Government of Kenya hereby commits: By 2021, accede to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.	2021	9
The Government of Kenya hereby commits: By 2023, complete legal reforms to address and remedy statelessness in Kenya permanently.	2023	1
The Government of Kenya hereby commits: Continue to provide protection to stateless persons and those at risk of statelessness to ensure that they enjoy their basic human rights.	No year of completion indicated	6

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Kyrgyzstan		
By the end of 2020, the Kyrgyz Republic commits to adopt Regulation for determining the legal status of a stateless person.	2020	6
By the end of 2020, the Kyrgyz Republic commits to ensure birth registration and documentation by providing birth registration certificates of the Kyrgyz Republic to those children who do not have birth registration.	2020	7
The Kyrgyz Republic commits to bring the national legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic in the field of birth registration in accordance with international standards to ensure registration of birth of every child born in the Kyrgyz Republic.	2020	7
The Kyrgyz Republic commits to intensify its work on studying the experience of other State parties to the UN Conventions of 1954 and 1961 on statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	9
Lesotho		
The Government of Kingdom of Lesotho hereby commits to adopt by 2020 the bill on nationality that grants nationality to children of unknown origin found on its territory, and provides for a safeguard to grant nationality to children born on its territory who would otherwise be stateless.	2020	2
The Government of the Kingdom Lesotho hereby commits to undertake by 2020 a study publishing a qualitative study to better understand the situation of groups and individuals, who are stateless or at the risk of being stateless, staying in her territory.	2020	10
Liberia		
Adoption of the National Action Plan: The Government of Liberia is a signatory to the two Statelessness Conventions but has not domesticated the Conventions. In 2015, the LRRRC and UNHCR jointly organised key stakeholders (including Government and civil society & NGO and UN actors) to draft a National Action Plan which is pending endorsement by the Cabinet to form the basis for government and UNHCR's intervention on statelessness issues.	2020	Other (National Action Plan)
Government of Liberia hereby commits to work with key parliamentary members for the passage of the amended Aliens and Nationality Law to address issues of gender discrimination in Liberia. The current Aliens and Nationality Law of Liberia (ANL) discriminates against Liberian women who have children with foreign nationals from passing on their nationality automatically to their children like their male counterparts. This section 20 of the ANL has to be aligned with the Liberian Constitution (Article 28); to review the Aliens and Nationality Law to ensure protection against denial of nationality on discriminatory grounds, such as disability or medical reasons.	2019	3
Government of Liberia hereby commits to work with the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) and UNFPA on inclusion of questions of statelessness in the 2020 census questionnaire.	2021	10

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Lithuania		
The Government of the Republic of Lithuania hereby commits to amend the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania and ensure that citizenship of Lithuania is granted to children born on the territory of Lithuania if their parents are stateless persons holding a residence permit, either permanent or temporary.	2024	2
The Government of the Republic of Lithuania hereby commits to assess whether the absence of dedicated legal provisions for determination of statelessness poses problems to any-one in practice.	2024	6
The Government of the Republic of Lithuania hereby commits to carry out an analysis in every single case in order to clarify why stateless persons are not applying for citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, even if they are eligible.	2024	10
Malawi		
The Government of the Republic of Malawi hereby commits: To accede to the 1961 UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and also on the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration following a completion of a consultation exercise with relevant stakeholders.	No year of completion indicated	9
The Government of the Republic of Malawi hereby commits: To undertake and publish a qualitative study by June 2020 to better understand the situation of groups and individuals staying on its territory, who are stateless or at risk of statelessness, with a view to finding a solution to their situation.	2020	10
The Government of the Republic of Malawi hereby commits: Establish a procedure to determine the status of stateless migrants in line with the 1954 Convention.	2022	6
The Government of the Republic of Malawi hereby commits: Commits to review nationality/ Citizenship Law, and, within this process to consider the introduction of a provision to grant nationality to children of unknown origin found in their territory who would otherwise be stateless, and will put a safeguard in the law to grant nationality to children born on the territory who would otherwise be stateless.	2022	2
Mali		
The Government of Mali hereby commits to enable late birth registration for children. (Linked to Action 7 of the of the Global Plan of Action).	2024	7
The Government of Mali hereby commits to carry out legal reforms to ensure that no child is born stateless in Mali, in accordance with Action [2] of the Global Action Plan. This commitment includes the drafting and publication of a decree implementing the 2011 Nationality Code, as well as the amendment of the relevant provisions of the Law No. 11-080/AN-RM of 2 December 2011 (Title V on Nationality).	2024	2
The Government of Mali hereby commits to establish a determination statelessness procedure in accordance with relevant international standards and in line with action [6] of the Global Action Plans. This commitment includes the setting up of Statelessness Determination Procedures.	2021	6

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Malta		
The Government of the Republic of Malta hereby commits: accession to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.	2019	9
Mauritania		
The Government of the Republic of Mauritania hereby commits to register all refugees with the civil registry services in order to obtain a national identification number and enable their inclusion in the national statistical systems.	2021	7
The Government of the Republic of Mauritania hereby commits to issue birth certificates to all children born in Mauritania.	2024	7
The Government of the Republic of Mauritania hereby commits to facilitate access to civil status registration and documentation services for all refugees in Mauritania.	Ongoing	7
The Government of the Republic of Mauritania hereby commits to accede to the 1961 Convention within the next five years of Campaign #IBelong.	2024	9
Montenegro		
The Government of Montenegro hereby commits to continue to implement simplified procedures for obtaining identification documents, both at the national level and through continuous cooperation with the respective countries of origin (Serbia and Kosovo*), Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Republic of Croatia), as well as to enable access to the status of foreigner with permanent residence to all refugees from former Yugoslavia still in need of support, with the aim of addressing all pending cases latest by 2023, with UNHCR's support.	2023	8
The Government of Montenegro hereby commits to continue the collaboration between the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Interior aimed to maintain constant communication between the Ministry of Interior's Branch Offices and the Municipal Centres for Social Care, in order to conduct immediate birth registration of children abandoned by their mothers, or whose mothers are missing identification documents, and through that remove the main risk for statelessness.	2021	7
The Government of Montenegro hereby commits to share with other countries its experience acquired in the process of prevention of statelessness, in particular in the area of the establishment of the statelessness determination procedure, the development of favourable legal regimes for persons displaced after conflict, and support provided to the ground work of mobile teams of other countries in Montenegro (Mobile Team of Kosovo*), tasked to issue personal documents to undocumented persons.	2023	Other (diplomacy)
The Government of Montenegro hereby commits to continuously strengthen government institutions with the aim to implement the statelessness determination procedure and to harmonize/amend national legislation, in particular in the area of social care, health care and employment, to secure unhindered access to rights for persons granted stateless status in Montenegro.	2021	6

* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Mozambique		
Conduct a study on statelessness in the country by 2022 to identify aspects that can be improved in preventing, combating and eliminating statelessness.	2022	10
Namibia		
The Government of the Republic of Namibia hereby commits: To accede and or ratify the 1954 UN Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Stateless Persons as well as the 1969 OAU Convention Governing Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa and the 2009 AU Convention on the Protection and Assistance of Internal Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention) by 2020.	2020	9
The Government of the Republic of Namibia hereby commits: Commit to introduce a provision in its nationality law to grant nationality to children of unknown origin found in its territory.	2021	2
The Government of the Republic of Namibia hereby commits: Commit to identify stateless persons in all regions and to undertake and publish a qualitative study to better understand the situation of stateless groups and individuals living in its territory with a view to finding a solution to their situation.	2020	10
The Government of the Republic of Namibia hereby commits: Commit to fully implement the Action Plan on the Eradication of Statelessness in Namibia.	2023	Other (National Action Plan)
Niger		
The Government of the Republic of the Niger commits to set up a procedure to recognize the status of stateless persons on the basis of the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, to which the Niger acceded in 2014.	2020	6
The Government of the Republic of the Niger hereby commits to by 2020 undertake and publish a qualitative study to better understand the causes of statelessness and the groups at risk of statelessness living across the territory, with a view to finding a solution to their situation.	2020	10
The Government of the Republic of the Niger hereby commits to amend the law governing matters of nationality in order to guarantee the conferral of nationality at birth to children born in the Niger who would otherwise be stateless, as well as to the foundlings.	2024	2
The Government of the Republic of the Niger hereby commits to continue to support efforts to empower the refugee populations from Mali and Nigeria and with other nationalities, the internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other persons in need of international protection living in its territory. This commitment involves strengthening the opportunities for social, professional and economic integration of these populations within the State, as set by the development framework by 2024.	2024	Other
The Government of the Republic of the Niger hereby undertakes to maintain a protective asylum environment, particularly for persons found among mixed migratory flows at its borders. This implies strengthening reception and protection mechanisms at the borders by 2021.	2021	Other

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Nigeria		
The Government of Nigeria hereby commits to establishing a Statelessness Determination Procedure to identify stateless persons, grant protection status and facilitate appropriate solutions.	2020	6
The Government of Nigeria hereby commits to introduce regulations for the registration of offspring of naturalized citizens as Nigerians.	2020	Other
The Government of Nigeria hereby commits to publishing a qualitative study, with a view to finding solutions.	2021	10
The Government of Nigeria hereby commits: to scale up issuance of birth registration and national identity numbers, including to IDPs, refugees and returnees.	2024	7, 8
The Government of Nigeria hereby commits: to undertake law reforms on registration of children born on Nigerian Territory who would otherwise be stateless and children under 10 years of unknown origin; as well as equality for spouse on the acquisition, change and retention of nationality upon civil registration.	2024	2, 3, 7
North Macedonia		
The Republic of North Macedonia hereby commits: To ratify the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.	2019	9
Panama		
Ensure that no child is born stateless and ensure birth registration to prevent statelessness. The Electoral Tribunal, through the National Directorate of the Civil Registry and the National Identification Directorate, will continue with the development and execution of the program "timely registration of births as a mechanism to guarantee identity, nationality, and identification, thereby preventing the risk of Statelessness." It will also continue with the binational identity days, with their counterparts from the Republic of Costa Rica and the Republic of Colombia.	2020	7
The Republic of Panama will establish an Interinstitutional Commission that will facilitate the implementation of Executive Decree NO. 10 of January 16, 2019, which regulates Law 28 of March 30, 2011, which approves the Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons of 1954, and establishes a procedure for determining statelessness within the administrative structure.	2020	6
The Republic of Panama will develop a training, awareness and dissemination program for officials competent in this area, developing efforts jointly with ministries and entities that have contact with the population mainly in border areas, areas of difficult access and urban areas, including population in general in relation to the Convention and Executive Degree 10 of 2019, with the objective that they can determine a possible case of a person at risk of statelessness. It is expected to have quantitative and qualitative data procedure of the stateless population in the Republic of Panama.	2021	10

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Philippines		
The Government of the Philippines hereby commits to enhance the policy, legal, and operational framework for stateless persons to ensure their full access to rights as guaranteed by the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons including their facilitated naturalization and as may be provided by national laws.	No year of completion indicated	6
The Government of the Philippines hereby commits to improve access of vulnerable and marginalized populations to documentation through birth and civil registration.	No year of completion indicated	7
The Government of the Philippines hereby commits to continue the study of statelessness, with a thrust to improve qualitative and quantitative data on populations at risk of statelessness in the Philippines and among its nationals, in continuation of efforts initiated in 2011.	No year of completion indicated	10
The Government of the Philippines hereby commits to continue the process of accession to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	9
The Government of the Philippines hereby commits to continue leadership in Southeast Asia in the development of a human rights framework and provide technical support to other States in dealing with issues relating to stateless persons.	No year of completion indicated	Other (diplomacy)
The Government of the Philippines hereby commits to cooperate with UNHCR by supporting projects, continuing fund contributions, and by building or expanding partnerships.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Rwanda		
The Government of Rwanda hereby commits to establish a National Taskforce on Statelessness: it will consist of selecting offices from relevant institutions and setting up a Concept Note and Terms of Reference which shall guide the work of the taskforce. The Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration (DGIE) shall be the initiating institution and the coordinator of the activities. The establishment of a National task force on Statelessness and related activities are expected to be completed by February 2020.	2020	Other (national task force)
The Government of Rwanda hereby commits to prepare and adopt a national action plan to eradicate statelessness. This commitment will be following establishment of a National Taskforce on Statelessness. The National Action Plan will be made up by actions that are needed to be taken in the particular context of the country in ending statelessness such as reviewing the nationality laws in favour of ending statelessness, ensuring birth registration, issuing documentations and keep the momentum in having anti gender discrimination law. As the government of Rwanda made commitment on ending Statelessness in successive forums, National Action Plan will be implemented until the end of 2024. The implementation of the National Action Plan will involve various different institutions under the coordination of the DGIE.	2020	Other (National Action Plan)

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
<p>The Government of Rwanda hereby commits to enact the amendments of nationality laws facilitating the naturalisation of stateless persons. The government of Rwanda acceded to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness in 2006 and effective of implementation of these instruments needs their alignment with domestic nationality laws. A new nationality law that will cater for the naturalisation of stateless persons has been initiated to replace the current Organic Law no 30/2008 of 25/07/2008 relating to Rwandan nationality. The Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration is responsible for ensuring the enactment process of the amendments of the nationality law and such law is expected to be passed by the Parliament by June 2020.</p>	2020	6
<p>The Government of Rwanda hereby commits to include the question of statelessness in the next national population and housing census that is expected to take place in 2022. In order to get the exact number and profile of stateless persons in Rwanda while minimising the cost of exercise, it is being planned to include variable of statelessness and the statelessness officers will work hand in hand with the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda. The Results from the exercise to identify and get the exact number of stateless persons in Rwanda are expected to be available early 2023.</p>	2023	10
<p>The Government of Rwanda hereby commits to granting or confirming nationality of all stateless persons and their descendants living on Rwanda territory. After amendment of the nationality law and getting the number and the profile of the stateless persons in Rwanda, the next action will be to naturalise all persons who will have been found stateless or at risk of statelessness in accordance with the provisions of the law. The persons with confirmed nationality will be connected to their country of origin to get documentation. The action of granting or confirming nationality of all stateless persons and their descendants living on Rwandan territory will be coordinated by the Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration by 2024.</p>	2024	1, 8
<p>The Government of Rwanda hereby commits to improve access to late birth registration for refugees in line with the principle of universal birth registration in order to ensure that all refugees born in Rwanda have their birth registered and have a birth certificate or civil status ruling. This commitment is already under implementation as the government of Rwanda in 2006 enacted a new law on persons and family in order to ensure that every child is registered immediately after birth and the condition of making late registration through the court is removed and the fine is waived for registering orphans. In the same context, it is planned to have regular Civil Registration week in refugee camps to raise awareness in registering new birth and give awards to Civil Registrar office that perform well. After every registration, birth record will be issued and make sure that all adults have refugee card. This action will be carried out by the Ministry of Emergency Management, the Ministry of Local Government and the Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration and though the action is continuous by the campaign and giving awards will be launched by 2020.</p>	No year of completion indicated	7

