1. Global Compact on Refugees/CRRF: The fourth meeting of the UNHCR-NGO-IFRC Reference Group on 25 August looked at the recent developments and plans with regard to the CRRF roll-out in Central America. A series of consultations, including at the national level and involving civil society, are underway in the region and will culminate, on 26 October 2017, with a high-level round-table in Honduras to validate the regional Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (CRPSF). More details on the CRPSF process are available here and here. Notes from the Reference Group meeting will be available soon to members on the ICVA website, along with a timeline of meetings in the region shared during the Reference Group meeting.

As a follow-up to the first Thematic Discussion on the Global Compact on Refugees of 10 July 2017, the ICVA organised 31 August meeting between over 20 NGOs and UNHCR looked back on the first Thematic Discussion as a preliminary brainstorming on the upcoming four Thematic Discussions (October/November). NGOs are eager to actively contribute with concrete inputs.

For more information, read ICVA’s August update on the GCR, contact jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org and follow @ICVA_Displaced on Twitter.

2. “New York Declaration and Leaders’ Summit – One year on”. The NGO briefing to Member States takes place in Geneva (UN Palais des Nations) on 19 September, the first anniversary of the adoption of the New York Declaration. The NGO briefing will reflect on how the commitments made by Member States for refugees and migrants have been fulfilled, analyse the achievements so far and the processes underway to deliver on those promises. NGO panellists will provide concrete examples of their contributions to implementing new approaches as well as suggestions on how to move forward, particularly at the field level. For more information contact Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org.

3. New ICVA project connecting the CRRF and the Principles of Partnership: ICVA launched a project funded by the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM) to discuss partnership issues in countries where the CRRF is applied as well as in other contexts. As part of this project, ICVA will organise a series of multi-stakeholder meetings at country or regional level, to discuss how the ‘whole of society’ approach could best be operationalised for a successful comprehensive refugee response. On the basis of the Principles of Partnership and existing mechanisms, those discussions will aim at generating context specific, realistic and practical recommendations to improve joint work in comprehensive refugee responses. Regular updates will be provided to stakeholders, including UNHCR and ICVA’s Forced Displacement Working Group.

4. UNHCR ExCom and Standing Committees: Since early August, NGOs are working hard to prepare their joint statements for the upcoming UNHCR Standing and Executive Committees, which will respectively take place on 21-22 September and 2-6 October. The UNHCR Standing Committee will look at budgets, and UNHCR’s governing Executive Committee will meet to agree on programmes, budgets, and provide suggestions on several issues as they relate to UNHCR’s mandate. All relevant background documents can be found on UNHCR’s webpage. Once delivered, NGO statements will be made available on ICVA’s webpage. The NGO side-event will take place on Friday 6 October, Room XI. We welcome you to join us to discuss the following topic: “1967 Protocol at fifty: Protection & solutions in a new era?”.

https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=774&snippets=2
5. Reports from the UNHCR NGO Annual Consultations 2017 Reports now available: Our thanks to the Rapporteur, Rachel Criswell, Senior Advisor, Humanitarian Policy and Resource Development of World Vision International, for her hard work in preparing and finalising the Rapporteur’s Report and to all those involved in the process. The report, summarises the key discussion topics and the resulting recommendations for both the CRRF implementation and the development of the Programme of Action to be included in the 2018 GCR. The report will be shared with UNHCRs Executive Committee members.

The Refugee Council of Australia have produced a report on the side event Nothing about us without us: Getting serious about refugee self-representation. The white paper from Urban Refugees, “Global Compact: The importance of refugee led organisations to effective refugee responses” was presented by Sonia Ben Ali at this side event.

6. IOM-NGO Humanitarian Consultations, Nairobi 11-12 September: Over the past three months, ICVA has worked closely with IOM’s Department of Operations and Emergencies in Geneva and IOM Regional Office in Nairobi to organise the first regional IOM-NGO Regional Humanitarian Consultations. Taking place on 11-12 September 2017 in Nairobi, the consultations will bring over 60 NGO participants with IOM counterparts to discuss forced displacement issues relevant to the East and Horn of Africa region, including Durable solutions for IDPs; Mixed migration; Partnership in Cluster Coordination; and the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. For more information, contact Addis.Tesfa@icvanetwork.org or Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org

7. OCHA Pooled Fund Working Group NGO Representative: Thanks to all NGOs who responded to the early August call for Expressions of Interest to select new NGO representatives in the Pooled Fund Working Group. The working group is an important opportunity for the NGO community to raise issues related to the country-based pooled funds in the presence of donors and UN agencies. The three NGO consortia, InterAction, SCHR and ICVA, are working together to make the final selection. A decision will be made by the end of September.

8. IASC Emergency Directors Group: At their 27 July teleconference with the Humanitarian Coordinator for Ethiopia, the EDGs discussed the situation in the Somali region of Ethiopia, stressed the severity of the situation on the ground and the multi-dimensional complexity of the crisis and looked at operational challenges and priorities. This meeting was followed on the next day by a call between OCHA Director of Operations and several humanitarian donors. As an immediate measure, the Head of UNICEF Humanitarian Action, Resilience and Peace Building Section for Eastern and Southern Africa, has been deployed as the Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator for Ethiopia Somali Region for a period of two months. For more information, contact Emmanuelle.osmond@icvanetwork.org

9. ICVA welcomes the new Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock, whose first day was 1 September. He has already spent a good deal of time listening to partners to get their views, and is quite active on Twitter. He will meet the IASC Principals on 17 September on the margins of UNGA. See the letter written to him by ICVA’s Board.

