



Second preparatory meeting for the Global Refugee Forum

Room 2, International Conference Center Geneva,

Tuesday, 25 June 2019

Agenda

Background note of the second preparatory meeting for the GRF

Side event: Leaving no one behind: A gender, age, and diversity approach to pledges and good practices in the Global Refugee Forum

Panel:

- Mr. Enzo Mauro T. Cruz, Girls in Crisis Policy and Advocacy Officer, Plan International
- Ms. Apajok Biar, South Sudan Voices of Salvation/Gender Audit Team
- Ms. Rose Achayo Obol, Board of Directors, National Union of Women with Disabilities of Uganda
- Moderated by Ms. Manisha Thomas, Geneva Representative, Women's Refugee Commission

Ms. Manisha Thomas

This side event asks the question: How we meet refugees need?

In terms of supporting States, we wanted to see how can age, gender and diversity (AGD) be incorporated in pledges and identifying good practices.

Mr. Enzo Mauro T. Cruz

- AGD are not a burden, it increases efficiency of refugee response. When AGD is not taking account, there is a huge gap and it can increase inequality.
- Not talking solely on age, gender and disability as different components but it has to be combined in the cycle of forced displacement.
- Be an agent and improve participation. Influence who has a voice. Exclusion of certain groups in refugee responses. E.g. research shows that adolescent girls are usually confined at home due to SGBV risk or friendly spaces who can be dominated by men.
- Suggestions:
 - * Avoid approaches alone, take advantage of multi-stakeholder approach at the Forum.
 - * Look at women and girls as agents and not victims. Look at their active participation.
 - * Providing technical expertise and/or provide necessary skills to women and girls.
- AGD is not excluding men and boys.

Ms. Apajok Biar

- Came with the gender audit team in 2007. Strong recognition of gender equality in the GCR but it shouldn't stop there and continue to push for further gender equality.
- Recognize intersectionality.
- Need genuine participation. Steer away of multi-stakeholder approaches. Women and girls can provide solutions to the problems they face. Shift to let them lead. Ex: the Refugee Council of Australia notably led Annual Consultations in Australia, 60% of the Annual Consultations have refugees.
- Need to start including diversity.
- Data collection is a key aspect to see which voices are missing.
- Need to recognize formal and informal skills. E.g. Kakuma camp, my mother worked but her skills were not recognized when she was resettled in Australia; she had to start from scratch.
- Recommendations:



- Pledges on ongoing resources to develop an online platform.
- Look at the ground level, how can refugees lead/advocate?
- Transparency. Outcomes and impacts of refugee participation. Have you listened to refugee voices?

Ms. Rose Achayo Obol

- Background of the local organization I am representing:
 - We work on women and girls with disabilities rights.
 - Realized that women and girls with disabilities faced issues: GBV, fear, language barrier, sexual harassment, sexual violence, etc. They faced a lack of knowledge of the laws and services which protect them.
 - We are working with Government and humanitarian workers.
- Partnership is key: Strengthen coordination and referral with different multi-stakeholders.
- Financing and implementation: Difficult sometimes due to finances constraints.
- Not forgetting age: Cf. AGD new policy. Actors should help with disability inclusion.
- Disaggregated data: Generally, gender is captured but not disability.
- Making disability a commitment.

Q&A

Aziza

- Walking country to country until Malaysia. Resettled in 2003 in Australia.
- Feeling that women and girls have been forgotten.
- Giving women and girls Rohingya voices.

Network for Refugees Voices

- Let the voices of women be heard. Participation is the key. Need to be sustainable so that happen.

Farhzad

- I raise my Afghan voice as resettled refugee in Australia. Was living in Indonesia. There, all the women wanted to be a teacher. Since August 2014, a school has been running. 85% children refugees get unformal education.

Australia

- Proud of refugee voices resettled in Australia.
- Committed to AGD approach.

Good neighbors international

- Involving men and boys in gender mainstreaming.
- We work on SGBV prevention in some countries.

Australia

- Interested in involving the private sector, how it can be included in pledges?



GRF Preparatory Meeting

Introduction

Amb. Boudjemâa Delmi, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the UN Office in Geneva

- Goal: translate the GCR into actions and increased responsibility-sharing, bringing more actors to the table.

Mr. Volker Türk, Assistant High Commissioner for Refugees

- Today is an important discussion for the GRF preparations.
- Objective: elaborate some organizational arrangements and focus on role States and multi-stakeholders could play and how you envision your engagement in that process.
- Ensuring that space is given to High-Level delegations at the Forum.
- We would call the Forum a success if:
 - 1) we manage to broaden the base of support for refugees and host communities, going beyond traditional actors, donor, partners. We all have a role in bringing other actors to the table. To bring others into the fold, need to lead by example, need your engagement directly with other actors, find ways and means to make it a collective effort.
 - 2) we have been able to collect a wide range of pledges and contributions that have direct impacts on the lives of refugees and host communities, including through refugee participation with an AGD lens. UNHCR offers our good offices and support, through our colleagues around the world, if you wish so. Contributions should be in line with the 6 focus areas. Emphasis on joining up and making collective pledges. We hope for ambitious not risk-averse engagements to make sure GCR can be implemented in years to come. Hope for important focus on Humanitarian Development Nexus (HDN) with strong and strategic development contributions, not least in inclusion approaches. Show how responsibility-sharing can be brought to life.
 - 3) we can show transformative efforts, with international community coming together collectively.
- It is upon us to make sure that the Forum is not just another meeting but a milestone, with lessons learned from the past.
- We can confirm now that the GRF will be at the Palais des Nations, Assembly Hall.
- We also reserved lot of space there on 16 Dec. for side-events, etc.
- We heard that you do not want this to be 'another meeting' but something more interactive. Maybe we can have a format similar to HC Dialogues, giving also space to high-level delegations.
- Two agenda items of the day: Organizational arrangements for the GRF (including co-sponsorship) & structure for the GRF.

