

### **Consultation 3 –Draft 1 of Global Compact of Refugees**

#### **Agenda Item 1: support for the application of the comprehensive refugee response framework (CRRF):**

##### **Reception and Admission** – (c.f. UNW GCR Position Paper for detailed recommendations) –

- *Preparedness, contingency planning and early warning*  
All preparedness capacity building efforts, analysis and contingency planning must integrate gender equality and women and girl’s empowerment provisions to ensure contingencies will adequately meet the needs of all members of potentially affected displaced and host communities.
- *Immediate reception arrangements*  
The protection risks displaced women and girls are already well know and can be pre-empted. ALL women and girls face protection risks in such circumstances and not just those ‘under certain circumstances’ [para 46], and the language should reflect that. In addition, special provision should be made for unaccompanied women, as well as children.

Reception conditions arrivals meet can dictate their long-term outcomes and future prospects, as well as how well their immediate needs are addressed.

- Ensure all entry systems are protection-sensitive and gender responsive.
- They must recognize all forms of GBV as a right to asylum.
- Ensure that arrivals have immediate access to the differing and gender-specific humanitarian and protection services they need whilst being processed as asylum seekers.
- Ensure that all staff at reception and detention centers are trained in protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).
- Mitigate the risk of SGBV at reception or detention centers by ensuring conditions that respect the safety and dignity of all accommodated there. Gender segregated and hygienic toilet and washing facilities (including adequate sanitary supplies) and sleeping arrangements for unaccompanied women, men, girls and boys should be provided.
- *Safety and Security* –
  - Ensure adequate numbers of trained female staff – including case-workers, interpreters and security staff are available at all times to liaise with arrivals and support women and girls through the registration process and in referring them to protection and humanitarian services. Separate and private facilities for the interviewing of women and girls should be available and used.
  - Ensure that all staff at reception and detention centers are trained in protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and that a standardized, zero-tolerance formal code of conduct is set in place. All accommodated at the centers should be made aware of their rights and the zero tolerance of any SEA by staff or others accommodated at the reception/detention center. An easily accessible, anonymous and confidential complaints mechanism must be in place.
- *Registration and Documentation* –
  - There needs to be provision for the registration of all women and girls as individuals, be it with biometric technology or otherwise. Adult women should be registered independently from their husbands and/or other male family members, though systems should link families together once registered.

- Ensure the widest protection of the family unity of asylum seekers. Provide safe spaces for women and children and family spaces.
- *Identifying international protection needs:*
  - The *asylum capacity support group* must include specific gender equality protection capacity.

## **Agenda Item 2 - Meeting Needs and Supporting Communities**

- *Jobs and Livelihoods*
  - Include women's leadership and participation in the implementation and delivery of services to refugee communities.
  - Ensure that women are included in all cash-based intervention strategies in a manner that are gender transformative and will not heighten their exposure to the risk of GBV.
  - Identify sustainable and appropriate livelihood opportunities for women that are feasible and viable. Consult with women and girls to determine the type of marketable skills they would like to acquire. Provide women with the necessary skills training to access such opportunities.
  - Provide ancillary services to assist with the care-duties which may impede women's ability to work.
  - Where feasible, remove any legal restrictions that impede women's access to legal formal employment – including recognition or fast-tracked conversion of educational and professional qualifications.
  - Provide sexual and reproductive health services and rights education for adults
- *Health*
  - Specific provision for sexual and reproductive health must be included.
  - Specific provision for SGBV survivor health and psycho-social services must be included.
  - Specific provision for mental health services must be included.
- *Gender*
  - Whilst as section underlining the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of displaced women and girls is welcome, it is important that gender equality and women's empowerment is integrated throughout the GCR. As it stands, this section seems to be a holding place for a number of disconnected gender focused themes that should be articulated in their respective sections.
  - What is the relevance of the timing of immunization services?
- *Accommodation, energy, and natural resource management*
  - Accommodation is a crucial aspect for all displaced people and would warrant wider consideration in the GCR. The type, location and set up of accommodation can have a multifaceted impact on the protection and prospects of women and girls in particular.
  - Access, collection, use, types of energy in the household is often an issue that also has a multifaceted impact on the lives of women and girls, including time burden, health and protection.
  - As such, any discussion or consideration on accommodation and energy must include consultation with women.
- *Civil Registries*
  - Recognition of identity must be provided for all people on an individual basis, including women and girls, who must not only be identified through association with male relatives (father, husband etc).
  - Any technological solutions must be all inclusive for women, girls, men and boys.
  - Women and girls should be assisted to obtain their own essential documentation to establish their identification and legal ownership of assets – birth certificates, marriage certificates, land-deeds, passports etc.
- *Statelessness*

- With twenty six countries still preventing mothers from passing their nationality to their children, this remains a leading cause of intergenerational statelessness, contributing to the 10 million stateless worldwide. For those permanently or long-term displaced, this needs to be addressed to facilitate inclusive durable solutions.

### **Agenda Item 3 – Solutions**

- *Voluntary Repatriation* –
  - Ensure that women have the opportunity to make their own independent choice with regards voluntary repatriation and not be dependent on decision of a male relative.
  - All support services and opportunities for returnees – economic, livelihoods, accommodation etc – are offered equally to ALL returnees
  - Special provision is made to monitor and address protection concerns of women and girl returnees.
- *Other pathways* - Ensure that any innovative or temporary resettlement options offered by third-countries – such as private sector sponsorship, medical/humanitarian evacuation, academic leave of stay etc. – are also accessible by women and girls and offer options for keeping families together.
- *Rights and information*  
Provide accessible, relevant and actionable information on all options for durable solutions – be it voluntary repatriation, resettlement and other legal pathways – to all refugees, including women and girls, so that they can freely make informed decisions.

Protect the rights of all refugee women to independently choose their own durable solution based on the options available to them. Prevent gender discrimination leading to decisions being conferred upon them by a husband or other male family members.