

3. Statement plenaire sessie

- Mr. Chairs, Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,
- I would like to thank Germany for organizing this conference today and for your hospitality.
- Despite all good efforts, the Syrian crisis has become a protracted crisis, for which a solution is not in easy reach.
- I sincerely hope that the efforts of the international coalition against ISIS can play a part in contributing to an eventual solution for the crisis in Syria, and the region, and pave the way for Syrians who want to return home.
- In the meantime, all victims of the crisis both inside Syria and in neighbouring countries, need our continuous support.
- The Netherlands welcomes the initiative for this Conference. We need a more long term comprehensive and coordinated response. The outcome depends on the will and capacity of all of us to implement what has been agreed.

1. Support to the region – to host communities:

- The Netherlands is particularly thankful to our hosts for putting support to the neighbouring countries on all of our agendas.
- We support the need to focus on these countries. The role they played, and continue to play, in welcoming and hosting refugees that have fled from Syria, is highly admirable and should be supported and replenished. In particular, we very much thank Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt.

2. Self reliance/documentation/resettlement

- Finally, I would like to emphasize the need to strengthen self-reliance of refugees, to enable them to provide for their family and to build on their future.
- One aspect in this regard is the need to find solutions for refugees and members of the Syrian opposition that do not have appropriate identification documents or whose credentials and diplomas are not accepted.

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Conclusion:

- I would like to reiterate that The Netherlands supports the outcomes of this conference and that we remain committed to support those in need [– up to now The Netherlands has contributed 114 milion euro for humanitarian support to the Syrian crisis].
- Lastly, The Netherlands would like to express its gratitude to all countries and humanitarian partners that strive on a daily basis to relieve the suffering of all the people in need in often very difficult and dangerous conditions.
- Thank you.