Agenda item 1. Organizational arrangements for the GRF (including co-sponsorship)

Daniel Endres, Director, GRF

- Would like to clarify everybody's roles: The GCR specified that the GRF will be convened by one or more States, invited by the UN Secretary General.
- Three levels of engagements on 1) co-hosts 2) co-conveners 3) co-sponsors.
- Switzerland will co-host the Forum with UNHCR: Will invite stakeholders to the Forum and host events before and during the Forum. Further info to be shared later on.



- Co-conveners are Turkey, Costa Rica, Germany and Ethiopia. An additional co-convenor is being explored and will be announced in due course. They will participate at the opening plenary sessions particularly, play a galvanizing role by engaging States in the GRF, participate at ministerial level, contribute to objectives of the Forum.
- Co-sponsors will create alliances and mobilize contributions. UNHCR will play a role to support in the 5 areas, seek a regional balance and encourage host countries to be co-sponsors.

Perveen Ali, Head, GRF Coordination team

- Engagement of co-sponsors can be to lead by example, significant examples done or significant contributions.
- Mobilize support by encouraging States by sharing good practices.
- Co-sponsors can play role in shaping the GRF program. Received so far nearly 30 confirmations and about 130 expressions of interest. Names shortly to be published on GRF website.
- Envisioning to have refugees at the GRF and to participate in each of co-sponsorship groups.
- 2nd week of July: meeting with the co-sponsorship groups. Possible to be invited as observers if actors haven't announced their interest in co-sponsorship yet.
- Grateful if you could share co-sponsoring plans and engagement.
- Showing leadership but not only, also an inspiration for everybody.

Turkey

- Co-convenor of the Forum.
- Expect good outcome for the Forum with concrete changes for refugees. Wish for contributions and pledges to be specific, result oriented and relying on concrete data to increase support to host countries. Pledges expected to go beyond financial assistance and also go into expertise etc.
- Resettlement and complementary pathways could be examples. Area where we expect progress.
- Hope to succeed in donor expansion. Increase non-traditional actors, including private sector.
- GCR also guides us in addressing longer term needs. Need longer term measures on education, health, work opportunities etc., while helping integrating into host societies will help alleviate the burden.
- Co-sponsoring Education, our priority. A lot of good practices we can share. more than 1 m school aged Syrians in school in Turkey. We increased enrollment. We aim at full schooling.
- Considering other themes for co-sponsorship too. With all relevant stakeholders including civil society and refugees. Invite all stakeholder to join us to make the Forum a success.

Ethiopia

- Insure support to UNHCR.
- Pleased to announce to be a GRF co-convenor and High-Level representation, working with other co-conveners and mobilize potential contributors, sharing our best experience in Jobs and Livelihoods, working with humanitarian and development actors.
- Consider the Forum as an important moment to realize the GCR. The Forum is a moment to reinforce commitments and address Humanitarian-Development divide.
- Embrace the multi-stakeholder approach: Vital to take practical action to move away from current reality where few hosts and donors shoulder most of responsibility. Need approach predicated on broad support base now. Critical to collectively ensure response to refugees are equitable, predictable and needs are adequately met while allowing protection through self-reliance schemes and expanded opportunities for durable solutions.
- Urge Member States, international organizations, civil society, private sector to co-sponsor.
- Highlight that pledges should be concrete and actions-oriented.



- As larger refugee hosting State, filling funding gap while increasing resettlement and complementary pathways should be a priority and the foundation for operationalizing burden- and responsibility-sharing.
- Great effort should be made for participation of all actors including refugees.
- Importance of the Forum as a not only a platform to mobilize pledges but lead successful partnership between private sectors, refugees, civil society.

Costa Rica

- Co-convenor of the Forum. The President of Costa Rica will participate in the GRF.
- Need to translate burden- and responsibility-sharing into concrete action.
- In line with a long tradition of solidarity, Costa Rica is glad to cooperate in the MIRPS. We have witnessed the importance of cooperation and coordination.
- The country hosted a large number of forcibly displaced people and seen in 2018 an expansion of asylum claims.
- The forum is an opportunity to chart new collaborations and innovative solutions for a new sustainable way, making a real impact, respond in a proper manner when there is an emergency.
- Encourage other countries to take the lead, sharing best practices and making pledges to the extent of their possibilities.
- Costa Rica has also much to learn from others.
- Stand ready to activate platform for responsibility-sharing.

Germany

- Co-convenor of the Forum.
- Convinced that solutions for refugees are possible. This call for vision and ambition, using the Forum to be engaged and be concrete to improve refugees' lives.
- Already numerous experiences on HDN and how this can transform refugee lives for the better.
- We will showcase good practices and specific refugee situations.
- Contribute on advancing on the 6 thematic areas.
- Preliminary idea: contribute funding for longer term job opportunities for refugees in the Middle East.
- Want to use GRF to increase the percentage of refugees accessing higher education through more scholarship programs; transform voluntary repatriation into sustainable reintegration; empowerment of refugee women in Germany; network promoting refugee inclusion into labour market will be a good example. Wishing to be inspiring for others.
- Again we see increased numbers of refugees worldwide, which is an indication that new approaches are needed, more than ever.

