ICVA held a successful Governing Board meeting this week, where the forthcoming ICVA’s new strategy was discussed. Many thanks to all ICVA members who have given input into the development of the strategy so far. A draft of the strategy will be sent to all members for input towards the end of November as well as details on the preparation for our General Assembly 2015.

**Forced Displacement**

1. **Seeking NGO input to the HC’s Dialogue on Protection at Sea:**
   You’ve seen the news about Australia’s and Europe’s deteriorating policies towards boat people, and the doubling of Cubans trying to reach the US by boat. The 10-11 December High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Protection at Sea, in Geneva, Switzerland will be an important opportunity for NGOs to make concrete recommendations to governments and the UN about: 1) saving lives (search, rescue and safe disembarkation), 2) offering safer options (addressing drivers of dangerous sea journeys), and 3) “making it work” (international cooperation). Help us prepare for this meeting by completing the NGO feedback form and email it to Jessica.therkelsen@asylumaccess.org by Friday, November 7. Thanks to APRRN for speaking out on the Australia-Cambodia refugee resettlement deal and ECRE and UNHCR for raising concerns about the ending of Mare Nostrum without a European rescue initiative to replace it.

2. **Help shape the 2015 UNHCR- NGO Annual Consultations:** As we work with UNHCR to prepare for the 1-3 July 2015 Consultations, (see [message](#)) we need your help to confirm the theme (youth is currently the frontrunner), finalise the overall [agenda](#) and propose sessions/side events/side meetings using this [form](#). You can also nominate a Vice Rapportuer to serve alongside Rapportuer Yainab Raza Jafri from SHARP Pakistan. Please send your feedback by Wednesday 12 November 2014 to both [interagency@unhcr.org](mailto:interagency@unhcr.org) and [secretariat@icvanetwork.org](mailto:secretariat@icvanetwork.org)

3. **Update – UNHCR ExCom Conclusions Process:** The bad news is that UNHCR’s Executive Committee’s Conclusions process remains stalled.

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ExCom failed to agree on a Conclusion in time for the 29 September – 3 October ExCom meeting, and they have yet to nominate a Rapporteur for 2014-2015. Our sources tell us not to expect a Conclusion in 2015 either due to resistance from government representatives particularly those hosting large refugee populations. The good news is that we have posted on YouTube the Spanish and French versions of our English video about the most recent Conclusion called: "Register Me! What You Need to Know About UNHCR’s ExCom Conclusion on Civil Registration.”

4. Update – Real-Time Evaluation (RTE) of the CAR Refugee Response: We thank those who responded to our call for NGO volunteers to assist with UNHCR’s RTE of the CAR refugee response. Patrick Reymond, a WASH expert from CARE, was selected to join the team, which departs for Cameroon and Chad in the coming days. The RTE will serve as an interim assessment of UNHCR’s response and will cover emergency preparedness, coordination, operations management (all key technical sectors including nutrition, health, WASH, shelter), protection, information management, and capacity development.

5. ICVA Summary on IOM-CSO Consultation to address Xenophobia and Detention Issues: The ICVA Secretariat served as the Rapporteur of the 9 October IOM-CSO Consultations focused on four themes: the post-2015 agenda, the costs of labour migration, the perception of migrants, and alternatives to detention. Although the final report is not ready, members can read ICVA’s summary.

6. Solutions Alliance: Ending Displacement Together: We’d like to thank IRC for being the NGO co-chair the Solutions Alliance: Ending Displacement Together. Click HERE to get a read-out of the Solutions Alliance side event held on the margins on UNHCR’s ExCom meeting on 2 October, where updates were given on five Solutions Alliance groups: 1) the Zambia National Group, 2) the Somalia National Group, 3) the Working Group on Research, Data and Performance Management; 4) the Thematic Group on Engaging in the Private Sector; and 5) the Group on Common Messaging for the post-2015 agenda and World Humanitarian Summit. To get involved, please contact Patrick.Duplat@rescue.org.

7. Nowhere to go: Solidarity for Syrian Refugee situation: ICVA’s MENA hub and member Welthungerhilfe supported VENRO, the German development NGO consortium, to organise an NGO consultation on 24 October, bringing together German and international NGOs, with Syrian and national NGOs from the region, in preparation for the Syrian Refugee Conference in Berlin. A consolidated NGO statement, on behalf of over 50 national and international NGOs, calls for governments to step up long term financial support to host countries, and to for countries outside the region to resettle at least 5% of the total projected refugees population from Syria. The Berlin Declaration outlines a number of course of action. A follow up ministerial-level Pledging Conference on resettlement and other forms of admission for Syrian refugees, will be held in Geneva on 9 December. For more information contact reza.kasrai@icvanetwork.org.

