

## **Global Compact on Refugees – Fifth Formal Consultations**

12 – 13 June, Geneva

### **Agenda item 4: Follow-up and review (Part IV)**

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

- UNHCR's role in the compact should be consistent with its mandate.
- Concerned that reference to indicators have been deleted; their inclusion provides Member States, in consultation with UNHCR, the opportunity to go ahead with the development of measurement.
- Indicators should include targets and timeframe on all objectives of para 7; in addition, indicators must ensure necessary symmetry with all four of the compact objectives.
- Referring to the development of a three-year resettlement strategy in para. 91, the document indicates that this will be developed by first Forum in 2019; important that the strategy is reviewed in 2021.

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

- Welcome central role of the Global Refugee Forum in follow-up and review.
- Implementation should be measured against progress towards announced pledges and achievement of more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing.
- Believe it is paramount that measuring impact of hosting refugees in para. 48 is included in the section on follow-up.
- Reiterate importance of engaging all relevant UN actors for system-wide coordination.
- Stress coherence between the two compacts to avoid overlap and protection gaps.
- Reiterate our commitment to engage constructively in this process.

#### **European Union**

- As for follow-up and review, finding the right balance is crucial.
- Follow-up and review essential for positive change, and we attach importance to this issue; key aspects are efficiency, effectiveness and transparency.
- Regret deletion in para. 101 of references to SDG reporting since it is the most important process we need to ensure coherence with.
- On effective modalities for the tracking system, this cannot work without indicators; seek clarification on proposals in this respect, also in light of measures proposed in this section.
- Para. 103: refer to 'meaningful' participation of refugees instead of 'adequate'.

#### **Germany**

- Application and follow-up of GCR is the task of the international community as a whole.
- Thank UNHCR for open remarks to develop an indicator framework; a transparent framework is important for meaningful stock taking; process should be included in the GCR.
- The process of mapping the impact of hosting refugees should also be clearly spelled out; actual result of mapping will also be crucial in advancing the GCR.
- Reiterate call to ensure coherence between GCR and GCM to avoid duplication of efforts.
- Refer to SDG reporting; collection of disaggregated data should also be promoted in the monitoring framework.

## **Ecuador**

- Insist that there needs to be consistency between the two compacts; efforts in para. 101 could be more specific; both refugees and migrants have international protection needs; people in other situations experience same risks and this is particularly pertinent in mixed flows. Need wide protection effort if we are to leverage which people need international protection, and we can do this by having objective criteria.
- Likewise, welcome para. 102; agree with the proposal that the Global Refugee Forum should be the main avenue to assess progress, and this links with para. 48 given that the main goal is to guarantee a fair system of responsibility-sharing.
- Success will hinge on how these can lessen the burden on welcoming countries. So, we need to adopt a resolution to ensure its follow-up.
- Reiterate our State's commitment to protection; GCR offers a sole and unique opportunity to have framework to lower the pressure on host States.

## **India**

- Continue to examine Draft 3.
- UNHCR has incorporated broad views in previous rounds. Request to continue this process and further simplify the text for better understanding especially by refugees.
- Text could explicitly state the central purpose of responding to large protracted situations and easing host country burden in need of international support.
- National implementation and related capacity building and support would be critical to humanitarian action; important in follow-up to keep the apolitical and catalytic role of UNHCR consistent with its mandate.
- International obligations of States party to the Refugee Convention differ from those not Party; contributions should be consistent with international obligations including in para. 6.
- Compact is concerned with refugees; direct or indirect reference to internal displacement should be deleted; these fall under Member States' responsibility and role placed by international actors should be in consent with State authorities.
- Footnotes with a non-universal character must be removed.
- Precondition would be effective implementation and genuine international support.
- Measurement of compact should be through a voluntary, transparent and consensual process; result and outcome should aim at fostering international support and partnership.
- Wish to know how an overall consensual final adoption of the GCR will take place in case of a non-negotiated text.
- Lastly, stress renewed cooperation of India, host and not a source of refugee flows.

