

Written contribution from Sweden: Resettlement

(Elements included in statement held during the High Commissioners Dialogue on Protection Challenges, 12-13 December 2017)

- Sweden has emphasized the importance of resettlement throughout the process. With global resettlement needs remaining at a historical high there is an urgent need for states, in a spirit of true solidarity with the major refugee hosting states, to deliver on their resettlement pledges. This should be clearly stated in the programme of action.
- Resettlement is not the only solution but it is a vital tool to saving lives and helping the most vulnerable refugees.
- Resettlement, alongside financial support, also has the potential of sending a signal to major host countries of a concrete commitment to the principle of global responsibility sharing. We are therefore convinced that resettlement, alongside other alternative legal pathways, needs to form part of any equitable solidarity plan.
- The programme of action should make clear that resettlement is primarily an important protection tool and a durable solution. To optimize the use of resettlement in select regional contexts, the programme of action could also encourage a strategic use of resettlement, which in combination with voluntary repatriation and local integration or inclusion may preserve protection space.
- In the context of resettlement, the collaborative and partnership-focused approach that the New York Declaration calls for has traditionally taken place through the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) and Working Groups on Resettlement (WGR), which aim to harmonize and advance resettlement programming. In addition, *UNHCR Core Groups on Resettlement* have proven to be an important forum.
- Through the Core Groups, UNHCR and resettlement States can partner to help promote, optimize, coordinate and ensure longer-term support for resettlement of specific groups of refugees.
- Experience from recent Core Groups like the Syria Core Group, the Great Lakes Core Group and the new Core Group for the Central Mediterranean Route has shown that these fora can be critical in mobilizing support to expand opportunities for resettlement and complementary pathways of admission.

- Although the Swedish national quota is set by calendar year we aim at multi-year commitments and we have a permanent quota programme since 1950. We suggest that a reference be made in the programme of action to the need for increased and permanent quotas as well as multi-year commitments.