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
<p>The Government of Rwanda hereby commits to ensuring that former refugees of Rwandan origin who opted for local integration in their respective host country and whose refugee status was ceased by the respective asylum authority, and who are entitled to nationality documents and willing to obtain these documents, but have not yet acquired them are able to do so. This activity has been being implemented by the Rwandan embassies along with the Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration and National Identification Agency. In order to ensure the success of the activity, a set of activities have been planned that include the reinforcing Come and See event whereby some refugees come in Rwanda for visit and return to their host countries after getting National ID and Passport, undertake awareness in the countries hosting Rwandan refugees by the Ministry of Emergency Management, the Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration officials and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through Rwandan Embassies. This action is expected to be ongoing but the intensive awareness has to be conducted until 2024 to avoid possible loss of connection with their country of origin.</p>	2024	8
<p>The government of Rwanda hereby commits to contribute to the adoption and subsequent ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on Specific Aspects of the Right to Nationality and Eradication of Statelessness in Africa. Being a party to both conventions on statelessness reflects the commitment Rwanda has in the fight against statelessness, it is in this context Rwanda has been continentally at the forefront in taking actions aimed at ending statelessness through its various policies such as gender equality, civil registration and documentation for everyone. It therefore participated in the drafting of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights to Nationality and the Eradication of Statelessness in Africa. The Government of Rwanda is ready to sign and ratify it once adopted and will encourage other countries to do so. The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation will lead this action.</p>	No year of completion indicated	Other
Senegal		
<p>The Government of the Republic of Senegal hereby commits to officially adopt a National Action Plan to combat statelessness.</p>	2022	Other (National Action Plan)
<p>The Government of the Republic of Senegal hereby commits to issue attestation or administrative documents in lieu of birth certificates to refugees born outside Senegal.</p>	2021	7
<p>The Government of the Republic of Senegal hereby commits to establish a normative, institutional and operational framework on statelessness determination procedure.</p>	2021	6
<p>The Government of the Republic of Senegal hereby commits to complete the civil status registration of refugees born in Senegal and eligible to acquire Senegalese nationality.</p>	2021	7

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Sierra Leone		
Government of Sierra Leone hereby commits to build the capacity of [Ministries, Departments and Agencies] and other advocacy organisations (through trainings) to continue to protect and assist stateless persons in protracted situations.	2020	Other (awareness raising/training)
Government of Sierra Leone hereby commits to endorse the launch of the National Action Plan of Statelessness by mid 2020.	2020	Other (National Action Plan)
Government of Sierra Leone hereby commits to establish a statelessness determination procedure to determine and assist stateless people, among migrants and those with undetermined nationality to acquire or confirm their nationality with effective, efficient and sustainable support from policy programmes in the country (e.g. social safety net, micro enterprise group, self-help affinity group).	2023	6
Government of Sierra Leone hereby commits to gather qualitative and quantitative data on Stateless persons by 2021.	2021	10
Government of Sierra Leone hereby commits: Resolve existing major situations of statelessness regarding conferment of Nationality to persons that are stateless or at risk of being stateless by 2024.	2024	1
Somalia		
By 31 December 2020, the Government of the Federal Republic of Somalia commits to accede to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.	2020	9
By 31 December 2020, the Government of the Federal Republic of Somalia commits to conduct and publish a qualitative study to better understand the situation of stateless groups and individuals and groups at risk of statelessness living in its territory with a view to finding a solution to their situation.	2020	10
South Sudan		
By the end of 2019, the Republic of South Sudan commits to adopt a National Action Plan (NAP) to Eradicate Statelessness by 2024. This process will engage various stakeholders and will pave the way to accession by South Sudan to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. The NAP will also facilitate harmonization of national priorities and legislative and administrative initiatives in line with the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014-2024.	2020	9
By 2021 the Government of Republic of South Sudan commits to reform its nationality law to introduce safeguards to grant nationality to children born on the territory of South Sudan who otherwise would be stateless. This will ensure that gaps in national legislation are addressed leading to prevention of childhood statelessness. This relates to Action 2 of the Global Action Plan.	2021	2

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
By 2021 the Government of Republic of South Sudan commits to ensure access to birth registration procedures for all born on the territory of South Sudan including simplified late birth registration in order to ensure free and universal birth registration. This initiative accompanied by strengthened infrastructural and capacity support will enable registration of all children in remote locations including late birth registration across the country.	2021	7
By 2022 the Republic of South Sudan commits to ensure that particular groups identified as being at risk of statelessness and which are entitled to nationality under the nationality law but are not able to acquire documentary proof of their nationality, are able to do so by improving their access to nationality documentation services. This commitment relates to Action 8 of the Global Action Plan.	2022	8
By no later than 2020 the Republic of South Sudan commits to accede to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. This commitment relates to Action 9 of the Global Action Plan.	2020	9
Sweden		
The UNHCR report on the assessments made in the mapping of statelessness in Sweden has been examined in the Government Offices. In order to make improvements in our efforts to address statelessness we have initiated measures to ensure that challenges highlighted in the study will be addressed. In particular, the government has initiated a dialogue with the responsible national agencies to discuss registration of statelessness, nationality and “unknown” nationality. Through increased cooperation and consultation between the authorities our belief is that improvements will be made to limit the existing inconsistencies in registration. The government follows the progress made.	No year of completion indicated	Other
The number of stateless persons being granted Swedish nationality has been increasing annually from 1 700 persons in 2014 to 5 600 persons in 2018. The past five years, more than 22 000 stateless persons have been granted Swedish nationality. Sweden is closely following the development of stateless persons in Sweden.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Sweden has a pending government decision on establishing a government led Inquiry on Nationality. The inquiry will among other issues look at further measures to limit statelessness, including if certain children born stateless in Sweden could acquire nationality automatically at birth, instead of through the current simplified notification process.	2021	2
The Government of Sweden hereby commits: Withdrawing two reservations concerning the 1954 Convention – one relating to article 8 on exceptional measures and one on article 24.1b on labour legislation and social security, as well as the corresponding reservations in the 1951 Refugee Convention.	No year of completion indicated	9

