



UNSW
SYDNEY



STRENGTHENING THE RESPONSE TO REFUGEE WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THE COMPREHENSIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

Recommendations from the University of New South Wales Forced Migration Network, (Australia) and the Australian National Committee on Refugee Women, for amendments to Annex I: Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), from the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, UNGA September 19 2016, with suggested models of implementation.



Assoc. Prof. Eileen Pittaway, Charlotte Bell and Dr Linda Bartolomei

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Part 1 - Annotated Annex I: Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (Crrf), From The New York Declaration For Refugees And Migrants, Unga September 19 2016	4
References	13
Part 2 Pathways To Implementation – Actions To Operationalize The Promise Of The CRRF (Work in Progress)	16
Appendix 1: Full Text Of Supporting References	28
Appendix 2: References And Evidence For Rationale (Work in Progress)	51
Appendix 3: Details Of Suggested Models Of Good Practice (Work in Progress)	52

Introduction

PART 1 AN ANNOTATED VERSION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

This section contains amendments and recommendations specifically to address the protection needs of refugee women and girls. They are based on significant research conducted by the UNSW Centre for Refugee Research over the past decade in 18 refugee camps and urban sites, multiple community consultations run by the Australian National Committee on Refugee Women in 2016 and 2017 with refugees resettled in Australia. They include the outcomes of a workshop at “The Refugee Alternatives” conference convened by the Refugee Council of Australia and the UNSW Forced Migration Network in Sydney, February 2017.

We applaud the inclusion of, and direct reference to gender issues, in particular, sexual and gender based violence in both the New York Declaration and the Draft Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework. However, experience in the field, and empirical research has shown that this is often acknowledged in the rhetoric rather than in the reality. The way in which the term gender is used sometimes obscures the specific needs of women and girls. Mainstreaming often leads to invisibility. Despite the best intentions of policy makers and those who deliver services on the ground, the needs of women and girls are often sidelined, or ignored. There are seldom sufficient resources for these to be addressed effectively. This was highlighted at the High Commissioners Dialogues, in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Refugee Convention, Geneva, 2011. (See *Survivors, Protectors, Providers” Refugee Women Speak Out*, UNHCR, 2011.) Sadly little has changed for women since then and the increased movement of refugees, and the scarcity of resources has made their plight even more acute.

The focus on women and girls is not meant to diminish the plight of men and boys, and minority groups, such as those with disability, children and youth, the aged, and the LGBTI population. The fact that so many refugee girls are raped and sexually abused, and that people with a disability, and the LGBTI community are also targeted for this form of abuse illustrates the cross-over of these issues. Importantly, the rape and abuse of women, girls and boys not only affects them personally, but has very negative ramifications for their families and their communities. Many women and girl are forced to undertake survival sex, and many bear children of rape. Girls die because they are too young to carry the children that are conceived. These horrors have to be acknowledged and addressed as part of an effective refugee response framework.

Each suggested amendment is fully referenced to a wide range of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant United Nations documents, see **Appendix 1**.

A rationale is provided for each proposed amendment, with evidence to support these in **Appendix 2**. (*Work in Progress*)

PART 2 PATHWAYS TO IMPLEMENTATION – ACTIONS TO OPERATIONALISE THE PROMISE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

Recommendations for actions and models of best practice related to each suggested amendment are contained in Part 2 of this document. (*Work in Progress*)

Evidence to support these recommendations is contained in Appendices 1 and 2.

Details of suggested programs are included in Appendix 3 (*Work in progress*).

A uniform referencing system for suggested amendments, rationale and responses has been used in each section. GC1 – GC24

Part 2 and Appendix 2 and 3 of this document will be amended and added to following further consultation with refugee women and service providers. The next version will be ready for the UNHCR NGO Consultations in June 2017.

PART 1 - Annotated Annex I: Comprehensive refugee response framework (CRRF), from the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, UNGA September 19 2016

Suggested amendments to the language in Red.

All suggested amendments are referenced to and supported by UNHCR and other relevant UN documents, see Bibliography, and Appendix 1 for full text of references.

Rationale for amendments in Blue.

See Appendix 2 for evidence and references to support the Rationale.

Annexe 1

1. The 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.

2. The comprehensive refugee response framework will be developed and initiated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in close coordination with relevant States, including host countries, and involving other relevant United Nations entities, for each situation involving large movements of refugees. 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.

3. While each large movement of refugees will differ in nature, the elements noted below provide a framework for a comprehensive and people-centred refugee response, which is in accordance with international law and best international practice and adapted to the specific context.

4. We envisage a comprehensive refugee response framework for each situation involving large movements of refugees, including in protracted situations, as an integral and distinct part of an overall humanitarian response, where it exists, and which would normally contain the elements set out below.

Reception and admission

5. At the outset of a large movement of refugees, receiving States, bearing in mind their national capacities and international legal obligations, in cooperation, as appropriate, with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, international organizations and other partners and with the support of other States as requested, in conformity with international obligations, would:

(a) Ensure, to the extent possible, that measures are in place to identify persons in need of international protection as refugees, provide for adequate, safe and dignified reception conditions, with a particular emphasis on persons with specific needs, victims of human trafficking, child protection, family unity, and prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence, **including women and girls who have been forced to engage in survival sex, and/or who have children born from rape (GC1)** and support the critical contribution of receiving communities and societies in this regard;

GC1 Rationale

Women and girls who have been forced to engage in survival sex, and/or who have children born from rape are often stigmatised and marginalised by officials, some faith-based NGO's, peace-keepers and even members of their own communities. Additionally, they suffer from shame and

low self-esteem. These factors can exclude them from accessing safe and dignified reception conditions and place them in even greater harm.

(b) Take account of the rights, specific needs, contributions and voices of women and girl refugees, **in particular in response to sexual and gender based violence, in accordance with international standards; (GC2)**

GC2 Rationale

Women often report that they are actively excluded from decision-making processes, training and service provision at a local level, in particular with regard to the provision of support, counselling and assistance to their community members who have experienced sexual abuse and rape. This lack of access to available skills, expertise and resources is detrimental to the women survivors and also to the women who wish to take an active role in the assistance of their communities.

(c) Assess and meet the essential needs of refugees, including by providing access to adequate safe drinking water, sanitation, **adequate sanitary materials for women and girls (GC3)**, food, nutrition, shelter, psychosocial support and health care, including sexual and reproductive health, and providing assistance to host countries and communities in this regard, as required;

GC3 Rationale

Lack of sanitary materials undermines the protection mandate of UNHCR towards females because it prevents their full participation in education and employment as well as community based activities that are organised to help empower them. Due to resource shortfalls and sometimes because of oversight by male service providers, and shame on the part of women and girls, only a small percentage of refugee women and girls receive adequate sanitary materials. This is under-reported, seldom acknowledged and yet has very significant impacts on the health of women and girls, and their ability to fulfil all other needs, and to achieve a level of security.

(d) Register individually and document those seeking protection as refugees, including in the first country where they seek asylum, as quickly as possible upon their arrival. **In particular, women and girls to be registered in own right, independent of their husband's, or other male family members registration (GC4)**. To achieve this, assistance may be needed, in areas such as biometric technology and other technical and financial support, to be coordinated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with relevant actors and partners, where necessary;

GC4 Rationale

Women and girls require documentation that gives them legal status in their own right. Including women as part of their husbands/fathers registration, instead of as individuals can often tie women into abusive situations, or limit the protection afforded to her and her children because of the political affiliation/activities of her male relative.

(e) Use **the UNHCR Heightened Risk Identification Tool as a mandatory part of (GC5)** the assessment process registration process to identify specific assistance needs and protection arrangements, where possible, including but not exclusively for refugees with special protection concerns, such as women at risk, children, especially unaccompanied children and children separated from their families, child-headed and single-parent households, victims of trafficking, victims of trauma and survivors of sexual violence, as well as refugees with disabilities and older persons;

GC5 Rationale

The Heightened Risk Identification Tool, developed by UNHCR in collaboration with NGO partners is a proven and effective tool to assist in assessing the level of vulnerability and special needs of refugees. Its use should be a standard procedure in the assessment process

(f) Work to ensure the immediate birth registration for all refugee children born on their territory and provide adequate assistance at the earliest opportunity with obtaining other necessary

documents, as appropriate, relating to civil status, such as marriage, divorce and death certificates;

(g) Put in place measures, with appropriate legal safeguards, which uphold refugees' human rights, with a view to ensuring the security of refugees, **including access to justice for sexual violence prosecution, and an end to impunity for perpetrators (GC6)**, as well as measures to respond to host countries' legitimate security concerns;

GC6 Rationale

Refugee women and girls in camps and refugee sites across the world report that they have little access to gender sensitive, fair, accessible and affordable legal processes. Confidentiality is often not respected, and perpetrators act with the knowledge that there is little redress, and at times those from whom women seek assistance subject them to further abuse. Officials often lack information and both gender and cultural sensitivity to enable them to respond appropriately.

(h) Take measures to maintain the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps and settlements **including protection for women who work as human rights defenders; (GC7)**

GC7 Rationale

In many sites, women human rights defenders are targeted for violence and persecution by perpetrators, rival factions and corrupt officials in camps and refugee situations, and at times by males from their own communities. This poses a major barrier for the present and future well-being of both human rights defenders and the women and children who they are working to defend.

(i) Take steps to ensure the credibility of asylum systems, **including the recognition of rape and sexual violence as grounds for persecution, (GC8)** including through collaboration among the countries of origin, transit and destination and to facilitate the return and readmission of those who do not qualify for refugee status;

GC8 Rationale

Rape and sexual violence in conflict and post conflict situations is recognised as a crime against humanity and a war crime, and yet it is still not recognised as grounds for persecution in many countries. This leaves women who have endured sexual violence as part of their conflict/refugee experience both vulnerable and without international protection. Married women are usually dependent on the asylum claims of their husband, and not able to have their own experience of persecution taken into account when making a claim for refugee status. There are many reports of assessors dismissing claims made by women on the grounds of rape and sexual violence because they are not grounds for persecution, or silencing them on the grounds that is a "shameful event". Standardised criteria and training for applying these are needed to right this problem.

Support for immediate and ongoing needs

6. 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 **ensuring that an adequate response to sexual and gender based violence and specific needs groups receives high priority; (GC9)**

GC9 Rationale

It is critically important to the physical and psychological well being of the refugee population, both male and female, to have a timely and effective response to gender and sexual violence. This must be recognised as a key humanitarian need. Research shows that single women with children, unaccompanied youth, people with a disability and other special needs groups are often targeted for sexual abuse. This is often placed low on the list of priorities when planning a response, and can have a detrimental impact on the coping mechanism of entire communities.

- (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;
- (d) Consider establishing development funding mechanisms for such countries;
- (e) Provide assistance to host countries to protect the environment and strengthen infrastructure affected by large movements of refugees;
- (f) Increase support for cash-based delivery mechanisms and other innovative means for the efficient provision of humanitarian assistance, where appropriate, while increasing accountability to ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches its beneficiaries and **ensuring that women receive assistance for themselves and their children directly, not via their husbands or male relatives; (GC10)**

GC10 Rationale

International studies, both in refugee situations and development aid have demonstrated that if women receive direct aid for themselves and their children, over 95% of the cash is used for their families. If the money for the family is given to the male, on average about 65% goes to the woman and her children. Payment of cash, and other food and non-food items to the females in the family is therefore a major protection measure. *(Check current figures)*

7. Host States, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other United Nations entities, financial institutions and other relevant partners, would, as appropriate:

- (a) Provide prompt, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance for refugees in accordance with existing humanitarian principles;
- (b) Deliver assistance, to the extent possible, through appropriate national and local service providers, such as public authorities for health, education, social services and child protection;
- (c) Encourage and empower refugees, **building on their strengths, including mobilizing women as equal partners (GC11)** at the outset of an emergency phase, to establish supportive systems and networks that involve refugees and host communities and are age- and gender-sensitive, with a particular emphasis on the protection and empowerment of women and children and other persons with specific needs;

GC11 Rationale

Refugee women bring a wealth of skills, experience and knowledge to the refugee situation. Some are formally qualified; others are pre-literate but are strong community leaders. Despite these attributes, they are often not included in the planning and service delivery in emergency situations, despite the fact that they are without doubt the best placed to respond to the needs of women children and others with special needs. By ignoring the social capital which these women could contribute, the protection response often loses a major resource.

- (d) Support local civil society partners that contribute to humanitarian responses, in recognition of their complementary contribution;
- (e) Ensure close cooperation and encourage joint planning, as appropriate, between humanitarian and development actors and other relevant actors.

Support for host countries and communities

8. States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and relevant partners would:

(a) Implement a joint, impartial and rapid risk and/or impact assessment, **including gender-sensitive staff and partnering with women (GC12)** in anticipation or after the onset of a large refugee movement, in order to identify and prioritize the assistance required for refugees, national and local authorities, and communities affected by a refugee presence;

GC12 Rationale

As in GC11, refugee women must be included in rapid risk and impact assessments to ensure that the specific and situational needs of women, children and special needs groups are adequately acknowledged and responded to.

(b) Incorporate, where appropriate, the comprehensive refugee response framework in national development planning, in order to strengthen the delivery of essential services and infrastructure for the benefit of host communities and refugees;

(c) Work to provide adequate resources, without prejudice to official development assistance, for national and local government authorities and other service providers in view of the increased needs and pressures on social services. Programmes should benefit refugees and the host country and communities.

Durable solutions

9. We recognize that millions of refugees around the world at present have no access to timely and durable solutions, the securing of which is one of the principal goals of international protection. The success of the search for solutions depends in large measure on resolute and sustained international cooperation and support.

10. We believe that actions should be taken in pursuit of the following durable solutions: voluntary repatriation, local solutions and resettlement and complementary pathways for admission. These actions should include the elements set out below.

11. We reaffirm the primary goal of bringing about conditions that would help refugees return in safety and dignity to their countries and emphasize 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. In this context, States of origin/nationality would:

(a) Acknowledge that everyone has the right to leave any country, including his or her own, and to return to his or her country;

(b) Respect this right and also respect the obligation to receive back their nationals, which should occur in a safe, dignified and humane manner and with full respect for human rights in accordance with obligations under international law;

(c) Provide necessary identification and travel documents **for women and men independently; (GC13)**

GC13 Rationale

As per GC4, women and girls require documentation that gives them legal status in their own right. Including women as part of their husbands/fathers registration, instead of as individuals can often tie women into abusive situations, or limit the protection afforded to her and her children because of the political affiliation/activities of her male relative.

(d) Facilitate the socioeconomic reintegration of returnees, **with a particular focus on women and special needs groups; (CG14)**

GC14 Rationale

Women and girls known to have been raped, have children from rape or who were forced into survival sex are particularly vulnerable on return, and may need targeted assistance to ensure that they have access to socio-economic support, and are not forced to re-engage in survival sex, or unwanted marriages to in order to feed themselves and their children.

- (e) Consider measures to enable the restitution of property. **with a particular focus on women and special needs groups; (CG15)**

GC15 Rationale

Women who have lost their husbands and/or fathers may need specific assistance to reclaim their family property, as they lack the resources to make legal claims, and are often intimidated by males from the communities who wish to claim the property for themselves.

12. To ensure sustainable return and reintegration, States, United Nations organizations and relevant partners would:

- (a) Recognize that the voluntary nature of repatriation is necessary as long as refugees continue to require international protection, that is, as long as they cannot regain fully the protection of their own country;
- (b) Plan for and support measures to encourage voluntary and informed repatriation, reintegration and reconciliation;
- (c) Support countries of origin/nationality, where appropriate, including through funding for rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, and with the necessary legal safeguards to enable refugees to access legal, physical and other support mechanisms needed for the restoration of national protection and their reintegration; **recognizing the special needs of women and girls known to have been raped or forced into survival sex, to ensure they do not suffer ongoing persecution; (GC16)**

GC16 Rationale

Women and girls known to have been raped or forced into survival sex are often marginalised stigmatized and shamed, and at times, forced into prostitution by community members. These women need targeted attention in order to rebuild their lives, and at times, to be moved from their original communities to a place of anonymity where they can have a fresh start.

- (d) Support efforts to foster reconciliation and dialogue, particularly with refugee communities and with the equal participation of women and youth, and to ensure respect for the rule of law at the national and local levels;
- (e) Facilitate the participation of refugees, **including support for women to take an equal, not token place (GC17)** in peace and reconciliation processes, and ensure that the outcomes of such processes duly support their return in safety and dignity;

GC17 Rationale

Refugee women from many refugee sites have reported that they are often excluded from participation in peace and reconciliation processes, or if they are included, it is often as a token gesture. Many women can bring valuable skills and knowledge to these processes, but may lack skills such as how to function in formal meetings. Some basic training can enable these women to take their place at the table as full contributing partners, who add a much needed dimensions to the discussions and outcomes.

- (f) Ensure that national development planning incorporates the specific needs of returnees and promotes sustainable and inclusive reintegration, as a measure to prevent future displacement, **including for women and girls who have been raped, have children of rape, or been forced into**

survival sex, and who are likely to suffer from stigma and marginalisation even with their own communities; (GC18)

GC18 Rationale

As per GC16 women and girls known to have been raped or forced into survival sex are often marginalised stigmatized and shamed, and at times, forced into prostitution by community members. These women need targeted attention in order to rebuild their lives, and at times, to be moved from their original communities to a place of anonymity where they can have a fresh start.

