

## Global Compact on Refugees – Sixth Formal Consultations

03 – 04 July, Geneva

### **Chair, Mr. Boudjemâa Delmi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations Office at Geneva**

- We are meeting to reach consensus on the text sent to us on 26 June.
- Fine occasion to revisit the work we have undertaken over the last 12 months.
- This is a journey we began on 10 June 2017 at the first Thematic Discussion.
- Along the way, we received over 500 written contributions including from refugees and host communities.
- Also, benefitted greatly from many bilateral and regional meetings and gatherings, which were useful in understanding concerns and aspirations.
- GCR developed on an iterative approach, taking into account contributions.
- We recognise that the text is not perfect, and it could be bolstered.
- Despite its imperfection, encourage you to keep in mind that it has more pros and cons and seeks to bring a balance on sometimes diverging views.
- So, call upon you to be objective, and ensure comments are of a general nature.
- Please avoid getting bogged down in details or dither on wording of the text.
- The text is not an end in itself, but rather the beginning of a firm commitment by the international community to share responsibilities.
- Measure of success will be implementation and especially the Global Refugee Forum, where progress on four objectives will be looked at.
- The programme of action will not be static, but will be at the heart of dividing labour.
- It is non-binding, and imposes no conditions; its implementation will depend on our collective will.
- We have to shoulder responsibility to make it a success.
- Want this last consultation to be positive.
- The High Commissioner should join us at the end of the meeting.
- There will be no formal speakers. Call Delegations to be precise.
- Next session in New York will be held on 17 July 2018.

**Volker Türk's opening remarks** is available [here](#).

### **Brazil (on behalf of GRULAC)**

- Thank UNHCR for adjustments made. Results reflect our collective efforts.
- Acknowledge UNHCR efforts to accommodate concerns of countries of our regions.
- We have played a constructive role in this process including through the concrete regional application of CRRF and MIRPS.

- We were the only region to hold a preparatory meeting for the consultations during the first tri-annual evaluation of the Brazil Plan of Action; many of the good practices there have been recognised in the GCR and we are certain that much more can be achieved.
- Reiterate the importance of reading both parts of the programme of action in conjunction.
- If shared responsibility is applied as set out in the New York Declaration (NYD), the global compact will bring real change in the lives of refugees and hosts.
- Welcome new language on the four objectives, and that these are now inter-linked and interdependent.
- The guiding principles section should steer the implementation of the GCR.
- The GCR calls for equitable and predictable responsibility sharing, which is coupled with humanitarian and development cooperation.
- So, important to preserve the centrality of the principles of humanitarian action.
- Whereas development action will be guided by national leadership and ownership without prejudice to broader development priorities.
- Added value lies in its capacity to address the needs of refugees and hosts.
- Areas in need of support should serve as a non-exhaustive guide for pledges.
- Depending on the context, new needs may arise; count on UNHCR to strengthen dialogue with host country so pledges meet what they seek.
- Encourage counting on pledges based on commitments made in the NYD.
- Among different subsections, we highlight once again the need to always uphold the best interest of the child.
- This speaks to concerns of all Member States as children and adolescents make more than half of the refugee population and are key to leaving no one behind.
- The success will depend on the efficiency of follow-up and review, which should provide for taking informed decisions and adjusting course.
- Welcome that stocking taking will depend on measuring the impact of hosting, protecting and assisting refugees, and that the Global Refugee Forum will be tasked with reviewing the ongoing efficiency of burden and responsibility sharing.
- We believe in this regard the ExCom and GA should also be an integral part of follow-up and review.
- Appreciate UNHCR's willingness to coordinate with other actors to better address challenges on the ground.
- Stress that implementation of the two compacts should be linked to ensure filling gaps and avoiding overlaps.
- Aware that final draft not exactly what we all expected.
- However, we see the GCR as an important landmark in a path that can be further developed while assuring protection and solutions to refugees with benefit to host communities.
- The greatest task of the GCR will be its implementation; invite Member States to take into account the challenges facing host countries.

## European Union

- Like to thank UNHCR for outstanding work and growing convergence on a balanced and well-articulated text.
- Numerous positive aspects: strong satisfaction with reference to the international community as a whole as well as collective outcomes.
- Convinced that GCR can ensure mobilisation of broad States towards common objectives and mutual commitment.
- GCR requires to be grounded in strong will to address collective refugee issues.
- GCR is about a recommitting collectively to foster comprehensive responses and have better burden-and responsibility-sharing through a cooperative framework as agreed in the NYD.
- Also satisfied with revised architecture of text, and arrangements are sufficient to support international community.
- Periodicity and modalities of Global Refugee Forum and high-level meeting are adequate and satisfied with reference to impact measurement and indicators as well as the strengthening of follow-up and review.
- They will require gradual implementation.
- Notice with satisfaction the good articulation of humanitarian and development actors, and this will make GCR practicable.
- Satisfied with mobilisation of the UN system; remain convinced that mobilising all relevant actors including local authorities, civil society and refugees is also indispensable for a multi-stakeholder approach.
- There are also issues we would have liked to see: some example to which we referred consistently was reference to the NYD, which should have featured more prominently.
- Language on alternative to camps should have been stronger.
- Humanitarian, development and peace nexus could have been reinforced.
- Fail to understand why the subtitle 'gender' was removed; it is agreed language.
- Reference to gender equality should have been reinserted; reference to sexual and reproductive health and the Beijing Outcome document should also have been made.
- As Volker Türk said, we cannot get everything in the document, and we cannot let the perfect be the enemy of the good.
- On balance, we consider this final text solid and implementable. This is a remarkable result.
- In the spirit of compromise, we can all support it, and it should allow us to reach genuine consensus.
- Wish to thank all diplomatic missions, NGOs, ICVA and refugees for their valuable contributions.
- EU and its Member States are committed to support implementation.
- Would like the compact to be implemented globally in the spirit of responsibility sharing.

- This needs to be sustained and translated into action.
- Most difficult part starts now, which is to demonstrate that the GCR makes a difference and that we are much better equipped.

## **Ethiopia**

- Support statement that will be delivered by the Africa Group.
- Indeed, pleased to know considerable progress has been made through an open-ended and participatory process.
- However, feel that arrangements in the document for turning burden-and responsibility-sharing into practical action are far inadequate.
- Needs are more important than ever, and not addressing the growing divide between humanitarian and development financing and need further improvements.
- And leaves much to be desired. Need a system for accountability to ensure support from the international community.
- Consider GCR as a blue print that will pave the way for incremental change towards more transformative responses.
- As we have done in the past, we remain committed and will engage until the work is completed.
- Under objectives, the need to achieve them without asymmetry is important and stressing on one or other will not address the principal goal of the document.
- In relation to periodicity, we support the current formulation.
- But stress that language regarding high-level official meeting should indicate that officials overseeing refugee issues should be the representatives at the meetings to balance power and competence.
- In para 25, regarding the composition of the Support Platform, the deletion of composition is regrettable; we need to reinstate the previous language that host States will be part of the Platform.
- In para 49, success of measures is relative on the support of the international community.
- Support emphasis on national ownership.
- Regarding para 35, additionality in resources should apply to humanitarian and development assistance, and not only to development assistance.
- Language in para 67 that development aid will not lead to conditionality still lacks clarity. Clarify that development actor's engagement will not affect humanitarian action.
- Given the voluntary nature of the document, welcome that the development of indicators is included in the document. These would be instrumental to ensuring accountability and commitment of States to make sure that we are in the right direction.
- We also welcome Global Refugee Forum as the main vehicle to review progress.

## **Germany**

- More equitable and predictable responsibility sharing is indispensable to our shared ambition if we have to look for sustainable solutions for refugees.
- In this understanding, we adopted the NYD, and this has led to the first-ever GCR.
- Number of refugees continues to grow and millions of refugees need our joint efforts to protect and assist them and enable durable solutions.
- Inextricably linked to refugees are host communities, and Germany is the sixth largest hosting country.
- Host communities are overwhelmed.
- We have also quadrupled our funding and increased resettlement places in the last five years.
- Still we need more countries to engage and GCR provides a framework to jointly move forward in this.
- Final draft is not perfect; what Germany has been promoting has not been taken up.
- We would have welcomed reference to mixed situation and regret that the adverse impact of climate change and the Nansen Agenda for Protection are not explicitly mentioned.
- Encourage UNHCR to apply a broader gender concept than women and girls in implementing the GCR.
- Strongly agree with youth and adolescents, but this should not lead to blurring of the rights of the child as enshrined in the Child Rights Convention.
- Humanitarian, development and peace actors must go beyond complementarity and should work coherently towards collective outcomes in refugee situations.
- The final draft improved compared to previous drafts.
- Underlines host country leadership, spirit of partnership, commitment to multilateralism, emphasises solidarity and the need to bridge gaps between hosts and donors; contains a strong commitment to address refugee situations and concretises connection between Part A and Part B.
- Recognises also that refugee issues are a concern for the whole world.
- Lastly, the compact should not be read in isolation, and its application will be guided by numerous GA Resolutions and UNODC guidelines; nor does the GCR end today.
- We start with the preparation of the Global Refugee Forum; ready to contribute to robust follow-up and fleshing out modalities of the Support Platform.
- We are convinced that the final draft reflects a consensus document.
- We are here today to seize this once in a generation opportunity, and thank UNHCR for steering this process, culminating in this final draft that we stand ready to endorse.

## **Mozambique**

- This has implicated a lot of work; therefore, we are very grateful.

- I pay tribute to the High Commissioner for his leadership and vision. He has been uniting the whole UNHCR team to this very important cause of refugees, and in that connection, we thank the Assistant High Commissioner who has been a very important pillar in our work. Without his dedication, we would not have results we have today.
- We want to say that we are happy with the document. We know that the document is not legally binding, but in fact, it was not the idea behind the decision of our heads of state when they adopted the NYD.
- They were moved by a deep sense of solidarity and collective conscience and dictates of humanity, and this is the reason why this document before us preserves and maintains the sanctity of some of the most important principles of the refugee regime, namely *non-refoulement* and predictable and equitable burden-and responsibility-sharing.
- So, for Mozambique, it is of utmost importance that we collectively move to the next stage. And this is the stage of implementation.
- Stand ready to support UNHCR in implementation of the compact and to work together with the international community as a whole to make the GCR a very successful and consensual undertaking by the international community.

## **Mexico**

- Welcome the fourth and last draft and believe that it is able to balance the text that will facilitate agreement at the last round.
- The four objectives are interrelated and interdependent, but would appreciate if UNHCR could provide more information on what can be done to make it sustainable.
- Could help those countries, which have presented concerns on responsibility-sharing arrangements. This clarification will be satisfactory.
- Support high-level meeting between the Global Refugee Forums, and this will allow to make progress in the four compact objectives while maintaining attention to the refugee cause.
- Would ask that they are concrete, focused meetings using resources well for them to be effective.
- Welcome change in part B and underscore the non-prescriptive and exhaustive nature of the document.
- Agree with concerns expressed by the European Union with regard to changes in the gender section as well as the lack of reference to sexual and reproductive health.
- Implementation should be consistent with international and human rights standard.
- We welcome that the text again has reference to indicators, and calls for developing them prior to the Global Refugee Forum in 2019.
- As already indicated, crucial that mechanism for measuring the effectiveness of the compact and tools for monitoring pledges should be able to capture pledges beyond financial nature.

- We will continue to make progress in the implementation on the commitment we have taken regionally and globally, including MIRPS and GCR.
- MIRPS will continue to be a priority for us. It has facilitated constructive dialogue between and among countries of transit, origin and destination.
- Amount of people leaving their countries is highest since the World War II. People leaving their countries count on us for international protection.
- This compels us to lift our level of international solidarity and strengthen our work to address root causes including through strong conflict prevention mechanisms.
- The 2015 crisis led us to understand the urgency; the urgency and political will continue to be present.
- At the end of July, after the Compact is transmitted to the GA, it does not mark the end of a process, but the beginning of a more meaningful one.
- Translating the new commitment into tangible concrete action will require genuine collaboration and the ability to adapt to changing situations.
- One virtue is operational responsibility.
- Human mobility is a heterogeneous phenomenon, and we believe text does incorporate protection for refugees and provides greater support to destination countries.
- With the same will, we want to see concrete action in the lives of refugees.
- Recognise UNHCR for an open, transparent and inclusive process.

#### **Uganda (on behalf of the Africa Group)**

- Welcome amendment made to para 18. Welcome also the kinds of pledges to be made.
- Revised language is broad and flexible enough to accommodate approaches.
- Welcome reference to indicators in the follow-up, which will continue to appraise and inform the implementation of the GCR.
- In addition, take note of amendments to paras 56 and 57.
- Paras 60 and 67 include impositions.
- Our interpretation is that areas in need of support under part B shall not be used as conditions in the provision of international support.
- For the Group, it is important that the intrinsic nature of humanitarian response remains needs-driven, and to be based on agreed humanitarian principles.
- Several areas of assistance under part B are already part of the 1951 Refugee Convention, therefore should not subject any support in this area to conditionality.
- Although the Group believes transparency is addressed well in para 32, by no means international solidarity should be conditioned on taking measures for transparency, and this issue should be addressed.
- On the question of cooperation with local actors in para 37, we remain of the view that such cooperation should be at the request and full consent of the concerned State.