## **UK**

- Global Refugee Forum would be an important mechanism to review Support Platform and monitoring and evaluation would be critically important.
- Para. 48: measuring impact of hosting refugees is linked to this process and welcome UNHCR role in assessing gaps.
- We also support technical consultation to develop indicators. UNHCR can provide more details building on the non-paper.
- Pleased to see refugees themselves involved in monitoring; refer to 'meaningful' instead of 'adequate'.

## **Netherlands**

- Comfortable with UNHCR proposal and thank for the intention to measure the progress of GCR as part of Global Refugee Forum, which is intended to be the main vehicle for achieving collective outcomes.
- Assessing and measuring progress will be important to have in the text.
- Important that we do not only focus on pledges, but also on collective outcomes. Look forward to final iteration.

## **Colombia**

- Essential to review implementation of the compact to determine progress made.
- Measuring progress in the compact, and the main goal in NYD, should be against more equitable responsibility-sharing in order to assess the effectiveness of international cooperation and lessen the burden; impact assessment, in para. 48, can provide concrete evidence and will determine that the implementation of the compact continues to ensure equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing.
- Efforts to assess impact and define gaps in international cooperation requires joint efforts and will allow best way to achieve the compact goals. Compact cannot result in national reporting methodology.
- Lastly, as India, would like to know how the process of adoption will unfold.

## **Denmark**

- Welcome reference to collective outcomes; recognise need for comprehensive approaches.
- Welcome refugee participation including women and youth, and this should be meaningful; and tracking of pledges.
- Believe it is important to have a mechanism for accountability; without such mechanism, no clear basis for tangible progress to forced displacement through burden-sharing.
- Noting that progress has been impressive and trust UNHCR to incorporate comments.
- Look forward to seeing the next and final draft.

## **Mexico**

- Reference to indicators have been deleted; there should be a consultation process concerning the most appropriate mechanism, and the next draft must contain this; without this hard to evaluate governance.
- Impact assessment of hosting refugees is a valuable exercise to evaluate gaps. This will be instructive in achieving international responsibility-sharing; important to make reference to this exercise in follow-up so we can evaluate progress.
- Welcome in para. 101: important to reach coherence with GCM.

## **Norway**

- Understand the reason behind approach in this draft and support text as it stands.
- Reviewing and measuring progress and ensuring collective outcomes important.
- In the spirit of compromise, mindful that this is a rare opportunity to ease pressure on host countries. Global process like this do not come often and do not see prospect that could be more suited to meet our common goals; therefore, important that we seize this opportunity and aim for consensus in July.

## **Republic of Korea**

- Support Global Refugee Forum as the main vehicle to promote shared agenda; acknowledge collective outcomes.
- How can we measure progress including on socio-economic aspects? As we develop indicators, we should include an indication of outcome; believe this can play a pivotal role in building a system that promotes resilience and predictable distribution of contributions among States.

## **Brazil**

- Central role of the Global Refugee Forum in follow-up since result of measuring impact will be reported in the Forum; for measuring exercise and evaluation to be effective there must be modalities to assess progress toward objectives through indicators.
- Tracking mechanism not sufficient and only relates to pledges; clear reference to comprehensive tracking mechanism with established mandate important otherwise it will frustrate our call for equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing.
- Allow reiterating our support to this process and look forward to collectively achieving meaningful result.

## **Bangladesh**

- Robust follow-up is of utmost importance and believe mechanisms require further discussion on global benchmarks.
- GCR is a living document and reflects future aspiration.
- The first Global Refugee Forum could rather be convened in 2020 and subsequently after four years from 2022 onwards. This will ensure it is convened in the same year as the International Migration Forum. Follow-up will therefore ensure complementarity between the two compacts. And the UN Secretary General could prepare a quadrennial report, commencing from 2024, and including the complementary nature with the GCM and determining the future course of action.

## **Algeria**

- Insist inclusion of developing indicators and targets as an integral part of GCR that aligns with the four pillars of the CRRF.
- Important that indicators allow for measuring progress in a symmetric way.
- Indicators must be developed within an intergovernmental process in line with the primary responsibility of States as mentioned in para. 33.
- Commend deletion of SDGs as it is different in scope.