13. Host States, bearing in mind their capacities and international legal obligations, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, where appropriate, and other United Nations entities, financial institutions and other relevant partners, would:

(a) Provide legal stay to those seeking and in need of international protection as refugees, recognizing that any decision regarding permanent settlement in any form, including possible naturalization, rests with the host country;

(b) Take measures to foster self-reliance by pledging to expand opportunities for refugees to access, as appropriate, education, health care and services, livelihood opportunities and labour markets, without discriminating among refugees and in a manner which also supports host communities; **in particular women and girls (GC19),**

GC19 Rationale

While in theory, opportunities to take part in activities leading to self-reliance are equally open to men and women, the reality is that women are often not able to access these opportunities for a number of reasons, including lack of childcare, gender discrimination, lack of security measures, lack of literacy skills, and lack of resources. These issues need to be addressed in order to make self-reliance equally available to women and special needs groups

(c) Take measures to enable refugees, including in particular women and youth, to make the best use of their skills and capacities, recognizing that empowered refugees are better able to contribute to their own and their communities' well-being, **noting the special measures needed to address structural and cultural barriers; (GC20)**

GC20 Rationale

Often the biggest barrier to refugees using their own social capital to contribute to their communities well being is the attitude of staff and officials, who do not recognize their skills and potential, and who fail to make opportunities available to them. Sometime this is mere oversight, at other times it is based on gender, class and ethnic discrimination. Training and guidelines for staff to overcome these barriers is critical to address this problem.

(d) Invest in building human capital, self-reliance and transferable skills, **with an equal emphasis and participation on men, women and youth (GC21),** as an essential step towards enabling long-term solutions.

GC21 Rationale

Too often the potential of women to play an equal part with men is not capitalized when creating the building blocks for long term solutions. Cultural stereotypes are used to focus more on men as leaders and decision makers. The reality is that cultures change, and the refugee experience is one of the biggest contributors to cultural change. Many women from strong patriarchal cultures have had to step up and take leadership positions and have done so extremely effectively. This huge resource of human capital needs to be acknowledged and encouraged by service providers and officials.

14. Third countries would:

(a) Consider making available or expanding, including by encouraging private sector engagement and action as a supplementary measure, resettlement opportunities and complementary pathways for admission of refugees through such means as medical evacuation and humanitarian admission programmes, **establishing or expanding Women at Risk programs, (GC22)** family reunification and opportunities for skilled migration, labour mobility and education;

GC22 Rationale

While the majority of refugees have extreme needs for resettlement to a safe third country, women who have experienced extreme forms of violence, rape sexual violence, and who are ostracized because they have children of rape are extremely vulnerable to ongoing sexual abuse and persecution. The UNHCR Women at Risk Resettlement Program was designed to fast track extremely vulnerable women and their children to the safety of resettlement in a third country. While vulnerable in the country of first or second asylum, the vast majority of these women and their children are able to settle successfully when given the opportunity to escape the persecution. All countries with a resettlement program should be encouraged to include a quota for women at risk in their intakes. UNHCR working with Governments should improve criteria and mechanisms for the identification of women at risk and include women who may be married and have a husband, but who are still at extreme risk.

(b) Commit to sharing best practices, providing refugees with sufficient information to make informed decisions and safeguarding protection standards **ensuring that this information is equally shared with men and women; (GC23)**

GC23 Rationale

In many cases information and decision making is passed to communities through community leaders, nearly always males. Some of these deliberately withhold the information from females members of the community. UNHCR and partner agencies must ensure that women leaders are involved in the information sharing and decision making process, and that the community leaders selected, both men and women, are genuinely sharing information with all community members, and not acting as gate keepers and power brokers.

(c) Consider broadening the criteria for resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes in mass displacement and protracted situations, coupled with, as appropriate, temporary humanitarian evacuation programmes and other forms of admission.

15. States that have not yet established resettlement programmes are encouraged to do so at the earliest opportunity. Those that have already done so are encouraged to consider increasing the size of their programmes. Such programmes should incorporate a non-discriminatory approach and a gender perspective throughout, **considering the prioritizing of women, children and special needs groups vulnerable to on-going violence; (GC24)**

GC24 Rationale

As per GC22, While the majority of refugees have extreme needs for resettlement to a safe third country, women who have experienced extreme forms of violence, rape sexual violence, and who are ostracized because they have children of rape are extremely vulnerable to ongoing sexual abuse and persecution. The UNHCR Women at Risk Resettlement Program was designed to fast track extremely vulnerable women and their children to the safety of resettlement in a third country. While vulnerable in the country of first or second asylum, the vast majority of these women and their children are able to settle successfully when given the opportunity to escape the persecution. All countries with a resettlement program should be encouraged to include a quota for women at risk in their intakes. UNHCR working with Governments should improve criteria and mechanisms for the identification of women at risk and include women who maybe married and have a husband, but who are still at extreme risk.

16. States aim to provide resettlement places and other legal pathways on a scale that would enable the annual resettlement needs identified by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to be met.

The way forward

17. We commit to implementing this comprehensive refugee response framework.

18. We invite the Office of 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 process should be informed by practical experience with the implementation of the framework in a range of specific situations. The objective would be to ease pressures on the host countries involved, 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.

19. We will work towards the adoption in 2018 of a global compact on refugees, based on the comprehensive refugee response framework and on the outcomes of the process described above. We invite the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to include such a proposed global compact on refugees in his annual report to the General Assembly in 2018, for consideration by the Assembly at its seventy-third session in conjunction with its annual resolution on the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

References

GC1

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII)-2006 Intro Line 6, Para (d) Lines 4/5, (e), (j) Lines 1/ 5; UNHCR Conclusion on Children at Risk No. 107 (LVIII) – 2007 Para (c) Lines 4/8; UNHCR Conclusion on Protracted Refugee Situations No. 109 (LXI) – 2009 Para (k) lines 5/6; UNHCR Conclusion on refugees with disabilities and other persons with disabilities protected and assisted by UNHCR No. 110 (LXI) – 2010 Para (g) Lines 3/5; UN Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015) Intro Line 14; Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 27 on older women and protection of their human rights-2010 Para 38 Lines 3/6

GC2

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII)-2006 Intro Line 6, Para (d) Lines 4/5, (e), (j) Lines 1/ 5; UNHCR Conclusion on Children at Risk No. 107 (LVIII) – 2007 Para (c) Lines 4/8; UNHCR Conclusion on Protracted Refugee Situations No. 109 (LXI) – 2009 Para (k) lines 5/6; UNHCR Conclusion on refugees with disabilities and other persons with disabilities protected and assisted by UNHCR No. 110 (LXI) – 2010 Para (g) Lines 3/5; UN Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015) Intro Line 14; Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 27 on older women and protection of their human rights-2010 Para 38 Lines 3/6

GC3

Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, Protecting refugee women: promoting gender equality - Standing Committee 51st meeting 2011 Para (e) 28/29/30/31; UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls 2008 Page 273-274, 277; UNHCR's Commitments to Refugee Women (2001) Para (5); Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008) Para (1) Lines 5/8, Para (3) Lines 7-9.

GC4

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LV11)-2006 Paragraph (i); CEDAW General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014) Para (16) 1-6/ 13-17, (42) Lines 7-10, (26) Lines 2-6, (42) Lines 7-10, (43), (58) Lines 9-11.

GC5

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LV11)- 2006 Conclusion on Protracted Refugee Situations No. 109 (LXI) - 2009

GC6

UN General Assembly 70/176. Taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls- 2016 Intro Line 16, Para (8); UN General Assembly, 70/138 The girl child- 2016 Intro Line 16; Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015) Para 14; Security Council Resolution 2106 (2013) Para (2), (3); Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008) Para (4) Lines 6-9; UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Paragraph (j), (o); CEDAW General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014) Para (29) Lines 6-13, CEDAW General recommendation No. 27 on older women and protection of their human rights (2010) Para (50).

GC7

UN General Assembly, 32/19. Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, including indigenous women and girls- 2016 Para (4), UN General Assembly 70/161. Human rights defenders in the context of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms- 2015

Intro Para 15, Para (4) Lines 5-7, Para (7), (14), (21), (27); CEDAW General recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations Para (37)

GC8

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 paragraph (p), (30).

GC9

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (f), Para (i).

GC10

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Paragraph (k)

GC11

Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015) Intro Para 15; Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 Para 19 (d), 36 (i); UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (i); General Conclusion on International Protection No. 108 (LIX) – 2008 Para (h).

GC12

UN Security Council, Report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence- 2016 Para (f), (g), (h), (m); Security Council Resolution 1888 (2009) Intro Para 15; Agenda for protection (2003) Para (4); CEDAW General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014) Para (44); UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (i), (j).

GC13

Security Council Resolution 2122- 2013 Intro Para 6; UNHCR Conclusion on Identification, Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness and Protection of Stateless Persons No. 106 (LVII) – 2006 Para (j); UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (i), Para (11) (j).

GC14

UNHCR, Policy Framework And Implementation Strategy: UNHCR's Role In Support Of The Return And Reintegration Of Displaced Populations, 2008 Para 4, 40, 38, 50; UN Security Council, Security Council resolution 2027 (2011) Para 2 (a); UN Security Council, Security Council resolution 1960 (2010) Intro Para; UN Security Council, Security Council resolution 1888 (2009) Para 13.

GC15

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Para (5.a); UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (p); CEDAW General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014) Para (55).

GC16

UN Security Council, Report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence- 2016 Para (15), (70), (87), (91) Lines (c), (d); UNHCR 2015 Global Child Protection, Education & SGBV Strategy Implementation Report Action Area 2; Security Council Resolution 2231-2016 Para (8), (9), (10); UNHCR, Action against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: An Updated Strategy- 2011 Para (2); UNHCR Policy on Refugee Protection and Solutions in Urban Areas- 2009 Para (81), (115), (130); UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls- 2008 Page 10, 296, 309, 316; Security Council Resolution 2122 -2013 Intro Para 7, 9; UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (p); CEDAW General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women- 2014 Para (15) Lines 10-17.

GC17

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development-2015 Para (20); Security Council Resolution 2106- 2013 Para (1), (5.c), (6), (11); Security Council Resolution 1889- 2009 Intro Para 10, 11; UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII)- 2006 Para (i), (k).

GC18

UN General Assembly, 70/138 The girl child- 2016 Intro Para 7, 9; UNHCR policy on refugee protection and solutions in urban areas- 2009 Para (36); UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (p).

GC19

UN General Assembly, 70/138 The girl child- 2016 Para (25); CEDAW General recommendation No. 27 on older women and protection of their human rights-2010 Para (18); UNHCR policy on refugee protection and solutions in urban areas- 2009 Para (48); Agenda for Protection 2003 Para (7); UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (k), (o).

GC20

UN General Assembly, 32/19. Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, including indigenous women and girls- 2016 Intro Para 17, CEDAW General recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations- 2013 Para (55), (56); Security Council Resolution 1960 (2010) Intro Para 10; UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006 Intro Para 3; UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls- 2008 Page 71.

GC21

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (k).

GC22

CEDAW General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women Para (23), (24); UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (f), (p).

GC23

CEDAW General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014) Para (25), (27); UNHCR, Resettlement and Women-at-Risk: Can the Risk Be Reduced? - 2013 Para (2), (3), (4); Security Council Resolution 1325- 2000 Intro Para 5; Security Council Resolution 1820- 2008 Intro Para 10; UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 Para (p)

GC24

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006 paragraph (p), (30).

Part 2 Pathways To Implementation – Actions To Operationalize The Promise Of The CRRF

Existing models of good practice and innovation potential service provision models are listed for the suggested language in Part 1 of this document. They are referenced to the appropriate paragraphs. Full details can be found in Appendix 2. The suggested responses include best practice resources that are adaptable across contexts. Many of the suggested responses include practical tools that have been intentionally repeated across suggested amendments to reflect cross cutting and interrelated nature of the issues, as well as being mindful of resource constraints.

Suggested amendments- Red

Suggested Responses- Green

Reception and admission

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC1)

5. (a) *Ensure, to the extent possible, that measures are in place to identify persons in need of international protection as refugees, provide for adequate, safe and dignified reception conditions, with a particular emphasis on persons with specific needs, victims of human trafficking, child protection, family unity, and prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence, including women and girls who have been forced to engage in survival sex, and/or who have children born from rape (GC1) and support the critical contribution of receiving communities and societies in this regard;*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC1)

- The UNHCR Heightened Risk Identification Tool and the complementary User Guide is an easy to use, and effective tool for the assessment of vulnerability, needs and planning of individualized programs for action. It can be used during all stages of displacement, in urban as well as rural and camp situations. It can, for instance, be used as follow-up to registration exercises and/or to participatory assessments. Since it is a tool to assist in the early identification of persons at heightened risk where further referral, in-depth assessment and evaluation will normally be needed, use of the tool does not require expertise on risk assessment. It should be a mandatory part of all assessment processes, and training should be provided to all UNHCR field staff and implementing partners to ensure that it is used to achieve maximum effect.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC2)

5. (b) *Take account of the rights, specific needs, contributions and voices of women and girl refugees, in particular in response to sexual and gender based violence, in accordance with international standards; (GC2)*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC2)

- Work within a rights based approach (see ActionAid's Human Rights Based Approach resource)
- Address the specific needs of women through assessment (see IASC Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions)
- Participatory approach (see UNHCR Tool for Participatory Assessment in Operations)

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC3)

(c) *Assess and meet the essential needs of refugees, including by providing access to adequate safe drinking water, sanitation, adequate sanitary materials for women and girls (GC3), food, nutrition, shelter, psychosocial support and health care, including sexual and reproductive health, and providing assistance to host countries and communities in this regard, as required;*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC3)

- Regular consultation with women about their practices and preferences regarding sanitary materials (see WaterAids' Menstruation Matters: A resource for improving menstrual hygiene around the world)
- Budgetary measures to be taken to ensure that all women and girls refugees of menstruation age receive 100% of sanitary needs, including underwear (see UNHCR's *Practical Guide to the Systematic Use of Standards & Indicators in UNHCR Operations*)
- The distribution of sanitary materials to be undertaken by gender-sensitive women, preferably respected refugee women.
- An additional bucket and soap be provided to women to ensure the hygienic washing of sanitary materials, separate from food preparation.
- Tailoring workshops in camps be commissioned to produce reusable sanitary materials.
- The production of sanitary materials be developed as income generation opportunities for refugee women and girls. For example, the production MakaPads (95% biodegradable sanitary pads made from papyrus and waste paper), as a social enterprise by women refugees for distribution to other organisations (such as UNHCR) who in turn distribute them to schoolgirls and refugees.
- Sanitary materials to be made available to girls in schools.
- Older women with incontinence problems to be provided with sanitary materials.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC4)

5. (d) Register individually and document those seeking protection as refugees, including in the first country where they seek asylum, as quickly as possible upon their arrival. *In particular, women and girls to be registered in own right, independent of their husband's, or other male family members registration (GC4).* To achieve this, assistance may be needed, in areas such as biometric technology and other technical and financial support, to be coordinated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with relevant actors and partners, where necessary;

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC4)

- UNHCR to include guidelines on the registration of women and girls in the assistance to relevant actors and partners to be coordinated by them (See UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls)
- Strengthen screening mechanisms to identify and respond to women and girls who are at heightened risk of sexual violence and other forms of gender based violence. (See Operational Standards for Registration and Documentation)
- Strengthen targeted action for those who may lack access to registration facilities due to disability, age, location or other obstacles.
- Training for those carrying out registration in women at risk issues and special protection needs

The majority of operations note that, in principle, they provide both men and women with equal access to registration. The operations also report that during registration they identify and update specific needs, risks and capacities to ensure that protection responses are tailored to individual requirements. Operations highlight that when registration is done through proGres,¹¹ UNHCR's registration software, rather than by national authorities, it is always done individually for each person of concern. Registration processes often give priority to women deemed to be at heightened risk.

Good Practice: Individual Documentation in Rwanda

A significant step forward in equal access to registration is seen in Rwanda, where following a 2015 verification exercise conducted by the Ministry of Interior and UNHCR in all camp locations, all women, girls, boys and men above age 12 were given individual biometric documentation. Previously, registration was indicated by a single document for an entire household or family. This could lead to abuse, as when a male head of family retained the document in case of marital separation. The biometric verification makes it easier for UNHCR to identify a person, replace his or her documents and adjust family composition as needed.

Good Practice: Biometric Identity Management System

A significant step forward in equal access to registration is seen in Rwanda, where following a 2015 verification exercise conducted by the Ministry of Interior and UNHCR in all camp locations, all women, girls, boys and men above age 12 were given individual biometric documentation. Previously, registration was indicated by a single document for an entire household or family. This could lead to abuse, as when a male head of family retained the document in case of marital separation. The biometric verification makes it easier for UNHCR to identify a person, replace his or her documents and adjust family composition as needed.

Good Practice: Due process for LGBTI asylum claimants

The UNHCR Regional Representation for Northern Europe, based in Sweden, has trained government staff in all the Nordic countries that it covers to improve due process for LGBTI asylum-seekers. UNHCR also helped the Swedish migration agency to introduce special procedural safeguards for LGBTI applicants. These include the stipulation that RSD decisions are always made by a panel of three, including one expert on LGBTI issues trained and certified by the agency.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC5)

5. (e) Use *the UNHCR Heightened Risk Assessment Tool as a mandatory part of (GC5) the assessment process registration process to identify specific assistance needs and protection arrangements, where possible, including but not exclusively for refugees with special protection concerns, such as women at risk, children, especially unaccompanied children and children separated from their families, child-headed and single-parent households, victims of trafficking, victims of trauma and survivors of sexual violence, as well as refugees with disabilities and older persons;*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC5)

- The UNHCR Heightened Risk Tool is an easy to use, and effective tool for the assessment of vulnerability, need and planning of individual programs for action. It should be a mandatory part of all assessment processes, and training should be provided to all UNHCR field staff and implementing partners to ensure that it is used to achieve maximum effect.
- UNHCR to update and build in flexibility for the tool to be used on electronic devices, and in a number of different situations.
- UNHCR to establish a monitoring mechanism, by which they can track the progress of people identified as at extreme risk. This would be most viable if the tool was used electronically.
- Examples of similar tools in use:

Good Practice: Emergency Girls Analysis & Integration Matrix (eGAIM)

eGAIM allows for a more streamlined, user-friendly approach to data collection and use. The matrix (see page 58) is designed to inform the planning and implementation of emergency programming by supporting technical staff to: capture adolescent girls' vulnerabilities and needs; identify answers to key girl analysis questions; and determine how these considerations are relevant to their work. eGAIM records how adolescent girls' realities will be addressed and integrated into project design, implementation and evaluation. This tool is an adaptation of the Gender Analysis Integration Matrix (GAIM), which Iris Group International developed for

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC6)

5. (g) Put in place measures, with appropriate legal safeguards, which uphold refugees' human rights, with a view to ensuring the security of refugees, *including access to justice for sexual violence prosecution, and an end to impunity for perpetrators (GC6), as well as measures to respond to host countries' legitimate security concerns;*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC6)

- mobile courts should be implemented in isolated camps and protracted areas where appropriate

Good Practice: Mobile Court – Uganda

In Uganda, a pilot mobile court scheme was launched to improve access to justice for refugees who have been victims of crime. By providing them with quicker access to justice and legal aid, the mobile courts will speed the rate at which cases are heard, and serve to deter crime by bringing lawyers and a magistrate directly to both refugees and Ugandans in the settlement. The Nakivale pilot project is a collaboration among UNHCR, the Refugee Law Project, the Uganda Human Rights Council and the Ugandan government. Lawyers volunteer their time and services so that the entire process can be provided free of charge to both refugees and nationals. It is hoped to later extend this pilot scheme to other refugee settlements in Uganda so that more refugees can benefit from speedier justice.

