

Global Compact on Refugees – Fifth Formal Consultations 12 – 13 June, Geneva

Agenda item 1: Introduction (Part I)

Opening remarks by AHC-P, Volker Turk, is available [here](#)

Uganda (African Group)

- Appreciate efforts in improving the document and bringing us close to consensus. Many concerns raised by the Group have been accommodated. These include integrating the UN Resolution 46/182 in the main text of the document, and reinstating in various parts emphasis on national ownership and policies.
- As far as reference to human rights is concerned, the Group's preference was language in second draft, especially the one used in last sentence on page 2 of Draft 2.
- Hope that the compact will ensure equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing.
- Para. 3: replace 'provides' by 'intends to provide'.

Brazil (GRULAC)

- Many suggestions have been included in Draft 3. As we move closer, important to smooth rough edges with a view to translating the spirit of NYD into action.
- Appreciate new wording in paragraph 4 that highlights collective nature of the compact and establishing clear link between voluntary contributions and objectives in para. 7.
- Appreciate inclusion of Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Caution against the use of footnotes and suggest including only pertinent ones.
- Appreciate inclusion of Resolution 46/182 in para. 5 and humanitarian principles; welcome national ownership.
- Appreciate streamlining the objectives of the compact; progress must be assessed against four pillars of the CRRF.
- Thank for including that climate change are not causes of refugee movement while acknowledging that they may interact with drivers of refugee movements.

European Union

- Wish to thank UNHCR for having carefully listened in integrating many comments and proposing a balance and well-articulated draft to foster consensus.
- Commend efforts to streamline the text in a way that is practical, taking CRRF as an intrinsic part of GCR.
- Convinced that GCR will be successful if it mobilises broader number of States with mutual commitment. Express satisfaction with reference to the international community as a whole as well as referring to collective outcomes; satisfied with overall architecture for responsibility-sharing; reference to humanitarian and development nexus as well as national ownership.
- Satisfied with measurement of impact of hosting refugees although details are still missing.
- Pleased that UNHCR is mobilising UN agencies.
- Convinced that while it is the primary responsibility of States, civil society and private sector engagement is indispensable for a multi-stakeholder approach.
- GCR needs to be grounded in collective will.
- Hope that concerns of developing countries are being addressed.

- Convinced of the need to continue providing humanitarian assistance in line with WHS and Grand Bargain commitments.
- Welcome streamlined para. 1, although request that the sentence, ‘refugees require protection and solutions to their plight’, from Draft 2 be reintroduced.
- Support para. 2, with UN Charter reference and also the call for widening the support base.
- Support reformulation of para. 3 and reference to other humanitarian and development actors as said before.
- Welcome reference in para. 4 to the international community ‘as a whole’. Satisfied with the voluntary nature of the compact.
- Would want to refer to ‘political ambition’ in para. 4.
- Welcome reference to humanitarian principles in para. 5.
- Welcome invitation to States to accede to international refugee instruments.
- Welcome streamlined para. 7 but recommend reinserting reference to broadening the support base.
- Welcome human rights in para. 9; also, welcome reference to upholding laws at national and international level as well as SDGs and ending discrimination and abuse.

Djibouti

- Thank UNHCR for Draft 3, which has included a good number of our concerns. Reflected convergence of various stakeholders. Additional efforts will serve to achieve consensus.
- GCR recalls the humanitarian principle; based on international cooperation and regional refugee instruments, this guarantees the non-politicisation of the refugee regime.
- Welcome in para. 2 sovereign equality of States; and in para. 5 national ownership and respect for state sovereignty.
- Important not to instrumentalise humanitarian nature of the compact for political ends.
- Welcome provision contained on education and health care for both independence and self-reliance of refugees; also contributes to create environment for sustainable returns.
- National compact can promote refugee inclusion in national education and health systems.
- Welcome para. 50 and reference to not imposing additional obligations; but this reference could be strengthened and could include measurable and achievable activities.
- Welcome reference to additional resources in para. 35; positive that it does not impose additional burden on host States, particularly for least developed countries that are facing considerable challenges for their own populations.
- Funds allocated to humanitarian aid for refugees should not compete with traditional ODA. This has been part of a general trend of falling funds, which is happening across contexts.
- Would welcome clarification about how predefined indicators could be drafted to allow for better follow-up once GCR is adopted.

Ethiopia

- Thank UNHCR for the draft, which continues to incorporate views of Member States expressed in previous consultations.
- Strong reference to human rights and recognition of environmental factors and drivers of refugee movements is welcome.
- Para. 1: appreciate reference to current challenges to refugee response; indicating the impact of lack of resources in weakening quality of protection is important too.

