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QUNO intervention at the High-Level Event on Human Security and its Contribution to Agenda 2030, New York, 7 July, 2017, organized by the United Nations Human Security Unit.

Recommitting to the 2030 Agenda principles of peace, justice and inclusion, through human security approaches

Two billion people now live in countries where development and humanitarian outcomes are affected by fragility, conflict, and violence. These are the contexts where the least progress was made towards the MDGs and where new approaches are most needed.

The 2030 Agenda commitments by all member states to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies set out a clear roadmap by which development and humanitarian objectives can be achieved in these environments, and these commitments are completely in line with a human security approach. They are also critical in contributing to societies that are more resilient to natural disasters and other sources of instability and crisis.

However, although the policy level commitments are in place, implementation is uneven at best. As we will hear at the High Level Political Forum next week, some countries are courageously getting to grips with political, social and economic inclusion and finding ways to address social cohesion and good governance, while others are going in the opposite direction, as evidenced by an unprecedented shrinking of space for civil society.

We are at a critical point where precedents and patterns are being set: we urgently need to recommit to the 2030 Agenda principles of peace, justice and inclusion if we hope to make progress on addressing the SDGs, including the goal of eradicating extreme poverty, particularly for those 2 billion. A human security approach is key to achieving this progress.

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