

Statement by Denmark
Third draft of the Global Compact on Refugees
Agenda item 1:
Check against delivery

Thank you Chair,

- Denmark aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the EU and its member states.
- We welcome that the third draft has become much more streamlined and succinct. We believe that it makes solid progress in addressing the imbalance between part III B and the rest of the text that was highlighted during the last consultation. This bears testimony to UNHCR's continuing efforts to find consensus. We commend UNHCR for its constructive work in this regard.
- While progress has been clear, we also feel that the draft has lost some clarity with regard to the crucial need for comprehensive and inclusive approaches that reach across the humanitarian-development nexus. Such approaches are what the CRRF calls for – but references to this are no longer as clear as in earlier drafts.
- To promote a truly transformed response to forced displacement, we need an efficient and credible mechanism for humanitarian action to be supplemented by the additional resources and long-term approaches of development actors. The reason for this is twofold. First, there is strong evidence, for instance from the World Bank, that forced displacement entails not only humanitarian protection challenges but also very significant development challenges. In that situation, humanitarian assistance is simply not sufficient. Second, there is clearly not enough humanitarian funding around to cover the needs in existing displacement situations, let alone new ones.
- In short, we must do whatever we can to engage development actors in building a more efficient response to displacement - while also ensuring that humanitarian action continues to respond to needs in full accordance with all humanitarian principles. There need not be any contradiction between the two. On the contrary, if well managed, comprehensive approaches may be to the benefit of all involved - humanitarian actors will be able to prioritize sparse resources more efficiently for the most vulnerable, host communities will benefit from improved service delivery and more resources for local socio-economic development, and refugees will experience better services and livelihood opportunities, and thereby be much better prepared for a durable solution.

- In spite of repeated references to development actors the draft is yet to offer a mechanism for these to engage in a meaningful manner. Development funding is typically not delivered at pledging conferences - but through careful negotiation with governments in developing countries, based on their priorities. That is why government leadership in developing inclusive approaches to the benefit of both refugees and host communities is so crucial.
- The experience from the roll-out of the CRRF and similar efforts in other countries shows that such approaches actually work. And some bilateral and multilateral donors are already adapting to this New Way of Working. The World Bank is leading the way, based on the GCFF and IDA18 funds - and some bilateral donors are moving in the same manner. Allow me to use my own country as an example.
- Over the past few years, Denmark has trippled its humanitarian funding which is now at record levels. We cannot increase it any further. However, at the same time we have allocated significant development funds in support of refugees and host communities in CRRF countries along with the Middle East, Afghanistan and Bangladesh. In 2017, this totalled more than 300 million USD.
- We need the GCR to set the stage to encourage this approach.
- Thank you.

Statement by Denmark
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Agenda item 2:
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Thank you Chair,

- Denmark aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the EU and its member states.
- We welcome the improvements to the text on mechanisms for burden- and responsibility sharing. The description has become more straight-forward, making it easier to envisage the proposed response mechanisms.
- In particular, we continue to be very supportive of the Global Refugee Forum and the possible involvement of the Secretary General. It carries a significant potential in promoting overall aims of the GCR by calling for strengthened protection and solutions through improved burden- and responsibility sharing and review of progress achieved.
- We also appreciate the simplified wording regarding the support platforms and that these are clearly described as being in support of national arrangements.
- However, the call for comprehensive approaches could be strengthened. In particular, it would be helpful if paras 23 and 26 explicitly calls for interacting with existing humanitarian **and** development coordination frameworks - and for having development actors included from the outset to ensure sufficient and appropriate support for both refugees and host communities within the framework of comprehensive approaches.
- We also very much welcome the revised wording in para 32, in particular regarding the need for humanitarian assistance being delivered fully in line with the humanitarian principles and based upon needs-driven, flexible, un-earmarked and multiyear funding.
- We also appreciate the call for dedicated and additional development resources over and above regular development programmes and in direct support of both refugees and host communities.
- However, we are somewhat sceptical of the call for solidarity conferences in para 27, partly because they may reinforce competition for humanitarian funding.

