



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges Geneva, 11-12 December 2007

INFORMATION NOTE No. 2

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

1. The first meeting of the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges will start at 2 p.m. on 11 December, with a plenary session in Room XIX, at the Palais des Nations. The plenary session will be opened by the High Commissioner who will then invite several keynote speakers to address the meeting.

Breakout groups

2. To encourage informal and interactive discussion, the meeting will break out into four smaller groups as from approximately 4 p.m.

3. For technical reasons, the Palais can provide interpretation in only two of the breakout rooms. A third breakout session will be conducted in French only and a fourth in English only.

4. Participants are urged to indicate any language preference they may have at the time of registration, at the latest by 3 December, in order to enable the Dialogue Secretariat to make arrangements for the breakout sessions accordingly.

5. The breakout groups will be moderated by representatives of States with a particular interest in current asylum-migration issues. They will be assisted in this task by the Deputy High Commissioner, the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, the Director of the Division of International Protection Services, and the Deputy Director of the Division of International Protection Services in the respective breakout groups. One of each group's facilitating team members will report back to plenary on the breakout discussions.

6. The High Commissioner will join each of the breakout groups in turn. During the final plenary session on the afternoon of 12 December, following the rapporteurs' feedback, there will be a general discussion. The High Commissioner will provide an informal summing up of the Dialogue.

II. DOCUMENTATION

7. In addition to the provisional agenda and the concept paper sent out earlier, participants will shortly be receiving a discussion paper titled: "*Refugee protection and durable solutions in the context of international migration*", as well as the paper "*Refugee protection and mixed migration: a 10-Point Plan of Action*".

8. All conference documentation is posted on the following website, in both French and English: <http://www.unhcr.org/hc-dialogue>. Courtesy translations of the discussion paper in Arabic and Spanish will also be made available.

III. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Reception

9. The High Commissioner will host a reception for participants from 6.30 to 8.00 p.m. on 11 December in the Delegates' restaurant on the 8th floor of the Palais des Nations.

Press arrangements

10. As participation in the meeting is by invitation, press will not have access to the Dialogue except for a brief photographic session before the start of deliberations and



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during the High Commissioner's opening remarks.

Visas

11. All conference participants who normally require visas to enter Switzerland are urged to acquire valid entry visas for Switzerland prior to their departure. No provisions can be made for participants to obtain such visas on arrival at Geneva Cointrin airport.

12. Participants who wish information on hotel accommodation in Geneva can contact the Geneva Tourism Office via Internet: <http://www.geneva.ch/tour.htm>. Alternatively, a list of hotels with UN preferential rates is available from the Secretariat on request.

*Dialogue Secretariat
26 November 2007*