- Refugees could be victims to prejudice and discrimination in accessing work opportunities, and therefore request footnote 31 to be moved to the main text of the document; it should be applicable in accordance to international obligations in line with national laws and policies.
- Recognise the use of arrangements instead of mechanisms.
- This is considered more appropriate, nevertheless, arrangements for burden-and responsibility-sharing as envisaged are inadequate to put in place a system of fair share of responsibility and salvage few host States from shouldering the onerous responsibility of the international community.
- This was a call in the common endeavour and important not to lose sight of this and continue our discussion for equitable burden sharing including for the process of measuring the impact of hosting refugees.
- Appreciate more clarity on the next steps to be undertaken after this consultation and how this will be indicated in the final compact.

### **Belgium**

- Recognise the need for more balanced and predictable responsibility sharing in large refugee situations.
- Therefore, support the final draft text as it is in line with the Belgian policy and efforts including in the area of humanitarian and development aid.
- We note progress on the humanitarian and development nexus, innovation, digitisation and support the involvement of the private sector, emphasis on host country leadership and flexible and unearmarked funding.
- This draft is not perfect, but a result of a delicate balancing exercise, which includes numerous aspirations.
- Welcome attention for all aspects of protection as well as reference to relevant laws and particularly humanitarian principles.
- The text reinforces national ownership and sovereignty and emphasises the need for international cooperation to ensure an efficient and effective approach.
- Believe cooperation between humanitarian and development actors in which specific modalities of each is respected is essential for GCR and CRRF.
- Argue for a strong operationalisation of CRRF with a bottom-up, demand-driven approach.
- Welcome private sector involvement and encourage additional countries to resettle refugees.
- Resources for refugees and hosts – although inadequately mentioned in para 32 – will remain important to my country in implementation and measuring the success and challenges. And read additionality and not fungibility.

### **Morocco**

- Welcome reinsertion of references to follow-up and indicators for progress.
- Convinced that this will be a sufficient base to draft indicators at a subsequent stage.



- Modification on Section B also reflect our concerns in which they bring required clarity regarding the non-prescriptive nature of the compact.
- We should all bear in mind the quality of the compact regarding protection of refugees and impact on their daily lives.
- Hence, we are pleased that the compact does not focus on frustrations.
- Serving the cause of refugees resides in our ability to move collectively and progressively.
- We have shown our resolve to live up to the needs of refugees around the world with a humanitarian approach that should prevail.
- Despite the non-legally binding nature of the compact, this is a moral and collective responsibility to implement, and we should ensure that there is an efficient sharing of responsibilities.

### **Greece**

- Almost a year ago, we got together for the first preparatory meeting on 10 July.
- How far we have progressed under the steadfast leadership of UNHCR.
- The international community is able to achieve consensus in way which will change the way we will work.
- For us receiving and hosting refugees stems from the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Additional Protocol as well as from a deep sense of humanity and shared responsibility.
- As a frontline Member State, we found those deeply rooted in the GCR and this is one reason why we have supported the compact from the start.
- It also promised a new way of working side by side with all States and relevant stakeholders.
- Millions of people need our joint efforts and common approach to alleviate suffering, and UNHCR has been showing the way.
- Today, we are ready to turn a page.
- It asks us to work in union as a true international community. This is the only way we can bring about change.

### **Denmark**

- Welcome that the final draft is more streamlined and succinct.
- Also, welcome that the important reference to the need for coherence and coordination between humanitarian and development action is now part of the text.
- This along with reference to indicators in the text will serve as a basis for roll-out of CRRF in forced displacement situations.
- Global Refugee Forum and mid-term review is a strong innovation if prepared and managed well.
- More could have been achieved and do hope this will be confirmed during the next phase of consultation.
- UNHCR strived for consensus.

- Some important elements have not been unpacked.
- Humanitarian and development complementarity lies at the heart of the compact. This needs to be led by national approaches.
- But no attempt to unpack legal elements needed for humanitarian-development nexus.
- How development actors will be mobilised through responsibility-sharing arrangements remains unclear.
- Disappointed that the compact underrepresents what is globally agreed and is narrow.
- For example, the fact that maternal mortality and infant mortality are not included. Hope this could be corrected at a later stage.
- Despite this, UNHCR managed this process and this is not an easy task. We welcome the transparent process.
- Outcome is a collective responsibility. Hence our collective hands must ensure that follow-up on GCR becomes as robust as possible, not least at the national level.
- And we must remain loyal to CRRF for it to be a game changer.
- We all need to step up to the fact that we all need to adapt and change our ways of working.
- We must remain bold in implementation.
- Fully committed to the implementation of GCR.
- We have doubled our humanitarian funding, and at same time, development funding to CRRF in the Middle East and in Bangladesh, in 2017, was 300 million dollars.

## **Iran**

- Appreciate UNHCR for providing the latest draft and incorporating some of the proposals, which is in fact some step forward in comparison with the previous draft.
- Recall that GCR is neither a negotiated, nor a legally binding text, and only relevant text is the Omnibus Resolution on UNHCR.
- However, as we see, it is far from perfect. There is still several arrangements with no concrete, formal or specific commitment or target to share host country burden.
- From our perspective, a robust burden and responsibility-sharing mechanism has been a long-awaited mission in international refugee protection.
- We have requested inclusion of such mechanisms in all rounds of consultations. But we have not seen States who have been vocal on this, nor have we heard a sound argument as to why this should not be reflected in this deliberation.
- We see that we are going back to draft zero with 'arrangements' as corrective measure.
- In the absence of robust arrangements, it will only be a source of misrepresentation.
- Need to translate this to achieve a more robust burden-sharing in the coming years. So, would like the GCR to emphasise work towards the development of a fair share model to achieve burden-and responsibility-sharing.

- Welcome proposal to hold high-level mid-term review. However, we prefer calling it an international conference instead of a global forum, which does not sound action-oriented.
- Main task is to make pledges in cash and kind and report contribution of each country.
- Voluntary and periodic national reporting must be established to assess contributions made in measurable terms.
- Welcome restored language on indicators, but targets are still missing.
- Each of the four objectives must have targets.
- Final draft is not the last version as several issues remain open.
- Need to make reference to unclear agenda and terms of reference for global arrangements and processes for the development of a set of indicators.
- Having said so, acknowledge this is still an evolving draft and look forward to receiving a text as an annex to the High Commissioner's report.

### **Montenegro**

- Reiterate appreciation of the work of the Assistant High Commissioner. Thank you for the diligent work done and above all for the patience to listen and reflect the comments.
- Welcome the text, which has incorporated in a balanced way the suggestions of different stakeholders.
- Firmly believe that GCR will provide a new basis for more predictable and equitable burden and responsibility-sharing among States and other stakeholders.
- High level of engagement demonstrates the existing political will to make this process a success.
- Hope we can finalise our work to agree on the final draft, and we support the current text.

### **Spain**

- We hope that we can conclude the process. Urgent situation calls upon us to make the additional efforts to reach consensus, which is possible.
- Thank UNHCR and UN SG reforms as well as the constructive talent of all who have taken part in this exercise.
- Obviously, we all like to have our views represented, but this is a consensus approach to ensure the text we have promotes an equitable and predictable burden sharing.
- The text reflects the international community's commitment, and if there is political will, we can enhance the situation of refugees.
- Like to stress on refugee protection and the need to seek lasting solutions for refugees by respecting the refugee definition and the existing refugee regime.
- This will require a multi-stakeholder approach, and reiterate the key responsibility of States.
- The basis must be humanitarian principles.

- The GCR provides for not only financial contribution, but also hopes to broaden the number of resettling countries.
- Underlines the CRRF approach.
- Highlights the role of the civil society and the private sector, and takes a cross-cutting approach to gender, discrimination and abuse, and seeks to empower refugees including the most vulnerable.
- Acknowledges the regional approach which we support through the application of MIRPS.
- And sets an international framework which should consolidate this work.
- We will actively participate and you can count on our full support bearing in mind the basic principle of the 2030 Agenda of leaving no one behind, which should guide us.

### **Japan**

- Like to pay tribute for dedicated effort in navigating and moving the process forward. Crucial and important to succeed and announce the compact with consensus in order to demonstrate solidarity for more predictable and equitable burden sharing.
- And the final draft reflects importance of collaboration between humanitarian, development and peace as well as the need for the international community to address this issue as a whole.
- Also reflects self-reliance of refugees.
- Need to address root causes and support for countries of origin.
- Pleased with such holistic approach, and second the non-legally binding nature of the compact and reference to contribution that takes into account national realities.
- Welcome clear mention of political will and ambition for collective outcomes.
- Our delegation made comments on the frequency of the Global Refugee Forum and other content. Some aspects are not fully in line with our thinking.
- But we have listened carefully to various ideas with a view to reaching consensus to show our collective will and we will accept the draft as it stands.
- This is not the conclusion, but the beginning as Volker Türk said.
- Important that each State and relevant stakeholder take next steps in implementing by making relevant contribution based on the GCR.

### **Turkey**

- As rightfully defined in the final draft, the GCR intends to provide a basis for predictable and equitable burden-and responsibility-sharing among Member States and relevant stakeholders.
- We have come a long way from the zero draft, and welcome language.
- The objectives of the GCR are indeed both interlinked and interdependent.
- While aiming for collective outcomes and progress towards the objectives of the GCR, it is of paramount importance that equal focus is given to each objective. We therefore welcome that this aspect is reflected in the text.

- On the Global Refugee Forum, we support the current frequency, which is set for every 4 years. We hope that the convening of high-level officials' meetings held every two years between Forums will address rightful expectations of some delegations, requesting for more frequency.
- Both in paragraphs on support platforms and solidarity conferences, we are pleased to witness more references to resettlement and pathways for admission.
- Application of Part 3 B is non-prescriptive and non-exhaustive and is not intended to create burden on host countries.
- We deem positive the retitling of section 2.4, 2.5 and 2.10 on "Gender", "Children" and "Coexistence" to a more extensive wording and positive connotation.
- We also welcome the revisions made under the follow up and review title.
- Maybe the GCR, in its current form, is not fully satisfactory in bringing a real change, we still believe that the norms for effective international solidarity and responsibility sharing in refugee issues are open to be improved and reinforced.
- Displacement issues need to be tackled at the global level, and important to preserve the whole-of-globe approach.
- Preserve our hope that more States will assume moral and political responsibility and in accordance to the 1951 Convention and NYD.
- Echoing that GCR is not the end but a beginning.
- Turkey, as the largest refugee hosting country, will continue to push for having the improved application of GCR in the forthcoming period especially for the well-being of refugees and generous host countries and closely follow-up its implementation phase.

## **Ecuador**

- Thank UNHCR for the work undertaken, which reflects most of our concerns.
- This is no easy task, and acknowledge work done in incorporating large number of comments.
- The GCR is a tool to ensure the principle of international cooperation enshrined in the 1951 Refugee Convention through a more predictable and equitable burden and responsibility-sharing framework.
- We are pleased with the goals of the compact, the guiding principles of humanity and international solidarity in addition to the cardinal principle of *non-refoulement*.
- Moreover, Part A highlights the importance of various mechanisms for sharing and broadening responsibility.
- The Global Refugee Forum will be useful in order to maintain pledges and promote achievement of goals.
- The compact provides for new and innovative forms of burden-sharing including the three-year resettlement strategy, promoting strategic alliances by involving the private sector, and bolstering closer links between humanitarian and development action.
- Equally, we would like to support section B. This is not exhaustive, neither prescriptive and will require support.

- It should not impose additional burden and must be in line with the global obligation to relieve pressure and not impose additional burden.
- We have framed our action in human rights and humanity.
- Appreciate reference to mixed migration flow, which is key for cooperation between countries and relevant actors.
- Our view is that consistency between the two compacts play a vital role as this will lead to effective and efficient identification of those needing international protection with respect for non-*refoulement*.
- Need to increase national capacity to identify those requiring international protection.
- Should avoid criminalising regardless of the migratory status of people.
- Need to fight against xenophobia and discrimination.
- Encourage UNHCR to coordinate with IOM so there are no overlaps and gaps.
- Now that we have the final draft, the most significant step would be implementation and these have the potential to broaden the support base to benefit refugees and host communities.
- The GCR will comply with the objectives as long as States do not turn away from the 1951 Refugee Convention as well as other regional refugee conventions.

#### **Korea**

- Have been actively participating in all formal consultations.
- Welcome first: the centrality of protection and the principle of non-*refoulement*; second: the need to protect vulnerable people; and third: importance of education for refugees and hosts.
- Pleased to see that it reflects most of our primary concerns.
- Regarding the timeline of the Global Refugee Forum and the high-level meeting, appreciate that UNHCR made the efforts to strive balance.
- We can use existing mechanism in a more efficient way especially in light of more administrative burden on Member States.
- Happy that draft pays special attention to the rights of women.
- The new report from Save the Children highlights the life-sustaining role education plays. We are called upon to play our role in this part.
- Success should be measured against the four objectives with timeline to develop indicators for each objective ahead of the Global Refugee Forum.
- Aware that GCR is not a standard-setting exercise so ensuring better functioning of the existing regime is important.
- We are at cross-roads facing many challenges and believe that GCR will provide a solid basis for revitalising the will of the international community, and address the refugee crisis of today and make a real difference in the lives of refugees.

#### **Canada**

- Reached a critical milestone. Like to commend UNHCR to lead such an exclusive process; clear that UNHCR has listened.

