

First preparatory meeting for the Global Refugee Forum
29 March 2019, CICG (Room1), Geneva

Introduction

Mr. Volker Türk, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR

- After a two-year journey to develop the GCR, great pleasure to engage in the preparation for the Global Refugee Forum (GRF).
- Important that we take the time to engage with you to make the GRF the type of event that it deserves. It is not just another meeting, but a vehicle over a period of time to put engine and fuel in the GCR.
- GRF is a process to take stock of where we are and advance the implementation of GCR. It will be on 17 and 18 December at the Palais des Nations and will be a Ministerial level event. It will also see participation from a wide range of stakeholders.
- We will focus on the organizational arrangements and will have more details in the June meeting on how the forum will be run.
- Today, we will focus on indicators, and aware that this has been an issue during the formal consultations.

Agenda item 1: Organizational arrangements for the Global Refugee Forum

Mr. Volker Türk, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR

- GCR is built upon lessons learnt from the application of CRRF in 15 countries. But also built on past and present experiences when it comes to addressing refugee situations like the Syria situation. GCR captures a new approach and systematizes and consolidates a way of working together not just for refugees but also for host countries and communities. Helps scale up our response. So, with the affirmation of GCR, we have the opportunity to concretize the nexus issues including the protection side both from a practical and operational perspective.
- At the GRF, we can create, develop and strengthen the architecture needed to implement the GCR over the longer-term; translate solidarity into concrete action. Aim to achieve this as is set out in GCR through periodic holding of GRF and done in three interrelated ways. 1) GCR refers to pledges and these will allow us to put in place arrangements needed to ensure support for host countries that is timely and predictable and 2) will also help to work on self-reliance of refugees. 3) The third element is the solutions aspect, and this is envisaged right from the outset.
- In order to capture what we are trying to achieve, better to think of it in terms of contributions States and other actors have done to contribute to the global public good. These can range from financial, technical and material assistance. Can also include policy related contributions. Important not to see it as a pledging conference. It is a way to honor and amplify existing contributions and to really broaden the support base. Not just MS but all other stakeholders.
- We know many States have already made and are making significant contributions through resources and resettlement. But the GRF will provide an opportunity to recognize these contributions.

- There is an urgency to broaden the support base and to make it whole-of-international community affair.
- And that is really what the GCR encapsulates. Refugees are matters of international concern. In the spirit of the compact that we put into practice this multi-stakeholder and partnership approach. To showcase existing contributions and develop new contributions.
- It will help us follow up on pledges, showcase good practices. These consultations around the promises of good practice will help define areas where collective efforts are needed.
- We are taking a long-term view. Up until now there has been a short-term ad-hoc view to refugee situations.
- The GRF will also provide opportunity to follow up on implementation and this links to indicators. Shared a draft and this will be refined. Happy to receive more comments on this.

How States can assume particular roles?

- GRF will be co-hosted and co-convened by one or more States. We envisage a number of co-conveners to mobilize broad political support and we will elaborate on this in the June preparatory meeting. Beyond the co-conveners, we need to engage a wider range of countries and other stakeholders for them to exercise leadership role and have come up with the co-sponsorship role. Particular states and other stakeholders can choose topic and act as advocate on this and help in identifying good practice and mobilize resources.
- For example, on responsibility sharing, co-sponsors (who can also be non-state actors) could engage a round table discussion and they could bring together relevant stakeholders or showcase or announce pledges.
- Those interested please do contact us, so we can work further with you on this. We will need to find regional representation as this is a UN event.

Agenda item 2: Draft indicators for progress towards the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees

Mr. Ewen Macleod, Deputy Director, Division of Resilience and Solutions

- Thank contributors who have sent us inputs on indicators.
- There is still room for further suggestions, ideas and inputs to be sent to us.
- We have so far received 400 inputs across the four objectives and 12 outcomes.
- In the interest of reaching agreement, we do want to acquire a broad set of ideas.
- With such a large number, we are still in the process of synthesizing them. What we will say is preliminary and will not capture all ideas we have received.
- Clear from the complexity of the exercise we may not reach perfection, but we will do a credible job between now and first GRF.
- This is a pioneering exercise. We have not attempted such process in our history and so it is both challenging and exciting. Challenging part is that there are many stakeholders and a wide variety of interests and reconciling them is challenging. Exciting because what we have received until now indicates there is willingness to define how best we can achieve this.
- Strong consensus on the different objectives that we can definitely build on.
- As said during discussions in regional groups, we hope by June SCOM we will have a second set of refined indicators to share with you. Certainly, share again the indicator

matrix by the end of next month and if necessary, will convene further meetings to reach a consensus.

- In terms of methodology, a number of States have highlighted the challenge of data collection. Recognize that in many instances there are no baseline data and we are starting from scratch. This is a necessary challenge and requires resources.
- Will do our best to align with SDGs but we have recalled there are no specific indicators for displaced populations.
- We have been able to identify six areas of consensus:
 1. There needs to be more precision that indicators should be more measurable.
 2. That should be further disaggregated by AGD and length of displacement.
 3. Disaggregate by country.
 4. Suggestions were made in terms of financing and try to be clearer what is meant by the diversity of financing and clarify if resources are humanitarian or development.
 5. Further suggestion of disaggregation of resources from where there are coming.
 6. And also indicate the number of refugees that are benefitting from increased number of programs.
- Overall, we received diverse comments on outcomes. Lots of comments at the activity level.
- We will try to incorporate as much as we can the rich contributions we have received.
- Aware that important work is being done including by NGOs. Will try to build on what exists already.

Morocco

- The GRF will be an important UN activity this year. Issue of refugees is crucial for the international community.
- Obviously UNHCR will have to make considerable efforts including Member States.
- A key point will be to avoid examining the humanitarian framework. This noble cause of protecting refugees should not be instrumentalized to serve political agendas and this should be the main principle guiding the GRF preparations.
- Need to share experiences particularly of successful refugee policies and best practices acquired in this field.
- Main goal should be to implement the GCR.
- Morocco is debating an asylum law and has developed measures for integration of refugees. Commend the role of donors and call for increased mobilization of resources given the situation of refugees across the world.
- Today, we have a dramatic situation particularly for those who have become refugees most of whom find themselves in developing countries.
- This will require global solidarity and increase in resources.
- Regarding data collection, this is key as UNHCR says assistance and protection of refugees is dependent on data collection.

Australia

- Committed to supporting host countries, UNHCR and refugees and response partners to ensure equitable global responsibility sharing.
- Pleased with indicators and consultation process.

- See value in comprehensive arrangement to ensure systematic review and doing so in line with international principles.
- Strong framework but would like to see following: one is in terms of measuring indicators of success that these are qualitative and quantitative to know how GCR is making a difference in the lives of refugees.
- Important that people with disabilities are not excluded and so in line with international best practice, all quantitative measures can be disaggregated by AGD.
- Gender is a key priority for us. Women and girls face specific barriers so encourage AGD is mainstreamed across indicators.
- Baseline data is crucial.