Good Practice: Mobile Court – Dadaab, Kenya

The mobile court practice brings the host country judicial system to the refugee populations, addressing the issue of access to due process. This practice can be effective when refugee camps are isolated from host country services and population centres. The practice also includes monitoring by UNHCR and providing advice, legal assistance and interpretation to refugee claimants.

- develop a plan for working with perpetrators and incidents reporting (see Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines for Prevention and Response)
- implementation of good legal support models

Good Practice: Legal Aid for Women – Guinea

The programme improves access for refugee women and children to legal protection specifically for crimes involving sexual and gender-based violence, paternity and child support and child custody by providing free legal counsel, tracking cases through the legal process, and training of law enforcement and judicial authorities.

Good Practice: Information and Legal Aid to Refugees, IDPs and Returnees – Pakistan

The Pakistan example involves an NGO providing legal advice and assistance to refugees in both urban and camp settings through an outreach programme. The practice includes legal counselling, conflict mediation, and the use of local pro bono lawyers to represent and follow refugee court cases.

- guidelines for the care of victims (see WHO/UNHCR Clinical Management of Rape Survivors: Developing protocols for use with refugees and internally displaced persons)
- guidelines for the holding of perpetrators

Good Practice: Refugee By-Laws and Grievance Committee – Sierra Leone

The Sierra Leone practice established a refugee grievance committee to deal with minor offences and disputes within the camp, thus engaging refugees in their own problem-solving and conflict mediation. Further, the practice makes use of alternatives to in-camp detention for offenders through the use of community imposed sanctions such as fines and community work.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC7)

5. (h) Take measures to maintain the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps and settlements *including protection for women who work as human rights defenders; (GC7)*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC7)

- Recognise the specific challenges and risks women human rights defenders' face

- Women are protected from intimidation and violence that threatens their work as human rights defenders (see Protection Handbook for Human Rights Defenders)
- Implement protection for women human rights defenders' families from targeted threats and violence
- Prompt investigation and justice of abuses against women human rights defenders

Good Practice: The Mesoamerican Women Human Rights Defenders Initiative

The Mesoamerican Women Human Rights Defenders Initiative was launched in 2010 in order to develop a comprehensive and regionally-relevant response to increased violence against women human rights defenders. The Initiative is dedicated to strengthening and mobilizing women defenders from distinct social movements and organizations for recognition, enhanced impact and protection in a volatile context. Through an innovative approach that places gender at the heart of protection, the Initiative has been built from the bottom up by convening and organizing a wide range of women defenders from across Mexico and Central America, including those most vulnerable to violence such as rural and indigenous women defending land rights and environmental justice, lesbian and transgender activists, and feminists advocating for an end to violence. Through the training and information that the Initiative provides, women defenders have learned how to access national, regional, and international human rights tools and mechanisms that explicitly support human rights defenders, and that can provide emergency protection and funds to women activists.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS (GC8)

5. (i) *Take steps to ensure the credibility of asylum systems, including the recognition of rape and sexual violence as grounds for persecution, (GC8) including through collaboration among the countries of origin, transit and destination and to facilitate the return and readmission of those who do not qualify for refugee status;*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC8)

- Standardised criteria for the recognition of rape and sexual violence as grounds for persecution is needed (see Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines for Prevention and Response)
- Training for applying these are needed for community members and service providers
- Assist the community in developing a set of good practices from their own experience using a rights- and community-based approach (see UNHCR Manual on a Community Based Approach in UNHCR Operations)

Support for immediate and ongoing needs

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS (GC9)

6. (a) *Mobilize adequate financial and other resources to cover the humanitarian needs identified within the comprehensive refugee response framework ensuring that an adequate response to sexual and gender based violence and specific needs groups receives high priority; (GC9)*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC9)

- Need for adequate support systems for women that have suffered SGBV including physical, psychological and social wellbeing support
- Prioritise a timely and effective response (see IASC Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action)
- specific needs groups must receive high priority (single women with children, unaccompanied youth, people with a disability and LGBTI).
- Need for clear and enforceable policies within refugee camps, urban settings and protracted areas, which outlines measures to be taken to address incidents of SGBV against refugee women and girls
- Need for better access to legal mechanisms for refugee women and girls and the appropriate prosecution of perpetrators

Good Practice: The Sexual Assault Referral Centre (The Rainbo Centre) – Sierra Leone International Rescue Committee (IRC)

Serves refugee/returnee/host community survivors of sexual assault through the provision of psycho-social, health, mental health and legal assistance and integrates such services through existing health facilities. At the community level, IRC Community Mobilizers and Training Officers raised awareness of gender and SGBV, encouraged communities to examine harmful attitudes and practices about gender, and mobilized communities to develop and implement plans to improve gender inclusiveness and security of all individuals. At the institutional level, IRC works with government and non-government actors to improve SGBV prevention strategies, by encompassing community awareness and medical, legal, and psychosocial aspects of SGBV. The project also provides forensic examinations and documentation and coordinates closely with law enforcement officials.

- Need for the active involvement of community leaders and committees in the provision of protection for refugee women and girls (see UNHCR Manual on a Community Based Approach in UNHCR Operations)
- Need for community education to address SGBV incidences including broad dissemination of information about support available to women, as well as effective information sharing for men

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC10)

6. (f) Increase support for cash-based delivery mechanisms and other innovative means for the efficient provision of humanitarian assistance, where appropriate, while increasing accountability to ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches its beneficiaries and *ensuring that women receive assistance for themselves and their children directly, not via their husbands or male relatives; (GC10)*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC10)

UNICEF Oxfam and Gameen Bank references supporting the benefits of giving cash to women to be inserted.

Good Practice: Graduation approach

UNHCR is piloting the Graduation Approach, whereby as refugees improve their ability to support themselves they can move off cash assistance, in Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt and Zambia. For a pilot study of the approach in Cairo, 500 participants were chosen from among those already receiving direct cash assistance, with priority given to survivors of SGBV, youth and women. Along with monthly cashbased assistance and food vouchers, participants are given training and mentoring that will enable them to be self-employed or find wage employment. All participants will continue to receive protection assistance. Graduation caseworkers are trained on response and referral mechanisms, including when it comes to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and are able to respond to many concerns through their close collaboration and consistent follow-up with the participants.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC11)

7. (c) Encourage and empower refugees, *building on their strengths, including mobilizing women as equal partners (GC11)* at the outset of an emergency phase, to establish supportive systems and networks that involve refugees and host communities and are age- and gender-sensitive, with a particular emphasis on the protection and empowerment of women and children and other persons with specific needs;

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC11)

- Need for wide range of capacity building and leadership trainings to enable refugee women to actively shape and inform decision-making processes within refugee communities

- women should be included in the design, service delivery and monitoring/evaluation of programs in emergency situations
- supportive systems and networks should be established to acknowledge the social capital which these women could contribute
- women's strengths should be emphasized through training programs that mobilize women
- The successful inclusion of women can be seen from the Centre for Refugee Research project in New Delhi which developed an innovative community based protection response to the protection of women and girls at risk and other vulnerable refugee groups. Central to the model was utilizing the undeniable capacity that the refugee community have to identify needs and develop and manage community-based projects. Within the framework of the Heightened Risk Identification Tool which the Centre for Research was instrumental in developing, the Project focused on identifying and responding to the context specific risks in the Urban context of New Delhi. This highlights the potential of appropriately skilled and supported refugees to contribute skills at the program design and management level. RCDP is widely acknowledged as a cost effective and unique model of refugee led development using refugee skills.

Support for host countries and communities

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC12)

8. (a) *Implement a joint, impartial and rapid risk and/or impact assessment, including gender-sensitive staff and partnering with women (GC12) in anticipation or after the onset of a large refugee movement, in order to identify and prioritize the assistance required for refugees, national and local authorities, and communities affected by a refugee presence;*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC12)

- including gender-sensitive staff- UNHCR Accountability Framework for Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming

Good Practice: Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming in Protection and Programming – Turkey

Engages a good cross-section of partners and utilizes a multi-functional team approach within the UNHCR Branch Office to produce tangible results in products (trainings, a manual and guidelines) and service delivery (humanitarian assistance and refugee status determination procedures). While not camp-based, the initiative is replicable in refugee camp hosting country operations.

- partnering with women complementary resources- UNHCR Tool for Participatory Assessment in Operations A Community-based Approach in UNHCR Operations
- to ensure that the specific and situational needs of women, children and special needs groups are adequately acknowledged and responded to.

Good Practice: More accessible tools and training

Several operations are using gender equality tools in innovative ways. The Brazil operation is using the Portuguese-language UNHCR website to integrate gender equality by providing the relevant tools, adopting a new gender-sensitive vocabulary and making the website more accessible to government partners and refugee women. The Ukraine operation reports that all personnel deployed in the east of the country had taken the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) online course on Gender in Humanitarian Action.

Durable solutions

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC13)

11. (c) *Provide necessary identification and travel documents for women and men independently; (GC13)*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC13)

- UNHCR to include guidelines on the registration of women and girls in the assistance to relevant actors and partners to be coordinated by them (See UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls)
- ensure registration on an individual basis for women's identification and travel documents

Good Practice: Registration of Refugees at Osire Refugee Camp – Namibia

The registration in Namibia is an example of working with government and NGO partners and provides a mechanism for continuous registration and a reliable data and photo database that supports voluntary repatriation. The registration and database provide more accurate statistics on refugee population. Ration cards from registration process systematically issued to refugee women. Women have better access to individual registration and voluntary repatriation forms. Women are at the core of food distribution in the camp. Registration has become a tool to identify possible resettlement cases

- ensure special needs women such as older women, widows, women with disabilities, unaccompanied refugee girls are given individual documentations

Good Practice: individual mobile registration

In Malaysia, UNHCR has adopted innovative approaches to registration that have resulted in improved protection for all asylum-seekers and refugees, but particularly for women and girls. Mobile registration teams were deployed to detention centres and lock-ups in jungle areas and in the highlands in the northeast of the country to register persons of concern. In this way, individuals with urgent protection needs who were not able to reach UNHCR's office were identified and assisted. Survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, female heads-of household, and unaccompanied women and children were identified early and targeted for refugee status determination and assistance. As part of this initiative, all women received individual documentation and are re-interviewed when this documentation is reviewed so that protection concerns that arise can be urgently addressed.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC14)

11. (d) *Facilitate the socioeconomic reintegration of returnees, with a particular focus on women and special needs groups; (CG14)*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC14)

- targeted assistance on return of women and girls known to have been raped, have children from rape or who were forced into survival sex are particularly vulnerable on return,
- ensure access to socio-economic support (see Handbook for Women and Girls)

Good Practice: Peer support for integration

Finland's Vertaiskoto project, a peer support group for integration, was designed to support and guide immigrants and refugees in the early stages of their resettlement. The project included small discussion groups for women, men and elderly persons organized in the native languages of the participants. Courses were also run on topics ranging from health care and sexuality, gender equality and religion to Finnish history. The success of the Vertaiskoto project prompted Finnish municipalities to incorporate peer support into their ongoing integration work after funding for the project ended.

Income Generation and Micro-Enterprise Development – Guinea and Sierra Leone – American Refugee Committee (ARC)

Reduces women's vulnerability to exploitation due to economic insecurity by targeting SGBV survivors for business training and small business loans to enhance their self-reliance and reduce further risks of exploitation. Increased income and self-reliance among women – especially those with dependents – reduces their vulnerability and thus their chance of being exploited. The ARC

micro enterprise development and income generation programs provide women with business skills and experience that will serve them in the camp and in the future upon their return. Second, through the 'Refuge to Return' programme, ARC continues the provision of services upon refugee's return, helping them to start businesses in their home country and avoid exploitation there.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC15)

11 (e) Consider measures to enable the restitution of property with a particular focus on women and special needs groups; (CG15)

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC15)

- housing, land and property on return should actively support women and girls at risk (see Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls)

Good Practice:

(pending research)

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC16)

12. (c) Support countries of origin/nationality, where appropriate, including through funding for rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, and with the necessary legal safeguards to enable refugees to access legal, physical and other support mechanisms needed for the restoration of national protection and their reintegration; recognizing the special needs of women and girls known to have been raped or forced into survival sex, to ensure they do not suffer ongoing persecution; (GC16)

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC16)

- targeted attention for women to rebuild their lives (see Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls)
- where appropriate be moved from their original communities to a place of anonymity where they can have a fresh start

Good Practice: Safe Support Places

In Afghanistan UNHCR opened a women's only community technology access (CTA) centre in collaboration with a women's organization that provides support to women and girls, including survivors of domestic violence. Women accessing the centre are also provided monthly training in word processing. When users log on to the computers at the centre, they are shown informative messages on addressing SGBV. Additionally, the creation of this space has led to the identification of SGBV survivors and referral to support and counselling services.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC17)

12.(e) Facilitate the participation of refugees, including support for women to take an equal, not token place (GC17) in peace and reconciliation processes, and ensure that the outcomes of such processes duly support their return in safety and dignity;

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC17)

- prepare women and girls for participation in peace and reconciliation processes through training programs, workshops. skills development
- ensure women's access to information on peace and reconciliation processes
- involvement with regional networks that support women's participation

Good Practice: Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APPRN), Women & Girls at Risk Working Group

In recognition of the specific insecurities faced by displaced women and girls, APRRN established the Women And Girls at Risk Working Group (WAGAR) to highlight the centrality of their challenges. The aim of WAGAR is to improve the lives of refugee/migrant women and girls, advance their rights and empower them to actively participate in self-advocacy. WAGAR aims to engage with NGOs and community-based organisations (CBOs) in the region to strengthen protection and access to justice for refugee women and girls and to promote concrete gender sensitive initiatives at regional, national and local levels. WAGAR also aims to explore how the other thematic working groups intersect with gender and develop joint activities in this regard.

Key Activities include:

- Participate in international advocacy platforms;
- Participate in UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs and enable refugee women to attend the consultations and engage in relevant advocacy activities.
- Strengthen leadership, networking and advocacy skills through training courses;
- Develop and implement of training activities such as Short Courses;
- Provide platforms for the stories and voices of refugee woman and girls to be heard;
- Conduct mapping activities of what WAGAR members are working on through questionnaires/surveys.

Good Practice: ANCORW Leadership Training

(pending research and consultation)

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC18)

12. (f) Ensure that national development planning incorporates the specific needs of returnees and promotes sustainable and inclusive reintegration, as a measure to prevent future displacement, including for women and girls who have been raped, have children of rape, or been forced into survival sex, and who are likely to suffer from stigma and marginalisation even with their own communities (GC18)

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC18)

- targeted attention for women to rebuild their lives (see Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls)
- give special attention to specific groups of women such as widows

Good Practice: Transit House for newly arriving single women and survivors of SGBV

In Shimelba camp, Ethiopia, where young Eritrean males outnumber women by four to one, a transit house was established in 2005 for newly arriving women and survivors of SGBV, who do not have adequate housing. This has helped the women set up longer-term living arrangements without immediately falling prey to men, who at first seem to offer hospitality, but who may go on to abuse the situation and expose them to exploitation and/or HIV/AIDS. Adequate funding and proper management of the project are essential for its ongoing effectiveness.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC19)

13. (b) Take measures to foster self-reliance by pledging to expand opportunities for refugees to access, as appropriate, education, health care and services, livelihood opportunities and labour markets, without discriminating among refugees and in a manner which also supports host communities; in particular women and girls (GC19),

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (GC19)

- address issues in order to make self-reliance equally available to women and special needs groups including lack of childcare, gender discrimination, lack of security measures, lack of literacy skills, and lack of resources (see UNHCR Handbook for Self-Reliance)

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC20)

13. (c) *Take measures to enable refugees, including in particular women and youth, to make the best use of their skills and capacities, recognizing that empowered refugees are better able to contribute to their own and their communities' well-being, **noting the special measures needed to address structural and cultural barriers; (GC20)***

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (G20)

- Training and guidelines for staff to overcome these barriers is critical to address this problem (see numerous trainings from Centre for Refugee Research)
- Utilise social capital evaluation tools to measure and recognize skills and capacities of refugee communities (STARTTS and CRR evaluation tools)

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC21)

13. (d) *Invest in building human capital, self-reliance and transferable skills, **with an equal emphasis and participation on men, women and youth (GC21)**, as an essential step towards enabling long-term solutions.*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (G21)

- Leadership training for women to build human capital, self-reliance and transferable skills (see Leadership Training for Young Refugee Women)
- Promotion of Working Groups to support equal participation (see Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APPRN) Women & Girls at Risk Working Group)

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC22)

14. (a) *Consider making available or expanding, including by encouraging private sector engagement and action as a supplementary measure, resettlement opportunities and complementary pathways for admission of refugees through such means as medical evacuation and humanitarian admission programmes, **establishing or expanding Women at Risk programs, (GC22)** family reunification and opportunities for skilled migration, labour mobility and education;*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (G22)

- UNHCR working with Governments should improve criteria and mechanisms for the identification of women at risk and include women who maybe married and have a husband, but who are still at extreme risk.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT (GC23)

14. (b) *Commit to sharing best practices, providing refugees with sufficient information to make informed decisions and safeguarding protection standards; **especially the protection of women and girls (GC23)**.*

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (G23)

- ensure that women leaders are involved in the information sharing and decision making process
- implement effective and sufficient Information Dissemination and safeguarding protection standards

Good Practice: Information Flow in Cassoni Refugee Camp – Chad

Operationalises information dissemination as a tool of protection with and through the refugee community. Refugees are trained as Protection, Relocation and Information Officers to monitor new arrivals, document incidents of crime, identify those with specific needs, conduct feedback sessions with their community members, and manage information centres.

