



Mr. President

This is a joint statement on behalf of ACT Alliance, Lutheran World Federation, Catholic Aid for Overseas Development, Muslim Charities Forum, Muslim Charity Helping the Needs, Human Relief Foundation, World Vision International, World Student Christian Federation, Muslim Aid, and Islamic Help. As international humanitarian and development organisations and networks, we unequivocally condemn the horrific wave of attacks that has so far led to the killing of many and left hundreds of thousands more homeless and desperate.

Some of our member organizations such as the Lutheran World Federation are already on the ground in northern Iraq - Duhok governorate – providing food, non-food items and hygiene kits for the IDPs.

The humanitarian situation in northern and western parts of Iraq is dire. The untold suffering of minority groups as a result of escalating violence and attacks is unacceptable and the violation of international human rights and humanitarian laws is despicable. This must be stopped immediately. Reports of gross human rights violations, which could amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, need to be seriously taken, promptly investigated and culprits held to account.

Therefore we call up on the International Community:

1. To immediately reach all people affected by this crisis and in need of humanitarian assistance with life-saving assistance such as water, food and non-food items.
2. To immediately take humanitarian and diplomatic measures for the protection of all people affected by this conflict such as the Yazidis, Christians, Turkmen and other persecuted groups.
3. To strictly abide by the international law in all dealings concerning the crisis in Iraq and call on all States to ensure that any measures taken are in conformity with international human rights and humanitarian law.
4. To search for lasting solution for peace, reconciliation and justice for all in the region.

Finally, we pledge our solidarity and commitment to support and to continue providing humanitarian assistance to all the people affected by this crisis. Our interventions strictly adhere to humanitarian principles targeting refugees and all IDPs, without discrimination or partiality.

I thank you Mr. President