

# World Humanitarian Summit

## Italy's commitments

### Round table n. 1 "Political leadership to prevent and end conflicts"

#### **Core Commitment 1: Commit to act early upon potential conflict situations based on early warning findings and shared conflict analysis, in accordance with international law.**

- Italy will actively use early warning findings to identify, address and defuse critical risks before they deteriorate into intractable conflicts by using preventive diplomacy tools such as good offices, Peace and Development Advisors, groups of contact and mediation.
- *Italy commits to encourage the Secretary-General to use his prerogative under Article 99 of the Charter as appropriate to brief the Security Council proactively on emerging issues.*
- Italy commits to support early engagement with countries at risk of conflict, their regional partners and relevant regional/sub regional organizations, using tools such as timely visiting missions, interactive dialogues, and the role of the Presidency.
- Italy will strengthen and if necessary, develop comprehensive, shared frameworks for conflict and risk analysis including early warning mechanisms at the local, national, regional and international level.
- Italy declares its support for the Code of Conduct on mass atrocities.
- Italy will systemize Gender and Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk analysis in conflict analysis including the use of community and women informed local early warning mechanisms to identify and defuse conflicts early.

#### **Core commitment 2: Commit to improve prevention and peaceful resolution capacities at the national, regional and international level improving the ability to work on multiple crises simultaneously.**

- Italy will increase the number of staff working on conflict analysis, prevention and resolution in governments, regional and international organizations in 2017.
- Italy will invest in strengthening civil society to work on conflict analysis, prevention and resolution.
- Italy will establish effective partnerships with *relevant International and Regional Organizations, including OSCE and African Union*, for planning and delivering collective conflict prevention and resolutions strategies based on shared conflict analysis.
- Italy commits additional funding in the amount of at least 2 M euro by 2020 to support the UN's conflict prevention capacities, in particular conflict analysis and the good offices function and will advocate for the use of regular budget funds for conflict prevention.

**Core Commitment 3: Commit to sustain political leadership and engagement through all stages of a crisis to prevent the emergence or relapse into conflict.**

- Italy commits to provide political support by organizing high-level meetings with a view to mobilizing support to prevent or resolve a crisis.

**Core Commitment 4: Commit to address root causes of conflict and work to reduce fragility by investing in the development of inclusive, peaceful societies.**

- Italy commits to allocating additional, predictable resources to the Peacebuilding Fund in the manner of *at least 2,5 Meuro by 2020* to allow the Fund to continue operations at the current level of \$100 million per year.
- Italy commits to strengthening the active participation of women and youth in peacebuilding by linking the implementation of the New Deal to the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2000) and 2250 (2015).
- Italy commits to actively focus on addressing long standing human rights concerns and grievances, including patterns of discrimination and marginalization, recognizing this as a key structural cause of conflict and instability within societies.
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**Core Commitment 5: Commit to make successful conflict prevention visible by capturing, consolidating and sharing good practices and lessons learnt.**

- Italy will support the United Nations in convening a “World Prevention Forum” by 2020 to identify how Member States, the UN Secretariat, the Security Council and regional organizations can work more effectively together on conflict prevention and resolution.
- In preparation of the international conference, Italy will convene a regional forum on conflict prevention to identify and advance elements of successful conflict prevention, which include the participation of the private sector and civil society.
- Italy requests that the Secretary-General develop a comprehensive plan to strengthen conflict prevention at the United Nations based on lessons learnt and recommendations emanating from the Advisory Group of Experts on the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture, the Report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations, and the Global Study on the implementation of resolution 1325, in time for the “World Prevention Forum” by 2020.

