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A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ICVA BULLETIN

Highlights from September 2019

Message from Executive Director

Not Just the Planet on Fire

The pledges and self-congratulations at the [Climate Action Summit](#) should not hide the reality that we need to overhaul our economic system.

No more small talk about the weather...

A relatively small number of fossil fuel producers and their investors have a huge role to play for the transformation of economies in line with sustainable development goals. The barrier is the tension between short-term profitability and the urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Two million people a week need [humanitarian aid today](#) because of the climate emergency and international humanitarian relief efforts are stretching rapidly to breaking point.

Millions of [young people swarmed the streets](#) in cities all over the world to pressure governments to take meaningful action against climate change. A few days later, young people were speaking passionately about their role in finding solutions at the [UN High Level week](#) (23-27 September) and at the [World Economic Sustainable Development Summit](#) (23 September).

But it is not just the planet and climate activists that are on fire. So is the justice movement, shaming politicians, demanding a transformational approach to the crisis, redrawing the political map...

The [High Level events](#) two weeks ago at the UN in New York resulted in the announcement of [acceleration actions](#) on SDG in addition to the adoption of a SDG [Political Declaration](#), [announcements and initiatives](#) on mobilising financing, declarations on [new efforts to provide access for all to health systems](#), [solidarity with small island developing States](#) reaffirmed in a political declaration...

The world is literally on fire...

Commitments and pledges will be followed with scrutiny to ensure decision makers are doing more than fiddling with paper straws while the world burns. In the words of Greta Thunberg, "[We will be watching you](#)".

Big challenges and hard questions lie ahead.... ICVA and its members will not escape them either.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director | ICVA

ICVA Updates



#ICVAConference2020

ICVA Annual Conference

18 March 2020, Geneva

Member Engagement Days 17 & 19 March 2020

**Protecting principled humanitarian action:
an honest conversation on risk**

“Protecting principled humanitarian action: an honest conversation on risk.” The Annual Conference to be held on 18 March 2020 will look at the risk to principled humanitarian action and in turn the risks taken by NGOs to deliver effective and efficient humanitarian assistance to those most in need. The conference will be preceded by a Members Day on 17 March and followed by a Partners Day on 19 March which will provide an opportunity for NGOs to further engage and interact around the theme. For more information please see the [ICVA website](#).

Survey on Security Risk Management: As part of our work on risk ICVA is cooperating with the Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies on a research project looking into security risk management and risk aversion in the humanitarian sector. The project will focus on analysing how security risk management is implemented in decision-making processes in NGOs. We would thank you for [answering this short survey](#) or passing it to the relevant risk/security staff in your organisation.

Forced migration

1. The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR): Global Refugee Forum

Meeting on co-sponsorship for the Global Refugee Forum (GRF): In September, UNHCR continued to organise several multi-stakeholder meetings of the co-sponsorship groups on the six focus areas for the Forum. The groups worked on gathering suggestions for the GRF Programme, including Spotlight Sessions, High-level Dialogues, and on establishing the groundwork to mobilise pledges and showcase good practices. The notes from ICVA, and its members, from those meetings are [available online](#) and additional notes will be added soon. Information on the co-sponsorship groups is also available on [UNHCR's website](#). For more information contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org

Informal briefing on the Global Refugee Forum: On 3 September, UNHCR organised a briefing on the GRF, with a particular focus on modalities for participation at the GRF, the Forum's Digital Platform under development, and the Three-year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary pathways. ICVA shared detailed notes with NGOs. UNHCR's background notes, agenda and presentation used on this occasion are [available here](#).

ICVA also supported civil society events related to the GCR and GRF, notably:

Faith Action input to Global Refugee Forum: On 4 September, ICVA attended a strategic planning meeting of the Faith Action for Children on the Move Coalition, which includes ICVA members. The meeting supported a discussion about how to shape the Coalition's pledges and contributions to the GRF in line with their [Action Plan](#).

