

**Subject:** ICVA Bulletin-Highlights from March 2018

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**From:** ICVA Secretariat <secretariat@icvanetwork.org>



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK  
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE  
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

## ICVA BULLETIN

Highlights from March 2018

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# A message from the Executive Director

### Models of engagement

Today's world is full of uncertainty and with rising levels of risk and is likely to be so in the future. However, it is also dynamic, and characterised by huge opportunities for leadership and innovation in all sectors. This is highlighted by the energising contributions and debates at the ICVA Annual Conference 2018 and the ICVA 17th General Assembly in March.

From all regions, over 70% of the over 100 ICVA members attended the General Assembly and an additional 10% joined for the on-line voting. 20% of the members nominated a candidate for the [ICVA Board](#). ICVA is a vibrant network of humanitarian actors, who are contributing to policy influence, services and new solutions that enable the humanitarian sector to perform better.

The ICVA General Assembly in its [Commitment and Motion to Action](#) on Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation and Sexual Harassment renewed its determination to better respond to obligations towards integrity in the sector. Just as current roles of NGOs vary widely in the turbulent present, across and within the unique contexts of countries and cultures, the future roles of NGOs and more broadly of civil society organisations will be diverse and multiple. Individual factors such as technological change, demographic shifts, environmental pressures and political and economic uncertainty, as well as the demands of multi stakeholder models strongly suggest that the role of networks such as ICVA will continue gaining in importance.

ICVA's [2019-2021 Strategy](#) adopted at the General Assembly is one ambitious step further in its contribution to enable and utilise opportunities to effectively build resilience and address the many societal challenges that continue to confront us.

The models of engagement for civil society, business, government and international organisations are evolving. ICVA's focus for the Strategy 2019-2021 remains on "Forced Migration"; "Coordination" and "Financing" and further engages in "Navigating Change" while promoting humanitarian principles and the Principles of Partnership.

As a membership-led network, ICVA reinforces its particularly powerful role as an enabler and constructive challenger, creating the space for relationships that are based on the core values of trust and service to make humanitarian action more principled and effective.

The opportunity for leaders across civil society, business, government and international organisations is to harness the new configurations to design solutions to collective challenges.

**Ignacio Packer / Executive Director ICVA**

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# Forced Displacement

## 1. The Global Compact on Refugees:

**a. Meetings with UNHCR and Member States on the GCR:** ICVA continues its engagement on the GCR, particularly coordinating a meeting between the EU Delegation in Geneva, Member States and over 12 NGOs to exchange views on specific aspects of the GCR. Following the release of the first draft of the GCR's Programme of Action, ICVA organised a meeting with UNHCR. On 13 March, over 40 NGOs joined the discussion, both in-person and online, and exchanged with the UNHCR focal points on the content of the first draft and NGO engagement. [Notes from this meeting](#) are available to ICVA members.

**b. Formal Consultations on the GCR:** For the second formal consultations (20-21 March), ICVA facilitated the drafting and delivery of three NGO statements. Following the agenda items, the statements focused on the background and goals of the GCR, prevention and addressing root causes; mechanisms for burden-and responsibility-sharing; and follow-up measures. Several NGOs contributed to these statements, either by directly providing inputs or sharing their analysis and comments, which ICVA worked to integrate in the final version. You can read the [NGO statements](#) on the ICVA website.

The same week, ICVA's Annual Conference and General Assembly allowed ICVA members – particularly those not based in Geneva – to further engage with UNHCR on the CRRF and the GCR. Following the second formal consultations, ICVA organised a debrief session with over 20 NGOs to discuss key takeaways, the way forward and start the drafting process of the NGO statements for the third formal consultations to be held on 10-11 April (see [agenda](#)). [Notes](#) from this meeting are available to ICVA members. NGOs interested in being involved in ICVA's work on the GCR process, either to participate in meetings or contribute to the NGO statements, should contact: [Jerome.Elle@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Jerome.Elle@icvanetwork.org).