Good Practice: Information Dissemination through Film – Kenya and Tanzania

Through entertaining and educational films, the project uses an attractive media source to disseminate information on, human rights, and SGBV reaching large groups of refugees. The project also links with existing health and supplemental feeding programme services to maximize refugee participation and impact.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS (GC24)

*15. a. States that have not yet established resettlement programmes are encouraged to do so at the earliest opportunity. Those that have already done so are encouraged to consider increasing the size of their programmes. Such programmes should incorporate a non-discriminatory approach and a gender perspective throughout, **considering the prioritizing of women, children and special needs groups vulnerable to on-going violence; (GC24)***

SUGGESTED RESPONSES (G24)

- UNHCR working with Governments should improve criteria and mechanisms for the identification of women at risk and include women who maybe married and have a husband, but who are still at extreme risk.
 - All countries with a resettlement program should be encouraged to include a quota for women at risk in their intakes (see good practice initiatives in service delivery in Australia)
-

APPENDIX 1: Full Text of Supporting References

GC1

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LV11)- 2006

Recognizing that, while women and girls may be exposed to certain risks, such as trafficking, in any location, the different nature of camp and urban environments can expose women and girls to different protection risks and that in camps, for example, their freedom of movement and capacity to earn a livelihood may be more restricted and they may be more exposed there to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), whereas in urban situations, they may be less able to exercise their rights effectively, to access protection and services or reach UNHCR or implementing partner offices,

(d) In certain cases, the presence of one factor or incident may alone be sufficient to require an urgent protection intervention. In others, the presence of a combination of individual and wider protection environment factors will expose women and girls to heightened risk. In still others, if women and girls have been subjected, for instance, to SGBV in the area of origin or during flight, this may leave them at heightened risk in the place of displacement. Continuing assessment is required to monitor threat levels, as they may change over time.

(e) Risk factors in the wider protection environment can arise as a result of and after flight for women and girls and may include problems resulting from insecurity and armed conflict threatening or exposing them to SGBV or other forms of violence; inadequate or unequal access to and enjoyment of assistance and services; lack of access to livelihoods; lack of understanding of women's and men's roles, responsibilities and needs in relation to reproductive healthcare, and lack of understanding of the consequences of SGBV on women's and girls' health; the position of women and girls in the displaced or host community which can result in their marginalization and in discrimination against them; legal systems, which do not adequately uphold the rights of women and girls under international human rights law, including those relating to property; those informal justice practices which violate the human rights of women and girls; asylum systems which are not sensitive to the needs and claims of female asylum-seekers; and mechanisms for delivering protection which do not adequately monitor and reinforce women's and girls' rights.

(f) These factors related to the wider protection environment may be combined with individual risk factors which increase the risks for these women and girls. Individual risk factors can be grouped non-exhaustively under factors relating to their individual civil status or situation in society; their having already been subject to SGBV and/or their risk of exposure to SGBV or other forms of violence; and their need for specific health and/or other support services, including in the case of women and girls with disabilities.

(j) secure environments are to be established and strengthened, including by partnerships and actions to:

- Prevent and respond to SGBV in accordance with international standards set out in UNHCR and other relevant guidelines, including through provision of quality health services to address the specific needs of women and girls at risk;
- strengthen justice systems to uphold the rights of women and girls and bring perpetrators of SGBV to justice, combat trafficking and protect victims; and

Conclusion on Children at Risk No. 107 (LVIII) - 2007

(c) Individual risk factors, including, but not limited to: unaccompanied and separated children, particularly those in child-headed households as well as those accompanied by abusive or exploitative adults; stateless children; adolescents, in particular girl mothers and their children; child victims of trafficking and sexual abuse, including pornography, paedophilia and prostitution; survivors of torture; survivors of violence, in particular sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of abuse and exploitation; children who get married under the age specified in national laws and/or children in forced marriages; children who are or have been associated with armed forces or groups; children in detention; children who suffer from social discrimination; children with mental or physical disabilities; children living with or affected by HIV and AIDS and children suffering from other serious diseases; and children out of school;

Conclusion on Protracted Refugee Situations No. 109 (LXI) - 2009

(k) *Recognizes* that protracted refugee situations can increase the risks to which refugees may be exposed and that, in this respect, there is a need to identify and respond effectively to the specific protection concerns of men, women, girls and boys, in particular, unaccompanied and separated children, adolescents, persons with disabilities, and older persons, who may be exposed to heightened risks, including sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of violence and exploitation; and *encourages* UNHCR and States to pursue age, gender and diversity mainstreaming and participatory approaches with a view to enhancing the safety, well-being and development of refugees and promoting appropriate solutions for them;

Conclusion on refugees with disabilities and other persons with disabilities protected and assisted by UNHCR No. 110 (LXI) - 2010

(g) *Encourages* States, UNHCR and partners to enable children and youth with disabilities to access appropriate protection, assistance and education, and to ensure the inclusion of women and girls with disabilities, protected and assisted by UNHCR, in programmes to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of exploitation;

Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015)

14 Recognizing the differential impact on the human rights of women and girls of terrorism and violent extremism, including in the context of their health, education, and participation in public life, and that they are often directly targeted by terrorist groups, and expressing deep concern that acts of sexual and gender-based violence are known to be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of certain terrorist groups, used as a tactic of terrorism, and an instrument to increase their power through supporting financing, recruitment, and the destruction of communities, as described in the Secretary-General's Report on Sexual Violence in Conflict of 23 March 2015 (S/2015/203), and further noting the Global Counterterrorism Forum's good practices on Women and Countering Violent Extremism,

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 27 on older women and protection of their human rights-2010

38. State parties should pay special attention to the violence suffered by older women in times of armed conflict, the impact of armed conflicts on the lives of older women, and the contribution that older women can make to the peaceful settlement of conflicts and to reconstruction processes. States parties should give due consideration to the situation of older women when addressing sexual violence, forced displacement and the conditions of refugees during armed conflict.

GC2

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LV11)- 2006

Recognizing that, while women and girls may be exposed to certain risks, such as trafficking, in any location, the different nature of camp and urban environments can expose women and girls to different protection risks and that in camps, for example, their freedom of movement and capacity to earn a livelihood may be more restricted and they may be more exposed there to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), whereas in urban situations, they may be less able to exercise their rights effectively, to access protection and services or reach UNHCR or implementing partner offices,

(d) In certain cases, the presence of one factor or incident may alone be sufficient to require an urgent protection intervention. In others, the presence of a combination of individual and wider protection environment factors will expose women and girls to heightened risk. In still others, if women and girls have been subjected, for instance, to SGBV in the area of origin or during flight, this may leave them at heightened risk in the place of displacement. Continuing assessment is required to monitor threat levels, as they may change over time.

(e) Risk factors in the wider protection environment can arise as a result of and after flight for women and girls and may include problems resulting from insecurity and armed conflict threatening or exposing them to SGBV or other forms of violence; inadequate or unequal access to and enjoyment of assistance and services; lack of access to livelihoods; lack of understanding of women's and men's roles, responsibilities and needs in relation to reproductive healthcare, and

lack of understanding of **the consequences of SGBV on women's and girls' health**; the position of women and girls in the displaced or host community which can result in their marginalization and in discrimination against them; legal systems, which do not adequately uphold the rights of women and girls under international human rights law, including those relating to property; those informal justice practices which violate the human rights of women and girls; asylum systems which are not sensitive to the needs and claims of female asylum-seekers; and mechanisms for delivering protection which do not adequately monitor and reinforce women's and girls' rights.

(f) These factors related to the wider protection environment may be combined with individual risk factors which increase the risks for these women and girls. Individual risk factors can be grouped non-exhaustively under factors relating to their individual civil status or situation in society; **their having already been subject to SGBV and/or their risk of exposure to SGBV or other forms of violence**; and their need for specific health and/or other support services, including in the case of women and girls with disabilities.

(j) secure environments are to be established and strengthened, including by partnerships and actions to:

- Prevent and respond to **SGBV in accordance with international standards** set out in UNHCR and other relevant guidelines, including through provision of quality health services to address the specific needs of women and girls at risk;
- strengthen justice systems to uphold the rights of women and girls and bring perpetrators of **SGBV to justice**, combat trafficking and protect victims; and

Conclusion on Children at Risk No. 107 (LVIII) - 2007

(c) Individual risk factors, including, but not limited to: unaccompanied and separated children, particularly those in child-headed households as well as those accompanied by abusive or exploitative adults; stateless children; adolescents, in **particular girl mothers and their children**; **child victims of trafficking and sexual abuse, including pornography, paedophilia and prostitution**; survivors of torture; survivors of violence, in particular sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of abuse and exploitation; **children who get married under the age specified in national laws and/or children** in forced marriages; children who are or have been associated with armed forces or groups; children in detention; children who suffer from social discrimination; children with mental or physical disabilities; children living with or affected by HIV and AIDS and children suffering from other serious diseases; and children out of school;

Conclusion on Protracted Refugee Situations No. 109 (LXI) - 2009

(k) *Recognizes* that protracted refugee situations can increase the risks to which refugees may be exposed and that, in this respect, there is a need to identify and respond effectively to the specific protection concerns of men, women, girls and boys, in particular, unaccompanied and separated children, adolescents, persons with disabilities, and older persons, **who may be exposed to heightened risks, including sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of violence and exploitation**; and *encourages* UNHCR and States to pursue age, gender and diversity mainstreaming and participatory approaches with a view to enhancing the safety, well-being and development of refugees and promoting appropriate solutions for them;

Conclusion on refugees with disabilities and other persons with disabilities protected and assisted by UNHCR No. 110 (LXI) - 2010

(g) *Encourages* States, UNHCR and partners to enable children and youth with disabilities to access appropriate protection, assistance and education, and to ensure the inclusion of **women and girls with disabilities, protected and assisted by UNHCR, in programmes to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of exploitation**;

Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015)

14 Recognizing the differential impact on the human rights of women and girls of terrorism and violent extremism, including in the context of their health, education, and participation in public life, and that they **are often directly targeted by terrorist groups, and expressing deep concern that acts of sexual and gender-based violence are known to be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of certain terrorist groups**, used as a tactic of terrorism, and an instrument to increase

their power through supporting financing, recruitment, and the destruction of communities, as described in the Secretary-General's Report on Sexual Violence in Conflict of 23 March 2015 (S/2015/203), and further noting the Global Counterterrorism Forum's good practices on Women and Countering Violent Extremism,

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 27 on older women and protection of their human rights-2010

38. State parties should pay special attention to the violence suffered by older women in times of armed conflict, the impact of armed conflicts on the lives of older women, and the contribution that older women can make to the peaceful settlement of conflicts and to reconstruction processes. States parties should give due consideration to the situation of older women when addressing sexual violence, forced displacement and the conditions of refugees during armed conflict.

GC3

Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, Protecting refugee women: promoting gender equality - Standing Committee 51st meeting 2011

(e) Sanitary materials

28. Access to sufficient and adequate sanitary materials is central to women and girls 'dignity and well being'. Lack of sanitary pads often has serious health implications and can lead to restricted freedom of movement, resulting in girls missing school or dropping out completely, and women being unable to leave the house to go to work and perform other daily activities.

29. Ten years ago, UNHCR made a commitment to provide sanitary materials to all women and girls of reproductive age receiving assistance from the Office. A survey was conducted in 2010 to assess progress. The survey revealed around 10 per cent progress since the 2009 baseline, with half of UNHCR's country operations fully meeting the target in 2010. It also showed important financial and logistical obstacles to the delivery of sanitary materials to women. Inadequate budget was expressed as a specific constraint by 38 per cent of offices. Other challenges included difficulties in sourcing appropriate materials; difficulties in accessing women and girls of concern; and distribution problems caused by lack of road infrastructure and border restrictions.

30. In addition, women's reproductive health remains a taboo subject in many societies and the question of cultural acceptance of sanitary materials came up strongly in the survey. UNHCR has responded in various ways, including finding culturally acceptable and environmentally responsible measures for hygienic processing, waste management, and local production of sanitary materials, either by local enterprises or by refugees, as an income generating activity. This approach has yielded positive results. For example, in Uganda a micro business employs refugees to produce cheap, environmentally friendly disposable sanitary pads made from local reeds.

31. Next steps for UNHCR:

(i) Continue to ensure regular provision of sanitary materials;

(ii) Provide guidance and share best practices across all operations, including the review of present standards to reflect women's cultural preferences, complementing sanitary kits as appropriate;

(iii) Where possible and appropriate, promote the local purchase and provision of environmentally friendly sanitary materials as a means to reduce transport costs, promote self-reliance and develop local manufacturing capacity.

UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls- 2008

"I won't go to school during 'that time'. The boys laugh and make fun of me. Sometimes I have an accident and it is not possible for me to clean myself. We never have enough materials and when we do they are itchy and uncomfortable. Some girls I know have 'boyfriends' who give them money and they use that to buy sanitary pads so that they can go to school." Rebecca, a 15-year-old refugee girl in Uganda

“The provision of sanitary materials to all women and girls of concern will become standard practice in all UNHCR assistance programmes.” Fifth of UNHCR’s Five Commitments to Refugee Women

Challenge: Access to sanitary materials

The lack of sanitary materials has critical implications for the health, safety, and well-being of women and girls. Yet strains on UNHCR’s overall budget have meant that UNHCR efforts to achieve its Fifth Commitment have been reached in less than 20 per cent of all camps (where data is available).

Lack of sanitary material undermines their opportunity to participate in community activities, registration, food distribution, training programmes, and employment opportunities. When menstruating, they may be forced to remain in their homes all day and only creep out at night to wash their clothes so as not to be seen. In order to obtain money to buy sanitary materials, some women and girls resort to survival sex, putting them at risk of HIV, pregnancy, and exclusion from their communities.

The lack of sanitary materials severely compromises girls’ right to education. Many girls do not attend school when they are menstruating for fear of harassment and ridicule from boys and male teachers. As a result, their academic performance suffers and many eventually drop out.

Actions

- Ensure women and girls at risk can access support, such as medical and psycho-social care, to facilitate their recovery and integration, whether this be in the context of local integration, return, resettlement or other humanitarian programmes.
- Provide culturally appropriate sanitary packs to all women and girls from at least 13 to 49 years of age, based on discussions with them.
- Make sanitary materials and separate washroom facilities available for girls in
- schools.

UNHCR's Commitments to Refugee Women 2001

(5) Prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence

UNHCR considers the provision of sanitary materials to all women and girls to be standard practice in all assistance program

UN General Assembly Resolution 2 UN General Assembly Resolution 70/169- 2015

Deeply concerned further that the lack of access to adequate water and sanitation services, including for menstrual hygiene management, especially in schools, contributes to reinforcing the widespread stigma associated with menstruation, negatively affecting gender equality and women’s and girls’ enjoyment of human rights, including the right to education.”

Intro Para 14

Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008)

1. Stresses that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security, affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to, where necessary, adopt appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence;

3. Demands that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence, which could include, inter alia, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of

command responsibility, training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians, **debunking myths that fuel sexual violence**, vetting armed and security forces to take into account past actions of rape and other forms of sexual violence, and **evacuation of women and children under imminent threat of sexual violence to safety**; and requests the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to encourage dialogue to address this issue in the context of broader discussions of conflict resolution between appropriate UN officials and the parties to the conflict, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by women of affected local communities;

GC4

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LV11)- 2006

Paragraph (i)

provide disaggregated data by sex and age; **ensure registration on an individual and ongoing basis for refugees**, recognizing the need to protect the confidential nature of personal data, and promote mechanisms to identify the internally displaced; strengthen protection monitoring of individuals by working with the community; monitor access to and enjoyment of protection, assistance and services by women and girls;

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014)

16. Gender-related claims to asylum may **intersect with other proscribed grounds of discrimination, including age, race, ethnicity/nationality, religion, health, class, caste, being lesbian, bisexual or transgender and other status.**¹³ The Committee is concerned that many asylum systems continue to treat the claims of women through the lens of male experiences, **which can result in their claims to refugee status not being properly assessed or being rejected.** Even though gender is not specifically referenced in the definition of a refugee given in the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, it can influence or dictate the type of persecution or harm suffered by women and the reasons for such treatment. The definition in the 1951 Convention, properly interpreted, covers gender-related claims to refugee status. It must be emphasized that asylum procedures that do not take into account the special situation or needs of women can impede a comprehensive determination of their claims. **For example, asylum authorities may interview only the male “head of household”, may not provide same-sex interviewers and interpreters to allow women to present their claims in a safe and gender-sensitive environment or may interview women asylum seekers in the presence of their husbands or male family members who may in fact be the source or sources of their complaints.**

26. In addition, articles 2, 15 (1) and 16 require States parties to recognize that women may **present independent claims to asylum.** In this respect, their claims may also be based on fears relating to their children. For example, claims to refugee status may arise from a fear that their daughters will suffer female genital mutilation, be forced into marriage or be subjected to severe **community ostracism and exclusion for being girls.** The child’s protection claim should also be considered on its own merits in a child-sensitive manner in the best interests of the child. Once the principal claimant is recognized as a refugee, other members of the family should normally also be recognized as refugees (“derivative status”).

42. Asylum procedures of States parties should ensure that women are able to lodge independent asylum applications and be heard separately, even if they are part of a family seeking asylum. States parties should accept that, when the principal claimant is recognized as a refugee, other members of the family should normally also be recognized as refugees (“derivative status”). Just as a child can derive refugee status from the recognition of a parent as a refugee, a parent should be granted derivative status based on the child’s refugee status. **It is essential that women who are recognized as refugees, whether in their own right or as derivative status holders, be issued with individual documentation in order to prove their status, be protected from refoulement and secure associated rights.**

43. States parties should not deem that a woman asylum **seeker lacks credibility for the mere reason of lack of documentation to support her asylum claim.** Instead, they should take into

account that women in many countries do not possess documentation in their respective countries of origin and seek to establish credibility by other means.