APRRN-APNOR Regional Protection Forum – Towards a 'whole of society approach' in the implementation of the Global Compacts: Over 7-9 September, ICVA contributed to

a multi-actor forum convened by the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees (APNOR) and the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) in Bangkok. Day 1, a refugee-led event, connected over 100 refugee leaders from the region, who discussed their engagement with the GRF modalities and the APNOR network development. On days 2-3, they were joined by APRRN members, other NGOs, researchers, government and UN officials for further discussions on the GRF, the operationalisation of both Compacts, and how to uphold rights within mixed movements. A key focus was to explore how, under a 'whole of society' approach, sustainable enabling environments can be co-created for the meaningful participation of refugees and other affected people in decisions affecting their lives. A report will be available in the coming weeks on the [APRRN website](#).

Roundtable on 'Exploring synergies in planning for the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Compact on Migration': On 12 September, ICVA attended a lively roundtable organised by ACT Alliance with Member States and civil society. Inclusion and non-discrimination, Promotion of regular and complementary pathways, Child sensitive and gender reception, screening and referral and alternatives to detention were some of the numerous themes discussed.

2. IGAD Nairobi Declaration and Plan of Action: On 18 September, ICVA participated in the Second inter-ministerial stocktaking meeting on the Nairobi Declaration and action plan held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. ICVA facilitated the participation of some of its members and highlighted the need for NGOs to be involved increasingly in the regional process. The meeting yielded some decisions by IGAD member states that go well into 2020 and provide concrete steps to be undertaken by member states in the lead up to the GRF. A topic emphasised in the meeting was the establishment of an IGAD Support Platform to sustain and encourage broad based support for the implementation of the Nairobi Declaration and the Global Compact on Refugees. For more information please contact: Addis.Tesfa@icvanetwork.org

3. NGO side-event at UNHCR's Executive Committee: At UNHCR's 70th Executive Committee meeting, ICVA is organising an NGO side-event on '[Durable solutions through \(re\)integration: what it takes](#)' (7 October, 9am). With this event, NGOs wish to engage States representatives, refugee delegates and civil society in a discussion on concrete contributions to be made at the GRF on Solutions. For more information contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org

4. UNHCR September Standing Committee:

ICVA facilitated the drafting and delivery of three NGO statements during the 76th meeting of the Standing Committee, thanks to the many NGOs' valuable contributions. The statements were focused on [Efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment](#); on [UNHCR reform including decentralization and regionalization](#); and on the [Oral update on the Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Refugee Forum](#). Throughout this session of the Standing Committee, UNHCR's reform process – particularly regionalization and decentralization – featured as a cross-cutting theme.

5. Nansen award winners:

UNHCR's Nansen Refugee Award: Congratulations to Azizbek Ashurov, a lawyer, whose work has supported the efforts of the Kyrgyz Republic in becoming the [first country in the world to end statelessness](#), has been selected as the 2019 winner of the [UN Refugee Agency's Nansen Refugee Award](#). Congratulations also goes to the regional winners. Full information on the Nansen award and this years winners, see [the website](#). Nominations for the 2020 Nansen Refugee Award open on 4 November 2019

6. World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement:

On 30 September, ICVA and some of its members attended the first meeting of the Strategic Advisory Council of the [World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement](#) organised in Copenhagen. The meeting offered the opportunity to exchange experiences and ideas and to provide advice on the general direction of the Center's activities and on its draft work program for 2019-2020. Ahead of this meeting, on 11 September, ICVA had the opportunity to exchange with Mr. Björn Gillsäter, newly appointed Head of the Joint Data Center. Notes from this meeting will soon be made available to ICVA members.

7. Internally Displaced People:

Wilton Park Conference: ICVA participated in the Wilton Park conference on “[Internally Displaced Persons: towards more effective international protection and durable solutions](#)” (2-4 September). In the context of calls for a UN High Level Panel, the conference explored ways to encourage international engagement towards increased prevention, protection and durable solutions for IDPs, particularly building on initiatives such as the African Union’s 2019 Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced People, the GP20 Plan of Action and Agenda 2030.

