



**CSPPS Annual Core Group Meeting
12-13 April, 2018 - Cordaid/The Hague – The Netherlands**

The Hague Declaration

The Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS), a coalition of peacebuilding and statebuilding organizations (from fragile and conflict-affected states, and regional and international Civil Society), met for its Annual Core Group meeting in The Hague, The Netherlands, from 12th to 13th April 2018. This was made possible with the contributions and sustained commitments of our international partners including Switzerland, The Netherlands, UNDP and International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS) – for which we are very grateful.

The goals of CSPPS are to strengthen the voice and agency 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 strives to infuse peacebuilding values into policy processes – notably the IDPS, Agenda 2030 and humanitarian processes.

We reiterate our support to continue to work through the IDPS partnership, capitalizing on our collective experience gained over the last ten years and putting it to use for the effective realization of Agenda 2030, the new UN agreed agendas on Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace, and to support national efforts in peacebuilding and statebuilding, in particular through national development plans and inclusive political dialogue.

We urge g7+ and INCAF members to support the IDPS tripartite partnership and country level processes in accordance with the New Deal Principles, which are at the core of the discussions on Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace at country level.

Recognizing the urgency of adequately positioning us as CSPPS, as well as the continued relevance of the New Deal principles and the IDPS-partnership in the global policy arena, the CSPPS membership in The Hague:

1. Stresses the critical importance of utilizing the New Deal principles in countries affected by conflict and fragility, notably the commitments to multi-stakeholder approaches and inclusive dialogue, for the localization and implementation of the Agenda 2030, and in the operationalization of globally agreed policy agendas on Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace.
2. Encourages g7+ governments and donor countries to ensure that country level peacebuilding and statebuilding processes are truly inclusive and that meaningful participation from civil society is enhanced, and commit ourselves to the same. More specifically we:
 - Call upon our partners to further develop and utilize the IDPS tripartite dialogue mechanism at country level to advance these aforementioned agendas in coherent and meaningful ways;
 - Commit ourselves to mainstreaming inclusivity across our platform and activities to better influence and realize our goals. This includes traditional/religious leaders, academics, women, youth and children's constituencies and exploring the role the Private Sector can play to contribute to peaceful, just and inclusive societies.
3. Recognizes the achievements of IDPS constituencies in infusing New Deal principles in national development plans across several g7+ countries, as well as non-signatory countries, and encourages further development of this – particularly in the context of Agenda 2030. The IDPS

commitment to nationally developed assessments on conflict, fragility and resilience should be advanced, further developed, and utilized by all policy actors concerned with national ownership of these agendas.

4. Re-emphasizes the need to focus on conflict prevention as a key area of our work, including the need to institutionalise early warning and early response mechanisms.

Despite the progress made challenges remain, including a worrying global trend of shrinking spaces for civil society actors, which in some countries has taken the form of targeted attacks on their legitimacy and security.

We will therefore continue to:

- Engage in joint reflection and inclusive dialogue within the CSPPS membership (International NGOs and national NGOs/CSOs), as well as within the IDPS tripartite partnership.
- Build trust among all IDPS stakeholders and within Civil Society itself.
- Develop the capacity of our civil society country teams to continue to engage with their Governments in promoting peaceful and inclusive societies and promote a positive narrative about civil society.
- Document and disseminate lessons learned and good practices across civil society as part of our South/South and North/South cooperation.

The CSPPS is determined to act collectively in pursuit of its mission and core strategic priorities, which are:

1. Shaping and infusing the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding, Sustainable Development Goals and humanitarian processes with peacebuilding values;
2. Strengthening and broadening civil society engagement in peacebuilding, statebuilding and crisis prevention;
3. Influencing prevention, peacebuilding and statebuilding and development policies at all levels.

In particular, we resolve to:

1. Work in full cooperation with g7+ governments and INCAF members in a multi-stakeholder partnership setting to respond and actualize the SDGs, conflict prevention and sustaining peace landscape.
2. Continue to fulfil one of our responsibilities as Civil Society to hold IDPS stakeholders accountable in better delivering commitments and promises as made in relevant agendas focusing on fragile and conflict affected states and beyond.
3. Support Civil Society initiatives in g7+ countries and beyond, addressing the phenomenon of shrinking space for Civil Society and strengthen trust, inclusivity and dialogue.
4. Continue to support the implementation and rollout of major global resolutions such as 1325 (Women, Peace and Security) and 2250 (Youth, Peace and Security) and other related frameworks seeking to deepen wider and inclusive engagement for sustaining global peace.

For more information on **Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding** (CSPPS), please contact:

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