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Tajikistan		
The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan hereby commits to consider the issue of legalization of persons illegally residing on the territory of the Republic of Tajikistan (Amnesty Law).	2020	6
To complete the Civil Registration System reform in the country, securing safeguards for universal childbirth registration regardless of the legal status and possession of identity documents by parents.	2020	7
The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan hereby commits to consider the issue of ratification of 1954 and 1961 Conventions.	2021	9
The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan hereby commits within the National Census of the Population and the Housing Stock planned for 2020 to explore the scale of statelessness through identification of persons at risk of statelessness, stateless persons and persons with undetermined nationality.	2021	10
Thailand		
The Royal Thai Government hereby commits to promote access to education for stateless children.	No year of completion indicated	6
The Royal Thai Government hereby commits to enhance social protection for stateless persons.	No year of completion indicated	6
The Royal Thai Government hereby commits to adjust regulations for granting nationality and civil rights to cover target groups to access naturalization process equally and equitably.	No year of completion indicated	1, 6
The Royal Thai Government hereby commits to enhance effectiveness of the systems to facilitate stateless persons to access civil registration services.	No year of completion indicated	7
The Royal Thai Government hereby commits to enhance partnership among all sectors of the society to raise awareness on the roles, duties, rights, and process regarding birth and civil registration of stateless persons, especially the hard-to-reach population.	No year of completion indicated	7
The Royal Thai Government hereby commits to expedite process to address statelessness among the elderly.	No year of completion indicated	1
The Royal Thai Government hereby commits to promote international and regional cooperation in addressing statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	Other (diplomacy)
Turkmenistan		
Resolve all identified cases of statelessness through granting citizenship, updating determination mechanisms of the legal status of statelessness persons and assistance in their naturalization, as well as reforms of the birth registration system, improvement of data gathering on stateless persons as well as access to data.	No year of completion indicated	1, 6, 7, 10

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
To achieve an eradication of the birth registration risk of children of undocumented people, as well as to overhaul the methodology on defining the status of stateless persons with consideration of covering the statelessness issue in the upcoming 2022 Population Census, through realization of the National Action Plan by state bodies with participation of international organizations and civil sector.	No year of completion indicated	6, 7, 10
To update the registration of stateless persons, and thereby by undertaking a widespread registration campaign, to have a comprehensive statistical picture of the SDGs' implementation and ensure that all stateless persons have a fundamental right – right to citizenship.	No year of completion indicated	10
Uganda		
Accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Action 9 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness).	2020	9
The Government of Uganda hereby commits by the end of 2019, to finalise and approve the National Action Plan to serve as the national strategy to eradicate statelessness in the country by 2024.	2019	Other (National Action Plan)
By 2021, complete a legal study on statelessness and citizenship in order to better understand and address the factors leaving certain populations stateless or at risk of statelessness and to support comprehensive legal and constitutional reform (Action 10 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness).	2021	10
By 2024, introduce and implement safeguard in its nationality law to grant nationality to children born on the territory who would otherwise be stateless (Action 2 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness).	2024	2
By 2024, introduce a law reform to prevent denial or attribution of nationality at birth on discriminatory grounds.	2024	4
By 2024, ensure that the Maragoli, Benet, Ugandan-Asian and other unrecognised communities present in Uganda since before 1926 are recognised as citizens of Uganda.	2024	8
Uruguay		
The Government of Uruguay here commits: over the remaining years of the #IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness, Uruguay commits to work with UNHCR to raise awareness and foster common understanding about statelessness, and to urge States that are yet to accede to one or both of the UN statelessness conventions to do so before the year 2024.	2024	Other (awareness raising/training, diplomacy)
The Government of Uruguay hereby commits: Uruguay commits to the effective implementation of the national law on statelessness (N° 19.682), in order to ensure that all identified cases of statelessness are properly addressed.	No year of completion indicated	Other
United States of America		
The Government of the United States of America hereby commits to engage in strong U.S. diplomacy to advocate for the prevention and reduction of statelessness, and to provide U.S. humanitarian assistance to help protect stateless persons.	No year of completion indicated	Other (diplomacy)

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
The Government of the United States of America hereby commits to conduct an external evaluation of the efforts by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) to prevent and reduce statelessness.	2020	Other
The Government of the United States of America hereby commits to champion the goal of achieving nationality law reforms in the 25 countries that currently do not allow women to confer citizenship on their children on an equal basis with men.	No year of completion indicated	Other (diplomacy)
Zambia		
The Government of the Republic of Zambia hereby commits to ensure, by 2020, the accession to the 1961 UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.	2020	9
The Government of the Republic of Zambia hereby commits: Complete, by 2021, the issuance of the residence permits to all former refugees who have opted to locally integrate in Zambia, and to facilitate their naturalization.	2021	Other
The Government of the Republic of Zambia hereby commits: Facilitate, by 2023, naturalization procedures for stateless persons and their children to acquire nationality.	2023	Other
The Government of the Republic of Zambia hereby commits: Simplify and improve, by 2023, access to birth registration and certification, for persons born in Zambia, including late birth registration, to ensure universal birth registration for all children, including refugees and asylum seekers born on the territory.	2023	7
The Government of the Republic of Zambia hereby commits: Support the adoption of the draft Regional Action Plan to end statelessness in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region so that the region moves in tandem with the rest of the world.	2023	Other (Regional Action Plan)
Zimbabwe		
The Government of Zimbabwe hereby commits: By 2021, undertake and publish a qualitative and quantitative study to better understand the situation of stateless groups and individuals living in its territory with a view to finding a solution to their situation.	2021	10

State Pledge	Year of completion expected by the State	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
The Government of Zimbabwe hereby commits: Based on the findings of the study, develop a National Action Plan by 2022 in ending statelessness by 2024.	2022	Other (National Action Plan)
The Government of Zimbabwe hereby commits: Conduct consultations with relevant stakeholders towards the accession to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness by 2023.	2023	9
The Government of Zimbabwe hereby commits: Include a question or questions in its next national census in 2022 to identify stateless persons living in its territory.	2022	10
The Government of Zimbabwe hereby commits: By 2023, establish a dedicated statelessness determination procedure to identify stateless persons within the territory and grant them protection status with an aim to solutions.	2023	6
The Government of Zimbabwe hereby commits: By 2023, complete the ongoing process of aligning its Citizenship Act [Chapter 4:01] and Births and Deaths Registration Act [Chapter 5:02] with the new Constitution (Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment (No. 20) Act. 20 1.1) in ensuring the proper safeguards in preventing statelessness.	2023	2, 7
The Government of Zimbabwe hereby commits: By 2024, simplify and improve access to birth registration procedures, including issuance of birth certificates to descendants of former migrant workers and failed asylum seekers to ensure universal birth registration.	2024	7

Pledges made by international/regional organizations

33 pledges were made by 10 international/regional organizations.

International/regional organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
African Union		
The African Union Commission commits to continue mainstreaming statelessness into the AU Commission's work until the end of 2024 by collecting, analyzing, and disseminating data on statelessness and groups at risk through the implementation of the Nouakchott Declaration and the operationalization of programs such as the Africa Programme for Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (APAI-CRVS).	2024	10
No later than by the end of 2020 the African Union Commission commits to submit the draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on Specific Aspects of the Right to Nationality and Eradication of Statelessness in Africa for adoption by the AU Assembly.	2020	Other
Throughout 2020 and no later than by end of 2024, the AUC commits to support further research on the nexus between forced displacement, protracted refugee situation, and statelessness in Africa in continuation with the African Union theme of the year for 2019 "Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa".	2024	Other
In 2019 and beyond, the African Union Commission commits to strengthen the African Union's capacity building and training initiatives on statelessness by fully integrating statelessness issues in its capacity building and training initiative named "Livingstone Syllabus".	2024	Other
Throughout 2019 and beyond, and in cooperation with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, particularly the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Refugees, IDPs and Migrants and the Pan-African Parliament, the African Union Commission commits to advocate for AU Member State ratification and implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on Specific Aspects of the Right to Nationality and Eradication of Statelessness in Africa (once adopted) and other relevant international conventions on statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Latin American and Caribbean Council Civil Registration, Identity and Vital Statistics (CLARCIEV)		
CLARCIEV hereby commits to continue functioning as a regional forum to promote universal birth registration, the issuance of identity documents that prove nationality and promote actions to prevent and resolve statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	Other