Switzerland

- Happy that the various regions will officially play a role as co-convenors. Hope others, notably from Asia, will be able to take on this role as well. Should bring political attention necessary for the Forum's success.
- Despite efforts made, number of displaced populations continue to grow, so urgent to meet the needs.
- We will demonstrate our engagement for the Forum and Switzerland will be represented at high level. Will make concrete, quantified commitments and contribute with good practices.
- Glad that is conceived as a non-traditional conference.
- Happy to see participation of academia, cities, private sector refugees, etc.



- Agree GRF will be a success if we can expand the number of partners and if they make concrete pledges likely to have real impacts. Need to have development actors involved.
- Still hope that we can translate all this also into a symbolic event like a football match.

Ecuador

- Aware that each refugee situation is unique.
- Glad there's a focus on hot countries: recognition of their generosity.
- Pledges should go beyond funding. Need to work on capacity building, resettlement opportunities, technical and logistical assistance, etc.
- Burden- and responsibility-sharing is not new. Challenge to move beyond for more equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing and GRF provides opportunity.
- GCR should help protect and find solutions for refugees.
- Need to maintain political support to integrity of international protection regime. Optimist that international community is moving in the right direction.

Sweden

- Co-sponsorship facilitating solutions, with focus on improvement in resettlement and pathways.
- Support also the core group to maximize the strategic use of resettlement.
- Announce strong wish to also co-sponsor access to quality education, including with a link to gender equality and disability.
- Would be grateful to be invited as observers to Energy & Infrastructure (focus on clean energy), ASCG, triple nexus matter, Gender equality and SGBV matters.

Pakistan

- We welcome announcements of co-conveners.
- In line with our tradition and standing with refugees, we plan to play a strong role. Still considering options and will announce a final decision soon.
- Look forward to constructive engagement.

The Republic of Korea

- Believe that it will be a valuable Forum with opportunities on responsibility-sharing.
- Commanding UNHCR for its efforts to provide guidelines, draft indicators, etc.
- Welcome announcements of co-hosts and co-conveners.
- Not ready to make a formal announcement but we focus on Education, Jobs and Livelihoods, Energy and Infrastructure.
- Will consult with various stakeholders to make final decision on areas of co-sponsorship and contributions.

Argentina

- Interest in co-sponsoring Solutions, on which we have good practices to share.

UNICEF

- Co-sponsor on Child protection sub-themes and is thinking how we can contribute on WASH.
- We are on the ground to support children in need and have built relations with governments, also at subnational level. So we will continue to work closely with them to ensure refugee children and host communities have access to protection systems and education.
- We continue planning and financing in countries to ensure children are included in programming and budgeting.



- Continue to engage children, adolescents and youth participation.
- Encourage UNHCR to include children voices at the Forum.
- Education is a basic right for all children. Being in schools keeps them safe and allows them to reach their potential.
- Children are vulnerable and need protection. In line with CRC, we support States efforts to provide access to basic services. Will continue to work for strengthening child protection systems and policy frameworks that allow registration of refugee children.
- Continue to make the digital world safer for children.
- Calls for practical alternatives to detention for all children.
- Continue to ensure that best interest of the child is taken into account.

United Kingdom

- GRF will be important platform to maintain the momentum launched by the GCR. UK will continue to support.
- Remains elements to clarify further: pledges: clear benefits to have an inclusive approach and breadth of opportunities and actors. Tracking delivery of those will be crucial so look forward to details on the tracking tool. Risk of having many pledges difficult to figure out. How to collectively strike a balance that demonstrate clear additionality? A massive commitment, which might be difficult to track.
- On good practices, we support it to avoid duplication and reinvention. How will good practices be captured and shared?
- On co-sponsorship, considering where we are, interested in Responsibility-sharing, Data and evidence, facilitating Solutions. How will UNHCR balance the number of actors in each of the co-sponsorship group?

Japan

- Co-sponsor Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus under Burden- and Responsibility-sharing. Would like to take the issue in a wide sense.
- Sharing good practices is still under consideration. Showing good practices or announcing future activities will be announced in due time.
- Promotion innovation and business sector engagement is another interest of Japan but not yet sure how to link this to co-sponsorship, e.g. under which thematic area.
- May be other areas where we would be co-sponsors with good practices to showcase but need more time.

Algeria

- Co-sponsoring Education.
- Can UNHCR indicate the preparatory schedule between now and the GRF?

Norway

- Co-sponsor in cooperation with UNHCR and other stakeholders on Education, Resettlement, Energy with a green response focus.
- Want to know more about UNHCR plans to include other international organizations. How will development agencies (e.g. WB and OECD) be involved in planning for GRF and how will you draw on their expertise for the pledging process and follow-up.
- States need to deliver pledges.
- A few large host states continue to bear burden with support of a few donor. This needs to change. We will measure the GRF success on whether new states get involved.
- Getting states to pledge is half the battle. Then we need to implement. Experience is States often need prompting.



Brazil

- Considering Protection Capacity with a focus on immediate protection arrangements and mechanisms to pursue alternatives to camps away from borders as mentioned in the GCR.
- Crucial to alleviate pressure on border areas and provide access to services and economic opportunity.
- Currently implementing a voluntary relocation strategy benefitting Venezuelan refugees who can achieve self-reliance. Want to share this experience and gather wider support.

