ICVA Bulletin #6

Highlights from June 2016

Forced Displacement

1. Civil Society has something to say about the 19 September UN High-Level Summit on Addressing Large-scale Movements of Migrants and Refugees: On 19 September, the United Nations General Assembly will, for the first time ever, host a High-Level Summit on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants (HLS). Although some States have their reservations, civil society must be involved, informed and heard throughout the process. Therefore, ICVA joined with ICMC and the NGO Committee on Migration to mobilize a self-organized civil society “Action Committee” comprised of 22 NGOs with longstanding expertise and experience on refugee, migrant, forced displacement and human rights issues. More information available here.

As States negotiate an Outcome document and commitments for the Summit, migrants, refugees and civil society organizations working on the ground and globally are calling upon States and others to commit to a “new deal for refugees, migrants and societies”. The “new deal” requests States to incorporate key baseline “starting points” in the Summit Outcome document and commitments. The “new deal” document was based on inputs from some 140 civil society organizations around the world. If you would like to stay informed and receive HLS Newsletter, subscribe to the MADE mailing list. NGOs will brief Member States and other interested stakeholders on their role as part of our NGO Forward series. This will take place in early September in Geneva.

2. Youth Voices heard loud and clear at the UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations: UNHCR and ICVA co-organized and co-chaired the lively 15-17 June UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations. More than 500 representatives from 300 different NGOs gathered in Geneva around this year’s theme: youth. 30 young refugees joined UNHCR and the NGOs throughout the Consultations in order to present the 7 Core Actions identified at the Global Refugee Youth Consultations, as well as express the gaps and needs they witnessed in their personal journeys. The agenda covered vulnerabilities, resilience, solutions and opportunities. It also carved out space for NGOs to raise issues with UNHCR’s High Commissioner, Deputy High Commissioner, Assistant High Commissioners, regional bureau representatives, partnership focal points, and staff involved with the 19 September Summit on Large Scale Movements of Refugees and Migrants. In case you missed it, Storify of each day should give you a fair overview of those three days. You can also find the closing remarks of the NGO Rapporteur, Musarait Kashmiri, African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) where the importance of partnership, data and leaving no one behind were highlighted. We look forward to her report, which will be shared and presented to UNHCR’s Executive Committee in October.

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10. UNHCR issues Guidance Note on its Partner Portal

Humanitarian Financing

11. Grand Bargain Sherpas consider next steps for implementation and monitoring
3. IOM and ICVA co-host the 2nd Annual IOM–NGO Humanitarian Consultations: IOM and ICVA jointly organized and co-chaired the 13 June consultations between IOM and NGOs working in the humanitarian sector, offering a platform for frank discussion around key current challenges, including: changing the toxic narrative on refugees and migrants, addressing the humanitarian and development nexus, and ensuring accountability to affected populations.

This well-attended Consultation featured a “Partnership Fair” showcasing partnerships in the Ukraine, South Sudan, Turkey and Colombia. A session dedicated to the 19 September Summit on addressing large-scale movements of migrants and refugees highlighted key concerns, including the limited space available for civil society to engage in the process. A report with findings and recommendations identified during the Consultations will be shared shortly.

4. NGOs and youth raise concerns and recommendations at UNHCR’s Standing Committee Meeting on Protection: A big thank you to our members, World Vision and Refugee Council of Australia, for their help delivering statements on protection and resettlement. In addition, three refugee youth, Sarah Yahya, Arif Hazara and Arash Bordbar, were congratulated for their delivery of the NGO statements on the Conclusions process and youth.

5. IOM Members States endorse move to join United Nations system: On 30 June, Member states of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) unanimously approved IOM’s entry into the United Nations system as a “related organization.” IOM Director General William Swing will now communicate this decision to the United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, who will in turn submit the agreement to the General Assembly (GA) for approval. Upon approval, which is expected on 19 September 2016, it will be signed by the Director General and Secretary General and enter into force. More information is available here. ICVA members wonder what this transition will mean for IOM’s traditionally nimble approach to delivery, for the system-wide division of labour when it concerns people on the move, and for IOM’s partnerships more broadly.

6. MICIC Initiative launches guidelines: This month, IOM launched its Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) initiative “Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster”. While the final document will be made available by September, you can access the advance copy here. ICVA updates: ICVA issues a Joint Statement in which they pledged to put their WHS commitments into action immediately; 2) to seek progress through strengthened alignment across the humanitarian-development nexus in protracted crises (Afghanistan, Central America, Horn of Africa, South Sudan, Turkey and Colombia).

