

5th round of formal consultations on Draft 3 of the Global Compact on Refugees

Agenda item 1: Introduction (Part I)

Palais des Nations, Geneva

12 June 2018

German Intervention

Ladies and gentlemen,

Germany aligns itself with the EU Statement.

We thank UNHCR for the improved and much more balanced language of Draft 3. We particularly appreciate UNHCR's efforts to address the need to achieve a more equitable international burden- and responsibility-sharing. In this regard, we welcome the reference to widening the support base beyond those countries that have historically contributed to the refugee cause through hosting refugees or other means. The GCR must indeed represent the ambition of the international community as a whole.

Let me share our main suggestions with you:

- We strongly appreciate the revised language in *sections background and guiding principles* as the chapeau of the GCR and expect to see the same language included in the final draft.
- We agree that the refugee cause should not be politicized. But it will take considerable political ambition to translate the GCR into operative measures.
- For the *Objectives*, we recommend including a reference to the envisaged way for assessing progress of the Compact; tracking progress in a meaningful way will be key for the application and impact of the GCR.
- We welcome the strengthened language around "collective outcomes" that underlines the joint effort needed to operationalize the Compact.
- A true partnership and cooperation between humanitarian, development and peace actors, geared towards collective outcomes beyond complementarity will be required to achieve the objectives of the GCR. This could be achieved through early joint assessments, cooperation in formulating collective outcomes and implementing

comprehensive responses for refugees and host communities. At the same time it must be ensured that humanitarian assistance can be delivered according to humanitarian principles. This should be made clear in the final draft; e.g. in para. 35.

- We recommend using the terms “humanitarian assistance” and “development cooperation or assistance” consistently throughout the text.
- We welcome the strengthened language on *prevention and addressing root causes*, and the clarification that climate, environmental degradation and natural disasters may interact with the various drivers of refugee movements but are not drivers themselves. We regret that no reference is made to adverse effects of climate change. And we still suggest reinserting the footnote included in Draft 1, which referred to the recommendations of the Nansen Protection Agenda.
- Lastly, upholding the rule of law at the national and international levels, and promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms for all should be mentioned alongside international efforts to prevent and resolve conflict. Efforts to alleviate poverty, reduce inequalities, reduce disaster risks, and provide development assistance to countries of origin, should be listed as “equally important”. Coherence with the language of the GCM should particularly be ensured in this section.

Thank you.