- Under para. 2, translating international cooperation and solidarity into action through effective and workable mechanism for burden and responsibility sharing to translate the principles into action is essential.
- Para. 7: four objectives of CRRF must be pursued with equal focus. Real progress comes when success is achieved on all four objectives without asymmetry.
- On root causes, GCR should uphold 3 pillars of sustainable development; complement UN led actions on climate change, desertification and address cross border displacements.
- Under guiding principles, addressing protection and solution needs of refugees is the responsibility of the international community, which must remain engaged through collective action.
- Recognise the importance of this document, and will remain engaged to further enrich the document until it takes final shape.

Sweden

- Welcome streamlined and simplified text. Focus on collective outcomes has been strengthened. Find consultation process has been a collective experience and positive.
- Appreciate references to partnerships and participation of refugees and host communities. This should underpin PoA.
- Important to explain how we can work with bilateral aid in accordance with GCR objectives.
- Recognising the complexity of refugee movements is clearly expressed and maintained.
- Well-functioning partnership between IOM and UNHCR is important. Para. 12 will complement UN actions.
- Clear links between root causes and ongoing UN reforms in peace and development will place the compact in the broader context of what we are trying to achieve.

Germany

- Thank UNHCR for improved and balanced language of Draft 3.
- Predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing is important, and we welcome reference to widening the support base beyond those countries that have historically contributed to refugee cause by hosting or other means.
- GCR represents an important ambition of the international community.
- Strongly appreciate guiding principles and expect to see same language in the final draft.
- Refugees should not be politicised; but it will take effort to make it operational.
- Assessing progress of compact and tracking progress in a meaningful way will be key. Welcome language on collective outcomes and joint efforts to achieve GCR.
- Cooperation between humanitarian and development beyond complementarity will be required to achieve GCR through early joint assessments.
- At the same time, humanitarian assistance will need to be delivered according to humanitarian principles.
- Recommend using development cooperation and humanitarian assistance consistently throughout the text.
- Welcome language on prevention: environmental degradation and natural disasters may interact with drivers of refugee movements, but are not in themselves causes of such movements.
- No reference to the adverse effects of climate change; need adding Nansen Agenda for Protection.

- Rights and fundamental freedom must be mentioned as are important to prevent conflicts.
- Reducing poverty and disaster risk reduction should be listed.
- Equally important to ensure coherent language with GCM in this section.

Mexico

- Thank UNHCR for reflecting diverse comments in a balanced way in the new draft.
- Close to have a document that provides comprehensive response to refugees and equitable support to refugee hosting States.
- Important to achieve consensus text which enjoys political commitment and hope fifth round will help achieving this.
- Welcome coordination among all stakeholders; good balance between non-binding and collective nature.
- Welcome mention of national ownership and that the compact is not prescriptive.
- Mixed migration must be recognised. Displacement by natural disasters presents significant challenges and welcome explicit reference to IOM. Consistency with migration compact is important to ensure complementarity and effective coordination.
- Para. 12: welcome reference to natural disasters as factors that result in movement of persons and require our attention to coordinate responses. Would like to see reference to Nansen Initiative or Platform for Disaster Displacement as examples of good practice. They have contributed to better understanding; can provide effective guidance to States.

Republic of Korea

- Timely progress through consultations. Among others, welcome UNHCR efforts to make draft clearer and avoid duplication.
- Welcome clear goals in line with CRRF; expanding the part on children and youth; and emphasis on partnership with UNHCR and IOM.
- Need to prioritise goals for protection outcome.
- Movements not homogenous, but composite; refugee situations require distinct and context-specific responses therefore essential to make the best of existing partnerships with stakeholders including with IOM and expand cooperation on the ground.
- Welcome the Support Platform role to support national arrangements; welcome emphasis on national ownership.

Nigeria

- Adequate protection and sustainable funding is key to successful GCR implementation.
- Despite generosity, gap between humanitarian and development funding widened.
- The proposed Global Refugee Forum has the potential to improve funding for refugee responses. However, draft fails to show how these gaps will be adequately funded.
- Need to have fair share for each country.
- Welcome reference to root causes of displacement. However, refugee responses must stay rooted on ground realities to grant protection to all people in need. People displaced across borders by natural disasters and climate change need protection, so need to establish clear links with the adverse effects of climate change.

