

## **High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges**

**Towards a global compact on refugees: comprehensive refugee responses  
12-13 December 2017, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

### **German Statement – Plenary discussion (2 Minutes)**

Ladies and gentlemen,

Germany aligns itself with the statement given by the EU on behalf of its member states.

The current dimension of forced displacement demands immediate, coordinated and effective action. We need a Global Compact on Refugees – a politically binding commitment of member states to a more comprehensive response to large refugee situations and a more equitable burden- and responsibility sharing – more than ever.

After the very insightful and constructive thematic discussions, where host countries and donor countries alike confirmed their commitment to the New York Declaration we are confident that the valuable results of the discussions will translate into a concrete and robust Programme of Action. A Programme of Action that will enrich the Global Compact on Refugees and ensure its operability. While there is always room for more in depth discussions, which yesterday's stakeholder exchange on the Global Response Platform or Group has clearly shown, we have come a long way towards the adoption of the Global Compact and would like to thank UNHCR for its leadership in this process.

We are fully supportive of UNHCR's consequent renewed effort to strengthen traditional, and build new, partnerships, such as with the World Bank; and its particular endeavor to bring development actors on board in order to prevent large refugee situations from becoming protracted, to safeguard refugee protection and asylum space in the long run and to support Governments in their efforts to generate sustainable solutions for refugees and host communities alike. We are also particularly glad to see that regional cooperation and responses like the Nairobi Declaration and the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework in Central America have been greatly fostered through the CRRF application.

Germany fully recognizes the tremendous efforts and generosity of major host countries and commends the CRRF countries for their commitment which stands out as exemplary practice and deserves our support and recognition. The piloting of the CRRF and its establishment as the new standard of approaching large refugee situations will only be successful, if host countries truly "own"

the approach and recognize its potential to ease the pressure on host communities while at the same time benefiting refugees.

We are therefore particularly looking forward to first lessons learnt presented in the course of this protection dialogue.

Our direct funding to UNHCR for the roll-out of the CRRF and the preparations for the Compact and our overall support to CRRF countries is a reflection of Germany's strong support for this new comprehensive approach to large refugee situations and for UNHCR's role as "developer" and "initiator" of the CRRF.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Germany will remain highly engaged and is firmly committed to contributing to the adoption of a robust and ambitious Global Compact on Refugees in 2018 – and encourages all member states to continue their active participation. The GCR will after all only be as strong and impactful as our joint engagement in its preparation and implementation!

Thank you.