[NGOs statement](#) on agenda item 1

European Union

- Reaffirm support to UNHCR, GCR and GRF.
- First GRF will be important opportunity towards more equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing. Will also be an opportunity to share and be inspired by good practices and mobilize greater support for refugees.
- Support flexible and pragmatic approach in preparations, working through co-sponsorship groups.
- EU institutions are willing to actively participating in GRF and looking at option.
- Need both specific and holistic commitments.
- Work of co-sponsorship groups should take more longer-term perspective. This is a marathon not a sprint. GRF is first step on that road.

Czech Republic

- Co-sponsor area of health and provision of healthcare services, related to Infrastructure.
- Will share on medevac programs and building capacities of host countries on health care.
- Ask how linkages between particular goals will be made, i.e. between education, health, HDN resilience and self-resilience, etc.? Are there linkages organized with other groups or we need to co-sponsor various groups to make that linkage?
- In co-sponsorship groups, will there be a market to connect demands and pledges?

Canada

- Hear goodwill and momentum. Hope it will continue.
- Sooner we can have details on GRF structure and preparations, delegation size etc., the easier it will be to organize ourselves including for high-level participation.
- Commend countries which are taking leadership as co-host, co-convenor, co-sponsor. We are close to announcing we will co-sponsor a group. Will be in coming days.
- Thanks for benchmark of success of forum. Good advice for co-sponsors and their terms of reference. Agree with need for GRF to bring in the “missing middle”, other actors. Very much agree this is an important role for co-sponsors.
- Also their role to avoid dispersal of pledges and that they are trackable.
- Cosponsors also need to ensure refugee participation and gender equality is integrated.

Netherlands

- Attach importance to GRF. Co-sponsoring Jobs and Livelihoods.
- Would like to be involved in Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and innovation/digitalization matters also.
- Will also work with International finance cooperation, ILO and UNHCR as our instrument to work on GCR and HDN.



Morocco

- Co-sponsor Protection capacity, highlighting Moroccan best practices on asylum.
- Suggest organizing a consultation in Morocco on Public-Private Partnerships potential for refugee inclusion.

Global youth advisory council

- Interest in co-sponsoring Protection capacity specifically on youth.
- Remind of GCR para. 77 empowerment of refugee youth. Building on this commitment we pledge to provide technical assistance at local and national levels. Want to empower young people to voice their views.
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- Interested in working with others on this, so asking States and other stakeholders to take a step with us, supporting refugee youth initiatives, participation in national plans, including on refugee youth in Education particularly, enable them to work, enable them to obtain documents, make sure that young refugees can access health services and psychosocial support, especially for survivors of SGBV.
- Committed to create a structure to allow meaningful engagement of refugees but cannot do this on our own. Time for states and others to help.

International Labor organization

- Believe that access to labour market and decent work can be beneficial to refugees and their families. GRF is key opportunity to take this ambition to next level.
- A new Convention and recommendation to combat violence and harassment in the workplace has been adopted last week.
- Co-sponsor Jobs and Livelihoods, interest in Education (tertiary, training, livelihood learning), Solutions, Energy and Infrastructure and cross-cutting themes like Health.
- GRF is an opportunity to transform a rhetoric into reality on HDN particularly. Decent work is the link between short term intervention and longer-term approaches.
- Want to step up our support for countries affected by Venezuela promoting decent work for refugees.

Finland

- Co-sponsoring Protection capacity with a focus on disability inclusion.
- Disability inclusion should also be covered with other themes and encourage others to do so.
- Champion Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action. About 100 actors endorsed it. This is linked to the SDGs.
- Through our co-sponsorship, we wish to do our part to make difference on the ground, in line with the GCR.

France

- Co-sponsor Energy and continue our reflections on Education and Protection capacity, with an inclusive vision for participation of all actors.
- Particular attention to inclusion of persons with disability and gender balance.
- The success of the Forum will depend on strong and firm commitments with financing, meeting expectations to support refugees. It remains important to consider action on long-term.
- How will the Forum establish links between topics? E.g. Energy and “green reflection” can have link to Education scholarships, to sanitation, job creation, with peace and development, data, etc.
- Will you provide us additional documents?



Uganda

- Interest in co-sponsorship, still thinking. We will communicate when decision made.

United States of America

- Best way to help people is to work with them in affected countries. Call on donors and private sector to contribute more. Applaud those providing.
- Support expanding donor base which needs to be deepened. Call for more.
- Call on other donors to address urgent needs

UNDP

- Interest in the following (sub-)themes: Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus, responsibility- sharing, jobs, protection capacity.
- Wish to see meaningful participation of refugees particularly women and LGBTQI.
- We have good examples and lessons learned to share.

Global Refugee-led Network

- GRF will not be successful without refugee participation. Current arrangements do not have enough concrete mechanisms for this.
 - We try to address refugee participation by creating our own spaces, in 2018 held two refugee summits, plus six more refugee summit are being planned.
 - Work together to create a Refugees'-UNHCR Annual Consultation.
 - Will announce pledges during side event.
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- Could work together to have annual refugee consultations. Need to happen at grassroots level.
 - Would like more meetings with UNHCR as we lack access to meetings and information.
 - Need access online to co-sponsorship meetings. Hope co-sponsors will take our data.
 - Aim to have a member cosponsor in each of the co-sponsor group.
 - Will announce first pledge at side event today.

Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network

- Congratulate AHC-P Türk on new appointment and commends him for his legacy.
- Welcome guidance and clarifications provided by UNHCR on co-sponsorship.
- APRRN sees strong positive potential in co-sponsorship mechanism and confirms co-sponsoring of 2 or more themes. Will also bring a cross-cutting focus on creation of sustainable enabling environments for refugee leadership and meaningful participation, with attention to AGD and disability considerations for inclusivity. Important to focus on rights and needs of refugee women and girls.
- APRRN has broad and diverse base comprising over 370 members, including refugee-led organizations, spanning 28 countries in the region. Majority of GRF themes link to our members expertise and interest.
- Co-sponsor Protection Capacity, with focus on strengthening national asylum frameworks. Will also co-sponsor Education with focus on inclusion at primary and secondary levels and access to tertiary education.
- Considering co-sponsoring Responsibility-sharing with focus on encouraging regional and sub-regional approaches; Solutions which we understand to include Durable Solutions.; Jobs and Livelihoods, with focus on supporting legal frameworks.



- APRRN committed to bring examples of promising practices and contributions, hoping for partnerships with other actors.
- Jointly with the Asia-Pacific Network of Refugees and involving UNHCR and others, hosting a roundtable in the next months on discussing of common pledges. Will include identifying promising practices aligned with GRF.

World Bank

- Impressed by the vision set up by UNHCR/Volker. We need to keep in mind what success might look like.
- Host countries carry the bulk of responsibility-sharing, so they need better international system to share that.
- WB committed to supporting GCR implementation. We can maximize our complementary approaches.
- Co-sponsor - would like to be join by other Member States and other actors - how the development of socio-economic aspects of forced displacement can be addressed, particularly in Jobs and Livelihoods with an AGD and disability lens and empowering refugee voice. Would like to be focus on root causes/prevention too.
- WB will also illustrate the work on the JDC to strengthen data and evidence.
- Hope GRF will be opportunity to re-energize earlier policy commitments, for ex. to allow refugees to work etc.

UNHCR answers (Daniel Endres and Perveen Ali)

- GRF should indeed result in concrete action-oriented outcomes with concrete measures for years to come. We share this vision.
- Grateful to co-host's and co-conveners' announcements and encouragements to all others to participate.
- Indicators, pledges, tracking must be related and linked. We issued an almost finished indicators framework and are waiting for your final comments by the end of the month. Now, we will be able to produce a tracking system and are working with WB, OECD and other UN agencies. We also work with key host countries on tracking progress on the ground.
- Participation of developments actors is a key: to a large extent, GCR exists because of realization that humanitarian action alone cannot address refugee issues.
- All Member States are encouraged to have whole-of-government approach.
- Refugee participation raised by many. Good to hear from 3 networks today. We heard that it is never good enough and will see where better engagement can be taken. Also grateful to youth on developing higher education strategy. The event in berlin last week was milestone.
- On cross-cutting issues, burden- and responsibility-sharing is linked to peace nexus. AGD & disability will be cross-cutting sub-themes. The development of pledges should be concrete, measurable and actions-oriented. Counting on those who participate in groups.
- Together with UNHCR Focal point, will identify 3 to 5 areas of pledges on which we can work towards. A coordinator will help to ensure that there are linkages between areas. A bit an iterative process but UNHCR will do it with you.
- Would like to see engagement of more donors, e.g. on resettlement.
- Longer term role of co-sponsorship groups: the focus will be on identifying good practices and mobilize contributions to have a successful impact.
- May be possibility that co-sponsorship groups work in specific ways. See how members of groups may form 'groups of friends', etc. Need dialogue with each of co-sponsorship groups to see how it should be structured and take the discussion forward.
- We want balance of host countries and donors in groups. Want to build on good practices to build pledges.



- A note will be sent with the timing of the co-sponsorship group meeting at the mid of July. Recognize that not all actors are Geneva-based, online connection will be possible for meetings.
- Hope to engage refugees early on co-sponsorship groups. We are working to identify some co-sponsors among refugees. Welcome suggestions on this.
- We are supporting refugee-led group and networks with participatory meeting and support regional summits. UNHCR supporting the Danish Refugee Council in outreach to refugees and diaspora. Envision that refugees will be integrated into high-level sessions and side events at the Forum.

Agenda 2. Structure for the Global Refugee Forum.

Daniel Endres, Director, GRF

- Sharing good practices to inspire future contributions.
- Summary of broad outcomes will be announced at the forum. Then a compilation of pledges and practices will be made available, in digital and printed format.
- The Forum will not be just another conference and will involve about 300 multi-stakeholders. We want to give space of prominent role of States.
- Remind the centrality of burden- / responsibility-sharing and solutions for countries of origin.
- Remind the multi-stakeholder approach importance through humanitarian actors, local authorities, parliaments, private sector, sports organization, refugees, etc. Involve host country, donors, refugees.
- Will give space to prominent role of heads of states and other high-level participants, including co-host, co-conveners, co-sponsors.
- The area of focus will be the five areas announced.
- Encourage all of you to share pledges, contributions, good practices well in advance of the Forum so that we can prepare around those and ensure proper visibility.
- There will be high-level sessions with TEDtalks style and panels sessions.
- Many of you don't want a long format of statements, therefore during the high-level sessions, statement from the floors will be possible.

