

# 2023 HIGH-LEVEL MEETING on ROHINGYA REFUGEES

## ‘The Road to the Global Refugee Forum’

17 October 2023  
Bangkok, Thailand



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### Background Note

More than one million Rohingya refugees from Myanmar are being hosted in Asia. Bangladesh is hosting some 960,000 Rohingya. 102,000 refugees reside in Malaysia and 18,000 are registered in India.

In the lead up to the Global Refugee Forum (GRF), the 2023 Meeting on Rohingya Refugees will seek to take stock of the current situation that Rohingya refugees face and refocus efforts in the region for them. This includes mobilizing the international community to recommit to a comprehensive approach that prioritizes durable solutions, particularly supporting efforts to create conditions conducive to voluntary repatriation to their country of origin.

The meeting will reinforce efforts to sustain support for the Rohingya refugee response, both for the humanitarian response, as well as to build the resilience of refugees which will help engender solutions. The Rohingya response remains critically underfunded, with significant impact on refugee protection and security. The meeting will bring together key stakeholders, including governmental counterparts, humanitarian and development partners, refugee-led organizations, academia, and civil society, from the region and beyond.

As noted, the outcomes and discussions at the meeting will contribute and feed into the

ministerial-level Global Refugee Forum, which is scheduled for 13 – 15 December 2023 in Geneva. The Global Refugee Forum will bring together member States and other stakeholders to make concrete pledges and contributions, and consider opportunities to implement the four objectives of the [Global Compact on Refugees \(GCR\)](#), namely easing the pressure on host countries, enhancing refugee self-reliance, expanding access to third country solutions and supporting conditions in countries of origin for voluntary return in safety and dignity. The Global Refugee Forum provides a unique opportunity to leverage commitments by the international community aimed at expanding solutions and enhancing resilience for Rohingya refugee populations and host communities in the region, including through a multi-stakeholder pledge for Rohingya refugees.

The meeting also serves in support of [UN Security Council Resolution \(2669 of 21 December 2022\)](#) that underscores *‘the need to address the root causes of the crisis in Rakhine State, and to create conditions necessary for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of Rohingya refugees and internally displaced persons, encourages diplomatic efforts between the parties concerned to help address the issues facing Rohingyas, and further stresses the importance of providing continued protection and assistance to refugees and displaced persons.’*

**08:30 - 09:00 | Registration**

**09:00 - 09:45 | Session One: Opening**

Opening remarks by Co-conveners (UNHCR, UK, US).  
Keynote address by Bangladesh.

**09:45 – 10:30 | Session One: Interventions**

Interventions from the floor.

**10:30 – 11:00 | Break**

**11:00 – 12:20 | Session Two: Supporting Basic Needs**

Interactive dialogue on

- Impact of funding gaps on refugee communities.
- Efficiency gains, strengthening partnerships, unlocking new partnerships, and the role of Multilateral Development Banks.

Interventions from the floor.

**12:20 – 13:20 | Lunch**

**13:20 – 14:40 | Session Three: Resilience and Solutions**

Interactive dialogue on

- Advancing durable solutions.
- Enhancing resilience in preparing for solutions.

Interventions from the floor.

**14:40 – 15:10 | Break**

**15:10 – 16:30 | Session Four: Responsibility Sharing – Towards the Global Refugee Forum**

Interactive dialogue on

- The GRF and the multi-stakeholder pledge.
- Responsibility sharing, pledges relating to durable solutions and resilience.

Interventions from the floor.

**16:30 – 17:00 | Closing**

Summary and closing by Co-conveners.

## 1 Opening

Opening remarks by Co-conveners Filippo Grandi, High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR; The Rt Hon Minister Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, United Kingdom and Janine Wynne, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, US State Department, United States.

Keynote address by the Honourable Minister for Foreign Affairs for Bangladesh, AK Abdul Momen.

Delegates will be invited to make statements from the floor.

## 2 Supporting Basic Needs

The session will highlight the impact of funding gaps on Rohingya and host communities. It will seek support to stabilize communities in the region pending a durable solution, identify outstanding urgent needs, and highlight how operations are becoming cost effective.

The session will also discuss how Multilateral Development Banks and other partnerships can continue to support refugee and host communities in a crisis.

Delegates will be invited to make statements from the floor relating to urgent needs for the Rohingya response.

## 3 Resilience and Solutions

The session will focus on the need for durable solutions — from voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable repatriation and reintegration, to third country solutions for Rohingya refugees.

The session will also explore resilience-focused programmes in host countries that would improve opportunities for sustainable solutions, and address safety concerns that refugees and host communities face.

Opportunities for innovative approaches to education, portable skills development and climate-resilient activities in the Rohingya response will be discussed.

Delegates will be invited to make statements from the floor relating to resilience and solutions for Rohingya refugees.

## 4 Responsibility Sharing – Towards the Global Refugee Forum

The session will take stock of progress made towards implementation of the four objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees in the context of the Rohingya response in the region.

The meeting will generate suggestions for future commitments by the international community – ranging from building resilience for refugee and host communities to finding durable solutions.

Delegates will have an opportunity to discuss pledges ahead of the Global Refugee Forum. This will include pledges in support of the Multi-stakeholder Pledge on Rohingya Refugees

There will be a summary by the Co-conveners at the end of the session.

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