**Round table n. 2 “Uphold the norms that safeguard humanity”**

**Core commitment 1: Commit to promote and enhance respect for international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and refugee law, where applicable.**

- Italy commits to continuing to implement the national legislation preventing, combating and prosecuting all forms of sexual and gender-based violence and ensuring the right of victims/survivors to effective assistance and protection.
- Italy commits to engage constructively in the intergovernmental process as set out in Resolution 2 of the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2015, “to find agreement on features and functions of a potential forum of States and ways to enhance the implementation of IHL using the potential of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and IHL regional forums.
- Italy commits to designate focal points in relevant government branches responsible for promoting respect for international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law through diplomatic, economic and military relations.
- Italy will join a coordinated global effort to mobilize States, civil society and global leaders to enhance respect for international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law.
- Italy *will continue to support* the competence of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in accordance with article 90 of Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions.
- Italy commits to offer international humanitarian and human rights law training/dissemination sessions for armed forces. *Italy will continue to offer human rights law training in favor of African peace-keepers provided by the Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU) of Vicenza.*

**Core commitment 2: Commit to promote and enhance the protection of civilians and civilian objects, especially in the conduct of hostilities, for instance by working to prevent civilian harm resulting from the use of wide-area explosive weapons in populated areas, and by sparing civilian infrastructure from military use in the conduct of military operations.**

- Italy commits to support humanitarian mine action programs aimed at clearing explosive remnants of war (ERW) through providing information and technical, financial and material assistance to locate, remove, destroy and otherwise render ineffective any type of explosive hazard.
- Italy commits to support public-information campaigns, education, training and liaison with communities aimed at sensitizing affected populations to the risks posed by landmines and explosive hazards, *by providing no less than 2/2.5 Million euro each year to UNMAS or ICRC or other implementing Agents.*
- Italy will continue to implement domestic legislation to prohibit/limit the use of schools and places of worship in support of the military effort.
- Italy will support the inclusion of the Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict into military manuals, doctrine and other means of dissemination.

**Core Commitment 3: Commit to ensure all populations in need receive rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance.**

- Italy commits to actively promote the principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence in humanitarian action by *involving, whenever possible, the Faith Based Organizations in a constructive dialogue aimed at widening the humanitarian space*

*provided that they are capillary, they are credible vis-à-vis the local communities and they are perceived as neutral.*

**Core commitment 4: Commit to promote and enhance efforts to respect and protect medical personnel, transports and facilities, as well as humanitarian relief personnel and assets against attacks, threats or other violent acts.**

- Italy will review military rules of engagement and operational practice to include measures to protect the delivery of humanitarian assistance and health care.
- Italy will review domestic legislation and its implementation to ensure that it is consistent with the obligation to respect and protect health care personnel, their means of transport and facilities, as well as humanitarian workers and objects used for humanitarian relief operations against attack.
- Italy will train the military on the applicable legal framework for the protection of health care as well as ethical duties of health care personnel.

**Core commitment 5: Commit to speak out and systematically condemn serious violations of international humanitarian law and serious violations and abuses of international human rights law and to take concrete steps to ensure accountability of perpetrators when these acts amount to crimes under international law.**

- Italy commits to promote implementation of the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes

**Round table n. 3 “Leave no one behind”**

**Core Commitment 2: Commit to promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions for internally displaced persons and refugees. Commit to do so in a coherent and measurable manner through international, regional and national programs and by taking the necessary policy, legal and financial steps required for the specific contexts and in order to work towards a target of 50 percent reduction in internal displacement by 2030.**

- Italy will work to address the causes of internal displacement, and to support the voluntary return home in safety and dignity, local integration or settlement elsewhere if needed. *We fully share the proposal to put the dignity of affected people at the heart of humanitarian action. In this context we will focus our humanitarian projects – wherever possible – on the resilience and self-reliance of IDPs and refugees, using the cash-for-work tool. In Lebanon, we will double the number of schools rehabilitated (currently 74), and we will bring to 50.000 by 2016 the total number of Syrian children involved in the school feeding program. Furthermore, Italy will continue to carry out - in co-operation with the Ministry of Interior and some Italian NGOs - a resettlement program in favor of the Syrian refugees (“humanitarian corridors”) involving no less than 1.000 beneficiaries in the next two years.*
- *Italy will keep paying a particular attention to vulnerable migrants. Among them a special position is the one of Unaccompanied Minors (UM): in this respect Italy commits to increase the places available for UM in dedicated reception facilities (2.000 more places will be available in 2018) and moreover to better the quality of services provided to UM, granting*

*them services based on the principle of the superior interest of the child (before March 2019).*