Perveen Ali, Head, GRF Coordination team

- To the question of how pledges will be integrated in the Forum itself? Will be publicized in a number of ways during the high-level sessions: projected on screens, displayed in different formats. Consolidated for viewing online during and after the Forum.
- An outcome document will be available after.
- Media interviews, awareness events will be organized.
- Announcement through video recording will be possible, if wish to do a statement.
- Encourage good practices are shown as exhibits.
- UNHCR wants to select across the spectrum of areas of focus with regional balance.
- Special arrangement for dignitaries. Statements during the high-level session will be possible and during the side events. There will be a ministerial lunch on 17 December, a commemorative photo, making space for bilateral meeting and opportunities to do media interview.
- Switzerland will co-host a series of events in Geneva.

Tuesday, 17 December:

- Opening plenary on responsibility sharing: welcome remarks by the High Commissioner and co-hosting State, video, statement by the UN SG, statement by the co-conveners, moderated



dialogue with States and other actors on humanitarian-development nexus. During this time pledges will be displayed on screens.

- Three parallel sessions on:
 - 1) Solutions. Resettlement & complementary pathways, voluntary repatriation.
 - 2) Comprehensive responses focus on regional situations, MIRPS, CRRF in Africa, maybe the Afghan situation
 - 3) Education
- Evening reception at Palais des Nations with refugee musicians

Wednesday, 18 December

- Two parallel high-level sessions on Energy and Infrastructure.
Lunch
- Two parallel high-level sessions on Job & livelihoods and Protection capacity.
- Conclusion

A number of questions to answer:

- We didn't want to have side events both main days so as not to detract from main agenda. Welcome thoughts and comments on preliminary thinking.
- In July: a guidance will be shared on proposal exhibitions and side events.
- In September: informal briefing on update anticipating pledges tracking mechanisms, update on the 3-years resettlement and complementary pathway strategy and academic networks.

Volker Türk, A-HC Protection

- In order to avoid a traditional formal and statement by statement reading it would be good to have good practices and pledges in advance. This would allow for interactive meeting.
- Format could be akin to HC Dialogues but with a format honoring GRF and GCR.

UNHCR Special Envoy on Somalia (Amb. Affey)

- Will provide a regional perspective and update of the recent policy development.
- Forced displacement is a challenge on African continent. Although many countries show solidarity, they face constraints.
- Several African countries including Chad, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia, Rwanda, East and Horn of Africa piloted the CRRF.
- AU provide a solid platform.
- In Kenya and Uganda refugees are included in regional plans and in "out-of-camp model".
- 2017 Djibouti Declaration made a strong commitment to ensure all refugees have access to quality education without discrimination.
- In March 2019, IGAD Kampala Declaration on Jobs, Livelihoods and Self-Reliance for Refugees, Returnees and Host Communities was signed.
- 24-28 June 2019 IGAD Member States meeting to discuss document in preparation: the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons.
- Regional efforts are a great success story. Challenge is to ensure changes.
- Suggestions:
 - 1) Encourage Member States in IGAD region to work with donor community and others to strengthen arrangements needed to implement Nairobi Declaration and other related provisions. Member States should also look to reinforce policy commitments made at the Leaders' summit.
 - 2) Member States could share good practices informing our understanding of what works and what does not work.



- 3) Important that a wide range of states and stakeholders have a stake. Encourage IGAD region to play leadership role and contribute to co-sponsorships.

Break

Side event: With refugees: Inclusive Implementation of the Global Compact on Refugee

Panel:

- H.E. Mr. Zeneke Kebede Korcho, Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the United Nations Office at Geneva H.E.
- Ms. Nathalie Olijslager, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations Office at Geneva
- Mr. Daniel Endres, Director, Global Refugee Forum
- Ms. Annemieke Tsike-Sossah, Refugee Liaison, IKEA Foundation
- Ms. Joyce Fonee, Refugee representative, Nairobi, Kenya
- Moderated by Mr. Mohammed Badran, Representative, Global Refugee-led Network

Mr. Mohammed Badran, Representative, Global Refugee-led Network

- The basis of our discussion will be: what you can do to integrate refugees?
- Pleased to announce a pledge:
“My government/institution/organisation/company/me individually, etc pledge(s) to meaningfully engage refugees themselves in all processes and decisions which affect them, and pledge(s) that the meaningful engagement of refugees will underpin and strengthen every contribution or pledge my government/institution/organisation/company/I, etc will bring to or announce at the first Global Refugee Forum, to be held on 17 and 18 December 2019 in Geneva.
My government/institution/organisation/company/me individually, etc furthermore pledge(s) to share experiences on the implementation of this pledge at subsequent Global Refugee Forums and/or high-level officials’ meetings.”
- A positive step forward to change the narrative participation.
- Can support us by co-sponsoring with us.
- What are the lessons learned, challenges of refugee engagement in Ethiopia?

H.E. Mr. Zeneke Kebede Korcho

- Three keys reasons to involve refugees:
 - Knowledges.
 - New perspectives, not seeing refugees as victims but essential part of the narratives.
 - Identify the disconnect between policy and realities.
- Refugee networks engaged in the Forum, organized the first refugee summit in 2018 and work at regional levels.
- Inclusive approach for 40 years of hosting refugees in Ethiopia. New refugee law provides access to labor market, access to education and health system.
- Multi-stakeholder approach is important.

Ms. Tsike-Sossah

- Ikea funding is long-term involvement, started from basic infrastructure education scholarship and turn up to support refugee communities.
- We are developing a new strategy and look at where we are as a foundation. Looking at Agriculture and how we can contribute in it.