Denmark

- Welcome that Draft 3 is streamlined and succinct. Progress in balancing the two parts.

- Need clarity on complementarity that reaches across humanitarian and development efforts; these references are no longer clear.
- Need an efficient and credible mechanism for humanitarian action to be supported by development action. A World Bank study showed that forced displacement is not just about protection, but also development. Humanitarian assistance is insufficient. Humanitarian funding is not enough for current crises, let alone new ones. While humanitarian action needs to be delivered in full accordance with humanitarian principles there is no contradiction between the two. Humanitarian actors will be able to prioritise resources for the most vulnerable, benefiting host communities, while refugees will experience better livelihoods and will be better prepared for durable solutions.
- Development is delivered bilaterally. CRRF roll-out shows such approaches work and multilateral donors are adopting new ways of working like the World Bank.
- Denmark has tripled humanitarian aid and cannot increase it further. But allocated significant development funding to CRRF totalling \$300 million and encourage GCR to take this approach.

South Africa

- Commend UNHCR for accommodating the views of large numbers of refugees in Africa. Welcome efforts to ensure the text is well balanced. Some paras need to be further refined.
- Para. 1: welcome acknowledgment that the compact will be operationalised through voluntary contributions as opposed to dedicated.
- In the guiding principles section, appreciate State leadership and that implementation will take into account national laws and policies.
- Support the compact's non-political nature. Para. 5 should reflect that non-politicisation also applies to implementation. Welcome the inclusion of the Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. Propose to remove brackets in the same para.
- On objectives in para. 7, support the four pillars and satisfied with streamlining. But success should be measured on those pillars and propose second sentence to end after stakeholder, or add expansion of resettlement countries.

United States

- See this as final opportunity to examine the current draft and identify lingering concerns.
- Thanks to UNHCR and colleagues around the room to ensure thoughtful balance and streamlining to move this process forward.
- Strongly support draft language on state sovereignty while recognising burden-sharing.
- Protracted crises show limited signs of abating and needs continue to outweigh resources.
- Focus of the PoA must be realistic and achievable and widely supported.
- Welcome changes in para. 4 and simplification of objectives; draft PoA is more straightforward and includes language on CRRF.

Bangladesh

- Introduction needs strong international commitment for refugees and asylum-seekers, including those in vulnerable situation, requiring humanitarian and development approach.
- Unless protection gaps are addressed, the much talked about complementarity between the two compacts will not be achieved and the NYD commitments will be undermined.
- Strong para. on follow-up is required, including in the introduction.

- International cooperation must show additional support for armed conflict prevention, peacebuilding and disaster risk reduction.
- Language in subsection 4 must be strengthened.
- GCR is apolitical in nature.
- A number of 'will' have been used; suggest using 'would'.
- Final document should refer more to national ownership and international cooperation.

Bolivia

- GCR should be supported by humanity, solidarity and the 2030 agenda.
- Support inclusion of the Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. These aspects must be considered with more intensity throughout the document.
- GCR has included position of many countries and contains elements we support.
- Request to add the Spirit of the Declaration for a World Without Walls and Citizenship adopted in 2017. Need to give greater impetus to a new world order based on solidarity and complementarity between people.
- Remove word 'burden' and use 'responsibility' only. Initiative for universal world citizenship underlined need to eradicate xenophobia; include objective in GCR to eliminate racial discrimination and xenophobia, which have structural impact on refugee lives.

Sudan

- Getting to grips with this version from which we can draw two conclusions.
- First, relates to the document in current form, which covers concerns by States and makes it easier to arrive at consensus. However, tackling the root causes of asylum requires negotiation with other parties because its implementation will go beyond our remit. Both are connected to causes of asylum, and of course improving living conditions in countries of origin will support voluntary returns and that is a logical conclusion.
- Second, concerning donor conferences, clarify and stipulate methodology between what is human and what is development. And in all of this, need to maintain full respect of national ownership.

Iran

- The principle motive of GCR was the promotion of responsibility-sharing in refugee protection. Main question is how it will enhance this burden and responsibility-sharing. Still sceptical on the capacity of the draft to go beyond expectations. Need an action-oriented compact that effectively addresses this issue.
- Is the international refugee protection regime still valid for international cooperation? if yes, then we need to act meaningfully. And, if not, we should not shy away to pave the way to update the instrument.
- GCR is not occasion to keep silent on current international refugee protection imbalance.
- GCR should clarify that preaching humanitarian approaches cannot go together with keeping refugees away. Asylum-seekers should enjoy protection everywhere otherwise it must be acknowledged that host countries' protection to refugees is voluntary, and this will be in harmony with the voluntary nature of the compact.
- Need to reduce number of refugees in protracted situation. Reintroduce deleted language.