7. IASC Principals discuss IASC role post WHS: the 7-8 June IASC Principals meeting was hosted by InterAction in Washington DC. A major discussion was the IASC’s role in leveraging the momentum of the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), and taking forward the key commitments made at the Summit. The Principals reaffirmed the IASC as the platform to convene UN and non-UN actors for operational and strategic alignment and collective humanitarian action, and as the authoritative mechanism to take forward key collective commitments. Throughout the discussions ICVA called for 1) a clear and transparent post WHS process with active involvement of NGOs; 2) a review on how the IASC could be more efficient, inclusive and credible; and 3) assurance that NGOs are included in developing the “new ways of working”.

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Iraq, Lake Chad Basin and Yemen), as well as on complex global challenges such as the yellow fever outbreak and climate change, including the impacts of El Niño; 3) redoubled their call to safeguard and enhance respect for international humanitarian law and protect aid workers and medical personnel in conflict areas.

### Humanitarian partnership

**8. World Humanitarian Summit: What now?** The WHS did not concretely address all the multitude of factors (political, economic and social) impacting humanitarian action. However, the WHS process did reaffirm, amongst other issues, the reality of the diverse humanitarian ecosystem, the importance of increased localisation of aid, of gender, of inclusion, and the importance of leveraging the momentum behind new partnerships, alliances and coalitions.

As NGOs – along with wider humanitarian sector - we must look forward, identifying what we can do organizationally and collectively to better address current and future crises. In line with this, throughout June, ICVA convened a range of ‘post WHS’ meetings in Geneva and across Asia to start these discussions amongst members. Further, ICVA is facilitating NGO inputs to the Secretary General’s report on the WHS. Thank you to those NGOs who provided input into this process. The first draft of the SG report should be released the week of the 18 July, after which ICVA plans to facilitate another exchange between OCHA and NGOs. For more information contact James.Schell@icvanetwork.org.

**9. UNHCR urges procurement partners to apply for pre-qualification for procurement (PQP status):** UNHCR issued Policy Guidance Note 4 on Procurement by Partners with UNHCR funds in November 2014. It requires Partners that procure equal or above USD 100,000 (UNHCR funds) under Project Partnership Agreements to seek Prequalification for Procurement Status (PQP) from UNHCR. Earlier this year UNHCR shared a clarification about a grace period. Now, with less than four months left before the end of October (the end of PQP grace period), existing partners who have not yet submitted an application for PQP, should do so as quickly as possible.

Partners that have not yet applied for pre-qualification of procurement (PQP) are strongly encouraged to seek pre-qualification if this is required. Further assistance on procurement may be obtained from UNHCR’s Procurement Service (e-mail: hqssmipp@unhcr.org). For other matters related to the management of Project Partnership Agreements contact the Implementing Partnership Management Service at epartner@unhcr.org.

**10. UNHCR Issues Guidance Note on its Partner Portal:** UNHCR’s Guidance Note on the UNHCR Partner Portal that was issued officially on 21 June 2016. The Portal was launched in April 2015. It was developed in phases and is now fully operational. As of May 2016 there were 417 partners already registered on the Partner Portal. Everyday UNHCR has new requests for registration. UNHCR encourages other partners to register. They put the Guidance Note on the Partner Portal in the Knowledge hub page for reference. You can also access it on ICVA’s website.

### Humanitarian Financing

**11. Grand Bargain Sherpas consider next steps for implementation and monitoring:** The “Sherpas” working together on a Grand Bargain on Efficiencies in Humanitarian Financing reconvened in New York on 28 June for their first post-World Humanitarian Summit meeting. They were joined by Member States, UN and NGO observers who have endorsed the Grand Bargain. Over the course of four hours they took stock of where things stood in terms of the Grand Bargain commitments, and debated various options for Grand Bargain monitoring and implementation. The good news is that much has already transpired since May to begin improving efficiencies. The not-so-good news is that the Sherpas were unable to reach a consensus on their future as a group, as well as their preferred method to implement and monitor the 50+ Grand Bargain commitments. They hope to make some decisions at their next meeting to be held 6 September in Bonn, Germany.
and co-chaired by Germany and ICVA. The ICVA report (members only) on the meeting outlines progress in areas related to the substance of the Grand Bargain, fault lines (or areas of disagreements) related to the process and planned next steps. Read the final official HLP Secretariat report of the meeting.

12. What's next for Humanitarian Financing? ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (New York): ICVA and Development Initiatives (DI) co-organized a side-event One month on from the World Humanitarian Summit: What next for humanitarian financing? The objective of this side event was to discuss the delivery of the Grand Bargain commitments, with a particular focus on aspects related to transparency, funding to local and national actors, and innovative and flexible multi-year funding. It explored ways to achieve more efficient and effective financing, building upon good practice, and making finite humanitarian resources go further to bring about better results for crisis affected populations. We are grateful to speakers from IFRC, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), ICVA, DI, Germany, NEAR Network and World Food Programme (WFP) for sharing their views. Members can read the report.