UNHCR’s IDP Policy:

On 18 September, UNHCR released its “[Policy on UNHCR’s Engagement in Situations of Internal Displacement](#),” which reaffirms the agency’s commitment to a decisive, predictable and effective engagement, as an integral aspect of its IDP operations worldwide including in the delivery of its protection leadership role in humanitarian crises. ICVA members were consulted in the development of the policy and the “[Guidance Package for UNHCR’s Engagement in Situations of Internal Displacement](#)” and look forward to further exchanges with UNHCR on the operationalization of the policy.

8. UNHCR-NGO Consultations:

The UNHCR Africa consultations with NGOs and multi-stakeholders took place in Johannesburg, South Africa 10-11 September. Marco Rotelli, ICVA’s Regional Representative for Africa, attended the consultations and co-facilitated the session dedicated to NGOs. For more information see the [consultation website](#). Or contact: marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org.

NGO report on the 2019 UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations: Ahead of ExCom, the 2019 NGO Rapporteur, Dr. Aslam Daud (Humanity First Canada), produced his report on the Annual Consultations, which is now available online on the [UNHCR’s website](#). The report highlights key elements from the three days of consultations between UNHCR and NGOs on the theme ‘Working Together, Better.’ Including a summary of the panels, workshops and sessions as well as recommendations on partnership, data and evidence, UNHCR regionalisation and the Global Refugee Forum.

9. Migration and vulnerabilities:

2019 IOM-NGO Regional Humanitarian Consultation:

IOM and ICVA are hosting this year’s Regional Humanitarian Consultation on **29 and 30 October 2019** in Istanbul, Turkey. For additional information or registration questions, please email humanitarianpolicy@iom.int and secretariat@icvanetwork.org

10. On 5 November, the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC) will launch the [Mixed Migration Review 2019](#), the second in the series of global annual reports on mixed migration. The overarching theme this year is the future of migration. The event will take place at 13:30-15:00 at the Graduate Institute in Geneva and can be attended either in person or via livestream. More information and the registration link (both for the event and the livestream) are [available online](#).

Financing

11. Grand Bargain – 19 September Workshop on Quality Funding: Initiated by the combined Quality Funding workstreams within the Grand Bargain (former workstreams 7 and 8 on multi-year planning and funding and reduced earmarking), this workshop brought together more than 50 participants from NGOs, UN agencies and donor governments. Hosted by Canada, ICRC, Sweden, and NRC, the purpose of the workshop was to discuss work done to date on mapping the use and result of quality funding mechanisms and chart the way forward in 2020. Detailed workshop notes will be shared when available, however, there was initial agreement from participants to better define quality funding terms related to multi-year and flexible funding by early 2020. A group of participants also pushed for the identification of focus countries to start the work of developing more clear guidance and tools on quality funding for field practitioners. NGOs were able to develop common messaging on quality funding prior to the workshop to guide the discussion, and ICVA will continue to

engage as plans are developed for 2020. For more information, contact jeremy.rempel@icvanetwork.org

12. NRC - Money Where It Counts rollout – 25 September: NRC and Humentum, hosted by ECHO and supported by the Voice Network launched the 'Money Where It Counts' protocol on 25 September in Brussels. Money Where It Counts is a new protocol designed to harmonise cost classification, financial budgeting, and financial reporting across actors in the humanitarian sector. Currently, there are nine NGOs that have participated in the design of the protocol and are committed to implementation moving forward; it is now critical for a broader range of NGO, UN, and donor partners to support the effort. Approximately 65 participants from all 3 groups were present for the Brussels meeting, with positive interest expressed on all sides. For [more information visit the website](#), or contact Luca Peciarolo at NRC: luca.peciarolo@nrc.no

13. IASC Humanitarian Finance Results Group (RG5): RG5 co-chaired by ICVA and OCHA continues to meet on the third Tuesday of each month. The ICVA Humanitarian Finance Working Group meetings are timed to occur before each RG5 meeting to enable NGO partners not engaged directly as members of the RG to provide input into the agenda. RG5 is currently engaged in the first reporting process of the RGs summarising delivered results for the 2019 work plan. Results will be compiled and shared with the IASC OPAG at the November 7-8 meeting in Geneva. Between now and the end of 2019, RG5 key areas of focus include:

