

*UNEDITED VERSION*

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE  
FRAMEWORK**

**PRELIMINARY PROGRESS UPDATE**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

1. On 19 September 2016, the UN General Assembly hosted the Summit for Refugees and Migrants to discuss the ways in which the international community could improve its response to large movements of refugees and migrants. At the summit, the 193 UN Member States unanimously adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which contains specific commitments for refugees, specific commitments for migrants, as well as a set of commitments that apply to both refugees and migrants.
2. The New York Declaration is a milestone for global solidarity and refugee protection. The commitments agreed by States reflect an understanding that protecting those who are forced to flee, and supporting the countries that shelter them, are shared international responsibilities that must be borne more equitably and predictably.
3. The Declaration also notes that “[t]he scale and nature of refugee displacement today requires us to act in a comprehensive and predictable manner in large-scale refugee movements”. “Through a comprehensive refugee response based on the principles of international cooperation and on burden- and responsibility-sharing, we are better able to protect and assist refugees and to support the host States and communities involved”.<sup>1</sup> The New York Declaration recognizes that a comprehensive and predictable response, based on the principles of burden and responsibility-sharing, requires the engagement and support of a wide range of actors. “A comprehensive refugee response should involve a multi-stakeholder approach, including national and local authorities, international organizations, international financial institutions, regional organizations, regional coordination and partnership mechanisms, civil society partners, including faith-based organizations and academia, the private sector, media and the refugees themselves.”
4. To this end, the New York Declaration provides, in its Annex I, the elements of a comprehensive response to large movements of refugees and protracted refugee situations. Known as the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), these elements are structured in chapters covering reception and admission; support for immediate and ongoing needs; support for host countries and communities; and durable solutions.
5. As provided by the General Assembly, the CRRF has four fundamental objectives:
  - To ease the pressures on host States;
  - To enhance refugee self-reliance;
  - To expand access to third-country solutions; and
  - To support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity
6. Member States committed to implementing the CRRF and asked that UNHCR “initiate and develop” the framework in close coordination with relevant States and other stakeholders for each situation involving large movements of refugees. Member States further invited the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees “to engage with States and consult with all relevant stakeholders over the coming two years with a view to evaluating the detailed practical application of the comprehensive refugee response framework and assessing the scope for refinement and further development. This

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<sup>1</sup> A/RES/71/1, Annex I, para. 1

process should be informed by practical experience with the implementation of the framework in a range of specific situations.”<sup>2</sup>

7. Furthermore, Member States agreed to “work towards the adoption in 2018 of a global compact on refugees,”<sup>3</sup> based on the CRRF and the outcomes of this process. (Please see annex 1)
8. As a contribution to this process, this preliminary update presents an initial account of progress in the practical application of the CRRF since the New York Declaration was adopted on 19 September 2016. It examines the framework’s application from two angles: (i) the whole-of-society approach of the CRRF, and (ii) actions taken in support of the four objectives of the CRRF.
9. The CRRF builds on experiences and good practices in a range of situations prior to the adoption of the New York Declaration. With this in mind, this update also draws—where relevant—on the lessons learned and good practices developed beyond the 13 States where the framework is being officially applied.
10. As this update is preliminary, it is not comprehensive, but rather seeks to map progress made in a range of areas and draw on illustrative examples. It should be considered in conjunction with an upcoming on-line platform where partners are encouraged to contribute to and access a regularly-updated compilation of good CRRF practices that are both replicable and scalable, as well as lessons learned.

## 2. THE CRRF’S WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY APPROACH

11. To date, the application of the CRRF has been formally initiated by 13 States: Belize, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Kenya, Mexico, Panama, Somalia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia, including two regional contexts. A regional comprehensive response for the Somali refugee situation was launched by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Special Summit on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and its resultant Nairobi Declaration. Today, all IGAD countries hosting Somali refugees, as well as Somalia, are developing national action plans contributing to the regional framework to provide protection and solutions to Somali refugees. Five Central American countries and Mexico validated the comprehensive regional protection and solutions framework, containing national action plans, and adopted the San Pedro Sula Declaration.
12. The New York Declaration recognizes that while the CRRF provides the fundamental elements for a comprehensive and people-centred refugee response, its practical application will be adapted to the specific context. In practice, the process of initiating the application of the CRRF has often reflected many or all of the following elements:
  - a. Announcement of the intention to apply the CRRF at national and/or regional levels;
  - b. Development of a road map for the framework’s application, a strategy, and an action plan;
  - c. National and regional stakeholder consultations;
  - d. A mapping of needs, responses, gaps and stakeholders for the CRRF application;

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<sup>2</sup> See NYD, A/RES/71/1, Annex I, para 18.

<sup>3</sup> See NYD, A/RES/71/1, Annex I, para. 19.

- e. Development of national and regional CRRF monitoring mechanisms;
  - f. Adoption or reform of policies or laws, as related to CRRF approaches and national objectives;
  - g. A government-led facilitation mechanism, with expanded and diversified partnerships; and
  - h. Alignment of the response with the Sustainable Development Goals, national development plans , the UN Development Assistance Framework
13. While these components are mostly in progress, they offer an overview of how CRRF elements may be systematized.

*Member States engagement in the CRRF*

14. Member States have engaged in the CRRF application in a variety of ways:
- (i) To date 13 States announced the framework’s application.
  - (ii) Elements of the CRRF approach pre-date the adoption of the New York Declaration and continue to be applied and introduced in a number of contexts. These include responses to the crises involving refugees from Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Somalia, South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic.
  - (iii) Several regional government frameworks are helping to channel the application of the CRRF in a contextualized regional approach. These include the Brazil Plan of Action<sup>4</sup> and San José Process<sup>5</sup> for Central America and the Nairobi Declaration<sup>6</sup> for Somalia. Elements of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Programme (3RP)<sup>7</sup> for the Syria crisis and the Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) represent good models for the CRRF application.<sup>8</sup>
  - (iv) A number of States have offered partnership and support as “Cooperating States” to actively back the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework in Central America and Mexico, including Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Spain, Switzerland, the United States of America and Uruguay.
  - (v) On 20 September 2016, Canada, Ethiopia, Germany, Jordan, Mexico, Sweden and the United States of America co-hosted the Leaders' Summit for Refugees in New York, during which 47 States made concrete commitments in the areas of humanitarian financing, expanded opportunities for resettlement and complementary pathways for admission, and enhanced access to education and livelihoods in countries of asylum.
  - (vi) A number of States have extended technical support to CRRF countries. The European Union has provided planning and design support to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development’s (IGAD) regional response to the Somali refugee situation.

<sup>4</sup> The Brazil Declaration and Brazil Plan of Action was adopted on 3 December 2014 by the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean. For more information, see <http://www.acnur.org/cartagena30/en/brazil-declaration-and-plan-of-action/>.

<sup>5</sup> The San Jose Action Statement was the outcome of a High Level Round Table convened by UNHCR and OAS. For more information, see <http://acnur.org/t3/fileadmin/scripts/doc.php?file=t3/fileadmin/Documentos/BDL/2016/10693>.

<sup>6</sup> On 25 March 2017, Heads of State and Government of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) adopted the Nairobi Declaration on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia. For more information, see <https://igad.int/communique/1519-communique-special-summit-of-the-igad-assembly-of-heads-of-state-and-government-on-durable-solutions-for-somali-refugees>.

<sup>7</sup> The Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) for refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic was launched in December 2014, bringing together more than 200 humanitarian and development partners. For more information, see <http://www.3rpsyriacrisis.org/>.

<sup>8</sup> The International Conference on the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries (SSAR), which was co-hosted by UNHCR and the government of Switzerland in May 2012, endorsed both the solutions strategy and the establishment of follow-up mechanisms. For more information, see <http://www.unhcr.org/afghan-solutions-strategy.html>.

Canada and the United States of America have committed to supporting CRRF countries seeking to strengthen their asylum systems and procedures. Uganda welcomed a learning mission from Ethiopia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Malawi to exchange knowledge and good practices.

(vii) Donor States have expressed interest in, and allocated additional resources for, large-scale hosting countries through their humanitarian, development, peace and stabilization funds.

(viii) Most States have contributed to the conceptualization of the practical application of the CRRF through consultations, discussions and proposals in multilateral fora.

#### Whole-of-society engagement in the CRRF

15. In addition to mobilizing a range of State capacities, the CRRF has helped to expand the base of engagement through a whole-of-society approach. In this regard, five key types of partnership can be identified: (i) resource partnerships, which provide financial, human and technical support to national responses, as well as to regional and global actions, (ii) knowledge partnerships, which add value by sharing information, evaluation and analysis related to the CRRF application; (iii) policy and governance partnerships, which develop and reform policies and governance models at global, regional, country and local levels; (iv) advocacy partnerships, which help promote the CRRF model and its core elements, and (v) capability partnerships, which support the design and implementation of programmes within CRRF operations. In addition to the actions taken by CRRF countries, other major refugee hosting countries have developed best practices in line with the whole-of-society approach.