Angola

- On December 2018, UNGA adopted GCR by 181 Member States including Angola, a country that has been hospitable for a long time.
- Support the GRF and propose that indicators of progress be defined according to specificities and expectations by countries of origin and transit countries and destination and refugees themselves.
- Reiterate commitment to the global framework and will assume our responsibilities at national, regional and global level.

Pakistan

- GCR is an expression of political will to strengthen cooperation and in this spirit GRF should establish strong tradition to follow up on GCR.
- Expectations: hope GRF will be a focused event and maintain political seriousness. Should not scatter attention.
- GRF should be action-orientated to make real changes in the lives of refugees.
- It should not remain a dialogue for optics and publicity and do not expect a multitude of events where message is lost.
- So certain guidelines need to be established regarding the organizational aspects.
- Do hope that serious apolitical credible civil society organizations will be involved and those speaking on behalf of refugees should be true refugees.
- They should not be handpicked from a specific context to advance a particular agenda.
- Side events should be relevant and highlight variety of refugee situations.
- GRF should provide balanced representation in terms of co-sponsorship and expect to adopt a declaration which should be led by co-facilitators.
- These negotiations must be held before autumn.
- Second preparatory meeting offers a good timeline.
- Need to make sure the meeting develops a structured dialogue and is actionable oriented.

Djibouti

- We recognize the GCR as a covenant.
- Hope the GRF will help consolidate the obligations of the 1951 Convention and commitments we have reconfirmed.
- Attached importance to protection and hosting refugees in a context that maintains their well-being and pleased to note that UNHCR is drawing on CRRF.
- Pleased to see four goals of CRRF are reflected in the indicators.

- Elaboration of indicators are a step that will lead to tangible progress.
- What is important is that we can refine these indicators.
- Note with satisfaction certain aspects such as education. We don't see anything on health though. This is an important point that need to be reflected. We will provide in writing proposals for indicators, which would make a good starting point for our work.

Mexico

- Appreciate indicators have been circulated. Essential step in responsibility sharing and recognizing the cost of hosting refugees.
- Should be able to measure how the international community mobilizes support.
- They will have value if they meet the four objectives of the GCR, greater political will and more arrangement that facilitate equitable responsibility sharing.
- They should be able to measure progress over time so important to have clarity on what we are measuring.
- Lack of information of the rationale for indicators which prevented us from providing detailed information.
- Indicators will require piloting and testing and should be methodologically feasible. So, in which format will UNHCR manage the data.
- Share the concern of time constraints and welcome initiative to convene informal meetings, bearing in mind this exercise should involve a technical approach.
- Encourage the use of existing data.
- What are the capacity strengthening needs that have been identified in this regard?

Thailand

- Submitted our feedback and hope these will be considered.
- Believe that indicators should measure situation in different periods as situations change over time.
- Need to avoid the adverse consequences of indicators.
- Indicators that focus only on refugees may create protection gaps for other displaced people who are not considered refugees.
- Think that current indicators do not reflect the burden borne by host countries. Issues such as diverting resources and degrading environment and social tensions should also be taken into consideration.
- There should be more policy-level indicators for example if countries have a screening mechanism.

Kenya

- Marks the beginning of significant steps to build momentum for the GCR implementation.
- Have urged UNHCR to develop indicators and appreciate the effort.
- Note that the draft document adopts a medium- and long-term perspective. Understand this forward-looking approach but what does this mean for those protracted situations that have been going on for three decades.
- This ought to be taken into consideration: What indicators will be used to measure progress in the short term.
- On outcome 1.1: does not seem clear to our delegation. Should it measure the number of refugee situations or additionality of resources.

- Take note of outcome 3.2 and wish to include two new indicators and number of new resettlement places and new resettlement countries.
- On outcome 4.1 how can sustainability of returns be measured in numerical values?

Canada

- Agree with the approach to keep the number of indicators limited.
- But to better understand what we are doing, we feel the need to develop indicators at the outcome level, which requires quality of narrative.
- Have concerns about data. UNHCR could develop a data collection plan.
- Agree that there is a necessity to be clear about terminologies and this can be done by a glossary of terms.
- On GCR objective 3: Include an indicator on the number of countries participating in resettlement and number of refugees benefitting.
- On outcome 4, overall comment: will this benefit from a review of indicators.
- Progress on the ability to support with voluntary returns will depend on aspects beyond UNHCR's control. If there is no progress made, we should be able to say what the reasons are.
- Data should be disaggregated by AGD.

Ecuador

- Aware that this is not an easy task given the divergent views.
- It is a sign that we are on the right track.
- Concerned that there is no reference of the action adopted by the international community to contribute in an equitable, predictable manner to the principle of responsibility sharing. Bearing in mind this is the baseline of the GCR, it must be applied transversally.
- On the proposed structure of indicators, it should contribute to alleviate pressure on host countries but, as presented, they could impose further burden. They should instead be focused on measuring contributions from the international community.
- These should be based on shared understanding of collective goals as otherwise it will mean different things to different people.
- It is not about which states do more but about having a clear idea on what the international community is doing to improve the lives of refugees.
- The document is not clear about reporting modalities and the reasons behind choosing indicators.
- Request that UNHCR prepares a non-paper that explains the rationale.
- Encourage additional meetings on indicators as this will help ownership by countries.

Lebanon

- 2019 will be crucial and it was agreed that GCR's main innovation will be the GRF.
- Think that the three planned preparatory meetings are decisive to agree on modality of GRF and its success will depend on the preparatory process.
- Looking forward to it with interest and in our case with prudence.
- In the past weeks, positive steps have been taken by UNHCR though a common purpose to measure the impact of hosting refugees and draft indicators.
- Indicators are an important tool in reviving arrangements as they can measure the implementation of GCR.

- The first draft of indicators proposed is not satisfactory. It should be able to measure fair and equitable responsibility sharing at the global level.
- At the same time, indicators must be able to reflect major developments in priority sectors in light of the amount of support host countries are receiving.
- They should also reflect national contexts since GCR implementation will be conditioned by realities of such contexts.
- Any effort to measure GCR cannot rely on UNHCR but should be complemented by specific states. So how to cooperate with statistical institutions given that they have different capacities? How do we build their capacities?
- The first draft of indicators is a good starting base, but welcome more focused discussions that reflect all the complexities.
- Took active part in the first workshop in February and looking forward to the next workshop in April and June. Would welcome the participation of more states.
- This process of establishing modalities is crucial in the preparation of the first GRF. We are waiting for the outcome.
- Let us keep in mind that the tangible efforts of hosting refugees should go beyond measuring the cost of the exercise.
- Even if some impact cannot be measured, it is nevertheless crucial to measure the impact of hosting refugees.

Japan

- Consider the GCR to be an important document in order to share responsibility sharing and improve international response.
- Believe that there is value in using indicators
- Welcome the use of SDG indicators in the proposed draft and prevent duplication of work.
- Consider important to use existing data collection including UNHCR, OECD and WB data.
- For Japan, difficult to set up a new survey.
- Some newly suggested indicators require clarification on definition and scope. Not clear if this will be global in scope.
- Consider indicators should measure progress at global level and support limiting the number of indicators.
- Ask UNCHR to give further explanation on each indicator including on methodology and definition.
- Prior consultation should be done before the publication by UNHCR.

