NGOs’ input in the SG’s report on the WHS

I. Introduction

- Thank participants for support for the Summit and the Agenda for Humanity
- Reflections on what happened (roundtables, side-events, innovation market place)
- Positioning the WHS in relation to other global change agendas (SDGs, Climate, etc.)

- With regards to the third bullet point, some recommendations/suggestions are to refer back to bolds ideas of the pre-WHS SG Report, for example, considering collective responsibility for stronger protection of civilians, respect of IHL and Human Rights. For instance, the creation of a dedicated watchdog for violations of international humanitarian law; the global campaign to demand greater compliance with the norms that safeguard humanity, in pursuit of the protection of civilians, etc.

- The continuation of a multi-stakeholder approach should also recognized throughout this report.

II. The World Humanitarian Summit: a Point of Departure

A. Overarching trends
   - Highlighting uniqueness/importance of process (multi-stakeholder, partnerships, creating space for dialogue, pushing humanitarian issues to the forefront of political and policy agendas)
   - WHS as point of departure and first installment in achieving the Agenda for Humanity (AfH)

B. Key facts and figures on participation and commitments

C. Key priorities for implementation of the Agenda for Humanity

- The SG’s report must highlight the importance of a comprehensive analysis of the trends highlighted throughout the WHS process;
- There must be further analysis of the Summit process and outcome: there is disappointment by some NGOs regarding the lack of analysis envisaged by this report. Notwithstanding the fact that the report is intended as a framework for process and activity moving forward, the absence of critique and analysis of the UN regarding the successes and failures of the Summit amounts to a missed opportunity to clearly identify and address areas of weakness in the humanitarian system;
- Suggestion for clear reference to humanitarian principles in this section.

III. Advancing the Agenda for Humanity
This chapter describes functions and elements of a framework to encourage progress and assess overall progress on the Agenda for Humanity.

A. Tracking commitments and initiatives
   - Online Platform (Partnership for Action, Commitment and Transformation (PACT)): the platform will provide transparency by displaying all commitments and initiatives along the Core Responsibilities of the AfH; will allow for registering new commitments, will provide space for interactive exchange and engagement, and will host documentation generated by the WHS
o Self-Reporting: those making commitments have the primary responsibility for championing, implementation and reporting on them, including through the online platform

- Support the concept of self reporting on individual commitments;
- The report should further highlight what role(s) for the UN and OCHA in moving forward the agenda for humanity (including a review of the IASC and putting forward UN and SG’s commitments to the agenda for humanity).

B. Reporting progress
- An annual report will provide a synthesis of trends/gaps in achieving the AfH, drawing upon information provided from the PACT and other sources.

- Whilst there is support to the objective to identify trends which have emerged from the summit; there remain concerns this report won’t sufficiently capture how the implementation of new trends will be coordinated and monitored within a broad humanitarian eco-system.
- Without outlining a detailed process, an overall road map is needed at the global level.

C. Continued engagement and outreach on the Agenda for Humanity
- Raising awareness on the AfH and key priorities
- Maintaining space for strategic ongoing dialogue
- Broadening support for the AfH and encouraging new commitments
- Making use of opportunities and initiatives at the regional, national and local level (i.e Regional Steering Groups)
- Taking forward elements of the AfH through existing mechanisms including interagency and intergovernmental fora

- The SG’s report should call for articulated processes on specific key issues, where needed (be it state focus or multi-stakeholder process - according to the specific issues).
- The most appropriate regional mechanisms to ratify and/or operationalise some commitments by States should be carefully identified and pursued, creating a clear strategy to table and advocate for changes (e.g. AU Peace and Security Council or alternative, EU COHAFA; ASEAN etc)
- The SG’s report should call for the UN to commit to table the AfH (notably the aspects on principled humanitarianism, humanitarian/dev nexus, gender, the Grand Bargain) in various established and emerging mechanisms.

D. Assessing change, progress, transformation
- Stock-taking within the next three to five years on the AfH and relevant new and emerging trends in the humanitarian landscape

- Overall reform of the humanitarian system was absent throughout WHS discussions. However, it is precisely in tabling this reform that leadership from the SG is expected. The SG’s report should outline, at a minimum, reference to the identification of specific areas to target in this regard, both within the UN and across the wider humanitarian community.