



**High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen
Delivered by Lucy Duncan, New Zealand Permanent
Representative
16 March 2022**

I would like to thank the UN Secretary-General and the Governments of Switzerland and Sweden for convening this event.

A lot has happened in the world since the last pledging event for Yemen a year ago. We have witnessed significant escalations in other humanitarian crises, including those in Afghanistan, Myanmar and, most recently, Ukraine.

While these crises have, at different times, drawn the international community's deserved attention, it is incumbent on all of us to ensure that we do not lose sight of the scale and severity of humanitarian need in Yemen.

We acknowledge the humanitarian actors who continue to deliver life-saving protection and assistance to Yemeni communities in very difficult circumstances.

Aotearoa New Zealand remains deeply concerned by attacks on humanitarian workers and medical facilities and calls on the parties to the conflict to fully uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law.

We have noted from OCHA's recent update that current response funding levels are jeopardizing critical assistance programmes in Yemen.

Aotearoa New Zealand is pleased to have already provided 1.5 million New Zealand Dollars to the International Committee of the Red Cross's Yemen operations in 2022.

This follows contributions to both the ICRC and the UN World Food Programme last year, and brings our total contributions to the Yemen response since 2017 to 22 million New Zealand Dollars.

New Zealand remains committed to supporting the humanitarian response in Yemen and will assess options for further support later this year.

Additional funding, however, will not address the drivers of need in Yemen. The true solution to the crisis is a sustainable political agreement that is inclusive and Yemeni-led.

We fully support the United Nations' efforts to end the conflict and call for all parties to recommit to peace. Our collective goal must remain to encourage this, so that next year we may be able to reflect on measurable and meaningful improvements for the people of Yemen.