- We focus on renewable energy, which investment can support UNHCR and refugees? What are the opportunities?
- Working through cooperative and strengthening. Working with UNHCR.
- The last 3 years have come up from influence and design why refugees engage themselves.
- We are not directly working with refugees, so it is important that our partners who are working with them, help us to understand refugee needs.
- We are investing in creativity and diversity.

Mr. Mohammed Badran

How you are making sure that the partners are involving refugees?

Why it is a priority for the Netherlands?

Ms. Nathalie Olijslager

- Important that refugees define by themselves, if not, other will define for them.
- Interacting experience in Uganda in a camp.
- Importance to speak with refugees.
- Advisory board with refugees. Not only on refugee issues, but how you appreciate your neighbors, etc.
- As a mission what can we do to hear refugees' voices?
- Don't forget communities and younger people.

Mr. Mohammed Badran

- How other stakeholders support refugee participation? How do you see meaningful refugee participation in practice?

Ms. Fonee Joyce

- Practical engagement creating space where refugees can take lead and make changes.
- UNHCR Global Youth Advisory Council consults communities, has focused group discussions with young, community leaders, getting feedback and engage in bilateral advocacy.
- Policy and partnership should create environments which consider age and disability. Just having a box checked is not meaningful participation.
- Reinforce connection across cultural, political, and social areas for refugees.
- Need also to focus on informing refugees.

Mr. Daniel Endres

- How to really make a difference is not easy? Easy to have 25 refugee participants and no engagement.
- The real challenges are:
 - The leaders framework: Refugees should be encouraged to develop skills.
 - Employability, but nationals are frequently prioritized. Talk to employers: why don't they include refugees?
 - Education: Refugees are the group most left behind. 37% of the refugee population followed tertiary education, 1 % have a university education.

Mr. Mohammed Badran

- How to move forward? I.e., what about a UNHCR-Refugee Annual-Consultation?

Mr. Daniel Endres

- Let's think about an Annual Consultation.



Q&A

A former refugee

- A lot of initiatives taken by refugees' themselves, how can UNHCR support these initiatives?

Gender audit team from UNSW Australia

- What percentage are women and girls of the refugee population in education?

UNHCR

- Look at ourselves all together: how we can be sustainable?
- Will be good to have a discussion with APPRN and the Global Refugee-led Network.
- Mainly refugee girls don't go to school, need to push on that.
- Don't have the number of female participants in higher education in mind.

On behalf of the Afghan commission

- How UNHCR make sure that they have an impact?
- How much you think your team is refugee inclusive in leadership position?
- What we can do to broaden inclusion of refugee participation?

Ms. Annemieke Tsike-Sossah

- Crucial to understand what makes sense in the countries and regions, what are the skills.

Netherlands

- Bringing refugees to Geneva at the Forum will be a great opportunity.

Agenda 2. Structure for the Global Refugee Forum - continuation.

Kenya

- What are spaces for co-creation? Details on this? Concept notes would help.
- Concurrent sessions are problematic: hope this will not put small delegations at a disadvantage.
- Sharing good practices: sister agencies organized similar events, e.g. in May this year on Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Focus must be on centrality of burden- and responsibility-sharing with hosts like Kenya.
- Look forward to contributions and pledges which will ease the pressure on hosts.

Pakistan

- Appreciate UNHCR ambition. Hope we will achieve all we are aiming for.
- Not sure how we can participate on Solution and Education yet.
- Emphasize the need to rationalize the program and keep ourselves focused.
- New concepts have been added to the agenda, such as dialogue with refugees, etc. Request clarifications of these concepts.
- Difficult for the participating countries at the Forum which are not talking one of the 6 UN languages.
- Appreciate multi-stakeholder approach however caution against political organizations which may be invited. Refugees invited should be selected objectively. Importance of involvement of country of origin too.
- Listen on improvement on draft indicators to measure the progress of the GCR.



Norway

- Emphasis on supporting Education, Energy and infrastructure with a green response focus and Protection cross-cutting issues reflected.
- Inclusion of NGOs should be a priority and would highly appreciate refugee inclusion too.

Lebanon

- GRF will be a litmus test and hinges on practical modalities. The GRF should be more than a pledging conference. Stand ready to support UNHCR.
- Thank UNHCR for the draft GRF schedule; clear shape with the concept and background note. Strongest point so far: fact that pledging is being detailed as in the background note.
- Highlighted concerns which should be reflected in the best way possible.
- GRF should be an opportunity to have a dispassionate and depoliticized debate on specific refugee situations.
- One of the important UNHCR pillar is to achieve durable solution. This should be reflected in the GRF. Willing to see a bigger focus on Solution part, we will co-sponsor on Solutions, particularly on repatriation. This should be further reflected in the agenda. So far, solutions are included in the high-level events but apart from substance on the opening, the rest are still headlines not populated with substance in agenda.
- UNHCR should provide enough incentives for countries such as Lebanon to participate.
- How items such as plenary dialogue are going to fit the GRF purpose? How will we maintain interest after the departure of high-level delegations?
- Davos style talks proved efficient in past years but need to have a serious focus to make a difference on the ground.
- Better should not be the enemy of the good: we need to avoid being too innovative. Balance between new and serious, substantive oriented forum.
- UNHCR will have a direct responsibility to follow-up the GCR after December. We await the tacking system.
- How many States have been approached to join the category of the missing middle?
- What about countries of origin which should play a role?