## **Iran**

- Require baseline data for targets and indicators without which it is difficult to assess the progress made; need to have baseline data in the global compact; baseline data can be collected through burden mapping exercise across the world.
- Reiterate the general nature of the four objectives of the NYD and inclusion of specific quantifiable targets; each of these four objectives to facilitate measuring progress; while such practice is a prerequisite, why does the Draft 3 not include any target. Deletion of reference to indicators and process is not intelligible.
- In the absence of this, need to define a quantitative threshold; otherwise any follow-up will be pointless; GCR without target will be far from reach; although indicators can be

developed, targets must be defined now. For example, developing and developed countries must host equal number of refugees by 2030.

### **Spain**

- Indicators are relevant to evaluate progress although the proposed calendar is sufficient.
- Appreciate references to women and girls; they can be invited to participate in each session; placing attention on specific groups is relevant.
- Recognise the efforts made by UNHCR to work on this text and incorporate sensitives.

### **USA**

- Pleased with language in the current draft; UNHCR's catalytic role in follow-up and review is consistent with earlier comments.
- Look forward to self-reporting and progress towards collective outcomes and see that as a way for others to do so as well including the private sector.
- Para. 102 talks about the role of the High Commissioner in reporting progress made towards objectives, which will include regular reporting; this is welcome. Add that such reporting should not establish separate and costly reporting mechanisms.
- Welcome language facilitating participation of refugees and refugee youth.
- Look forward to sharing good practice including with civil society and private sector.
- Follow-up should show what all have contributed in terms of sharing burden to improve the lives of refugees and host communities.

### **Sweden**

- Regarding mechanisms for follow-up and review there is inherent contradiction in requesting an intergovernmental process for the GCR which is not developed this way.
- Sweden is facilitator this coming autumn of the Omnibus Resolution, which is the main vehicle to take the compact to New York; sense of common purpose required. Concerned how to move if we have to meet too often. This must be balanced to sustain momentum.
- Another area of concern is flexible and unearmarked funding in line with Grand Bargain commitments, and how to measure targeted financial pledges in GCR; pledges should not only be financial; can contribute by providing livelihood experts and resettlement.

### **Australia**

- Support arrangements and systematic review in line with the principle of international cooperation to better support host countries and refugees.
- Welcome new language making follow-up a task for all States and ensuring a key role for UNHCR.
- Welcome coherence with existing processes; welcome also that UNHCR will provide progress report through General Assembly.
- Important that reporting mechanisms are established with States and key stakeholders.
- Agree with reference in para. 103 to participation of refugee women and youth; encourage adding persons with disability as they are often excluded in consultative processes.

### **Costa Rica**

- Agree with Colombia, and welcome Global Refugee Forum as an opportunity to evaluate and measure progress on the aim of GCR; success to be measured on shared outcomes and important to mention this in para. 48.

- Progress toward more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing could be evaluated through periodic exercise of measuring the impact of hosting refugees.
- Implementation of follow-up must involve UN bodies, and must be based on the efforts of national governments and led by technical ability of UNHCR; this must be reflected.

### **Ethiopia**

- Para. 102: coherence with other processes and actions important; believe it is important to have a reference to the GCM apart from the generic reference as processes.
- Believe targets and indicators should be part of the follow-up and review; language from the previous draft should be reinstated
- Share the view implementation of the burden and responsibly mapping exercise envisaged under para. 48 should be part of the follow-up and review process.
- Appreciate the drafting of para. 102, regarding the Global Refugee Forum, we would like to restate that the Forum's role should go beyond tracking pledges and make necessary recommendation both in the implementation of the pledges and the effectiveness of the mechanisms for burden and responsibility sharing mechanism. We ask a clarification about the follow up and review at national level and its linkage with the overall follow-up and review arrangement.

