

July 18, 2024

Subject: Support for Action 55: Establishment of emergency platforms

Dear United Nations Member States and co-facilitators of the Summit of the Future,

We commend you for supporting Action 55 in the Pact for the Future, rev. 2, which will strengthen the international response to complex global shocks by granting the Secretary-General the authority to operationalize emergency platforms.¹ We believe this Action is vital for improving the management of complex global shocks that humanity may face in the next several decades. As civil society organizations representing a diversity of voices interested in improving global preparedness for these complex shocks, we concur with the Secretary-General's policy brief that the international system demands a "more formal, predictable and structured approach" to crisis management that can be convened in the "event of a future complex global shock of sufficient scale, severity and reach."²

As has been thoroughly documented by the U.N. Development Programme and other experts, the complex global shock of the COVID-19 pandemic has severely hindered our collective progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals.³ Better management of future crises of the magnitude of the COVID-19 pandemic, or possible far worse catastrophes, is necessary if we are to reach the SDGs in 2030 or our future goals for collective progress in any other future decade. More sound crisis management must become a core component of the international, multilateral system for future economic and social progress. It is therefore appropriate and necessary for emergency platforms to be one of the policy outcomes enabled by the Summit of the Future. The approval and development of Action 55 will be a meaningful, pragmatic step toward improving the multilateral systems' crisis management.

The key principles and objectives of emergency platforms that have been identified by the Secretary-General are aligned with many of the best practices of emergency management.⁴ In order to be successful, the final protocols put in place regarding emergency platforms should

¹ See paragraph 79 of the *Pact for the Future, rev. 2*, 17 July 2024, available at [pact for the future - rev.2 - 17 july.pdf \(un.org\)](#)

² See page 12 of the *Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 2: Strengthening the International Response to Complex Global Shocks – An Emergency Platform*, March 2023, available at <https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/policy-briefs>

³ See, for example:

Abidoye, B., Felix, J., Kapto, S. & Patterson, L. (2021). *Leaving No One Behind: Impact of COVID-19 on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*. New York, NY and Denver CO: United Nations Development Programme and Frederick S. Pardee Center for International Futures and

Yuan, H., Wang, X., Gao, L. et al. *Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals has been slowed by indirect effects of the COVID-19 pandemic*. *Commun Earth Environ* 4, 184 (2023).

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-023-00846-x>

⁴ See *Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 2: Strengthening the International Response to Complex Global Shocks – An Emergency Platform*, March 2023, available at <https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/policy-briefs>

maintain these principles, particularly that of “flexibility and agility.” Complex global shocks encompass a wide range of possible threats, each with its own unique circumstances and needs for international coordination. By design, platforms should be convened for purposes fitted to the particular needs of the global crisis we find ourselves facing in the future. Ensuring flexibility and agility in the emergency platforms will allow it to provide as-needed functions that are complementary and supportive to existing sovereign governments, the principal organs of the United Nations, and other international organizations.

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, **we urge you to continue supporting Action 55 and provide the U.N. Secretary-General with the necessary authority, resources, and support to fully develop and eventually convene emergency platforms in response to future complex global shocks.**

Respectfully,

[Global Shield](#),
[BuildStrong America](#),
[International Association of Emergency Managers](#), and
[Observatorio de Riesgos Catastróficos Globales](#)



Additional organizations signing as part of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism \(UNDRR-SEM\)](#), in alphabetical order:

[African Rural Development Cooperation Corporation \(SOCOODERA\)](#)

[Afrihealth Optonet Association \(AHOA\) - CSOs Network](#)

[Alert-Hub.Org](#)

[Alertus Technologies](#)

[Alliance to Feed the Earth in Disasters \(ALLFED\)](#)

[Appui Solidaire pour le Renforcement de l'Aide au Développement](#)

[Australian Institute for Peace and Dialogue](#)

[Barokupot Ganochetona Foundation -BGF](#)

[Bridge That Gap Hope for Africa](#)

[Centre for Action on Climate Security](#)

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[Centre For Initiatives Against Human Trafficking \(CIAHT\)](#)
[Easy Build](#)
[Economic Justice Network Sierra Leone](#)
[Educating Girls and Young Women for Development \(EGYD\)](#)
[Environmental and Rural Mediation Centre \(ENVIRUMEDIC\)](#)
[Faith and Hope Association](#)
[Foundation for Environmental Collaboration Centers \(FCA\)](#)
[Fundamental Human Rights and Rural Development Association \(FHRRDA\)](#)
[Gautam Buddha Jagriti Society](#)
[Gotowi.org Foundation](#)
[Gestión de Riesgos Emergencias y Coordinación Operativa \(G.R.E.C.O.\)](#)
[Institution for Disasters Emergency & Accidents \(IDEA\)](#)
[Kybernetix LLC](#)
[Liga de Defensa del Medio Ambiente LIDEMA](#)
[NexoRRD](#)
[ONG KAWTAL](#)
[Orissa State Volunteers and Social Workers Association](#)
[Peoples Federation for National Peace and Development \(PEFENAP\)](#)
[Refugee Welfare Association of Cameroon \(REWAC\)](#)
[SOCIETE SOMMAC](#)
[Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique](#)
[Sukaar Welfare Organization](#)
[UNISC International](#)
[Women for Positive Actions](#)