



I BELONG

**#IBelong Campaign to
End Statelessness in
10 Years**

#IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness

- 10 Year Campaign
- Launched on 4 November 2014
- Goal: “To bring an end to statelessness within 10 years by resolving existing situations and preventing the emergence of new cases of statelessness.”

Global Action Plan 2014 – 2024

- Guiding framework of 10 Actions to be undertaken by States to end statelessness in 10 years.
- Developed in consultation with a wide range of States, UN Agencies, International Organizations and NGOs.
- UNHCR, other UN agencies, civil society and stateless people to support Governments to accomplish the relevant Actions.

Global Action Plan

1. Resolve major situations of statelessness
2. Ensure that no child is born stateless
3. Remove gender discrimination from nationality laws
4. Prevent denial, loss or deprivation of nationality on discriminatory grounds
5. Prevent statelessness in cases of State succession
6. Grant protection status to stateless migrants and facilitate their naturalization
7. Ensure birth registration for the prevention of statelessness
8. Issue nationality documentation to those with an entitlement to it
9. Accede to the UN Statelessness Conventions
10. Improve quantitative and qualitative data on stateless populations

Action 3: REMOVE GENDER DISCRIMINATION FROM NATIONALITY LAWS

STARTING POINT

- 27 States have nationality laws which do not allow women to confer nationality to their children on an equal basis as men.
- More than 60 States have nationality laws which do not allow women and men to acquire, change or retain their nationality on an equal basis.

MILESTONES

By 2017

- 10 States introduce reforms to their nationality laws to allow women to confer their nationality to their children on an equal basis as men.
- 20 States introduce reforms to their nationality laws to allow women to acquire, change and retain their nationality on an equal basis as men.

By 2020

- An additional 10 States (20 in total since 2014) introduce reforms to their nationality laws to allow women to confer nationality to their children on an equal basis as men.
- An additional 20 States (40 in total since 2014) introduce reforms to their nationality laws to allow women to acquire, change and retain their nationality on an equal basis as men.

GOAL BY 2024

- All States have nationality laws which treat women and men equally with regard to conferral of nationality to their children and with regard to the acquisition, change and retention of nationality.

Thematic Focus 2015-2016: Childhood Statelessness

**I AM HERE,
I BELONG**

**The Urgent Need to End
Childhood Statelessness**

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Thematic focus 2017-2018: Equal Nationality Rights

**“THIS IS
OUR HOME”**

**STATELESS MINORITIES AND THEIR
SEARCH FOR CITIZENSHIP**

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Achievements

**"My life has changed. Now I've become a bird
that can fly everywhere I want in the sky."**



Coalition on Every Child's Right to a Nationality



[Join the Coalition](#)

Most stateless children are from minority groups

[Read their stories](#)

Regional achievements

- **Americas**

- Brazil Declaration and Plan of Action (2014)

- **Africa**

- Abidjan Declaration Action of ECOWAS Member States (2015) and Banjul Plan of Action on Eradication of Statelessness in West Africa (2017)
- Declaration of International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Member States on the Eradication of Statelessness (2017)
- N'Djamena Initiative on the Eradication of Statelessness in Central Africa (2018)

- **MENA**

- League of Arab States' Declaration on Belonging and Legal Identity (2018)

Action 1: Large reductions happened in at least 4 out of the 20 major known statelessness situations

- Significant reductions have occurred in **Thailand**, the **Russian Federation**, **Malaysia**, **Côte d'Ivoire** and **Central Asia**.
- The Government of **Kenya** officially recognized the Makonde as nationals and issued them with proof of nationality.

Action 2: 12 States have introduced or are in the process of introducing safeguards to prevent statelessness

- **Armenia (2015)**
- Côte d'Ivoire (2018)
- **Cuba (2018)**
- **Estonia (2015)**
- **Iceland (2018)**
- **Luxembourg (2017)**
- Netherlands (2016)
- Norway (2016)
- Peru (2018)
- **Paraguay (2018)**
- Philippines (2016)
- **Tajikistan (2015)**

Action 3: 2 States have reformed their laws to allow women to confer their nationality to their children on an equal basis as men.

- **Madagascar**
- **Sierra Leone**

1 State has reformed its law to allow women to confer nationality on their foreign spouses on an equal basis as men.

- **Lesotho**



Action 6: 15 States **adopted or improved SDPs** or **facilitated naturalization** procedures for stateless persons.

- **Argentina (2018)**
- **Bolivia (2016)**
- **Brazil (2017)**
- **Bulgaria (2017)**
- **Costa Rica (2016)**
- **Ecuador (2018)**
- **Estonia (2015)**
- **Iceland (2018)**
- **Kosovo* (2015)**
- **Luxembourg (2017)**
- **Montenegro (2018)**
- **Panama (2019)**
- **Paraguay (2018)**
- **Turkey (2016)**
- **Uruguay (2018)**

*S/RES/1244(1999)

Action 9: 20 Accessions to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions.

1954 Convention:

- Niger (2014)
- El Salvador (2015)
- Turkey (2015)

1961 Convention:

- Argentina (2014)
- Peru (2014)
- Belize (2015)
- Italy (2015)
- Burkina Faso (2017)
- Luxembourg (2017)
- Spain (2018)

Both Conventions:

- Guinea-Bissau (2016)
- Mali (2016)
- Sierra Leone (2016)
- Chile (2018)
- Haiti (2018)

2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness



- States will have an opportunity to showcase achievements related to the #IBelong Campaign since launch of Campaign.
- States (and others) are encouraged to make concrete, measurable pledges to end statelessness by 2024.

2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness



The High-Level Segment on Statelessness will feature:

- A **high-level panel** with prominent leaders and thinkers
- **Special treaty event** for States to deposit their instruments of accession to the UN Statelessness Conventions
- A **civil society side event**
- **Exhibitions and stalls** on statelessness

2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness

Pledges to be:

- ✓ **Specific:** Should relate to the implementation of one of 10 Actions of the Global Action Plan or some other specific action to identify and protect stateless persons or reduce or prevent statelessness.
- ✓ **Concrete:** Lead to a substantive or tangible outcome.
- ✓ **Measureable:** It should be possible to objectively assess whether pledges have been fulfilled in the time period specified.
- ✓ **Time-bound:** Fully implemented within the remaining five years of the #IBelong Campaign – that is, by the end of the year 2024.

2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness

Sample pledges:

- ✓ **Birth registration to prevent statelessness:** By [year, no later than 2024], [name of State] pledges to simplify and improve access to birth registration procedures, including late birth registration to ensure universal birth registration. (Relates to Action 7 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness.)
- ✓ **Resolution of protracted situations of statelessness:** By [year, not later than 2024], [name of State] pledges to undertake the necessary law, policy and administrative reforms to grant or confirm nationality of all stateless persons and their descendants living in its territory since [insert historical date]. (Relates to Action 1 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness.)

2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness

In the lead-up to the High-Level Segment on Statelessness:

- ✓ **Regional Preparatory Meetings:** Americas (2018), Asia (2019), Europe (2018 and 2019), Central Asia (2018 and 2019), West Africa (2018 and 2019), Great Lakes (2018).
- ✓ **Completion of domestic processes:** To facilitate accession to the statelessness conventions at the Special Treaty Event.
- ✓ **Domestic law and policy steps:** To complete relevant commitments and pledges made in the context of the Universal Periodic Review and 2011 Ministerial Meeting.
- ✓ **Domestic law and policy consultations:** To develop specific, concrete, measurable, time-bound pledges to be delivered at the High-Level Segment on Statelessness.

Thank you