**Table 1: Examples of whole-of-society engagement**

	<b>Resource partners</b>	<b>Knowledge partners</b>	<b>Policy and governance partners</b>	<b>Advocacy partners</b>	<b>Capability partners</b>
<b>Affected populations</b>	Refugees and hosts work on the operational response in Uganda	Refugees and hosts take part in the implementation of response in Lebanon bringing cultural and social knowledge	Refugees and hosts take part in camps coordination and community centers management in Jordan	Refugees and hosts share their stories with neighbouring communities and media	Refugees and host community entrepreneurs are vital for response delivery in all operations
<b>Host country governments</b>	All host countries provide technical, financial, human and in-kind resources	Ethiopia, Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania conducted a 'learn and see' visit to Uganda	Djibouti's new education policy enables refugee children to be included in the national curriculum	Several Somali refugees hosting countries advocated for the Nairobi Declaration for Somali refugees	Ministries of education in Germany, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey lead the response on refugee education

	<b>Resource partners</b>	<b>Knowledge partners</b>	<b>Policy and governance partners</b>	<b>Advocacy partners</b>	<b>Capability partners</b>
<b>Donor governments</b>	Germany provides additional financial resources specifically for CRRF response	Canada will provide support for registration and admission in Central America and Mexico CRPSF application	EU supported IGAD in designing an operational plan for the Nairobi Declaration	London Somalia Conference 2017 provided a platform for donor countries to show solidarity and advocate for solutions in Somalia	The United States Co-hosted the Leaders' Summit in NY enabling concrete commitments for refugees and host communities
<b>Regional organizations / processes</b>	IGAD steers and supports implementation of the Nairobi Declaration	The Arab League is a platform for information sharing and the evaluation of refugee response needs	The Brazil Plan of Action and San Jose Process involved important policy reforms in the North of Central America	The African Union provides an anchor for refugee advocacy within the continent and beyond	The European Union takes an active role design and implementation of operations for refugees in Europe
<b>Private sector and Academia</b>	IKEA built solar power plant in Azraq refugee camp in Jordan with refugees' participation	The World Economic Forum convened a series of discussions on digital identity for refugees	Makerere University (Uganda), Maastricht University (the Netherlands), and Tufts University (the United States), support policy development through studies on refugees	Several private sector companies associate their brands with support to refugees and host communities	The International Chamber of Commerce and UNHCR signed an agreement that includes among others provision of business development services for refugees.
<b>United Nations</b>	The Education Cannot Wait global independent fund, backed by the UN, directly supports the CRRF	UN resident coordinators' offices provide important information and analysis to guide CRRF application	International Labour Organization issued "Guiding principles on the access of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to the labour market"	UNHCR's #WithRefugees campaign supports refugees' self-reliance and easing the pressure on hosts	UNDP conducted 'investment profiles' in Uganda's refugee hosting districts
<b>International Financial Institutions</b>	The WB's International Development Association's refugee sub-window provides substantive support for hosts and refugees	The World Bank and UNHCR data centre will strengthen socio-economic analysis of refugees and host communities	The Inter-American Development Bank has refugee-favourable policies regarding access to financial services	The African Development Bank supports refugees through campaigns	The World Bank "Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project" invests in villages and urban centres hosting refugees

### 3. PRELIMINARY PROGRESS TOWARD THE CRRF OBJECTIVES

16. The four objectives of the CRRF (para. 6) build on the key elements of the international refugee regime, notably the right to seek asylum, the principle of *non-refoulement*, the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol, relevant regional legal instruments and customary international law.
17. The first year of CRRF application has confirmed the importance of each of the four objectives in ensuring buy in and momentum for a comprehensive refugee response.

#### **TO EASE PRESSURES ON HOST STATES**

18. In the New York Declaration, Member States “recognize the burdens that large movements of refugees place on national resources, especially in the case of developing countries” and “commit to a more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world’s refugees, while taking account of existing contributions and the differing capacities and resources among States”<sup>9</sup>. The CRRF is “based on the principles of international cooperation and on burden- and responsibility-sharing” and has, as its first objective, “to ease pressures on the host countries involved”. Whilst concrete progress has been made in achieving this objective, much remains to be done.

#### ***Practices for systematizing and scaling up***

19. The roll-out of the CRRF has been seen to assist in easing pressure on host States through (i) additional financial and technical support, (ii) regional support efforts, (iii) programmes benefitting refugees and hosts, and (iv) the sharing of knowledge and experience among States.

#### ***Dedicated and targeted technical and financial resources to host countries***

20. A key objective of the CRRF is to mobilize further resources for refugees and the countries and communities that host them. To this end, Annex I provides that:<sup>10</sup>

States, in cooperation with multilateral donors and private sector partners, as appropriate, would, in coordination with receiving States:

- (a) Mobilize adequate financial and other resources to cover the humanitarian needs identified within the comprehensive refugee response framework;
- (b) Provide resources in a prompt, predictable, consistent and flexible manner, including through wider partnerships involving State, civil society, faith-based and private sector partners;
- (c) Take measures to extend the finance lending schemes that exist for developing countries to middle-income countries hosting large numbers of refugees, bearing in mind the economic and social costs to those countries; [and]

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<sup>9</sup> See NYD, A/RES/71/1, para. 68.

<sup>10</sup> See NYD, A/RES/71/1, Annex I, para. 6, a-d.

(d) Consider establishing development funding mechanisms for such countries.

21. During the period covered by this update, several government donors have financially supported operations in official roll-out countries as well as supported activities and programmes that are in accordance with the CRRF approach. Although no comprehensive list of contributions is available as no formal mechanism is in place to identify donor contributions to the CRRF application, the following examples illustrate increasing support: Some donor States have indicated additional financing in support of the CRRF: (i) Denmark indicated up to DKK 115 million over three years to the CRRF in Ethiopia; (ii) Germany contributed €8 million to Uganda in 2017; (iii) EU's Commission indicated €150 million for CRRF operations and €3.5 million for consultation and monitoring. (iv) the Netherlands set aside an envelope of \$50 million for humanitarian contributions. (v) Luxembourg is funding a multi-year research project on humanitarian development cooperation.
22. In addition to government donors, international financial institutions are showing strong interest in the CRRF. Through its commitment to addressing issues of fragility, conflict and violence including where these lead to displacement, the World Bank has established two new financial instruments: (i) the Global Concessional Financing Facility<sup>11</sup> for middle-income countries impacted by large refugee movements and (ii) the refugee and local community sub-window within the International Development Association's 18<sup>th</sup> replenishment<sup>12</sup> (IDA 18) for low-income countries. These new instruments provide additional funding to countries hosting refugees in the form of concessional finance and grants. Currently 3 out of 13 CRRF countries are considered eligible for the US\$ 2 billion financing from the IDA18 sub-window for refugees and host communities. These are: Djibouti, Ethiopia and Uganda. The Global Concessional Financing Facility for middle-income countries, currently Lebanon and Jordan, aims to raise US\$ 1.5 billion in grants in order to unlock approximately US\$ 6 billion in concessional financing over the coming five years. To date, \$470 million has been committed against the intermediate funding goal of \$1.5 billion allowing projects to be financed to the value of US\$ 1.2 billion.
23. Interest from the African Development Bank has also grown. UNHCR is currently working on submissions from three countries, Cameroon, Niger and Zimbabwe, for \$3.4 million. The African Development Bank has also expressed interest in providing up to \$10 million of support to the Lake Chad Basin.
24. While revealing major progress and innovation on the funding front, current levels of financial commitments also point to potential funding gaps for the CRRF. For example, as of September 2017, \$523.9 million had been pledged against the estimated \$2 billion requirements outlined in the plan "Translating New York declaration commitments into action: requirements for a comprehensive refugee response in Uganda"<sup>13</sup> which was shared at the Uganda Solidarity Summit in June 2017.

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<sup>11</sup> For more information, see <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/222001475547774765/FlyerGlobalCFF.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> For more information, see <http://ida.worldbank.org/financing/replenishments/ida18-overview>.

<sup>13</sup> The Government of Uganda and UNHCR, 'Translating New York Declaration Commitments into Action: Requirements for a Comprehensive Refugee Response in Uganda' (Kampala, 22-23 June 2017).



### ***Regional support mechanisms for responding to refugee crises***

25. Since the adoption of the New York Declaration, two regional mechanisms have been established, namely through the Nairobi Declaration for the Somalia situation and Brazil Plan of Action and San Jose Process for North of Central America and Mexico. Both mechanisms have helped contextualize the CRRF approach and supported political buy-in. In the case of Nairobi Declaration, the regional mechanism has helped shape the official narrative in host countries to highlight positive refugee contributions in their societies. The San Jose Process has contributed to the acknowledgement of a refugee and protection crisis, and supported an agreement among relevant States to address root causes in order to find solutions.
26. Although not roll-out countries, the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan through the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR), have embarked on enhancing support for refugee-hosting communities while seeking to create conditions conducive to voluntary repatriation.

### ***Basic services programmes to support refugees and host communities***

27. Increasingly inclusive services are being introduced or provided for refugees and host communities, resulting in improved access. For example, services provided in the Melkadida area of Ethiopia include a secondary school, a health centre, a slaughter house and water treatment plants that are used by refugees and host communities. In Djibouti, the extended pipeline in Markazi provides 25 litres of water per person, per day to both communities.
28. In Kenya, the Kalobeyei Integrated Socio-Economic Development Programme<sup>14</sup> is an example of multi-agency collaboration to develop the local economy and service delivery at Kalobeyei refugee camp. It aims to reorient the refugee assistance programme so as to improve socioeconomic conditions for both the refugees and host communities, and better prepare the host community to take advantage of emerging economic opportunities, while reducing dependence on humanitarian aid and supporting the refugees to achieve durable solutions. To this end, ministries are working on integrated activities covering spatial planning and infrastructure development, health, education, water and sanitation, private sector entrepreneurship as well as agriculture.

