

Joint Statement by the Global IDP Advisory Group

On the Anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

17 April 2026

On the anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, we reaffirm that internally displaced persons must not only be protected, but must also be meaningfully included in decisions that affect their lives.

The Guiding Principles remain a vital framework for the protection, assistance, and pursuit of durable solutions for internally displaced persons. They remind States and the international community that displacement is not only a humanitarian issue, but also one of rights, dignity, participation, and accountability.

As members of the Global IDP Advisory Group, we bring both lived and professional experience from diverse displacement contexts. We believe that solutions are more effective, sustainable, and just when internally displaced persons are recognized as rights-holders, partners, and agents of change.

We call for:

- Meaningful participation of internally displaced persons in laws, policies, and decisions affecting them at local, national, regional, and global levels.
- Greater support for locally led and IDP-led initiatives that respond directly to community priorities.
- Stronger national and international commitment to protection, inclusion, and durable solutions grounded in dignity, safety, and rights.
- Recognition of the drivers of internal displacement, including conflict, inequality, exclusion, disasters, and climate-related risks, and the need for coordinated and long-term action.

On this anniversary, we urge governments, UN entities, donors, and partners to move beyond symbolic inclusion and ensure that internally displaced persons are consistently engaged in shaping responses and solutions.

Nothing about internally displaced persons should be decided without internally displaced persons.

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