

“Towards a global compact on refugees”

Formal Consultation 3, Geneva

10-11 April 2018

---

## Country Statement

### Republic of Korea

Thank you Mr. Chair,

The Republic of Korea commends the High Commissioner and his team for preparing the Draft 1 of the Global Compact on Refugees. Before we begin our comments on areas in need of support of the latest draft, we would like to assure you of our continued support for all your endeavors to achieve this momentous and cooperative framework for refugees and host communities.

Overall, we are pleased to learn that many improvements have been made compared to the previous draft. In **Reception and admission**, the draft focuses on capacity-building of the host countries and communities to ensure effective preparedness measures and initial responses, including early warning, registration and in particular, gender-responsive and child-sensitive accommodation and assistance. Draft 1 also proclaims that the international community should strengthen efforts to combat sexual and gender-based violence, which is another point to be highly noted.

As for **Meeting needs and supporting communities**, the new draft commendably highlights special consideration for women and girls by prioritizing and strengthening the gender area. This is of great importance for us, as one of our priorities is to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as we made it our commitment in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. In addition, we recognize that the draft emphasizes language and vocational training as well as secondary and tertiary education for women and girls, reflecting a wide range of roles education can assume in building resilience of refugees and host communities.

Concerning **Solutions**, we acknowledge that the international community should provide

significant support to share the burden of host countries, given that developing countries host more than 80% of the refugees under UNHCR's mandate. We are also of the view that UNHCR and all relevant stakeholders should assist states that are newly joining global efforts for resettlement or complementary solutions, and should fully respect the national contexts of these countries.

Specifically, we recognize the importance of resettlement as one of the effective solutions that helps refugees live in safety and dignity. At the same time, we understand that the resettlement programs have financial implications to countries implementing them, and thus it is critical to devise ways to use resources more efficiently. In this regard, allocating resettlement places by the priority situations identified by UNHCR may not be so effective, considering various factors such as geographic distance between the identified regions and the host country. In addition, we believe that sharing best practices and providing guidelines on complementary pathways for admission are useful in expanding solutions to refugee crisis.

We will closely follow the consultations and put efforts to make positive contributions. We look forward to fruitful discussions with all partners committed to the cause of refugees and international cooperation.

Thank you. /END/