### ***Knowledge, experience sharing and capacity development***

29. CRRF application has highlighted the importance of knowledge sharing among host countries, as well as between donor and host countries. This took the shape of 'learning visits' between Ethiopia and Uganda which reflected on policies advancing refugees' self-reliance amongst other things. The European Union has provided technical support to operationalize the Nairobi Declaration, and Canada has committed itself to support Central American roll-out countries in strengthening their asylum procedures.

### ***Practices to invest in and improve on***

30. Easing pressure on several host countries has been a focus, revealing a number of challenges that currently limit or slow progress. The roll-out phase has demonstrated the need for increased and more predictable financial, material and technical support from the international community, on a whole-of-society basis, to allow hosting

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<sup>14</sup> For more information, see <http://cloud.ags.co.ke/kisedp/>.

countries and communities to prepare for and respond rapidly to large movements of refugees and protracted refugee situations.

31. Most notably, the successful application of the CRRF requires national and local systems to be stronger and have the capacity to cater to a larger and more diverse population. Reliable financial support is required, as is the development of inclusive policies and capacity development of relevant actors and institutions. This requires further resource mobilization, but could also encompass economic relief measures in support of host countries, such as: a moratorium on debt repayment, direct budget relief, loans in local currencies and strategies to de-risk private investment in hosting communities.

## **TO ENHANCE REFUGEE SELF-RELIANCE**

32. The New York Declaration highlights the role that fostering refugees' self-reliance can play in a comprehensive refugee response. Self-reliance can benefit the refugees and the communities in which they live by reducing dependence on assistance, enabling refugees to contribute to the economic wellbeing of the community as a whole, and helping them to build the skills and financial resources that make return more viable and sustainable when conditions allow
33. The application of the CRRF has triggered substantive progress in new policies that increase refugees' self-reliance and advances their social and economic inclusion. Though not coming from officially CRRF roll out countries, good practices emerging from other countries help identify a variety of policies and practices that could also guide the CRRF process.

## **Refugees' socio-economic inclusion and national development plans**

34. Uganda's progressive refugee policy,<sup>15</sup> which preserves refugees' right to freedom of movement and grants them access to integrated services, such as primary education and health care has benefited from the application of the CRRF, inspiring the addition of new policies to advance refugees' socio-economic inclusion and self-reliance in the last year.
35. At the Leaders' Summit in 2016, the United Republic of Tanzania committed to a review of its 2003 National Refugee Policy and 1998 Refugees Act by the end of 2017 to ensure the legal regime in the country is in line with international instruments and able to respond to current humanitarian challenges. The United Republic of Tanzania also committed to improve the quality of protection for refugees by specifically enhancing access to education and the domestic labour market. In practice, humanitarian and development partners are supporting the implementation of its "national local integration strategy for naturalized Tanzanians", and surrounding host communities in Tabora and Katavi regions.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Save the Children, *Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees: An interagency briefing and call to action*, 2017, [https://www.cesvi.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Uganda\\_Solidarity\\_Summit\\_on\\_Refugees.pdf](https://www.cesvi.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Uganda_Solidarity_Summit_on_Refugees.pdf), (accessed 29 November 2017).

<sup>16</sup> UNHCR, *Summary Overview Document: Leaders' Summit on Refugees*, 2016, <http://www.unhcr.org/events/conferences/58526bb24/overview-leaders-summit-on-refugees.html>, (accessed 29 November 2017).

36. In Costa Rica, an amendment to national legislation was initiated in 2017 to ensure that refugees have access to the same benefits as citizens under its Social Development and Family Allowance Trust Fund. A new national refugee law was adopted in Djibouti in January 2017, which provides access to education, livelihoods, legal support and the national justice system for refugees. The law will be applied through two specific decrees. Ethiopia's comprehensive Refugee Proclamation aims to grant refugees the right to work, access to education and to enable freedom of movement.
37. One important enabler of self-reliance is the inclusion of refugees in local and national development plans for purposes of expanding their access to services as well as work opportunities.
38. Countries in the north of Central America countries are working to anchor CRRF processes in national development plans<sup>17</sup>. The Somalia National Development Plan 2017-2019 includes a durable solutions strategy for Somalia with provisions for refugee returnees.<sup>18</sup>
39. Uganda's national planning authority, in collaboration with UNDP and the World Bank, convened chief administrative officers and district planners from 11 refugee hosting districts, along with representatives from the Office of the Prime Minister, line ministries and development partners, to advance efforts for integrated district planning for refugees and their host communities. In Ethiopia, we have witnessed an increased focus on integrated service delivery, such the planning of non-camp options for new arrivals in Gambella and the South Omo zone of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' region.
40. There are several examples of national refugee inclusion practices worldwide that could inform the CRRF. Italy's National Integration Policy, which was adopted by the country's Ministry of Interior, is a policy document drafted in consultation with refugees and envisages specific measures for asylum-seekers, on reception, housing and employment. In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Strategy for integration of refugees and foreigners includes early integration measures for asylum-seekers and focuses on individual integration plans for eligible people of concern. The strategy is complemented by specific standard procedures for unaccompanied children and those considered vulnerable.
41. In Turkey, the "Emergency social safety net"<sup>19</sup> (ESSN) programme, implemented by the Ministry of Family and Social Policy, the Turkish Red Crescent Society and the World Food Programme, seeks to address the basic needs of 1.3 million refugees across the country by providing multi-purpose, unrestricted cash. The programme aligns with the Turkish welfare system and leverages national capacities. It also relies on different national and international actors, coordinating within a joint management cell. The approach has substantially reinforced and strengthened national capacity to assist refugees, helped to ensure value for money and promoted sustainability.

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<sup>17</sup> Silva, Maria Luisa, (2017). Statement to UNHCR's 68<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee. Geneva, 2-6 October 2017. Available from <http://www.unhcr.org/2017-executive-committee-session.html>.

<sup>18</sup> Federal Government of Somalia, *National Development Plan: 2017-2019*, 2017, <http://mopic.gov.so/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/SOMALIA-NATIONAL-DEVELOPMENT-PLAN-2017-2019.pdf>, (accessed 29 November 2017).

<sup>19</sup> For more information, see [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-17-3902\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-3902_en.htm).

42. The EU policy “Lives in dignity: from aid-dependence to self-reliance”<sup>20</sup> sets out a coherent and holistic, development-led approach to support the displaced and their hosts. In the spirit of the policy, the EU is coordinating its humanitarian, development and political action to be as efficient and effective as possible. In Afghanistan, specific needs of returnees and the displaced are integrated into national development plans programmes. The Citizens’ Charter<sup>21</sup> is a national Afghanistan priority programme that aims to ensure access to community-level services that has been extended to areas of high refugees return and displacement with funding by the World Bank under IDA17.
43. In Pakistan, the “Refugee affected and hosting areas”<sup>22</sup> programme, known as RAHA, is essential to the “Solutions strategy for Afghan refugees” and is the principal responsibility-sharing platform for maintaining temporary protection space, promoting social cohesion and enhancing community acceptance of Afghans. As such, it will be central to implementing resilience and solutions measures in Pakistan, linking with efforts to achieve the “2030 agenda for sustainable development” (2030 Agenda).

### ***Health systems for refugees and host communities***

44. Access to high-quality and affordable health care is key to self-reliance. The CRRF has helped underpin a number of initiatives aimed at improving access to quality health services for refugees and host communities. Ethiopia has invested considerably in strengthening its health care system and improving access to drinking water during the past two decades. Recently, the Ethiopia Government has outlined in its Health Sector Transformation Plan<sup>23</sup> with goals to: improve the equity, coverage and use of essential health services; enhance the quality of health care and expand the implementation capacity of the health sector.
45. On 5 January 2017, the President of Djibouti, promulgated the National Refugee Law that ensures a favourable protection environment for refugees and enables them to enjoy fundamental rights, including access to services such as health. In practice, a multi-year health integration plan is being implemented under the CRRF. It is foreseen that, at the end of the process, health services among refugees in camps currently managed by humanitarian and development partners will be fully managed by the Ministry of Health, with support from humanitarian and development agencies.
46. Also in Ethiopia, the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA), UNHCR, UNICEF and the regional water bureau have initiated large infrastructure development through the Itang water project which is building one system to distribute water via a pipe network covering 100km spanning two newly-established refugee camps, Kule and Tierkidi, as well as two towns, Itang and Thurfam. The project is also expected to reduce running costs and facilitate the monitoring of water quality.

<sup>20</sup> European Commission (2016). *Lives in Dignity: from Aid-dependence to Self-reliance Forced Displacement and Development*. Brussels. Available from [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/policies/refugees-idp/Communication\\_Forced\\_Displacement\\_Development\\_2016.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/policies/refugees-idp/Communication_Forced_Displacement_Development_2016.pdf).

<sup>21</sup> The World Bank (2016). *Citizens’ Charter Afghanistan Project*. Washington. Available from

<https://www.gtai.de/GTAI/Content/DE/Trade/Fachdaten/PRO/2016/11/Anlagen/PRO201611255010.pdf?v=1>.

<sup>22</sup> UNHCR (2016). *Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas Programme*. Islamabad. Available from <http://unhcrpk.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/RAHA-Brochure-June-20161.pdf>.

<sup>23</sup> The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Ministry of Health (2015). *Health Sector Transformation Plan*. Addis Ababa. Available from [https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/sites/gff\\_new/files/Ethiopia-health-system-transformation-plan.pdf](https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/sites/gff_new/files/Ethiopia-health-system-transformation-plan.pdf).

