

Fourth Informal Briefing on the Global Refugee Forum (14 December 2020)
NGO Statement

- Thank you Chair, for another opportunity to NGOs to express collectively their perspectives on the GRF follow-up, one year after its first iteration.
- Under Protection Capacity, NGOs recognized the Asylum Capacity Support Group recent progress made through various concrete documents released. We also welcome the opportunity to engage in this mechanism at the recent RSD virtual retreat.
- On access to Solutions specifically, NGOs highlight the importance of ensuring pledges related to local integration and local solutions are realized. ICVA and NGOs are ready to engage in such efforts.
- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic challenges, NGOs call on all stakeholders to effectively implement their pledges made under Protection Capacity, Solutions, and in the other areas.
- NGOs also welcome information on concrete proposals to ensure the monitoring and implementation of statelessness pledges within the review process, and how this can be more visibly integrated and mainstreamed as part of dialogue on protection systems and root causes. NGOs also note next year's anniversary of the Statelessness Convention as an opportunity to celebrate progress and work on what still needs to be done.
- Additionally, we acknowledge that the Support Platforms recently launched new initiatives, namely: the Two-Sudan Initiative; the San Salvador city Declaration; and the high-level consultation in the lead-up to the 2020 Afghanistan Conference.
- Following that progress, we wonder which mechanisms exist at national and regional levels to ensure exchanges between the Support Platforms and civil society? Moreover, at global level, how can civil society further engage and inform itself on the Support Platforms work?
- NGOs also reaffirm the importance of pledges ensuring an age, gender, and diversity, including disability, sensitive approach, which will also facilitate refugee and host communities meaningful participation.
- Lastly, we very much welcome the information provided on the roadmap for the follow-up on pledges and contributions, ahead of the December 2021 mid-term review. NGOs are ready to support its progress, facilitate regular stocktaking, and sustain momentum.
- A detailed version of this statement is available on icvanetwork.org
- Thank you.