**c. ICVA Webinar: Responsibility-sharing for refugees: Lessons from policy and practice for the Global Compact on Refugees:** As the consultations on the GCR delve deeper into predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing mechanisms, ICVA is hosting a webinar for NGOs on "Responsibility-sharing for refugees: Lessons from policy and practice for the Global Compact on Refugees" (English) provided by Prof. James Milner, Associate Professor of Political Science at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. This webinar will be held on 19 April. If you wish more information or would like to attend, please contact [secretariat@icvanetwork.org](mailto:secretariat@icvanetwork.org).

**2. The Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration (GCM)** ICVA's main focus is on the GCR but is also involved in the civil society capacity building and influence raising around the GCM participating in the civil society coordination and joint statements. The main contribution is on issues concerning migrants in vulnerable situations, on governance and accountability and the complementarity with the GCR. ICVA is co-convenor of the [Global Compacts' civil society Action Committee](#) (with ICMC and NGO Committee on Migration) aimed at bridging, connecting groups of civil society organisations themselves exercising leadership in following up on the commitments in the New York Declaration.

## 3. International Organisation of Migration (IOM) and ICVA

\* **IOM International Dialogue on Migration (NY):** Executive Director Ignacio Packer delivered inputs at the International Dialogue on Migration 2018 (26-27 March) including on ["Whole-of-society partnerships for good migration governance"](#)

\* **IOM and civil society dialogue on Partnership (NY):** On basis of GCM and GCR, ED Ignacio Packer, invited as a discussion starter (28 March), triggered options on how might models of engagement for civil society, business, government and international organisations evolve in the coming years.. Our roles as NGOs, labour leaders, faith-based organisations, religious leaders, migrant and refugee led organisations, academia and other civil society representatives play a critical and set of diverse roles. These roles have shifted and will continue to shift as the governance on migration is going to change. How shall we adapt?



\* **ICVA-IOM Meeting: ED Ignacio Packer's 14 March courtesy call with IOM Director General William Lacy Swing** covered a range of issues, particularly the importance of trust building, sector-wide safeguarding from sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in the workplace, and meaningful civil society engagement in the path towards a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

\* **IOM-NGO Regional Humanitarian Consultations (East and Horn of Africa):** The [report](#) from the September 2017, IOM and NGO Humanitarian Consultations focused on the East and Horn of Africa is now available .

**4. 20th Anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement:** As 2018 marks the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, a number of initiatives are taking shape, involving NGOs and other actors. This includes a multi-stakeholder “Plan of action for advancing protection, prevention and solutions for internally displaced people” with an accompanying communications plan. NGOs are invited to view and provide feedback on the Plan of Action as well as share information on initiatives marking the 20th anniversary through the [GP20 Activities and Initiatives webpage](#) (Feedback on the Plan of Action can also be sent to [GP20@unhcr.org](mailto:GP20@unhcr.org)).

ICVA is also pleased to relay a call for articles for the October issue of [Forced Migration Review](#), which will include a major feature marking the 20th anniversary of the [Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement](#) (submission deadline: Monday 4 June 2018. If you are interested in contributing, please consult [FMR's guidelines for authors](#) and email the FMR Editors at [fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk) to discuss your ideas for an article)

**5. UNHCR Standing Committee on Operations 6-8 March:** ICVA facilitated the drafting and delivery of eight NGO statements for the 71st Meeting of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme Standing Committee. The Statements focused on the situation in [Africa](#), [Americas](#), [Asia](#), [Europe](#), [MENA](#) as well as one statement each on [Partnership](#), [High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges](#) and the [CRRE](#).

**6. December 2017 Workshop on the ‘whole-of-society’ approach in Costa Rica:** The [report of the December 2017 workshop](#) in Costa Rica is now available. The workshop was framed to contribute to the post-San Pedro Sula discussions on the implementation of the [Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework](#). This is part of a project supported by the the United States Bureau of Population, Migration and Refugees (BPRM). Similar workshops will be organised in other contexts in 2018.