- In the spirit of solidarity, Canada can support this GCR as it is and we believe it merits consensus.
- Mobilisation of political will, broadening the support base, and more efficient responsibility sharing will be important.
- Timing of the Global Refugee Forum and mid-term review is a good balance to maintain political will and guide implementation.
- Meaningful participation of refugees reflects numerous calls.
- And addition of resettlement and complementary pathways at the Support Platform and solidarity conferences reflects elements of responsibility sharing.
- Welcome inclusion of further details towards the achievement of the compact objectives along with measures for hosting, protecting and assisting refugees as well as mechanisms to track pledges.
- This gives us confidence that UNHCR can establish a constructive process that reflects the apolitical nature of the compact.
- Recognise this reflects consensus. But would have liked to see references to sexual and reproductive health and inclusion of refugees in national education sector plans.
- Recognise that Part 3 is neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.
- Will support implementation of GCR.
- We all share responsibility in providing asylum and supporting host communities along with countries that support them.
- For too long, responsibility falls on a small number of countries. GCR provides us all with opportunity to change this reality.
- As the Canadian Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, said on the World Refugee Day: "Let's stand with refugees and displaced people and those who are forced to leave their homes behind".
- Canada supports a rule-based international order. We promote respect for human rights and fundamental norms. Also support multilateralism.
- This process shows that UN can come together and meet our collective responsibility.
- Need to lift our eyes from the clauses and paragraphs and turn to the real job that lies in putting more action behind those words.

## **Nigeria**

- Commend UNHCR for its efforts. Efforts of secretariat are well represented.
- Must congratulate on how far we have been able to go since the launch of the NYD.
- Wish to use this momentum to provide adequate response to the forcibly displaced.
- Believe the final draft is capable of fulfilling the commitments of NYD with the same motivation. We have just started; greater challenges lie ahead.
- Commend UNHCR to address complementarity not just with the global compact for migration, but also with other humanitarian, development and peace initiatives and other UN agencies.

- Ensuring operational cooperation between humanitarian, development and peace is commendable. Also welcome more emphasis on humanitarian assistance.
- Welcome Global Refugee Forum in 2019, with four-year periodicity complemented with high-level meetings.
- Note that the 2019 Forum will be an occasion to declare dedicated pledges, but we should not wait.
- Appeal to donors for more commitments before the 2019 Refugee Forum as 2018 humanitarian appeals are still underfunded.
- Last sentence, on para 34, should be part of para 32.
- Need more clarity in para 32, in bullet 2, replace regular development assistance with Overseas Development Assistance (ODA)
- On tackling root causes, note more emphasis on development assistance for countries of origin to enable voluntary repatriation.
- Should not only target returning refugees, but also focus on alleviating poverty for the purpose of sustainability.
- In para 63, support the provision of guidance as well the inclusion of other protection and humanitarian challenges.
- Regret the non-inclusion of sexual and reproductive health.
- More clarification on the establishment of the Asylum Capacity Support Group, Support Platforms and solidarity conferences.
- UNHCR should continue the efforts with the same conviction from both Member States and all stakeholders.
- To measure progress against each objective would be giant stride.

## **France**

- Soon it will be two years States committed to the NYD and this major moment came with concrete progress.
- On the ground, we are working towards sustainable solutions.
- UNHCR is working to renew concrete actions, support refugees and IDPs and seeks to operationalise responsibility-sharing as well as support host countries.
- Wish to hail the important work undertaken by UNHCR.
- This is a very difficult exercise. Balance in the text reflects your efforts.
- Sovereignty and leadership of States are set out, while not forgetting humanitarian principles.
- Based on existing mechanisms, we must renew or bolster international cooperation and solidarity.
- GCR remains non-binding, but proposes mechanisms for implementation, which are robust.
- This includes the Global Refugee Forum which ensures solidarity and support for host countries remains in the international agenda in step with the 1951 Refugee Convention, a cornerstone of the refugee regime.



- Many elements could be improved. We could recall numerous observations that have not been borne in mind.
- But delicate balance attained by UNHCR, and once these are consolidated, you can count on France.
- This is not a starting point, and the future will depend on implementation, which, in turn, will depend on the international commitment.
- Hail the balance in the text.

## **Bulgaria**

- Almost at the end of the process, which provided opportunities for open discussions.
- Thank UNHCR for interactive drafting process; the comments are fully reflected.
- A strong political will needed to address refugee situations and continue to think commitment is more than necessary.
- Several ways to demonstrate solidarity. Need for flexibility in national programmes notably in resettlement.
- Voluntary repatriation is also a key focus, and welcome its mention as a preferred solution.
- Principle of national ownership and related focus on capacity building is welcomed.
- International community's action will be context-specific and action-oriented while respecting state sovereignty.
- Joint humanitarian and development action appreciated. But note that linkages to development plans have been removed.
- Support people-centred approaches of the compact; also appreciate focus on vulnerable persons.
- Reference to sexual and reproductive health could have been included.
- UNHCR has a catalytic role. At the same time, would welcome that this role will be in consent with its mandate.
- Note that follow-up measures will be finalised through a transparent process in consultation with States.

## **Czech Republic**

- See the GCR as an important step in the right direction and as a means to mobilise additional and effective assistance to solve refugee situations.
- There is a common determination to mobilise support for hosts and refugees.
- Welcome emphasis on the most vulnerable people in line with leaving no one behind in particular girls and older persons. Older generation important in strengthening links and yet lack specific support.
- Welcome reduction of duplication as well as maintenance of flexibility for countries to contribute according to their national capacity.
- Acknowledge the need for the burden-sharing principle. Engagement with a view to ease pressure on host countries facing a crisis with a strong and reliable partnership them.

- Provide concrete support through Medevac by deploying professional doctors. We are presenting this initiative during a reception at the end of the meeting today.

## **New Zealand**

- Not often that a UN organisation has the privilege of holding the pen to draft such an important document. Commend UNHCR.
- UNHCR leading this process has ensured that the Refugee Convention is safeguarded.
- Final draft now strikes the correct balance on arrangements for responsibility-sharing.
- The Global Refugee Forum, mid-term review and Support Platforms pave the way to maintain political momentum and predictability and at the same time provide flexibility when a more urgent response is required.
- There are references to ongoing stocktaking, and these will provide an occasion to access progress on burden sharing and resource mobilisation.
- Information gathering and analysis will contribute to a holistic view of a refugee situation.
- Asylum Capacity Support Group will be essential to strengthen preparedness so that States are prepared for challenging situations.
- Support section on education, jobs and livelihoods.
- Welcome reinsertion of female health workers as this is an effective measure for access.
- However, not all issues are reflected and would like strong reference to sexual and reproductive healthcare.
- Politically charged narrative on refugees at the moment, so we strongly support the GCR and put hope on UNHCR leading the collective efforts to galvanise systematic effort.
- Long recognised the pressure on hosting states. This is one of the reasons why our core contribution remains unearmarked, and we continue to resettle refugees.
- We will consider how best we can provide support to GCR.

## **Syria**

- This has taken into account some of our concerns.
- Recognise these are last round of consultations, but important to improve the document further as much as possible since this is not a negotiated UN document.
- Guiding principles starting with the UN Charter are among crucial factors to guard the GCR against political manipulation
- In para 5, delete dash before the word 'see' including resolution A/RES/71/127 because we don't find para as it is within the text. This will be followed by other resolutions in the GA so we cannot limit to that resolution.
- GA humanitarian action resolution is basic and represents a major document that all Member States refer to when speaking of humanitarian action. And since the GCR is not a yearly document, it is important not to limit ourselves.

- In para 9, add in line 7, after the word ‘all’: “to implement Security Council resolution related to combatting terrorism”.
- Lines 7,8,9 are non-exhaustive. Don’t have a problem with the content, but reflects a selective approach and a certain philosophy that we do not accept.
- Second option would be to delete these lines and the above-mentioned line that I have highlighted and replace with international human rights law.
- In footnote 5, add reference to the Vienna Declaration and its programme of action after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Para 12 repeats reference to all other categories such as IDPs. IDPs are not under UNHCR mandate within this compact. Principles in this compact cannot be granted to IDPs.
- In para 24 and 26 have concerns like other delegations, and propose amendment of the two paras.
- Countries of origin should be in equal footing with regard to activation and deactivation of the Support Platforms, and propose deleting ‘or where appropriate’ in the first line.
- Reports on the platform should be purely technical and avoid politicisation. In para 26, request this formulation, “UNHCR would ensure technical reporting where needed”.
- In para 29, in line 4, should be read as “consent of concerned States”.
- In para 89, line 7, when dealing with IDPs, sentence should be read as, “depending on context and consent of concerned States”.
- In para 89, in lines 10 and 11, ask for the deletion of local authorities. These two aspects are to be dealt with the national authority.
- Expressed some reservations on footnote 40 with regard to GA and propose deleting IDP reference.
- Hope our amendments will be included in the draft to be presented to GA.

## **Slovakia**

- Thank UNHCR for the excellent job. Final text is well-balanced and reflects engagement of all participants. Deals with concerns of hosts, donors and countries of origin.
- We have made progress. Welcome the spirit of the compact that brings all stakeholders, and appreciate the collective endeavour.
- Compact not a guarantee for better burden-and responsibility-sharing, but a solid instrument.
- The protection of the most vulnerable is central and this is the role of the whole international community.
- But work still remains in the area of peacekeeping and conflict resolution.
- Addressing root causes is the most effective and efficient way to tackle refugee problems and help create conditions for safe livelihoods in countries of origin.
- Strongly committed to contributing to the implementation of the compact, which should be adopted by consensus.

## **South Africa**

- Extend wishes for convening the final round, and presentation of final text.
- Have been intimately involved in this process, and as one of the countries hosting the largest asylum seekers and refugees, we remain committed to discharging our international obligations in accordance with the refugee law.
- Appreciate that GCR is embedded into the fundamental principles of NYD and based on international cooperation, solidarity and equitable responsibility sharing.
- GCR should not contradict the UN Charter and the Refugee Convention and must bear in mind State obligations.
- Success will be assessed by progress towards the four objectives and that these are interlinked and interdependent.
- Reworded para 12 presents challenges as it straddles to other areas that do not fall within the mandate accorded to this process.
- Add along with 'others on the move' the process of status determination to give consideration to those requiring international protection or delete 'others on the move'.
- IDPs remain the responsibility of the concerned State; they do not cross borders and should be protected by national laws.
- In para 32, underscore non-conditionality in principled humanitarian action.
- My delegation commends the efforts of UNHCR to engage us in a constructive dialogue, and my delegation trusts that it will accommodate the views of those who are heavily burdened.

## **China**

- Would like to thank UNHCR. Share concerns of Africa Group and Latin American countries.
- Appreciate the non-legally binding nature of the GCR, and the promise of voluntary contribution, which should take into account national realities and respective national policies and protocols.
- Encourage developed countries to fulfil commitments in the spirit of burden and responsibility-sharing and provide funds and technical assistance.
- Take note in the follow-up that success will be assessed in terms of progress in the achievement of the four objectives; indicators will be developed ahead of the 2019 Global Refugee Forum.
- Trust process will be transparent and constructive and will be a result of inter-governmental negotiation.

## **Venezuela**

- Recognise the importance of the document and know that a lot of hard work went to achieve it.

- Welcome the need to address concerns of refugees. Also, grateful for references to assessing the impact of hosting refugees, national ownership as well as respecting national norms and policies.
- Some concerns remain. NYD requires us to share more equitable responsibility-sharing in hosting and supporting refugees.
- Imposition of unilateral measures which impose conditions on hosts and impinge on state sovereignty are not appropriate.
- In addition, financial contributions appear to be tied and preassigned.
- Policies of developed countries more restrictive and resettlement option continues to drop in spite of the GCR.
- Programme of action is not enough to address this.
- Moreover, Support Platform is subject to political manipulation. Therefore, important that it does not impose more responsibilities by broadening categories.
- Grateful for including the GA resolution 46/182; but would request to incorporate it in the text outside inverted commas.
- In para 9, the list of root causes is not exhaustive and does not include a number of factors that lead to the refugee crisis.
- In footnote 5, add Vienna Declaration.
- In para 12, request in line 3 'others on the move' be deleted as GCR only concerns with refugees.
- In para 24, in the first line, replace 'or' by 'and' and delete 'where appropriate'.
- In para 26, reword: 'UNHCR would provide technical reports'.
- In para 89, support comments by Syria and request deleting reference to IDPs.
- In para 102, not opposed to a package of indicators, but we do believe that these should be inter-governmental in nature.

## **Colombia**

- This has not been an easy task, and required all of us to listen carefully. We have gradually created a space where we can express issues of high sensitivity.
- It is important to capitalise now. If we compare the first draft and now, positions have been reflected carefully and in a balanced way. Our objective is not to achieve a binding instrument.
- This complies with the key objective; programme of action is not an end in itself but fulfils the purpose to ensure equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing.
- This process will help deal with current and emerging situation.
- We are not going to fulfil NYD by reformulating the programme of action, nor can we be exhaustive.
- We will fully comply with these objectives when we implement by drawing up more effective collaboration.
- We do not seek to put forward a utopia.