International/regional organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
CLARCIEV hereby commits to promote the development and implementation of national, bilateral and multilateral projects aimed at achieving the goal of eradicating statelessness, especially in the context of large movements of refugees and migrants, in collaboration and with the support of UNHCR and international/regional cooperation institutions and from civil society, when applicable.	No year of completion indicated	Other
CLARCIEV hereby commits to promote the interoperability of national databases (migratory and refugee) with appropriate protection safeguards.	No year of completion indicated	Other
CLARCIEV hereby commits to take as a primary consideration the best interest of children in the identification and documentation of asylum seekers and refugees.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Council of Europe		
<p>In the framework of its intergovernmental activities, the Council of Europe hereby commits to:</p> <p>Promote the accession of all its (47) Member States to the European Convention on Nationality (CETS 166) and the Convention on the Avoidance of Statelessness in relation to State Succession (CETS No.200).</p> <p>Encourage its Member States that have made reservations to the above-mentioned conventions to withdraw them, bearing in mind the object and purpose of these conventions.</p> <p>Support, in parallel, UNHCR's campaign urging all States to accede to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.</p>	2021	9
<p>In close cooperation with UNHCR, carry out activities in support of (47) Member States aimed at establishing or, where appropriate, improving the functioning of statelessness determination procedure, enhancing the protection of stateless persons under international law and enabling them to access their rights, including the right to acquire a nationality.</p> <p>Promote the right of every stateless child to have access to his or her birth certificate and civil status documents. In its support activities, the Council of Europe will in particular take into account the principles set out in Recommendation No. R (99) 18 of the Committee of Ministers on the prevention and reduction of statelessness and Recommendation CM/Rec (2009)13 of the Committee of Ministers on the nationality of children. These support activities will consist of technical meeting(s) enabling government experts to share experiences and good practices in improving procedures for the determination and resolution of statelessness, the protection of stateless persons and access to their rights.</p>	2021	6, 7, Other

International/regional organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Economic Community of Central African States (CEMAC)		
The Commission for the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (hereinafter referred to as CEMAC) hereby commits to facilitate the appointment of statelessness government focal points and their alternates in all CEMAC Member States by 30 December 2019 at the latest.	2019	Other
The CEMAC Commission commits, no later than 30 December 2021, to support and frame the development of a study on stateless persons and at risk of statelessness in Central Africa in order to improve the availability of data on the issues of statelessness, nationality and proof of legal identity, and to suggest solutions to eradicate these identified situations.	2020	Other (regional action plan)
The CEMAC Commission is committed to developing, by 2020, a Regional Action Plan to eradicate statelessness in Central Africa, in accordance with the resolutions expressed in the N'Djamena Initiative adopted by its Member States and Partner States on 12 December 2018. In order to facilitate understanding of the relevance of this Regional Plan of Action, the CEMAC Commission also commits to organize broad communication campaigns in 2020 on the phenomenon of statelessness and its consequences.	2021	10
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)		
The ECOWAS Commission hereby commits to: Advocate and demonstrate leadership in the implementation of the Banjul Plan of Action and on the Eradication of Statelessness in its entirety. In particular, ECOWAS Commission will prioritize the following activities over the next five years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Enhance the Implementation of Community legal texts relating to the Issuance of ECOWAS National Biometric Identity Cards and ECOWAS Passports; b. Ensure that the provisions related to integration and protection of stateless persons are applied to guarantee the rights of stateless persons in line with Objective 3.2.5 of the Banjul Plan of Action. 	2024	6, 8
The ECOWAS Commission hereby commits to: Provide technical resources for the effective implementation of the Banjul Plan of Action.	2024	Other (regional action plan)
The ECOWAS Commission hereby commits to: Coordinate the implementation of the Banjul Plan of Action and produce periodic progress reports on its implementation.	2024	Other (regional action plan)
The ECOWAS Commission hereby commits to: Organize periodic High-level consultations amongst ECOWAS Institutions and Member States.	2024	Other (diplomacy)
The ECOWAS Commission hereby commits to: Mainstream Statelessness into on-going policy advocacy and programmes.	2024	Other

International/regional organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Inter-Parliamentary Union		
The Inter-Parliamentary Union pledges to engage young parliamentarians and women parliamentarians in efforts to address statelessness, in particular in addressing gender-based discrimination in nationality laws.	2024	3
The Inter-Parliamentary Union pledges to raise awareness of parliaments, monitor progress and draw attention to legislative and other reforms to address statelessness at each IPU Assembly.	2024	Other (awareness raising/training)
The Inter-Parliamentary Union pledges to provide support to parliaments concerned in reforming nationality laws to prevent statelessness and addressing discrimination in law.	No year of completion indicated	Other
International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa (ICGLR)		
The ICGLR Secretariat hereby commits to steer the development and the operationalization of a regional policy and programmatic framework on civil registration including birth registration for the prevention of statelessness by 2023.	2023	7
The ICGLR Secretariat hereby commits to support research on people at risk of statelessness and stateless persons in the Great Lakes Region to improve the availability of data on statelessness and nationality issues by 2021.	2021	10
The ICGLR secretariat hereby commits to support and submit at the next ICGLR Regional Inter-Ministerial committee the consolidated draft action plan of ICGLR on the eradication of statelessness in the Great Lakes Region (2017-2024) for its final adoption by end of 2019.	2020	Other (Regional Action Plan)
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)		
OHCHR will continue seeking opportunities for joint advocacy with UNHCR and other forms of collaboration on statelessness, in particular to remove gender discrimination in relevant nationality laws.	No year of completion indicated	3
OHCHR will seek to increase attention on the issue of statelessness in the context of UN human rights bodies and the UPR process. This commitment is ongoing and to be implemented over the next five years of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014-2024.	No year of completion indicated	Other
OHCHR will work jointly with UNHCR to raise awareness about statelessness and its human rights implications and to promote solutions to it. To this end, OHCHR commits to organize, together with UNHCR an event on statelessness and human rights in the course of 2020/2021.	2021	Other

International/regional organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)		
OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities		
The OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities hereby commits in line with Action 2 and Action 7 of UNHCR's Global Action Plan, to exchange information with UNHCR on stateless persons or persons at risk of statelessness and, where within the scope of the mandate, to make recommendations to OSCE participating States on addressing childhood statelessness through improvement of legislation and administrative practices with a view to: i) ensure that no child is born stateless, and; ii) enhance birth registration procedures, particularly in relation to communities at increased risk of statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	2, 7
The OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities hereby commits to include an appeal to participating States in his Permanent Council address on supporting UNHCR's #IBelong Campaign.	2021	Other
OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights		
OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights hereby commits to support OSCE participating States in their efforts to prevent and end statelessness, including its gender dimensions, by organizing 'twinning' exercises and study visits between participating States to learn from good practices in the OSCE region.	2021	3, Other
OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights hereby commits to support OSCE participating States in their efforts to prevent and end statelessness by organizing regional and county level roundtables to assess progress made in preventing and ending statelessness, with relevant International Organizations.	No year of completion indicated	Other (awareness raising/training)
OSCE [Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights] hereby commits to support OSCE participating States in their efforts to prevent and end statelessness, including its gender dimensions, by providing technical support to participating states to improve their identity management systems (including civil registration and civil identification systems) and to overcome the obstacles faced by the most vulnerable groups, such as Roma and Sinti, in civil registration and provision of documentation.	2024	7, 8
OSCE [Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights] commits to support OSCE participating States in their efforts to prevent and end statelessness, including its gender dimensions, by updating and developing knowledge tools, and delivering targeted training to OSCE participating States, with relevant expert partners and International Organizations.	2023	3, Other