- Developing joint guidance on humanitarian and development financing tools linked to the Humanitarian-Development-Peace-Nexus;
- Disseminating best practices and lessons learned on us of Islamic Social Finance in the humanitarian sector;
- Disseminating the results of a multi-year study on benefits of multi-year and unearmarked funding drawing on multiple country contexts;
- Rollout of the NRC Money Where It Counts protocol – particularly with UN agencies and donors;
- Finalize negotiation of revised partnership agreements between NGOs and UNHCR, OCHA, UNICEF, WFP, and UNFPA.

For more information on how to engage with the ICVA Humanitarian Finance Working Group or IASC RG5, please contact: alon.plato@icvanetwork.org

Coordination

14. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC):

IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG):

- In the aftermath of hurricane Dorian that hit the Bahamas, the EDG met on 9 September to discuss about the humanitarian needs on the ground and the support to be provided to the people affected by this disaster.

- In order to better support colleagues operating in Burkina Faso, the EDG have undertaken a visit from 1-4 October. This mission will be followed by a Peer-to-Peer mission from 14-23 October to support the RC/HC in place.

IASC Principals: Next IASC Principals will take place 5 December 2019 in Geneva.

OPAG: The second OPAG meeting will take place in Geneva on 7-8 November 2019. Two national organisations will be represented to OPAG through ICVA, namely the Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development (ACBAR) and the Coastal Association for Social Transformation Trust (COAST). Together with another ICVA member, Foundation for Rural Development, they are the first three national organisations represented in IASC global structures.

15. Update on IASC Results groups:

RG1 operational response – The RG1 met on 18 September. Preliminary works were shared on how to best address Centrality of Protection and Bureaucratic Impediments

affecting NGOs. On the latter, colleagues are strongly encouraged to contribute and keep feeding us with information for accurate support. For more information, please contact: emmanuelle.osmond@icvanetwork.org

RG2 on Accountability and Inclusion - The RG2 met on 9 September. Updates were given on the many deliverables that the group is working on, including prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, accountability to affected populations, inclusion and humanitarian standards. A discussion was started on the reporting process towards the end-year evaluation of the Results Groups.

Connecting with AAP and PSEA networks: As part of its commitments to RG2, ICVA is looking to connect with regional or national networks of CSOs that are working on accountability to affected populations (AAP) and/or PSEAH or both. For more information contact: alon.plato@icvanetwork.org

RG3 collective advocacy – The RG3 met on 3 September and provided an update on the ongoing portfolio covered by this results group including a point on counter terrorism measures and the UN General Assembly. Common messages on climate change in humanitarian crisis prepared by IASC members were then shared with ICVA members.

As a follow up on counter-terrorism measures, ICVA organised a meeting on 30 September for NGO colleagues to share knowledge, information and brainstorm on collective action regarding this topic. For more information contact: emmanuelle.osmond@icvanetwork.org

RG4 Sub Working Group on Collective Outcomes:

The result group is submitting its first progress report to the OPAG. A consultation drafting light guidance on Collective Outcome is currently ongoing. The Iraqi National NGO Mercy Hand, member of ICVA, has joined RG4. For more information on RG4, and the ICVA Nexus working group, contact: marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org

RG5 (Finance) - See summary of current activities above in Financing section.

16. Council of European Union - Sahel

Under Finland's presidency to the Council of the European Union, ICVA's ED, Ignacio Packer, was invited on 6th September to share NGOs' perspectives on the Sahel region at the Council working party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA) in Brussels. ICVA highlighted the serious and growing challenges in the Sahel with devastating consequences on civilians and to international peace and stability. Looking at the impact of humanitarian assistance and illustrated by solution-oriented initiatives and results, the presentation focused on addressing five priorities for the attention of the Council of the European Union: Humanitarian access; The failure of adopted policy; The support to national and local leadership; The security approaches; Strategic and principled use of resources.