47. In Zambia, health services for refugees are integrated with the national health care system and managed by the Ministry of Health, so services can be accessed by both refugees and the local population. In the United Republic of Tanzania, discussions with the Ministry of Health about integrating refugees into district-level health systems in Kigoma Region are ongoing.
48. In 2015, predating the CRRF, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran started including all refugees in its universal public health insurance system at the same cost and level as Iranian nationals. By 2017, more than 125,000 refugees were enrolled in the system. Insurance premiums are fully subsidised for the most vulnerable refugees.
49. In Kenya thousands of families have been registered to the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF), which provides unrestricted secondary and tertiary healthcare to subscribers who pay \$5 per family, per month. Refugees are registering for the NHIF using their 'asylum-seeker' or 'alien' cards. In refugee hosting areas, county authorities are working to ensure harmonized and integrated healthcare. The progress is visible in areas of shared infrastructure for both communities, including integrated surveillance and commodity supplies, such as ARV, TB and malaria drugs, vaccines, as well as the use of training curricula.
50. In line with the CRRF, Uganda and partners have sought to ensure quality health care services are provided to both refugees and host communities. In health facilities across the country's settlements, an integrated comprehensive primary health care package is offered to refugees and the host population. Secondary health care is also provided at district and regional hospitals, and tertiary healthcare services are provided at national level, free of charge.
51. In Mexico, the national consultations found that with the increase in asylum applications, there was a need to strengthen institutional linkages in order to offer appropriate and differentiated assistance to persons of concern through existing public programmes. Under the CRRF, one of the concrete measures to be undertaken is the extension of the duration of existing coverage by the National Commission of Social Health Protection (Seguro Popular), so that asylum-seekers have access to the public health system for the duration of the asylum procedure (as opposed to 90 days of coverage as is currently the case).
52. The International Labour Organization (ILO) and UNHCR have engaged in a partnership to improve social protection during forced displacement. Specific to the integration of refugees into national health systems, the programme is exploring options for integrating refugees into state-organized health insurance or health service programmes, supported by social protection systems. Two mapping exercises and in-depth feasibility studies are being conducted in eight countries, including Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Guinea, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan and Togo. These studies are expected to result in multi-year integration plans, in which health services for refugees are progressively transferred to the national health system.

### ***Quality education for all***

53. Education is an important component of the New York Declaration, with emphasis placed on refugees' inclusion in national systems and multi-stakeholder partnerships that can support this objective. In the Leaders' Summit, 17 States pledged to further

improve refugee inclusion in national education.<sup>24</sup> Noting that most conflict-affected countries spend approximately 3 per cent of their national budgets on education and the education sector currently receives less than 2 per cent of total humanitarian aid globally, these pledges are an important, practical way for States to support refugees and share responsibility with host countries.

54. Providing quality educational opportunities in refugee contexts means displaced children and youth can benefit from the protection of education that will contribute to individual and community resilience. Children who stay in school learn basic academic and social skills that are essential for understanding, and staying safe, in their new environments. Youth and young adults who stay in school have opportunities to exercise their minds and capacities for community building, civic participation and leadership. This is particularly the case when emphasis is placed on ensuring the inclusion of girls and young women.
55. Recognizing that the majority of refugees are hosted in lower-income countries, refugee inclusion in national education systems requires multi-partner planning and linking humanitarian activities with national development processes. Shifting from annual to multi-year planning and forging stronger links to development planning in the context of education is moving ahead in several countries e.g. Djibouti, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.
56. Policy advances and other commitments to include refugees in national education systems can be seen at regional and country levels in 2017. The Buenos Aires Declaration,<sup>25</sup> resulting from the Regional Meeting of Ministers of Education of Latin America and the Caribbean in January 2017, affirms: “We commit ourselves to making our educational systems more responsive, adaptable and resilient in order to meet the rights and satisfy the needs of migrants and refugees, according to the policies of our countries, taking into account the current challenges associated with conflicts, violence, discrimination, pandemics and disasters.”<sup>26</sup>
57. Similarly, the Ministerial SDG4 Regional Forum for Eastern Africa held in Dar es Salaam in February 2017 formulated key priorities for addressing refugee inclusion in national education services. It did so cognizant of the commitments made at the Leaders' Summit in 2016, which gave birth to the CRRF—components of which would assist both refugees and host-community children, encourage the inclusion of refugee education in the Education Sector Plans, programmes, budgets and monitoring systems.
58. Several States have made progress in implementing their pledges by making policy changes at home. The Government of Djibouti promulgated a new refugee law that includes measures to advance inclusion of refugees in education. Related to this, the Ministry of Education signed a memorandum of understanding with UNHCR to provide certified education for refugees and passed an Action Plan with a view to translating the national curriculum into English and Arabic for the benefit of refugees.

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<sup>24</sup> UNHCR, *Summary Overview Document: Leaders' Summit on Refugees*, 2016, <http://www.unhcr.org/events/conferences/58526bb24/overview-leaders-summit-on-refugees.html>, (accessed 29 November 2017).

<sup>25</sup> The Buenos Aires Declaration was adopted by the Education Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean during a regional meeting entitled “E2030: Education and skills for the 21st Century” on 25 January 2017. For more information, see <http://www.unesco.org/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/FIELD/Santiago/pdf/Buenos-Aires-Declaration-ENG-2017.pdf>.

<sup>26</sup> See Buenos Aires Declaration, p. 12.

59. In Ethiopia, ARRA has drafted a roadmap for the implementation of the education pledge. Current directives, are being reviewed for the development of a memorandum of understanding between ARRA and the Ministry of Education. Discussions are ongoing between the Ethiopia Government, UNHCR, UNICEF, the World Bank Group, DFID and other partners to achieve formal inclusion of refugee education in national planning and strategies.
60. In Uganda, the Government is integrating refugee education through the CRRF into its “National development plan, “Refugee host population empowerment strategy” and “Settlement transformation agenda”. The Government of Panama has issued a decree that makes a commitment to include refugees in national education services. A manual of procedures and documentation for educational placements is being developed to support this. The Government of Belize has committed to supporting more comprehensive integration and access for refugees to education, language learning and other forms of skills training.
61. The CRRF roll-out experienced interest among other refugee hosting countries keen to support refugee education. Notably, the Government of Turkey has been proactive in adopting policies and implementing programmes to provide refugees with access to public schools and universities. Measures include addressing language barriers through extensive training programmes delivered through state institutions and through donor-funded programmes. Tuition fees for state universities for Syrian refugees have been waived and refugees have access to the labour market, which creates incentives for secondary and post-secondary enrolment.
62. Though not a CRRF roll-out country, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran allows all Afghan children, regardless of their documentation status, access to school. In the 2017-18 academic year, some 420,000 Afghan children registered for primary and secondary school.

*Global initiatives on education*

63. The CRRF approach on education is in line with SDG 4, to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. The commitment to refugee education in SDG 4 policy documents represents an opportunity to engage all partners in ensuring refugee and stateless children and youth are accounted for in national education sector plans and programmes.
64. UNHCR and the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) signed a milestone agreement in April 2016 to strengthen collaboration in support of refugees’ inclusion in national multi-year education plans with predictable funding. GPE brings partners together at a national level in a local education group. Led by governments, it is a collaborative forum of stakeholders who develop, implement, monitor and evaluate education sector plans. GPE’s third replenishment in 2018 aims to secure \$2 billion annually by 2020 to support education sector plans.
65. The UNESCO Institute for Statistics is the global center for education data. It is working closely with UNHCR to include refugee education data in monitoring mechanisms and reports. The collaboration aims to strengthen capacity on refugee education data management nationally and regionally, including SDG4 data needs. They will also be working towards the systematic inclusion of refugees in national education

management information systems and in monitoring reports. The UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning has begun a three-year initiative that involves working with ministries of education to prevent, anticipate and respond to crises through educational planning for displaced populations. This will include a local capacity-building component.

66. Education Cannot Wait, a new global fund aimed at delivering education in emergencies and protracted crises, has included support for the CRRF among its objectives. It has undertaken two missions to Uganda and is providing funding for education in line with the CRRF in both Ethiopia and Uganda.
67. Several CRRF actors are members of the steering group for the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE), which is a global network of UN agencies, NGOs, donors, governments, education institutions and individuals with more than 10,000 members. It is through these members that policy documents and guidance are disseminated.

### ***Livelihoods***

68. The engagements of multiple stakeholders in the CRRF, including host governments, donors, development actors, and private sector, has resulted in significant legal, political and practical advances on enabling access to the labour market for refugees in a number of countries.
69. In Djibouti, a new law allows refugees to work and access all services in the same way nationals<sup>27</sup> can. The country has also been deemed eligible for support under the World Bank IDA 18 refugee and local community sub-window, which aims to improve outcomes in health and education and economic opportunities for refugees and local communities. The ILO has recently completed a livelihoods market analysis, and a socio-economic profiling exercise is ongoing. This data will be instrumental in ensuring livelihoods interventions will benefit both refugees and host communities.
70. In Ethiopia, a range of international partners are also working to establish industrial parks that could employ up to 100,000 people. Nearly a third of the jobs in the parks (30 per cent) will be reserved for refugees, and the first park is expected to open in 2018. In Uganda, a \$37 million USAID's Food for Peace multi-year grant will improve the self-reliance of 13,200 extremely poor households in refugee settlements and host communities of western Uganda. In the United Republic of Tanzania, CRRF partners are collaborating with the World Bank and the Government to strengthen socio-economic data. The modalities of providing legal access to labour markets for refugees is being explored.
71. In Costa Rica, Ecuador and Mexico, the Ministries of Labour have taken steps to provide access to job support services for asylum-seekers and refugees. The Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion in Ecuador is exploring ways to integrate refugees into the government's family support plan, with technical and financial support from UNHCR. In Costa Rica, the Ministry of Human Development has provided access to financial support for asylum-seekers and refugees living in extreme poverty, while in

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<sup>27</sup> The new Refugee bill providing refugees with access to education, legal work and the justice system was adopted in December 2016 and promulgated in January 2017. It is awaiting implementation by decree.