International/regional organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)		
<p>UNICEF hereby commits: Increased capacity on childhood statelessness: With Coalition partners, support the production of global guidance and materials to strengthen capacity to address the issue of childhood statelessness at national, regional and global levels particularly amongst national governments and civil society stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build the capacity of civil society actors and national governments in understanding and addressing childhood statelessness, through the development and roll-out of an advanced training on childhood statelessness in partnership with the Institute for Statelessness and Inclusion. Building on a pilot of the training to be held in South Africa this year in partnership with UNHCR and civil society stakeholders, UNICEF will expand the programme to two further regions where childhood statelessness is of concern before rolling out globally. • Produce guidance (tools and guidance materials) to build capacity to engage with the United Nations human rights treaty-body system, particularly the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, on childhood statelessness. 	2021	2
<p>Advocacy to remove gender discrimination in nationality laws and civil registration laws: Across the world 25 countries still retain laws that deny women the right to pass their nationality to their children on an equal basis with men, while three countries also have laws that deny men the right to pass their nationality to children born outside of legal marriage. Such discrimination is one of the root causes of statelessness among children globally. In 43 countries, discrimination in civil registration laws and policies actively prevent women from registering the birth of their children or obtaining birth certificates. Birth registration is the first step in preventing statelessness because it establishes a legal record as to where a child is born and who her parents are, elements of information key to proving entitlement to nationality. Ending gender discrimination in nationality laws and civil registration laws will not only help not to eliminate childhood statelessness worldwide, but is critical to achieving gender equality, which benefits girls, boys, their families and their societies. In partnership with UNHCR and Coalition Partners and other UN Agencies, including UN Women, and UNFPA, strengthen advocacy at national and regional levels to encourage States to review and revise laws on nationality and civil registration and their implementation to ensure gender equality in line with international human and children’s rights standards. Produce and publish global goods (including advocacy and briefing materials) in support of States’ efforts to revise nationality laws and civil registration laws to include the promotion of gender equality in line with international human and children’s rights standards.</p>	2024	3

International/regional organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
UN Development Programme (UNDP)		
<p>UNDP hereby commits to strengthening its collaboration with UNHCR on rule of law and governance to jointly strengthen capacities and actions of counterparts at country level. With particular focuses on capacity development support, often in remote local areas where most refugees, IDPs and returnees reside, UNDP commits to joint initiatives that work across the humanitarian-development nexus to strengthen protection and find solutions to forced displacement and statelessness. This includes reinforcing capacities of local government, justice, police and other rule of law actors to incorporate the priorities of refugees and stateless persons as part of development processes, and to ensure they are not left behind accessing basic services, including access to justice and security services.</p>	2024	Other
<p>UNDP hereby commits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to strengthening its collaboration with UNHCR on legal identity issues. As a part of our collective effort to assist in implementing SDG16.9 ‘Legal Identity for All by 2030’, UNDP is committed to support Member States building holistic, country-owned, sustainable civil registration, vital statistics and identity management systems in a ‘One UN’ approach. Collaboration with UNHCR in this context, therefore, is extremely important in assisting Member States to grant legal identity (via birth registration or registration in identity management schemes such as national population registers and/or national identity card schemes) to all persons, including non-citizen refugees, those seeking refuge, and stateless persons resident (permanently or temporarily as a result of displacement) on their territory. to cooperate and fully coordinate with UNHCR (and also with UNICEF, UNDESA and other UN agencies, as part of delivering the UN Legal Identity Agenda) in implementing activities in order to close the global identity gap, including for stateless persons as well as refugees and displaced persons. This will include taking the policy lead from UNHCR on civil registration and legal identity issues directly affecting refugees, displaced and stateless persons, in line with international standards for civil registration, vital statistics and identity management. to collaborate with UNHCR (and also with UNICEF, UNDESA and other UN agencies, as part of delivering the UN Legal Identity Agenda) on both researching and developing/piloting new innovations in digital technologies for civil registration (such as biometric technology, blockchains, etc), collection of vital statistics and identity management, as they may benefit refugees, displaced persons and stateless persons. to collaborate with UNHCR (and also with UNICEF, UNDESA and other UN agencies, as part of delivering the UN Legal Identity Agenda) on development of new global best practice, leading to international standards, on privacy and protection of personal data, and in particular for vulnerable groups such as refugees, displaced persons and stateless persons. 	2024	Other

Pledges made by civil society organizations

70 pledges were made by 21 civil society organizations.

Civil society organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Central Asian Network on Statelessness		
The Central Asian Network on Statelessness organization hereby commits to continue to support the Central Asian states in the outreach and identification of stateless persons; streamline the provision of legal aid to stateless persons and persons at risk of statelessness, as well as assistance in the reintegration of former stateless persons into society.	2024	1
The Central Asian Network on Statelessness organization hereby commits to advocate for and support statelessness prevention measures through promoting the development of national laws and practices in Central Asia aimed at closing the existing gaps (lack of universal birth registration and safeguards in the process of change and loss of citizenship) for preventing new cases of statelessness in the future.	2024	2, 7
Central Asian Network on Statelessness organization hereby commits to promote the accession of Central Asian states to the 1954 and 1961 Statelessness Conventions through conducting advocacy campaigns with decision makers and educational activities for employees of state bodies working with stateless persons.	2024	9
Dignity Kwanza		
Dignity Kwanza is hereby commits to advocate for the protection of stateless people and those at risks by supporting the adoption and implementation of the National Action Plan to Eradicate Statelessness in Tanzania which aims at, among other things, resolving existing issue of non-refugee stateless people, ending childhood statelessness, ending gender discrimination on the nationality laws, ensuring birth registration for the prevention of statelessness and creating qualitative and quantitative data of stateless population in Tanzania.	2024	Other (National Action Plan)
Dignity Kwanza hereby commits to advocate for the ratification and domestication of the 1954 and 1961 UN Conventions on Statelessness to ensure protection and eradication of statelessness in Tanzania.	2024	9
Dignity Kwanza hereby commits to continue to raise awareness and enhance capacity of stateless people or at risk to become stateless, government officials, member of civil society and public at large on laws, realities of stateless persons and measures to prevent and ultimately eradicate statelessness.	2024	Other (awareness raising/training)
Dignity Kwanza hereby commits to advocate for Tanzania's support to the adoption of Draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Specific Aspect of the Right to a Nationality and the Eradication of Statelessness in Africa.	2024	Other

