

**74<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee**  
**5-7 March 2018**

**Agenda item 8**  
**Oral update on the Global Compact on Refugees**  
**and on preparations for the first Global Refugee Forum**

**Daniel Endres, Director of the Division of Resilience and Solutions**

- I would like to start this discussion by speaking to the broader question of **implementation** of the Global Compact on Refugees. The affirmation of the GCR marks a new stage in the global and collective effort to deliver more inclusive and sustainable responses to refugee situations. It sets out a blueprint for ensuring that responses are better able to meet the needs of refugees and their host communities.
- UNHCR is working across its Divisions, Bureaux, and regional and country offices, and together with partners and key stakeholders, to translate the GCR into concrete action. The operational tools in the Global Compact will guide the continued application of **comprehensive responses in the 15 countries** that have pioneered the approach since the New York Declaration.
- UNHCR is drawing upon lessons learned from implementing Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework in these situations, to move to a **broader application** of comprehensive responses in key operations around the world.
- Lessons learned in the application of the CRRF have been consolidated in a recent report, entitled [\*Two Year Progress Assessment of the CRRF Approach: September 2016 – September 2018\*](#), which my colleague Ritu Shroff will speak to next.

**Ritu Shroff, Head of the Evaluation Service**

- The CRRF Progress Assessment Report looks at the lessons learned from the application of the CRRF in 14 countries, and provides an overview on progress made towards the four objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees. It is not an evaluation of the CRRF or of UNHCR. Overall, the report shows that there are promising developments and movement in the right direction that have occurred in the two-year period of the application of the CRRF in all countries that were looked at for the report. At the two-year mark, we cannot expect to see impact, but the report provides evidence on where and how we are on track toward ultimate impact on refugees and persons of concern.
- There are three reflections on application of the CRRF which are relevant to the GCR. First, longer term change can be initially driven, and often is initially driven, by changes at the policy level. To influence practice, partners including UNHCR will need to engage in a stronger and more sustained manner in socio-economic and development planning and action at the local level.
- Second, there is a need for more predictable, transparent, and flexible funding for comprehensive responses, especially those that entail socio-economic and

development planning and action for refugee inclusion. UNHCR is well placed to advocate and work with donors on longer term funding mechanisms and better alignment between humanitarian and development funding cycles.

- Finally, applying comprehensive responses requires deeper engagement with Governments and Development Actors, requiring all of us to acquire additional skills and experience, build different relationships, and draw on expanded institutional knowledge. In particular, working differently with legislative cycles and formal government mechanisms may be more complex and require a longer time horizon.