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## Humanitarian Financing

**7. ICVA and Australia bring Donors and NGOs together to discuss Donor Practices in Localization and the Grand Bargain:** The Australian mission in Geneva and ICVA co-hosted a face-to-face meeting on 22 March between a diverse range of NGOs and the donors involved in the Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) Initiative. To begin, national NGO perspectives on donor practices were provided by a panel representing Support to Life, Turkey, Save Somali Women and Children, Somalia and CODE-NGO, Philippines. Following this an open and lively discussion between NGOs and donors ensued, covering nearly all the Grand Bargain workstreams, particularly the workstream dedicated to support for national and local actors, the workstreams tied to donor conditions (transparency, multi-year funding, reducing earmarking, reducing duplication/ management costs, reporting), and the humanitarian-development nexus. Gaps identified were related to Grand Bargain implementation (moving from rhetoric to reality), accountability (upwards and downwards), access (shrinking humanitarian space), and risk management (“You are risking your funds,

we are risking our lives.") NGOs and donors agreed on the importance of replicating this type of donor-partner discussion at the country level. It was further proposed that an event could be held in 6 months to demonstrate how the Grand Bargain is implemented in full in one chosen country (as a package). The Australian Mission also expressed interest in hosting a follow up dialogue aligned to the 2019 ICVA Annual Conference. For more information contact [Jeremy.Wellard@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Jeremy.Wellard@icvanetwork.org)

**8. ICVA Members inform the Grand Bargain Independent Evaluation:** A diverse group of ICVA members participated in a 22 March face-to-face focus group discussion with Humanitarian Outcomes for the independent evaluation of the Grand Bargain's implementation. It became clear from the discussion that NGOs are struggling to keep up with Grand Bargain's myriad workstream initiatives, and some do not have the resources required to travel to all the workshops and events. Those who have signed the Bargain have noticed the significant time and effort required to comply with the whole package of commitments. National NGOs, in particular, observed that historical power dynamics continue to affect how host governments, donors, UN agencies, international NGOs, national NGOs, and affected communities work together. Success of the Grand Bargain will require further progress in the areas of accountability, process design, workstream synergy, leadership, and communication.

**9. ICVA and VOICE join up for a Retreat on Humanitarian Financing:** The 28 March joint retreat of the VOICE Grand Bargain Task Force and ICVA Humanitarian Financing Working Group held in Brussels achieved three things. First, NGOs took stock of important developments to inform the consideration of some key messages to inform the reflections on the Grand Bargain in advance of the upcoming Grand Bargain Annual meeting. Second, NGOs gave helpful inputs into three initiatives: 1) an NRC-led process to map out more comprehensive follow-up to the 2016 High Level Panel Report on Humanitarian Financing, 2) an IASC-HFTT initiative on system-wide sharing of risk, and 3) an IASC-HFTT learning lab on innovative humanitarian financing. Finally, the group came up with some ideas to build more synergies into the growing constellation of groups working on financing issues. Participants agreed to meet again in half a year, next time in Geneva. If you are interested in contributing to or following the discussion on risk, contact [Jeremy.Rempel@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Jeremy.Rempel@icvanetwork.org), Coordinator for Less Paper More Aid. For more information on the innovative financing learning lab, contact [Melissa.Pitotti@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Melissa.Pitotti@icvanetwork.org).

**10. Field Visits for Harmonized Narrative Reporting Pilot:** The week of March 19-23rd, Alex Gauss from GPPi completed field visits in Nairobi to gather direct feedback from organisations and donors participating in the pilot in Somalia. Over the next two months, additional field visits will take place in Myanmar and Iraq, building toward the release of an interim review of the pilot in June 2018. The number of pilot participants also continues to grow: on 27 March, France announced that they would join the reporting pilot as a donor for 2018. For more information on the Harmonized Narrative Reporting Pilot, or to express interest in joining, contact [jeremy.rempel@icvanetwork.org](mailto:jeremy.rempel@icvanetwork.org), Coordinator for Less Paper More Aid.

