1. Background to the establishment of the Workstream

1) The World Humanitarian Summit held in May 2016 proved to be an excellent opportunity to again discuss the long debated issue of the humanitarian-development nexus at an international forum. Participants discussed the establishment of “a new way of working” to address the issue of the widespread and protracted conflicts taking place in the world. As part of the new way of working, in addition to a commitment to action signed by eight United Nations entities (UNOCHA, UNDP, UNHCR, WFP, FAO, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO) and endorsed by the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Japan and the Solutions Alliance, a partnership of states and organizations established to provide collaborative responses to displacement and contribute to durable solutions, presented five principles for strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus.

2) Following on from the above initiatives, in autumn 2016 under the co-chairing of Germany and Australia it was decided to establish a new Humanitarian-Development Nexus Workstream (H-DNW) as one of the GHD workstreams. Denmark and Japan took on the work of jointly managing the new workstream.

2. The activities of the Workstream

1) In addition to discussing the thinking and approaches of each state on the humanitarian-development nexus, the Workstream would also work to compile samples of good practices of implementing the humanitarian-development nexus.

2) In October 2017, under a joint initiative by Denmark and Japan, stakeholders that are active in promoting the humanitarian-development nexus in the field, including representatives of bilateral development organizations, UN humanitarian agencies, NGOs, and donor countries were invited to join a panel discussion together with the members of the GHD workstreams.