



ECOSOC HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS SEGMENT

UN HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK 19-21 June 2018

Title:

Igniting Hope - transforming humanitarian action with and for young people

Sponsors and Organizers:

Co-sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN and the Permanent mission of Qatar to the UN;

Co-organized by UNFPA, IFRC, Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and the Major Group for Children and Youth [on behalf of the Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action].

Date and Time: Tuesday, 19 June 2018, 8:30 – 9:45

UN Secretariat, New York

This is one of the side-events to be convened during the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment, in keeping with this year's theme: *Restoring humanity, respecting human dignity and leaving no one behind: working together to reduce people's humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability.*

Background and objectives

Today, 40 percent of the 1.4 billion people living in countries impacted by crises are under the age of 15, and young people constitute a significant proportion of the population in many conflict and post-conflict settings.¹ The humanitarian responsibility to protect the rights and address the specific needs of young people, including adolescents, and to engage them and their unique capacities in humanitarian preparedness, response and recovery is vital to humanitarian effectiveness, risk reduction, and the protection of affected populations.

The World Humanitarian Summit, on 23-24 May 2016 in Istanbul, emphasized the urgent need to safeguard the rights of young people and engage them in humanitarian response efforts. A new Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action was launched, under the leadership of IFRC and UNFPA, as a concrete and deliberate step by the humanitarian community to work with and for young people.

More than 50 humanitarian partners including governments, UN entities, international and local NGOs, and major youth organizations and networks have since joined the initiative.

They are all committed to advancing the Compact's five core commitments – service delivery, participation, capacity & local action, resources, and data & knowledge – and to ensure that the priorities, needs and rights of young people affected by disaster, conflict, forced displacement

¹ OECD report on States of Fragility, 2015

and other humanitarian crises, are addressed, and that they are informed, consulted, and meaningfully engaged throughout all stages of humanitarian action. Through the Compact, the humanitarian system is starting to recognize the needs to work not only for, but closely together with, young people. From Jordan to Bangladesh, from Haiti to Nepal, and from Germany to Greece, humanitarian actors are encouraging and relying on young people on the ground. We see young people stepping up to amplify humanitarian response, to push for innovation and to understand and work side by side with affected populations effectively.

This side event will present the work of the Compact in its first 18 months, on the ways in which young people are adapting to and learning from these early efforts, in engaging with each other and serving populations in need. It will launch the report “Igniting hope” which documents some of the innovative programming that puts the rights and needs of young people front and centre stage. The report serves as testimony to the transformation that is taking place in the member organizations of the Compact.

Intended outcomes

- 1) Review implementation of the first 18 months of the Compact of Young People in Humanitarian Action through the launch of the report ‘Igniting Hope’.
- 2) Highlight good practice examples from Compact members of working with and for young people in humanitarian action and recognize young people as indispensable stakeholders, decision makers, problem-solvers, demographic cohort driving change and resilience strengthening.
- 3) Highlight how the Compact has been agenda setting and able to forge consensus on the alignment of policies and strategies in humanitarian action with the key principles of youth engagement , including by connecting with the existing humanitarian architecture and global processes such as the 2030 Agenda, Agenda for Humanity, and the Grand Bargain as well as the Compact for Refugees and the Compact for Safe, Orderly and Safe Migration as well as the SC Res. 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security
- 4) Official announcement of the new members of the Compact: International Rescue Committee, Save the Children, Oxfam (tbc) and celebration of the Compact as the growing family of like-minded.

Discussion points

The side-event will champion the work of the Compact as displayed in the ‘Igniting Hope’ report and focus on showcasing how the partnership has been transforming humanitarian action with and for young people in the last 18 month. The following are some questions which will be guiding the discussion:

- Provide practical examples of progress to deliver on the Compact’ s five key action areas, as well as next steps.
- The change from within is the pre-condition for every stakeholder in the humanitarian landscape in enabling impactful transformation in communities. In your view, what are the tangible examples, of the member organisations and beyond, in institutionalisation of the Compact core values from within?
- With the Compact aiming to foster alignment of policies, strategies, and relevant global processes pertinent to humanitarian aid with the key principles of meaningful youth engagement, what are the examples and lessons learnt with influencing the global humanitarian landscape through the Compact’s core commitments, as well as next steps?

- With IFRC Sherpa for the Grand Bargain’s Localisation Work-stream and other colleagues engaged in the delivery of the Grand Bargain, what is your vision and advice for ensuring that the Grand bargain workstreams with all their challenges do in the final decision and delivery make the life of children, adolescents, and young adults better and easier?
- In a couple of days, we are going to open the 3rd Annual Compact membership meeting with focus on transforming humanitarian action with and for young people at the community level. What are your thoughts on bringing the global best practices for meaningful youth engagement in humanitarian action to the local level? More specifically, what is your one must have for localisation of the Compact?

Format

This side event will feature an intergenerational and interactive discussion with members from civil society, youth-led organizations, private sector, UN and member states. A video produced specifically for this event will present the main findings of the ‘Igniting Hope’ report.

In addition to the high-level opening and closing segments, the event will feature a range of speakers, each presenting concrete examples of how their organizations are working to advance the delivery of the Compact commitments. Presentations from Compact members will be supported by statements (video/visuals) from young people on the ground. Closing remarks from the Compact co-chair(s) will reflect on the next steps for the Compact, particularly ways to localizing the action at the field level in the year to come.

Tentative run of show

8h 30 Welcoming remarks

Representative of Denmark and the Representative of Qatar

8h35 Young moderator will acknowledge the event as the only youth engagement focus side event of the ECOSOC HAS and appreciate the Denmark for submitting the side event and to both the Denmark and Qatar for co-sponsoring the event together with the Compact membership. Senior dignitaries present would be acknowledged (names to be collated).

8h 40 Presentation of the “ Igniting Hope” report

Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA Mr. Dereje Wordofa

8h47 Video presentation of the highlights of the “ Igniting Hope “ Report

Goodler and MGCY

8h50 Moderator presents panelists

Panel composition (all TBC) :

- Mrs. Jemilah Mahmood Under Secretary General for Partnerships - IFRC
- UNICEF - Name TBC
- Mr. James Munn, Director – Norwegian Refugee Council
- NRC - TBC- Right to Play
- Mr. Mohammad Hassouneh youth representative from Jordan
- Denmark /Qatar TBC

8h55 Moderated discussion

Panel discussion reflecting on the successes and challenges of the Compact so far and the steps needed to durably transform the humanitarian system with and for young people and localize the action of the Compact
(see discussion questions above)

9h30 **Interventions from the floor**

Plan International,
Global Platform for Syrian Students,
United Muslim Relief

9h37 **Announcement of the new members** with a symbolic toast from the “stage” (done by Denmark as the last member State joining and the host of the event – 3 minutes with a 100 words introduction of the new members work each – to be prepared by the joining members)

- International Rescue Committee
- Oxfam TBC
- Save the children TBC

9h40 **Closing remarks** by the Secretary General’s Envoy on Youth Mrs Jayathma Wickramanayake summing up the discussion

Co-chairs

Denmark and Qatar

Moderator:

- Young person TBD (selected through the Major Group for Children and Youth)

Background Material

- Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action
- Igniting Hope report

Contact

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