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## Humanitarian Coordination

### 11. IASC Update:

\* **IASC Principals met on 15th March on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and sexual harassment in the workplace (SHW).** With clear commitments to work together, the meeting enabled a sense of the issues that IASC Principals need to address urgently. Ahead of the next Principals meeting on 31 May focus is on: 1. bringing coherence to the efforts, avoiding duplication and learning from one another; 2. Developing proposals to collectively address the issue of transgressors moving from one agency to another within our sector; 3. considering ways to strengthen the investigatory capacities. There was also a sense that a positive culture can be an outcome of Principals visible leadership, and most importantly strong systems and processes. An ICVA members

preparatory meeting for this Ad hoc IASC Principals Meeting on PSEA and SHW informed ICVA Executive Director's interventions.

\* **The IASC Principals meeting on 31 May in New York** will follow-up on the PSEA and SHW 15th March meeting. ICVA Chair and Executive Director will attend. The agenda is likely to include how to better link up on humanitarian diplomacy, engagement with the private sector, and the proposal for a system replacing the L3-mechanism.

\* **In response to an action point of the IASC Principals meeting on 4 December**, the current system-wide L3 mechanism is under review to differentiate between new crises and protracted crises with "first, a system for triggering prompt, coordinated and substantial operational scale up in response to large, new crises; and "second, a system for signalling the need for continuing major responses and high levels of financing for the biggest protracted crises." The IASC focal points are currently preparing background documents detailing options and mechanisms to be discussed during next joint IASC EDG/ WG meeting on 26 April 2018 in New York. The final agenda for this meeting has not been shared yet but IASC priorities for collective action and a better response for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) should also be discussed during that day. For more information, please contact [emmanuelle.osmond@icvanetwork.org](mailto:emmanuelle.osmond@icvanetwork.org).

\* On 12 March Emergency Relief Coordinator Mark Lowcock announced the **IASC endorsement of an updated [Revised IASC Gender with Age Marker \(GAM\)](#)**. The GAM is an inter-agency tool that provides humanitarian with a format for analysing standardised information, coordinating responses and reporting on improvements. It was designed and tested after consultations and piloting. The tool has been translated into French for implementation in Francophone operations, and translation into Spanish and Arabic is ongoing.

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## Humanitarian Partnership

**12. ICVA and SCHR Join Up for an NGO Retreat on the Implications of UN Reform:** The UN Secretary General has released a number of reports in recent months proposing reforms in the peace, development and management architecture of the United Nations system. While these reforms have yet to be approved by Member States, several NGOs have already started analysing these proposals to examine their potential impact on humanitarian action. NGO representatives met in Geneva, on 23 March 2018, for a joint ICVA-SCHR retreat to examine these reform proposals. They will continue the conversation, looking at issues of humanitarian space, community-based action and the SDGs, the New Way of Working, financing/funding, and humanitarian leadership. Members can read [ICVA's analyses of the various UN reform proposals](#). Read [ICVA's interview with Fabrizio Hochschild](#), the UN Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination in the Secretary-General's Office.

