

## ***Official Statement from the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)***

***Delivered on 27 May 2017***

We congratulate and thank UNISDR and our host, Mexico, for organizing this important event.

I am Enrique Torrella, representing the Norwegian Refugee Council and its Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). I am based in Panama.

The displacement of people from their homes is a major, worldwide consequence of un-addressed disaster risk. As reported by IDMC, sudden-onset disasters alone have caused an average of 25.3 million displacements of each year since 2008.

Displacement risk is likely to rise with the increasing exposure and vulnerability of growing populations and the impacts of climate change. On the other hand, the fact that many of the drivers of this crisis are human-made means that we also have the power to reduce risk and avoid the adverse impacts of disaster displacement.

Displacement is included in the Sendai Framework, but much more needs to be done through planning and action at the local, national and regional levels. This includes consideration of the role of well-planned and inclusive evacuations; enabling migration as a positive, adaptive response; and supporting self-determined community relocations as a measure of last resort.

This is particularly important for the most vulnerable countries and people in need of protection and support, including women, children, older people, people with disabilities and indigenous communities, who evidence shows are disproportionately impacted.

### **NRC has two requests to governments, regional bodies and other stakeholders at this Global Platform:**

#### **First:**

To update or develop your national and local DRR strategies to include specific provisions on preventing, preparing for and addressing disaster displacement by 2020.

Strategies and plans that already exist often lack specific provisions to reduce displacement risk, address protection concerns, and support durable solutions for displaced people. This includes the work plans of Regional Platforms for DRR, with the notable exception of the Pacific region.

#### **Second:**

To strengthen national monitoring and accountability frameworks, data and evidence on new and ongoing disaster displacement needed to understand of disaster displacement

risk and to inform DRR strategies, implementation and reporting at national level, as well as to the Sendai Framework Monitor.

**This includes through:**

- Strengthening systematic data collection, monitoring and analysis of new and existing disaster displacement at local, national and regional levels,
  - establishing national targets and indicators on disaster displacement for national reporting, and reporting to the Sendai Framework Monitor,
  - strengthening capacities at local, national and regional levels to collect, capture and analyse data, disaggregated by age, sex, disability, and location within and across borders,
- and
- Ensuring that disaster displacement is included in the work of the Global Partnership for disaster-related data for sustainable development.

**We are ready to support implementation of the Sendai Framework by:**

**a) *collecting data, providing technical guidance, and enhancing knowledge on disaster-related displacement and displacement risk.***

- Through IDMC, we will provide global evidence, research and modelling of disaster displacement and future displacement risk, including data on both internal and cross-border disaster displacement;

And by:

**b) *implementing operational programs, deploying expert support capacity, and advocating for people affected by disaster displacement and displacement risk.***

- Through our country, regional and representational offices we are running programs and policy-oriented advocacy to avoid disaster displacement and protect people displaced and at risk of becoming so; and
- Through NORCAP, our expert deployment mechanism we deploy meteorologists, hydrologists and DRR expertise to build capacity within UN agencies, regional climate institutions and national meteorological and hydrological services to ensure that adequate and actionable DRR information reaches the most vulnerable people.

Thank you.