

UNITED NATIONS



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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**REMARKS AT CLOSING SESSION OF HIGH-LEVEL
PLENARY MEETING ON ADDRESSING LARGE MOVEMENTS
OF REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS**

New York, 19 September 2016

**Mr President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,**

This has been an historic day.

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I congratulate

Member States for adopting by consensus the New York

**Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. This shows that
despite differing perspectives we can unite around common**

We must work together, more than ever before. The situation today requires urgent attention and urgent action.

We have heard moving accounts this morning which brought to this room the stark reality of being a refugee or a migrant, the suffering in times of war, the unimaginable

sexual violence and exploitation, the experience of alienation and discrimination in a new land. But they also told us about

the rebuilding of their lives, their skills and capacities, their

Also, States have recognized the strain on countries

that host large numbers of refugees. They have agreed to implement a comprehensive response to large refugee movements, not least in protracted crisis situations.

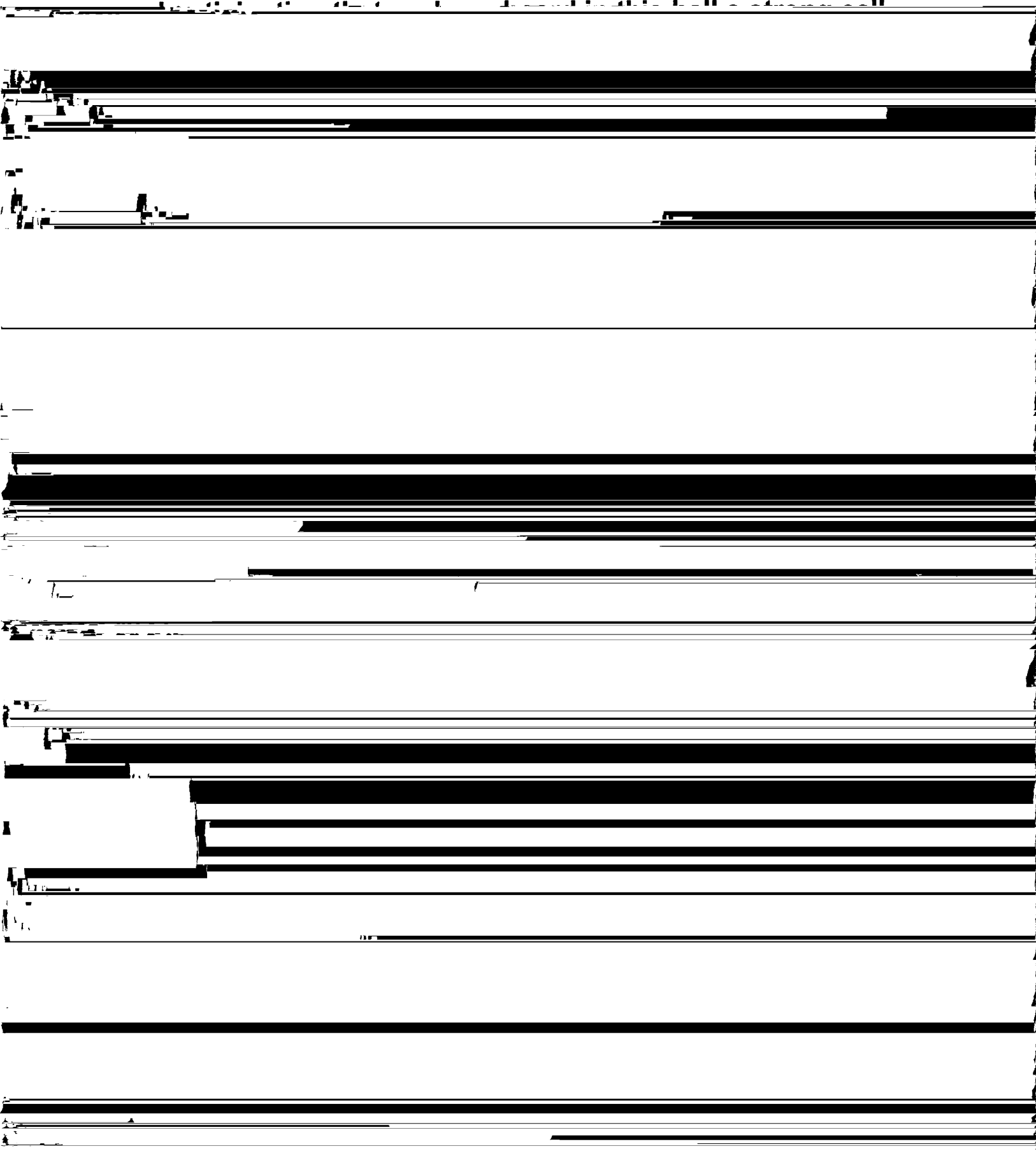
Today several Member States have shared plans to expand financial assistance, taking into account both

Development programmes are crucial and a key priority. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognized the contribution which migration makes to economic progress. We must harness that positive energy. To do so requires improved data on migration patterns and impacts, as many speakers have emphasised.

We also require a clear-headed and informed policy debate, one that avoids stigmatising refugees or migrants. The Secretary-General's launch this morning of a global campaign to combat xenophobia, "Together – Respect, Safety and Dignity for All", is receiving broad support and affirmation. We look forward to working with Member States and partners on this campaign

Many Member States have today declared their intention to incorporate refugees and migrants in national development planning. This will foster more coherent planning and break down the silos between humanitarian

In the area of peace and security, it is with great hope



Member States have set critical deadlines. By 2018 we aim to adopt a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. We also plan to achieve a more equitable sharing of the responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's refugees by adopting a global compact on refugees in 2018.

The UN system will mobilize for a comprehensive follow-up process. We have taken an important step today by

into the UN system as a related organisation. By this, we recognise the unique and valuable contribution to the work of the UN on migration. This makes the UN system stronger as we rise to meet our new challenges and to seize opportunities.

The New York Declaration calls for ongoing follow-up of our commitments. It would be helpful to take stock a year

**Mr President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,**

**It will take determined and collective efforts to address
large movements of refugees and migrants in the world**

**We need to prevent and speedily resolve political
crises. We need to respond to humanitarian crises. We need
to engage in informed policy debate. We need to protect the**

Together, we can shape a new future, a future where migrants and refugees, host nations and host communities can live together in harmony, well-being and mutual respect.

Thank you.