**13. ICVA Luchtime Briefing: Reviewing the Rohingya Refugee Response in Real-Time:** On 16 March, ahead of the Joint Response Plan launch for the Bangladesh Rohingya Response, ICVA hosted an informal lunch to discuss perspectives on the outcomes of two separate reviews of the Rohingya Refugee Response in Bangladesh. Both reviews were both conducted independently in early 2018 and presented different approaches to assessing the quality, accountability and effectiveness of the Rohingya Refugee Response in its early stages. Both highlighted a number of major challenges and fundamental concerns regarding the response and this briefing was chance for NGO participants to hear from the teams behind these evaluations and discuss their perspectives on these within the context of the overall response. Each session began with a summary of one review from the team that conducted it, highlighting the major points. Further discussion focused on how these reviews could be used to strengthen NGO advocacy and operational approaches, working towards a response that is more accountable and effective at meeting the critical needs of Rohingya refugees. There was discussion around the need to develop viable proposals to improving the collective and individual agency practices in Bangladesh and also to address the more systemic factors that continue to make it possible – after so many years and a multitude of critical evaluations, recommendations and public commitments at international conferences – that such situation is still possible in 2018. For more information,

check out:

[The DEC Real Time Review](#)  
[Debating the Grand Bargain in Bangladesh](#)  
or contact [Jeremy.Wellard@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Jeremy.Wellard@icvanetwork.org)

#### 14. IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development)

\* **Nairobi Action Plan Stocktaking:** IGAD and partners met in Nairobi on March 20-22 on the Implementation of the Nairobi Declaration and Plan of Action on Durable Solutions to Somali Refugees and Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia. See the [first Annual Report and the Press Release](#). Interested organisations can contact ICVA regional representatives for the information on the way forward and engagement with IGAD.

\* **On 9 March ICVA held a briefing for NGOs** on the current processes on IGAD's humanitarian affairs. IGAD Senior Advisor on Political and Humanitarian Affairs and IGAD/AU Chief Strategist briefed NGOs on various aspects of the IGAD engagements in Humanitarian affairs, engagement with NGOs and next steps. Participants agreed to transform this event into a regular exchange. Interested members can contact ICVA regional representatives ([Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org), [Addis.Tesfa@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Addis.Tesfa@icvanetwork.org)) to obtain documentation and further information.

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## Field Support

#### 15. NGO FORA Support Programme:

\* **ICVA mission to Cameroon:** ICVA met with the RC/HC for a general update on the humanitarian situation in the country and the practicalities of the implementation of the New Way of Working. ICVA is supporting and accompanying the creation of a National NGOs platform named Cameroonian Humanitarian Organizations Initiative (CHOI). The international NGOs in Cameroon have decided to formalise their humanitarian group and are hiring a Forum Coordinator, who will also support CHOI and coordination with other platforms in the region. For more information about the visit contact [Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org). For more information about CHOI contact Mr. Damien Noma, coordinator of CHOI: [contact.choi2018@gmail.com](mailto:contact.choi2018@gmail.com). For information about the INGO forum contact Mr. Roger Shambuyi Kadima, Country Director of IMC, current coordinator of the INGO forum [rshambuyi@internationalmedicalcorps.org](mailto:rshambuyi@internationalmedicalcorps.org)

\* **ICVA Mission to Bangladesh:** ICVA's Regional Representative for Asia conducted a mission to Cox's Bazar to support the establishment of a new NGO Forum for the Rohingya response. Based on this mission, ICVA has continued to support the recruitment process for a Platform Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator and the development of TORs for the new NGO Platform.

ICVA also participated in two events organised by COAST Trust and the Cox's Bazar CSO and NGO Forum to discuss Grand Bargain Principles in the response. These discussions, at Cox's bazar and Dhaka and engaged NGOs, UN, local community representatives and government. As part of their support to these events, ICVA committed to sharing the outcomes of the events at Geneva level. ICVA also supported the facilitation of a multistakeholder simulation exercise based on response to a monsoon disaster within the refugee camps. This session was facilitated by UNHCR and UNOCHA and brought together government, military, NGOs, Red Cross movement and community members in a simulated desktop response exercise, highlighting a number of areas where further preparedness action will be needed.

\* **Jordan INGO Forum is looking for a new Country Director.** [Follow this link](#) if you are interested.

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# Humanitarian Learning Stream

## 16. Register now for the ICVA and PHAP third online Learning Stream: Demystifying the humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus.