Mexico, refugees are now entitled to unemployment insurance and temporary occupation allowance.

72. The private sector is actively contributing to the labour market integration of refugees in all three countries. In Ecuador, more than 200 employers have signed agreements on refugee employment with FUDELA and HIAS, and the Chamber of Commerce in Costa Rica is promoting refugee employment. Refugees in Mexico will get access to financial services as the National Banking and Securities Commission published a resolution allowing foreigners to use any migratory documents issued by the National Migration Institute as identification. In addition, an alliance has been established with Uber, which connects refugees and asylum-seekers with employment opportunities within its companies. In Argentina, refugees receive temporary and renewable residence permits, which will become permanent after two years. They will be entitled to the same social services as national citizens, including access to lawful work and education, and subsequently to apply for asylum.
73. The national chapter of Guatemala in the Americas Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework foresees enabling refugees to access the labour market by adopting different measures. These include adjusting the law to allow access of refugees to the labour market, and launching information campaigns about the rights of refugees to work.
74. In countries not officially applying the CRRF, a wealth of practices has been, and is still being, tested that could serve as replicable contextualized models for other host countries. In January 2016, the Government of Turkey issued a work permit regulation for people under temporary protection. Through this, the integration of Syrian refugees into the formal workforce was accelerated. Several UN agencies are supporting the Government of Turkey through job placements, training and grants. Refugees are registered in the national database as either job seekers or in employment. The overall objective is that 1 million working-age Syrians will have access to the labour market, including in health and education sectors.
75. At the London Conference on Syria in February 2016, the Government of the Republic of Lebanon stated its intention to support a combination of interventions to stimulate the economy. It foresaw a series of investments in local municipalities, subsidized temporary employment programmes, and market access measures to create between 300,000 and 350,000 jobs, 60 per cent of which could be occupied by Syrians.<sup>28</sup> The temporary employment programme envisages financial and employment incentives to micro, small- and medium-sized businesses.. The Government of Lebanon has waived the “pledge not to work” requirement for Syrians and replaced it with a pledge to abide by Lebanese laws. This is being gradually implemented throughout Lebanon and means in practice that refugees are able to work in certain sectors where Syrians are not in direct competition with Lebanese such as agriculture, construction. On 15 November 2016, the EU and Lebanon adopted partnership priorities for four years and a compact<sup>29</sup> reaffirming the EU allocation of €400 million in 2016-2017.

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<sup>28</sup> The Republic of Lebanon, (2016). Statement to the London conference on supporting Syria and the region. London, 4 February 2016. Available from [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/498026/Supporting\\_Syria\\_the\\_Region\\_London\\_2016\\_-\\_Lebanon\\_Statement.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/498026/Supporting_Syria_the_Region_London_2016_-_Lebanon_Statement.pdf).

<sup>29</sup> The EU-Lebanon compact outlines mutual commitments in order to achieve their pledges made at the London conference in February 2016.

76. Within the overall Jordan Compact, the European Union (EU) agreed to trade facilitation measures with a view to enhancing investments, exports and job opportunities for Syrian refugees. Specifically, companies will benefit from simplified rules of origin for specific products manufactured in Special Economic Zones and exported to the EU during a ten year period.<sup>30</sup> The overall aim is to create 200,000 job opportunities for Syrian refugees under the same conditions as apply to local workers. As part of this deal, companies must ensure at least 15 per cent of their workforce is Syrian, with that proportion set to rise to 25 per cent in the next two years. The aim is to give employers an incentive to hire Syrians, in addition to the free annual work permits already available. Work permits are available to Syrian workers in a number of sectors and occupations not closed to foreigners. The EU-Jordan compact, adopted on 19 December 2016, foresees an EU commitment of at least € 747 million for 2016-2017.
77. In March 2017, the Bank of Zambia waived a regulation preventing refugees in possession of alien or refugee cards from opening bank accounts and mobile wallets. The decision was a result of joint efforts by UNCDF and UNHCR to present a business case about opening accounts for refugees.
78. In Ecuador, the Organic Law on Human Mobility was approved in January 2017 granting asylum-seekers a humanitarian residence in the country under the category of “temporary protection” during the process of their applications. This guarantees their regular stay in the country. In the case of recognized refugees, the law grants a temporary residence and ensures they receive corresponding identity documents. As long as their documents remain valid, asylum-seekers and refugees can perform legal, independent or dependent economic activities.
79. Given that nearly 70 per cent of the Afghan refugee population are aged 15 to 24 years, within the framework of the SSAR, the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan focus on youth empowerment through skills training and livelihoods support, as well as education. These efforts aim to help refugee youths achieve self-reliance, contribute positively to their host communities, foster social cohesion and prepare themselves for active participation in development and reconstruction processes on return to Afghanistan.

#### *Global efforts*

80. In November 2016, the ILO Governing Body adopted “Guiding principles on the access of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to the labour market”<sup>31</sup>. In 2017, this was followed by the International Labour Conference’s adoption of the “Employment and decent work for peace and resilience recommendation, 2017 (205)”. The two ILO instruments provide comprehensive guidance on how to advance refugee inclusion in labour markets in host countries. They also emphasise the need for international support for forcibly displaced communities in gaining access to safe and dignified work, and for the mechanisms established to ensure the protection of rights at work. The guiding principles and recommendation 205 will further inform and underpin key areas of ILO engagement within the CRRF

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<sup>30</sup> See Decision No 1/2016 of the EU-Jordan Association Committee of 19 July 2016, 30 August 2016, O.J L 233/6.

<sup>31</sup> For more information, see

[http://ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_protect/@protrav/@migrant/documents/genericdocument/wcms\\_536440.pdf](http://ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_protect/@protrav/@migrant/documents/genericdocument/wcms_536440.pdf).

81. OECD and UNHCR organized four business ‘dialogues’ in Europe and North America, with around 150 business community representatives, to better understand opportunities and obstacles related to the labour market integration of asylum-seekers and refugees. On the basis of these dialogues, OECD is developing a multi-stakeholder action plan—involving refugees, civil society and the private sector—to support the employment of refugees in Europe and North America.
82. UNHCR has embarked on a new global collaborative initiative designed to link refugee artisans with markets. MADE51, which goes by the working title of “Market access, design and empowerment of refugee artisans”, showcases refugee product collections through branding and a marketing platform. It broadens sales opportunities and offers new market access to refugee artisans while benefiting local social enterprises. Six countries have been selected for the first phase of MADE51: Burkina Faso, Kenya, Malaysia, Rwanda, Thailand and the United Republic of Tanzania. Prototypes have been developed by all six countries and were exhibited at the Maison et Objet Trade Fair in Paris in September 2017. UNHCR is aiming for a full launch of the product lines in February 2018 at the Ambiente<sup>32</sup> trade show in Frankfurt.
83. To build economic self-reliance of the poorest refugee and host community members, UNHCR and the NGO Trickle Up<sup>33</sup> have been piloting the Graduation approach<sup>34</sup> in refugee contexts since 2014<sup>35</sup>. Results from UNHCR pilots in Costa Rica, Ecuador and Egypt have illustrated how the approach can successfully be extended to support refugees. Leveraging the pilot results, UNHCR is now expanding the approach to Argentina, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
84. In line with the CRRF, donors, development actors and governments are showing interest in supporting, implementing or including refugees in similar initiatives. The United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration has supported Trickle Up with \$2.5 million to expand the coverage of the Graduation approach in refugee contexts; USAID’s Food for Peace is investing in a \$37 million multi-year graduation project in Uganda for both refugee and host communities and, in Afghanistan, returnees and IDPs are included in the microfinance investment support facility of Afghanistan’s graduation programme. The Ministry of Social and Economic Inclusion in Ecuador is also interested in exploring future collaboration to expand its social protection programme.
85. Promoting the financial inclusion of refugees, SIDA (Sweden) has enabled the establishment of a credit guarantee facility. This facility incentivises impact investors to provide debt funding to financial service providers who, in turn, are willing to provide microcredit loans to refugees’ and residents of host communities for business or personal needs. Grameen Credit Agricole Foundation<sup>36</sup> has been selected to provide capital to selected financial service providers. The programme will be implemented in four countries within four years, with initial pilots in Jordan and Uganda. The financial service providers will also receive technical assistance through grants provided by Sida, which will be used mainly for market assessment and product development.

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<sup>32</sup> For more information, see <https://ambiente.messefrankfurt.com/frankfurt/en/facts-figures.html>.

<sup>33</sup> For more information, see <https://trickleup.org/>.

<sup>34</sup> For more information, see <http://www.unhcr.org/graduation-approach-56e9752a4.html>.

<sup>35</sup> Banerjee, A., Duflo, E., Goldberg, N., Karlan, D., Osei, R., Parienté, W. Udry, C. ‘A multifaceted program causes lasting progress for the very poor: Evidence from six countries’, *Science*, 15 May 2015, <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/348/6236/1260799>, (accessed 30 November 2017).

<sup>36</sup> For more information, see <http://qca-foundation.org/en>.