10. NGO Fora Support Programme: As part of the NGO Fora Support Programme ICVA visited NGO fora in Gaziantep (Turkey), CAR, and South Sudan. These missions enabled ICVA to work with the NGO Fora to understand better their challenges, provide customised support to strengthen their collective capacity, and to understand their key role in the humanitarian

11. ICVA Engagement with the African Union

12. OCHA and NGOs in Humanitarian Coordination

13. Staff updates

14. ICVA’s 2019-2021 Strategy

15. ALNAP’s State of Humanitarian System Survey

16. Resources for legal aid practitioners

17. Peer2Peer Webinar 13 September: Local Actors as equal and strategic Partners

Humanitarian Financing

Humanitarian Coordination

New and Noteworthy

Forthcoming Events
coordination architecture. For more information please contact Emmanuelle.Osmond@icvanetwork.org

Humanitarian Partnership

11. ICVA Engagement with the African Union: ICVA participated in the open session of the African Union Peace and Security Council on Humanitarian Affairs on 16 August. Interventions from ICVA members at this meeting highlighted the many challenges faced by NGOs in delivering humanitarian aid on the continent. OCHA addressed the Members States with a panoramic on the humanitarian situation in Africa strongly recommending all Member States remove bureaucratic and administrative impediments that increasingly obstruct access and delivery of urgent, life-saving aid by NGOs.

On 19 August, ICVA was a panellist in the African Union Commission Panel on Protection of Civilians. The panel discussion focused on how to mobilise stakeholders (Member States, civil society, etc.) to enhance respect for IHL and IHRL in the protection of civilians in situations of conflict. For more information contact Addis.Tesfa@icvanetwork.org or Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org

Learning Stream

12. OCHA and NGOs in Humanitarian Coordination: Don't forget to register for the next Learning Stream webinar on 14 September, which looks at the dynamics between OCHA and NGOs in humanitarian coordination. For more information and to watch an introductory video go to ICVA's website.

ICVA Updates

13. Staff updates:

- After nearly five years at ICVA, our Executive Director Nan Buzard will be moving to a new post as Head of Innovation at the ICRC. During her tenure at ICVA, she has overseen a major transformation of the ICVA Secretariat, and is now leading our "100 members in 100 days" outreach campaign to get our members' feedback on the coming 3-year strategy. ICVA has received a significant number of applications for her replacement, and are carrying out interviews in the coming weeks. Nan's departure is scheduled for the end of October.

- We are pleased to welcome Nishanie Jayamaha as ICVA's new Programme Learning Coordinator as of 1 September. Nishanie replaces James Schell, and will lead ICVA's humanitarian learning stream and look at new ways to reach out to members and NGOs to support their access to information and understanding of the humanitarian sector. Contact Nishanie at nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

- We wish James Schell all the best in his new position at Impact Initiatives in Geneva.

- Raphael Gorgeu, Director of Programme and Policy, is moving in mid-October to MSF in Geneva as the Deputy Director of Operations in charge of Humanitarian and Medical Advocacy. Since his joining ICVA in 2015, Raphael has contributed to the success of ICVA. We acknowledge his efforts and wish him the best of success in future challenges and endeavours. We will be recruiting for this position in the coming months.

14. ICVA's 2019-2021 Strategy. ICVA is in the process of developing a new strategy for 2019-2021 that will be endorsed by members at the March 2018 General Assembly. As part of this process ICVA Secretariat is meeting with 100 members in 100 days to collect input and feedback as we develop the overall direction for the network. A draft Strategy will be shared with the membership prior to the General Assembly which takes place in Geneva on 20-21 March 2018. More information to follow.

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3/4
New and Noteworthy

15. ALNAP's State of Humanitarian System Survey: Take part in the [survey for the State of the Humanitarian System (SOHS)](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=774&snippet=2). ALNAP wants to hear from humanitarian practitioners about their experience responding on the ground since 2015. The more responses they get, the more accurate their survey will be. Survey is available in English, Spanish, French and Arabic.

16. Resources for Legal Aid practitioners: [Amera International provides resources](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=774&snippet=2) for legal aid practitioners all over the world who are helping refugees find substantive protection. Their monthly newsletter follows To follow recent developments in the interpretation of refugee law, case law precedents, in addition to reports, subscribe to their monthly newsletter [Rights in Exile](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=774&snippet=2).

17. Peer2Peer Webinar 13 September: Local Actors as Equal and Strategic Partners: This webinar will consider lessons and practical examples from the response in Syria, Somalia and more broadly which humanitarian leaders can build on to strengthen principled local humanitarian action in conflict settings. For more [information and to Register](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=774&snippet=2).

Forthcoming events

ICVA Meetings and Events

- **September 14:** Learning Stream Webinar [OCHA and NGOs in humanitarian coordination](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=774&snippet=2)
- **October 5:** Learning Stream Webinar [The New Way of Working: What does it mean for NGOs?](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=774&snippet=2)
- **November 16:** Learning Stream Webinar [Alternative models for humanitarian coordination](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=774&snippet=2)
- **March 20-21, 2018:** ICVA Annual Conference and General Assembly, Geneva

Other Meetings and Events:

- **September 11-12:** IOM-NGOs Humanitarian Consultations, Nairobi
- **September 13:** Peer2Peer Webinar: Local Actors as equal and strategic Partners
- **September 20-21:** UNHCR Standing Committee 70th Meeting, Geneva
- **October 1-17:** 17 Days activism for empowerment of Rural Women and their Communities
- **October 2-6:** UNHCR Executive Committee 68th meeting, Geneva
- **October 17-18:** UNHCR Thematic Discussions Two & Three for the Global Compact on Refugees
- **November 14-15:** UNHCR Thematic Discussions Four & Five for the Global Compact on Refugees
- **November 28:** [December 1:** IOM 108th Council, Geneva
- **November 30:** IASC Principals Meeting
- **December 12-13:** High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Protection Challenges, Geneva

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