Canada

- Welcome Draft 3 and believe this will allow to reach consensus.

- Successful implementation of CRRF requires strong national ownership with appropriate support from the international community.
- Welcome focus on collective outcomes; mutually reinforcing engagement will be essential to achieving the objective and promoting whole-of-society approaches.
- While States have the primary responsibility, enabling wider involvement is important to responsibility sharing.
- Remove reference to 'other stakeholder where relevant' to emphasise that GCR will be enacted through truly multi-stakeholder approaches.
- Welcome para. 12, which clarified current reality of people movement. Need to take into account the reality of mixed movements when applying CRRF. UNHCR Ten Point of Action provides good guidance in this regard.
- GCR and GCM will be coherent in promoting practices that will safeguard the human rights of all people on the move.

Tuvalu

- These efforts take us to the final stage; confident we are heading to fulfil protection gaps.
- Fundamental question: will GCR improve lives of refugees? To address this question, we need to ask: is the GCR playing in role in developing a framework for people forcibly displaced, who are not substantially covered within existing protection instruments?
- Evidence indicates that Tuvalu could become the first island to be swallowed by the sea. More than 11,000 people will need to find a place to live.
- Appreciate para. 12, but wording far from optimal.
- Para. 63 refers to natural disasters, but does not include references to climate change; does not cast a wide protection net and does not refer to climate change events waiting to turn into disasters.
- People displaced by climate change need to be protected. International law and the international community has the obligation to provide protection collectively against the fundamental right to live and right to culture. This has not been reflected in para. 12.
- Also, it has become restrictive on the definition of refugees. Para. 1: refugee cause has been deleted. We can find language on protection gap, but cannot respond to protection gap if we use forced displacement instead of neutral movement, and use refugee movement instead of movement. Need to avoid being restrictive.
- Reality is international law towards protecting human rights are insufficient for those uprooted by disasters. Climate change is already causing disruption and future generations will feel far greater effect of sudden onset events. It is the human rights obligations of States to address this.
- GCR must promote human rights of those displaced by climate change and encourage all of us to go the extra mile and make necessary compromises.

Japan

- Draft underpins improved cooperation among humanitarian and development action and paves the way for efforts to address root causes.
- Welcome consideration of the role of various actors; takes into account gender perspectives, needs of children and emphasises data protection.
- Welcome that the draft proposes forward-looking support measures from the international community including sports and scholarships.

- Education is important and access to education for girls in emergencies and conflict and fragile States was also affirmed in the G7 summit. Expect various measures on gender could play a role in addressing these issues.
- On introduction appreciate draft provides basis of predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing among stakeholders while emphasising national ownership.
- Understood that the compact is legally non-binding and support will be operationalised through voluntary contributions.

Norway

- Trying to find a middle ground and Draft 3 reflects this intention. Hope this will bring us close to consensus.
- Para. 1: support reference to increase humanitarian funding in recognition of States that have stepped contribution. Norway's humanitarian funding has increased by 50% since 2013, and equals one percent of Gross National Income.
- Support reference to collective outcomes and international community as a whole. Also support para. 5 guiding principles.

Venezuela

- Taken note of significant and positive changes.
- Welcome inclusion of various safeguards to authorise consent; emphasis on the humanitarian nature of the compact.
- But greater effort needed on guiding principles. Para. 5: request to add that GCR and PoA are entirely non-political in nature. This needs to be expressly included in initiatives as part of the implementation, and in the mechanisms for burden and responsibility-sharing.
- Delete references to regional instruments in para. 5.
- Welcome inclusion of resolution 46/182 in main text but prefer this done without brackets.
- Para. 8: purpose of the last part is not clear. Should ensure these are not exhaustive. Also ask to delete reference to internal displacement here.

Montenegro

- Fully understand rationale for different positions. We consider new introduction to be weaker from a human rights perspective.
- Regret deletion of refugee movements causes, which we consider essential to the whole.
- Does not seem logical to speak of prevention without mentioning what root causes are.
- Do not support para. 7. Regret deletion of vulnerable groups, although recognise their inclusion in para. 9. But this does not strengthen human rights and would like that these changes are reconsidered if possible.
- Para. 9 identifies age, sexual, gender and disability as additional ground for discrimination.
- Support reference to the primary responsibility of countries of origin in para. 8.