### **Former Republic of Yugoslavia**

- Deep appreciation for UNHCR. First and foremost, thank the leadership of Volker Türk.
- The compact has not been reduced to the lowest common denominator, but has become stronger with each iteration.
- It will be guided by the principle of operationalising burden sharing. Today after the sixth consultations, this objective is successfully met.
- The GCR is strongly anchored in the refugee regime, defines responsibility-sharing and how the international community will mobilise itself and will have follow-up and review mechanisms.
- Support for affected countries will be timely, effective and predictable and this will transform the lives of refugees and host countries.
- Thanks to all those who have contributed. Such great achievement.
- In a context where multilateralism is rare, we must celebrate it.
- Must work to operationalise it.

### **Israel**

- Thank ExCom Bureau for convening this meeting.
- Welcome the work done so far, and we have been constructively engaged in this process.
- Commend UNHCR efforts. Received many and conflicting comments, so thank UNHCR for holding this process in an open and transparent manner.
- We support the non-binding nature of the compact, while sharing objectives in para 7, which are interlinked and interdependent.
- Welcome reference to people with disabilities, children, adolescent and youth including in data collection.
- Would like however to see more language on sexual and reproductive rights.
- Pleased that the programme of action pays due attention to support the development of innovative technologies and making them available to refugees during emergencies as well as a long-term measure for efficient resource management. In this regard, technical cooperation has a key role to play.
- Welcome that importance of data collection is recognised.
- Looking forward to the Global Refugee Forum and stocktaking possibilities.
- Welcome inclusion of other arrangements, paying attention to local, national and regional opportunities.
- Inclusion of indicators will allow measuring progress, thus reinforcing the spirit of the GCR.
- Agree with UNHCR, this is not an end, but a beginning of a continued dialogue for refugee response.

### **Brazil (on behalf of the Foreign Policy and Global Health Network)**

- Over the past ten years, FPGH has promoted synergies in foreign policy in the area of nutrition.

- UNGA chose nutrition as the theme for 2018.
- Positive to note that health, food and nutrition have been included in the compact.
- Refugee flows require a combination of protection, assistance and solutions in the spirit of burden-and responsibility-sharing.
- Resolution A/RES/72/139, approved by GA, reaffirmed every human being's right to the enjoyment of attaining mental and physical health. This is also recognised in the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind.
- Invited Member States to address mental and psychosocial needs; welcome inclusion of health. Appreciate efforts to ease burden of host countries.
- Final draft includes important health measures including prevention and health promotion; also recalls importance of affordable and equitable access to medicines and vaccines and preventive commodities and reflects the need to support States to expand the quality of health systems.
- We also support strengthened measures to meet food and nutrition needs of refugees and host communities.
- Look forward to the Global Refugee Forum, and this will provide an opportunity to contribute to food security and nutrition.

#### **Chair comments at the closing of the first half:**

Key issues raised included:

- Quality of the document submitted by UNHCR is more balanced.
- The non-binding and consensual nature of the document, which allows for holistic approach, looking at humanitarian and development complementarity.
- Even if the document is not perfect, the latest version provides a strong foundation to guide our collective action.
- Asylum and donor countries are willing, which means the principle of burden sharing is well understood.
- All delegations have focused on challenges of implementing the compact; agreed that we are focusing on all four objectives.

#### **Georgia**

- Appreciate efforts of UNHCR. Cognisant of views of delegations that GCR is important commitment to end the refugee crisis.
- This has been voiced numerous times, but appreciate the voluntary and non-binding nature of the GCR, which takes into account national realities, policies and priorities.
- Burden and responsibility-sharing is an important part of the GCR; this should not impose additional obligations.
- Burden and responsibility-sharing needs further clarification; lacks indication to fulfil objectives in para 7.
- Having said this, there is need to move forward, and welcome that this will be addressed in forthcoming meetings.

## **Botswana**

- We commend UNHCR for staying true to the mandate provided by GCR.
- Appreciate changes to the Global Refugee Forum, which responds to comments made African countries. Four-year period could be too long given the continued complexity of the refugee crisis.
- Appreciate that development of indicators is not left outside the review process.
- Need to highlight the context-specific challenges faced by middle-income countries especially those who may not fit in the CRRF.
- Reference to middle-income countries appreciated, but would have liked the unique challenges faced by small populated countries in hosting to be highlighted.
- Thank for reinstating support for assisting children formerly associated with armed groups.
- But need to ensure the need to address the psychosocial needs is not excluded. Initiative for developing guidelines therefore should take into consideration the need of former child soldiers.
- In full agreement with the principles and objectives of the GCR; addressing refugees' needs cannot be done outside of humanitarian and human rights law.
- Access to free education, up to secondary level important, including vocational training.
- In Botswana, through 'skill share' refugees also access healthcare services. Thank PEPFAR for funding HIV programmes, which we will be taking over.
- Refugees in Botswana organised themselves in a way so that they can engage.
- Best solution remains addressing root causes and restoring conditions in countries of origin, allowing those wishing to return home.
- Commend this emphasis in GCR. Continue to support the spirit of the GCR.

## **Qatar**

- Express our appreciation for taking into account our concerns including those expressed by geographical groups.
- Issue of certification is a major gap in education policy, and there is little guidance to develop policy.
- Getting refugees in school will not be sustainable if education is not documented across different education system to enable them to move to different education cycle.
- For this reason, para 69 should refer to the need for certification and validation.

## **Hungary**

- Thank UNHCR for the final draft.
- Acknowledge the transparent process and the difficult task throughout the consultations.
- Welcome that the text refers to prevention and addressing root cases, both of which are at the heart of our policy.
- Registration and documentation is vital for States to decide whom to admit.



- On solutions, resettlement is not the only way to express solidarity, and these should apply voluntarily, while respecting national policies and practices.
- The 25 percent resettlement target is still too ambitious and our national position is not fully reflected in the text.
- However, we recognise that the different positions cannot be taken on board. And the final draft is balanced and ready for compromise.
- As the Greek philosopher, Socrates, said: “*True perfection is a bold quest to seek. Only the willing and true of heart will seek the betterment of many*”.

## **United Kingdom**

- Final consultation of the GCR is a significant moment.
- When the NYD put in train the process of developing and agreeing a compact by the end of this year, we were facing a crisis of unprecedented scale, which required an unprecedented response.
- This is pressing now more than ever with 25 million refugees.
- The compact offers more effective ways to respond by boosting refugee self-reliance.
- As we enter the final stages, we have four reflections on how far we have come and where we go.
- UNHCR leadership have risen admirably to the challenge laid out by the NYD to deliver a cohesive and compelling final draft. We fully support the text and hope we can retain language on mixed situations.
- UK’s commitment to the compact with the Principles of Partnership underpinning it should be clear.
- The London Syria Conference provided a blue print for comprehensive approaches, and we are a handful of countries to spend 0.7 percent on development funding.
- UK has also committed to resettling 20,000 refugees and 3,000 children from the MENA region by 2020.
- As the in-coming Chair of the Tripartite Consultations on refugees, we will push to increase resettlement globally.
- UK’s 2.5 billion pounds for Syria marks the largest response, and we remain at the forefront in responding, most recently in the Rohingya crisis.
- Shared nature of the challenge: responsibility of the international community as a whole. Cannot leave it to a handful of donors and hosts.
- The GCR offers to build wider support and this requires meaningful participation of refugees and hosts.
- Delivery: need to start putting words into action that are specific to the context and include humanitarian and development actors.
- Practical application will be the true measure of success; the compact will deliver by putting principles into practice.
- Unique chance to transform the lives of refugees.

- Forced displacement is the defining challenge of this generation. We have once in a generation opportunity to make a significant difference for refugees.
- We are ready to play our part. Implementation will need all of us to step up to ensure ambition set out in the NYD is delivered for the world's refugees.

### **Guatemala**

- Recognise the leadership of UNHCR and commitment of all States.
- Trust that commitment and involvement will continue in the implementation phase in step with the abilities of each stakeholder.
- Appreciate addition of the two international covenants in footnote 5; would like to see the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families included as well as the Optional Protocol Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
- Prefer the drafting of para 12 in the previous version although this also mentions that movement is not homogenous but composite.
- As we understand other persons are not excluded. This avoids protection gaps and allows for all those who need international protection to enjoy it.
- Also important is cooperation with other international organisations including IOM.
- In para 18, no longer an explicit mention of reviewing national laws and practices at the Global Refugee Forum.
- Do understand this can be included nationally and countries can keep reconsidering this policy without this contradicting their sovereignty.
- Welcome focus on different needs of child and adolescents.
- For countries participating in the MIRPS, this has been a positive experience, and has allowed us to launch concrete action.
- We hope that refugees can enjoy international cooperation in a timely manner.
- GCR will establish concrete mechanisms for shared responsibility.

### **Norway**

- We join all delegations in thanking UNHCR for the tireless efforts in trying to find a common ground.
- Believe final draft meets State's demands.
- Many calls to amend para 12. We believe the final draft strikes a balance and new amendment could raise new concerns and we caution against this.
- Note the renaming of responsibility-sharing mechanisms, which are now called arrangements.
- Support the idea of Global Refugee Forum, and accept convening of the Forum every four years with a high-level official meeting every two years.
- Agree that in years where there will be the Forum and the high-level meeting, there will be no High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges.
- Pleased to see resettlement maintained in the final draft as a form of pledges States can make at the Global Refugee Forum.

- In order to broaden the support base, it is important to encourage different forms of pledges.
- Need flexible and unearmarked funding in relation to solidarity conferences.
- Note indicator has been reinserted, and let me be clear we support the development of indicators.
- Want to show progress but new discussions on modalities and indicators does not promise to be fruitful.
- On revisiting GA resolution in para 5, 46/182, and all subsequent resolutions including resolution 71/127, we see this as agreed resolution, which was adopted by consensus last year.
- Co-chair, GCR has been a long and interesting journey and we have had many opportunities, many views and this has been valuable in itself.
- We, the international community, must seize this opportunity to agree on a basis from where, we can work to close the gap in responsibility-sharing.
- Not doing so would be a mistake.
- GCR provides a platform for concrete results and also ensures that the needs of refugees and host communities remains high on the political agenda. We support the final draft as consensus text.

## **Estonia**

- Thank UNHCR for the final draft, which is streamlined, and has a better outline and follow-up.
- Overall satisfied with the draft. Main step ahead is the implementation of the compact.
- Some positive changes. Support inclusion of protection and solutions in the introduction; further language adjustments regarding objectives referring to their interlinked and interrelated nature; and the need for political will and broadening the support base.
- Support the Global Refugee Forum and the Support Platform.
- Appreciate clear language on humanitarian action.
- Welcome reference to follow-up and review.
- Good that the Global Refugee Forum in addition to stocktaking will also review the efficacy of responsibility sharing.
- Final draft is a delicate compromise.
- We would have liked to see more ambition. Links to NYD is reduced.
- Humanitarian, development and peace nexus could have been referred.
- Linkages to national development plans have not found their way in the draft.
- Regret language on gender and that sexual and reproductive rights have not been included.
- Previously agreed language remains valid.
- Like Norway would caution against the revision of para 12.

- Support this text, which is an important step forward for equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing.
- This is solid and implementable.
- Thank UNHCR for relentless efforts and skilful consensus building.

## **Lebanon**

- At the outset, thank UNHCR for the GCR new draft.
- We have come a long way since the zero draft. At this crucial stage, we cannot but appreciate and commend UNHCR and the team for its dedication and listening skills.
- As a major host country, we have been engaged in the consultation process with a constructive, albeit principled approach, that was predicated on the premise that GCR should be a vehicle to translate the principle of responsibility sharing as well as international cooperation in predictable, sustainable and durable way.
- GCR should ease the plight of refugees without overlooking host communities.
- GCR should respect State sovereignty, and not be used to impose new legal obligations and burden.
- GCR should foster durable solutions and not serve merely as blueprint to manage crisis.
- Nothing in the GCR should push for integration of refugees and their indefinite presence.
- Despite its bright side, GCR does not live up to the momentum created by NYD.
- Arrangements for burden and responsibility sharing in the new draft are not robust enough, and we fail to see how this could be marshalled for refugee responses in a fair and predictable manner to redress the unfair situation where low-and-middle income countries have to bear the brunt because of geographical proximity.
- There cannot be true implementation while an increasing number of States are closing their border for refugees.
- We have heard that it will be difficult to make a sizeable difference on the ground in the absence of genuine political will.
- Some elements are of more realistic periodicity. On a more practical level, we still see that important technical modalities still need to be discussed, and for such crucial meetings these should be held in an inter-governmental space.
- Search for such practical actions should be the focus of the consultative process.
- As for measures proposed, still need to see how these will be related to the development agenda in a way not to impede or undermine it.
- Several segments of GCR should not impose new conditions on host States.
- Still not comfortable with part B, which still sounds prescriptive and will put following comments in this regard.
- As a major host country, we will not be the sole to cope with additional burden, and every effort will be contingent on international support.

- Part B should not run counter to refugees right to return to their countries of origin, especially in host countries where refugee integration is not possible, and where voluntary repatriation is most preferred durable solution.
- Ultimate success of the GCR hinges on its capacity to deliver in terms of durable solutions.
- In this crucial stage of the consultation, prudence is the only leitmotif of my delegation.
- We have a text, even if this has evolved painstakingly, does not live up to expectations. Its application still needs to be proven.
- Aware of the troubled international times, and even though we commend the spirit of dialogue, we are worried that the search for compromise has its flip sides in so far as GCR will not be a game changer after all.
- We can but nurture concerns about GCR implementation in a global environment, which is highly volatile and where multilateralism is subjected to worrying stress tests.
- We have a question about how comments from our last consultation are going to feed into this process. Further clarity, in this regard, is of utmost necessity.

