Media Statement – 29 August 2016

The Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS), the South-North non-governmental coalition of peacebuilding organizations that coordinates and supports civil society participation in the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS) gathered for its Annual Core Group meeting in Berlin, Germany from 6 to 9 July. The goals of CSPPS are to strengthen the voice and capacity of society to effectively engage in, and influence, peacebuilding and statebuilding as a critical contribution to crisis prevention and sustainable peace and development for all.

The CSPPS Core Group meeting was held to bring together the membership and to take stock of how the Platform can and should position itself to provide support to translating the IDPS Stockholm Declaration into tangible and meaningful action. Next to this the meeting provided a strategic opportunity to jointly with our German member FriEnt reach out to the German government in a policy discussion organized to provide input on current process of drafting new inter-ministerial guidelines on crisis engagement and peace support.

As a result of the discussion held CSPPS Membership agreed upon the Berlin Declaration. The Berlin Declaration outlines CSPPS position and recommendations towards next needed steps for the International Dialogue in light of recent developments affecting the New Deal and IDPS processes both in-country and globally. More specifically, in the declaration the CSPPS underscores, among other things:

- The critical importance of New Deal processes and principles – including supporting the renewed emphasis on Fragility Assessments and Compacts and the linkages between all New Deal instruments – to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals in countries affected by conflict and fragility.
- CSPPS calls upon g7+ governments to ensure the full benefit of New Deal implementation by undertaking inclusive and courageous examination of issues in their countries in the next round of Fragility Assessments.
- CSPPS expressed deep concerns around shrinking Civil Society space both internationally and in individual fragile and conflict affected states, and with the apparent diminished political commitment to the New Deal in the g7+ and donor countries.
- Restates the need for whole of society engagement in both fragile, conflict and crisis affected and donor countries as well as the role of a robust dialogue mechanism to facilitate this.

Please find the full text of the CSPPS Berlin Declaration via this link

A discussion with the German Government was held in a side-event on 8th July 2016; the outreach event labelled ‘Implementing the SDGs in Fragile and Conflict-affected Countries’ was aimed at providing a forum for discussion and exchange of views on how New Deal principles can be used to support action towards the SDGs in fragile states. In context of Agenda 2030 Germany is very engaged in implementing SDG and the New Deal, the consolidated report of this important outreach event can be accessed here.

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