UK

- The draft continues to bring together elements into a cohesive and compelling whole.
- Improved and balanced draft and appreciate reduction of length by two pages. Bullets contained important points, but references are not exhaustive. Shortening has benefits, makes compact more accessible and ensures important ideas can be applied. As we enter final stages, welcome further streamlining.

- Focus on predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing; widening support base; collective outcomes are central. Should not lose sight of this transformative opportunity to boost refugee self-reliance, increase humanitarian and development coordination to support refugees and host communities. Text should reflect this; agree with Denmark.
- Intention is not to impose additional burden on host States but for international community to provide support. Welcome stronger emphasis and alignment with national plans.
- Welcome greater clarity on guiding principles as well as on causes of refugee movements and refugee protection including natural disasters and climate change.
- Latest draft brings us in sight of the finish line although still some elements to be tightened.

Switzerland

- Welcome a substantive introduction. It is important that we can reform together the basis for action for refugees and host populations during large movement of refugees. Wish to see included the right to request asylum, inherent to the Geneva Convention, which forms the basis of what the GCR is trying to achieve.
- Ensure that request for asylum is assessed in fair and equitable manner; difficult to imagine a GCR that does not acknowledge this.

France

- The balance is struck: collective responsibility, international solidarity and humanity.
- Positively welcome the simplification of the text; retains high level of ambition.
- Clarification of institutional mechanisms and bolsters the compact's operational capacity.
- Welcome national ownership and leadership in implementing the compact. Gender and minorities references are welcome.
- First para. is essential as it lays the basis for the compact. Important not to lose sight of the objectives we are trying to achieve for protection and solutions for refugees.
- Guiding principles and goals are humanitarian and not political. And given that the compact is nonbinding, its implementation will depend on political will and this should be reflected.
- Para. 9: support drivers of refugees: environmental degradation and climate change are not causes of refugee movements, this language should meet the expectations.
- Welcome references to end discrimination and abuse of all type.

Mozambique

- We wish to thank UNHCR for presentation of the draft, and also express satisfaction with improvements that it represents.
- Para. 1: once it is agreed, the document should not be of binding nature so we should avoid language such as 'must not'. We suggest replacing 'must not' by 'should not be'. Furthermore, we should add: 'in the spirit of Agenda 2030 and SDGs'.
- Para. 4: third line: it represents the 'ambition of the international community'; suggest adding 'political ambition' so that we can align this para. with the NYD itself.

Indonesia

- Appreciate efforts to streamline the text. Reiterate support for GCR objective for equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing taking into account each host State's challenges, capacities, resources and national legislation.
- Tackling root causes important and support voluntary repatriation.

- UNHCR and IOM should play a larger role in supporting countries to manage refugees in line with each country's national capacities.
- Para. 4 add: 'yet it represents the ambition of the international community. The compact recognises the different national realities and capacities in temporarily hosting refugees and this is considered as their contribution to burden- and responsibility-sharing'.

Morocco

- Do not endorse para. 3 according to which the GCR provides a basis for equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing. In fact, this is still being negotiated and better to redraft.
- Ambition of the international community to strengthen cooperation with refugees still falls short of expectations. 'Ambition' should be changed to 'collective moral responsibility'.
- The non-political nature of the guiding principles must be highlighted. Compact is also based on the Refugee Convention, which constitutes a threshold basis.
- Para. 5: regional refugee instruments may well guide the implementation of the compact.
- Para. 8: on climate change, environmental degradation and natural disasters do not want to minimise this proposal: these are not in themselves direct causes but may increasingly interact with drivers of refugee movements.

Netherlands

- Express appreciation for Draft 3, and consider it a stronger version than the precedent and presents honest and balanced views.
- Remains worded in a strong manner, and while we still have comments, we are aware that the goals to achieve consensus will require flexibility.
- Appreciate text is streamlined. Welcome consistent references to international community as a whole, and collective outcomes. Stress to retain this for broader engagement.
- Also note helpful reference to national ownership. Believe draft is clearer and coherent in terms of connection with responsibility-sharing mechanisms and proposed measures.
- Thank UNHCR on indicators and introductory remarks, and that we will have it in the framework of the GCR so that we can track progress in a meaningful way.
- Highly supportive of references to broadening the support base. Guaranteeing protection and solutions for refugees will be important and hope that this will be included.
- Appreciate reference to humanitarian funding, which is at an unprecedented level.