58. Given the critical importance of nationality to the full participation of women in society, the significant number and nature of reservations made by some States parties to article 9 of the Convention undermine the object and purpose of the Convention. The rights to nationality and non-discrimination contained in many other international human rights instruments, which reinforce the equal right of women to nationality, also raise the question of the validity and legal effect of such reservations. The Committee notes with interest the trend towards the withdrawal or, at least, the narrowing of reservations to article 9 and the related tendency of States parties to introduce formal equality of men and women in nationality laws, thereby reducing the risk of discrimination against women and in particular of statelessness among women and their children

GC5

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LV11)- 2006

(d) In certain cases, the presence of one factor or incident may alone be sufficient to require an urgent protection intervention. In others, the presence of a combination of individual and wider protection environment factors will expose women and girls to heightened risk. In still others, if women and girls have been subjected, for instance, to SGBV in the area of origin or during flight, this may leave them at heightened risk in the place of displacement. Continuing assessment is required to monitor threat levels, as they may change over time.

Conclusion on Protracted Refugee Situations No. 109 (LXI) - 2009

(k) *Recognizes* that protracted refugee situations can increase the risks to which refugees may be exposed and that, in this respect, there is a need to identify and respond effectively to the specific protection concerns of men, women, girls and boys, in particular, unaccompanied and separated children, adolescents, persons with disabilities, and older persons, who may be exposed to heightened risks, including sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of violence and exploitation; and *encourages* UNHCR and States to pursue age, gender and diversity mainstreaming and participatory approaches with a view to enhancing the safety, well-being and development of refugees and promoting appropriate solutions for them;

GC6

UN General Assembly 70/176. Taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls- 2016

Remaining alarmed by the high level of impunity with regard to gender-related killing of women and girls and the fact that violence against women and girls is among the least prosecuted and punished crimes in the world,

8. Encourages Member States to criminalize, prosecute and punish rape and other forms of sexual and gender-related violence against women and girls committed in all situations, including situations of conflict, taking into account international standards, and urges, where appropriate, relevant stakeholders to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, in particular law enforcement, judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks to provide sustainable assistance and access to justice to women and girls affected by gender-related violence;

UN General Assembly, 70/138 The girl child- 2016

Deeply concerned about all forms of violence against children, in particular the phenomena that disproportionately affect girls, such as commercial sexual exploitation and child pornography, rape, sexual abuse, domestic violence, trafficking in persons and the use of information and communications technology and social media to perpetrate violence against women and girls, and, in addition, about the corresponding impunity and lack of accountability, and that violence against women and girls is underrecognized and underreported, particularly at the community level, which reflects discriminatory norms that reinforce the lower status of girls in society,

Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015)

14. Urges Member States to strengthen access to justice for women in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through the prompt investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as reparation for victims as appropriate, notes that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern committed against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of the International Criminal Court, ad hoc and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals and reiterates its intention to continue forcefully to fight impunity and uphold accountability with appropriate means;

Security Council Resolution 2106 (2013)

2. Notes that sexual violence can constitute a crime against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide; further recalls that rape and other forms of serious sexual violence in armed conflict are war crimes; calls upon Member States to comply with their relevant obligations to continue to fight impunity by investigating and prosecuting those subject to their jurisdiction who are responsible for such crimes; encourages Member States to include the full range of crimes of sexual violence in national penal legislation to enable prosecutions for such acts; recognizes that effective investigation and documentation of sexual violence in armed conflict is instrumental both in bringing perpetrators to justice and ensuring access to justice for survivors;

3. Notes that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern committed against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of the ICC, ad hoc and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals; reiterates its intention to continue forcefully to fight impunity and uphold accountability with appropriate means;

Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008)

4. Notes that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide, stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes, and calls upon Member States to comply with their obligations for prosecuting persons responsible for such acts, to ensure that all victims of sexual violence, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and stresses the importance of ending impunity for such acts as part of a comprehensive approach to seeking sustainable peace, justice, truth, and national reconciliation.

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

Paragraph (j)

strengthen justice systems to uphold the rights of women and girls and bring perpetrators of SGBV to justice, combat trafficking and protect victims; and

Paragraph (o)

Help secure the access of women and girls at risk to justice and reduce impunity, including by advising, accompanying and supporting them through initiatives such as women's legal clinics, local women's associations, witness relocation programmes and mobile courts in remote areas;

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014)

29. The Committee acknowledges that, as a matter of international law, the authorities of the country of origin are primarily responsible for providing protection to the citizens, including ensuring that women enjoy their rights under the Convention, and that it is only when such protection is not available that international protection is invoked to protect the basic human rights that are seriously at risk. However, the Committee notes that the fact that a woman asylum seeker has not sought the protection of the State or made a complaint to the authorities before her departure from her country of origin should not prejudice her asylum claim, especially where violence against women is tolerated or there is a pattern of failure in responding to women's complaints of abuse. It would not be realistic to require her to have sought protection in

advance of her flight. She may also lack confidence in the justice system and access to justice or fear abuse, harassment or retaliation for making such complaints.

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 27 on older women and protection of their human rights (2010)

50. States parties should adopt appropriate gender- and age-sensitive laws and policies to ensure the protection of older women with refugee status or who are stateless, as well as those who are internally displaced or are migrant workers.

GC7

UN General Assembly, 32/19. Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, including indigenous women and girls- 2016

4. Continues to express particular concern at the systemic and structural discrimination and violence faced by women human rights defenders of all ages, including indigenous women and girl human rights defenders, and calls upon States to exercise due diligence in preventing violations and abuses against all human rights defenders, including through practical steps, to prevent threats, harassment and violence, and in combating impunity by ensuring that those responsible for violations and abuses, including genderbased violence and threats, committed by State or non-State actors, including online, are promptly brought to justice through impartial investigations;

UN General Assembly 70/161. Human rights defenders in the context of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms- 2015

Gravely concerned by the considerable and increasing number of allegations and communications of a serious nature received by special procedures of the Human Rights Council on the risks faced by human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, and the prevalence of impunity for violations and abuses against them in many countries, where they face threats, harassment and attacks and suffer insecurity, including through restrictions on the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, association or peaceful assembly, abuse of criminal or civil proceedings, or acts of intimidation and reprisal intended to prevent their cooperation with the United Nations and other international bodies in the field of human rights,

4. Urges States to acknowledge through public statements, policies or laws the important and legitimate role of individuals, groups and organs of society, including human rights defenders, in the promotion of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, as essential components of ensuring their recognition and protection, including by condemning publicly all cases of violence and discrimination against human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, underlining that such practices can never be justified;

7. Urges non-State actors to respect and promote the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons and to refrain from undermining the capacity of human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, to operate free from hindrance and insecurity;

14. Continues to express particular concern about systemic and structural discrimination and violence faced by women human rights defenders of all ages, and reiterates its strong call upon States to take appropriate, robust and practical steps to protect them and to integrate a gender perspective into their efforts to create a safe and enabling environment for the defence of human rights, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/181;

21. Encourages leaders in all sectors of society and in their respective communities, including political, military, social and religious leaders and leaders in business and the media, to express public support for the important and legitimate role of human rights defenders in society, including women human rights defenders, and in any cases of violence and discrimination against them to take a clear stance in rejection of such practices;

27. Requests all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations, within their mandates, to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment

of his or her mandate, including in the context of country visits and through suggestions on ways and means of ensuring the protection of human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders;

CEDAW General recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations

37. Gender-based violence also leads to multiple additional human rights violations, such as State or non-State attacks on women's rights defenders, which undermine women's equal and meaningful participation in political and public life. Conflict-related gender-based violence results in a vast range of physical and psychological consequences for women, such as injuries and disabilities, increased risk of HIV infection and risk of unwanted pregnancy resulting from sexual violence. There is a strong association between gender-based violence and HIV, including the deliberate transmission of HIV, used as a weapon of war, through rape.

GC8

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

paragraph (p)

30. In line with the Convention, States parties are required to take proactive measures to ensure that the legally recognized grounds of persecution, including those enumerated in the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group and political opinion), are given a gender-sensitive interpretation. In addition, gender may be used as a factor in recognizing membership of a particular social group or indeed as an identifying characteristic of such a group for purposes of granting refugee status under the 1951 Convention. States parties are also encouraged to add sex and or gender as an additional ground for refugee status in their national legislation.

GC9

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

(f) These factors related to the wider protection environment may be combined with individual risk factors which increase the risks for these women and girls. Individual risk factors can be grouped non-exhaustively under factors relating to their individual civil status or situation in society; their having already been subject to SGBV and/or their risk of exposure to SGBV or other forms of violence; and their need for specific health and/or other support services, including in the case of women and girls with disabilities.

Paragraph (i)

prevent and respond to SGBV in accordance with international standards set out in UNHCR and other relevant guidelines,¹ including through provision of quality health services to address the specific needs of women and girls at risk; strengthen justice systems to uphold the rights of women and girls and bring perpetrators of SGBV to justice, combat trafficking and protect victims; and

GC10

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

Paragraph (k)

strengthen women's and girls' capacities, including by enabling their access to quality education, including secondary education, in safe school environments and by enhancing food security, livelihood opportunities, freedom of movement and economic independence, including where appropriate through access to labour markets; and

GC11

Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015)

Recognizing the significance of the fifteen-year anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000), the progress made as well as the opportunity and need for far greater implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, remaining deeply concerned by the frequent under-representation of women in many formal processes and bodies related to the maintenance of international peace

and security, the relatively low number of women in senior positions in political, peace and security - related national, regional and international institutions, the lack of adequate gender sensitive humanitarian responses and support for women's leadership roles in these settings, insufficient financing for women, peace and security, and the resulting detrimental impact on the maintenance of international peace and security,

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

19 (d) Disaster risk reduction requires an all-of-society engagement and partnership. It also requires empowerment and inclusive, accessible and non discriminatory participation, paying special attention to people disproportionately affected by disasters, especially the poorest. A gender, age, disability and cultural perspective should be integrated in all policies and practices, and women and youth leadership should be promoted. In this context, special attention should be paid to the improvement of organized voluntary work of citizens;

36 (i) Women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as to build their capacity to secure alternate means of livelihood in post-disaster situations;

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

(i) mobilize women, men, girls and boys of all ages and diverse backgrounds as equal partners together with all relevant actors in participatory assessments to ensure their protection concerns, priorities, capacities and proposed solutions are understood and form the basis of protection strategies and solutions;

General Conclusion on International Protection No. 108 (LIX) - 2008

(h) Recognizes the importance for States to promote an age, gender and diversity-sensitive approach, taking into account such information in the implementation of applicable international refugee instruments;

GC12

UN Security Council, Report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence- 2016

(f) To include in government protocols the specific and distinct needs of female and male victims of sexual violence, and train health-care providers on how to respond to survivors of any age or sex, noting that male and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex victims should be included within the scope of protection provided under national law;

(g) To improve conviction rates for crimes of sexual violence by integrating legal support options with medical and psychosocial care and improving the reach of these services in conflict-affected areas, as well as removing the barriers to reporting by providing free treatment and medical certificates and ending the practice of mandatory police reporting as a precondition to access to care;

(h) To continue to draw upon existing rosters of professionals trained in dealing with sexual and gender-based violence in order to ensure appropriate and timely documentation and investigation of these crimes;

(m) To train all peacekeeping personnel on gender sensitivity, sexual exploitation and abuse prevention and addressing conflict-related sexual violence as a mandatory component of predeployment training, and to ensure that this consideration is integrated into the performance and operational readiness standards against which troops are assessed;

Security Council Resolution 1888 (2009)

Welcoming the inclusion of women in peacekeeping missions in civil, military and police functions, and recognizing that women and children affected by armed conflict may feel more secure working with and reporting abuse to women in peacekeeping missions, and that the presence of women peacekeepers may encourage local women to participate in the national armed and security forces thereby helping to build a security sector that is accessible and responsive to all, especially women,

Agenda for protection (2003)

4. Prevention of age-based and sexual and gender-based violence

States, UNHCR and other relevant actors to adopt measures to ensure that gender and age-sensitive prevention and response mechanisms, including remedial actions, to sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation, **including a complaints mechanism and an appropriate staff accountability framework**, are an integral part of all programmes in all refugee contexts, and include relevant educational and awareness-building programmes targeting men, women and children.²⁰

UNHCR and its partners to set in place a **clear accountability structure** for the protection of refugee women and refugee children from age-based and sexual and gender-based violence and ensure that applicable codes of conduct are respected in all humanitarian operations. States, UNHCR and other humanitarian partners to **conduct training and capacity-building on the rights and needs of survivors of sexual exploitation, violence and abuse**.

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014)

44. States parties should ensure that their **border police and immigration officials are adequately trained, supervised and monitored for gender-sensitivity and non-discriminatory practices when dealing with women asylum seekers and refugees**. They should ensure that they adopt and implement a **gender-sensitive approach of a proper identification system** for women asylum seekers and refugees that is not based on prejudices and stereotyped notions of women, including for victims of trafficking and/or sexual exploitation.⁴⁴

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) – 2006

(i) promote **gender balance in staff recruitment and take active measures to** increase the number of female professionals working in the field;

(j) establish and/or implement codes of conduct, including on the elimination of sexual exploitation and abuse, for all humanitarian staff, including those working in the delivery of services and for other staff in authority, such as border guards, and ensure that confidential and accessible complaints systems are in place which include investigation and follow-up, so as to encourage the reporting of abuse and exploitation where codes of conduct are breached.

GC13

Security Council Resolution 2122 (2013)

Expressing concern at women's exacerbated vulnerability in armed conflict and post-conflict situations particularly in relation to forced displacement, as **a result of unequal citizenship rights, gender-biased application of asylum laws, and obstacles to registering and accessing identity documents which occur in many situations**,

UNHCR Conclusion on Identification, Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness and Protection of Stateless Persons No. 106 (LVII) - 2006

(j) *Notes* that statelessness may arise as a result of restrictions applied to parents in passing on nationality to their children; denial of a woman's ability to pass on nationality; renunciation without having secured another nationality; automatic loss of citizenship from prolonged residence abroad; deprivation of nationality owing to failure to perform military or alternative civil service; loss of nationality due to a person's marriage to an alien or due to a change in nationality of a spouse during marriage; and deprivation of nationality resulting from discriminatory practices; and *requests* UNHCR to continue to provide technical advice in this regard;

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

Paragraph (i)

provide disaggregated data by sex and age; ensure registration on an individual and ongoing basis for refugees, recognizing the need to protect the confidential nature of personal data, and promote mechanisms to identify the internally displaced; strengthen protection monitoring of individuals by working with the community; monitor access to and enjoyment of protection, assistance and services by women and girls;

11. Better registration and documentation of refugees

States, UNHCR and other relevant partners to use registration data to identify and make specific assistance and protection arrangements, where appropriate, for: women with any special protection concerns, unaccompanied and separated children, child- and single-headed households, as well as handicapped refugees and the elderly.

(j) Secure environments are to be established and strengthened, including by partnerships and actions to:

ensure the individual documentation of refugee women and separated and unaccompanied refugee girls and register births, marriages and divorces in a timely manner;

GC14

UNHCR, Policy Framework And Implementation Strategy: UNHCR's Role In Support Of The Return And Reintegration Of Displaced Populations, 2008

4. Experience has shown that return and reintegration is not a simple reversal of displacement, but a dynamic process involving individuals, households and communities that have changed as a result of their experience of being displaced, often for protracted periods. One or more generations may have been born and raised in exile, for example. Women are likely to have taken on new roles as head of families and breadwinners. Returnees may not speak the local language, and may have absorbed a range of cultural influences viewed as 'foreign' by receiving communities.

C. Participatory and community-based approaches

40. Refugees, IDPs and local communities are the key actors in the reintegration process. Particular efforts will therefore be made to identify their skills, capacities, aspirations and needs, and to understand how these attributes are affected by issues such as gender, age, ethnic origin, socio-economic profile, physical and mental well-being. UNHCR underlines the importance of employing the "Age, gender and diversity mainstreaming" approach to all reintegration activities, and in this context recognizes the particular contribution that women can make to the tasks of post-conflict reconciliation, reconstruction and peacebuilding. The empowerment of women and the promotion of gender equality will consequently be central to UNHCR's efforts in this domain.

B. Protection, reconciliation and the rule of law

38. Refugees and IDPs who return to their homes on a voluntary basis and with full respect for their human rights are most likely to have a positive engagement with the reintegration and peacebuilding processes. In formulating reintegration projects, issues of protection, non-discrimination and gender equity, minority rights, access to justice and the rule of law, recognition of land ownership and property rights must be considered a high priority.

58. As part of its role in the facilitation of return, UNHCR will engage in core protection- related activities that support the restoration of national protection and the rule of law, including returnee monitoring. These activities will focus on addressing immediate protection needs that are linked to the ongoing effects of conflict and displacement and will normally focus on mechanisms to secure housing, land and property rights, ensure safe places of return, access to national documentation, non-discriminatory access to services, respect for minority rights, prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence, and legal assistance. UNHCR will also seek to contribute to the effective functioning of national judicial and law enforcement structures, including civilian police, where appropriate. Support will be provided to nascent protection structures, including Human Rights Commissions and NGOs offering legal advice and support.

