



Global Health Cluster partners' statement at the World Humanitarian Summit : Special Session on Global Health

The Global Health Cluster partners commend the UN Secretary General's report 'One Humanity: A Shared Responsibility' and this WHS Special Session on Global Health. Both have highlighted the urgent need to accelerate collective action, grounded in humanitarian norms, to increase the life-saving impact of humanitarian assistance and achieve better health outcomes. This is increasingly important given the unprecedented level of crisis-related health risks due to conflict, natural disasters and outbreaks. On behalf of all partners, the Global Health Cluster applauds the call to put health at the centre of collective humanitarian action and to leave no one behind.

The Global Health Cluster, as the IASC mandated network for humanitarian health action, will more effectively protect the lives and health of people affected by acute and protracted crises through the following actions:

1. We will strengthen our collective and respective technical and operational capacities to effectively deliver essential health service packages to crisis affected people, inclusive of prevention and control of epidemic-prone diseases.
2. We will strengthen and diversify collaboration among all stakeholders in the humanitarian space, including other Clusters, Governments, civil society, development actors, academia, the private sector and communities, through coordinated multi-sectoral programming that effectively meets the complex needs of affected people.
3. We will strengthen collaborative efforts with communities to assess and monitor their risks and vulnerabilities to crises, to inform programming for a more effective and accountable response; we will monitor the effectiveness our programmes using technically sound indicators.
4. We will support efforts with development actors to build the capacity of national and community health partners and systems to prepare for and respond to crises and sustain essential services in times of crisis.

5. We will advocate to better protect access to health care through strengthening the monitoring of attacks against health care; we will document and apply effective strategies to deliver health services in high threat or difficult to access environments, including for populations on the move

What we are doing today is clearly not enough. Building on our collective experience and through these actions, we endeavour to better protect and improve the lives and health of those affected by crises worldwide.

Global Health Cluster – 20 May 2016

http://www.who.int/hac/global_health_cluster/en/