Denmark

- Very supportive of the GCR. It has the potential to achieve better outcomes. For that we need strong implementation of GCR.
- First GRF is timely to build momentum of GCR.
- Welcome preparatory meeting to think through pledges and sharing of good practice.
- Long-term approaches to refugees; access to services in support of refugee self-reliance and development support will hinge on the extent to which donors provide sufficient, long-term development funding for forced displacement.
- We have been stepping up with development funding, so it reaches across the nexus. Would be happy to learn from others.
- On indicators, have made comments in writing.

- As we advocated, a robust indicator framework is important for accountability and to achieve results in responsibility sharing.
- Welcome the approach to indicators which is structured across the GCR objectives. It can serve as an accountability framework.
- Feel that indicators should allow comprehensive follow-up in country with differing capacities and across the full range of forced displacement contexts.
- Impact will serve to highlight best practice in line with GCR and welcome focus on disaggregated data.

UK

- Encourage strong engagement in this process; call on the international community to step up its role. These prep meetings are important stepping stones for implementation of GRF.
- Clear about the role of indicators and these should be medium and long term and be operational by the first GRF. This is a promising starting point.
- Support a light touch approach to indicators but would like some elements to be strengthened.
- Quantity vs quality. Draft is heavy on output.
- Disaggregation: data should be disaggregated by AGD; also want disaggregation by disability and by location and duration.
- Refugee voice and accountability: accountability to host countries and refugees is important and could include measuring beneficial satisfaction, and also would like to know how they will participate in the GCR.
- Surprising to see no protection indicators, which may include perception of security and indicators on SGBV. Need to ensure right to work and freedom of movement are captured.
- While what we measure is important, how we measure is also important.
- This will be an important element in the months ahead.

Republic of Korea

- Commend UNHCR for their dedicated effort for the first preparatory meeting.
- This will lead to full implementation of GCR.
- Overall, indicators reflect most critical element in the GCR in a comprehensive way.
- However, on methodology we need to make clear whether we need indicators to evaluate situation around the world, at the regional or at country level.
- Guaranteeing accuracy of data should be a priority and should be cautious of unintended consequences of indicators.
- On objective 1: not only response plans but also include funding situation.
- On to 1.1 and 1.2: long-term financing should also be noted.
- On 2, consider women and girls and the barriers they face and encourage UNHCR to include separate indicators on women and girls.
- On 3: resettlement indicators should come before complementary pathways for a logical flow. And suggest including number of countries carrying out resettlement programs.
- On 4: propose to include indicators reflecting the development needs of countries of origin as they are critical in facilitating voluntary repatriation.

Germany

- More equitable burden sharing is indispensable if we want to live up to shared ambition.

- This was recognized in the NYD and GCR and now we should focus on implementation.
- First, GRF will be an important milestone and an opportunity for all of us to mobilize more States for responsibility sharing.
- Success of first GRF will depend on whether it will be possible to widen the support base beyond the countries that have historically contributed for tangible results for refugees and countries that host them.
- Will provide more comments on draft indicators in writing.
- Indicators should not be too technical / complicated so that all States can feed into them.
- Support UNHCR on the idea that indicators should be aligned with SDGs.
- Support focus on rights of vulnerable groups including women and children with disabilities and more focus on gender mainstreaming.

Brazil

- Indicators alongside measuring the impact and the mechanism for tracking the implementation of pledges will enable the international community to access progress against the four objectives of the GCR.
- Indicators should reflect the letter and spirit of GCR and place emphasis on the overarching principle of responsibility sharing.
- In our view indicators should afford a global overview of the GCR implementation and refrain from country-specific focus. Results should be presented in a consolidated manner and not by each country.
- Despite synergies, need to distinguish between SDGs and GCR. Humanitarian and development financing have different budgeting cycle and cannot be mixed.
- Reference to host community conflates the distinct logic of GCR and SDG.
- Indicators should build upon information gathered by Member States on a voluntary basis taking into consideration the challenges of data capacity.
- Operationalizing of indicators will require common understanding. Would be useful to have a glossary of common terms on the indicators.
- For example, we interpret refugees as asylum seekers especially those who have pending applications regardless of their formal stratus.
- More clarity needed behind the reasoning for each indicator and definition of each indicators need further dialogue.
- Would be useful if UNCHR could prepare an annotated proposal to clarify the rationale for each indicator. That could serve as a basis for a glossary to inform data collection.

Netherlands

- Pleased with inclusivity which allowed contributions from civil society and refugees. This is important to build a narrative of resilience.
- Consider the GRF to be the engine of GCR and aim to share burden and responsibility.
- Thank UNHCR for presenting the draft indicator framework which creates opportunities for stakeholders to comment.
- Solid monitoring framework is needed to progress in a concrete manner and form a basis to improve work and measure progress.
- Should keep it as workable as possible and should not distract focus from actual implementation and nor should it lead to counterproductive incentives.

- Need to strike a balance. Believe framework could focus on outcomes and focus not only on outputs. It could benefit from a Theory of Change and intervention logic and may be useful to add qualitative indicators.
- Agree on what was said on data collection and believe GCR and GRF should catalyze new and innovative work in which partnerships play an important role and would like to see diversification of funding and strategic partnerships.

Algeria

- As stated at the 74th SCOM session, we welcome the three GRF preparatory meetings.
- As mentioned in the GCR, the GRF will be a first landmark of the implementation of the compact and will bring commitments on international cooperation to work collectively towards achievement of goals.
- Could UNHCR indicate a program of work and agenda for the GRF?
- Is UNHCR considering other major events taking place in Geneva at the same time? Difficult for delegations to take part in all events.
- Which other organizations will be participating at the GRF? Will UNHCR share a list of NGOs participating?
- Has UNHCR identified the agenda item for Member States and other stakeholders to make suggestions in this matter?
- We noted during the first briefing in December that UNHCR remains open to questions. Wish to seize the opportunity to seek further clarity on methodology used to draft this indicator framework and would like a concrete glimpse on how they will work to assess progress in various refugee situations?
- Encourage UNHCR to work more with Member States in view of identifying common priorities especially in host countries.

Iran

- See the GRF as an international cooperation arrangement for responsibility sharing. Can play positive role if we could develop practical, efficient and action-oriented indicators to effectively address structure and inequality of the international refugee protection system and ensure predictable, equitable responsibility sharing.
- Proposed GCR indicators can offer serious benchmarks for implementing GCR but need to reflect situation on the ground and should not simply apply one size fits all.
- Indicators must accommodate the needs and concerns of host states.
- Beyond outcomes for each of the four GCR objectives, need set of targets that are specific measurable, timebound for constant progress.
- GRF should not solely be a pledging conference It must focus on indicators of GCR and pledges need to be tangible and benefit socio and economic infrastructure of host countries and also facilitate voluntary repatriation.
- Also, good to publicize refugee situation. This space should be duly preserved.
- Current political environment is antagonistic to international cooperation and right-wing sentiments are denigrating human solidarity. As such, we can hardly make headway.
- One such evil is unilateral economic sanctions. These have created flows in Latin America.
- UNHCR and other responsible States have a moral duty to call out the culprit for the unlawful actions of the US, which amounts to crimes against humanity.
- GRF must be turning point. Responsibility sharing is essential in our common endeavor to address the refugee problem.

