

Global Refugee Forum: GPA Steering Group Intervention during the High-Level Dialogue

The following intervention is to be delivered on behalf of all GPA Steering Members by Thomas Fohgrub, Head GPA Coordination Unit

Dear Madame Chair, Honourable guests, Dear colleagues,

My name is Thomas Fohgrub and I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Steering Group Members of the Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Energy Solutions in Displacement Settings or in short “The GPA”. The Steering Group members are: UNHCR, IOM, FAO, WFP, UNITAR, UNDP, UNEP-DTU, Mercy Corps, GIZ, The Clean Cooking Alliance, SEforALL, Practical Action and the Moving Energy Initiative.

The GPA was launched last year as a framework for collective action towards the vision that “every person affected by conflict or natural disaster has access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services by 2030.” UNHCR was a founding member of this initiative, and we take this opportunity to congratulate them for translating this vision into an ambitious energy strategy for the organisation. Building on this strategy and the momentum of this Forum, UNHCR, the Energy and Infrastructure Co-Sponsorship Group and GPA partners have developed the Clean Energy Challenge. It is a bold commitment and a significant step towards ensuring we leave no one behind in SDG7. This Challenge and its five components will be our compass for the next 10 years. The GPA partners fully support this Challenge. In fact, we see this as a **joint** challenge to the international community, to benefit the food security, livelihoods and protection of all displaced persons and their hosts. We also see this as a substantial contribution to promoting wellbeing, protecting the environment and to reducing the climate impact of humanitarian activities.

We would like to take the opportunity to also thank all partners who have signed up to the Joint Pledge orchestrated by the governments of Norway and France, and we encourage others to accept the Challenge too.

If you would like to learn more about the GPA, the critical importance of energy access in displacement settings, and our network of partners, please visit our booth “The Humanitarian Energy Zone” in the Salle des pas perdu just outside the General Assembly.

I thank you for your attention.