## **Pakistan**

- Reached a crucial juncture towards articulating the GCR; commend UNHCR for the consultative process. Special thanks to the High Commissioner.
- Pakistan remains constructively engaged aimed at bringing change in the lives of refugees and fostering greater international cooperation.
- All along we have stressed that concrete burden-and responsibility-sharing mechanism would be the biggest takeaway, and regret that such a mechanism could not be identified.
- Taken note of renewed name of ‘arrangements’, and see this as limited improvement.
- However, our efforts should continue to make this exercise meaningful.
- Any indication of enhanced protection agenda, which is not backed by donor contribution, would be difficult to implement and will depend on the timely support of donors.
- We are putting our faith in the Global Refugee Forum, while we believe two-year periodicity would have sustained follow-up, we support the four-year cycle with mid-term reviews.
- Welcome strengthened safeguards being in line with national priorities.
- On revision of development response, concerns with regard to deletion of priorities identified by host States; previous language would have ensured national ownership and leadership.
- Similarly, on grants and concessions, GCR should avoid this kind of language.
- In Part 3 B, concerned States has been replaced by host States. Would appreciate if reasons could be shared for this.

- Emphasis on solutions, especially voluntary repatriation, is extremely important. And we have taken note of minor adjustment and these are acceptable.
- However, need to balance paras relating to voluntary repatriation.
- Developing indicators and assessing success important for efficient implementation.
- Need to give similar importance to mechanisms to track pledges as unrealised pledges create delays in response.
- Many important issues have been left to fine-tune. These must be detailed.

## **Sweden**

- Welcome the final draft of the GCR, and agree that we have come a long way.
- We would not have come up this far without UNHCR skilfully leading the process.
- This has provided us an historic opportunity to change the way we respond and share responsibility for large refugee situations.
- Important to uphold political momentum.
- Support modalities and periodicity of arrangements and follow-up including when it comes to indicators.
- Among the many positives, highlight education, child and youth, livelihoods, private sector, broadening the resettlement base as well as flexible and multi-year funding.
- The text reflects complex realities in para 12.
- Para 9 on prevention places the GCR firmly in ongoing international cooperation, ongoing UN reforms, Agenda 2030 and the triple nexus.
- Para 9 also makes clear that upholding international laws and efficiently addressing root causes are interrelated.
- Can't hope to prevent displacement unless we simultaneously protect, fulfil and respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, end exploitation and abuse of any kind and strive for gender equality including agency for women, youth and girls.
- And we cannot do this without giving women full and equal rights over their bodies.
- In this regard, we regret that we could not find a way to include sexual and reproductive health.
- GCR is grounded in refugee regime, and not just guided by it.
- We appreciate reference to humanitarian principles and all GA resolutions on the subject.
- Need to have clear links with principle laws and obligations and actionable commitments. These links underline centrality of protection to affected population through the CRRF.
- This compact is a solid basis on which we need to build.
- This is not an end in itself. We will need to implement this GCR for the sake of world's refugees, and for countries that so generously host them.
- This will stand the test of the politicising agenda and that itself is an achievement.

## **Philippines**

- Welcome amendments and offer following comments.
- Human rights protection is a crucial and central element of the global compact.
- Advocate for human rights treaties in the draft GCR as essential to strengthening application.
- We are one of two countries that has partnership with the IOM and UNHCR on the Emergency Transit Mechanism.
- These mechanisms facilitate the transit of refugees while their onward settlement is still being processed.
- Consistent with refugee protection, we advocate that burden-and responsibility-sharing shall be implemented in light of human rights protection of persons of concern.
- Likewise, burden-and responsibility-sharing and related pathway for admission shall not be regressive: those already in developed countries shall not be allocated to developing countries.
- While GCR is not legally binding, this will be the framework for global cooperation to engage in a more predictable manner, consistent with international laws and will take into account the fact that States may contribute based on capacity and expertise.
- In the spirit of good partnership, we will remain engaged in refugee discussions and we support the latest draft.

## **Holy See**

- Wish to thank the Assistant High Commissioner for dedicated leadership, and also grateful to other delegations.
- For the effectiveness of the GCR, we must relate to objectives in para 7
- Important to keep a holistic approach and focus on the human person.
- Welcome reference to the fundamental principle of humanity and international solidarity.
- GCR should be non-political in implementation, and encourage this should also apply to the Support Platform.
- The refugee framework is a common patrimony that binds us.
- Population movements may be composite, and appreciate reference to the fact that natural disasters and environmental degradation contribute to mixed movements.
- In para 13, reiterate the need to mention diverse needs rather than more abstract diversity consideration. This takes into account all dimensions of the human person.
- Welcome recognition of the role of faith-based organisations which serve as first responders and continue service after international agencies have left.
- Appreciate emphasis on health and education as well as reference to alternatives to detention as detention can never be in the best interest of the child.

- Women and children face particular risks and have specific needs and encounter particular challenges in accessing healthcare.
- In order to have a powerful impact, GCR must remain non-political so that it does not become a hunting ground.
- In para 72, draft refers to States and relevant stakeholders whereas footnote refers only to some organisations.
- To provide more comprehensive response, and ensure a whole of government approach, delete footnote 32.
- In para 73, access to diagnostics and therapeutics should be broadened and must include access to devices.

### **Slovenia**

- Satisfied with the last draft on GCR issued on the 26 June, presenting convergence in a spirit of compromise.
- It is a result of our common work, and especially wish to thank UNHCR.
- Big challenge to create a document for the protection of refugees, which should meet concerns of all UN Member States, while also presenting our national practice.
- Made a comparison with our goals before the consultations started and happy to tell most of our goals were achieved.
- GCR enhances international cooperation in cases of large-scale movement, and builds on the idea of CRRF to protect refugees and create new measures for responsibility sharing.
- GCR refers to international human rights laws and also to instruments against smuggling of human beings while emphasising the principle of *non-refoulement*.
- Supportive of tackling root causes of large refugee movements, which can complement national activities.
- GCR reflects on the importance of regional approaches; underlines need for monitoring and improvement of standards and care and accommodation of refugees.
- GCR also gives due attention to vulnerable groups and self-reliance of refugees.
- Our next common goal should be to define indicators.
- Need to follow progress on the four objectives, with the need to work on efficiency and effectiveness of the Global Refugee Forum and the high-level official meeting proposed in the GCR.

### **Algeria**

- Thank UNHCR for factoring our discussion, and Volker Türk and his team for the new draft.
- We remain committed to reaching a balanced document, leading to more solidarity and equal responsibility and burden-sharing.



- Since GCR is voluntary and legally non-binding, and is not the final product of a genuine negotiation between States, will consider it in accordance with our priorities.
- GCR must take fully into account the specifics of each refugee situation.
- Commend the guiding principles in para 5 and the re-introduction of indicators in the follow up, which will contribute to evidence-based implementation for countries.
- We will have the opportunity to discuss within an intergovernmental format the development of indicators.
- Need more balance between protection and durable solutions in the document.
- GCR should be an opportunity for robust commitment to durable solutions.
- Apart from this general remark, there are three areas of importance that should be considered.
- People on the move: refugees use the same routes, which do not lead to grant of asylum as there is no intention to questioning the agreed framework. GCR is only for refugees, a distinct category that requires appropriate responses.
- This is our view concerning para 12, which should be moved in the introduction.
- Want to avoid further debate about UNHCR mandate on the legal definition of refugee that para 12 may imply.
- Second issue of conditionality: this was included in draft two, but then removed.
- Important to avoid misunderstanding on the use of development and humanitarian funding.
- Important to preserve the nature of humanitarian responses to remain needs-driven and based on humanitarian principles.
- Civil areas of assistance are already part of the 1951 Refugee Convention and subject development to parameters and conditions.
- Call to international solidarity should not undermine transparency, so add non-conditionality and transparency.
- Preserve humanitarian action from conditionality.
- Regarding humanitarian and development nexus, there is a risk of diverting them from their objectives.
- Cooperation with local actors in para 37: emphasise that such cooperation must be at the request of concerned States.
- Recognise the use of arrangements instead of mechanisms. This is at the same time is positive and negative.
- Positive because more appropriate to describe it, but negative since the core objective of creating four objectives as part of the collective endeavour is missing.
- Consider it important to engage in developing such mechanism including but not limited to measuring the cost of hosting, protecting and assisting refugees. But should not lose sight of the objective.
- Finally, appreciate more clarity regarding the process until the next UNGA discussion on the Omnibus Resolution.

- Understand UNHCR does not want to reopen text but the aforementioned points are important.

### **Finland**

- Thank UNHCR for providing us with the final draft. This, however, by no means signifies that our delegation is totally satisfied.
- Still some elements that we regret not seeing in the text including universal access to sexual and reproductive health.
- Still believe all delegations have been provided ample time to provide views and concerns and UNHCR has been capable of accommodating most of these in the final draft.
- As a result of six round of consultations, we have seen significant progress and a delicate balance, which is reflected in the final draft of the global compact.
- My delegation considers it is of paramount importance that GCR builds on the solid basis of humanitarian principles and humanitarian law.
- Addressing specific needs of those in most vulnerable situation must remain a crucial aspect.
- Should also be stressed that GCR represents only a point of departure and reiterate one of the delegation that said previously, “the compact can be framed as a set of commitment for each other to reduce the needs”.
- This is a unique opportunity.
- Look forward to continuing working constructively to make sure GCR will make a difference for the uprooted communities.

### **Brazil**

- Appreciate efforts undertaken to prepare the final draft.
- UNHCR was faced with the task of striking a difficult balance between the voluntary nature of the compact and the legitimate calls to achieve robust responsibility sharing.
- The result is far from the aspiration of many of us but paves the way for a growing undertaking for the collective nature of the global response.
- It will provide an opportunity to develop indicators and modalities for the Global Refugee Forum.
- Such modalities may include adoption of an outcome document with a view to guiding the action towards the achievement of the four objectives of the GCR.
- We welcome the new language, and that these are now inter-linked and interdependent and should be promoted on an equal footing.
- This will guide the development of indicators.
- In our view, GCR is ground breaking as it advances an overdue conversation about responsibility sharing.
- It will also pioneer the application of humanitarian and development nexus, and its implementation will allow the concrete implementation for what is still to a great extent an abstract idea.

- Many concerns relate to the side-effects of this new approach.
- Humanitarian and development is not a conflation, but a means to tailor international cooperation to each situation taking into account immediate and long-term needs of refugees and hosts, safeguarding lifesaving assistance and in a way, which does not affect development assistance and national decision-making.
- Commend UNHCR for including national ownership and leadership.
- GCR is not prescriptive and does not create obligations; interpret such language as a safeguard against establishment of conditionality.
- Strengthened humanitarian and development cannot be used as a compensation for the adoption of restrictive admission policies.
- Regret that GCR does not address the important international protection issues.
- As we have argued when a country limits access to territory and fair asylum practices, it is shifting responsibility to others.
- Strong emphasis on resettlement and complementary pathway will be needed in the implementation of the GCR, and important not to forget the well-being of refugees, which are the ultimate goals of our efforts.
- The measures described in Part B, 'areas in need of support', have the potential to be a real game changer on the ground.
- Access to education and livelihoods is key to ensure a dignified life and facilitate durable solutions.
- Pleased with special section on children, adolescents, food security and nutrition and a stronger reference to mental health in the health section.
- Mental health is an area where refugees can be engaged as health workers.
- Regret that mention of specific regional instruments have been moved to the footnote.
- Cannot overstate the importance of regional processes to advance international protection and solutions.
- The Cartagena initiative, agreed over 30 years ago, has played a catalytic role.
- Population movements are not homogenous and this is a reality on the ground.
- Efficient coordination needed between actors to ensure every person on the move has their needs addressed and their human rights respected, and in this regard, supportive to coordinate and follow-up of GCR with other processes in order to foster coherence.
- Reiterate our appreciation for UNHCR whose endeavours to accommodate arrange of concerns are a testament of its diplomatic acumen.
- We trust GCR is the beginning, and not the end, and that it will provide a sound basis for the continuation of our dialogue.
- We are living in a challenging time, which requires renewed effort to multilateralism; we will remain engaged in this important process.

## **Honduras**

- Completed sixth formal consultations in which all governments have discussed and assessed specific elements.

- Non-binding and humanitarian nature and solidarity in GCR in paras 4 and 5 have the objective to strengthen international cooperation while taking on board priorities and capacities of States.
- Pledges and contributions will distribute burden and responsibility.
- Support para 76, which includes unaccompanied children and encourages close cross-border cooperation including with regional actors.
- Have been implementing the San Pedro Sula Declaration which also involves sub-regional cooperation with MIRPS.
- This shows the importance of delving deeper into collaboration for protection and durable solutions.
- Recognise the work that has gone in strengthening protection for IDPs; primary goal is to prevent future displacement
- Also 20-year anniversary on IDPs underscores current commitment, and also applaud reference to resolution adopted by GA.
- Express thanks to UNHCR.

