The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants

A new way to support refugees and people who have left their countries
We are part of the United Nations

We work with and protect refugees.

Refugees are people who have to leave their countries and cannot go back there because they do not feel safe.

This may be because of war or because they have been hurt or treated badly by others.

We help refugees get their rights and the things they need.
This information is about a new way for the world to help refugees.

In 2016 many countries had a meeting about refugees and other people who leave their countries.

The countries agreed that these people need more help.

They made a plan about this called the **New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants**.

The plan talks about how to help refugees get what they need and be safe.
All the countries at the meeting agreed to do what this plan says.

The countries are part of a big group of countries that work together called the United Nations (UN).

Why do we need this plan?

At the moment there are many refugees in the world.

Life can be very hard for them and they are often treated badly.

Some countries have more refugees living there than others.
Countries understand that everyone needs a home.

But it can be hard for some countries to support refugees along with everyone else.

But now everyone has agreed that the whole world should help with this.

What does the new plan about refugees help with?

The plan will help countries work in a different way to support refugees.

This new way of working is called the CRRF. The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework.
It will help refugees:

- get their rights
- have a better life in the countries they move to
- decide what to do next

It will also help refugees and the communities they move to get what they need and live together more easily.
1. When refugees first arrive

Countries have agreed to:

- Work quickly to find out who refugees are and give them the right documents.

- Give refugees the basic things they need.
  
  Like clean water, toilets, showers, food, somewhere to live, healthcare and support if they feel upset.

- Find out who needs extra support.
  
  For example, this could be people with disabilities, older people or children on their own.
Countries have agreed to:

- Make sure refugees get important documents. Like birth certificates for their children.

- Help refugees feel safe where they live.

2. Help for refugees in the place they move to

Countries have agreed to:

- Help refugees be part of the communities they move to.

- Help refugees live in villages, towns and cities where possible. Not in camps for refugees.
Countries have agreed to:

- Help refugees get the same things as other people in the community if possible.

  For example, healthcare, education and support to do things.

- Make sure children go to school soon after they get to the new country.

- Help refugees and communities work together and support each other.

  Women, children and people who need extra support should be part of this as well.

- Give communities extra help to support refugees.
3. Deciding what to do next

Refugees need to find a place where they are treated like everyone else and can get their rights.

Some people might choose to go back to their countries if it is safe there.

Other people might stay where they are, if they are safe and that country lets them.

Other people might find a new home in another country.

Countries have agreed to:

- Make sure refugees can help decide what is possible and what is best for them.

- Work to stop violence and other problems in their countries.

This will help make it safe for people to go back home if they want to.
Countries have agreed to:

- Work with refugees to sort out these problems.

  This means women and young refugees too.

- Make sure that refugees who go back home are treated fairly and get everything they need.

- Support refugees to use their skills and earn money.

- Help refugees move somewhere else in a safe way if they want to.

  For example, refugees may want to move to meet family, work or get an education.
Countries have agreed to:

- Give refugees information about how to move to other countries in a safe way.

How will the plan work?

- Communities should get more support so they can help refugees who move there.

- Rich countries should give more money and help to countries that refugees move to.

  The money should help countries plan for the future, not just a short time.

- Governments should work together with other people to make this plan happen.

  For example, companies, NGOs and other UN organizations.

- Refugees should have a big say in what happens too.
We are working with governments and organizations in some countries to try out this new plan.

We are also talking to refugees and the communities they live in.

This will help us know what works well and what needs to change.

In 2018 we will help make a new document.

It will be called the **Global Compact on Refugees**.

It will say what we, governments and other people will do to help refugees and the communities they move to.

Countries will talk about this document to see if they can agree on it.