Turkey

- Need to preserve optimism in the practical application.
- Good that there is mention of protracted nature of refugee situations and gaps in humanitarian funding present the reality.
- Para. 2 is empowered by mention of sovereign right of States.
- Welcome new sentence on national ownership for the successful application of the compact; would also like reference to NYD.
- Support reintroduction of mobilisation of political will in para. 4.
- Support equal focus on the four objectives; support Denmark on stronger emphasis on a wider engagement of development actors such as the World Bank.

Syria

- Appreciate efforts by UNHCR to provide a new draft which has taken many concerns including ours. We believe we are heading in the right direction.

- Still have concerns on the introduction. In guiding principles section, important to protect GCR from politicisation in the future. So, in para. 5, replace ‘grounded’ as it appears in the eighth line with the word ‘guided’ and also add sentence, ‘including through its implementation’ in the second line, after the word ‘nature’.
- Reference to international law is weak and needs to be strengthened. Please delete ‘as well as other relevant norms’ as it appears in the ninth line; UN Charter should take lead.
- Para. 5: kindly delete brackets for GA resolution 46/182, (will read: ‘as set out in’).
- GCR should be guided only by international instruments and delete regional instruments, so request to delete footnote 6.
- Para. 8: delete ‘forced internal displacement’ as this global compact deals only with refugees and not with other categories.

Kenya

- Thank UNHCR for the Ted Talk Kakuma event last Saturday, a camp that holds over 200,000 refugees from South Sudan. This speaks to what we are trying to achieve: to listen to refugees, mobilise other stakeholders, overcome barriers to promoting refugee self-reliance, keeping hope alive for durable solutions. These efforts should meet the expectation and aspiration of refugees whose lives we want to transform.
- Note that successive iteration has improved language and content, and welcome evolution of draft. Concerns of all States are captured appropriately.
- Take note of changes to para 9. While draft refers to all States to cooperate including through a variety of means, language in Draft 3 is weaker as it simply refers to alleviating poverty without the same rallying call of Draft 2. Need to reintroduce the original language.

Ireland

- GCR more clear and concrete and appreciate UNCHR’s work in building consensus.
- However, latest draft has diluted some elements. It has lost focus on refugees; ultimate goal is to support refugees in a dignified manner; this should not be taken for granted.
- Encourage strengthened involvement of development actors, but struck by the deletion of elements on private actors. They are crucial actors and have a vital contribution to make.
- Welcome collective outcomes and this goes to heart of GCR. Need more mention of the humanitarian and development nexus. Need greater coherence and alignment with SDGs.
- Request introduction of sexual and reproductive health.
- Welcome para. 12, which is an extremely important addition, and could be strengthened further; mention of IOM also to be commended.

Guatemala

- Support reducing footnote, but in footnote 7, need to include all Convention on Social, Economic, Cultural as well as Civil and Political rights. Also need to mention the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants and Members of Their Families and the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture.
- Since the beginning, destination countries are facing various realities; grateful of specific mention of regional refugee instruments that go beyond the Geneva Convention.

Luxembourg

- Thank UNHCR for balanced approach that will allow adopting the GCR in a timely fashion.
- Support monitoring mechanism proposed with strengthened coordination role for UNHCR.

- Although the compact is not binding, it should help to address the refugee crises.
- Close cooperation among UN agencies is important.
- Believe in the virtue of international cooperation and the primacy of human rights. In the process of follow-up, civil society will be closely involved and their contributions are vital; they should not be subject to undue pressure.

Latvia

- Overall, current draft is balanced and streamlined.
- Pleased that third draft is comprehensive and calls for strategic and needs-based response to large refugee situations.
- Welcome regional cooperation including sub-regional.
- Appreciate voluntary nature of contributions to achieve collective outcomes; also appreciate that pledges and contributions can take different forms; each State is free to determine these according to respective national development priorities and capacities.

Belarus

- Believe revised document covers discussion and proposals discussed; welcome UNHCR efforts to shorten the text, and as a result this has become more focused.
- New language on climate change has been properly adjusted.
- Welcome reference to national ownership in para. 5; in general, introduction is well structured and logical.

Spain

- We have seen progress. Rationally speaking, we would like certain elements in the document but understand that consensus is needed.
- Believe we are close to consensus and text must ensure we improve refugee lives and also promote equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing.
- Strengthened CRRF focus must be to improve refugee protection and solutions; pleased that the text has been reduced, which makes it user friendly.
- Through this consultation the compact should respect the definition of refugees within existing international refugee instruments. But we must not lose sight of complementarity.
- Multi-actor focus should not be at the detriment of the main responsibilities of States; important to reflect AGD considerations including on disability.
- Third draft does not contain everything, but has managed to find a balance so we can achieve consensus.

