

**Statement by the Minister of State at the German  
Federal Foreign Office, Mr. Niels Annen  
- Rohingya Donor Conference, 22.10.2020 -**

High Commissioner Grandi,

High Representative Borrell,

Minister of State Lord Ahmad,

Deputy Secretary of State Biegun,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

These are challenging times. Our countries are fighting COVID-19 and the pandemic has made one thing very clear:

Those who have already been vulnerable in the past are suffering the most.

Germany therefore highly appreciates that this conference is drawing the attention to the Rohingya refugee crisis. Many Rohingya have sought refuge in neighboring countries and this crisis is far from over.

We highly appreciate the generosity and continued support of the host countries in the region, first and foremost Bangladesh.

Germany remains committed to providing humanitarian assistance and we will continue to support the Government of Bangladesh. In addition to our previous funding, Germany pledges another 3 Mio Euros of humanitarian assistance and up to 31 Mio Euros of development cooperation funds to assist in particular Bangladesh. This brings the total German support since 2017 to a total of 194 Mio Euros.

Germany has already pledged 450 Mio Euros of extra funding for COVID-19 related humanitarian assistance worldwide, contributing to the G-HRP and the appeal of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

We strongly support UNHCR's pivotal role and urge all parties concerned to grant UNHCR the necessary humanitarian access; this includes Bhasan Char and the proposed resettlement areas and camps in Myanmar. We particularly call on UNHCR and the Government of Bangladesh to realize the much needed technical evaluation mission to assess the conditions on Bhasan Char.

The origin of this crisis lies firmly within Myanmar. We are worried by the worsening humanitarian situation in

Rakhine. Humanitarian actors need unimpeded and sustained access and must be able to deliver humanitarian assistance in full accordance with the humanitarian principles. I strongly urge the Myanmar Government to grant this access. A ceasefire in Rakhine-State is indispensable.

We hope that our joint efforts will soon bear fruit and lead to an ending of this crisis, allowing the Rohingya to return to their home country.

Thank you.