### **Turkey**

- Would have preferred an introductory sentence, which said the international community will do its utmost to mobilise support for predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing.
- Welcome fostering coherence with other processes.
- Collective outcomes in follow-up and review relevant.
- Understand the Global Refugee Forum will be the main vehicle to measure progress against objectives of the GCR.
- Need clarification on the role of Member States in support of UNHCR.
- Would recommend that the Global Refugee Forum should adopt a declaratory *communiqué* to reinforce the result-oriented nature of the compact and reiterate international commitment towards further progress.

### **Jordan**

- Call for reinstating indicators in para. 102, and express support for this process.

**NGO statement** on Agenda item 4 is available [here](#).

### **Closing remarks: Volker Turk**

- In all, 188 statements at the fifth formal consultations. In follow and review: 22 statements.
- Great that we can have a multilateral dialogue. This will directly impact refugees and host communities.
- Clarify that 'forced' internal displacement was included in response to a number of delegations. In the Afghanistan situation, unfortunately we have seen returns happen into a situation of internal displacement. So, this responds to the link that exists between refugees and IDPs. How do we ensure a proper response is crafted? The GCR is not about IDPs, but it touches upon IDPs who are part of the operational reality, which we face in too many countries.

- Africa Group asked about three-year resettlement strategy. The idea is indeed to embark on that strategy in order to garner the support we require; we would also be able to report where we are with the strategy at the Forum. If we want to broaden the support base, it will require discussion with Member States.
- Point raised about meaningful refugee participation. One of the things we have seen in these consultations is the participation of refugees including through side events in preparation of the drafts; just had a chance to meet a host community member, who told me about the consultative process with refugees in his home country to discuss GCR. There is a huge opportunity to make multilateral processes speak to peoples' lives and that will affect them in their implementation.
- Heard a clear call from a number of delegations for measuring the impact exercise in para. 48 of the draft to be better integrated in follow-up; this will respond to a number of concerns. Genesis of para. 48 comes from the Omnibus Resolution, and that in a way helps us measure the success of the GCR objectives in para. 7. Want to combine measuring impact with tracking progress and hope tracking of progress is based on self-reporting, which is a way to keep track of collective contributions.
- We will digest especially your remarks on the issue of measuring success primarily through the Global Refugee Forum; will revert to when we discuss overall modalities of the Forum. We will want to engage with you. Need nimble but collective way of measuring progress.
- On the issue of indicators, we will need to find a way to reflect this in the text; we have reflected this in the consensus spirit by proposing to organise technical consultations followed by formal consultations to be conducted in 2019.
- On the periodicity of the Global Refugee Forum, this is subject to further consultation over the next days. We would need to have a first Global Refugee Forum in 2019, which would look at various mechanisms in the compact and also ensure a multi-stakeholder partnership approach. We also need to see where we are with the UN reform measures. This is a good moment in time and much lesson to be learnt from the application of the CRRF. So, 2019 is an important starting point. 2021 is our suggested proposal for the second Forum. While we frame it within the GCR, the main emphasis will be the anniversary of the Refugee Convention and this will give us a chance to see what progress we have achieved through a multi-stakeholder approach. Then in order to ensure we have a dedicated follow-up, we would suggest four years unless otherwise agreed. From what I heard, this would most likely be a consensual way of proceeding. But keen to engage with you and see what better formula can reflect consensus.
- On the way forward: Go back to the mandate to this process in para. 19 of NYD Annex 1: *"We invite the [UNHCR] to include such a proposed global compact on refugees in his annual report to the General Assembly in 2018, for consideration by the Assembly at its 73rd session in conjunction with its annual resolution on the Office of the [UNHCR]"*.
- This is important to bear in mind; we have just looked at comments. Given the fact that we have a couple of days on 3 and 4 July, we will also have the Standing Committee next week, which is around the theme of protection; we will work hard to take into account various comments. But we need to recognise also that we cannot reflect each comment. We will have to look at the text coherently and in its entirety to transmit the object of what we are trying to achieve.
- Some of you could help in the areas, which we have identified. We would be able to submit to you a proposed final text on 26 June. That would give us the opportunity on July 3 to embark on a final exchange with a view to confirming consensus.

