



Letter to C4C signatories

Dear signatories of the Charter4Change,

We, the endorsers (local and national NGOs) of Charter4Change, are writing to you to kindly request your leadership support in taking forward the Charter4Change commitments in your agency's response to COVID-19. We represent 315 local and national organisations from 56 countries. We are proud to be part of a unique alliance bringing INGOs and L/NNGOs together on a joint agenda to address imbalances and inequality in the global humanitarian system.

The COVID-19 crisis offers unique opportunities to strengthen our bonds and drive forward the Charter4Change commitments. Charter4Change signatory organisations continue to make important and much appreciated contributions to collective efforts in the coalition. However, we believe that the scale of this pandemic, and both the challenges and opportunities that it brings forth, requires engagement from the most senior level of Charter4Change signatory agencies.

We highlight the following priorities that would benefit from your leadership support:

- Ask your programme and other relevant teams to articulate how their efforts will contribute to delivering on the eight Charter4Change commitments in the COVID 19 response, and to track this.
- Support and facilitate our meaningful engagement in future revisions of the UN Global Humanitarian Response Plan that take place every 6 weeks.
- Prioritise support for the safety of local organisations and local staff.
- Invest in the capacity strengthening of our organisational systems and due diligence mechanisms.
- Ensure adherence to partnership principles and maintaining a focus on equity, dignity and respect in partnership arrangements.
- Provide flexible financing to support operational costs and staff salaries, not just projectized activity costs.
- Encourage your country office representatives to attend meetings organised by local organisations so that we may work together to serve our common objective. This also includes sharing of resource materials developed and open access to translate these into local languages.
- Provide technical support to L/NNGOs to facilitate communication, coordination and collaboration given challenges over participation in coordination and other decision-making processes (given movement, ICT, language and other challenges).

The Covid-19 crisis represents an unprecedented opportunity for Charter4Change signatories to translate their commitments to localisation into practice and to work with local partners to identify some transformative ways forward, which can influence the humanitarian system over the longer-term. We do hope that, through your leadership role at your agency and in the wider sector, you will find ways to support this effort.

Your sincerely,

Charter4Change endorsers