USA

- Welcome the inclusive preparatory meeting.
- Support the objective of GCR and regional roll out of CRRF. This will be an opportunity to showcase good practice.
- With a large number of refugees living in host countries, emphasize responsibility sharing and the involvement of the missing middle.
- The GRF presents an opportunity to do just that and also provides an opportunity to collect base line data through voluntary self-reporting of Member States and other stakeholders.
- Draft indicators are a technical discussion and look to UNHCR to finalize.
- Looking forward to how UNHCR will address those challenges.
- Measuring the impact of hosting and protecting refugees and measuring indicators are two different workstreams and important that these feed into each other.
- Appreciate additional information on these points and on comparable data; linkages between compact indicators and impact of hosting refugees; and aligning country level and global indicators.

Turkey

- Examined indicators and provide here preliminary suggestions.
- Believe that drafting of such indicators is key in effectively determining progress towards objectives of GCR.
- It seems a challenging task to determine progress and therefore we would require further information on methodology in developing these and data collection.
- How would you prefer States to engage in data collection and contribute in the process of developing indicators based on what we experience?

Switzerland

- Important to have relevant indicators to evaluate progress in achieving goals of the GCR.
- Many of indicators presented are quantitative; would like to see more qualitative indicators.
- In order to give you data, believe it is necessary to clarify some concepts.
- Would like to measure the positive contribution by refugees to their host countries. This should be considered and could be tied into indicator of employment.
- Also suggest an indicator on the language course given to refugees (linked to refugee inclusion).
- Finally, we hail the reference to the SDGs.

Ethiopia

- Will provide written comments in due course of time.
- Believe this is a good basis for further discussions and can elaborate on it.
- Appreciate the inclusion of the four objectives of GCR and efforts to link to SDGs and encourage the use of other inter-governmentally adopted indicators for example in WHO.
- Qualitative indicators for measurement should also be considered.
- Indicators should show the impact of the comprehensive approach.
- Would be good to have a clear baseline.

- Also believe it is important to have due regard to double counting especially in development finance and jobs. Need those safeguards. And also give due regard to the regional of application of the CRRF.
- Assure our full support to GRF, which should help our reflection in measuring progress of GCR and showcase good practice.

China

- Acknowledge the role of UNHCR in promoting international cooperation in matters of refugees and efforts to follow up on GCR.
- Few observations and concerns. First, we hold that GRF should maintain its inter-governmental nature and should not go beyond the GCR mandate.
- In that sense participation of multi-stakeholder approach should uphold the principle of no objection of Member States.
- Organization of GRF should abide by the non-legally binding nature of GCR para 4.
- Follow up should be voluntary in its nature without imposing additional obligations on Member States.
- On indicators, we should be mindful of the challenges of data collection, capacity building and inconsistencies.
- We should avoid the possibility of kicking another negotiation under indicators.
- Suggest the Secretariat issue a non-paper on methodology used for developing indicators.
- Should avoid obligatory national reporting.

Sweden

- Support thematic areas UNHCR has chosen for GRF.
- Agree with UNHCR proposal; this presents a solid framework to track progress.
- Aware that there are challenges. One is how to avail data and evidence. Could discuss how to enable this.
- Agree that we need AGD mainstreamed data.
- How can we focus on qualitative and quantitative indicators?
- Indicators on protection and gender equality are important to us.
- Could differentiate between refugees and host communities, and national population to measure better in the spirit of SDGs.
- And could consider if objective 4 could be measured under the GCR.
- Looking at objective 4, some outcome could pertain to several objectives where we apply a long-term approach.
- Could move towards having similar outcomes for similar objectives.

Chile

- Endorse aim to advance the implementation of commitment and want to underline the obligation and need for GCR to be in line with national legislation.
- Important to facilitate the harmonization of data.
- Consider that indicators need to be consistent with sharing burden of refugee flows.

Colombia

- Cannot get lost in details. Need concrete solution to strengthen international protection.
- There are different levels in the preparatory exercise to have a solutions-oriented GRF.

- One is to measure the impact and other is to measure the cost of hosting refugees, and then identify gaps and then mobilize the international community.
- Indicators should measure progress in each objective and in every step these 4 objectives should be aligned with the principle of responsibility sharing.
- Indicators are not intended to measure progress of host countries but to measure the mobilization of the international community in favor of the host country response.
- As indicators are currently formulated, they aim to measure direct performance of host countries and this is not what we are aiming at.
- Indicators should have another nature and help us follow up on how responsibility sharing is applied across the four GCR objectives.
- How much international cooperation to promote self-reliance according to priorities defined by host states.
- Indicators should point to areas that allow to trace international cooperation, so this is more durable and efficient since not all countries have the same priority.
- To reduce burden on host countries is essential. Demand and supply need to be established under the principle of responsibility sharing.
- Bearing this in mind, we can formulate some indicators for the GCR.

Syria

- Comments from Member States vary but all express concerns with indicators.
- How is UNHCR going to proceed in light of what has been expressed to reach consensus regarding the indicators before December.
- Is it going to be a similar process like the consultations for developing the GCR? How many meetings we will have? It is clear this is not an easy task.
- Want to stress that we should avoid politicization for the interest of success of indicators and success of GRF and to have tangible implementable indicators.
- Have sent initial comment on draft indicators and express comments in reference to objective 4 because there is politicization. This goes beyond the mandate of UNHCR and amounts to interference in States, particularly in countries of origin.
- Certain countries that want refugees to go back disregard the specific challenges faced by countries of origin to provide for all the requirement needed for voluntary repatriation. This should be highlighted, especially the imposition of unilateral measure, which is a serious impediment for our country to enable voluntary repatriation of refugees.

Gambia

- Believe that key consideration on collection of data and presentation of indicators should be focused on GCR.
- Para 46 is clear: we have to work in cooperation, so we get information we need to present quick and sustainable solution to the crises of refugees in the world.
- We should aim to be more macro than micro and avoid paralyses by analysis.
- Many data collection systems should be rationalized to be effective and bring easy knowledge.
- Urge that while we have interest, let us try to work together in a common interest and do not make the exercise complicated.

Egypt

- GCR represents big milestone, which we have supported.

- Look forward to GRF which seeks to translate commitment into concrete action.
- Indicators take into consideration the four objectives of the GCR. We recognize the complexity of the exercise.
- Echo the importance of capturing indicators that reflect easing host countries' burden.
- Also, would like indicators on how the international community is moving to one refugee approach so they receive the same degree of support.
- Refugees all over the world should receive equal or comparable level of support.
- Indicators should not be too complicated.