13. Pooled Funds receive added attention: June was a big month for pooled funds, which have received increased attention as part of the Secretary General’s push to double CERF (Central Emergency Response Fund) to USD1 billion and increase Country-Based Pooled Funds to represent 15% of a given country’s humanitarian appeal funding.

- On 22 June, World Vision and Oxfam helped OCHA's Funding Coordination Section (FCS) facilitate a meeting of the OCHA-NGO Platform on Country-Based Pooled Funds. ICVA presented the Lesspapermoreaid.org proposed Framework for Change related to Partner Capacity Assessments.
- On 23 June, members of ICVA’s Humanitarian Financing Working Group provided feedback to inform the next CERF allocation of funding for underfunded emergencies. This feedback appears to have been taken into account in the final allocation decisions.
- On 28 June, an ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs side event highlighted the value of CERF and Country-Based Pooled Funds. You can watch a recording of the event. ICVA raised the importance of considering making CERF accessible to NGOs as part of the CERF to USD 1 billion campaign, as noted in the Grand Bargain. The NEAR Network brought up the issue of capacity strengthening.
- On 30 June ICVA participated in a Pooled Fund Working Group meeting along with World Vision (for InterAction), Oxfam GB, and UOSSM. The meeting included an increased number of donors. Issues to watch include how to address risk, options regarding partner capacity assessments, and continued discussions regarding the potential for a new “Pop-up” fund approach.

New and noteworthy

14. Upcoming webinar on localisation - Tuesday 19 July: STAIT (the Senior Transformative Agenda Implementation Team) is hosting a webinar that will look at practical steps that every donor, Humanitarian Coordinator, Agency Representative, Country Director and humanitarian worker in the field can take to promote local and national actors as strategic and equal partners. The panel will build on good practice from responses in Pakistan, the Philippines and the Pacific. More information and to register go here.

15. Working together to improve humanitarian coordination. Since 2013 ALNAP has been exploring key challenges to humanitarian coordination and conditions for successful coordination. ALNAP has produced a series of briefing papers videos and webinars all focused on four aspects of coordination the Clusters and the wider IASC coordination architecture which can be found on the ALNAP website.
16. ICVA Vacancies

- **NGO Fora and Humanitarian Coordination Consultant** – a short term consultancy to provide support to in-country humanitarian NGO fora to increase their influence, and as a collective body at the global level. The position is based in Geneva. For more information see the [Vacancy notice](#).
- **ICVA Regional EREpresentative in MENA** is responsible for management and implementation in MENA of ICVA's strategy based on the regional work plan. Position is based in Jordan. For more information see the [Vacancy notice](#).
- **ICVA Senior Policy Officer for Forced Displacement** to be responsible for the management and implementation of ICVA's work on forced displacement. For more information see the [Vacancy notice](#).

17. Keeping ICVA’s finger on the pulse in Asia: ICVA's Programme Coordinator, James Schell, visited several countries throughout Asia in June. The visit ensured an ongoing relationship with members and humanitarian actors across Asia, with discussions focused on ICVA's priorities going forward in Asia, and next steps and implications for NGOs following the World Humanitarian Summit. Thank you to the support provided by ICVA members COAST Bangladesh and Church World Service in Japan for convening consultations with NGOs operating in each country. Please contact [james.schell@icvanetwork.org](mailto:james.schell@icvanetwork.org) to access the documentation shared in these consultations.

Stay tuned in the coming weeks for further updates on ICVA's interim presence in Asia.

18. Demystifying the complex humanitarian financing landscape and mechanisms: Ensuring a stronger understanding of, influence over, and access to humanitarian financing was reaffirmed as paramount through the recent WHS and numerous parallel discussions. However, with the exception of well-resourced NGOs, the majority of NGOs have a limited understanding, a restricted influence in decisions related to humanitarian financing, – and by extension, limited direct access to humanitarian financing mechanisms.

Acknowledging this reality, in the latter half of 2016, ICVA will create a series of online learning products to demystify the humanitarian financing architecture and mechanisms. These products will include webinars, short videos and briefing papers or ‘cheat sheets’. Stay tuned for further updates in the coming month. Contact [james.schell@icvanetwork.org](mailto:james.schell@icvanetwork.org) to learn more.

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**Forthcoming events**

19 August: World Humanitarian Day
13 September: 71st Regular Session of the UN General Assembly (New York)
19 September: High-Level Plenary Meeting on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants (New York)
21-22 September: UNHCR Standing Committee 67th meeting (Geneva)
3-7 October: UNHCR Executive Committee 67th Meeting
25-26 October: IASC Working Group 91st Meeting (tbc)
6 December: IASC Principals Meeting (tbc)
8-9 December: HC’s Dialogue on Protection Challenges (Geneva)