



**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the UN, Ambassador Andreas Hadjichrysanthou at the High-level Pledging Event on the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for 2022**  
**New York, 8 December 2021**

Mr. Under-Secretary-General, dear colleagues,

According to the Global Humanitarian Overview 2022 that was released a few days ago, 274 million people will need humanitarian assistance and protection in 2022. This number is a significant increase from 235 million people a year ago, which was already the highest figure in decades.

Cyprus is deeply concerned about the deteriorating humanitarian situation around the world, a situation which has been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic during the last two years. The wide gap between humanitarian needs and funding as well as the increasing complex nature of today's crises, reinforces the need to strengthen humanitarian access and assistance, as well as more coordination among the relevant stakeholders.

In this challenging context, CERF has proven to be an indispensable humanitarian funding mechanism with a global reach and impact. It provides timely and effective lifesaving funding and strengthens the ability of the UN to ensure an efficient response to urgent and underfunded humanitarian crises around the world. I take this opportunity to commend the UN Secretary-General and OCHA for their tireless efforts to help the most vulnerable during these most challenging times.

Recognizing the achievements of the CERF, I am delighted to announce Cyprus' pledge of **US\$100,000** for 2022. With this pledge, Cyprus reaffirms its commitment to the Fund, to the humanitarian principles and to ending humanitarian suffering around the world.

I thank you.