Further, we are doubtful that pledging conferences would work as a mechanism for generating development funding. Development funding is typically generated through a direct dialogue between a bilateral or multilateral actor and the host state in support of a national development framework.

- In summary, we do think that the current draft represents significant improvements. We would nevertheless recommend revisiting the sections that define how development actors can engage in an efficient manner. To promote a truly transformed and improved response to forced displacement, the GCR must define an efficient and credible mechanism for humanitarian action to be supplemented by the additional resources and long-term approaches of development actors – in order to ensure better outcomes for refugees and host communities.
- I thank you.

Statement by Denmark
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Agenda item 3
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Thank you Chair,

- Denmark aligns itself with the statement of the EU on behalf of its member states.
- We very much welcome that this section has become shorter and more succinct without losing sight of the fact that the success of the proposed measures depends entirely on robust burden and responsibility sharing on the part of host states and the international community as a whole.
- It is for the same reason that we appreciate the strong reference to national ownership and leadership.
- And it is for the same reason that we continue to highlight the need for the GCR to explicitly reflect the specific contributions of humanitarian and development actors within the framework of comprehensive responses. Such comprehensive approaches are simply indispensable, no matter the circumstances.
- This theme is also of key importance with respect to this part of the text. In particular, we believe that it would be helpful if humanitarian and development actors are able to recognize their specific roles in support of and in partnership with both host communities and refugees. In short, they need to be able to see themselves in the future operational mechanisms that roll out burden and responsibility sharing in protracted situations and in support of solutions. This applies in particular to para 65, 66, 86 and 88.
- We also appreciate UNHCR's continued efforts to improve the focus on age, gender and diversity in the text.
- And we particularly welcome the new reference to youth in para 76, but this section should include a reference to the particular protection needs of children, including as regards SGBV, exploitation and other harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. In para. 72, maternal and infant mortality should be added to the text and in para. 75 "including sexual and gender-based violence" should be added after "all forms of violence".
- We still have some way to go if we are to adequately address the particular needs of women and girls, including adolescent girls, as women and girls are

disproportionally affected in forced displacement situations. The heightened risks for women and girls are amplified by the lack of adequate sexual and reproductive health services. Sexual and reproductive health and rights are an essential component of health services to refugee populations. We would in line with the New York Declaration suggest the inclusion of references to the provision of and access to SRHR services, be included in Global Compact on Refugees [for instance by adding “including sexual and reproductive” in para 75].

- Thank you.

Statement by Denmark
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Agenda item 4
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Thank you Chair,

- Denmark aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the EU and its member states.
- We very much welcome the reference to collective outcomes in para 102 and 104 as this recognizes the need for comprehensive approaches reaching across the humanitarian-development nexus.
- We particularly welcome that refugee participation, including women and youth, is clearly spelled out, including as regards their perspectives on progress. We underline that refugee participation remains crucial and should be meaningful.
- We also welcome the establishment of a mechanism for the tracking of pledges by states and other stakeholders, including reporting on the realization of pledges and contributions to each Global Refugee Forum.
- We do believe that we need a mechanism for accountability, linked to the Global Refugee Forum. Without such a mechanism, we will have no clear basis for assessing real and tangible progress towards strengthened responses to forced displacement through improved burden- and responsibility sharing. Given this, we invite UNHCR to present a concrete proposal.
- Let me end by noting that progress achieved so far nevertheless has been impressive. We trust UNHCR's ability to incorporate the many constructive suggestions and comments that have been made also during this round of formal consultations and we therefore look forward to seeing the next and final draft that will hopefully lead to full consensus behind a truly transformational Global Compact for Refugees.
- Let me close by thanking the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection and his team for their commitment, their hard work and their steadfastness in steering this important work.

- Thank you