

Terms of Reference

Reference Group of the Independent Review of Humanitarian Responses to Internal Displacement

January 2023

Background

In follow-up to the UN Secretary-General's High-level Panel and Action Agenda on Internal Displacement, the IASC decided to commission an Independent Review of Humanitarian Responses to Internal Displacement. Following a competitive tender, the IASC Deputies Group, on 18 November 2022, selected a team of independent consultants assembled by the Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG) at ODI in partnership with the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) to carry out the review ("Review Team"). The Review Team will start its work in January 2023 and complete the review within 2023.

The TORs adopted by the IASC in June 2022 ask the Review Team to "examine and provide actionable recommendations on how IASC leadership arrangements, coordination structures, programming processes, and advocacy efforts, at global and country-level, can better meet the key protection and assistance needs of and deliver outcomes to IDP populations and their host communities, including with respect to advancing resilience self-reliance, and durable solutions." Specifically, the TORs' three central questions ask the review team to inquire (1) how IASC coordination structures and programming processes can better meet IDPs' needs and rights of IDPs; (2) how leadership responsibilities and accountabilities within the humanitarian system can be strengthened to ensure a better IDP response; and (3) how the humanitarian response can lay a better groundwork for solutions for IDPs.

In October 2022 a group of eight donors sent a letter to the IASC proposing that a number of specific questions be explored as part of the review. The IASC Deputies Group largely endorsed these questions and appended them to – and made them part of – the TORs.

The TORs for the Review also foresee the establishment of – and outline the core functions of – a Reference Group that would support the Review Team to whom it will "*provide advice and serve as a sounding board*". This document provides TORs for said Reference Group.

Expected Role and Functions of the Reference Group

- 1) Advise the Review Team on **key issues and contexts** which could be captured during the Review and provide suggestions for key interlocutors as/if needed;
- 2) Advise the Review Team on the selection of the **six case study countries** requested by the Review's TORs
- 3) Receive at least four **interim briefings** on the progress of the Review and its findings and provide support, advice and feedback to the Review Team;
- 4) Provide feedback on the **draft findings and recommendations** of the Review for consideration by the Review Team, including to help to ensure that the **recommendations will be**

actionable and directed at the appropriate components and levels of humanitarian coordination and decision-making.

The Reference Group will carry out its functions based on the understanding that the review will be independent, and the Review Team will make the ultimate decision on the key findings and recommendations to present to the Deputies Group and to the IASC Principals.

Criteria and Composition for the IASC Committee

The Reference Group will comprise no more than 13 members.

It will be co-chaired by OCHA and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

In addition, it will include:

- Two Resident/Humanitarian Coordinators
- Four representatives of UN entities, either with cluster lead responsibilities or relevant thematic expertise.
- The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- One representative of an international NGO or NGO consortium
- One representative of a national NGO with relevant experience
- The Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement
- One representative of humanitarian donors

Those participating in the Committee should have the ability and commitment to devote an estimated 3-4 hours every month to supporting this review.

Participation in the Committee is not transferrable and may not be delegated to other staff.

The D-ERC will select Reference Group members from among nominees based on the above criteria.