Statement by Denmark

Second draft of the Global Compact on Refugees Agenda item 5

Check against delivery

Thank you, Chair,

- Denmark aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the EU and its member states.
- We strongly welcome the introduction in para 89 and would in particular like to highlight two aspects. First, we are pleased that the text recognizes the need to plan for solutions from the outset of emergencies. This has important implications in terms of the need to promote inclusive framework conditions and involve development actors in order to focus on retaining and developing livelihood capacities among refugees from the very beginning. This approach will be of immediate benefit to host communities and to refugees, and it will help ensure that refugees eventually will be better able to return voluntarily and reintegrate in their country of origin. This could be reflected in the text.
- Secondly, we highly appreciate the reference to the need for comprehensive approaches covering political and security cooperation, diplomacy, development, and the promotion of human rights. This underlines that the GCR extends beyond a purely humanitarian perspective and that common commitments and outcomes within a multi-stakeholder approach is crucial.
- We also agree with para 90 that highlights the crucial importance of support for countries of origin to facilitate conditions for voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity. However, at the same time, the GCR should call for states to fully mainstream voluntary repatriation and reintegration across national reconstruction plans instead of this issue being dealt with in isolation. Such an approach would be fully in line with recent experience from large-scale repatriation, e.g. in Afghanistan.
- Thank you.