

## NGO Statement on enhancing responsibility-sharing

Your excellencies, colleagues,

This statement reflects the diverse views of a wide range of NGOs.

A lot has happened since the first GRF. The momentum of the first forum was soon followed by the sweeping COVID-19 pandemic which had a disproportionate impact on displacement-affected populations. All the while, the global displacement situation has only become bleaker with more than 108 million people displaced, including more than 35 million refugees. Millions continue to be denied access to a nationality, and are thus prevented from accessing their rights.

The need for accelerating the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees is thus more acute than ever. Particular focus needs to be placed on **advancing more equitable responsibility-sharing**, including delivering on and expanding resettlement commitments, providing complementary pathways and ensuring access to asylum. It also entails better and more sustained support – both financial and technical - to hosting States.

Firstly, we would like to stress the necessity of **achieving progress through holistic implementation of the four GCR objectives**. While continued investment in self-reliance remains a priority, we should not lose sight of durable solutions. We must continue to push for concrete and complementary action on access to justice, resettlement, humanitarian admission, support to asylum capacity in third States - and insist on maintaining access to territory and asylum while redoubling efforts to address root causes of conflict and displacement.

This brings us to the second priority: **Advancing meaningful participation**. To design and implement a functioning GRF process, it must be led by refugees, stateless persons, and forcibly displaced people. We have seen notable progress since the first GRF and commend the efforts of UNHCR as well as forcibly displaced communities and RLOs who have rightfully demanded to be included from the outset. Yet, more space needs to be built in for meaningful contributions from refugees and forcibly displaced people in all of their diversity.

The third priority relates to the pledging modality and **ensuring ownership and space for all**. This year's pledging modality is paving the way for increased coherence and collaboration between GRF stakeholders. However, we would like to see a more decentralized decision-making structure around the pledges looking forward to ensure continued engagement of the full variety of stakeholders. The GRF must be brought more 'to life' at country level over the course of the next four years. While we talk about localization at a global level, the GRF and pledging processes must be locally anchored and led.

As part of the follow-up arrangements to this GRF, we propose the development of a review mechanism whereby end-users will be involved in assessing progress and outcomes to enhance meaningful participation and accountability throughout the GRF cycle.

Accelerating the implementation of the GCR not only requires a solid review process of pledge implementation but also the calling out of policies and practices that undermine efforts towards enhanced responsibility sharing.

At this GRF, we hope to see a collective recommitment to overcome division and jointly address the challenges that people in displacement are facing – placing human rights and humanitarian principles at the centre of our joint efforts.

In four years, we look forward to seeing tangible protection and solutions outcomes for both displaced populations and host communities. And a renewed commitment to global responsibility sharing and solidarity as the foundation for a functioning refugee system.

Further details are available at [icvanetwork.org](http://icvanetwork.org)

Thank you.