



Zonta International, a leading global organization of more than 27,000 professionals in 63 countries pledged to empower women through service and advocacy. <sup>1</sup>

Every year, millions of people are displaced by disasters caused by natural hazards. According to internal displacement report 2021 there were **55 million** internally displaced people across the world at the end of 2020, more than 1 million externally, **48 million as a result of conflict and violence**, and **7 million as a result of disasters**<sup>2</sup>.

In the context of natural disasters, climate change and environmental degradation we would like to call on member states to

- reconsider the definition of migration and the various forms of migration
- strengthen joint analysis and sharing of information to better map, understand, predict and address migration movements as a result of natural disasters, climate change, environmental degradation as well as other precarious situations which result in forced migration
- widen the scope of accepted causes for forced migration and thus enhance the protection and support for them
- ensure the effective respect, protection and fulfilment of the human rights of these migrants
- provide adequate information and training for legal personnel, administrators and police forces to deal with crimes contributing to forced migration and, in so doing, increase public awareness of the contributory factors and provide improved assistance to migrants, especially migrant women and children by providing a safe space and trustful environment

---

<sup>1</sup> [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2021/>

- increase legal way for migrants, especially for those in vulnerable situation as women and children
- ensure participation of local governments and administrations, as well as NGOs, in the execution of the above endeavours
- integrate displacement considerations into disaster preparedness strategies and promote cooperation with neighbouring and other relevant countries to prepare for early warning
- develop coherent approaches to address the challenges of migration movements in the context of sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from State-led consultative processes, such as the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change<sup>3</sup>, and the Platform on Disaster Displacement

Submitted by Ingeborg Geyer

UN Representative ZONTA International 2022-2024

Ingeb.geyer@gmail.com

---

<sup>3</sup> <https://disasterdisplacement.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/PROTECTION-AGENDA-VOLUME-1.pdf>