Norway

- Attach high significance to indicators to ensure pledges are concrete and lead to real contributions.
- Wish to see progress measured in terms of impact on beneficiaries rather than number of programmes and number of laws.
- Wish to see gender disaggregated data.
- Need to allow for revision of strategies if progress report show otherwise.
- Missing indicators on the number of resettlement countries. Should not only measure increase in resettlement places but also states offering places. This is in line with the objective to mobilise international responsibility sharing.

Pakistan (takes floor a second time)

- Indicator framework is useful. UNHCR provided a good basis to enable contributions and share feedback.
- First objective is to ease pressure on host countries. Indicators should measure and delineate humanitarian and development assistance to see impact of the two streams.
- Propose to create a separate indicator to gauge additional development assistance.
- In line with humanitarian principles, like to see increased humanitarian assistance and the principles of timeliness, adequacy, flexibility and sustainability.
- Include indicator on private sector and its utilization.
- Each refugee is a human being and an indicator must measure the increase in *per capita* refugee resources before and after GCR.
- Important to build capacity of host countries.
- For refugee self-reliance need international contributions and increased economic opportunities.
- There should be an indicator to measure third country solutions provided to refugees.
- For third country solution, need to track education and livelihoods opportunities and support countries of origin to increase investment in areas of return and propose indicators to measure these services.
- Might not be useful to measure durable solutions; rather important to measure the number of refugee repatriations in safety and dignity.
- Indicators should evaluate the beneficiaries of programs. Some are generic and these need to be appropriately delineated and need to measure them to track progress.
- Not all indicators are applicable in all refugee situations. Some draft indicators do not reduce the burden on developing countries. Need indicators not only on resettlement but also for repatriation, hence the need for longer peace building.

- Two indicators are most important: decrease in the number of refugees in post GCR and the proportion of gaps met.

EU

- Want to acknowledge, this is not an easy task and is indeed a pioneering exercise. Having a robust framework against the four GCR objectives is key to measure success and highlight challenges.
- As others, we believe there is room for improvement.
- Will provide comments in writing but highlight a few important ones.
- Fully support to have indicators short, clear, measurable and realistic and aligning with SDGs and focusing on outcomes.
- Important to develop indicators at appropriate level that will enable a global picture and suggest sticking to limited number of indicators across the four objectives.
- Some key aspects that need to be captured include progress in increasing support for host countries; inclusion of refugees in national services; and impact of different policies.
- Recommend disaggregation based on AGD.
- Welcome information on expectations on who will report and how we will gather the data to populate the indicator framework.
- Welcome further meeting but as others, put trust in UNHCR to remain in the lead and finalize the process.

UNICEF

- Will submit detailed comments in writing.
- Children make up half of refugee population so important to have child-specific indicators.
- Indicators should be disaggregated by AGD.
- Call for greater synergies with SDGs.
- Concern that we are mixing refugee and local children. This may provide ambiguous picture of reality.
- Currently list of indicators in outcome 1 omits access to certain protection and response services like birth registration, prevention of SGBV and access to vaccines.
- Under 2.3 important to include indicators on early learning as well as children that are in formal learning.
- In 3.2, important for indicator to expand to prevent family separation and access to family tracing and family reunification pathways.
- Include indicators on refugee and child participation and child and youth engagement in relation to accountability.

ILO

- Our comments resonate with those made this morning.
- One of the recommendations is to have a diverse range of indicators. These should be disaggregated by AGD; it also needs to refer to specific vulnerabilities of certain refugees.
- Bulk of comments in relation to objective 2 in relation to refugee self-reliance: Need to focus on decent work. There should be explicit reference to States and support granted to States in giving access to labor markets and recognizing decent work and labor rights.
- On objective 3: while focus is on expanding resettlement, important to focus on quality and sustainability of pathways.

- On objective 4: while there is focus on number of returns, there should be more focus on safety and voluntary repatriation and sustainability of returns. This could be done through labor market integration of refugees.

NGO Joint Statement

- See: <https://www.icvanetwork.org/resources/grf-march-2019-ngo-statement-indicators>

Global Network of Refugees

- Refugee participation has been made possible to feed into the process directly.
- We have approached the draft GCR indicators from a practical perspective taking into consideration how they will impact our lives.
- Need for a rights-based holistic approach.
- Improved access to education and health care cannot be realized without freedom from violence and the ability to enjoy civil and political rights.
- Need for gender and diversity disaggregation of data.
- Need for indicators to capture a multi-stakeholder approach.
- Support for partnerships with refugee-led initiatives must be tracked; encourage states to partner with refugees as they design programs.
- We propose indicators that reflect the need to search for durable solutions.
- We recommend following amendments: Access to safety and security under objective 1 should include freedom from physical and sexual violence and freedom from victimization, and xenophobia. Should also include access to mechanisms to seek redress.
- Meaningful refugee participation should include the need for stakeholders to encourage refugee participation in all stages.
- At the GRF, refugees should also be able to make pledges.
- Need to address barriers to education. Refugees face several obstacles. Propose indicators that track enrolment.
- Recognition of qualification is a huge challenge, so indicators should track transferring of education credentials and qualification.
- Need to engage affected communities in conflict resolution. Include indicators to track their engagement in conflict resolution.
- Employment for returnees is an important issue. Returnees should be able to use their skills and qualifications in order to build peace.
- Returnees should have access to housing and land and property mechanisms.
- International community must consider providing housing and access to transitional justice.

Mr. Ewen Macleod, Deputy Director, Division of Resilience and Solutions, UNHCR

- Will sharpen areas that respond to many well justified areas including AGD.
- Will try to balance between quantitative and qualitative indicators.
- On time frame, will also look at the immediate issues alongside medium- and long-term ones.
- Need to strike the right balance between the global and national indicators. Want to provide space at the national level to interpret the global indicators.

- Another additional area is UNHCR role in this: we can only do this in cooperation with you. Rely on feedback that you have provided. For example, in the area of data collection cannot do this without constant collaboration with you.
- Take note of the proposal to include glossary of key terms to ensure shared understanding.
- In all the thinking around indicators, must not lose sight of priority objectives of equitable burden sharing.
- We will send out a revised version, which as suggested will be accompanied with a non-paper that will explain the methodology applied.

Mr. Volker Türk, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR

- Need to offer ourselves the simplicity that will enable implementation.
- In all, 38 delegations took the floor on the indicators.
- High level macro picture of success in a simplified form.
- Three areas where we need to do more: data collection; indicators need to link with the process of measuring the socio-economic impact of hosting refugees; and issue of alignment.
- It is a highly complex exercise and need to be aware that we are trying to implement GCR and not the whole spectrum of protection that exists in the refugee world.
- The June preparatory meeting is meant to deal with the question you have asked about the structure and modality of the GRF and also about deepening some of the points I have raised.
- The June meeting will provide development on pledging exercise.
- We are guided by what is contained in the GCR in terms of participation. Will also be guided by UN rules in line with what the GCR says.