Brazil

- Believe close to text that meets are our goals.
- Recognise changes in the introduction and welcome the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.
- In guiding principles section, welcome relevant regional instruments including the Cartagena Accord that apply to their specific contexts.
- Appreciate that reference to national ownership is included and underscore the need for international cooperation.
- Specific reference to NYD could be included in the guiding principles.

- Commend streamlined objectives in para. 7 and recommend further streamlining by deleting the last three sentences.
- Welcome para. 12, which acknowledges ground reality; coordination and involvement should be according to the role and expertise of actors.
- Uphold the human rights of all people on the move including operational coordination with a view to avoiding protection gaps and designing appropriate responses.

Algeria

- Welcome Draft 3 and inclusion of some amendments but several concerns remain, notably the fair share of responsibility, issue of non-conditionality and process for indicators.
- GCR is not a result of a proper negotiation process.
- Para. 3: replace the word 'provides' with 'intends to provide'.
- Para. 5: appreciate guiding principles, but UN Resolution 46/182 should not be put in brackets as it is the cornerstone of humanitarian activities. As far as reference to human rights is concerned, we ask to go back to language used in Draft 2.
- Para. 7: related to objectives, do not see the need for the last part and ask for its deletion.
- Need to give more importance to prevention and addressing root causes, which was one of the main commitments of the NYD.

Thailand

- Draft 3 takes into account comments in previous rounds of consultations. Welcome positive changes including shortened objectives in para. 7, and strengthened language for those in vulnerable situations.
- Satisfied on clear language especially with regard to implementation; appreciate voluntary and non-binding nature of the compact.

Argentina

- Grateful for new draft; amendment in the text are positive as they help give greater clarity.

Cuba

- Para. 5: include sentence adding 'including through implementation' after the word 'nature' in second line.
- Change 'grounded' in second line and substitute by 'guided'. And instead of all regional instruments have reference to relevant regional instruments.
- Remove brackets from UN Resolution 46/182. Move up the UN Charter reference.
- Para. 7: delete latter part of text.
- Para. 8: Support proposal of Syria, delete: 'often also involving internal displacement'.
- Para. 12: we could support, when not mentioning directly mixed movements. Replace 'roles' by 'mandates' when referring to UNHCR and IOM.
- Para. 25: add 'where appropriate' in fourth line. Countries of origin should be part of the Support Platform.
- Para. 30: add 'as appropriate'.
- Para. 48: insert in first line Member States (UNHCR will coordinate with 'Member States').
- Footnote 38: delete reference to Washington group short set of questions on disability.
- Paras 72,73,74: support inclusion of sexual and reproductive health.
- Footnote 57: mention of Beijing Declaration is necessary.

- Support sexual orientation in gender and support best interest of child.
- Footnote 60: no need to make reference to guiding principles of internal displacement.
- Para. 102: follow-up and review, phrase that says the Global Refugee Forum will be the main vehicle, we believe it should be: it will be an important vehicle as ExCom and other bodies will also be vehicles.

Holy See

- Refugee situations require flexible approaches. While the GCR is not intended to be legally binding, it contains actions that are morally binding. Pope Francis calls for changing a globalisation of difference with a globalisation of solidarity.
- Welcome the vision in part 1 of GCR to strengthen international cooperation. Need genuine solidarity with refugees through responsibility-sharing.
- Paras 5 to 7 are rooted in a common patrimony of humanity in international law. It is incumbent to address root causes to foster human rights and avoid further conflicts.
- Para. 8: on prevention and root causes, need to place the human person at the centre of our efforts. Forced displacement is not bad luck but results from abuses.
- Welcome reference that environmental degradation and climate change do interact with refugee movements. What is at stake are the lives of human persons. World justice and solidarity are best guarantees and a sound way to achieve durable solutions so that refugees can thrive in dignity, in their countries of origin.

Costa Rica

- Thank UNHCR for Draft 3, which includes main requests by States.
- We are pleased with the section on guiding principles, which has been strengthened with the inclusion of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and bolstering the protection regime.
- Para. 5: national ownership is key for the successful implementation of the GCR.
- Welcome that para. 7 has been simplified, and follows the four pillars of CRRF.
- Welcome para. 8, mentioning that environmental degradation and natural disasters are drivers not causes, and welcome that there will be a specific reference to climate change.