### **Dominican Republic**

- Commend UNHCR for the presentation of this draft. Received with optimism the progress that has been made.
- We believe the NYD on refugees and migrants has been a good source of momentum for all States to address the situation globally.
- Currently, we are in the process of drafting a new legislation on international protection.
- In this we have set numerous objectives to strengthen our domestic legal platform in line with the supremacy of our constitution and in full compliance with international obligations ensuring enjoyment of the right to seek protection in step with international standards and international law.
- Join others in noting that this is not a legally-binding document.
- It is the prerogative of the State to determine who is a refugee pursuant to national legislation and international laws.
- On paras 33 and 34 non-state actors, national or international can be considered a support to State as opposed to replacing the State.
- Support content of para 67 although some areas require special support to improve the resilience of host communities and refugees themselves.
- This should not create additional burden and these social and material entitlements should not be different from those that the state offers to its citizens in order to foster equality of opportunity and quality.
- Absence of registration of a given individual should not be interpreted as a promotion of statelessness; this is recognised when no State recognises the individual.

## Kenya

- In our understanding, this will still be developed into a final text following the sixth round of consultations.
- Preparation of draft has been a careful balance between different stakeholders.
- While critical to take into account country-specific circumstances, this has meant that it does not satisfy the concerns of all, but provides a basis upon which to work as we continue to work on the arrangements.
- Para 7 refers to the mobilisation of political will as well as other factors for sustained contribution from States and other relevant stakeholders.
- This is referred to in para 4, which refers to the ambition of the international community for strengthened cooperation to mobilise responsibility-sharing in favour of affected host States.
- In para 17, the Global Refugee Forum will be the primary vehicle for announcing concrete pledges.
- A lot of what we are including is riding on goodwill or political will.
- But political will has been lacking over the last several years. Many refugee situations have seen continuously decreasing funding.
- Therefore, it remains to be seen if this will result in increased, predictable and sustainable commitments towards the fulfilment of the objectives of the compact.
- Primacy of humanitarian assistance over development aid: while we have indicated that development assistance should be provided as grants or concessions, the provision of development loans is still likely to shift the burden on host States.
- Development cooperation should focus on grants as primary interface for true responsibility sharing.
- Support priorities of development assistance in favour of countries of origin to create conditions in favour of voluntary repatriation and these two should be grant-based.
- Resettlement must be significantly increased to demonstrate responsibility sharing.
- Appreciate importance given to protracted situation in resettlement, and would demonstrate that no refugee situation receives preferential treatment.
- A lot of work still needs to be done for the document to be useful.
- But it is also a document we can count on so that all States share responsibility equitably.
- Development of indicators is critical in measuring the impact of hosting refugees.
- Commend UNHCR efforts to coordinate the technical review of relevant methodologies.
- Look forward to the elaboration of tracking implementation of pledges to assess the impact of GCR as well as measuring the impact of the global compact which will enable us to take stock of achieving the objectives of the compact.

## Netherlands

- Express appreciation for UNHCR for leading the process.

- Believe the process has been inclusive; governments, civil society and academia were able to give their views. We have made a collective effort in the spirit of international cooperation.
- This is a good basis to take a new approach. We have contributed through the process, and that many have found their way in the text.
- Some elements could have been more ambitious, but overall, we are satisfied with the text.
- We underline those areas which are of particular importance.
- Pleased for the need for protection of refugees, and this is the cornerstone of the GCR.
- Good recognition of the urgent need for better responsibility- sharing to better protect refugee and support host communities.
- It is now our collective responsibility to broaden the support base for the benefit of refugees.
- Global Refugee Forum will be an important arrangement for cooperation, where we need to show solidarity by making pledges, and these can take many different forms and should go beyond financial contributions.
- Supportive of broadening the support base and the scope of area along with the CRRF.
- We are ready to take an integrated and balanced approach to refugee response with all stakeholders involved.
- Close cooperation between humanitarian and development assistance should lead to a new way of working.
- Access to education, jobs and livelihoods appreciated, and these are strongly embedded in the GCR.
- Special attention to vulnerable groups especially children and women.
- Fully support women and girl's meaningful engagement as well as the importance of security and safety of girls and women including sexual and gender violence and other harmful practices.
- Working toward solutions needed more than ever. Resettlement is one of them and we will continue our efforts in this regard and call on States that do not engage to contribute in a constructive way to responsibility sharing.
- Welcome strengthening of follow-up and review, and this is important.
- Welcome that indicators will be developed to track the four objectives.
- These consultations have been valuable and have increased our collective understanding and identified ways to address refugee situations.
- Provides a toolbox to share responsibility, but it can only be reached if we collectively contribute to implementation. We are ready to play our part.

## **Switzerland**

- This was a long and arduous process before the compact is implemented. But as Volker Türk said during the last consultations, we have made progress.

- Our way to conceive a response to address large movements of refugees has evolved.
- We must now respond in a comprehensive way to refugee situations along with all actors concerned particularly with development actors while upholding humanitarian principles.
- This also requires giving the means to refugees to become self-reliant so that they become an asset to their host countries.
- Compact has made considerable progress and we are looking forward to adopting it this fall.
- True the final draft is not perfect, for example, we would have preferred mechanisms to be mechanisms and not arrangements.
- We would have wished that the language of para 3 was not weakened.
- And we would have liked that the goals of para 7 were not amended, and would have preferred a different formulation in para 56 regarding security considerations.
- Strong language on mixed movements and IDPs, which reflect the reality on the ground, would have been welcome.
- However, we appreciate the explicit mention of the right to seek asylum and the principle of *non-refoulement*.
- Nature of the multi-stakeholder process requires compromise, and from our point of view, we have been presented an acceptable compromise.
- This is the only way of moving forward, and we call on all delegations to support this draft.
- We must make commitment so that host countries can count on international solidarity.
- The first Global Refugee Forum will be an important milestone and we are happy that this will take place in Geneva. We will examine all possibilities to support the Forum.
- Rest assured, we will spare no efforts, and will continue our effort on a multilateral level beginning with the Omnibus Resolutions.

### **Malta**

- Commend UNHCR and the final draft.
- This reflects a definitive improvement and there is a stronger focus on international commitments and collective outcomes.
- Reflects also the importance of political will to foster comprehensive responses for burden-and responsibility-sharing as highlighted in the NYD.
- Welcome that UNHCR will implement the compact in full cooperation with the UN system.
- There are a number of issues that we would have liked to have been addressed differently.
- Nevertheless, we feel this is a good compromise.
- Although not perfect, this provides a solid basis on which the international community can build upon in line with the 1951 Refugee Convention.

- This is the spirit of compromise; we can agree with the text.

### **Ireland**

- It has been a long journey to get to this point.
- Welcome the final draft and commend UNHCR efforts including States and refugees themselves.
- The text is balanced; there are elements that could have been stronger as with all consultative processes.
- Goal was to bring States together to address forced displacement. We are closer to this goal.
- Support the Norwegian and Estonian delegation concerning para 5; application of the compact is guided by UN GA resolutions, and this should remain unaltered.
- The process is not over and it is now incumbent on us to work together in a creative manner to achieve the four objectives of the GCR.
- Once again thank UNHCR, civil society actors and States.

### **Australia**

- Would like to commend UNHCR for presenting a comprehensive draft and thank Volker Türk and his team for their efforts to incorporate many contributions.
- Final draft reflects strength of the consultative process.
- Gender empowerment are key priorities. Women face key barriers.
- The draft is gender-sensitive and pleased with additional references to gender equality and ending gender violence.
- Welcome the consistent use of disability and that the draft acknowledges the particular vulnerabilities of people.
- Would have liked to see sexual and reproductive health. Given these are lifesaving, we will continue to support this in refugee and IDP settings.
- Reiterate that States will always be best placed to determine their response and ensure integrity of their approach.
- States should be able to manage resettlement and so we have concerns about prescriptive language on migration management aspects in this draft.
- Look forward to working with UNHCR to measure progress against the compact objectives.
- With a system in constant pressure it is important to make efficient and effective use of existing resources and important to align the compact with the UN SG's reform agenda.
- Reiterate that we can offer technical expertise; willing to share Australia's community resettlement and integration experience.

### **Italy**

- Generally satisfied with efforts to find consensus.



- Particularly glad that in paras 23 and 27 that more explicit reference to resettlement and complementary pathway for admissions has been made as a means to share responsibility.
- In implementing resettlement schemes, important to coordinate with those that already exist at the European level.
- We cannot let perfect be the enemy of the good.
- But repeat reference to mixed flows and both refugees and migrants as well as their right to access labour market and social inclusion.
- Appreciate that the final draft took note at the end of para 17 to the need to attract private sector investment and support local businesses.
- GCR is an important outcome and success will hinge on the collective international commitment to improve comprehensive responses and burden sharing; look forward to implementation.

### **Russian Federation**

- We commend UNHCR for providing us with the new text that has further improved.
- Thank UNHCR for all their efforts. At the same time, reiterate once again that this document is voluntary and legally non-binding.
- Ask for deleting reference to IDPs.
- At the same time, we believe that the most sustainable solution is voluntary and dignified return. Other solutions should be considered as secondary.
- Oppose attempts for commitment to resettle refugees; these must be considered on a voluntary basis.
- Main cause of refugee flows is the sustained interference by some States in the internal affairs of other States, and these countries must take greater responsibility.

### **Malaysia**

- Commend UNHCR for their inclusive approach.
- At the conclusion, hope to see a balanced text while upholding State sovereignty.
- We have been particularly engaged, and would like to offer following comments today.
- In para 4, add legislation after national policies.
- Those in protracted situation require the commitment of a wide range of stakeholders.
- And of equal importance is a robust arrangement and the need to extend support and cooperation.

### **Cuba**

- The new version of GCR shows a great deal of effort, not just by UNHCR but also delegations, so that the compact can be a document that enjoys consensus.
- Implementation of the compact will allow for true distribution of responsibilities, which is what countries of the south, especially host countries, have been calling for.

- Recognise UNHCR role as well as express appreciation for the involvement of other stakeholders including UN agencies and NGOs.
- Current process is not an intergovernmental process, but the thematic meetings have allowed for showing political will that all Member States have when it comes to addressing refugee crisis.
- In the future, implementation will be key to respect basic principles of the GCR, which is based on international law as well as the principles enshrined in the UN Charter along with other relevant instruments.
- GCR will be in step with current legal regimes and new leadership will allow for broadening of funds.
- Hope there will be new financing, which will be multiannual and without conditions.
- Hope no conditions for countries of the South when countries of the North provide support.
- We believe we must strengthen ODA and further support countries of the south.
- Reference to the right to sexual and reproductive health and gender equality are also important and these have already been agreed upon.
- Regarding proposed modifications, UNHCR can make efforts that are necessary and modify the text.
- But the current text is balanced and we believe it is important that true implementation be part of effective solidarity on the ground as regards operational measures.
- In the future, in inter-governmental processes and the Global Refugee Forums, it should also be possible to fine-tune the process.
- Drafting of indicators should be through an inter-governmental process.
- Important to bear in mind the collective responsibility when it comes to operationalising the compact.
- This will be important for the success of the implementation of the compact.

### **Austria**

- Would like to thank UNHCR for the skilful and diligent work over the last six months.
- Text is strong. Of course, like many others, would have liked to see language on certain issues, which does not feature in the text, but we are ready to endorse it.
- This is multilateralism and in the course of the work of the UN, we all need to make consensus.
- This will not solve all challenges. But by supporting the text we can move forward and focus on the implementation.
- Let us not miss this opportunity, so let's support this text.

### **Jordan**

- Thank UNHCR for taking on board some suggestions.
- With regard to NYD and CRRF, my country is a major host country.

- We know the burden and the challenges, and we know what it means to host millions of refugees.
- We know what is the right thing to do; this is why we believe in operationalising the principle of responsibility sharing.
- In fact, many arrangements are similar to the mechanisms we have in my own country.
- Areas listed are currently in need of support and we are receiving it through the contribution of the international community.
- NYD recognises the burden on national resources and underlines the centrality of international cooperation by enhancing responsibility sharing.
- Without assisting host States, the GCR will be a challenge to implement. This forms the basis and guides our position on CRRF and GCR. In this regard, we reiterate the following points:
  - UNHCR mandate in the context of implementing GCR and CRRF should be in line with 1951 Refugee Convention and shall not apply to those that receive assistance other than from UNHCR.
  - Nothing in the GCR and CRRF should extend the refugee definition or extend *non-refoulement* to those who do not enjoy it.
  - Need to be careful not to create binaries, for example, in paras 5,6 and 12.
  - Not bound to regional instruments, as well as to those we are not party to, including the Statelessness Convention.
  - Solutions in relation to refugee protection must not to lead to increasing burden and must pave the way for return.
  - Protection is temporary pending return. More protection to be provided based on international cooperation.
  - Countries of origin should receive support to reintegrate returnees.
  - In paras 1 and 2, welcome reference to refugees and hosts and that they should not be left behind.
  - Paras 3 and 4 hinge on burden sharing.
  - In para 5, welcome operationalising the principle of burden sharing.
  - In para 6, encourage States that are not party to the Convention to do so and urge States that are already party to implement their obligations under the Conventions.
  - In the section 'objectives', para 7, delete 'predictable distribution of' in seventh line.
  - In para 12, our understanding is that the present GCR does not confer any other categories with special rights where these rights do not exist.
  - Under arrangements for responsibility sharing, think para 14 and 15 are good.
  - On para 15, reiterate that the regional level should be separated from the country level.
  - With regard to para 18, Part B serves as a non-exhaustive guide. This will allow for further flexibility.
  - It is imperative that the agenda, outcomes and participants in the Global Refugee Forum are clear to ensure better results.