86. In addition, the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and UNHCR are working together to establish a broad facility targeting a variety of finance service providers in nine African countries, to promote access to credit, savings, payments and micro-insurance for forcibly displaced populations and host communities traditionally excluded from finance systems. UNCDF and UNHCR are also researching remittances to gain a solid understanding of country-specific issues that financial development providers experience when accessing affordable remittance channels. The insights garnered from this assessment will enable UNCDF and UNHCR to develop country-specific approaches that reduce remittance costs, improve access to affordable remittance channels, and explore ways to link remittances with broader financial services.
87. In 2017, UNHCR and FAO are collaborating in 16 countries across Africa to enhance refugees' agricultural livelihoods and food security. The Office and FAO are strengthening their cooperation through a memorandum of understanding that is currently being developed. This memorandum of understanding reinforces the organizations' commitments to support forcibly displaced people not only in improving their livelihoods and food security but also addressing energy and environmental issues. The partnership would cement the link between humanitarian and development assistance.

#### ***Private sector engagement***

88. In general, the private sector contributes significantly to expanding access to labour markets for refugees. Well-known international brands with supply chains in Turkey, such as Adidas, El Corte Inglés, H&M, Inditex, PUMA and Tesco, are employing refugees and advocating refugee employment among other members of their supply chains. IKEA group is leading by example on refugee employment in Jordan and Switzerland. In Jordan, IKEA has committed to including refugee and host community members with artisanal skills in their supply chain. UNIQLO has employed refugee women in Afghanistan, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Malaysia. Coursera is offering free, online, certified courses from a number of top universities to refugees globally, with around 500 refugees currently enrolled in various online courses. The TENT Foundation has launched a report which points out how global businesses can sustainably engage in the response to refugee situations.<sup>37</sup> The Adecco Group has issued a white paper outlining concrete recommendations for employers and governments to facilitate labour market integration of refugees.<sup>38</sup>
89. UNHCR signed a letter of intent with the International Chamber of Commerce in April 2017. Key objectives of this novel collaboration include leveraging business support for the implementation of the CRRF in the following areas: infrastructure; investment; education; employment; and refugee policy reform. It also aims to bring greater synergy and coherence to existing ad-hoc refugee response efforts by global and local businesses. Its focus is “on the ground” results and delivery, as well as securing broad-based engagement by the private sector in the implementation of the CRRF – including through the scaling up of existing programmes, where appropriate. Even prior to the formal collaboration, there have already been existing good examples of local chambers and UNHCR field office partnerships in Kenya, Syria and Turkey. This

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<sup>37</sup> For more information, see <https://data2.unhcr.org/fr/documents/download/60405>.

<sup>38</sup> For more information, see <https://www.adeccogroup.com/wp-content/themes/ado-group/downloads/labour-market-integration-of-refugees-focus-europe.pdf>.

includes raising awareness of work permits, the creation of entrepreneurship programmes and project-specific cooperation.

## **TO EXPAND ACCESS TO THIRD COUNTRY SOLUTIONS**

90. In recognition of the value of resettlement as an important tool for global responsibility-sharing, the New York Declaration and its annexed CRRF emphasize the need to expand access to third-country solutions<sup>39</sup>.
91. As global forced displacement remains high and the search for protection and solutions for refugees remains urgent and challenging, resettlement continues to be an important tool at States' disposal both to meet the protection needs of refugees and as a component of comprehensive refugee response. In addition to being an essential tool for providing protection to refugees who are particularly vulnerable, resettlement is a tangible form of burden- and responsibility-sharing with hosting countries, particularly in mass and protracted displacement contexts. States also agreed to make available for refugees a broad array of opportunities which are complementary to the long-established resettlement pathway, including humanitarian admission programmes, family reunification and opportunities for skilled migration, labour mobility and education.
92. In 2016, global resettlement reached a 20-year high. Some 162,500 refugees were referred by UNHCR and more than 125,600 able to depart and start building a new life in a new country. At the same time, resettlement has faced external pressures stemming from a climate of heightened attention to national security and the desire of States to use resettlement to respond to migration challenges. The five-year trend of growth in resettlement quotas will see a reversal, with declining global resettlement opportunities in 2017—estimated to be less than half those availed in 2016.
93. Despite recent fluctuations in global resettlement places, UNHCR continues to see solid demand for submissions from a growing and more diverse group of States, which currently stand at 35 States. There has also been a significant increase in community and private sector engagement in support of resettlement, particularly through the expansion of private sponsorship programmes. The expanded use of humanitarian admission and humanitarian visa schemes has also proven to be effective in responding to growing resettlement needs, particularly in situations of mass displacement.
94. Realizing the commitments made by States in the New York Declaration and its annexed CRRF will require the international community to redouble its efforts and leverage resettlement as a responsibility-sharing mechanism. It will also be necessary to engage a wide array of stakeholders, including state actors, private sector, civil society, and refugees in the expansion of third country opportunities. Finally, further emphasis will need to be placed on ensuring resettlement remains a strategic and effective tool for protection and solutions within a broader comprehensive refugee response.

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<sup>39</sup> See NYD, A/RES/71/1, Annex I, para 14.

### ***Expanded and fit-for purpose resettlement programmes***

95. In response to unprecedented global resettlement needs and the increased movement of refugees and migrants to Europe, a number of States—such as the UK, France, Sweden and Canada—have expanded their resettlement programmes. In designing and implementing these programmes, States worked closely with UNHCR to ensure they remained protection-focused, were fit-for-purpose and responsive to resettlement priorities.
96. For example, in implementing its commitment to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees, Canada used highly streamlined resettlement processing modalities, which allowed a large number of refugees to be resettled within a short period of time. Another example of expanded, responsive and fit-for-purpose resettlement programming has been the collaboration with the United Kingdom on the design of their “Vulnerable children resettlement scheme”<sup>40</sup>, which has safeguarded resettlement opportunities for some of the most vulnerable refugees.
97. As the number of resettlement States has continued to steadily grow in recent years, several more established resettlement States have intensified their efforts to guide and support new and emerging countries so they can build resettlement programmes that are sound, robust and sustainable. A key initiative in this regard is the “Emerging Resettlement Countries Joint Support Mechanism”, which was established as a platform to facilitate strategic support and capacity-building efforts for new resettlement countries. The mechanism has already generated considerable interest from emerging resettlement countries, such as Argentina, as well as States with established resettlement programmes that are keen to share their experiences and best practice.
98. Recent efforts to strengthen engagement with a wider variety of stakeholders—such as the private sector, academics, and local communities—have had a positive impact and there is great potential for both expanded and high-quality resettlement outcomes as a result of further diversity in resettlement partnerships.
99. A key initiative that aims to expand and promote partnerships in resettlement is the “Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative”. This initiative is a partnership between the Government of Canada, the Open Society Foundation, UNHCR, University of Ottawa and the Radcliffe Foundation. It seeks to promote and support the establishment of private and community sponsorship resettlement programmes for refugees, to complement government-supported resettlement programmes. In addition to providing more opportunities to protect refugees and offer them durable solutions, these sponsorship programmes strengthen community and civil society engagement in supporting refugees, create a more welcoming environment for refugees, and build more diverse and inclusive societies.

### ***Humanitarian admission programmes***

100. In addition to traditional resettlement programmes, a number of States have established humanitarian admission programmes, which provided a flexible and time-bound tool to increase resettlement opportunities for specific groups of refugees within a short period of time. In the context of the Syrian refugee crisis, humanitarian

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<sup>40</sup> Brokenshire, James (2016). Statement to the House of Commons. London, 21 April 2016. Available from <http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2016-04-21/HCWS687/>.

admission programmes, such as those implemented by Germany and Austria, have served as an important tool for responsibility-sharing.

101. Some States, such as Argentina, France and Italy, have also established or expanded humanitarian visa schemes to facilitate refugees' access to protection on their territory. Some 600 Syrians have already arrived in Argentina through the "Special Humanitarian Visa Program for Foreigners Affected by the Conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic," which aims at accepting Syrian nationals, living in Syria or in neighbouring countries, and it is supported by the international community through the Emerging Resettlement Countries Joint Support Mechanism (ERCM). Brazil has set up a private sponsorship program to receive Syrian refugees in 2017 and 2018 and private sponsors have already been identified for some 1,000 Syrian refugees, including a small number of unaccompanied children. The "Humanitarian corridor" programme, which is being implemented by the Community of Sant'Egidio in collaboration with Italy and France, allows vulnerable refugees to use existing humanitarian visa schemes to access protection and solutions in those countries. These innovative programmes provide States with examples of the types of models that can easily be scaled up and replicated to provide additional opportunities for third country solutions.

102. In 2017, Argentina, Brazil and Chile began to design and implement their own sponsorship, resettlement and complementary pathway models. In May 2017, representatives from the three countries attended a capacity-building visit to Ottawa, Canada, which was organised by the Global Resettlement Sponsorship Initiative. This initiative was launched in 2016 with a view to develop practical guidance and tools to assist countries in setting up private sponsorship programmes.

#### ***Resettlement core groups***

103. Core groups for resettlement and complementary pathways, which are established through the agreement of resettlement States and UNHCR, have proven to be an important forum through which UNHCR and resettlement States can partner to promote, optimise, coordinate and ensure multi-annual support for resettlement of specific groups of refugees. This is particularly helpful in situations of mass or protracted displacement as well as expanding complementary pathways of admission for refugees to third countries that enhance potential for solutions and ensure continued international protection needs until a solution is secured.

