

**FIRST FORMAL CONSULTATION ON THE GLOBAL COMPACT ON REFUGEES
STATEMENT BY TURKEY UNDER AGENDA ITEM 2 and 3
14 February 2018**

Agenda item 2: Support for the application of the comprehensive refugee response framework (CRRF): reception and admission, meeting needs and supporting communities, and solutions

- Management of large numbers of arrivals is a challenging task.
- Emergencies require quick thinking, clear decisions and intervention plans to always be ready.
- An **early warning and risk analysis** system to help better predict refugee crises could be called for in the program of action.
- Additionally, as suggested during the thematic discussions, a **“pool” of resources** could be made available to States faced with large-scale influxes.
- In terms of reception and admission, we appreciate that the role of UNHCR is clearly expressed in the text. However, I would like to remind our suggestion of a template or road map in this context.
- Under the sub-title “Identifying international protection needs”: We agree with the role foreseen for UNHCR such as providing advice for international protection needs. However, utmost sensitivity and vigilance should be shown against terrorists or criminal networks to prevent misuse of the international protection system, bearing in mind the exception clauses of the 1951 Convention.
- Activating and strengthening regional and international standby arrangements for personnel, as well as technical and material assistance, upon the request and consent of the host states, will also be crucial in terms of easing the pressure on refugee hosting states.
- Developing national policies and institutions to strengthen the resilience of refugees and host communities is an area that requires significant support from the international community. This task seeks the support of both humanitarian and development actors. Therefore, among the priority areas listed in the text, such as education, health and livelihoods, a stronger call for concrete support is necessary.
- If the international community would like to prevent **“lost generations”**, more direct financial support should be mobilized in the field of education in hosting states, especially through assistance to the establishment of new schools, additional classrooms and employment of new teachers.
- Ideas on encouraging **development funds** to be directed to regions and communities that host refugees and developing adequate instruments to attract private sector and infrastructure investment in these areas have our support. However, it is better to also include in the text that projects for the realization of such targets should be carried out in full consultation with national authorities and municipalities of host states.

- Also, importance should be given to **promotion of preferential trade** arrangements, especially for goods and sectors in which labour force of refugees are intensive.
- On the other hand, for strengthening national health systems, it would be better to **promote health financing** through bilateral and multilateral assistance to host countries.
- In terms of solutions, we believe the text could be further improved by making stronger calls for engagement of interested states and relevant stakeholders in supporting conditions favourable to **voluntary repatriation**. In case of voluntary repatriation phase, enough financial and technical support should also be considered for refugees themselves and countries that host them.
- For Turkey, **resettlement** is a tangible form of burden and responsibility sharing. Therefore, resettlement title might be also mentioned under the first section of the text which is about the principal modalities for burden- and responsibility-sharing.
- We also believe that it would be ideal to attribute a stronger emphasis or reserve a broader part to resettlement in the text, as we believe that an increase in the number of resettlement countries and in the resettlement quotas are definitely necessary. We encourage a clear call targeting that every single country should take its share from global resettlement according to its economic indicators and self-reliance capacity.

Agenda item 3: follow-up arrangements (14 February 2018)

- Regarding follow-up arrangements, we share the idea that the success of the Global Compact on Refugees will depend on its effective implementation. This requires of course necessary follow-up arrangements.
- We support the inclusion of information on the progress made in the application of the Compact in the annual report of the High Commissioner to the General Assembly. We believe that this will keep the attention of the international community high about refugees and the need for global action in tackling this issue.
- Similarly we welcome the suggestion for the application of the Global Compact to be assessed periodically and at a high-level. We therefore support a ministerial or even higher level mechanism to be convened by the UNHCR in 2021.