17. Humanitarian perspective – Forum Espace Humanitaire:

"Forum Espace Humanitaire" (FEH) has welcomed leaders of humanitarian organisations for the last 10 years. This year again (3-5 October, Pensières in Annecy), ICVA ED attended along with a number of ICVA members as well as InterAction and Voice. FEH offers a unique meeting to discuss humanitarian perspectives with high level of engagement of the French NGO community. Operational coordination of FEH by [Humanitarian Alternatives](#).

18. Latest updates from NGO Fora Support:

- Exchanges to include NGO fora in Southern Africa in ICVA network, with regard and beyond UNHCR collaboration
- Briefings to the new leadership of RDC INGO
- Exchanges with Cameroon NNGO forum for UNICEF consultations
- Exchanges with Cameroon INGO forum for EDG visit
- Support to Nairobi Regional Humanitarian Directors on Ebola Regional Preparedness plan
- Work with Nairobi Regional Humanitarian Directors and Southern Africa Directors to include Southern Africa in EWEAR mapping
- Support to South Sudan forum on Advocacy
- Support and exchanges to the East African REDSS on GRF
- Support to Libya INGO forum in connections with the migration and returns flow in Eastern

and horn of Africa and inclusion in the IGAD 2nd Stocktaking conference on the Nariobi Plan of Action for Somalia

For more information on NGO Fora, contact: marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org

Navigating change: cross cutting issues

19. Humanitarian-Development- Peace Nexus

The Community of Practice on the Nexus, an IASC RG4 sub working group cochaired by ICVA and WFP, has hosted a briefing from the INGO forum in Nigeria and a briefing from UNDP, representing the UN Joint Steering Committee. Participants had the opportunity to exchange on both topics. For more information contact: marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org

The ICVA Nexus Working group, hosted a briefing from Marta Garcia Valdes, CO Chair of the IASC RG4 and Deputy Director of OXFAM International. The participants had the opportunity to have first-hand information and to exchange views with the RG4 Co chair. Based on interest, the Working Group is considering briefing sessions from the JSC and UNDOCO. For more information contact: marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org

20. Diversity:

Aiming at reinforcing its longstanding commitment to diversity considerations, ICVA adopted a new [Diversity policy](#). Through this Policy, ICVA aims to support persons of concern. Allowing them to enjoy their rights on equal grounds and participate meaningfully in the decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities. With a focus on age, gender and disabilities, the Policy requires that ICVA supports and applies these considerations to all aspects of its work. This Policy consolidates and updates ICVA's existing commitments to a strong diversity orientation and Accountability to Affected People.

UNICEF and ICVA are hosting the **UNICEF-NGO Consultation for Partnership in Humanitarian Settings 'Enhancing the Culture of Partnership'** which will take place on **11 and 12 November 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland**. Following a [scoping study](#) conducted by ICVA in 2019 on UNICEF-NGO partnership in humanitarian settings, the Consultation will bring together some 50 participants from NGOs and UNICEF, to discuss concrete recommendations for improving the partnership. The expectation is to agree on a set of recommendations and ways forward. For more information, please refer to the [concept note](#) here. Registration requests can now be [submitted online](#).

The report for "[Global Child Rights report: A Second Revolution: Thirty years of child rights, and the unfinished agenda](#)" is now available online. This report draws in part on national reports and analyses carried out by the Joining Forces members and national partners in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kenya, Mali, The Philippines, Uganda.... In 2017, the six largest child-focused agencies – ChildFund Alliance; Plan International; Save the Children International; SOS Children's Villages International; Terre des Hommes International Federation and World Vision International – joined forces to push for renewed political commitments to and accountability for children's rights and an end to violence against children.

21. Safeguarding and PSEA:

Inter-Agency PSEAH Learning Package: ICVA has participated in a 3-day workshop aimed at creating an inter-agency learning package on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (PSEAH). The effort, led by IOM and UNHCR, should result with a novel and interactive way of training staff of any organisation on PSEAH and sensitising them to the survivors' perspective, challenging power dynamics and opening a debate on internal culture. The training should be launched around the end of the year. For more information contact: alon.plato@icvanetwork.org.

