High Level Political Forum under the auspices of ECOSOC - Session SDG13 and interlinkages with other SDGs
– Climate Action
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A fundamental tenet of the 2030 Agenda is to “Leave No One Behind”; a pledge to actively seek out and support the most vulnerable individuals that societies often overlook, and an essential requirement for the complete realization of the 2030 Agenda. Refugees, internally displaced persons, and stateless individuals are among those who are most marginalized. Alarmingly, their numbers continue to rise.

As of 2024, 120 million people are forcibly displaced. Almost three-quarters of them, come from or are hosted in countries with high-to-extreme exposure to climate-related hazards which are also among the most vulnerable and least ready to adapt to the effects of climate change, and least resourced to cope with and adapt to associated shocks and stressors.

Currently, there are major gaps in financing and support, with a disproportionately low amount reaching fragile and conflict-affected countries – especially countries of origin, or hosting countries

In order to strengthen the global response to climate change and its impacts, a Multi-Stakeholder Pledge on Climate Action was made at the Global Refugee Forum last year. The Pledge is closely aligned with SDG 13 targets and the principle of leaving no one behind. Given that displaced people are frequently marginalized, the Climate Action pledge calls for the systematic inclusion of refugees and other forcibly displaced and stateless people in national climate action and adaptation laws, policies and plans by 2027 in order to unlock urgently needed financing for host countries and communities, particularly in climate vulnerable, fragile and conflict-affected settings.

As part of our commitment to leave no one behind, we need to ensure that climate financing is reaching the most vulnerable, including forcibly displaced people and their host communities.

For transition to be just, we must pay particular attention to ensuring that access to clean energy and green jobs is inclusive, fair, and mindful of the different barriers and risks faced by people of different ages, genders, and backgrounds and we must recognise the important role forcibly displaced can play in identifying sustainable, appropriate solutions.

Thank you.