Summary note

Presentation of the World Bank paper, "After the Global Refugee Forum: A Development Perspective" on 4 September at 14:00-14:45 at the ILO in Geneva

Summary. In the margins of the 3rd Informal Briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), the World Bank presented to member states and other stakeholders some ideas for consideration on the post Global Refugee Forum (GRF) agenda and the further operationalization of the GCR from a development perspective. The World Bank highlighted the growing pressures on the current system and the challenge of financing responses at scale. They emphasized the importance of maximizing available resources and minimizing the costs of hosting refugees through inclusive policies, such as granting freedom of movement and access to labor markets and the inclusion of refugees in national health and education systems. The presentation underscored the need for tangible impact, advocating for coordinated support to cost-effective approaches by host states. It also called for innovative solutions and further refinement of ways to address responsibility-sharing and the importance of including refugees in national climate adaptation plans.

Overall, the reaction from member states and international organizations was positive, and underscored the need for further dialogue on equitable support, economic inclusion, sustainability, and a coordinated global approach that integrates both humanitarian and development efforts.

Interventions from the floor

- Uganda: Raised the question of how best to reconcile the sustainability of hosting refugees
 with the financing offered by the World Bank. Uganda emphasized the need for sustainable
 programming that involves not only the countries of origin and transit but also hosting
 countries, particularly those that may not align with current policies supporting sustainable
 approaches.
- **Ethiopia**: Focused on the need for proportional support to hosting countries based on the number of refugees they accommodate, advocating for equitable burden-sharing.
- **The Netherlands**: Highlighted that the sustainability of refugee inclusion in national services is closely tied to labor market access, emphasizing that economic inclusion is essential for long-term success.
- **Germany**: Expressed commitment to working with the World Bank to implement sustainable refugee programming and called for key adjustments to ensure collective action at the onset of crises, aiming to strengthen national capacities.
- UNICEF: Appreciated the World Bank's focus on refugee inclusion as a critical step toward lasting solutions, also supporting the emphasis on addressing climate change as part of refugee management.
- **ILO**: Stressed the importance of minimizing parallel systems for refugees and promoting their inclusion in national systems, aligning with the broader development goals.