Dear Colleagues,

Allow me also to start by congratulating the outgoing Eminent Persons, the Secretariat, the facilitation group and us all for the achievements reached in these five years of GB. The independent report launched yesterday clearly identifies the positive results we have so far, but also the challenges ahead of us.

As ICVA we welcome the GB 2.0 endorsed framework and its enabling priorities. In our view they build well upon the previous achievements and address some weaknesses while still maintaining the important link to the initial core commitments. As we move in this new phase it remains crucial not to lose sight of what initially brought us together: strengthening participation and accountability, improving quality of intervention, efficiency and transparency. They are as relevant today as back in 2016.

Thus, as we continue this journey together, focusing on fewer deliverables but hopefully being more ambitious, ICVA commits to contribute to bringing the GB 2.0 to the frontline, where the real transformation is also needed the most. As correctly recognizes in the GB 2.0, this can be done only by supporting all actors, especially local and national actors and all effected people and communities to truly participate.

We can see clearly from Covid 19 experience how important it is to have timely, quality and flexible funding and sound policies and practices of joint risk management for the operations on the ground. It is at the field level that we have to nurture further the trust between all actors, mitigate together risks, build upon our diversity and strengthen complementarity. This is how a more effective and efficient humanitarian response will truly be achieved.

All political decisions that we will make in GB 2.0 should be as field oriented as possible. Inhere the role of the eminent person is crucial. ICVA is very pleased to see an NGO representative taking over this role. We look forward working closely with Jan, his team, the Secretariat and with all of you. We hope that as we continue this journey together, we simplify processes and enable better achievements on the ground, not by further bargaining, but by recognizing them as imperatives on which we all, collectively cannot fail.

I thank you.