8. Launch of #IBELENG – UNHCR’s global statelessness campaign: On 4 October UNHCR launched a 10 year campaign to end statelessness in 10 years. (You might recall that UNHCR High Commissioner Antonio
Guterres announced the idea for such a campaign at the UNHCR-NGO 2014 Annual Consultations. UNHCR also released a Global Action Plan and a Special Report: Ending Global Statelessness Within 10 Years. It is asking members of civil society and the wider public to endorse its open letter in the Guardian. You can sign up by using your Facebook profile or via this link: http://ibelong.unhcr.org/en/join/index.do.

**Humanitarian Coordination**

9. **Level 3 reviews:** This month has seen the IASC mechanism focus on the current status of three ongoing Level 3 emergencies, Central Africa Republic, South Sudan and Iraq. The Emergency Directors recommendations include:

- **South Sudan** - Extend L3 for 6 months and HC /HCT to develop a L3 exit strategy
- **Iraq** - Extend L3 for 6 months and strengthening the Whole of Iraq approach
- **CAR** - 3 options will be presented to Principals due to lack of consensus

These recommendations will be discussed by the IASC Principals on 5 November. Members can read the full recommendations on the ICVA website. We are very aware of the strain on the system with multiple L3 and the demands placed on NGOs to respond. The complexity ebola crisis is an additional and significant situation though not classified as an L3. ICVA is currently commissioning a review of NGO perceptions of engaging in L3 crisis. We expect to be able to share the findings in December and if anyone is interested in talking to the consultants conducting this review, please contact the secretariat@icvanetwork.org

10. **IASC Working Group** The IASC Working Group met at the end of October. All the documents related to this meeting are available for our members on our website here. Discussions focused on ebola and the UNMEER response, and the challenges of collective understanding of L3 role in protracted crisis.

11. **NGO messaging on on Ebola response:** Recognising the need for clearer, joint advocacy on the ebola response to enable the scale up needed, ICVA has been convening meetings of NGO representatives both in Geneva and in Dakar. Mary Pack of IMC presented Dr Nabarro with some of these collective advocacy issues focused on coordination, planning and staff safety at the IASC Working Group. ICVA, in close consultation with SCHR and InterAction, will continue to refine collective advocacy messages to raise the particular concerns facing NGOs in scaling up response.

12. **Disaster Response Dialogue Global Conference in Manila:** Jointly convened by ICVA IFRC, OCHA, and the Swiss Development Cooperation on 13-14 October, the conference brought together humanitarian actors in civil society and UN agencies with National Disaster Management Authorities, government officials, and the private sector from across the region. The dialogue provided a platform for identifying ways to improve trust and cooperation for more effective disaster response. One of the challenges discussed was how to promote greater inclusiveness and engagement from the diversity of actors involved in humanitarian response in a way that strengthens capacity and disaster management at the national level. More information on the dialogue and expected outcomes are accessible
13. IASC Asia Pacific Regional Network: A Regional Directors’ Meeting was held on 21 October in Bangkok. The agenda included a presentation some of the members are working on to contextualize the Transformative Agenda protocols for implementation at the regional level, and planning for a response up to the L3 level. The meeting concluded with a special session with the Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator for Myanmar, Renata Dessaline, who highlighted the current situation in Rakhine, the ongoing difficulties with community engagement, however there was an expression of hope with the potential change in approach by the Union and State governments as they express willingness to work with the international community on the Rakhine State Response Plan. More details from the meeting can be requested from ICVA Asia hub.

14. Strengthening Partnerships: ICVA is engaging with a group of UK based NGOs and ALNAP to provide a discussion forum group for sharing experience, practice and new research on partnership and local capacity in emergencies. To join the community of practice and participate in the dialogue, please go sign up at this link.

Humanitarian Financing

15. Supporting national NGO understanding of financial opportunities: In October the ICVA MeENA hub held a seminar on Humanitarian Financing Opportunities for Lebanese NGOs in Beirut to increase understanding of funding mechanisms available to them.

16. How will financing for Humanitarian Operations work in the future? ICVA’s MENA and Asia hubs are please to be collaborating with World Vision, CAFOD and FAO in organising two cross sectoral dialogues on the Future of Humanitarian Financing on 17 November in Amman, and 24 November in Bangkok. The dialogues will also consider what investments and adjustments are needed to adapt for the future. To register your interest and/or participation in either event please visit the website or email directly.

17. ICVA Helps DI Launch #GHA2014: ICVA Executive Director Nan Buzard served as a panelist at the 22 October launch of the 2014 Global Humanitarian Assistance report. We encourage you to read the report and members can read our summary of the interesting discussion at the launch.