**Core Commitment 3: Acknowledge the global public good provided by countries and communities which are hosting large numbers of refugees. Commit to providing communities with large numbers of displaced populations or receiving large of number of returnees with the necessary financial, political and policy support to address the humanitarian and socio-economic impact. To this end, commit to strengthen multilateral financing instruments. Commit to foster host communities' self-reliance and resilience, as part of the comprehensive and integrated approach outlined in core commitment 1.**

- *Italy will provide long-term, predictable technical and financial support to the countries affected by the Syria crisis and communities with large number of refugees and IDPs, in such ways that improve services and inclusive economic opportunities (see also previous commitment).*
- *In support of localized programs, Italy will improve the predictability of both humanitarian and development financing through grant-based and—concessional loans in favor of Lebanon and Jordan with large numbers of refugees and IDPs. On the occasion of the Syria donors' conference in London, Italy pledged a three years' package (2016-2018) of both humanitarian and development aid amounting 400 Million dollars (150 Million grants, 200 Million soft loans and 50 Million debt swap agreement). Moreover, Italy has already implemented projects in Ethiopia, Senegal, Burkina Faso and Sudan, supporting with 10 million Euros the creation of EU the Valletta Emergency Trust Funds on addressing the root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa. The Trust Fund has a huge potential to boost resilience through actions aimed at creating socio-economic development, job opportunities and generate income, keeping a special focus on youth, women and hosting communities.*

#### **Round table n. 4 “Women and girls: catalyzing action to achieve gender equality”**

**Core Commitment 2: Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the Outcome documents of their review conferences for all women and adolescent girls in crisis settings.**

- *Italy commits to continue and tailor to crisis settings their support to the implementation of the targets for the 2030 Agenda on maternal, newborn and adolescent health to ensure safe delivery, emergency obstetric, ante natal and post-natal services in crisis settings, improved access to information on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, emergency contraceptive services, voluntary family planning, and basic items for safe delivery and sanitary supplies, necessary medical and psychological services for SGBV survivors as well as improved capacity of health systems and workers with immediate effect.*

**Core Commitment 3: Implement a coordinated global approach to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in crisis contexts, including through the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies.**

- Italy implements commitments made under the Call to Action on Protection from GBV in emergencies and its Road Map. Italy commits to advocate for inclusion of Call to Action considerations in relevant multilateral fora, to publish new national guidelines on addressing GBV and gender equality in humanitarian action, and to strengthen GBV services in Palestine.
- Italy implements commitments made in the United Kingdom led PSVI “Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict” and ensure that investigations of SGBV crimes suffice the standards set in the International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict, by 2018.

**Core Commitment 5 : Fully comply with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women’s empowerment, and women’s rights.**

- Italy commits to *support* requests to the Secretary General that all Secretary General Reports and any briefings to the Council from a UN or non-governmental agency include sex and age disaggregated data and take into account findings and recommendations on women’s rights and gender equality by human rights bodies and mechanisms.

**Round table n. 5 “Natural Disasters and Climate change”**

**Core Commitment 1: Commit to accelerate the reduction of disaster and climate-related risks through the coherent implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as well as other relevant strategies and programs of action, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.**

- Italy commits to take a more systematic and integrated approach to risk management through measures that better integrate planning in climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, response and recovery, and through closer collaboration between different sectors and partners, so that investments in each are complementary, and based on a common analysis of risk and costs.
- Italy commits to strengthen measures to prevent and avoid disaster-induced displacement by integrating this risk into climate change adaptation and disaster risk management strategies.

**Core Commitment 2: Commit to reinforce national and local leadership and capacities in managing disaster and climate-related risks through strengthened preparedness and predictable response and recovery arrangements.**