- In para 21, in line 4, host community priorities must be taken on board.
- On para 29, on regional and sub-regional approaches, they should be separated; for refugees should, by no means, be relegated to the region itself.
- Para 29 relegate solutions to regions. Resolving refugee situations should not be confined to a specific region.
- Welcome Support Platforms in support for comprehensive plan.
- In para 27 with regard to solidarity conference, these can also generate support for comprehensive plans.
- In para 32, on other related channels, we agree on finding effective way to use resources but underline that ensuring this should not just be the responsibility of stakeholders; request adding 'host States' before, in lines 4 and 5.
- In para 33, recognise the primary responsibility of host States; add 'host' before States.
- With respect to multi-stakeholder approach, it should be in line with the multi-stakeholder framework in second line.
- In para 34, there is mention of involving diaspora; would like UNHCR to elaborate in what contexts they will be involved.
- In para 37, welcome support to local authorities; our understanding is that relevant legal frameworks are those of host States themselves; similarly, in the third sentence, it is understood that relevant laws are those of host States in lines 4 and 5.
- On para 49, welcome, in line 5, national priorities are those of host States; therefore add 'host' before nations.
- In para 50, welcome the non-prescriptive nature of the compact and support in line 3 addition of 'national laws'. Indeed, as the para clearly states, a key objective is to ease pressure for low-and middle-income countries.
- In para 55, immediate reception arrangements, replace 'will' with 'would' when talking of activating standby arrangements.
- In para 56, do not understand linkages between security and protection; request reformulating the para in line with how it appears in the resettlement section.
- Registration and documentation are mainly tools to access assistance and services which are temporary.
- In para 56, would like to add capacity, requesting additional and sustainable resources. Should go beyond contribution to identifying and screening as appropriate to whatever services is required.
- In para 70, add 'the' in the second line.
- On footnote on ILO recommendation 205 and guiding principle, Jordan made clear that it has reservations to certain parts and will act accordingly in this regard.
- On civil registries, we reiterate, for Jordan it is merely a tool and does not give ground or confers nationality.
- On statelessness, we do not see ourselves bound by any relevant standards including UNHCR campaign to end Statelessness. This should also be coupled with calls for those party to implement the Convention.

- Request reformatting first sentence in para 85; other legal temporary solutions are not durable; in sentence 11, request adding after ‘other’ and before ‘local’: ‘temporary and intermediate’.
- On voluntary repatriation, para 87, agree that voluntary repatriation remains the preferred solution; underline article 13 of the UDHR, which clearly states that everyone has the right to leave and return to his or her country and this right cannot be qualified.
- Agree with para 90, but regret that traditionally offered to only limited numbers; reference to increasing resettlement should be reinserted.
- In para 92, on processing modalities, believe 25 percent annual resettlement submission falls short of expectations.
- In para 93, security considerations will also be same measures outlined in safety and security.
- On other solutions, in para 100, thank UNHCR for adding as it may take into account solutions other than local solutions, which a host country may have elected to provide pending return and resettlement.
- In para 100, line 7, add ‘upon request’ before technical guidance.

## USA

- As we conclude this consultation, I would like to praise the team of UNHCR who have worked tirelessly.
- UNHCR has demonstrated thoughtful leadership throughout this process under the stellar leadership of Volker Türk, and this embodies the highest diplomatic standards.
- With nearly an additional 3 million refugees in 2017, impetus on GCR is perhaps even more relevant today than when it was conceived two years ago.
- Increasing burden sharing remains critical and we support this objective.
- The USA is the leading donor in refugee responses and a strong advocate for refugee protection besides being one of the world’s leading resettlement countries.
- While not everyone will be content with the text, we have come a long way and we are particularly encouraged by multitude of actors participating.
- We are pleased that the current draft promotes refugee protection through measures such as enhanced asylum capacity, data protection and protection against sexual violence.
- Each State must have an effective and robust protection.
- Pleased with emphasis on national leadership; strengthen linkages between relief and development, and this is our new way of responding.
- Appreciated the work of everyone in this room and look forward to continuing our work so that it will result in greater burden sharing and better outcomes for refugees.
- In solidarity together, we go forward.

## **Day 2 (04 July 2018)**

### **Egypt (Arab Group)**

- Document is a working tool to deal with large refugee situations.
- Implementation should be in a balanced and coherent manner that takes into account host countries and communities aspirations; this will determine the success of the GCR and reflect the spirit of the NYD.
- Welcome enhancements in the text particularly in relation to voluntary repatriation, which is the preferred solution either for refugees or for host countries.
- Still more can be done with regard to resettlement and complementary pathway.
- Time between adoption of the compact and the first Global Refugee Forum will give an indication of usefulness although we don't see any positive effect on countries implementing CRRF.
- The process is not legally binding, but implementation will determine the sincerity of the international community to engage in fair and predictable responsibility sharing.
- Respect for sovereignty of States without imposing further obligation is primordial, particularly in relation to cooperation with local authorities.
- Maintain the specificity of humanitarian response. This must remain needs-driven with due attention to the difference between humanitarian and development assistance.
- Important to have an inter-governmental process for the development of indicators.
- Finally, need clarity on next steps. How will the GCR be adopted and if there will be any room to react to changes in the document.

### **Indonesia**

- Thank the Secretariat of UNHCR for leading the GCR process during the past six months and the final draft.
- Commend the remarkable work of UNHCR in streamlining the text in accordance to comments by Member States.
- We are pleased to see some of our concerns included, and are aware of the difficulty in including all comments.
- Reiterate that refugee hosting countries have different capacities so GCR should avoid prescriptive language and one size fits all. Urgent need for timely support.
- Support flexibility given to host countries who are not party to the 1951 Geneva Convention or its 1967 Protocol to implement in accordance with their respective laws, policies and socio-cultural realities.
- Recall our idea that additional burden should not be placed on host countries.
- Relevant stakeholders should support particularly in facilitating funding, especially for those living in countries lacking capacity.
- Share the view that there should be no conditionality.
- Hope that these formal consultations will not mark the end of UNHCR outreach to States.

- Encourage UNHCR to hold consultation prior to the official launch of the GCR.
- Universal consensus is very important.
- Let me conclude in reaffirming that the success of the GCR relies on implementation and there all Member States need to work closely to ensure that the document is practical and applicable.

### **India**

- Thank the office of the UNHCR for presenting the final draft and organising the sixth and last round of consultations.
- Reconciling the various views is indeed onerous, but the text has been progressively enriched through the iterative process.
- Final process will be the beginning of a dialogue, and as with any document it is difficult to address all concerns.
- The strength will lie in consensual additionality premised on solidarity and its litmus test will be the mobilisation of generous international support in favour of the objectives in para 7.
- Compact is legally non-binding and its implementation must be in keeping with this.
- Scope must be limited to protracted refugee situation.
- UNHCR's catalytic and supportive role must be within its mandate.
- International obligation of those not party to the Refugee Convention differ from those party.
- Any action and contribution made by Member States must be consistent with international laws.
- Reference to all non-UN documents in the text should be deleted.
- Suggest deleting reference to IDPs including footnotes as IDPs fall within the domestic jurisdiction.
- Would like to know how the input provided would be incorporated in the last draft.

### **Namibia**

- Our delegation joins those who spoke before us in thanking UNHCR on the final and revised draft as well as the explanatory memorandum on the main changes.
- Welcome proposal for the Global Refugee Forum to take place in two-year interval to measure progress.
- Agree to deletion of review of national policies.
- Welcome language on youth protection and special attention to unaccompanied minors.
- Note commitment by Member States and humanitarian actors for fair distribution.
- Support the call to identify gaps in responsibility sharing with a view to develop more sustainable and predictable responsibility sharing.
- The principle of burden sharing states that the international community should support host States.

- Impact on certain host States has led to renewed academic interest in responsibility sharing.
- The adoption of the NYD was significant with States committing to share more equitable burden sharing.
- The initiation of process by the GA in 2018 with the goal of ensuring equitable and predictable burden sharing will be a milestone commitment in this endeavour.
- Maintain the support to the work of UNHCR, who continue to offer light to asylum seekers by facilitating their voluntary repatriation and resettlement.

### **Croatia**

- Like to thank UNHCR for the outstanding work and the patiently growing convergence.
- Consider the final draft as solid and implementable; it is a remarkable result.
- This final text has built on extensive consultations, and should allow us to reach genuine consensus in a spirit of convergence which we can all support.
- Croatia has hosted refugees and IDPs amounting to one-fourth of our population, and fully understand concerns.
- We know what the compact would have meant to us at the time.
- Today in an ever-changing circumstance this means a lot to us and we believe in the international community as a whole.
- Strongly commit to supporting the final draft, now and later, in Geneva and in New York.
- More importantly strongly committed to implementing the compact globally in the spirit of responsibility sharing, which was the goal.
- This process needs to be sustained and translated into action for refugees and hosts.

### **Sovereign Order of Malta**

- Welcome the final draft of the GCR and thank UNHCR for its effort in achieving consensus on the document.
- Noted with satisfaction the follow-up and review, which will be part of the Global Refugee Forum to be held every four years along with bi-annual reviews.
- Also pleased to see that participation of all stakeholders is emphasised.
- In our view, our engagement is of importance for the interlinked and independent objectives to be implemented on the ground, which we believe should be ambitious and forward looking.
- Recent amendments including to para 41 have been weakened, but we think UNHCR will continue to strengthen partnership with faith-based organisations.
- Recently, last Friday, during the UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations, we examined how taking refugees faith into account is needed for a people-centred approach that we should collectively strive for.
- Committed to learning and practice when engaging with faith actors and look forward to sharing expertise in the implementation of the GCR.



## **GAVI Alliance**

- Welcome the final draft. Feel this draft has addressed many concerns raised during the discussion.
- Our engagement is because of our experience at the country level, where we see how proactive use of vaccines is preventing outbreaks.
- We have responded in fragility and emergency situations. Some examples include supporting hosts including refugees in routine immunisation programmes in Uganda and supporting vaccine delivery for oral cholera in Bangladesh.
- Grateful that many concerns related to immunisation coverage will now be addressed by measures included in the compact.
- Compact can ensure Member States are equipped to address epidemics by building more affordable national systems and strengthening national capacities.
- In this final draft, we welcome the following amendments and respectfully ask for their retention in the Consensus: In para 73, the insertion of immunisation services as disease prevention; in paragraph 57, the insertion of screening of health assessment upon arrival; in para 74, the re-insertion of female health workers in the now called women and girls section.
- We thank UNHCR for their leadership, Member States, civil society and other stakeholders for an inclusive and rich process and look forward to the adoption and implementation of this important Compact.

## **IFRC**

- Congratulate UNHCR for leadership of the process which culminates today.
- The Turkish Red Crescent has been given a unique opportunity today to deliver this statement.
- Urge the international community to do better in its responsibility towards refugees.
- Need to enhance refugee self-reliance and ease pressure on countries that host them.
- Large-scale refugee influx can have dramatic consequences adding pressure and exacerbating tensions between communities.
- Therefore, important to take into account host communities in designing programmes.
- The last draft is ambitious in providing a programme of action that acknowledges refugees need to have better access to health, livelihood and education, and that refugees and host communities are included from the very beginning.
- Any international assistance must benefit both refugees and hosts.
- Based on the fundamental principle of impartiality, we have emphasised to pay attention to host communities.
- Turkey is one of the most important country with an estimated 3.8 million refugees under temporary protection including 3.5 million Syrians and a vast majority of them live in host communities.
- There has been concerns about the impact of hosting refugees on local economies.

- Turkish Red Crescent plays a crucial role.
- One programme has been the emergency social safety net implemented collectively with government authorities.
- The programme aims at strengthening national systems to integrate Syrian refugees and provides multipurpose cash in support of beneficiary needs.
- It empowers them and stimulates small economies.
- This also bridges humanitarian and development work.
- Strong partnerships and links with social safety nets offer robust protection and pave the way for a sustainable future.
- We also run community centres and provide vocational training and psycho-social support, which is indeed crucial in our view.
- Local populations must have access to the same level of services and any perception of unfair treatment needs to be addressed.
- Large influx can give rise to tensions, and in many situations, they lead to discrimination and xenophobia; addressing this is essential.
- Social inclusion is a dynamic and a two-way process.
- Social integration should focus on supporting refugees to adapt to a new home, to become inclusive and foster welcoming societies.
- When designing programmes, it is essential as a humanitarian community to recognise, promote and commit to do more to build local capacities in host communities as they are often the first responders.

## **WHO**

- Welcome this final draft and commend UNHCR secretariat.
- The draft positively reflects the arrangements required for equitable and predictable responsibility sharing and provides a basis for sustained contributions by States and other stakeholders.
- Welcome reference to access to health in para 59. However, we do regret 'depending on the context' continue to be excluded in para 79.
- In para 66, important to provide assistance through local systems instead of establishing parallel services from which hosts do not benefit.
- Universal health care principle should translate into ensuring that everyone has access to health services. Important also to ensure quality.
- Finally, and to conclude, like to extend gratitude to UNHCR for the commitment and steadfastness in steering this process.
- This is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

## **UNICEF**

- As we have said, especially pleased with paras 76 and 77 on children in addition to commitments already made in relation to education, health and gender.
- Committed to delivering crucial support as part of CRRF.