- Plea that we find ways to consult with each other before 26 June so that we can produce a consensus document, which would make July 3 a formality. We can do it; if we do it with the same constructive goodwill, it is doable.
- On the basis of consensus, High Commissioner will send the text through the GA Annual Report as an Annex. Then it would be led by Sweden through the Omnibus Resolution; hope discussion during the Omnibus would indeed be infused with the same spirit of collaboration and sense of common purpose, and hope we can collectively achieve it.

Volker Turk will provide the next briefing on 22 June in New York.

### ***Floor opened again.***

#### **Algeria**

- As we are on the final stretch, underline we consider this as a real opportunity to address the gaps and alleviate the plight of refugees, improve international response and more investment in durable solutions.
- We have engaged constructively based on lessons learnt. We are aware of the complexity of the task devoted to UNHCR. Some of our proposals have been taken on board and commend UNHCR for this.
- We recognise that the draft presented what the Secretariat sees as compromise and consensual. But we heard that a vast majority of host countries' serious concerns have not yet been included. Hope that these remarks will be taken into consideration so we can be strong advocates.
- This has been consultative rather than genuine negotiations; during the Omnibus Resolution negotiations, we will still have an opportunity to raise our concerns. We can help in refining the text in the next days.

#### **Jordan**

- Support Algeria's point.
- On next steps, we are being told that we will receive the proposed final draft on 26 June.
- Will we have some comment on the next draft? Hopefully not but probably yes. The 7<sup>th</sup> GCR consultation is not scheduled yet. So to reach consensus on 3 and 4 July, are we going to have a silence procedure concerning the final proposed text?

#### **Iran**

- Support statement of Algeria and will highlight some key points.
- Reminded of what Volker Turk said and was mentioned by other colleagues: perfection should not be the enemy of good; could not agree more and maybe in such a context, it is the truth, but it is a misplaced truth.
- Frankly speaking for delegations like mine, requesting burden- and responsibility-sharing mechanisms is not something which means looking for perfection. Quite the contrary. It is minimal from our perspective. After several decades, we have minimal expectations. We need real mechanisms, not arrangements. Those things highlighted as mechanisms are not mechanisms. This notion has been raised by several delegations including mine. As far as it relates to our country, this is minimal expectation.
- In the end, we want to see some sort of framework with some component of transparency and predictability, and not rely on aspiration highlighted in the text so far.

- Therefore, we should be cautious. Maybe the majority are the silent ones and maybe they have a good reason to be silent. As far as it relates to us, some major host countries, this is something that has to be taken into account more seriously from now on. If you say majority are satisfied with the text, the problem is that host countries are not the majority, but in minority. Cannot turn a blind eye to this. Saying that a majority are satisfied, it is a fallacious statement.
- I fully understand we cannot look for something perfect and we need to find a middle ground. We can look for something less perfect, but do not expect us to support where, as host countries, we do not see a minimum component for burden and responsibility-sharing.

### **Syria**

- Support concerns by Algeria and Iran and hope UNHCR will reflect on the concerns they have echoed. So, we can adopt a GCR that is implementable and acceptable by all countries especially by major hosting countries and by refugees.

### **Final remarks: Volker Turk**

- I think we have collectively invested enormously in this process; when we go back to the text and look at the current draft, it would already be a sea change in how the international community intends to engage in host countries. Let's not lose sight of this, and appeal to you to bear this in mind.
- Of course, we want an ideal situation to be the norm, but we can set the foundation to actually make sure they are solid and robust and deliver.
- Emphasis has to be on implementation. We already have a text that is being crafted in this manner. Going into the last round, we need to bear in mind where we are coming from, what we have achieved and not lose sight of that with due respect to major concerns.
- So, hope that we can work together especially with those who have lingering concerns so that on 26 June, we are able to give you the proposed final text. So, the last round would really be a measure of success in and of itself; would urge to please engage with us and call us anytime so we can enhance the text.