**Topic 1: "The nexus explained: How and when do humanitarian, development and peace action come together?"** will be held on **12 April** at 10.30 Geneva time. The first topic aims to provide NGOs (and others interested stakeholders) with an overview about the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, and how NGOs can navigate in current related policy discussion at different levels (global and local). [Register here](#).

For more information see the [ICVA website](#), or contact [Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org)



**Topic 2: "The World Bank and the humanitarian, development and peace nexus"** will be held on **24 May** at 15.30 Geneva time. This webinar will explore the role of the World Bank when working in the context of conflict and fragility, and how their approach has changed since the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016. The session will also feature presentations from NGO representatives on how they are engaging in complex settings where the World Bank is working. [Register here](#).

For more information see the [ICVA website](#), or contact [Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org)



**Topic 3: "UN reform: the link to the "nexus" and what it means for non-UN actors"** will be held on **8 June** at 15.00 Geneva time. This webinar will look at the UN reforms in relation to the nexus, and the implications for NGOs and humanitarian action. [Register here](#).

For more information see the [ICVA website](#), or contact [Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org](mailto:Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org)

**17. Training opportunities on humanitarian access and negotiations.** Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has launched a call for applications for a training on humanitarian negotiations in May in South Sudan. This training is for staff who are already involved in negotiations at area or country level. Deadline for applications is 13 April. For [more information](#) or contact [Clemence.boutant-willm@nrc.no](mailto:Clemence.boutant-willm@nrc.no) and [Farukh.khan@nrc.no](mailto:Farukh.khan@nrc.no).

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# ICVA Updates

## 18. Intergrity and the Humanitarian sector

At the General Assembly, ICVA members agreed and endorsed a commitment and take their responsibilities seriously. They also agreed on a motion to action on taking action on (1) victims' rights advocacy on sexual exploitation and abuse; (2) on documenting and voicing the challenges of all ICVA members in complying to safeguarding standards; (3) on the dialogue with UN Permanent Missions in Geneva. [Read the Commitment and Motion to Action.](#)

ICVA Board is looking into a historical case of safeguarding concerns by a former ICVA staff. It reveals the weakness of systems in place in the 90's for preventing, reporting, and dealing against abuse and misconduct. ICVA Board has mandated an internal investigation.

With many of ICVA's members being local and national NGOs, ICVA Secretariat has been voicing the concern as these organisations might struggle to find the resources to set up safeguarding procedures as required. The concern is on the reduction of the "diversity of humanitarian actors" in the sector and less support to home-grown aid delivery – "localisation". Reported by [IRIN News](#).



**19. Annual Conference 2018:** our 20 March conference, "[Navigating the Nexus: NGO Perspectives](#)," adopted a people-centred approach, starting and ending with refugee voices. The rich diversity of NGO experiences and initiatives that were shared was inspiring. A leadership panel brought together some important global policies and thoughts: the New Way of Working, UN reform, the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, the World Bank's emerging role and the importance of keeping the focus on resilience.

NGO voices continued to be raised in dialogues held during the week with Good Humanitarian Donorship, the independent evaluator of the Grand Bargain, and UNHCR counterparts supporting the process leading to a Global Compact on Refugees. We ended with an ICVA-SCHR retreat on the implications for NGOs of UN reform.

[View photographs](#) of the Annual Conference.

## 21. Hot off the Press

[ICVA Annual Report 2017](#) now available online

**20. 17th ICVA General Assembly - 21 March 2018:** Members elected a new Board, and we are pleased to welcome Anoop Sukumaran from Act Alliance as the new ICVA Chair. See the full list of the [ICVA Board](#). The [2019-2021 Strategy](#) was approved, setting the network in a positive direction for what it hopes to accomplish in the future. We will reach out to members on socialisation and exchange on the implementation of the ICVA Strategy. The members also adopted a [Commitment and Motion to Action](#) on Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation and Sexual Harassment against any form of abuse, and committing ICVA Members and Secretariat to have systems in place for preventing, detecting, and responding to abuse and misconduct.

