Thank you, Ambassador Miia Rainne, for your remarks setting the scene. As you noted, today marks World Refugee Day and I join you in recognizing the remarkable resilience and dignity of the millions of people displaced across the globe.

Allow me to underline the importance of recognizing that displacement, both external and internal, is at record levels and is causing untold human misery across the globe.

Conflict, climate change and economic inequality are driving these displacements. Too often, people get stuck in a protracted situation, depending on humanitarian aid for years, even decades.

This requires a new, different approach which focuses on building resilience and finding sustainable solutions for the displaced and their host communities. This will require determined collaboration and coherence across humanitarian, development and peace efforts. It will also require investment in development early and consistently to build resilience and address the underlying drivers of displacement.

Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen,

The keynote speeches from this morning by H.E. Ambassador Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the Economic and Social Council and Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations have shared with us their overview of the challenges and opportunities. And this morning we heard how food insecurity is fueling displacement and suffering. In turn, those who are displaced are amongst the most food insecure. For this reason, there is a need for us to focus on multi-dimensional and multi-sectoral solutions. We need to be serious and determined about addressing the drivers of inequality and the challenges posed by the climate crises and conflicts which are fueling displacement. Thank you for the opportunity to offer some opening reflections and over to you Ambassador Rainne.
Closing Remarks

Thank you to our moderator, Helena.

Colleagues,

I’d like to express my enormous satisfaction for what was broadly discussed today and everything that we were able to collect from the important experiences and practices throughout the world. This second session, the second roundtable has provided us with a number of ideas and solutions around the fundamental causes of displacement, but it’s alarming that these causes are increasingly becoming complex.

As was mentioned and updated by the distinguished panellist Mr. Kohler, internal displacement is increasingly directly related to climate change. It’s highly probably that it could become one of the main causes of prolonged displacement beyond political and social conflicts. The evidence accumulated throughout the regions is alarming in this regard. The irreversible impact of global warming and with regard to a loss of resources and lack of water and lack of arable land could cause prolonged displacement of the most vulnerable peoples becoming permanent displacement at an unprecedented scale. It's clear that that would then unleash a number of humanitarian crises that we have never seen before. So a holistic approach is desirable. It will become indispensable in order to ensure the dignity of displaced persons and the nexus between humanitarian assistance, construction, peace-building, sustainable development based on economic empowerment at a local level and building resilience and adaptive capacity.

That’s the only way to protect the social fabrics of our countries. In other words, solutions are lasted when they’re structural solutions, especially when we are confronted with existential threats.

I would like to thank the participating states, the panellists, civil society, OCHA, the secretariat for the success of this meeting under the mandate set forth by the General Assembly. I now give the floor to the Ambassador, my co-chair, for her closing remarks to close ECOSOC’s meeting this year on the Transition from Relief to Development.

You have the floor Ma’am.