Survey on Safeguarding: The IRC is doing a Survey on how aid organisations are structuring and investing in safeguarding at this moment. They are interested in understanding how aid organisations are structuring the governance of safeguarding, but also the financial and human resources that are being invested. IRC would like the focal point and/or lead on safeguarding for aid organisations to fill out

the 5-minute Survey. Responses are completely anonymous. The information will be collaged by the IRC's Safeguarding Team and made available in early 2020. The [Survey can be found here](#). The deadline for filling the survey is 31 October 2019.

Civil society space in humanitarian action:

Legal assistance to ICVA members:

ICVA is pleased to announce that through its partnership with TrustLaw, ICVA Members can apply for a fast-track membership with TrustLaw to access free legal assistance. TrustLaw aims to support ICVA members with common legal matters that arise in the course of day-to-day operations (e.g. advice concerning general commercial matters, intellectual property protection, employment and HR related issues, templates for staff/volunteer contracts etc.), to large multi-jurisdictional programmes.

To find out more how ICVA members can avail themselves of services and membership with TrustLaw, please contact ICVA's Learning and Programme Coordinator:

nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

22. ICVA Working Group on civil society space in humanitarian action:

ICVA will be opening a working group for Members Only to share information, lessons learned, best practice and tools related to NGO/civil society space in humanitarian action.

For members interested in joining the group, contact: nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

Learning Opportunities

23. PHAP Core Training and Thematic Workshops on Humanitarian Law and Policy

Are you working in humanitarian protection, in or on situations of armed conflict, or in response to displacement crises? PHAP will be organising its **Core Training and Thematic Workshops on Humanitarian Law and Policy** under the topics:

- [Engaging Non-State Armed Groups for Humanitarian Protection](#) in Geneva (7-11 October) and Bangkok (20-24 January 2020)
- [Modes of Engagement with Military Actors in Amman](#) (10-14 November)
- [The Law on Non-International Armed Conflict in Abuja](#) (2-6 December)

PHAP will also organise a [Core Professional Training on Displaced Persons, Refugees, and Armed Conflict](#), followed by a Thematic Workshop on the same topic in Addis Ababa on 7-12 November. A Special Course on [Protection in Humanitarian Settings: From Theory to Practice](#) will be organised in Geneva on 25-29 November.

24. Contemplative Based Resilience (CBR) for Humanitarians: Multiple Application Deadlines are forthcoming (October—US, November—Kenya, December—Switzerland) for regional trainings on building practitioner resilience in crisis situations. Over the past decade the Garrison Institute has engaged humanitarians across the world to build their resilience in the face of terrible odds and difficult/fragile contexts. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply for trainings. [Read the research](#) on our approach to Humanitarian Resilience.

25. Global Outbreak Preparedness Planning (OPP) Workshop – London, 10-12 December, 2019. This December, Save the Children's USAID-OFDA funded initiative, READY, will host a three-day global workshop on Outbreak Preparedness Planning (OPP) in London. This forum will bring together global leaders in health emergencies, humanitarian operations, and multi-sectoral representatives for facilitated discussions and exercises on global operational readiness in major disease outbreak response settings. For more information on READY, [see here](#). Those interested in attending the workshop, [sign up here](#) to receive further information, or contact Ryan Toney, Program Coordinator for READY, at rtoney@savechildren.org

New and noteworthy

26. From the High level Week at the UN General Assembly: attended by ICVA ED (see editorial) The [SDG Summit](#) (24-25 September) resulted in the announcement of [acceleration actions](#) on SDG in addition to the adoption of a [Political Declaration](#), initiatives on mobilising financing, strengthening institutions and enhancing national announcements and implementation were made at the [Sustainable Goals Summit](#) (24-25 September). The first-ever [High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage](#) (23 September) launched new efforts to provide access for all to affordable, inclusive and resilient health systems. The [High Level Midterm Review of the Samoa Pathway](#) (27 September) adopted another political declaration that reaffirms solidarity with small island developing States.