[View photographs](#) of the General Assembly.

## New and Noteworthy

**22. Geneva Launch of 3rd Edition of Professional Standards for Protection Work:** takes place on 30 April at the CICG in Geneva. The 3rd edition of the Standards, a set of minimum but essential standards to aiming to ensure that protection work carried out by human rights and humanitarian actors is safe and effective. For [more information and to register](#)

**23. ACAPS have released their Humanitarian Access Overview report** which shows that humanitarian access has deteriorated in seven countries over the past 6 months. Out of the 37 countries included in the report, nearly half of them (18) are currently facing high humanitarian access constraints. Full report available in [English](#), [French](#), and [Spanish](#).

**24. #StatelessnessINDEX:** On 20 March, the [European Network on Statelessness](#) launched its [Statelessness Index](#) – a new online tool that for the first time enables instant comparison of how different countries in Europe protect people without a nationality and what they are doing to prevent and reduce statelessness, assessing each country's approach against international norms and good practices. The Index allows users to quickly identify where good practices exist as well as which areas of law, policy and practice need to be urgently improved by states to fulfil their international obligations and ensure protection for stateless people. It is hoped the Index will be an invaluable tool for civil society, government officials, researchers, and of course, stateless people seeking information about their rights. The Index currently contains information about 12 countries, and more will be added along with other useful resources, such as policy briefings, training packages and awareness raising materials, as the site develops, so watch this space.

**25. The International Centre for Non-for-Profit Law (ICNL)** has launched their [Philanthropy Law Reports](#) for India, China, UAE, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Ethiopia, Nigeria and South Africa focusing on information of national laws and regulations affecting philanthropies, including Civil Society, Non-government Organisations and Foundations.

**26. Médecins Sans Frontières has released their report on their Emergency Gap Project** "[Bridging the emergency gap: Reflections and a call for action after a two-year exploration of emergency response in acute conflicts](#)".

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## Forthcoming Events

### *ICVA Meetings and Events*

#### **2018**

**April 11:** NGO Meeting with Kim Bolduc, HC for DRC and Julien Harneis, DHC for DRC, Geneva

**April 12:** Learning Stream Webinar: Demystifying the Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus

**April 19:** ICVA Webinar: Responsibility-sharing for refugees: Lessons from policy and practice for the Global Compact on Refugees

**May 24:** Learning Stream webinar: The World Bank and the humanitarian, development and peace nexus

**June 8:** Learning Stream webinar: UN reform: the link to the "nexus" and what it means for non-UN actors

### *Other Meetings and Events:*

**April 10-11:** 3rd formal consultations on the GCR, UNHCR, Geneva  
**April 25-26:** IASC Working Group-Emergency Director Group meeting  
**April 30:** Launch of 3rd Edition of Professional Standards for Protection Work, Geneva  
**May 8-9:** 4th formal consultations on the GCR, UNHCR  
**May 9:** IASC Deputies Forum, New York  
**May 31 -** IASC Principals Meeting, New York  
**June 12-13:** 5th formal consultations on the GCR, UNHCR  
**June 19-21:** UNHCR 72nd Standing Committee on Protection, Geneva  
**June 19-2:** ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment, New York  
**June 20:** World Refugee Day  
**June 25-26:** Annual Tripartite Consultation on Resettlement, Geneva  
**June 25-29:** UNHCR NGO Annual Consultations, Geneva  
**July 3-4:** 6th formal consultations on GCR, UNHCR  
**July 9-13:** Intergovernmental Negotiations of GCM (6/6)  
**July 16-19:** Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
**August 19:** World Humanitarian Day  
**September 19:** Second anniversary of the adoption of the New York Declaration  
**October 8-9:** IASC Working Group meeting  
**October:** UNHCR Executive Committee Meeting (Geneva)

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