104. Experience from recent core groups, such as the Bhutanese, Great Lakes, Syria and Central Mediterranean core groups, has shown that these fora can be critical in mobilizing support to expand opportunities for resettlement and complementary pathways of admission, as well as advance their strategic use. The core group for the resettlement of Syrian refugees, for example, has been instrumental in ensuring an expanded and coordinated resettlement response to one of the world's largest humanitarian crises, including through the use of simplified and expedited resettlement procedures. Core groups also represent a valuable forum for established and emerging resettlement States to share information and best practices, coordinate activities, and develop technical expertise as part of a more equitable and predictable sharing of responsibility for protection and solutions for refugees.

### ***Regional relocation schemes***

105. In September 2015, Europe established a two-year intra-EU emergency relocation scheme<sup>41</sup>, which sought to relocate around 100,000 eligible asylum-seekers from Greece and Italy to reduce the pressure on those States' asylum systems. Formally concluded in September 2017, the European Commission has encouraged Member States to continue relocating asylum-seekers, with an estimated 30,000 relocated to date. In October 2017, Brazil and Uruguay offered to begin receiving resettlement submissions from the protection transfer arrangement, a lifesaving mechanism for people at heightened risk from the NCA. The United States, Canada and Australia already receive cases from this arrangement.
106. In 2017, in addition to the protection transfer arrangement, Costa Rica began receiving individuals evacuated on humanitarian grounds from NCA countries after the UNHCR identified them as particularly vulnerable and concluded there were no other immediate protection solutions available.

### ***Family reunification***

107. Efficient and accessible family reunification procedures can minimize the need to resort to unsafe or irregular means to join family members elsewhere. Family reunification can also offer safe and regulated pathways for family members who are eligible under States' family reunification criteria and who may not have been prioritized for resettlement or humanitarian admission. Family unity notably facilitates better integration by refugees in their country of asylum or resettlement. Challenges to the full utilization of family reunification remain, however, and include those related to access—inability to access consular representation, lack of access to application information, difficulty proving family links, short application windows and high application costs. And those stemming from eligibility requirements—narrow definition of eligible relationships and financial, housing, language or employment preconditions. UNHCR works with States and partners to improve refugees' ability to access accurate information and protection-sensitive procedures. In addition to its resettlement and humanitarian admission programs, Germany is facilitating reunification of Syrian refugees located in Turkey and Lebanon with their family members in Germany. This State-led initiative, supported by IOM, is aimed at addressing existing practical, administrative and legal obstacles to family reunification of persons in need of international protection.

### ***Labour mobility***

108. Labour mobility provides safe and regulated opportunities for refugees to enter or stay in another country for purposes of employment, with the right to either permanent or temporary residence and to re-establish an independent, productive life in safety and security through employment, attain an adequate standard of living, and realize their potential while contributing to their host country and community and provide further opportunities for self-reliance. In partnership with UNHCR, Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB)<sup>42</sup>, a civil-society initiative, has developed a "talent register" to facilitate employment for refugees in third countries through labour mobility schemes. To date, over 9,000 refugees in the MENA region have been registered and 200 professions identified for the talent pool. This initiative has yielded commitments by employers in

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<sup>41</sup> For more information, see <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/legislative-train/theme-towards-a-new-policy-on-migration/file-2nd-emergency-relocation-scheme>.

<sup>42</sup> For more information, see <https://www.talentbeyondboundaries.org/>.



Canada and Australia. However, main obstacles to date are the lack of adequate protection safeguards in receiving countries, lack of funding to cover refugees' living expenses upon arrival, travelling and visa fees, obtaining an entry visa or a travel document.

109. UNHCR and OECD are partnering to map non-humanitarian, safe and regulated entry and visa pathways to third countries used by refugees to enter OECD countries as part of an ongoing collaboration on the protection and integration of refugees and the development of complementary pathways of admission to protection and solutions for refugees. The pilot survey has been developed focusing on Syrian, Eritrean, Iraqi, Afghan and Somali refugees. Initial findings have been received from 28 States and it is expected that the forthcoming findings to be presented in 2018 would encourage further commitments by OECD States and the international community to promote labour opportunities for refugees living in third countries and would assist in the development of policy programmatic responses and through that, the expansion of predictable systems-building needed to expand complementary pathways of admission for refugees.

### ***Education programs***

110. Access to education programs in third countries such private and community or institution-based scholarships, traineeships, and apprenticeship programs can provide young refugees with opportunities to continue their education, which may have been interrupted in their country of origin and may not be possible in their country of asylum. Education plays a central role in protecting young refugees and preparing them and their communities for solutions in a variety of situations of forced displacement worldwide and provides young refugees and their families with an opportunity for increased self-reliance through gainful employment. These initiatives can involve civil society, universities, and government actors working in collaboration to develop and fund customized education or scholarship programs.

111. Under the Government of Japan's Initiative for the future of Syrian Refugees (JISR), 19 Syrians students and their families (31 people in total) from Lebanon and Jordan have arrived to Japan to participate in the to complete master's degrees in Japan for the 2017-2018 academic year. The programme will sponsor 100 pre-selected Syrian students and their families for the duration of their studies and for as long as they need international protection for the next 5 years; First orientation sessions and language courses are taking place with new arrivals, with the participation of UNHCR. Additional living expenses and tuitions are covered by JICA. 20 other Syrian refugees have arrived to France to undertake undergraduate studies at the Universities of Toulouse and Montpellier under a scholarship scheme offered by the Région Occitane-Pyrénées-Méditerranée in France. The scholarship program is supported by the civil society association Démocratie et Entraide en Syrie, Ghosn Zeitoun. The scholarship program includes one year of intensive French language training, tuition, a monthly living stipend for one year, dormitory housing, and assistance with visa procedures to enter France. Students must be less than 26 years of age and have completed their secondary school studies. UNHCR assisted with the identification of refugees in Jordan.

112. The United World Colleges (UWC), in partnership with UNHCR, will provide 100 refugee and internationally displaced students the opportunity to study in a third country at the 17 UWC's secondary schools around the world teaching the

International Baccalaureate Diploma and to benefit from a 2-3 years scholarship, as part of the UWC Refugee Initiative. 47 refugee students have been selected to date.

### ***Regional mobility schemes***

113. The CRRF application period has witnessed a number of potential models for regional mobility mechanisms that would benefit refugees, helping them attain long-term solutions through access to education programmes, residency and free movement. Positive examples of policies creating such possibilities include: the Economic Community of West African States' "Protocol relating to free movement of persons, residence and establishment"<sup>43</sup>; and the draft protocol to the "Treaty establishing the African Economic Community", which refers to the free movement of persons, right of residence and right of establishment.

### **TO SUPPORT CONDITIONS IN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN FOR RETURN IN SAFETY AND DIGNITY**

114. The CRRF reaffirms "the primary goal of bringing about conditions that would help refugees return in safety and dignity to their countries" and, to this end, "emphasize[s] the need to tackle the root causes of violence and armed conflict and to achieve necessary political solutions and the peaceful settlement of disputes, as well as to assist in reconstruction efforts".<sup>44</sup>

115. In order to address root causes, the New York Declaration emphasizes the role of preventive diplomacy, the prevention and peaceful resolution of conflict, the achievement of long-term political solutions, greater coordination of humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts, the promotion of good governance and the rule of law at national and international levels, and the protection of human rights.

116. Recognizing the need for repatriation to be voluntary for as long as refugees continue to require international protection, the CRRF calls for: measures to encourage voluntary and informed repatriation, reintegration and reconciliation; support to host countries in restoring national protection and ensuring refugee reintegration, including through funding for rehabilitation, reconstruction and development; efforts to foster reconciliation and dialogue that include refugee participation; support to ensure respect for the rule of law; and measures to guarantee national development planning incorporates the specific needs of returnees and promotes sustainable and inclusive reintegration.<sup>45</sup>

117. Progress towards meeting this objective has been challenging. However, a number of good practices have been identified that could lead to positive progress towards refugees' voluntary return to their countries of origin in safety and dignity.

118. Afghanistan, for example, continues to implement the Displacement and Returnees Executive Committee (DiREC), which brings all actors together to minimise the gap between humanitarian/development strategies – ensuring that there is one policy covering all work in return areas, with clear principles for implementation of all other

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<sup>43</sup> For more information, see [http://documentation.ecowas.int/download/en/legal\\_documents/protocols/PROTOCOL%20RELATING%20TO%20%20FREE%20MOVEMENT%20OF%20PERSONS.pdf](http://documentation.ecowas.int/download/en/legal_documents/protocols/PROTOCOL%20RELATING%20TO%20%20FREE%20MOVEMENT%20OF%20PERSONS.pdf).

<sup>44</sup> See NYD, A/RES/71/1, Annex I, para 11.

<sup>45</sup> See NYD, A/RES/71/1, Annex I, para 12.

policies. DiREC takes a whole of society approach. Issues that returnees have been facing for the past fifteen years such as documentation, registration and land issues – are being addressed. A plan of action identified five priority issues: land and housing, jobs, services (including health and education), dignity and integrity. In Afghanistan, the experience of moving from a project type approach to a programmatic approach, bringing together various Ministries, has been helpful.

119. Colombia's experience with including victims, including displaced populations, in the peace process is one to learn from. Colombia has invested in the participation of women in the peace process. In Honduras, a project to partner national government land management authorities with civil society and faith-based organisations to start the mapping of potentially contested land in future return areas is both laying the groundwork for a more participatory solutions approach and providing entry points for consultations on other matters relevant to peacebuilding. The project is being supported with technical assistance from Colombian authorities who successfully completed similar processes in Colombia in the build up to peace negotiations.