- Italy commits to create national preparedness strategies and/or partnerships to strengthen national and local emergency management systems for natural disasters, which include: a) inclusive contingency plans for response and recovery that set out clear lines of responsibility, triggers for early action, and pre-committed finance; and include, when regional and global support is required, in what form and how it will be coordinated; b) identification of populations at risk of displacement, and evacuation corridors and sites; c) long-term investment in national and local preparedness, response and recovery capacities capable of responding to natural hazards, including civil protection, social protection, basic services, agriculture and other systems.
- Italy commits to enhance countries' preparedness, and accelerate this initially in twenty of the most at-risk countries, so they reach a minimum level of readiness by 2020.
- Italy commits to develop or reinforce domestic rules, procedures and institutional arrangements for facilitating and regulating international disaster assistance.
- Italy commits to make the private sector an integral part of natural disaster response and recovery planning, and to promote business continuity.
- Italy commits to providing support to national and local leadership to ensure that longer-term, collective programming incorporates gender equality analysis and concrete steps to empower women and girls.
- Italy commits to increase coverage of shock responsive social protection systems, introduce safety nets in fragile contexts, and move chronically affected populations onto these programs incrementally by 2030.

**Core Commitment 3: Commit to improve the understanding, anticipation and preparedness for disaster and climate-related risks by investing in data, analysis and early warning, and developing evidence-based decision-making processes that result in early action.**

- Italy will commit to achieve the Sendai Framework target to increase people's access to multi-hazard Early Warning Systems, and disaster risk information and assessments by 2030, including through initiatives, such as the Climate Risk Early Warning Systems.
- Italy commits to invest in national early warning capacity in a disciplined manner that leverages global and regional support structures, is cost effective, reaches the last mile, and engages the private sector.
- Italy commits to agree on actions that should be undertaken, within defined timelines, once a heightened risk of an El Niño or La Niña event is confirmed.

**Core Commitment 4: Commit to increase investment in building community resilience as a critical first line of response, with the full and effective participation of women.**

- Italy commits to the participation of civil society, including local women's groups, and the private sector in the design, implementation and monitoring of disaster risk management policies and programs.
- Italy commits to increase investment in building community resilience as a core foundation of national risk management efforts, the key elements of which could include: raising awareness of critical risks and how all community members may be affected; collaboration between local government, businesses and neighborhoods in tackling their most important risks; ensuring women's participation; reinforcing local infrastructure; and improving communities' capacity to provide a coordinated first response.

- Italy commits to align its support behind national and local resilience efforts, and provide vulnerable people with a mix of short term assistance to address immediate needs and longer-term assistance to improve self-reliance.

**Core Commitment 5: Commit to ensure regional and global humanitarian assistance for natural disasters complements national and local efforts.**

- Italy commits to develop bilateral and regional contingency plans that identify transboundary disaster displacement risk scenarios.
- Italy commits to investing in capacity building and deployment mechanisms, particularly in the Global South, so that requesting countries can more effectively receive pre-verified and quality assured capacities, such as emergency medical teams.
- Italy re-commits to the proper and coherent use, and the effective coordination of foreign military assets in humanitarian action.
- Italy re-commits to, in line with the principles and concepts of the Oslo Guidelines<sup>1</sup>, endorse common humanitarian civil-military standards for deploying, receiving, integrating and coordinating foreign military assets in natural disasters.

**Round table n. 6 “Changing people’s lives: from delivering aid to ending need”**

**Commitment 1: Commit to a new way of working that meets people’s immediate humanitarian needs, building toward reduced risk and vulnerability in the longer term through the achievement of collective outcomes**

Anticipate, Do Not Wait: to invest in risk analysis and to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact and frequency of known risks and hazards on people.

- Italy commits to increase national capacity for disaster risk analysis by the establishment of institutional partnership between the Italian Cooperation and the Italian Civil Protection by 2020.
- Italy commits to establish early warning systems with thresholds to trigger urban response protocols for city-level analysis, including urban housing analysis to ensure depiction of affected urban households.

Reinforce, Do Not Replace: to support and invest in national and local leadership and response systems wherever possible, avoiding duplicative international mechanisms.

- Italy commits to translate into operational terms the goal of cash-based delivery of assistance as preferred method, where context allows.

Transcend Humanitarian-Development Divides: work together, toward collective outcomes that ensure humanitarian needs are met, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years and based on the comparative advantage of a diverse range of actors. The primacy of humanitarian principles will continue to underpin humanitarian action.