- Any decision should be based in the best interest of the child including voluntary repatriation.
- Stand ready to build capacity of national authorities.
- Through six rounds of consultations, listened carefully and appreciate the broad support to children from Member States including from host countries as well as CRRF pilot countries.
- Member States expressed clearly the importance of child-sensitive services.
- Political commitment needed to ensure refugee children reach their full potential and welcome support from States to scale up inclusive access for children.
- Implementation of GCR should lead to concrete funding and efficient community engagement.
- Stand ready to support Member States and UNHCR on all matters related to the compact including access to education, family reunification, cross-border cooperation, child protection and care and services for at risk-children as well as meaningful participation.
- Many countries hosting large refugees; so, ready to work with line ministries to build local capacity to ensure refugee children have access to critical services.

### **World Bank**

- Important day for refugees and host countries and gratifying to see the emerging consensus.
- Thank Volker Türk and the team for strong leadership, and all of you for sharing insights and your determination to reach consensus.
- This process shows us what is possible when we work together and listen to the voices of those affected.
- We now have before us a balanced document in line with NYD to deliver on the promise of CRRF.
- As UNHCR said, this is the beginning of a dynamic process, and if we put in place arrangements these can be enhanced over time and broaden the support base, which will help overcome the current limitations of the refugee response model, promote self-reliance, and strengthen coherence between humanitarian and development response and contribute to lasting solutions.
- The success will require international cooperation from all of us; we have before us a unique opportunity to make this vision a reality.
- Using the Global Refugee Forum to take stock, we can adjust and innovate.
- The focus must now be on implementation and want to reiterate some points.
- Importance of prevention and addressing the drivers of displacement and strengthening preparedness.
- Importance of supporting government-led policy reforms and institutional strengthening to move away from the care and maintenance model.
- Our commitment to create complementarity between humanitarian and development assistance; action on the ground must pursue both.

- Development action is not a substitute for emergency response but is a critical added contribution.
- Also want to stress the importance of data systems for our collective decision-making based on evidence.
- Finally, ready to work with UNHCR to develop indicators and all follow-up and review.
- The president of the World Bank was in Bangladesh and they met some of those who have been affected.
- Our support will reflect that solidarity and collective commitment to the lives of those affected.

### **IOM**

- Wish to extend congratulation on an exceptional process, which is a product and working of UNHCR's effectiveness to fulfil the promise of the NYD.
- Welcome participating as an observer; great privilege to see how UNHCR has worked with Member States so skilfully.
- The result is a balanced and principled text, which so many have already said; it is practical and implementable.
- We appreciate the recognition of our work together in addressing specific needs specifically in health, livelihood and resettlement.
- Look forward to our collaboration to further realise the goals of the compact.

### **ICRC**

- Thank the High Commissioners Office for the spirit of this process.
- We will play our part in supporting the implementation.

### **IGAD**

- Welcome the final draft of the GCR and look forward to its conclusion while aligning ourselves to the statement made by Uganda – one of our member states and the largest refugee hosting country in the continent.
- In the Horn of Africa, where millions are displaced and on the same measure hosted in protracted situations, IGAD is already leading a regional application of the CRRF.
- This is done through the Nairobi Declaration and action plan on durable solutions for Somali refugees and reintegration of returnees in Somalia – that now has a wider application to refugees hosted across the region.
- In partnership with UNHCR, UNDP, EU and the World Bank and other actors the Nairobi Declaration and action plan provides a good example of a multi-stakeholder approach to addressing displacement at the international and national level.
- Just like the Cartagena Declaration, this compact could benefit from such experiences and even recognize them as models. We especially welcome article

30 that calls for exchange of good practices among regional and sub-regional mechanisms and would be very happy to host such an exchange.

- The World Bank continues to support countries in the IGAD region through a regional operation, the development response to displacement impacts and we are hopeful that we are on a better track especially towards improved livelihoods and self-reliance for refugees and those that so kindly host them over many years in our sub-region.
- The Horn of Africa will continue to pursue solutions for those displaced as it also seeks to address the root causes of displacement.

**NGO statement** is available [here](#)

### **Costa Rica**

- Thank civil society for the valuable contributions, and express gratitude for the work that has been carried out. Thank UNHCR for the final draft.
- Large number of contributions and, as has been said, the success of the compact depends on the shared responsibility and commitment of all States through the honing of best practices, and technical and financial support.
- Large refugee situations should be perceived in accordance to the scale of each country and taking into account the nature of the crisis.
- Funding should be made available not only for countries facing large refugee influxes, but also for countries like ourselves.
- In para 63, need to ensure that those people have been forced to move as a result of climate change receive protection.
- Would appreciate if there is reference to the Nansen Protection Agenda and the Platform for Disaster Displacement.

### **Uganda (on behalf of the Africa Group)**

- Commend UNHCR for the manner in which they have consulted to produce this draft.
- Thank UNHCR, Member States and non-State actors in contributing actively.
- We have engaged collectively in this debate in order to highlight the immense challenges in terms of forced displacement, and thank UNHCR for taking on board many concerns.
- Africa is a continent that has experienced several emergencies and the number of refugees is predicted to continue rising.
- Fully aware of the need to provide appropriate response including by keeping borders open and adopting regional and sub-regional approaches.
- But this has not been the case with the international community.
- We continue to be the least funded programme and refugee situations in the region are facing chronic funding challenges.
- This was an opportunity not to be missed.

- To recall the principle that should continue to guide the needs and international solidarity at the core of international protection.
- There is still room for improvement to respond to the growing challenges.
- Need to put in place a system so that the international community will live up to its commitment.
- Despite shortcomings identified, we remain hopeful; future progress lies in implementation.
- Review and follow-up provide another important opportunity to develop indicators, important to assess progress towards a robust mechanism for responsibility sharing.
- We will remain constructively engaged in this process to develop indicators.

### **Jordan**

- Throughout the process, indicated clearly our position in relation to NYD.
- As a major traditional host country, we believe in operationalising the principle of burden and responsibility-sharing.
- The NYD committed to equitable responsibility sharing and strengthening community-based resilience and our understanding is that the GCR does not alter this. This basis will guide the process, and reiterate the following points.
- Nothing in the GCR may be interpreted in a way that will extend the scope of refugees and confer protection to people who do not enjoy them.
- Nothing in the text of the GCR may be interpreted as altering UNHCR's mandate as stipulated in the 1951 Refugee Convention. UNHCR mandate also does not apply to persons receiving assistance other than from UNHCR.
- Not bound by the provision of any regional practices or to Conventions we are not party to including the Statelessness Conventions.
- All references to national laws and legal frameworks are the prerogative of the host country.
- Reiterate all our previous comments on the deletion of footnotes in the present text that relate to reports and outcomes of non-intergovernmental processes.
- Refugee status ceases once the conditions conferring the right have ceased to exist.
- Countries of origin must receive returnees and they must be supported in sustainable reintegration of returnees.
- Para 7 departs from the NYD; bring it in line with Part B by deleting 'distribution' in the line 6.
- Arrangements to support a comprehensive response must go beyond the national and regional.
- Global level should be treated as a specific category and under para 29, it should appear as a separate point.
- Under safety and security, concerns with current formulation; States have the sovereign right to control their borders.

### **Volker Türk's Closing remarks:**

- There were 82 statements during this sixth round. UNHCR and the High Commissioner expresses its deepest gratitude for what delegations have shared in terms of process, and for the constructive and active engagement.
- Despite the shortcomings, we are making history. Let's bear that in mind; it is a particular responsibility we all have. We have been on an eighteen months journey together, but this started even earlier. One of the first UN General Assembly resolution, in 1946, related to refugees, making it clear that refugee issues are a matter of international concern.
- We have come a long way notably over the last couple of months; hope you feel what a historic process this has been despite the shortcomings and bearing in mind the aspirations and true potential of this compact.
- When we step in a quiet moment, we can all say how proud we are with what we have achieved in a difficult environment. This sets in motion a true spirit for the betterment of the world. It does offer a framework to improve people's lives and help affected countries. It is not just words on paper.
- We at UNHCR feel the pain every day of people in countries that are more affected than others and cannot emphasise how deeply we care for the absolute need of international solidarity.
- An effective means of sharing solidarity has been our institution's *raison d'être* from its creation in 1950. So, we hear at a deep level the Africa group; what Lebanon, Iran, Bangladesh and Pakistan have been saying and we hear your plea for robust implementation, for a robust responsibility-sharing mechanism, and we see it emerging; it has been set in train with the GCR.
- In today's world, with multilateralism in difficulty, it was important to have such an incremental and organic process, which moved progressively onwards based on consensus and common denominator to aspirations, hopes and collective work undertaken in good faith.
- This demands hearing everyone and also recognises that there is a give and take, that every single request cannot find its way into the text. We cannot miss the forest for the trees.
- This is not a General Assembly resolution or ExCom Conclusion negotiations. It has been an iterative process in response to what the General Assembly has asked from us. Many inter-governmental processes were done in the same iterative process and the proof of the effectiveness is there when you look at the zero draft. You all can claim that the final draft has had your imprint.
- We have overwhelming support for the text. This can never be an endless process and needs to come to a conclusion. But it is a delicate balance that can be easily thrown to the wind. So, we need to cherish it and build upon it.
- You will have realised that a difficult balancing act needed to be struck between the non-binding and strictly voluntary nature of the compact, with the aspiration to create obligations for predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing.

- Nothing in the compact creates new obligations, nor does it modify UNHCR mandate.
- The final draft charts the way forward. While the text may not meet the ambitions of some, it provides an opportunity to reflect a compromise of diverging views.
- It is clear that host States call for stronger responsibility-sharing must be met through the operationalisation of the GCR.
- As Egypt said this morning, on behalf of the Arab Group, we also find that this is a 'working tool' where its implementation must take into account legitimate needs and ownership of host countries, and that will determine the level of success.
- This compact is not the end, but the beginning of a dynamic dialogue that will include further developments through burden- and responsibility-sharing arrangements and practical implementation.
- Moving to implementation was a strong refrain we heard from you. A lot of ideas came out, and we will take careful note so that we can capture these, as these will inspire us when we continue the engagement process in the run up to the first Global Refugee Forum.
- There are issues we will need to work and explore with you such as indicators, Global Refugee Forum, Support Platforms, Asylum Capacity Support Group and measuring the impact arising from hosting, protecting and assisting refugees. We look forward to this once the compact is adopted.
- We appeal to your spirit of constructive engagement and encourage you to look at the broad picture. What we have is greater than the sum of its parts. A vast majority of you said they have refrained from requesting further text changes.
- Some of you mentioned the nexus between humanitarian and development action. It is clear that these complement each other and are definitely not meant to replace each other. We have sought to reflect the different logic of both.
- Humanitarian principles continue to govern humanitarian assistance in the area of refugees, and this remains needs-based and not subject to conditions.
- Development assistance is based on country leadership, and in refugee situations it must be additional and for the benefit of refugees and hosts. Nothing in the text creates, adds or imposes conditionality or burden on host countries. We hope the clear language in the text will be broadly accepted and note the statement of GRULAC and Africa Group.
- Para. 12 has enjoyed the support of most delegations; some concerns remain with regard to the reference to 'other persons on the move' and IDPs. The paragraph clearly States that the CRRF and GCR are intended to respond to large refugee and protracted situations. We have also heard that this is an operational reality, and interaction between refugee movements and other forms of human mobility are taken into account upon the request of States, not least in line with GCM discussions. We heard also a call from many highlighting that challenges that may arise may lead to States calling for support from responsibility-sharing arrangements of the GCR.



- We have heard calls from many to ensure those States that are faced with significant challenges may be able to call upon the architecture and support that is envisaged in the programme of action.
- We also note that while the GCR relates to refugee situations, the New York Declaration acknowledged the reality of mixed flows in its para. 6 and it does indeed talk about IDPs (para. 20). This recognizes the interlinkages and possible needs for support.
- What is reflected is not a response but shows the interlinkages we have heard from a number of countries with the need for support when it is going to be appropriate. Nothing in para. 12 creates or adds obligations, nor alters the mandate of UNHCR.
- Related to this issue is national sovereignty. We listened very carefully to you, and paragraphs 2 and 33 note that this is paramount. It is also clearly stated that the compact is non-binding (para. 4).
- On the footnotes, we have removed those that have created concerns, and will do a check on this again. Current footnotes now refer to processes that were adopted through an inter-governmental process and possible stakeholders that may be called upon to contribute. We encourage those delegations who still have concerns to come forward.
- For those who wished to see ‘mechanisms’ rather than ‘arrangements’, let us look at para. 103. One of the task of the Global Refugee Forum will be to review the ongoing efficiency of responsibility-sharing arrangements, thus possibly pointing to needed improvements.
- When it comes to the four objectives, it is clear we have tried to capture the interdependence and interlinked nature, so they are pursued on an equal footing.
- On the resolutions mentioned in para. 5, we have used agreed language from the Omnibus Resolution.
- We will digest the comments and remain engaged to make the draft even stronger based on a common understanding. Will reflect the tenor of the sixth formal consultation following discussion with the High Commissioner in the document that will be sent to the General Assembly, bearing in mind the long process you have been involved in.
- We will send the final version before the end of July. It will be made available online in mid-September in the six official UN languages.
- It will be considered by the General Assembly, in conjunction with the Omnibus Resolution on refugee matters in Geneva, before they go to the Third Committee.
- This process has placed immense trust in us. It has been our privilege to serve the people and you all. And many thanks for your constructive engagement.