

### **Agenda item 5: Programme of action: Areas in need of support – solutions (Part III.B.3)**

- In paragraph 89 after the first sentence, we would like to see a clear wording pointing out that ‘‘the most effective way for durable solutions is the elimination of root causes in the countries of origin’’. This is not only important for facilitating the conditions for voluntary repatriations but also to prevent new crisis from emerging.
- The inclusion of cash assistance in paragraph 95 is also appropriate as returnees will have to design new lives once they return to their own countries and therefore will still be in need of some kind of assistance.
- On the road to reaching the ultimate aim to achieve durable solutions, we believe that the current options for resettlement and other pathways for admission fall behind their actual potential.
- We continue to believe there is a need for a stronger call for every single country to take its share from global resettlement according to its economic indicators and self-reliance capacity.
- It would also be useful to increase the annual resettlement submission within six months of UNHCR referral above the foreseen 25 percent target.
- On the other hand, we support the multi-year strategies and schemes in order to enlarge the pool of resettlement countries and the volume of resettled people.
- However, although a wide range of parameters in order to be eligible for resettlement are indicated in the text, the UN Vulnerability Criteria is still not mentioned. We attach importance to include a reference in that regard with the ultimate aim of making the resettlement exercise much more functional.
- Furthermore, national authorities should be consulted in determining those refugees to be resettled. Therefore, it is better to add the wording ‘‘refugees identified by national authorities’’ to an appropriate sentence of the resettlement section.
- We believe that resettlement and other pathways for admission could also be activated in cases where refugees’ needs are left unmet due to the

overloaded capacity in host countries, particularly in the areas of education and livelihood opportunities.

- We welcome the expansion of the possible tools for support under paragraph 101 on other pathways for admission. Especially we attach importance to the establishment of simplified procedures to facilitate access to family reunification.

- In terms of local solutions, we reiterate our view that this is solution that is strictly based on the choice of the host country and cannot be seen as an obligation.

- Thank you.