Pakistan

- Fast approaching the conclusion for enhancing burden and responsibility sharing. Every hosting country is asking, are we getting a fair deal. And this brings us to the core: finding a balance with the voluntary nature of the commitments.
- Part A aspirational and builds on existing mechanisms. Apparent success will be measured in application.
- Sustainability of pledges at Global Refugee Forum: would these be adequately monitored?
- Host States are asked to take a leap of faith but some issues are being left to be decided post GCR.
- Paras 71 and 42, need to gather evidence for lasting solutions has been removed as well as direct reference to not imposing conditionality are removed.
- Not satisfied with the way assessing impact of hosting refugees is reflected in the draft. Have to work on impact assessment and how it will interact with the GCR process.
- Caution against expanding UNHCR mandate in para. 20.
- Introduction has undergone change and is becoming more coherent.

- Welcome UN Resolution 46/182.
- Could clearly mention that stakeholders will provide expertise based on State consent.
- Appreciate clear indication in para. 5 that regional instruments are applicable in respective jurisdictions.
- Para. 7,8,9 should include safeguards against political interference in tackling root causes.

Jordan

- Still note imbalance on what is required of host countries. Need to adjust responsibility-sharing tools, which is the *raison d'être* and must be the core aspect of the compact.
- Although this is a consultation process, Member States will have other opportunities during the upcoming work of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.
- Para. 2: add reference to NYD in sixth line.
- Welcome that the compact is legally nonbinding; our understanding is that it includes host country contribution also.
- Para. 5: guiding principles, add the principle of burden- and responsibility-sharing as guiding principles and remove 'consistent with international law' in the last line of para. 5.
- Welcome para. 7 objectives, but suggest including language which says that the four pillars are interlinked and interdependent.

Malta

- Noted that among recent modifications, the role of faith based organisations is more specifically integrated and will contribute to consistency and coherence if the description of stakeholder could be formulated throughout the text.
- Reference to civil society, local communities, private sector and faith-based organisations could also apply to paras 25, 27 and 99 on local integration.
- Para. 41: could include reference to the 'need for spiritual assistance' after 'peacebuilding'. Freedom of religion should be a specific right.
- Support para. 12, particularly the inclusion of IOM.
- Welcome new section on other local solutions; reflects general flexibility and core services. Such flexibility will ensure that compact is a living document.
- In guiding principles, para. 5, important to emphasise respect for human dignity and priority to save human lives.

ICRC

- Text is promising. Draft mostly applies to host States that are in peace situations, where the full potential of the compact can be reaped. But some States are hosting and producing refugees, where impartial humanitarian action may come under pressure.
- Understand national ownership, but where humanitarian action is put under pressure, this may put us in target. So, would recommend in the introduction part, e.g. in para. 4, extend sentence so that reads: 'the compact is not legally binding and is without prejudice to the activities of humanitarian action in accordance with their mandate'.

NGO statement on Agenda item 1 is available [here](#).

Volker Turk

- In all, 51 statements made on agenda item 1.
- We heard some overarching support but will have to make a number of text adjustments.

- Urge all delegations to bear in mind what we are trying to achieve: a coherent text. We would like to see stronger language and would like additions. Have had opportunity for comments on introduction and some additions and deletions were very much in response to what we thought emerged as a consensus text from previous consultations.
- To achieve this, we will not be able to include each and every particular concern. So, urge you to work in this spirit.
- Need to strengthen mentioning of refugees. Important not to inadvertently lose sight of refugees. Heard about the powerful Ted Talk in Kakuma refugee camp; also, yesterday another event organised by the EU and Turkish delegation, reporting from International Refugee Congress. Clear that we need to make sure voices of refugees are heard.
- Issue of humanitarian and development nexus; need to strengthen language and indeed reflect major changes taking place. In that regard, heard colleague from ICRC highlighting the need to ensure that the humanitarian side is fully acknowledged. No doubt that GCR is non-political in nature.
- Some concerns about mentioning of regional instruments. Heard from those regions as this reflects how they deal with displacement issues.
- Right to seek asylum is core as we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- On objectives heard different views and also the need to recognise protracted situation. Perhaps need for stronger identification that it is about international cooperation and strengthening measures for responsibility-sharing. Heard some ideas. For the part on root causes got some support and some suggested strengthening.
- Clearly the issue of partnership is one that comes across eloquently and will ensure this is reflected in the introduction.
- Will come back to those who have raised concerns and encourage you to suggest consensus language.