- Italy commits to improve synergy between humanitarian and development actors in West Africa and in countries affected by the Syrian crisis and by the Niño (Horn of Africa and Mozambique by 2020 based on demonstrated comparative advantage relevant to each context.

**Commitment 2: Commit to enable coherent financing that avoids fragmentation by supporting collective outcomes over multiple years, supporting those with demonstrated comparative advantage to deliver in context.**

Invest in coherence: to finance collective outcomes so they can be achieved predictably and sustainably, and promote early action by development actors.

- Italy commits to actively explore ways to increase financing options (eg. short-term and long-term; grants, loans and other financing tools) to ensure humanitarian needs are met, and reduce people's risk and vulnerability, aimed at supporting the achievement of collective outcomes over multiple years.
- Italy commits to increase expenditures on and/or technical assistance provided for research and development to promote innovative solutions that reduce risk and vulnerability.

## **Round table n. 7 “Financing: investing in humanity”**

**Core Commitment 1: Increase substantially and diversify global support and share of resources for humanitarian assistance aimed to address the differentiated needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises in fragile situations and complex emergencies, including increasing cash-based programming in situations, where relevant.**

- Italy commits: to increase *by 100% (from 1 to 2 Million Euro)* its contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to help ensure its expansion to \$1 billion annually by 2018, and to
- increase the percentage of ODA targeted at the most fragile and conflict affected countries;
- Recognizing the potentially transformative power of humanitarian cash transfers Italy commits to:
  - 1) ensuring that cash is equally considered alongside other response modalities throughout a humanitarian response and that where feasible, cash is used as the preferred and default modality;
  - 2) building internal capacity to carry out cash programming;

**Core Commitment 2: Commit to empower national and local humanitarian action by increasing the share of financing accessible to local and national humanitarian actors and supporting the enhancement of their national delivery systems, capacities, and preparedness planning.**

➤ Italy commits to contribute to a reconfiguration of the international humanitarian financing system to allow critical front-line responder to access adequate, timely and quality funding on a fair basis by:

- 1) empowering national NGOs to play a central role in programming and delivering principled and coordinated humanitarian assistance;
- 2) ensuring front-line responders are included in collective coordination platforms and response processes have a seat at the table in collective response processes, thereby promoting stronger partnerships and increased direct access of local and national front-line responding NGOs to humanitarian funding;

**Core Commitment 3: Commit to promote and increase predictable, multi-year, un-earmarked, collaborative and flexible humanitarian funding toward greater efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of humanitarian action for affected people.**

➤ Italy commits to:

- endorsing the commitments under the Grand Bargain;
- agreeing to reporting requirements that are simplified, proportionate, and coherent (harmonized to best practice);

**Core Commitment 5: Commit to broaden and adapt the global instruments and approaches to meet both urgent needs and reduce risk and vulnerability and increase resilience, without adverse impact on humanitarian principles and overall action (as also proposed in Round Table 6 on “Changing Lives”).**

- Recognizing that, within a country context, humanitarian, development, peacebuilding, stabilization and climate finance should be more coherent, Italy commits to:
- 1) removing the internal institutional barriers between humanitarian and development finance, both in capitals/headquarters and at country level, in order to mobilize the right mix of humanitarian and development finance;
  - 2) strengthening the mechanisms for coordination at country level and globally to maximize policy coherence.

**Special Session on “Making humanitarian action inclusive of persons with disabilities”**

**Commitments to implement the Charter on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action**

- Italy endorses the Charter on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action and commits towards its implementation.
- Italy commits to ensuring that its humanitarian response plans and programs reflect the different needs and capacities of women, girls, men and boys with disabilities, by end of 2020.
- Italy will support the development and implementation of global guidelines on disability inclusion in humanitarian action to be initiated in 2016.
- Italy will identify a disability focal point and/or establish technical help desks, in order to mainstream the issue of disability within humanitarian aid programs and manage specific actions for people with disabilities.
- Italy will collect quantitative and qualitative data on persons with disabilities, disaggregated by age and sex, that are comparable, reliable and ethically collected.
- Italy will develop and implement advocacy and awareness raising programs to enhance the understanding of the needs of persons with disabilities to all humanitarian actors willing to strengthen their response towards persons with disabilities.