Agenda item 3: Areas of focus for the pledging process and the sharing of good practices for the first Global Refugee Forum

Mr. Daniel Endres, Director, Division of Resilience and Solutions, UNHCR

- We are proposing key areas of focus: in these areas GCR can break new ground and where concerted international action is needed.
- Important to note that this does not mean other topics are off the table. All pledges and contributions towards implementation will be welcome.
- In order to focus and have some good success stories, we would like these areas to guide the narrative of the first GRF including showcasing of good practice and structure of the forum itself.
- First area of focus is burden sharing. GCR sets out a range of such facilities. GRF is an arrangement itself. Others include Support Platform, Solidarity Conferences, a dedicated regional and sub-regional approach, global and situation preparedness planning, initiatives to address root causes, and the mobilization of funding, which will be guided by the principles of the Grand Bargain and include innovative financing.
- First GRF will enable the sustainable application of the GCR. Set out five thematic areas around which to showcase practice and mobilize pledging: education; creating enabling environment for livelihood; access to clean energy and infrastructure; facilitating solutions; supporting efforts to strengthen the protection capacity.
- Background note sets out our vision for the kind of progress that is needed for suitable progress.

- States and other stakeholders are encouraged to ensure key cross cutting areas guide the sharing of good practice and include guiding principles of the GCR.
- Focus on benefits to refugees and hosts together and centrality of multi-stakeholder and participatory approaches and AGD considerations.
- Will be developing guidance on good practices.
- Envision co-sponsorship can mobilize states in these key areas of focus.

UK

- GRF has a critical role in generating pledges and delivering on the GCR objectives.
- Support alignment of pledges against objectives of GCR and welcome UNHCR guidance.
- Important that this is inclusive to maximize support and important to track delivery.
- Would be interesting to see the concept note.
- Three points:
 1. Additionality: there have been repeated calls from host countries to support refugee self-reliance and provide long term development funding.
 2. The missing middle: Imperative to broaden the support base. How can Member States support UNHCR to bring this forward? What role can co-sponsors play here?
 3. Support platform: A key moment for States to express support but we do not know what we are signing on to. Would be useful to understand UNHCR plans for this.

USA

- Over 23,000 refugees resettled in USA.
- Recognize the efforts of hosting countries in supporting refugees.
- Imperative for us to work together to broaden the base of donors and strengthen the nexus and redouble efforts to find solutions.
- Provided \$1.6 billion in 2018. But UNHCR continues to face significant funding gaps so need to bring together new reliable donors.
- We want to see additional Member States stepping through this process and this could be through financial or material assistance, offering resettlement or complementary pathways or political and policy commitments.
- Committed to achieving the four main objectives of the GCR and would we like to see states showcase good practice rather than only an online list of good practices.
- To ensure follow through, UNHCR preliminary paper mentions tracking. Could you please share more information? It will be important that UNHCR does not duplicate tools.
- Will continue to seek burden sharing and support reforms for a transparent and effective humanitarian system.

Djibouti

- Need to balance obligations between donors and hosts to better share burden and strengthen resettlement.
- GRF will be effective only if the four goals are committed at the same level, and financing is multiannual and unearmarked.
- In this context, Djibouti has included refugees in national health systems and is helping their independence by allowing them to have bank accounts. This requires multifaceted cooperation.
- Convinced that primary responsibility is incumbent on each country. Would like to draw attention to solutions; challenges should be dealt with on a regional level.

- Declaration of Nairobi set up sustainable solutions for refugees.
- In December, countries held their first conference, which saw the Djibouti Action Plan where countries committed to providing refugees access to national education.
- This was followed by another education ministry conference on the implementation of the Djibouti Plan calling on countries to finalize the results.
- Regional experience should be used and highlight areas where tangible progress has been made.

Denmark

- Five thematic areas underpin the four objectives of the GCR. Would welcome more guidance on pledging modalities and welcome concrete information on co-sponsorship and cross-cutting of AGD.
- Need to ensure multi-stakeholder participation and look forward to receiving guidance on pledging and showcasing good practices.

Brazil

- Flexibility is key to ensuring a successful pledging exercise. This may serve as an incentive and foster wider engagement and help implementation.
- Defining thematic areas may be counterproductive. There might be some gaps.
- International support should add to national efforts and developing host countries should be offered an opportunity to indicate their needs and priorities on a voluntary basis in order to guide regional or country specific pledges.
- But also, to make sure presented pledges match actual needs.
- We suggest highlighting the importance of well-functioning arrangements.
- Keen to discuss mechanisms to pursue alternatives to camps away from borders to alleviate pressure and enhance livelihood opportunity.
- Also stress importance on health services as a crucial area to be addressed.

Japan

- Implementation should not only be the remit of humanitarian actors and must also include development actors, NGOs and the private sector.
- Pledges during GRF should not be limited to governments but be open to other actors.
- With regard to type of pledges, support that pledges should not be limited to financial contributions.
- Pledging be carried out in an inclusive setting in order to allow plethora of new practices.
- Welcome the five thematic priorities. These are relevant and other themes should not be excluded at the first GRF.
- Good practice is another critical area. It would be good to include concrete examples of nexus.
- Implementing numerous programs based on nexus including vocational training for refugees and host communities.

Kenya

- Reiterate that objective is to ease pressure on host countries. Therefore, pledges should not add extra burden on host countries and must translate into equitable burden sharing.
- We reiterate the centrality and prerogative of the government.

- The international protection regime does not operate in a vacuum. How will GRF consider previous pledges?
- Under responsibility sharing, it would be interesting to have new and innovative ideas other than those described in the paper for humanitarian and development responses and not only large refugee situations.
- Would appreciate decisive information on the system to follow implementation.
- Search for durable solutions should feature prominently.
- Para 91 of GCR talks of the three-year resettlement strategy. How far is UNHCR in the development of this strategy?
- With regard to sharing good practice, regional offices will support States to identify good examples. How practical will this be given regional offices are yet to be established and there might be duplicity of practice?
- Would encourage close collaboration between country and regional offices to ensure coherence.

Korea

- GRF will be an opportunity to exchange on good practice. Regarding the pledging process, Korea welcomes that UNHCR is planning to facilitate co-sponsorship.
- Five thematic focus, we welcome them, but also highlight some other areas:
 1. Need for creating conditions for safe and voluntary returns.
 2. Enhancing refugee self-reliance
 3. SGBV: Launched a new initiative to help Rohingya women rebuild their lives.
 4. Importance of education and provide appropriate knowledge thus paving the way for durable solutions.
- Supported access to quality education in Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Uganda. For better responsibility sharing, diversifying funding sources is important. Korea would like to cooperate with other Member States including by improving development cooperation and private sector contribution.
- Will take a closer look to see how we can contribute to the GRF.

Netherlands

- Appreciate the chance to shape the GRF.
- Underline that GRF should be much more than a regular pledging conference.
- Hope that GCR and GRF will make a difference through showcasing connection between humanitarian and development actors and through involvement of the private sector.
- Spoken about engaging the international community. Would like to know what we can do to achieve pledges from all of us.
- Agree that this is an overarching goal.
- Welcome that all stakeholders can announce pledges.
- What we can do to collectively spread the word among our national private sector and academic community. Can UNHCR update on what has already been done?
- Fully support participatory approach and will see how that can be done concretely.