Civil society organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
East Africa Nationality Network (EANN)		
EANN hereby commits to advocating for prompt adoption of the “Draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Specific Aspects on the Right to a Nationality and the Eradication of Statelessness in Africa” and promote full implementation and domestication of provisions by member states.	2024	Other
EANN hereby commits to supporting the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) in implementation and monitoring of its Action Plan to eradicate statelessness, including by supporting identification, providing assistance to groups with difficulties in accessing legal identity documents, such as birth certificates, national IDs and passports.	2024	Other (Regional Action Plan)
EANN hereby commits to supporting continued awareness-raising and training of relevant stakeholders, such as affected communities, civil society organisations and governments on international, continental and sub-regional frameworks to eradicate statelessness.	2023	Other (fundraising/ awareness raising/training)
European Network on Statelessness		
ENS commits to undertake research necessary to expand its Statelessness Index - an online comparative tool that assesses national law, policy and practice – to cover at least half of all Council of Europe Member States by 2020 and at least two thirds of Member States by 2024, as an important resource to help civil society monitor progress made by European states towards meeting their international obligations to stateless people and in seeking to hold governments to account.	2024	Other
ENS commits to continue to act as an interlocutor on behalf of its member organisations spanning over 40 European countries by engaging with and advocating towards the European Union (EU), the Council of Europe (CoE) and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) for the adoption of holistic regional strategies that effectively address statelessness within countries across Europe as well as in Europe’s external relations policy.	2021	Other
ENS commits to hold a major pan-regional conference in 2020 for representatives from regional institutions, governments, inter-governmental organisations, NGO, academia, stateless activists and wider civil society aimed at better understanding and addressing protection gaps currently experienced by stateless people in Europe, including to identify how to better resource future work by different actors to address these.	2020	6

Civil society organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Fondation Mémoire Albert Cohen (Genève)		
In the context of an international conference of experts, devise a White Paper on Article 28 of the Geneva Convention on the assessment and prospects of travel document for refugees and stateless persons with a view to rethink the mobility of both populations in the 21st century.	2021	Other
At the end of the Conference proposed in the previous commitment, the first network of international experts of Amici Curiae will be set up providing national and regional guidance to supreme courts and other national or supranational high courts on the application of Article 28 of the Geneva Convention and, more generally, on any issue relating to the entry and residence of stateless persons or refugees. The members of the Network will be selected in particular among lawyers, former judges, former senior civil servants, academics and emeritus jurists. Every two years, the Network will meet, on an itinerant basis, to share and develop its knowledge and achievements.	2021	Other
Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights		
The Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights hereby commits: To work with our coalition members based in Asia, Africa, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East to: heighten awareness of the harm caused by gender discrimination in nationality laws; and the importance of gender-equal nationality rights to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through convenings with government, civil society and media.	No year of completion indicated	3
The Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights hereby commits: Support the development and implementation of a Plan of Action, in partnership with The Campaign's coalition members and government representatives from the Middle East North-Africa region, to implement the Arab Declaration on Belonging and Identity, which calls for all Arab League members to grant women and men equal nationality rights.	No year of completion indicated	3, Other
The Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights hereby commits: To support UN agencies, including OHCHR, UN Women, UNICEF, UNDP and UNHCR to advocate for an end to gender discrimination in nationality laws, including through a proposed joint event with OHCHR and UNHCR engaging representatives of National Human Rights Institutions and/or other key stakeholders from countries that retain gender-discriminatory nationality laws.	Event by 2021	3
The Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights hereby commits: Support ongoing efforts in Malaysia to achieve Constitutional reform needed to uphold Malaysian citizens' equal nationality rights, regardless of gender, in line with Constitutional provisions requiring non-discrimination on the basis of sex.	Constitutional amendment by 2021; no deadline for the overall pledge	3
Share good practices and lessons learned from recent reforms, including with States that have pledged at the UNHCR High Level Segment on Statelessness and the Global Refugee Forum to enact reforms to remove gender discrimination from their nationality law.	No year of completion indicated	3
The Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights hereby commits: Continue to increase attention on the issue of gender discrimination in nationality laws in the context of UN human rights bodies and the UPR process.	No year of completion indicated	3

Civil society organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Innovation and Reform Centre		
Innovation and Reform Centre hereby commits to conduct or support outreach when it comes to identification of stateless persons in Georgia. Work closely with government authorities to establish the state-run identification mechanism. Continue provision of legal aid to stateless persons and persons at risk of statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion		
The Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion dedicates its work to promoting inclusive societies by realising and protecting the right to a nationality. On the occasion of the 2019 UNHCR High Level Segment on Statelessness, we have collaborated closely with other members of the global community of civil society actors, including stateless activists, to produce a joint statement that identifies the threat of statelessness to be growing and new risks of statelessness to be outpacing efforts to address statelessness (see http://files.institutesi.org/Joint-civil-society-statement-statelessness_7Oct2019.pdf). The statement comments that in the vast majority of cases, statelessness could have already been eradicated if all governments fully implemented their obligations under international law. In light of this, and the seven key challenges that are identified in the joint civil society statement for which concerted action by governments and the UN is called for, the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion: • Stands with its civil society partners in pledging its support for such efforts, through our continued engagement in research, training, advocacy, information-sharing and alliance-building; • Commits to continuing to work with civil society partners across the globe to raise these issues within the UN human rights framework, including through ongoing engagement with the Universal Periodic Review, to which we have made 58 country submissions and provided summary information on statelessness and nationality issues on 149 countries over the past 5 years.	No year of completion indicated	Other
International Refugee Rights Initiative (IRRI)		
IRRI hereby commits to engaging the government-led Statelessness Taskforce in the identification of groups affected by or at risk of statelessness in Uganda, including those with challenges to obtaining legal identification such as birth registration and nationality documentation.	2021	Other
IRRI hereby commits to supporting efforts by the government of Uganda to commit to and implement international and continental legal and policy frameworks, domesticate them in national law and apply them in practice at the national level to resolve current cases of statelessness and prevent future cases.	2023	Other
IRRI hereby commits to continuing to work with indigenous communities in Uganda excluded from the Third Schedule of the 1995 Constitution, such as the Maragoli, Benet and others. IRRI will do so by supporting self-identification mechanisms, sensitisation and awareness-raising on the importance of proof of legal identity, including birth registration and nationality documentation, and support their quest for citizenship.	2024	4
IRRI commits to highlighting the issue of statelessness at the continental level, through continuing to facilitate information sharing and exchange on issues of statelessness, through our contribution to the Citizenship Rights in Africa website and work of the Right to Nationality Coalition.	2024	Other

Civil society organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Kenya Human Rights Commission		
KHRC commits to mobilize, organize and support all the stateless communities and persons to submit their application to the government taskforce in order to resolve their statelessness situation by 2020.	2021	1
To provide support and advice to the parliament of Kenya and the ministry responsible for registration of stateless persons to review and amend existing laws so as to eliminate unequal treatment of stateless persons and create stronger safeguards for the protection and recognition of stateless either through naturalization or other forms of nationality acquisition as a form of redress for historical injustices of non-recognition by creating legal prevention to resolve existing situations of statelessness in Kenya.	2022	1, 8
The KHRC commits to advocate and provide legal support to reform the nationality law to insert a safeguard to ensure that a child born in Kenya that would otherwise be stateless would be attributed nationality at birth in line with Article 53(1) of the constitution of Kenya which gives every child a right to a name and a nationality from birth and Article 6 (4) of the African Charter of the rights and welfare of the Child to which Kenya is party by 2023.	2023	2
KHRC commits to continue creating public awareness on statelessness and providing oversight and technical support to all government agencies in the interventions and strategies to identify, reduce, and prevent statelessness.	2024	Other
Lawyers for Human Rights		
Provide direct legal assistance and representation in courts to stateless persons and those at risk of statelessness in South Africa.	No year of completion indicated	Other (legal assistance)
Advocate for and support the government of South Africa in creating a national action plan to end statelessness in South Africa.	2021	Other (National Action Plan)
Advocate for the prompt adoption of the African Union's "Draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Specific Aspects of the Right to a Nationality and the Eradication of Statelessness in Africa" and promote full implementation and domestication thereof.	2024	Other
Mainstream statelessness into the organisation's work on children, women's rights, minority rights and other rights and encourage its partners to do the same.	2020	3, Other
Provide training on statelessness and access to nationality to various stakeholders in both government and civil society in South Africa.	2024	Other (training/ awareness raising)
Conduct fundraising campaigns to support activities that aim to protect stateless persons and to end statelessness.	2021	Other (fundraising)
Advocate for universal birth registration free of discrimination.	2024	7
Conduct strategic litigation to build a sound jurisprudence in South Africa on the right to a nationality.	2024	Other (legal assistance)