UN Security Council, Security Council resolution 1888 (2009)

13. Encourages States, with the support of the international community, to increase access to health care, psychosocial support, legal assistance and socio economic reintegration services for victims of sexual violence, in particular in rural areas;

UN Security Council, *Security Council resolution 1960 (2010)*

Reaffirming the importance for States, with the support of the international community, to increase access to health care, psychosocial support, legal assistance, and socio-economic reintegration services for victims of sexual violence, in particular in rural areas, and taking into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities,

UN Security Council, *Security Council resolution 2027 (2011)*

2. Decides that in addition to paragraph 1 above, BNUB shall also continue to support the Government of Burundi in the following areas:

(a) Supporting the efforts of the Government and the international community to focus on the socio-economic development of women and youth and the socio-economic reintegration of conflict-affected populations in particular, and advocating for resource mobilization for Burundi;

GC15

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls:

5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

Paragraph (p)

promote respect for women's and girls' equal rights to make a free and informed choice to return voluntarily and to their equal access to land and property in the country of origin, and incorporate measures to ensure adequate ongoing assistance and support in the country of origin for those at risk into tripartite voluntary repatriation agreements;

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014)

55. Naturalization requirements may also indirectly discriminate against women because they may require the fulfilment of conditions or criteria that may be more difficult to meet for women than for men, such as acquiring proficiency in a host State's language, which may be more difficult for women, including stateless women, who have suffered prior or current impediment of their right of access to formal education. Other requirements such as economic self-sufficiency or property ownership may also be more difficult for women to meet as individuals. Situations of statelessness following marriage to a foreigner and naturalization requirements, as mentioned in paragraph 54 above, can lead to women being dependent on men economically, socially, culturally and linguistically and, in turn, expose women to an increased risk of exploitation.

GC16

UN Security Council, Report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence- 2016

15. When security deteriorates, women and girls often find their mobility greatly restricted. They currently face grave threats when passing checkpoints in Myanmar, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen; using public transportation, which may be operated by ex-combatants, as in parts of Côte d'Ivoire and Mali; and at every stage of the displacement cycle, including in the camps or urban settlements in which they seek refuge. During the reporting period, a mass migration crisis occurred, which included conflict-related sexual violence as a

deliberate form of persecution to displace populations in the Horn of Africa, Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. As a result, more than 950,000 new refugees and migrants reached Europe. Reports have emerged of people-smugglers demanding sex as “payment of passage” and of an evolving criminal infrastructure designed to exploit refugees, in particular unaccompanied minors, including for trafficking, commercial sex and sexual slavery. Given these cross-border dynamics, it is critical that effective regional and subregional cooperation be undertaken to close corridors for trafficking in persons.

70. The majority of internally displaced persons are women and children, who face serious risks of sexual exploitation. Adolescent girls and women who are heads of household are particularly at risk. In interviews with female refugees in neighbouring Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, fear of rape is cited as a major factor inducing flight from the Syrian Arab Republic. Tragically, many refugees and asylum seekers face renewed risks of sexual violence, including forced prostitution and trafficking for sexual purposes by criminal elements. Both inside the Syrian Arab Republic and in neighbouring countries, child marriage is often used as a negative coping strategy. In some contexts, displaced and refugee women lack residency and work permits in their own name and are therefore at risk of exploitation. Syrian women encounter serious challenges in attempting to register their children and face long-term social and security implications as a result.

87. In camps and host communities, women and girls continue to face rape, forced marriage and “survival sex” to meet their families’ needs. UNHCR identifies 676 households affected by sexual assault, with the highest proportion reported in Taraba, Adamawa and Borno States. Overcrowded camps, which afford limited privacy or socioeconomic opportunity, exacerbate this risk. A significant proportion of households in Adamawa, Borno and Gombe States reported cases of forced or early marriage. Progress was noted in late 2015 in the management of internally displaced persons camps, although psychosocial support and reproductive health care remain limited.

91.(c) To give due consideration to recognizing conflict-related sexual violence as a form of persecution that may serve as grounds for refugee status, in the light of its use as a tactic to induce displacement;

(d) To ensure that all refugee-receiving countries provide information on the services available to sexual violence survivors, ensure sustainable psychosocial support and provide survivors with the option to document their cases for future accountability processes;

UNHCR 2015 Global Child Protection, Education & SGBV Strategy Implementation Report
Action Area 2: Survival Sex As A Coping Mechanism In Situations Of Displacement Is Addressed
Depending on the specific country context, addressing the problem of survival sex has been approached in different ways, with some operations focusing on providing access to alternative income generating activities, and others aiming to prevent communities from resorting to negative coping mechanisms. UNHCR and partners continued to provide persons of concern with reproductive health care and contraception in order to reduce the risk of HIV. Identifying persons involved in survival sex can be difficult in certain operations due to stigma and discrimination.

Security Council Resolution 2231 (2016)

8. Stresses that acts of trafficking in persons in armed conflict and sexual and gender-based violence in conflict, including when it is associated to trafficking in persons in armed conflict, can be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of, and used as a tactic by certain terrorist groups, by, inter alia, incentivizing recruitment; supporting financing through the sale, trade and trafficking of women, girls and boys; destroying, punishing, subjugating, or controlling communities; displacing populations from strategically important zones; extracting information for intelligence purposes from male and female detainees; advancing ideology which includes the suppression of women’s rights and the use of religious justification to codify and institutionalize sexual slavery and exert control over women’s reproduction; and therefore encourages all relevant actors at the national, regional and international level to ensure that such

considerations are taken into account, in accordance with their obligations under international law and national laws;

9. Underlines further that achieving the strategic objectives noted above may entail the use of various forms of sexual violence in conflict, also when associated with trafficking in persons in the context of armed conflict, including, inter alia, rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution and forced pregnancy, and notes that these different forms of sexual violence in conflict may require tailored programmatic responses including specialized medical and psychosocial assistance and analysis as a basis for action; UNHCR Policy on Refugee Protection and Solutions in Urban Areas: September 2009

10. Affirms that victims of trafficking in persons in all its forms, and of sexual violence, committed by terrorist groups should be classified as victims of terrorism with the purpose of rendering them eligible for official support, recognition and redress available to victims of terrorism, have access to national relief and reparations programmes, contribute to lifting the sociocultural stigma attached to this category of crime and facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration efforts; furthermore emphasizes that survivors should benefit from relief and recovery programmes, including health care, psychosocial care, safe shelter livelihood support and legal aid and that services should include provision for women with children born as a result of wartime rape, as well as men and boys who may have been victims of sexual violence in conflict, including when it is associated with trafficking in persons in armed conflict;

UNHCR, Action against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: An Updated Strategy- 2011

2. Addressing survival sex as a coping mechanism in situations of displacement

Prevention: recommended actions

- Prevent delays in distribution of food and non-food items that may force persons of concern to engage in harmful practices like survival sex.
- Ensure the provision of sanitary materials for women and girls of reproductive age, and education for all primary school children, as part of 'non-negotiable standards of assistance'.
- Inform and train staff on matters relating to survival sex to ensure that all persons of concern to UNHCR are treated with respect and without discrimination.

Identification: recommended actions

- Identify women and children who are at risk of forced sex work or sexual exploitation to address their protection and assistance needs.
- Supply appropriate tools to help identify correlations between certain health risks and sexual exploitation, abuse, and survival sex.

UNHCR Policy on Refugee Protection and Solutions in Urban Areas 2009

81. UNHCR will make particular efforts to reach out and respond to the needs of refugee women and girls, especially those who are destitute and who may resort to survival sex and other negative coping mechanisms. Programmes that are designed to offer women and girls constructive and productive alternatives to such mechanisms will be formulated, drawing on effective practices in past and current operations.

115. Given the need to prioritize its efforts and allocation of resources, UNHCR will focus on the provision of services to those refugees and asylum seekers whose needs are most acute. While these priorities will vary from city to city, they will usually include:

- safeguarding the well-being of pregnant and lactating women, children under five, unaccompanied and separated children, older people and those who are seriously ill, including those with HIV and TB;

- providing care and counselling to people with specific needs, especially people with disabilities, those who are traumatized or mentally ill, victims of torture and SGBV, as well as those with complex diseases requiring specialized care; and,

130. UNHCR is fully aware that the minimization and premature termination of the assistance it provides to urban refugees may be contrary to the organization's commitment to the principles of AGDM. As one UNHCR report has pointed out, “ensuring the healthy development of children and assisting refugee women engaged in building the future of their family must mean a level of engagement which goes some way beyond providing the minimum level of support for the shortest possible time.” This observation will be taken into full account in the implementation of UNHCR's urban refugee policy, drawing on the specialized expertise of UNICEF and other relevant agencies.

UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls- 2008

In camps (continued):

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), including domestic violence and alcohol abuse, increases in such circumstances. Women and girls may be attacked as they look for firewood or water outside the camp. Lack of, or biases in, judicial systems and/or in traditional justice mechanisms often leave them with no redress or result in further stigmatization and discrimination. As financial resources are depleted, adolescent girls are married off at increasingly younger ages. For some women and girls, survival sex becomes the only way to support themselves and their families.

Challenge: Poverty and gender bias

For those girls who do go to school, some may have to pay related costs by resorting to survival sex or poorly paid work. Others fall behind in their studies and drop out before they have acquired sufficient literacy and numeracy skills due to conflicting priorities, including household duties or marriage.

Challenge: Negative coping mechanisms

Participatory assessments have shown that young girls and women are forced to adopt negative coping mechanisms in order to survive and some are forced into survival sex. Sometimes, adolescent girls are given away in marriage to men twice their age so that the bride price received for the girl can allow the rest of the family to survive or enable a male member in the family to marry or set up a small business.

Challenge: Sexual exploitation

Food insecurity is not only linked with malnutrition; it can also result in sexual exploitation. Those who have surplus food (or non-food items) have power over those who have no food and those who distribute food are usually men. Women and girls may be compelled to engage in survival sex because they lack a livelihood and desperately need food for themselves and their families. In some instances, humanitarian workers and peacekeepers have demanded sexual favours in return for food or money.

Security Council Resolution 2122 (2013)

Expressing deep concern at the full range of threats and human rights violations and abuses experienced by women in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, recognizing that those women and girls who are particularly vulnerable or disadvantaged may be specifically targeted or at increased risk of violence, and recognizing in this regard that more must be done to ensure that transitional justice measures address the full range of violations and abuses of women's human rights, and the differentiated impacts on women and girls of these violations and abuses as well as forced displacement, enforced disappearances, and destruction of civilian infrastructure,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of all violations of international law committed against and/or directly affecting civilians, including women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict

situations, including those involving rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, killing and maiming, obstructions to humanitarian aid, and mass forced displacement

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

(p) Recommended longer-term responses and solutions include partnerships and actions to: ensure support, such as medical and psychosocial care, is available to women and girls at risk to facilitate their recovery and integration, whether this be in the context of local integration, return, resettlement or other humanitarian programmes.

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014)

15. Gender-related forms of persecution are forms of persecution that are directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affect women disproportionately. The Committee observes that understanding the way in which women's rights are violated is critical to the identification of those forms of persecution. The Committee notes that violence against women that is a prohibited form of discrimination against women is one of the major forms of persecution experienced by women in the context of refugee status and asylum. Such violence, just as other gender-related forms of persecution, may breach specific provisions of the Convention. Such forms are recognized as legitimate grounds for international protection in law and in practice. They may include the threat of female genital mutilation, forced/early marriage, threat of violence and/or so-called "honour crimes", trafficking in women,¹¹ acid attacks, rape and other forms of sexual assault, serious forms of domestic violence, the imposition of the death penalty or other physical punishments existing in discriminatory justice systems, forced sterilization,¹² political or religious persecution for holding feminist or other views and the persecutory consequences of failing to conform to gender-prescribed social norms and mores or for claiming their rights under the Convention.

GC17

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development- 2015

20. Realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets. The achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full human rights and opportunities. Women and girls must enjoy equal access to quality education, economic resources and political participation as well as equal opportunities with men and boys for employment, leadership and decision-making at all levels. We will work for a significant increase in investments to close the gender gap and strengthen support for institutions in relation to gender equality and the empowerment of women at the global, regional and national levels. All forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls will be eliminated, including through the engagement of men and boys. The systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Agenda is crucial.

Security Council Resolution 2106 (2013)

1. Urges Member States, in light of the High-level Review, to assess strategies and resourcing in the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, reiterates its call for Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, and resolution of conflict, encourages those supporting peace processes to facilitate women's meaningful inclusion in negotiating parties' delegations to peace talks, calls upon donor countries to provide financial and technical assistance to women involved in peace processes, including training in mediation, advocacy, and technical areas of negotiation, as well as providing support and training to mediators and technical teams on the impact of women's participation and strategies for women's effective inclusion, further encourages the meaningful participation of civil society organizations at international and regional peace and security meetings, as appropriate, including donor conferences to help ensure gender considerations are integrated in the development, prioritization, coordination, and implementation of policies and programmes, and encourages the

hosts of such meetings to give due consideration to facilitating a cross representation of civil society participants;

5 (c) Expresses its intention to invite civil society, including women's organizations, to brief the Council in country-specific considerations and relevant thematic areas, as well as the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women and the Under-Secretary-General/Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict to brief more regularly on country situations and relevant thematic areas of work on its agenda including on matters of urgency for women and girls in conflict and crisis;

6. Expresses its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider designating, as appropriate, those actors, including those in terrorist groups, engaged in violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, including sexual and gender-based violence, forced disappearances, and forced displacement, and commits to ensuring that the relevant expert groups for sanctions committees have the necessary gender expertise;^f

11. Emphasizes the important role that can be played by women, civil society, including women's organizations, and formal and informal community leaders in exerting influence over parties to armed conflict with respect to addressing sexual violence;

Security Council Resolution 1889 (2009)

Noting that despite progress, obstacles to strengthening women's participation in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding remain, expressing concern that women's capacity to engage in public decision making and economic recovery often does not receive adequate recognition or financing in post-conflict situations, and underlining that funding for women's early recovery needs is vital to increase women's empowerment, which can contribute to effective post-conflict peacebuilding,

Noting that women in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict situations continue to be often considered as victims and not as actors in addressing and resolving situations of armed conflict and stressing the need to focus not only on protection of women but also on their empowerment in peacebuilding,

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

(i) mobilize women, men, girls and boys of all ages and diverse backgrounds as equal partners together with all relevant actors in participatory assessments to ensure their protection concerns, priorities, capacities and proposed solutions are understood and form the basis of protection strategies and solutions;

(k) Strengthen women's leadership, including by enhancing their representation and meaningful participation in displaced community and camp management committees, in decision making, and in dispute resolution systems, by enhancing their access to and control over services and resources, promoting their rights and leadership skills and supporting implementation of UNHCR's Five Commitments to Refugee Women;

GC18

UN General Assembly, 70/138 The girl child- 2016

Deeply concerned about the serious social problem of child-headed households, in particular those headed by girls, which may result from the death of parents and legal guardians and other economic, social and political realities, and that the impact of the HIV and AIDS epidemic, including illness and mortality, the erosion of the extended family, the exacerbation of poverty, unemployment and underemployment and migration, as well as urbanization, have contributed to the increase in the number of child-headed households,

Deeply concerned further that despite its widespread practice, child, early and forced marriage is still underreported, recognizing that this requires further attention and that child, early and forced marriage exposes the girl child to greater risk of HIV and sexually transmitted infections,

often leads to premature sexual relations, early pregnancy and early childbearing and increases the risk of obstetric fistula and high levels of maternal mortality and morbidity, and furthermore entails complications during pregnancy and childbirth, which often lead to disability, stillbirth and maternal death, particularly for young women and girls, which require appropriate prenatal and postnatal health-care services for mothers, including in the area of skilled birth attendance and emergency obstetric care, and noting with concern that this reduces girls' opportunities to complete their education, gain comprehensive knowledge, participate in the community or develop employable skills and is likely to have a long-term adverse impact on their employment opportunities, their quality of life and that of their children, and violates and impairs the full enjoyment of their human rights,

UNHCR policy on refugee protection and solutions in urban areas- 2009

36. In urban settings, the AGDM approach may have some specific characteristics and implications. For example, while young refugee men are not normally considered to be particularly vulnerable, those who work illegally and in the informal sector of cities and towns may be at particular risk of detention, deportation, exploitative and hazardous employment. Refugee women and girls may also be threatened if steps are not taken to address the diminished role and self-esteem of men when they lose their role as family breadwinner.

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

(p) promote respect for women's and girls' equal rights to make a free and informed choice to return voluntarily and to their equal access to land and property in the country of origin, and incorporate measures to ensure adequate ongoing assistance and support in the country of origin for those at risk into tripartite voluntary repatriation agreements;

GC19

UN General Assembly, 70/138 The girl child- 2016

25. Urges all States and the international community to respect, promote and protect the rights of the girl child, taking into account the particular vulnerabilities of the girl child in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations and in climate related and other hazards and natural disasters, as well as in other humanitarian emergencies, all of which may result in the creation of child-headed households, and also urges States to take special measures for the protection of girls in all phases of humanitarian emergencies, from relief to recovery, and in particular to ensure that children have access to basic services, which include clean water, including safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, to protect them from sexually transmitted infections, including HIV infection, gender-based violence, including rape, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, torture, abduction and trafficking, including forced labour, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls, and to take into account their special needs in disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation assistance and reintegration processes

CEDAW General recommendation No. 27 on older women and protection of their human rights- 2010

18. Older women with refugee status or who are stateless or asylum-seekers, as well as those who are migrant workers or internally displaced, often face discrimination, abuse and neglect. Older women affected by forced displacement or statelessness may suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome, which may not be recognized or treated by health-care providers. Older refugee and internally displaced women are sometimes denied access to health care because they lack legal status or legal documents and/or are resettled far from health-care facilities. They may also experience cultural and language barriers in accessing services.

UNHCR policy on refugee protection and solutions in urban areas- 2009

48. Second, UNHCR will provide appropriate facilities in the waiting rooms and reception areas that are established in urban areas. Such facilities will include access to clean drinking water and bathrooms, adequate shade or heat, and special facilities for people with disabilities and women, especially pregnant and lactating mothers. UNHCR will engage with UNICEF in the establishment of child-friendly spaces in reception areas.

Agenda for Protection 2003

7. Achievement of self-reliance for refugees

In this regard also, UNHCR and States to look at relief-substitution strategies, tapping in particular the resourcefulness and potential of refugee women, in an effort also to avoid the serious protection problems, including sexual and gender-based violence, which can result from over-dependency and idleness

States, UNHCR and humanitarian partners to ensure that refugees, particularly refugee women and adolescents, and host communities themselves, participate in the design and development of self-reliance programmes.

