

Statement by Denmark

First draft of the Global Compact on Refugees

Agenda item 2 and 3: Mechanisms for burden and responsibility sharing and follow-up arrangements

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Mr. Chairman,

- Denmark aligns with the statement made on behalf of the EU and its member states.
- As mentioned during agenda item 1 we very much applaud that the first draft has moved in the right direction – a very positive direction.
- We welcome the clear setting out of a proposed mechanism for burden and responsibility sharing and the three-tiered approach encompassing the global, regional and national level – as well as the local level.
- While the proposal is very positive we still – like others – seek clarity on the proposed overall architecture and particularly on the various initiatives in the section on mechanisms for responsibility sharing, ie. the global refugee summits, the global platform, the solidarity conferences etc., including how they co-exist and how we avoid duplication, but let me for now express appreciation for the flowchart on burden- and responsibility-sharing mechanisms which was shared by UNHCR Monday evening – this is most useful as a basis for further discussion. As proposed by others yesterday, we find the idea of a table top exercise to allow us to better understand the various parts of the mechanism, interesting and look forward to engaging on this.
- On the global refugee summits we welcome this idea as a means to gathering and galvanizing the necessary political will for addressing refugee issues, not least in order to ensure better responsibility and burden sharing. However, global summits every 3 years might seem somewhat unrealistic, if we are to ensure proper preparation and follow-up. Summits every 5 years would

perhaps be more conducive to reaching our common goal of better responsibility and burden sharing.

- We also seek clarity on how the global summits and the solidarity conferences would fit into the general humanitarian cycle of annual appeals, supplementary appeals and pledging conferences etc. So far, we have seen close collaboration and joint efforts of UNHCR and OCHA in a number of specific situations. It is important for us that the organisations and the system continue to down this road.
- Like others, we also encourage that we do not lose focus on the importance of un-earmarked funding. We need to find a solid way of upholding this in the context of coming specific pledging events.
- As regards the global platform we welcome the idea as a means to galvanize support – and also – crucially – to widen the support base. We do seek more clarity on when it would be applied, how it would work in emergency situations vs. in protracted situations, who should convene, if there should be a co-convenor, what the criteria for engaging the platform would be etc.
- We stress that we should seek to underline and build support for UNHCRs core protection functions – as a primary way of facilitating a much stronger engagement by existing and new stakeholders, including development actors and the private sector – and not least, by the refugees themselves. To a certain degree we are seeking to rearrange and clarify responsibilities on care and maintenance, while of course fully respecting existing mandates.
- We welcome the strengthened language on gender, age and diversity – we note in this regard that a comprehensive gender response should include reference to SRHR, also as part of an adequate response to SGBV.
- We warmly welcome the stronger focus on data and evidence based policy making, and applaud the idea of collaboration with the World Bank in this regard. In regard to data we stress that this should be gender, age and diversity disaggregated.
- As for the addition of a paragraph on burden mapping, we welcome this concrete reference – we find much value in tying in the work on this mandated by the GA in the Omnibus resolution to the work on the GCR. We do however,

encourage that the reference make use the text from the Omnibus resolution. We also welcome the commitment of the World Bank to engage in this work.

- Allow me a few words now on the follow-up arrangements. We would welcome a strong reference to the inclusion of refugees themselves, including youth, and to civil society in the follow-up section and a strong focus on accountability and outcomes for affected populations.
- We highlight that the responsibility for the implementation of and follow-up to the GCR is a joint responsibility for all us and that we should allow the necessary space for other stakeholders, incl. development actors and international financial institutions, to allow for more inclusive approaches that support self-reliance along with local growth and development thus ensuring better outcome for refuges and indeed for the communities which host them.
- We look forward to engaging in the onward process on the GCR and thank the UNHCR for its commitment, its hard work and its steadfastness in steering this important work.
- I thank you.