

## **Consultation 2 – First Draft of Global Compact of Refugees**

### **Agenda item 1: Introduction: background, goals of the global compact on refugees, and prevention and addressing root causes (Part I)**

#### **Background**

- Background paragraphs are gender neutral. It is important that acknowledgement is made at the start of the compact that not all refugees are affected in the same way and the ‘protection, assistance and solutions to their plight’ that they require is dependent on a range of intersecting variables, but in particular gender and age.

#### **Goal of the GCR**

- The language of ‘enhanced socio-economic conditions for refugees and host communities, notably women and girls’ is most welcome, but this needs to be further qualified. Women and girls need to have equal access to all socio-economic opportunities available, rather than just an arbitrary enhancement of their already existing conditions. Equal access is dependent on a wide range of supporting factors, including legislative support and protection from violence and exploitation.

#### **Prevention and Addressing Root Causes**

- Language is focused on cooperation at the international and states level, but it also needs to reflect the participation and inputs of at-risk populations, including women and girls, in the processes of prevention, peace, security, development, and peacebuilding.

### **Agenda Item 2: Programme of action: Mechanisms for burden- and responsibility-sharing (Part III.A)**

**Para 12** – end discrimination list must also include gender.

#### **National Arrangements and Global Platform –**

- Essential that any refugee policy making bodies – such as suggested Steering Groups, global platforms – include gender equality and women and girls’ empowerment capacity. Also crucial that they have representation from women’s civil society – including from refugee populations.
- As per language of introduction, any host country *comprehensive plan [para 20]* must be *informed by the imperatives of promoting gender equality and women and girls’ empowerment*. Any plan must be evidence based, utilizing SADD and include gender analysis to identify and address the specific needs of refugee women, girls, men and boys.
- Member state and donor participants must ensure that GEWGE is adequately prioritized and resourced through their contributions and funding criteria.

#### **Global Support Platform and Solidarity Conferences –**

- Essential that Global Support Platforms and solidarity conferences include gender equality and women and girls’ empowerment capacity. Also, crucial that they have representation from women’s civil society – including from refugee populations.
- Language that calls on reporting on progress must include *age, gender and diversity perspective [para 25]* is well noted, but it is crucial that specific goals, objectives and outcomes that reflect this *age*,

*gender and diversity perspective* are developed in advance so that progress can be monitored and tracked.

**Additional Funding and Efficient Use of Resources –**

- Funding agreements must support gender equality and women and girls' empowerment commitments laid out in the *comprehensive plan* – including both mainstreaming of gender equality and women and girls' empowerment throughout the response and in targeted action that addresses the specific identified needs of women, girls, men and boys.
- Funding must be made available to strengthen partnerships with and build the capacity of local women's and youth organisations to assist and represent refugee populations and address the intersecting barriers to promote gender equality in displacement contexts.
- Opportunities developed with the private sector [para 28] must be inclusive.

**Multi-Stakeholder Approach –**

- [Para 31] consultations to include women and youth in assessing and planning response plans is most welcome. Their inclusion in *key fora, institutions and decision making processes* is likely to require specific funding to facilitate this as covered in para 32.

**Agenda Item 3 – Follow Up Arrangements**

- *Assessment and Response Planning* - Providing the international protection and humanitarian services that adequately meet the rights and needs of all asylum seekers requires an evidence based understanding – under-pinned by gender analysis and disaggregated data - of the gender-dynamics that affect the displacement contexts for each refugee population.
- *M&E and Indicators* – Whilst it is welcome for good practices on gender and age to have its own platform in M&E efforts, ongoing monitoring of the Plan of Action and the CRRF, - including the bad, as well as the good - should include indicators measuring the extent that commitments to gender equality and women and girls' empowerment are being realized.
- Monitoring of individual CRRFs should track funding made available specifically for programming that specifically target women and girls.