United Kingdom

- Proposed structure is a good starting point. The Forum is not an ending conference but an ongoing process. What is the process after the Forum, leading to the next Forum?
- Must ensure continuity in momentum, especially given the major changes within UNHCR senior staff management, which has driven the process over the past years.
- Need joined-up approach between UNHCR and partner agencies.
- Key aim of the GCR, burden- and responsibility- sharing. The Forum is an opportunity to bring new donors, engaging new actors, broaden the base of support. The co-sponsorship system will help in this but what else? What are the components? What will support this process to bring new actors?

Portugal

- Interested in Education theme. We have good practices to share, linked to a global platform for Syrian students.
- Look forward to working closely with UNHCR and multi-stakeholder to work on it.

Colombia

- One of the keys, effective set of arrangements is about burden- and responsibility-sharing.
- Arrangements should facilitate exchange.



- Match between needs and solutions should be close to the ground as much as possible.

Global refugee-led network and Global youth advisory council

- Joint statement that reflects diversity of views among refugee communities.
- What will be the practical outcome of this event?
- What will be the impact for refugees on the ground?
- Hope to see concrete improvement for refugees and host communities.
- What does it mean to have meaningful participation? Don't want to be a box ticked.
- Refugees should be involved in designing agenda and have a meaningful participation during the Forum. Six recommendations in this way:
 1. Refugee experts should be part of the process.
 2. Encourage Member States to include refugees in delegations.
 3. Each panel should include one refugee representative with expertise.
 4. GRF should include an exhibition wall where there is discussion virtually and digitally.
 5. GRF should be streamed online.
 6. High level panel should be with refugee participation.
- We will lead six refugee regional summits, two have been done already.
- We want to empower young people.
- Social network tools should be used to match needs with different stakeholders.
- Full support of the effectiveness of the GRF.

NGO statement on agenda item 2

Global Parliament of Mayors

- Important to ensure that the GCR is implemented.
- Cities around the world are committed to implement the GCR and are exploring how to work on GCR. One example is 100 Resilient Cities.
- More than 57 cities came at the Marrakech on December 2018.
- Work on refugee reception and meeting refugees needs.
- Encourage for diverse local opportunities.
- Need for discussion at local level.

UNHCR answers

Mr. Daniel Endres

- Difficult process to establish where a structure for a meeting when many of the elements remain uncertain. Bear with us and be assured that whatever is put forward will evolve with pledges and co-sponsors' work. To a large extent, the pledges and the contributions will shape the nature of the Forum
- Appreciate the suggestions and look how we can accommodate these, some of which are in contradiction with each other. We will inevitably need to find a balance.
- Two days event with one extra day of meetings, so all those who asked for side-events, for deepening discussions should see that those are meant to take place on this additional day. (Monday 16 December).
- Important question on how we will follow-up: we are building structural elements. One is the indicators framework. Any comment on this should be shared by the end of the month. This way, we should be able to conclude this initial framework that will be used for years to come.
- The results of the Forum will depend on the outcomes document, which will be followed-up at national and global levels, with the tracking mechanism and the indicators. Tracking mechanism is not ready yet but will come with a solid system by early autumn.



- Will need to see how fast co-sponsorship groups will come to fruition and how those can influence follow-up. First thing is to get the co-sponsorship groups in action.
- Take note of Portugal effort in higher education area. Very important contributions.
- Will look at refugees' statements.

Ms. Perveen Ali

- This is a preliminary phase. We will develop a concept note for each session, together with the co-sponsors. So please engage as a co-sponsor.
- Appreciate Kenya suggestion on online participation and other suggestions to bring refugee voices through online participation, we will look at it.
- Market place refers to exhibits of best practices. There will be different modalities for this sharing, including through videos, but also traditional style, where discussion can take place. Still on progress.
- We want to have result-oriented sessions, opportunity to showcase the impact and good practices and show how the GCR already makes a difference.
- Recall that all different areas of focus are linked and overlapping and this is true also for the GRF. We want to have a heavy focus on Solutions, focus on different aspects of inclusion and support that refugees needs. Should not see those as siloed sectorial areas but as linked.

Iran

- Need to address structural issues of current system. Success will depend on whether Burden- and Responsibility-sharing becomes a reality on the ground.
- When we are looking at the draft schedule, there are parallel programs and meetings. Proliferation should be avoided so as not to have messages lost and to gather tangible results.
- We need more explanations on the outcomes of the high-level panels and refugee co-sponsors.
- Multi-stakeholder approach: we believe that efforts should be made for the participation of real representatives of real refugees.
- Need a mechanism for following up on decisions made at GRF.
- GRF needs to become turning point for equitable and predictable responsibility sharing.

Volker Türk - Summary of the discussions

- Some statements were very concrete both on organization arrangements and structure. Some of suggestions are helping us and are useful, some are not aligned with each other, so the team will have to digest and find the best way forward to balance.
- Strong reassurances:
 - Clear that the focus has to be on major host countries. The Forum should put at the center what host countries need and want. This is a clear commitment on our side.
 - Need to reflect on how to make sure that you are able to participate, with parallel sessions, how we can best arrange that. Almost impossible to go through density of subject matter without parallel sessions but we can find ways to best arrange that.
 - Plea to all of you: you are our strongest advocates to make it a success. Count and rely on Geneva community to be our advocates back home to push your capitals to think outside the box. What is it that each country, actor can bring in the spirit of the GRF reaching to missing middle?
- Next and final GRF Preparatory Meeting: 14 November 2019, CICC, room 2.