

## SUMMIT 2016

UN high-level summit on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants  
New York, United Nations General Assembly, 19 September 2016

Civil Society taking action together

**Sunday 18 September, 9.15 – 13.30 hrs**

**Meeting for and by civil society  
on advocacy for refugees and migrants after the 19 September UN Summit**

United Nations Church Center. 777 UN Plaza  
(corner of 44th Street and 1st Avenue, New York)

### **Background and program**

On Sunday 18 September, civil society, led by the self-organized Action Committee<sup>1</sup>, will hold an open meeting to discuss advocacy at and after the United Nations (UN) Summit for Refugees and Migrants taking place on 19 September 2016.

Quoting from a dedicated UN website, the Summit is meant to be *“a watershed moment to strengthen governance of international migration and a unique opportunity for creating a more responsible, predictable system for responding to large movements of refugees and migrants”*. At the Summit, heads of state and government leaders are set to adopt, by consensus, the Outcome document on which UN Member States reached consensus in 2 August, after months of intense negotiation.

The Outcome document is now called the *“[New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants](#)”*. The New York Declaration presents a set of principles and commitments for refugees and migrants, as well as two appendices, respectively called I. *Comprehensive refugee response framework*; and II. *Towards a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration*.

The Declaration has received mixed reviews, overall but also in relation to specific parts of the document. For many, the *“real and immediate test is whether the Summit will be able to make a difference on the ground for the millions of refugees, migrants and internally displaced people*

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<sup>1</sup> In May 2016, a global, [self-organized civil society Action Committee](#) was created to focus on action, outcomes and implementation of the UN General Assembly high-level Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants. Co-convened by ICMC, ICVA and the NGO Committee on Migration (New York), the Action Committee is comprised of NGOs with longstanding expertise and experience on refugee, migrant, forced displacement and human rights issues. The 22 NGOs are: Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT); Amnesty International; Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN); Asylum Access; Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI); CARE-International; Caritas Internationalis; Danish Refugee Council (DRC); Global Coalition on Migration; International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC); International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA); International Detention Coalition (IDC); International Rescue Committee (IRC); Lutheran World Federation (LWF); Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA); NGO Committee on Migration (New York); Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC); Oxfam International; Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM); Save the Children; Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN); and Terre des Hommes.

*(IDPs) in need of protection, safe passage, solidarity, inclusion, decent work and livelihoods, and for the societies that host them.”<sup>2</sup>*

Taking place in New York as heads of state and government leaders arrive for the Summit the following day, this meeting will be an informal space for civil society organizations to discuss these questions:

1. What is your reaction to the New York declaration? What’s good about it, what’s bad and what is missing?
2. What is the way forward for the Global Compact on Refugees? For the Global Compact on safe, orderly and regular migration? For the campaign(s) and policies against xenophobia and for inclusion?
3. How do we hold governments to commit and to account, and what civil society action and follow-up is needed: in the first 100-days? In the 6 months after?
4. What are you and your organization planning to do, for change on the ground, and how can civil society work together nationally and globally to achieve such change?
5. What are the most important messages for civil society to convey in advocacy and media work today and tomorrow, including within the program of tomorrow’s Summit?

The meeting will be organized in plenary and three smaller group sessions (see program below). Each group session will be animated by one moderator and a few discussion starters, with a focus on interaction among the whole group. A rapporteur will then report back to the plenary on the five questions above.

**Here are a few documents you can read in advance:**

- [The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants](#)
- [ActNow - 7 Actions to make a new deal for refugees, migrants and societies a reality on the ground – joint civil society statement and scorecard in response to the 2016 New York Declaration \(13 September 2016\)](#)
- [Issue #8 Newsletter for and by civil society on the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants \(14 September 2016\)](#)
- [Civil society’s 5 tests for success: World leaders must step up efforts to conclude robust & principled deal for refugees and migrants \(28 July 2016\)](#)
- [New deal for refugees, migrants and societies - civil society starting points for the outcome of the UN High-Level Summit \(24 June 2016\)](#)

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<sup>2</sup> Quote from [a joint statement and “scorecard” of civil society organizations in response to the New York Declaration](#).

**Program 18 September**  
*[draft 13 September, speakers to be confirmed]*

9:00 - 9:15	<b>Registration and coffee</b>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Floor</i>
9:15 - 11:00	<p><b>Plenary: A post-Summit vision</b></p> <p><i>How do we ensure that changes on the ground for refugees, migrants and societies are actually made after the UN Summit?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>The UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants, the “New York Declaration” and 20 September Leader’s Summit for refugees;</b> an overview</li> <li>- <b>7 Actions to make a new deal for refugees, migrants and societies a reality on the ground – overview of joint civil society advocacy towards the Summit and beyond;</b> Action Committee</li> <li>- <b>Responsibility-sharing for refugees, and putting “comprehensive refugee responses” in practice, and the case of Tanzania?;</b> Oxfam</li> <li>- <b>Rights, governance and a Global Compact on Safe Migration? What to expect, and what to do?;</b> Global Coalition on Migration</li> <li>- <b>Plan for this meeting and into the Summit, including Media hour and ActNow - rings of commitment for change;</b> International Catholic Migration Commission</li> </ul> <p>Interaction and questions from the floor</p>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Floor</i>
11:00 - 12:30	<p><b>Group-sessions</b></p> <p><b>Session 1 - on commitments for refugees in practice</b></p> <p><i>Responsibility-sharing in practice after the Summit, and the Global Compact on Refugees, what more can we do?</i></p> <p>Moderator: Norwegian Refugee Council  Discussion starters: International Rescue Committee, Interaction, Save the Children</p> <hr/> <p><b>Session 2 - on commitments for migrants in practice</b></p> <p><i>How do we organize for a global compact on safe migration, and the protection of migrants in vulnerable situations?</i></p> <p>Moderator: Alianza Americas  Discussion starters: PICUM, International Detention Coalition, ICMC</p> <hr/> <p><b>Session 3 - on commitments for and by refugees, migrants and societies</b></p> <p><i>Inclusive and diverse societies without xenophobia, discrimination and racism, global campaigns and national action; what do we do?</i></p> <p>Moderator: Terre des Hommes  Discussion starters: Amnesty International, Syrian Volunteers the Netherlands, CoRMSA</p>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Floor</i>
12.30 - 13.30	<p><b>Plenary and working lunch</b></p> <p><i>Civil society advocacy for refugees and migrants after the Summit – Common messages this week, and what actions do we take in the first 100 days? In the first 6 months of 2017?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Report back from the group-sessions by rapporteurs on follow up action</li> <li>- <b>From aspirations to action: what do we really DO?</b> Gibril Faal, Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform</li> </ul> <p>Interaction and questions from the floor</p>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Floor</i>
14.00 - 15.00	<p><b>Media hour [optional]</b></p> <p><i>Messages and media blitz, including press call (tbc) and twitter-room</i></p>	<i>10<sup>th</sup> Floor</i>