120. The UN Secretary-General's 2011 Decision on Durable Solutions was implemented from 2012-2015 in the pilot countries of Afghanistan, Côte d'Ivoire and Kyrgyzstan. Those pilots highlighted the importance of national government leadership and of the roles of refugee returnees, national civil society the private sector and national and international NGOs. It also drew attention to the need to include repatriated refugees in national development plans and priorities, consistent with the 2030 Agenda and the global commitment to leave "no one behind".

121. Between January and September 2017, as part of the work plan agreed on by the Tripartite Commission for the Voluntary Repatriation of Burundian Refugees in Tanzania, the voluntary repatriation operation commenced on 7 September 2017 and as at 2 November 2017, 6,988 Burundian refugees were assisted to voluntarily repatriate from Tanzania to Burundi. 34,000 refugees have returned to Somalia in 2017; 7000 returned from Liberia to Cote d'Ivoire and over 56,000 registered Afghan refugees were assisted to return, mostly from Pakistan, in the same period.

### ***Regional mechanisms***

122. The regional CRRF application for the Somalia situation has a strong focus on durable solutions and supporting conditions in the country of origin that are conducive with refugees' return in safety and dignity. IGAD member States, including Somalia, have committed to taking concrete steps that will result in solutions for Somalia and for refugees. The Somalia plan of action includes strengthening its security; building the capacity of civilian authorities driving investments in urban planning, development and resilience; and generally supporting the country's National Development Plan, while including considerations for returnees within it.

123. Pre-dating the CRRF, the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan and UNHCR established a regional platform and initiated a quadripartite consultation process focused on solutions. This led to a regional multi-year platform under the SSAR. It offers a comprehensive and integrated framework for joint interventions, aimed at facilitating refugees' voluntary return and their sustainable reintegration, while providing assistance to them, their host communities and countries.

### ***Alignment of regional responses with mechanisms in country of origin***

124. In Somalia, the Government issued its draft “National policy for refugee-returnees and IDPs” and “Somali national refugees and IDPs policy”. Such policies help prepare conditions for return and gain international support, such as the EU trust fund to meet the needs of displaced populations. Other support includes cash-based interventions for returnees, as well as conditional grants to support basic services, such as education and healthcare.
125. The UN Peacebuilding Fund and Kenya-Somalia cross-border project for Somali refugees<sup>46</sup> aim to improve prospects of reintegration for Somalis returning to Baidoa in the Bay region of Somalia. To ensure sustainability of return and enable sector- and area-based prioritisation, a post-return monitoring system was launched in October 2017 to systematically profile the returning refugee population.
126. In the NCA, UNDP is supporting a regional approach to the complex situation of displacement caused by violence and insecurity. Pervasive violence prompted a UN multi-agency joint initiative, backed by the UN Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean and led by UNDP and UNICEF, to foster a regional response that tackles the root causes of violence and mitigates its consequences. The CRRF will now be a key component of this response and should bring dynamism to the implementation of this new way of working in the region.<sup>47</sup>

### ***Global initiatives to address root causes and prepare conditions for return***

127. In June 2017, the International Labour Conference adopted a new landmark standard, the “Employment and decent work for peace and resilience recommendation, 2017 (No 205)”. This is the only normative framework focusing on employment and decent work issues in crisis response arising from conflicts and disasters. The guidance aims to strengthen Member States’ efforts to improve the possibility and conditions for refugees’ reintegration with safety and dignity into economic and social life.<sup>48</sup>
128. Implementing relevant the 2030 Agenda’s provisions will assist in addressing the root causes of forced displacement, helping to create more favourable conditions in countries of origin. The links between the full implementation of the CRRF and the 2030 Agenda rest on the pledge to “leave no one behind”. This requires supporting the host communities to enable their national social services and other sectors to extend and, where possible, improve the service delivery in key social, economic and cultural areas to displaced populations.
129. The United Nations’ Secretary-General, in his “Agenda for Peace” has made prevention a top priority, noting that the UN should do everything it can to help countries avert the outbreak of crises that take a high toll on humanity, undermining institutions and capacities to achieve peace and development.

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<sup>46</sup> For more information, see <http://www.unpbf.org/countries/somalia/>.

<sup>47</sup> Silva, Maria Luisa (2017). Statement to UNHCR’s 68<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee. Geneva, 2-6 October 2017. Available from <http://www.unhcr.org/59dcc1dbd.pdf>.

<sup>48</sup> International Labour Organization (2017). Statement to UNHCR’s 68<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee. Geneva, 2 October 2017. Available from <http://www.unhcr.org/excom/speeches/59d6371f7/statement-international-labour-organization.html>.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

130. A year into the application of the CRRF, several preliminary lessons can be drawn about opportunities for responding to large-scale refugee crises through a comprehensive, whole-of-society approach in a range of contexts. The practical application of the CRRF has highlighted measures that have proven successful and should be expanded and replicated, wherever possible.

131. Learning from the application of the framework, five areas require substantial investment from all actors to ensure greater progress toward the CRRF:

- i. The four objectives of the CRRF -- to ease pressure upon host countries, to enhance refugee self-reliance, to expand access to third-country solutions and to support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity – are all important and they all require investment. This would help to ensure that refugee responses are approached comprehensively, and the needs and well-being of refugees and their host communities are considered and supported from the outset.
- ii. The application of the CRRF would be strengthened if all partners adapt their responses to the needs and requirements of refugees and host communities. There are five CRRF partnership types that need to be boosted, with partners willing to assume clear responsibilities to ensure quality and predictability:
  - (a) Resource partnerships that increase financial and technical human support for host countries;
  - (b) Knowledge partnerships that improve contextually-driven responses through information, evaluation and analysis;
  - (c) Policy and governance partnerships that support policy and governance development and reform;
  - (d) Advocacy partnerships; and
  - (e) Capability partnerships that design and implement programmes and operations.
- iii. The roll-out of the CRRF requires additional solidarity measures that enhance the predictability of support to host countries and communities. In particular, all actors should consider how they could:
  - (a) Broaden and target support to host countries in a predictable way and for a sustained period of time. This could be done by: diversifying sources of financial, technical and human resources to support host countries and countries of origin; employing whole-of-government approaches to include coordinated humanitarian, development, trade, investment and peace mechanisms; increasing access to new financing mechanisms; and substantially increasing access to third-country solutions;
  - (b) Mobilize to address root causes, end conflicts and prepare the conditions for the voluntary and sustainable return of refugees in safety and dignity; and

(c) Contribute to enhanced implementation and monitoring through the systematic collection and analysis of joint interoperable socio-economic data on refugees and host communities.

## Annex 1: Milestones in the application of the CRRF

September 2016	October 2016	November 2016	December 2016	January 2017
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup></b> Adoption of the New York Declaration at the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants</p> <p><b>20<sup>th</sup></b> Leaders' Summit on Refugees</p> <p><i>Uganda announces intent to be official CRRF country</i></p>	<p>The UNHCR High Commissioner announces creation of a CRRF task team composed of UNHCR and partners staff from diverse backgrounds</p> <p>UNHCR Executive Committee meeting</p>	<p>Start of task team's consultations with stakeholders at field level</p>	<p><i>The United Republic of Tanzania becomes official CRRF country</i></p>	<p>Briefing by the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection on the Global Compact for Refugees for UN Member States, international organizations, and NGOs at UN Headquarters</p>
February 2017	March 2017	April 2017	May 2017	June 2017
<p><i>Djibouti, Ethiopia and Somalia become official CRRF countries</i></p>	<p><i>Honduras becomes official CRRF country</i></p> <p><b>25<sup>th</sup></b> Adoption of the Nairobi Declaration and the launch of the regional CRRF for the Somali refugee situation</p>	<p><i>Guatemala becomes official CRRF country</i></p>	<p><i>Costa Rica and Mexico become official CRRF countries</i></p> <p><b>11<sup>th</sup></b> London Somalia Conference 2017</p>	<p><b>14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup></b> UNHCR's Annual Consultations with NGOs in Geneva ("<i>From global responsibility to action – implementing the CRRF</i>")</p> <p><b>22<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>th</sup></b> Uganda Solidarity Summit in Kampala</p>
July 2017	August 2017	September 2017	October 2017	November 2017
<p><i>Panama becomes official CRRF country</i></p> <p><b>10<sup>th</sup></b> Thematic discussion 1, Geneva ("<i>Past and current burden- and responsibility-sharing arrangements</i>")</p>	<p><b>28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup></b> Somali National Forum on Durable Solutions for Refugees and IDPs, Mogadishu</p>	<p><b>19<sup>th</sup></b> First anniversary of the adoption of the New York Declaration</p> <p><i>Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Spain, Switzerland, the United States and Uruguay become cooperating States for Central America and Mexico's Comprehensive Protection and Solutions Framework</i></p>	<p><i>Belize and Kenya become official CRRF countries</i></p> <p><b>Executive Committee meeting and High-level Panel on the CRRF</b></p> <p><b>17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup></b> Thematic discussions 2 and 3 ("<i>Measures to be taken at the onset of a large movement of refugees</i>" and "<i>Meeting needs and supporting communities</i>")</p> <p><b>26<sup>th</sup></b> Adoption of the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework and San Pedro Sula Declaration in Honduras</p>	<p><i>Zambia becomes official CRRF country</i></p> <p><b>14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup></b> Thematic discussions 4 and 5 ("<i>Measures to be taken in the pursuit of solutions</i>" and "<i>Issues that cut across all four substantive sections of the framework, and overarching issues</i>")</p>