Canada

- Idea of co-sponsors is a good opportunity to include in ToR this idea of enhancing coordination. Also encourage opportunities for joint contributions.

- Believe this will be an important opportunity to mobilize new actors and welcome guidance on how we can mobilize them.
- Need to ensure pledges are aligned to the four objectives.

Pakistan

- GRF another opportunity to reinvigorate refugee issues. Their requirements are many and imperative that our pledges may address their expectations.
- As we have explained earlier, GRF will be an occasion to launch GRF into action.
- It should not become the HC Dialogue; need to make logistical support and financial contributions.
- Would like to emphasize the importance of solutions and protection. There is no better solution than going back home and contribute to rebuilding their homes.
- The international community needs to create pull factors as soon as normality is restored in countries of origin.
- The international community should establish education and livelihood opportunities to help refugees restart their lives. Collective action brings results. Repatriation is the most preferred solution.
- Would like to draw attention to the themes of prevention and need to make dedicated efforts to address drivers of refugee movement. Biggest driver is conflict.
- We should undertake a political commitment for resolution of conflict.
- Over the years accumulated number of unique experiences along with host countries and partners including biometric registration, education and repatriation.
- Refugees hope for improved financial prospects and financial support to address their suffering.

Lebanon

- Notice focus on pledging, but this is not the only component so need to elevate. GRF should not just be a pledging *rendez-vous*.
- Concept and background notes are two positive highlights. Pledges are not expected to be only financial but also technical and can be made jointly.
- UNHCR will have a huge responsibility to follow up on GCR so tracking mechanisms will be crucial.
- While waiting for practical solutions, main need is to seek a right balance between a global conference for all protracted situations and need to focus on urgent topics.
- Being a platform to address refugee crises worldwide it should be able to address specific situation to provide incentives to take part without fear of their concerns being diluted.
- We agree to GCR's aim but the main challenge is to broaden the support base of donors.
- Means preparatory work must be done ahead of GRF. What are UNHCR's efforts on this?
- In the background paper, focus areas have been mentioned. Approach is appealing but how will this be translated into reality?
- Each host country must identify its own areas of needs. So, are host countries supposed to come with a list of needs? Will need more information on this?
- Since there is major component on good practice, would like to know how such activities will be shared including through the digital platform?
- Welcome the mention of focus areas as topics for co-sponsorship arrangement.

Australia

- GRF is an important opportunity to galvanize state support and work towards equitable solution to refugee crises.
- Through sharing good practices, we can develop best practice models. Through consultations, we can make a big impact on the lives of refugees.
- Look forward to sharing good practices. We would welcome further discussion on how we can contribute to the GRF particularly whether it will make an impact on the lives of refugees in our region.

Algeria

- Upcoming GRF is vital to support host countries; wish to know what are the special activities dedicated to priorities.
- In view of making pledges to match the expectations of the GRF, ensure qualitative participation to this event and to better follow-up leading up to 2023.

Germany

- Like to welcome innovative pledges that bring different actors, regions and NGOs.
- Support thematic areas and look for further guidance.
- Pledges and best practices should reflect core aspiration and we ourselves are reflecting how we can contribute to these goals.
- Will come forward with good practice but also motivate others to engage and that is our main focus for the forum.
- We support an approach that is as comprehensive between the two areas and would encourage states to become co-sponsors.

Switzerland

- Stress multi-stakeholder approach to GRF including the involvement of the private sector and host community. Host communities and refugees should not just be present but must remain engaged.
- Insist on limiting areas and avoid multiplication of pledges as this will lead to dilution of responsibility. Would be good to clarify the themes further which are broad and avoid a narrow interpretation.
- Stress the positive role of sports and the constructive spirit that needs to prevail. We do not want just another UN conference.
- It should be a place to inspire. Perhaps we should open with a football match with refugees and ministers. This is showing constructive cooperation and there should be links between the forum and with the population of the host country.
- We will be engaged to ensure this event is a success and you can count on our support.

Costa Rica

- In the area of best practice, our immigration office covers all person who do not qualify for refugee protection, around 40,000. National legislation trying to be a multidimensional phenomenon.
- Focusing on improving capacities of neighboring countries to large movements of people.

China

- Place high hopes on GRF.

- Think that it should provide us a critical opportunity to address not just symptoms but also root causes.
- That includes the conflict between countries at regional level and development imbalances which may contribute to refugee situations.
- And to address these, we encourage focus areas to include poverty reduction and capacity building in development areas for developing countries.
- Should also encourage DAC countries to honor their ODA commitments.

Turkey

- Thematic areas are important, but pledges should not be limited to these areas. And thematic areas do not include health.
- Being host to 3.5 million Syrian refugees and being the largest refugee hosting country, have many good practices to share and we have already been sharing this.
- As other states have mentioned we require further guidance on how to proceed.
- Wondering how pledges at the Brussels conference will be reflected in the GRF.

IFRC

- Welcome the collaborative approach. Voices of refugees and refugee-led organizations are important and hope these voices will continue.
- First GRF will be an opportunity to ensure timely and predictable funding for humanitarian and development responses through multiyear funding.
- This will be guided by Grand Bargain commitments. As an organization working with refugees in many contexts, we are aware of the gap between funding and there are many actions needed.
- Would like to note that Grand Bargain promotes unearmarked funding. Also includes funding to national and local actors as a means to ensuring assistance.
- Therefore, hope quality of funding will include funding to local organizations and adequate provision of their overhead costs.

Norway

- Share the ambition that GRF should mobilize more states for responsibility sharing.
- Believe GRF provides opportunities to mobilize funding and crucial to broaden the base of countries and resettlement places.
- Getting states to pledge is half the battle and they need to deliver the pledges too.
- Would like to track progress on pledges between forums.
- Welcome thematic pledges and from our perspective, protection requires particular focus.
- For GRF need to build partnerships and will work with host countries, NGOs and the private sector.
- We stand ready to continue the dialogue with UNHCR.

ILO

- Welcome the promotion of decent work and job creation and the explicit reference to ILO guiding principles.
- Recommendation 205 on decent work can be an entry point for entire displacement cycle.
- Pleased to see jobs and livelihoods as a thematic area. ILO has been supporting UNHCR refugee response particularly on access to livelihood opportunities and access to finance.

- A MoU with UNHCR has led to greater collaboration for improved labor access for persons of concern.
- ILO has increased its activity in Jordan and Turkey to help refugees access markets.
- Play a major role in nexus while ILO tripartite structure gives opportunity to address refugees labor market challenges. This can provide critical linkages between actors.
- Expect to present Turkey report in June.
- Expanded further to other refugee situations notably in jobs and livelihoods. Project supported by the Dutch government.
- Concerned with rights of all workers and supporting the complementarity of both compacts. These two compacts can help drive principled and humane response for all people on the move in countries where various displaced populations reside.
- In Libya, expect to address some migration issues faced by refugees particularly forced labor and creating avenues for access to decent work.