18. ICVA/DRC/Oxfam Host Learning/Sharing Session on UNHCR Implementing Framework: ICVA would like to thank Oxfam’s Vafa Taghavi and DRC’s Helena Lassen for leading a 10 October “learning and sharing” session at ICVA’s Geneva office for local NGO representatives to better understand UNHCR’s new selection procedures, project partnership agreement template, and joint monitoring guidance. The feedback received during this session will inform planning for the global roll-out of the Implementing Framework to be developed later this month. For more information on the Implementing Framework, including the ICVA-commissioned analysis on what NGOs should know about the Framework, visit: https://icvanetwork.org/unhcrs-enhanced-framework-implementing-partners.
19. **ICVA Review of UN Partnership Agreements**: With guidance from ICVA’s Humanitarian Finance Working Group, ICVA has identified a consultancy team to review and compare various UN project partnership agreements for NGO implementation of humanitarian projects. For more information contact Melissa.Pitotti@icvanetwork.org.

20. **ICVA Review of Syria-related pooled funds** – ICVA has identified a consultant who has already begun a review of the Syria-related pooled funds from the inception of the regional Emergency Response Fund in March 2012 up to now. For more information please contact Reza.Kasrai@icvanetwork.org.

21. **Seeking NGO Rep for the CHF Global Reference Group**: ICVA is seeking an NGO representative to serve on the CHF Global Reference Group (GRG) to inform an evaluation of OCHA’s Common Humanitarian Funds (CHFs). For more information, or to express interest in getting involved, please contact Melissa.Pitotti@icvanetwork.org by 7 November.

22. **Seeking NGO Reps for the Pooled Fund Working Group**: Together with other NGO consortia we are seeking expressions of interest from NGOs willing to serve as members of Pooled Fund Working Group. For more information, or to express interest in getting involved, please contact Melissa.Pitotti@icvanetwork.org by 7 November.

23. **UNHCR Issues Guidance Note on Procurement**: On 22 October UNHCR issued “Implementing Partnership Management Guidance Note No. 4: Procurement by Partners with UNHCR Funds.” ICVA has uploaded this procurement guidance to our web portal on the Implementing Framework: [https://icvanetwork.org/unhcrs-enhanced-framework-implementing-partners](https://icvanetwork.org/unhcrs-enhanced-framework-implementing-partners). We are told the contents of the Guidance Note do not change UNHCR’s previous policy on procurement. Instead, they aim to clarify the policy and streamline UNHCR’s internal processes. Pages 1-8 provide a summary of the essence of the document; the rest is very technical. UNHCR plans to issue an FAQ document to supplement this guidance and will develop procurement-specific training modules as part of the overall Implementing Framework Roll-Out.

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### World Humanitarian Summit

24. **Engaging in the WHS**: The 3rd regional consultation for the WHS has just taken place in Pretoria, South Africa, from October 27-29, covering Eastern and Southern Africa. ICVA’s Regional Representative for West Africa was able to participate. Download the Co-Chairs Summary report.

ICVA’s regional representative for Asia will engage on the South and Central Asia consultations, while ICVA’s MENA representative is following the preparations for the MENA consultations.

ICVA met with Voice, SCHR and Interaction met to discuss the perspective engagement from the consortia.

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### New and Noteworthy

25. **World disasters Report 2014**: IFRC flagship publication bringing together latest trends, facts and analysis of contemporary catastrophes to understand their effect on vulnerable populations worldwide. The
2014 report is available from the IFRC website.

26. **UNHCR Spokesperson Delivers TedTalk on the Refugee Cause:** Check out UNHCR Spokesperson Melissa Fleming’s great TED Talk on the refugee cause, with a particular focus on the Syria situation and the need for education. You can also visit her blog on the talk.

27. **Authors of the “Comprehensive Plan of Action” for Syrian Refugees**, the Badil Centre for Palestinian Refugee and Residency Rights, and the Oxford Refugee Studies Centre (RSC) together with the Boston University International Human Rights Clinic (BU/IHR clinic) are seeking endorsements from refugee, UN and inter-governmental organisations to join the call for a CPA. Read the full report or contact Violeta Haralampieva at vkh@bu.edu for more information.

28. **Certificate in International Migration Studies**: Georgetown University’s Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) offers this course and others. For more information contact Susan Martin at martinsf@georgetown.edu.

### Upcoming Events

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<tr>
<td>National NGO engaged on HCT meeting</td>
<td>12-13 November</td>
<td>Geneva, Switzerland</td>
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<td>Future of Humanitarian Finance</td>
<td>17 November</td>
<td>Amman, Jordan</td>
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<td>Asia Pacific Society Forum on Beijing+20 Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>IASC Humanitarian Financing Task Team Meeting</td>
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<td>Future of Humanitarian Finance</td>
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<td>HC Dialogue 2014- Protection at Sea</td>
<td>10-11 December</td>
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**2015**

- **9 March**: ICVA 2015 Annual Conference
- **10 March**: ICVA 16th General Assembly

**1-3 July**: UNHCR NGO 2015 Annual Consultations