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

(k) strengthen women's and girls' capacities, including by enabling their access to quality education, including secondary education, in safe school environments and by enhancing food security, livelihood opportunities, freedom of movement and economic independence, including where appropriate through access to labour markets; and

(o) strengthen identified individuals' access to education, vocational training and recreational programmes with childcare and promote community-based livelihood strategies which target women and girls at risk, especially in prolonged displacement situations.

GC20

UN General Assembly, 32/19. Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, including indigenous women and girls- 2016

17. Recognizing that violence against women and girls is rooted in historical and structural inequality in power relations between women and men, and that all forms of violence against women and girls constitute a major impediment to their full, equal and effective participation in society, the economy and political decision-making,

CEDAW General recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations (2013)

55. Refugee women have different and additional needs to men owing to their experiences as refugees. Refugee women face similar assistance and protection concerns to internally displaced women and could therefore benefit from similar gender-sensitive interventions to address their needs. The Committee acknowledges the diversity within these groups, the particular challenges that they may face and the legal, social and other implications of the context of their internal or external displacement, the gaps in the international assistance provided to them and the need for responses targeted to their needs.

56. Searches for durable solutions following conflict-related displacement frequently exclude the perspective of displaced women, either because they rely on decision-making by a family member or community in which women's voices are marginalized or because durable solutions are set as part of post-conflict processes that exclude women. In addition, female asylum seekers from conflict-affected areas can face gendered barriers to asylum, given that their narrative may not fit the traditional patterns of persecution, which have been largely articulated from a male perspective.

Security Council Resolution 1960 (2010)

Recalling that international humanitarian law affords general protection to women and children as part of the civilian population during armed conflicts and special protection due to the fact that they can be placed particularly at risk

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

Acknowledging that, while forcibly displaced men and boys also face protection problems, women and girls can be exposed to particular protection problems related to their gender, their cultural and socio-economic position, and their legal status, which mean they may be less likely than men and boys to be able to exercise their rights and therefore that specific action in favour of women

and girls may be necessary to ensure they can enjoy protection and assistance on an equal basis with men and boys,

UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls- 2008

Women and girls may oppose social norms which violate their rights in numerous ways depending on the society in which they live. They may, for instance, wish

- to continue their education;
 - not to marry, including not wishing to enter into a polygamous marriage;
- to divorce or leave their husband;
- not to conform to traditional dress codes;
- not to submit to traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation or
- early or forced marriage;
 - to prevent their daughters from being subjected to violations of their rights;
- or
- to have a relationship with someone of the same sex.

Adopting such positions and taking such action can call into question stereotypes about gender roles in a particular society. As a result women and girls asserting their right to make such choices may face discrimination, ostracism, persecution, including exposure to SGBV, and even death.

GC21

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

(k) strengthen women's leadership, including by enhancing their representation and meaningful participation in displaced community and camp management committees, in decision making, and in dispute resolution systems, by enhancing their access to and control over services and resources, promoting their rights and leadership skills and supporting implementation of UNHCR's Five Commitments to Refugee Women;

GC22

CEDAW General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women

23. The Committee is therefore of the view that States parties have an obligation to ensure that no woman will be expelled or returned to another State where her life, physical integrity, liberty and security of person would be threatened, or where she would risk suffering serious forms of discrimination, including serious forms of gender-based persecution or gender-based violence. What amounts to serious forms of discrimination against women, including gender-based violence, will depend on the circumstances of each case.

24. Articles 1-3, 5 (a) and 15 establish an obligation on States parties to ensure that women are not discriminated against during the entire asylum process, beginning from the moment of arrival at the borders. Women asylum seekers are entitled to have their rights under the Convention respected; they are entitled to be treated in a non-discriminatory manner and with respect and dignity at all times during the asylum procedure and thereafter, including through the process of finding durable solutions once asylum status has been recognized by the receiving State. The receiving State has a responsibility towards women granted asylum status when it comes to helping them to, among other things, find proper accommodation, training and/or job opportunities, providing legal, medical, psychosocial support for victims of trauma and offering language classes and other measures facilitating their integration. In addition, women asylum seekers whose asylum applications are denied should be granted dignified and non-discriminatory return processes.

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

(f) provide women and girls at risk with information, counselling, medical and psychosocial care, as well as access to safe houses if they face domestic violence and abuse or attack by other members of the community, especially where there are no mechanisms to remove perpetrators;

provide emergency voluntary relocation, e.g. to another town or camp, or emergency resettlement;

(p) consider using special evacuation programmes for internally displaced women and girls at risk, if necessary, given that resettlement is very rarely available to them;

GC23

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women (2014)

25. Article 2 (e) of the Convention requires that State asylum procedures allow women's claims to asylum to be presented and assessed on the basis of equality in a fair, impartial and timely manner. A gender-sensitive approach should be applied at every stage of the asylum process. This means that women's claims to asylum should be determined by an asylum system that is informed, in all aspects of its policy and operations, by a thorough understanding of the particular forms of discrimination or persecution and human rights abuses that women experience on grounds of gender or sex. Owing to shame, stigma or trauma, some women may be reluctant to disclose or identify the true extent of the persecution that they have suffered or fear. Account needs to be taken of the fact that they may continue to fear persons in authority or rejection and/or reprisals from their family and/or community. In any event, they should be entitled to appeal against first-instance asylum decisions.

27. Harm perpetrated against women and girls is often at the hands of non-State actors, including family members, neighbours or society more generally. In such cases, article 2 (e) of the Convention requires that States parties assume their due diligence obligation and ensure that women are effectively protected from harm that may be inflicted by non-State actors. It does not suffice to strive for vertical gender equality of the individual woman vis-à-vis public authorities; States must also work to secure non-discrimination at the horizontal level, even within the family. Harm perpetrated by non-State actors is persecution where the State is unable or unwilling to prevent such harm or protect the claimant because of discriminatory governmental policies or practices.²⁴

UNHCR, Resettlement and Women-at-Risk: Can the Risk Be Reduced?- 2013

2. Institute earlier background information sharing to support community education

- Domestic resettlement partners should be provided timely relevant information so that they can better understand the women-at-risk who are being (or going to be) resettled, and to enable them to prepare for and respond to the needs of these women once they arrive.

3. Improve individual case information sharing for women-at-risk

- Women-at-risk cases should be more clearly identified through all steps of the resettlement process – from UNHCR referral through allocations, from allocations through placement.

4. Place women at the center of women-at-risk responses.

In designing program responses for women-at-risk, there should be greater recognition of and response to the specific challenges they face, and approaches developed that allow refugee women to play an active and meaningful role in meeting their own needs

Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000)

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, Reaffirming also the need to implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts,

Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008)

Deeply concerned also about the persistent obstacles and challenges to women's participation and full involvement in the prevention and resolution of conflicts as a result of violence, intimidation and discrimination, which erode women's capacity and legitimacy to participate in post-conflict public life, and acknowledging the negative impact this has on durable peace, security and reconciliation, including post-conflict peacebuilding,

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

(p) promote respect for women's and girls' equal rights to make a free and informed choice to return voluntarily and to their equal access to land and property in the country of origin, and incorporate measures to ensure adequate ongoing assistance and support in the country of origin for those at risk into tripartite voluntary repatriation agreements;

GC24

UNHCR Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk No. 105 (LVII) - 2006

paragraph (p)

Strengthen the use of resettlement as a protection and durable solutions tool for refugee women and girls at risk; enhance identification of refugee women and girls at risk for resettlement, including through training; streamline processing further, including by establishing measures to enable the speedier departure of refugee women at risk and their dependants;

30. In line with the Convention, States parties are required to take proactive measures to ensure that the legally recognized grounds of persecution, including those enumerated in the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group and political opinion), are given a gender-sensitive interpretation. In addition, gender may be used as a factor in recognizing membership of a particular social group or indeed as an identifying characteristic of such a group for purposes of granting refugee status under the 1951 Convention. States parties are also encouraged to add sex and or gender as an additional ground for refugee status in their national legislation.

Work to be completed by June 2017

Appendix 3: Details of suggested models of good practice

Good Practice Examples

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Operational Protection in Camps and Settlements. A Reference Guide of Good Practices in the Protection of Refugees and Other Persons of Concern, (2006), Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/44b381994.html>

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Review of Gender Equality in Operations, (2016). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/57f3b5c14.html>

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls, (2008). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47cfc2962.html>

GC1

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), The Heightened Risk Identification Tool, (2010), Second Edition. Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/4c46c6860.pdf>

The UNHCR Heightened Risk Identification Tool has been developed to enhance UNHCR's effectiveness in identifying refugees at risk by linking community-based / participatory assessments and individual assessment methodologies. It has been designed for use by UNHCR staff involved in community services and / or protection activities (including resettlement) and partner agencies. The Heightened Risk Identification Tool serves to: (i) implement ExCom Conclusion 105 on Women and Girls at Risk, ExCom Conclusion 107 on Children at Risk and UNHCR's Global Strategic Objectives for 2007-09; ii) strengthen needs-based planning, identification methodologies and case management systems; and iii) promote age, gender, and diversity mainstreaming.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), The Heightened Risk Identification Tool (User Guide), (2010), Second Edition. Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/46f7c0cd2.html>

The purpose of this User Guide is to assist UNHCR staff and partners to use the HRIT effectively. The guide contains a comprehensive overview of the uses of the tool, the two basic methodologies, guidance on the preparation phase, and the steps required for implementation.

GC2

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery, (2015). Available at: https://gbvguidelines.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/2015-IASC-Gender-based-Violence-Guidelines_lo-res.pdf

The Guidelines were developed to assist humanitarian actors and communities affected by armed conflict, natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies to coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate essential action for the prevention and mitigation of gender based violence (GBV) across all sectors of humanitarian action. The guidelines goals are: (1) To reduce risk of GBV by implementing GBV prevention and mitigation strategies across all areas of humanitarian response from pre-emergency through to recovery stages; (2) To promote resilience by strengthening national and community-based systems that prevent and mitigate GBV, and by enabling survivors and those at risk

of GBV to access care and support; (3) To aid recovery of communities and societies by supporting local and national capacity to create lasting solutions to the problem of GBV.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Tool for Participatory Assessment in Operations, (2006). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/462df4232.pdf>

This Tool outlines a series of steps to follow for conducting a participatory assessment with refugees or other persons of concern. This Tool provides additional guidance with the aim of promoting a more systematic approach to participatory assessment and of assisting in systematizing the findings for more effective incorporation into planning processes. The overall goal of this Tool is to assist offices in strengthening partnerships with persons of concern, in gathering baseline data for age, gender, and diversity analysis and in developing the most appropriate protection strategies through: (1) Analysing protection risks and incidents together with persons of concern; (2) Involving refugees in the design, planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of services throughout the programme cycle; (3) Being accountable to the populations that UNHCR serves.

ActionAid, People's Action In Practice: ActionAid's Human Rights Based Approach 2.0, (2012).

Available

at: http://www.actionaid.org/sites/files/actionaid/1_peoples_action_in_practice_final_20_07_2012.pdf

This essential resource book systemises the rich experiences of ActionAid working with a HRBA framework in a variety of. Part one outlines key concepts, history, theory of change and the principles that guide their HRBA work. Part two provides specific resources around the 'five strategic objectives' and '10 key change promises'. It includes case studies, practical tools and checklists. Part three addresses in-depth monitoring and evaluation framework and outlines the core cycle Actionaid's HRBA including: appraisal, strategy development, implementation and evaluation. '

GC3

WaterAid, Menstruation Matters: A resource for improving menstrual hygiene around the world, (2015). Available at: <http://www.wateraid.org/what-we-do/our-approach/research-and-publications/view-publication?id=02309d73-8e41-4d04-b2ef-6641f6616a4f>

This comprehensive resource brings together examples of good menstrual hygiene practice from around the world, provides guidance on building competence and confidence to break the silence surrounding the issue and encourages increased engagement in advocacy on menstrual hygiene. Nine modules and toolkits cover key aspects of menstrual hygiene in different settings, including communities, schools and emergencies.

GC4

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Operational Standards for Registration and Documentation, (2007). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4ae9ac8f0.html>

The new guidelines and standards for registration are designed to ensure that registration systems and procedures protect women's access to protection, assistance and livelihoods. Women's access to and equal treatment in registration processes may be compromised by direct or indirect forms of gender-based discrimination. If women cannot access the registration process, or if they are unfairly or unequally treated during it, the international community's ability to protect these women is severely diminished. In some locations sexual exploitation has been linked to registration processes. Special care must be taken to ensure that single women are not put at risk during registration and that women are encouraged and permitted to fully

represent themselves during registration interviews.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Practical Guide to the Systematic Use of Standards & Indicators in UNHCR Operations, (2006). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47062dc82.html>

UNHCR has developed a tool for the delivery of quality protection and assistance activities and to the optimal use of limited resources; to enhance its programming and accountability. UNHCR has made great efforts in mainstreaming Standards and Indicators in the context of Results-Based Management within the organization. This Guide provides enhanced quantifiable data for an increased number of situations, illustrating the well-being of the population of concern, and also allow global comparisons between UNHCR operations. Thus, through the use of indicators in this Guide, UNHCR has a monitoring tool covering UNHCR operations worldwide.

GC5

UNHCR, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines for Prevention and Response, 2003 Available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/3f696bcc4.pdf>

These guidelines offer practical advice on how to design strategies and carry out activities aimed at preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence. Intended for use by UNHCR staff and members of operational partners involved in protection and assistance activities for refugees and the internally displaced, they also contain information on basic health, legal, security and human rights issues relevant to those strategies and activities. The guidelines were developed in consultation with UNHCR's partners in refugee protection: governments, inter-governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations.

Women's Refugee Commission (WRC), I'm Here: Adolescent Girls in Emergencies: Approach and tools for improved response, (2014), Available at: <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/I-m-Here-report-FINAL.pdf>

The eGAIM helps humanitarian actors determine how results from the Girl Roster, focus group discussions and secondary data sources will be mainstreamed and integrated into emergency response design, implementation and evaluation. The eGAIM informs the planning and implementation of emergency programming by supporting technical staff to outline adolescent girls' vulnerabilities and needs; answer key girl analysis questions; and determine how to incorporate these considerations into their work.

UNHCR'S Division of Programme Support and Management (DPSM), Biometric Identity Management System Enhancing Registration and Data Management (2015), Available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/550c304c9.pdf>

In February 2015, DPSM and the Division of Information Systems and Telecommunications (DIST) completed development of UNHCR's new biometric identity management system (BIMS), building on the successful use of biometrics across a number of UNHCR operations globally. When rolled out, BIMS will support all standard registration activities and help to better register and protect people, verify their identity and target assistance for the forcibly displaced in operations around the world.

Women's Refugee Commission (WRC), Complete Urban GBV Risk Assessment Tool, (2016). Available at: <https://www.womensrefugeecommission.org/gbv/resources/1353-urban-gbv-tools>

The Women's Refugee Commission's (WRC) Urban GBV Risk Assessment Guidance contains essential urban risk questions that are intended to supplement whatever GBV risk assessment

tools are currently being used by humanitarian practitioners in urban areas.¹ The questions are based upon input provided by urban refugees themselves, collected by WRC through focus group discussions and interviews conducted in four cities throughout 2015: Beirut, Lebanon; Kampala, Uganda; Quito, Ecuador; and Delhi, India. These tools, currently in pilot form, help practitioners to assess and respond to urban refugees' risks of gender-based violence.

World Health Organization/United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Clinical Management of Rape Survivors: Developing protocols for use with refugees and internally displaced persons Revised edition, (2004). Available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/en-au/protection/health/403a0b7f4/clinical-management-rape-survivors-developing-protocols-use-refugees-internally.html>

This guide describes best practices in the clinical management of people who have been raped in emergency situations. It is intended for adaptation to each situation, taking into account national policies and practices, and availability of materials and drugs.

GC6

UNHCR, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines for Prevention and Response, 2003 Available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/3f696bcc4.pdf>

These guidelines offer practical advice on how to design strategies and carry out activities aimed at preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence. Intended for use by UNHCR staff and members of operational partners involved in protection and assistance activities for refugees and the internally displaced, they also contain information on basic health, legal, security and human rights issues relevant to those strategies and activities. The guidelines were developed in consultation with UNHCR's partners in refugee protection: governments, inter-governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Mobile court scheme launched in Uganda's Nakivale refugee settlement, 16 April 2013, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/516e64ad4.html>

GC7

Front Line The International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Protection Handbook for Human Rights Defenders, 2007, Available at: <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/resource-publication/protection-handbook-human-rights-defenders>

This handbook is intended to give HRDs practical advice on how to deal with the threats, intimidation and attacks, which they may have to deal with in their work as human rights defenders. This handbook is designed as a quick reference tool in which HRDs will find helpful and practical suggestions on steps to improve their personal security situations. For Front Line Defenders, the most important thing is that HRDs are able to continue their work for the protection of the human rights of others.

Front Line, Workbook on Security: Practical Steps for Human Rights Defenders at Risk, 2011 Available at: <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/resource-publication/workbook-security-practical-steps-human-rights-defenders-risk>

The Workbook is based on the *Protection Manual for Human Rights Defenders*, discussions with security specialists, and contributions from workshop participants and other HRDs on-the-ground in difficult environments who have discussed risks with us and shared their survival strategies. The Workbook takes you through the steps to producing a security plan – for yourself

and for your organisation (for those HRDs who are working in organisations). It follows a systematic approach for assessing your security situation and developing risk and vulnerability reduction strategies and tactics.

The Mesoamerican Women Human Rights Defenders Initiative (2010) Available at: <https://justassociates.org/en/ally/mesoamerican-women-human-rights-defenders-initiative-im-defensoras>

GC8

UNHCR, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines for Prevention and Response, 2003 Available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/3f696bcc4.pdf>

These guidelines offer practical advice on how to design strategies and carry out activities aimed at preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence. Intended for use by UNHCR staff and members of operational partners involved in protection and assistance activities for refugees and the internally displaced, they also contain information on basic health, legal, security and human rights issues relevant to those strategies and activities. The guidelines were developed in consultation with UNHCR's partners in refugee protection: governments, inter-governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Manual on a Community Based Approach in UNHCR Operations, March 2008, Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47da54722.html>

This manual is intended to support staff in implementing a community based approach in United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) operations to ensure that people of concern are placed at the centre of all decisions affecting their lives. The manual is designed to be read and applied by everyone at policy, operational, advocacy and monitoring levels.