27. Some key highlights from the [Financing the UN Development System - Time for Hard Choices](#) report comparisons from 2017 to 2019:

What does the UN Fund? 32% of funding went to Humanitarian assistance which is a growth of 4% compared to the previous years and development 39% - an increase of 1% since previous years. Growth in humanitarian financing is much wider since 2000 to 2017 in operational activity than development assistance.

From 2014 to 2018, **40% of requirements in the humanitarian appeals went unmet.**

47% of UN expenditure took place in low income countries. 79% of total UN operational expenditure the same year was in 50 crises-affected countries. From this group of 50 countries, **49% is dedicated to humanitarian activities**, 27% to peace and security and 24% to development assistance.

28 Nominate an outstanding individual as candidate for the Aurora prize: The Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity aims to recognize and support those who risk their life, health, freedom, reputation or livelihood in order to save and aid individuals that suffer as a result of today's tragedies, especially man-conceived disasters and crimes against humanity. The Aurora Prize Laureate will be honoured with a US \$1,000,000 award and will have the unique opportunity to continue the cycle of giving by nominating and supporting organisations that inspired the humanitarian action. You can find [more information and nominate here](#). The deadline for nominations is 31 October 2019.

29. Nominate a remarkable woman or youth for WRC's 2020 Voices of Courage Award: The Women's Refugee Commission will honour three outstanding refugee women or youth at their May 2020 Courage Awards Luncheon. The Voices of Courage Awards are presented annually to resilient, resourceful women or youth whose personal and powerful stories reflect the challenges and triumphs experienced by the tens of millions of people who have been displaced by conflict and violence. WRC are looking for refugee women or youth who have risen above the challenges of their situation and made impactful, lasting contributions to the empowerment and well-being of refugee women, children, or youth. Nominees may be community volunteers or staff with a local, national, or international organisation. [For more information and to nominate](#). The deadline for nominations is Friday, November 8, 2019.

30. ICVA is now part of a growing community of civic rights defenders who are leveraging the power and simplicity of the [Civic Charter](#) to defend civic rights in communities around the world (you can read about some of the ways that people are using the [Charter here](#)).

Mark your agenda

October 7: 65th Anniversary Nansen Refugee Award, Geneva
October 7-11: UNHCR 70th Executive committee meeting
October 15-16: IOM's International Dialogue on Dialogue on Migration, Geneva
October 15-16: World Humanitarian Action Forum, Istanbul
October 15-17: ALNAP 32nd Annual Meeting, Berlin
October 24: ADB Business Opportunities Seminar 2019, Geneva
October 24-25: AU CCM Global Solidarity and Responsibility Sharing to tackle root causes and find solutions in Africa: Supporting local ownership, socio-economic inclusion and durable solutions
October 29-30: IOM-NGO Regional Humanitarian Consultation, Istanbul
October 30- Nov 1: Global Perspectives, Addis Ababa

November 5-7: BBR Workshop, Addis Ababa
November 7-8: IASC OPAG meeting, Geneva
November 11-12: UNICEF-NGO Consultation for Partnership in Humanitarian Settings 'Enhancing the Culture of Partnership', Geneva
November 12-14: BBR Workshop, Entebbe
November 14: Third preparatory meeting for Global Refugee Forum, Geneva
November 19-22: Global Forum on Migration, Quito, Ecuador
November 20: 30th Anniversary of the CRC - High Level Meeting of the General Assembly, New York
November 26-29: Asia and the Pacific Regional NGO Partnerships Week, Bangkok
November 26-29: IOM – 110th Council, Geneva
November 7-8: IASC OPAG Meeting

December 4: Launch of the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO), Geneva
December 5: IASC Principals meeting, Geneva
December 5: UNHCR Pledging Conference, Geneva
December 9-12: 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent - "Act today, shape tomorrow," Geneva
December 17-18: 1st Global Refugee Forum, Geneva

2020

Save the date - [2020 ICVA Annual Conference](#)-17-19 March, Geneva

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