

Declaration adopted at the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants held on 19 September 2016

On 19 September 2016, a high-level UN Summit was held at the UN Headquarters in New York, where the 193 attending countries adopted the *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants*. This Declaration signifies the commitment of the UN Member States to address the ordeals and problems faced by the rapidly increasing numbers of refugees and migrants around the world. The Declaration encompasses both issues relating to refugees fleeing war, persecution and other humanitarian crises, as well as economic and other migrants.

In particular the Declaration renews the commitments of Member States to protecting the most vulnerable—namely women and children—through the provision of education, prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, ending the practice of detaining children to determine their migration status and, in general, mitigating the effects of physical insecurity, discrimination, and lack of access to basic services. Additionally, the Declaration also recognized the rights and responsibilities of States themselves as well as the need for assistance to be provided *to* States in order to help them manage the flow of refugees and migrants efficiently and effectively.

The Declaration also annexed a comprehensive refugee response framework, which outlines steps towards the achievement of a global compact on refugees in 2018, as well as a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration in 2018.

The text of the *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants* may be found here: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/71/L.1