GC9

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery, . 2015, Available at: https://gbvguidelines.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/2015-IASC-Gender-based-Violence-Guidelines_lo-res.pdf

The Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action were developed to assist humanitarian actors and communities affected by armed conflict, natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies to coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate essential action for the prevention and mitigation of gender based violence (GBV) across all sectors of humanitarian action. The guidelines goals are: (1) To reduce risk of GBV by implementing GBV prevention and mitigation strategies across all areas of humanitarian response from pre-emergency through to recovery stages; (2) To promote resilience by strengthening national and community-based systems that prevent and mitigate GBV, and by enabling survivors and those at risk of GBV to access care and support; (3) To aid recovery of communities and societies by supporting local and national capacity to create lasting solutions to the problem of GBV.

UNHCR Division of International Protection, Action against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: An Updated Strategy, June 2011, Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/4e01ffeb2.pdf>

The implementation of UNHCR's SGBV prevention and response strategy, **Action against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: An Updated Strategy**, launched in 2011, has strengthened UNHCR's focus on six key action areas:

- Protection children of concern against SGBV
- Addressing survival sex as a coping mechanism in situations of displacement

- Engaging men and boys as agents of change and survivors of SGBV
- Providing safe environments and safe access to domestic energy and natural resources
- Protecting LGBTI persons of concern against SGBV
- Protecting persons of concern with disabilities against SGBV

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls, (2008). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47cfc2962.html>

This Handbook describes some of the protection challenges faced by women and girls of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and outlines various strategies we should adopt with our partners to tackle these challenges. It sets out the legal standards and principles that guide our work to protect women and girls and outlines the different roles and responsibilities of States and other actors. UNHCR's own responsibilities in this respect are explained, both as part of its mandate to secure international protection and durable solutions and as a United Nations (UN) agency. Suggestions for actions by UNHCR and partners to support women's and girls' enjoyment of their rights are also included. Examples of innovative practices from the field illustrate how these principles can be applied.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Manual on a Community Based Approach in UNHCR Operations, March 2008, Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47da54722.html>

This manual is intended to support staff in implementing a community based approach in United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) operations to ensure that people of concern are placed at the centre of all decisions affecting their lives. The manual is designed to be read and applied by everyone at policy, operational, advocacy and monitoring levels.

GC10

GC11

Centre for Refugee Research (CRR) Beyond resettlement to sustainable solutions. Improving the protection of refugee women at girls at risk and other vulnerable groups in New Delhi, India, (2013). Available at:

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/media/FASSFile/Stage_2_Final_Report_June_2013.pdf

The Refugee Community Development Project (RCDP) was an innovative refugee community led project based in New Delhi, India. It was developed by the Centre for Refugee Research in partnership with the Afghan and Somali Refugee communities and UNHCR in New Delhi. The project incorporates education, livelihoods, and women's safety and social support initiatives. It has received multi-year funding (2012 – 2106) from the Department of immigration's Displaced Persons Program (DPP) and was jointly managed by CRR and BOSCO Delhi. The Project was grounded in the principles of human rights and community development with a focus on safe livelihoods and sustainable outcomes. The methodology is based on work developed over a number of years by the CRR; with the concept developed from its close work with refugee communities and in partnership with UNHCR.

Centre for Refugee Research (CRR), Women at Risk: Protection and Integration in Australia. Available at: <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/research/forced-migration-research-network/projects/?status=Current&advanced=Search>

The Centre for Refugee Research (CRR) and Australian National Committee on Refugee Women (ANCORW) received ARC Linkage funding for three years to look into the experience of women at risk once they are resettled in Australia, in both urban and regional centres. The study used community development techniques and a human rights framework to research the resettlement experiences of women at risk using a methodology which includes women as active participants

in the process. It focused on engaging existing capacities and capabilities of refugee women, including strategies to foster social participation; explored the role which participatory strategies designed to foster autonomy and empowerment might play in assisting refugee women to integrate and settle well in Australia; and explored the impact of place of resettlement on successful integration, and the implications of this for service provision and social cohesion in rural and regional situations and urban settings.

Centre for Refugee Research (CRR) UNHCR Extended Dialogue Methodology. Available at: <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/research/forced-migration-research-network/projects/?status=Current&advanced=Search>

The UNHCR Extended Dialogue Methodology was developed from the Centre for Refugee Research's Reciprocal Research methodology, for use by UNHCR staff and partners in field situations. These resources are intended as additional resources to the UNHCR Extended Dialogue Methodology guide.

UNHCR Extended Methodology session slides

- Session 1: Introduction and Confidentiality Agreements
- Session 2: Human Rights and Responsibilities
- Session 3: The Matrix Exercise
- Session 4: Storyboards
- Session 5: Future Planning
- Session 6: Feedback and Celebration
- Session 7: Presentation to Stakeholders

Training booklets

- Tips for Trainers (PDF) [766 Kb]
- Community Consultation Skills (PDF) [649 Kb]
- Working with Interpreters (PDF) [390 Kb]

GC12

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Accountability Framework for Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming, (2007). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47a707950.html>

The UNHCR's Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) strategy UNHCR's age, gender and diversity mainstreaming (AGDM) strategy supports the meaningful participation of girls, boys, women and men of all ages and backgrounds, who are of concern to the Office. AGDM operates to make their participation integral to the design, 1 UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls: Chapter 2: Principles and Practices for Gender Equality implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all UNHCR policies and operations so that these impact equitably on everyone of concern. Its overall goals are gender equality and the enjoyment by everyone of concern of their rights regardless of their age, sex, gender or background. Their attainment is the responsibility of all staff.¹⁰ A rights- and community-based approach is fundamental to the strategy and should underpin all activities.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Tool for Participatory Assessment in Operations, (2006) Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/462df4232.html>

This Tool outlines a series of steps to follow for conducting a participatory assessment with refugees or other persons of concern. This Tool provides additional guidance with the aim of promoting a more systematic approach to participatory assessment and of assisting in systematizing the findings for more effective incorporation into planning processes. The overall goal of this Tool is to assist offices in strengthening partnerships with persons of concern, in gathering baseline data for age, gender, and diversity analysis and in developing the most appropriate protection strategies through: (1) Analysing protection risks and incidents together

with persons of concern; (2) Involving refugees in the design, planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of services throughout the programme cycle; (3) Being accountable to the populations that UNHCR serves.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Manual on a Community Based Approach in UNHCR Operations, (2008). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47da54722.html>

This manual is intended to support staff in implementing a community based approach in United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) operations to ensure that people of concern are placed at the centre of all decisions affecting their lives. The manual is designed to be read and applied by everyone at policy, operational, advocacy and monitoring levels.

GC13

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Operational Standards for Registration and Documentation, (2007). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4ae9ac8f0.html>

The new guidelines and standards for registration are designed to ensure that registration systems and procedures protect women's access to protection, assistance and livelihoods. Women's access to and equal treatment in registration processes may be compromised by direct or indirect forms of gender-based discrimination. If women cannot access the registration process, or if they are unfairly or unequally treated during it, the international community's ability to protect these women is severely diminished. In some locations sexual exploitation has been linked to registration processes. Special care must be taken to ensure that single women are not put at risk during registration and that women are encouraged and permitted to fully represent themselves during registration interviews.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Practical Guide to the Systematic Use of Standards & Indicators in UNHCR Operations, (2006). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47062dc82.html>

UNHCR has developed a tool for the delivery of quality protection and assistance activities and to the optimal use of limited resources; to enhance its programming and accountability. UNHCR has made great efforts in mainstreaming Standards and Indicators in the context of Results-Based Management within the organization. This Guide provides enhanced quantifiable data for an increased number of situations, illustrating the well-being of the population of concern, and also allow global comparisons between UNHCR operations. Thus, through the use of indicators in this Guide, UNHCR has a monitoring tool covering UNHCR operations worldwide.

GC14

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls, (2008). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47cfc2962.html>

This Handbook describes some of the protection challenges faced by women and girls of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and outlines various strategies we should adopt with our partners to tackle these challenges. It sets out the legal standards and principles that guide our work to protect women and girls and outlines the different roles and responsibilities of States and other actors. UNHCR's own responsibilities in this respect are explained, both as part of its mandate to secure international protection and durable solutions and as a United Nations (UN) agency. Suggestions for actions by UNHCR and partners to support women's and girls' enjoyment of their rights are also included. Examples of innovative practices from the field illustrate how these principles can be applied.

GC15

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls, (2008). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47cfc2962.html>

This Handbook describes some of the protection challenges faced by women and girls of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and outlines various strategies we should adopt with our partners to tackle these challenges. It sets out the legal standards and principles that guide our work to protect women and girls and outlines the different roles and responsibilities of States and other actors. UNHCR's own responsibilities in this respect are explained, both as part of its mandate to secure international protection and durable solutions and as a United Nations (UN) agency. Suggestions for actions by UNHCR and partners to support women's and girls' enjoyment of their rights are also included. Examples of innovative practices from the field illustrate how these principles can be applied.

GC16

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls, (2008). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/47cfc2962.html>

This Handbook describes some of the protection challenges faced by women and girls of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and outlines various strategies we should adopt with our partners to tackle these challenges. It sets out the legal standards and principles that guide our work to protect women and girls and outlines the different roles and responsibilities of States and other actors. UNHCR's own responsibilities in this respect are explained, both as part of its mandate to secure international protection and durable solutions and as a United Nations (UN) agency. Suggestions for actions by UNHCR and partners to support women's and girls' enjoyment of their rights are also included. Examples of innovative practices from the field illustrate how these principles can be applied.

GC17

Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN), Women & Girls at Risk Working Group Available at: <http://aprrn.info/our-work/thematic-working-groups/women-girls-at-risk/>

In recognition of the specific insecurities faced by displaced women and girls, APRRN established the Women And Girls at Risk Working Group (WAGAR) to highlight the centrality of their challenges. The aim of WAGAR is to improve the lives of refugee/migrant women and girls, advance their rights and empower them to actively participate in self-advocacy. WAGAR aims to engage with NGOs and community-based organisations (CBOs) in the region to strengthen protection and access to justice for refugee women and girls and to promote concrete gender sensitive initiatives at regional, national and local levels. WAGAR also aims to explore how the other thematic working groups intersect with gender and develop joint activities in this regard.

The specific objectives of the women and girls at risk working group include:

1. Increasing understanding of refugee/women's experiences, challenges and gaps in gender protection in the three APRRN sub-regions: South Asia, Southeast Asia and East Asia;
2. Increasing participation and opportunities for women to advocate for themselves at the local, national, regional and international levels and become active partners of change; and
3. Enhancing national, regional and international advocacy tailored to the experiences and needs of women and girls at risk.

GC19

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Handbook for Self-Reliance, (2005). Available at:

<http://www.refworld.org/docid/4a54bbf40.html>

The Handbook for Self-reliance provides UNHCR field-based staff and their partners with an invaluable operational tool for formulating and implementing self-reliance strategies. Based on the realization that employment and the opportunity to make a sustainable income are building blocks not only for self-reliance but also for local economic growth, the Handbook also contains practical material that will guide Field Offices to promote employment-oriented strategies in conflict-affected settings.

GC20

Centre for Refugee Research (CRR), Tips for Trainers, Available at:
https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/media/FASSFile/Final_UNHCR_Tips_for_Trainers.pdf

Training course and tips for trainers which is designed to be participatory and actively involved, advance skills and knowledge in refugee communities.

Centre for Refugee Research (CRR), Community Consultation Skills Considerations for the planning of community consult, Available at:
https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/media/FASSFile/Final_UNHCR_Community_Consultation_Skills.pdf

When planned carefully and run well, community consultations are an essential and empowering step in engaging communities and working together with community members to implement services and solutions that they themselves identify.

STARTTS, *Community Development Evaluation Manual: A guide to planning and evaluating community development work with refugee communities (2012)*. Available at:
<http://www.startts.org.au/media/Services-Community-Development-Evaluation-Manual.pdf>

Evaluation is part of the process of being involved in community development projects, and provides valuable and necessary insights for all involved. It is not something that should be left only to a consultant or an 'expert'. This manual has been developed for the use of anyone undertaking community development work in a refugee context. This may include project officers, service providers and refugee community organisations. The manual is primarily a resource to help you plan the evaluation of your own community development projects. We hope it helps to demystify evaluation and provides useful tools, examples and ideas.

GC21

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Leadership Training for Young Refugee Women, (2006). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/464ab7ea2.html>

The purpose of the is to identify a range of leadership roles and activities which can be taken by refugee women and girls in camps and urban refugee settings. The training builds the capacity of participants to undertake those roles and activities. Introduced the idea that all human beings, women and men, have the right to participate in decision making processes which impact on their lives the lives of their families and communities. That all people have the right to be leaders. Explores what leadership means and how women can build on their existing leadership skills for the benefit of their communities.

Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN), Women & Girls at Risk Working Group Available at: <http://aprrn.info/our-work/thematic-working-groups/women-girls-at-risk/>

In recognition of the specific insecurities faced by displaced women and girls, APRRN established the Women And Girls at Risk Working Group (WAGAR) to highlight the centrality of their

challenges. The aim of WAGAR is to improve the lives of refugee/migrant women and girls, advance their rights and empower them to actively participate in self-advocacy. WAGAR aims to engage with NGOs and community-based organisations (CBOs) in the region to strengthen protection and access to justice for refugee women and girls and to promote concrete gender sensitive initiatives at regional, national and local levels. WAGAR also aims to explore how the other thematic working groups intersect with gender and develop joint activities in this regard.

The specific objectives of the women and girls at risk working group include:

4. Increasing understanding of refugee/women's experiences, challenges and gaps in gender protection in the three APRRN sub-regions: South Asia, Southeast Asia and East Asia;
5. Increasing participation and opportunities for women to advocate for themselves at the local, national, regional and international levels and become active partners of change; and
6. Enhancing national, regional and international advocacy tailored to the experiences and needs of women and girls at risk.

GC22

Centre for Refugee Research (CRR), Women at Risk: Protection and Integration in Australia.
Available at: <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/research/forced-migration-research-network/projects/?status=Current&advanced=Search>

The Centre for Refugee Research (CRR) and Australian National Committee on Refugee Women (ANCORW) received ARC Linkage funding for three years to look into the experience of women at risk once they are resettled in Australia, in both urban and regional centres. The study used community development techniques and a human rights framework to research the resettlement experiences of women at risk using a methodology which includes women as active participants in the process. It focused on engaging existing capacities and capabilities of refugee women, including strategies to foster social participation; explored the role which participatory strategies designed to foster autonomy and empowerment might play in assisting refugee women to integrate and settle well in Australia; and explored the impact of place of resettlement on successful integration, and the implications of this for service provision and social cohesion in rural and regional situations and urban settings.

GC23

Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN), Women & Girls at Risk Working Group Available at: <http://aprrn.info/our-work/thematic-working-groups/women-girls-at-risk/>

In recognition of the specific insecurities faced by displaced women and girls, APRRN established the Women And Girls at Risk Working Group (WAGAR) to highlight the centrality of their challenges. The aim of WAGAR is to improve the lives of refugee/migrant women and girls, advance their rights and empower them to actively participate in self-advocacy. WAGAR aims to engage with NGOs and community-based organisations (CBOs) in the region to strengthen protection and access to justice for refugee women and girls and to promote concrete gender sensitive initiatives at regional, national and local levels. WAGAR also aims to explore how the other thematic working groups intersect with gender and develop joint activities in this regard.

The specific objectives of the women and girls at risk working group include:

7. Increasing understanding of refugee/women's experiences, challenges and gaps in gender protection in the three APRRN sub-regions: South Asia, Southeast Asia and East Asia;
8. Increasing participation and opportunities for women to advocate for themselves at the local, national, regional and international levels and become active partners of change; and
9. Enhancing national, regional and international advocacy tailored to the experiences and needs of women and girls at risk.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), *Leadership Training for Young Refugee Women*, (2006). Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/464ab7ea2.html>

The purpose of the is to identify a range of leadership roles and activities which can be taken by refugee women and girls in camps and urban refugee settings. The training builds the capacity of participants to undertake those roles and activities. Introduced the idea that all human beings, women and men, have the right to participate in decision making processes which impact on their lives the lives of their families and communities. That all people have the right to be leaders. Explores what leadership means and how women can build on their existing leadership skills for the benefit of their communities.

GC24

Centre for Refugee Research (CRR), *Women at Risk: Protection and Integration in Australia*. Available at: <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/research/forced-migration-research-network/projects/?status=Current&advanced=Search>

The Centre for Refugee Research (CRR) and Australian National Committee on Refugee Women (ANCORW) received ARC Linkage funding for three years to look into the experience of women at risk once they are resettled in Australia, in both urban and regional centres. The study used community development techniques and a human rights framework to research the resettlement experiences of women at risk using a methodology which includes women as active participants in the process. It focused on engaging existing capacities and capabilities of refugee women, including strategies to foster social participation; explored the role which participatory strategies designed to foster autonomy and empowerment might play in assisting refugee women to integrate and settle well in Australia; and explored the impact of place of resettlement on successful integration, and the implications of this for service provision and social cohesion in rural and regional situations and urban settings.

Commonwealth of Australia, **Getting Settled: Women Refugees in Australia** , (2013). Available at:

https://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/01_2014/sc_update_women_at_risk.pdf

The booklet **Getting Settled: Women Refugees in Australia** aims to raise awareness of the issues and challenges that highly vulnerable refugee women face in their settlement journey. It contains the personal stories of a number of refugee women who have settled in Australia and who have gone on to make a significant contribution to their communities and to the broader Australian society. It also outlines a range of good practice approaches to service delivery, many of which were provided by HSS service providers. We thank the various HSS service providers who generously provided examples of good practice approaches to service delivery for use in the booklet.