



## PRESS RELEASE

### Over 100 Stakeholders Sign the Multistakeholder Pledge on Meaningful Refugee Participation

**Geneva, December 12, 2023:** The first pledge to be announced at the first Global Refugee Forum in 2019 towards implementing the Global Compact on Refugees has just reached over 100 signatories at the second UNHCR Global Refugee Forum happening this week in Geneva.

The Multistakeholder Pledge on Meaningful Refugee Participation (“Refugee Participation Pledge”) was originally launched in 2019, in the lead-up to the first Global Refugee Forum, to galvanize cooperation and support for meaningful refugee participation in policymaking processes. The text of the Pledge was developed through a multi-stakeholder process and agreed by the Global Refugee-led Network (GRN), the Government of Canada, Government of the Netherlands, Oxfam International, and Independent Diplomat, with the support of UNHCR.

The Pledge ensures that refugees and host communities are supported to meaningfully participate in decisions that affect their lives through:

1. Meaningful refugee participation at the local, national and international levels, at all stages of policymaking that concern them;
2. Enhanced accountability to affected populations; and
3. Ensured sustainable resourcing for refugee-led organizations and initiatives.

“With this historic achievement of reaching over 100 stakeholders signing up to the Multistakeholder Pledge on Meaningful Refugee Participation pledge, we are finally seeing refugee participation being mainstreamed into policy discussions that affect our lives,” said Amer Alkayed, Chair of one of the pledge creators, the Global Refugee-led Network (GRN).

Held every four years, the Global Refugee Forum, an international pledging process, is the largest gathering of refugees, States, the private sector, and civil society, among other

stakeholders, and is designed to facilitate the practical implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees.

“I am proud to represent IFRC and stand alongside signatories in pledging our commitment to the meaningful participation of refugees and other displaced people in decisions that affect them. I know first-hand how crucial it is to work in genuine partnership - transformational, informed, and empowered, with an informed understanding of what it takes to contribute to lasting change and hope.” said Basma El Doukhi, British Red Cross Community Engagement Officer, and refugee representative with IFRC delegation

Meaningful refugee participation means more than just a seat at the table. It means refugees have a say and input into the decisions that affect their lives.

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**For more information on the Global Refugee-Led Network see:**

<https://www.globalrefugeenetwork.org/>