

## **Press release**

# **Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative: fit for purpose towards its second decade**

**Geneva, 18 July 2013**

The Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative (GHDI) is still increasing global adherence to the 23 GHD principles adopted in Stockholm in 2003. 10 years after its creation, the GHDI has grown from 17 to 41 members, and new humanitarian donors continue to show interest in signing up to the principles.

The 23 GHD principles thus remain valid and at the core of humanitarian donorship. During its annual High-Level Meeting on 18 July 2013 in Geneva, the 41 GHDI members unanimously reaffirmed their commitment to the principles and agreed to let future GHDI efforts be guided by a shared GHDI mission statement:

*The GHDI strives to improve donor behaviour to increase the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of donors' humanitarian action by promoting the 23 GHD principles on the international humanitarian agenda and by vigorously working for their implementation.*

One of the vehicles for pursuing this mission will be to work more stringently to review whether donor behaviour lives up to the GHD principles.

As expressed by the Danish co-chair, Mr Einar Hebogaard Jensen, Head of Department for Humanitarian Affairs, "Humanitarian donors need to be able to demonstrate that we walk the talk, and to identify whatever challenges we face when trying to stay the course set out by the GHD principles. Only by being transparent about our own compliance to the principles can we hope to maintain a genuine partnership with the rest of the humanitarian community in our shared pursuit of addressing global humanitarian needs".

"GHD donors, in their efforts to be effective and important players in the global humanitarian system, have to be aware that there is a need to work still more closely together to ensure continued respect of all the GHD principles and that there is a number of areas for possible future collaboration, where individual efforts are not enough," the Czech co-chair, Ms. Kateřina Sequensová, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, stated.

## **Background**

Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative was established in Stockholm in 2003 where 17 states endorsed 23 principles and good practices of good humanitarian donorship. The Donorship recognises that, by working together, donors can more effectively encourage

and stimulate principled donor behaviour and, by extension, improved humanitarian action. GHDI is an informal donor forum and network, which facilitates collective advancement of the 23 GHD principles which focus on enhancing the coherence and effectiveness of donor action, as well as their accountability to beneficiaries, implementing organisations and domestic constituencies, with regard to the funding, co-ordination, follow-up and evaluation of such actions. GHDI has today 41 members: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, ECHO, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, and USA.

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