UNICEF

- Stand ready to engage with Member States to contribute to the implementation of GCR on all matters related to children.
- Pledges must recognize that vast number of refugees are children. Access to education is important, but also need to strengthen health systems for child protection.
- Cannot afford to recreate parallel structure; stand ready to support UNHCR and host countries and leverage partnership with line ministries and private sector to build local capacity.
- Now is the moment to prove through joint action that we embrace the logic of the GCR. This requires multi-stakeholder approach.

NGO Joint Statement

- See: <https://www.icvanetwork.org/resources/grf-march-2019-ngo-statement-pledging>

UNHCR Global Youth Advisory Council

- We bring youth perspective.
- GCR emphasizes multi-stakeholder approach including partnership with refugee-led initiatives. They are most effective when refugees are included in the responses.
- Refugee-led organizations can add value by providing technical expertise and grounding in community experience.
- In education, refugees are leading the initiative to include refugees in all levels. In Uganda, developed a curriculum and run a bridge program for refugee children.
- Scholarships that support young refugees enable to take this leadership role and DAFI funding has enabled children to pursue education programs.
- In Turkey, innovative recruitment matches vocational training with jobs.
- In Austria, Deloitte funds projects that are led or include refugees. Refugees learn coding and they can earn a living.
- Refugee youth promote an active role in finding solutions. In Africa, Youth Action works at community level to shift from a culture of conflict to a culture of peace.
- It is essential to engage men, women and youth in peace building. South Sudanese have formed a group to hold state accountable.
- Resettled refugees can bridge gaps.

- Refugees can facilitate community-based protection.

Global Parliament of Mayors

- City representatives came in Marrakesh and committed to a declaration with four action areas to implement the GCR.
- Reception; meeting refugee needs; inclusion; and working together in regional and global partnerships.
- Cities are interested to know about pledging process. Topics could relate to work to improve inclusion in our communities and will build on expertise of cities.
- Working in partnership with national government to help refugees' access labour markets.
- Need to track outcome for refugees including data collection.
- Finally, expanding city-to-city cooperation and pursuing cooperation with other stakeholders including through the GFMD.
- Believe important for all stakeholders to enable city participation and support Whole of Government approach.
- Collaboration with refugees is critical for outcomes.
- Governments should consider including cities as part of their delegations.
- Facilitating city access to financing; and facilitating dialogue with diaspora communities that create local to local cooperation.
- We stand ready to play our role for the benefit of refugees.

Mr. Daniel Endres, Director, Division of Resilience and Solutions, UNHCR

- It was clear that purpose of GRF is to broaden the base and establish equitable responsibility sharing. Idea is not to have a one-off rendezvous but make the GRF a sustained collaboration for a new type of refugee response.
- Requires many new stakeholders participate in this new collaboration and see the example of collaboration between humanitarian and development actors in many CRRF countries, where thanks to initiatives like the World Bank's IDA18, more than \$7 million dollars have been mobilized in addition to humanitarian funding and this is what we need to systematize and globalize.
- Also seen private sector engagement and just heard from city representatives. City networks making a large difference.
- This is a new multi-stakeholder approach which demands broadening of actors.
- This should apply to all actors equally. Thank countries like Japan, EU who have been pioneers in showcasing nexus.
- Number of states spoke about the need to mobilize the middle. There are many actors that can be more engaged.
- How can we reach out to those additional actors?
- In terms of mobilization mechanism, in the gearing up to GRF would like to have co-conveners. Will come back to you in a month's time with more details on this.
- Co-sponsorship is a model to address the missing middle and increase the engagement.
- On the thematic approach, welcome comments. Do take away that need to reflect health.
- We do see that mobilization at the global level is best expressed through themes.
- But at the national and regional levels, there must be more tailored approach which responds to actual requirements at the country level. The purpose of developing pledges at country level is exactly for that adaptation.

- On technical follow up, hear voices that ask for concrete guidance on pledging.
- Helpful to have feedback on thematic approaches on global responsibility priorities and plan to reach out with some more concrete guidance on pledging by mid-April.
- Good practice and tracking indicators should be connected so that there is logic in the approach we have.
- Specific question in terms of Support Platform. Compact is prescriptive in what it should be.
- In terms of financial pledges, we will not start a new mechanism and system. Need to build on existing pledging mechanism that exists already.
- But obviously as UK said on additionality, it would be important to highlight what can be contributed additional, what is in pipeline and requires renewed effort. This is the broad way how we will approach financial pledges.
- Need to look at best practices. Have good practice with development actors. Now how can we build on this and make this systematic and build pledges on good practices.

Ms. Perveen Ali, Head of Global Refugee Forum, UNHCR

- Multi-stakeholder engagement: where are the entry points for different stakeholders.
- We foresee there are opportunities through this preparatory meeting. There will be NGO consultations. On the final day, we will be having a number of discussions on NGOs can be engaged.
- GRF will also feature on the agenda of regional NGO consultations.
- There will be many other ways for NGOs to step in to develop pledges.
- NGOs and private sector, for example, could become co-sponsors and mobilize with States in the formulation of joint pledges.
- They can be instrumental in identifying good practice with a view towards the next Forum.
- They can also engage in developing thinking in operationalizing the initiatives of the compact. For example, in the three-year resettlement strategy, academic network, the Asylum Capacity Support Group and developing evidence.
- There will be a number of ways to pledge, and it will be up to the creativity of NGOs and other stakeholders. What capacities could you bring and how do you think partnerships can be leveraged to take this forward.

Mr. Volker Türk, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR

- Like to thank you for your active engagement.
- Would like to rise to the challenge of the Swiss delegate to ensure we are thinking outside the box to the extent we can bear it within the confines of an Inter-Ministerial Conference. There might be other ideas.
- GRF is going to be one major event for refugee protection. On humanitarian and nonpolitical foundation, and in particular 1951 Convention, let's not forget we are commemorating the 50th anniversary of the OAU Refugee Convention.
- There are many things coming together and need to see what we can do in the spirit of responsibility sharing with proper participation of a broad range of partners.
- Need to look at the gender equality dimension including AGD and disabilities in particular.
- Will take this seriously in the guidance note and all this will not be lost, and we will look at it carefully to the extent we can.

- How can we motivate each and every Member State to creatively contribute to the public good? Some of you called this the missing middle, often the silent majority and how do we motivate others.
- Can do it through co-sponsorships. Have seen this in many missions including at the country level. If there is leadership by the government and UNHCR to invite ahead of GRF all stakeholders to think through what type of contributions each country could make, it could be an interesting discussion.
- What is it we could do at the national and regional level. Just come from a MERCOSUR meeting in Argentina and the whole GCR was really at the forefront of the deliberations.
- In Bangladesh, what does the GCR means. Heard from Djibouti what you have to build up with CRRF and this valuable engagement at regional level can inform regional pledges.
- Taken note of areas where we need further work: tracking matrix and Support Platforms so that there is a real exchange at the GRF of how we can work together and involve all segments of the society.
- Will provide further updates but would also like to know what you have been working on to showcase at the GRF.