Civil society organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Office of the Public Defender of Georgia		
Office of the Public Defender of Georgia hereby commits to continue mainstreaming statelessness through designing the special chapter on human rights situation of stateless persons and those who are in the statelessness determination procedures in its Annual Parliamentary reports.	2024	Other
Office of the Public Defender of Georgia commits to monitor statelessness determination procedures and evaluate their compliance with Georgian legislation and international standards.	2020	6
ProBono.Org (South Africa)		
Conduct or support research on stateless persons to improve the availability of data on statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	10
Provide or support legal assistance to stateless persons.	No year of completion indicated	Other (legal assistance)
Conduct advocacy on statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Support the work of the UNHCR and other stakeholders in South Africa in combating statelessness.	No year of completion indicated	Other
Americas Network on Nationality and Statelessness (Red ANA)		
Red ANA organisation hereby commits: To continue to support the Latin American and Caribbean states in the outreach and identification of stateless persons; establish strong determination procedures and good practices for the prevention and eradication of statelessness, as well as assistance in the reintegration of former stateless persons into society. Red ANA will also promote the accession of Latin American, Caribbean and North American states to the 1954 and 1961 Statelessness Conventions through conducting advocacy campaigns with decision makers and educational activities for employees of state bodies working with stateless persons.	2024	6, 9
Red ANA organisation hereby commits: To work with civil society members through Latin America, the Caribbean and North America to continue raising awareness of possible risks of statelessness, and the importance to contribute to the I Belong Campaign objectives and the goals set up in Chapter VI of the Plan of Action of Brazil on the prevention and eradication of Statelessness.	2024	Other (awareness raising/training)
Red ANA organisation hereby commits: To share good practices and lessons learned with other networks in other regions, in order to strengthen the global support for the prevention and eradication of statelessness.	2024	Other

Civil society organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town		
Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town hereby commits: We commit to continuing to advocate against statelessness in Africa, particularly South Africa. We will do this through research as well as advocacy communications and high-level advocacy. We will also continue to assist individuals where such assistance is requested of us.	No year of completion indicated	Other (legal assistance)
Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town hereby commits to advocate for South Africa's ratification of international instruments relating to statelessness, such as the UN 1954 and 1961 Statelessness Conventions, as well as proper data collection and dissemination by the SA government related to children at risk of statelessness. We will also continue to advocate against the implementation of the Refugee Amendment Act where it is not in line with the UN Conventions.	No year of completion indicated	9, 10
Southern African Nationality Network		
Conduct research on stateless persons to improve the availability of data on statelessness in Southern Africa. An online database for comparison of SADC countries will be made available.	2020	10
Promote and support legal assistance to stateless persons in Southern Africa by training, advising and assisting local legal partners in the region.	No year of completion indicated	Other (legal assistance)
Advocate for the prompt adoption of the African Union's "Draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Specific Aspects of the Right to a Nationality and the Eradication of Statelessness in Africa" and promote full implementation and domestication thereof.	2024	Other
Encourage its members in SADC to mainstream statelessness into their organisation's work on children, women's rights, minority rights and other rights.	2020	3, Other
Advocate for and support SADC in creating a regional action plan to end statelessness in SADC.	2021	Other (regional action plan)
Provide training on statelessness and access to nationality to SADC governments.	2024	Other (awareness raising/training)
Conduct fundraising campaigns to support activities that aim to protect stateless persons and to end statelessness.	2021	Other (fundraising)
Statelessness Network Asia Pacific		
The Statelessness Network Asia Pacific (SNAP), as a civil society coalition with the goal of promoting collaboration on addressing statelessness in Asia and the Pacific, pledges its solidarity in support of practical and implementable efforts to end childhood statelessness and to reform nationality laws, policies and practices that discriminate on the basis of gender, ethnicity and religion.	2024	2, 3, 7, 8, 10

Civil society organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
United Stateless		
We commit to conduct and support research on stateless persons to improve the availability of data on statelessness in the United States.	No year of completion indicated	10
We commit to conducting fundraising campaigns to support activities that aim to protect stateless persons (including stateless detainees and stateless children) in the United States.	No year of completion indicated	Other (fundraising)
We commit to reaching out to and educating 10 members of the U.S. Congress on the issues of statelessness, their impact, and solutions.	2021	Other (awareness raising/training)
World Council of Churches		
The WCC commits to continue addressing statelessness as one of its thematic priorities for training, advocacy, and outreach, and to strengthen the prioritization of these efforts. Discrimination being at the root of most cases of statelessness around the world, the WCC is planning to address the issue of discriminatory and xenophobic state practices against specific ethnic, religious or linguistic communities that often results in the marginalization of these communities.	2024	4
The WCC commits to organizing a significant inter-faith gathering on statelessness in 2021 and to working with other religious traditions towards a new publication about the intersection between statelessness and various faiths. Joint voices from various religious traditions are necessary to condemn any form of discrimination (gender-based or against communities) and support civic registration as a means of registering important life events such as birth, marriage, death, etc.	2021	4, 7
The WCC commits to work with its member churches based in different locations to address gender inequality in nationality laws. Gender justice is a paramount priority for the WCC. It is our intention to work closely with our churches to promote equal nationality rights for women and men among our constituency.	2024	3
The WCC commits to encourage churches to use creatively their opportunities for registering important life events —such as birth, baptism, confirmation, marriage, and death—in ways that help stateless people to secure documents, particularly those living in remote areas.	2024	7
The WCC commits to raise the issue of statelessness with relevant UN independent experts and Working Groups, through the provision of country-specific information, support to country visits and regular briefings.	2024	Other (awareness raising/training)
World Vision Georgia		
World Vision Georgia hereby commits to provide social support and individual assistance to stateless persons in Georgia. Furthermore, strive to improve community structures of STL persons through community mobilization and provision of integration-oriented services.	2020	Other (legal assistance)

Civil society organization Pledge	Year of completion expected by the organization	Relevant Action of the Global Action Plan/ Thematic Focus
Zimbabwe National Council for the Welfare of Children		
ZNCWC organization hereby commits that it will work in assisting every child to have some identification documents working together with other stakeholders like the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission and the Registrar Generals Office.	2024	7
ZNCWC organization hereby commits to assist unaccompanied minors/ children who are on the move to be reunified with their families and make sure that they are enrolled back in school having all the required identification documents.	2024	Other
ZNCWC organization hereby commits to engage the parliament of Zimbabwe and Registrar Generals office so that birth registration laws are made child friendly and make it easy for children to get birth/registration documents.	2024	7

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