

WORK PROGRAMME FOR "THIRD TRACK" ISSUES IN THE CONTEXT
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FRAMEWORK
(WORKING DOCUMENT)

1st theme: Protection of Refugees in Mass Influx Situations
(8-9 March, Palais des Nations)

A. Practical aspects of physical and legal protection

Issues to be addressed might include:

- Registration;
- Preserving the civilian character of asylum (including camp location);
- Separation of armed elements and screening in mass influx situations;
- Status and treatment of ex-combatants.

B. Overall protection framework

Issues to be addressed might include:

- Standards and mechanisms to ensure international protection in mass influx situations;
- *Prima facie* refugee recognition;
- Temporary protection (legal status; when and how to cease it);
- Relevant human rights and humanitarian law standards.

C. Mechanisms of international cooperation to share responsibilities/burdens
in mass influx situations

Issues to be addressed might include:

- Some models of responsibility/burden sharing and lessons learned;
- Possible future arrangements for cooperation;
- Measures to assist countries which host large refugee populations for protracted periods of time.

2nd theme: Protection of Refugees in the Context of Individual Asylum Systems
(28-29 June 2001, Palais des Nations)

A. Refugee protection and migration control

Issues to be addressed might include:

- Safeguards to ensure access to refugee protection in the context of migration control (e.g. interception, carrier sanctions, action against smuggling and trafficking of persons);
- Other measures to enable access to protection.
- **Treatment and return of persons not in need of international protection;**

B. Asylum processes

Issues to be addressed might include:

- Access to refugee protection (including safe third country notion and irregular or secondary movements);
- **Expedited procedures (including notion of safe country of origin);**
- **Special problems (undocumented asylum-seekers, uncooperative asylum-seekers);**

(27-28 September 2001, Palais des Nations)

B. Asylum processes (cont.)

- Reception of asylum-seekers, including standards of treatment;
- Complementary forms of protection (including minimum standards);

C. Strengthening protection capacity in host countries

Issues to be addressed might include:

- Opportunities and constraints to strengthen protection;
- Models of capacity building (including regional approaches) and lessons learned;
- Possible future arrangements for cooperation.

3rd theme: The Search for Protection-Based Solutions
(February/March 2002, Palais des Nations)

A. Voluntary repatriation

Issues to be addressed might include:

- Obstacles to return and strategies to overcome them;
- Practical arrangements (including voluntary repatriation agreements);
- Protection objectives for reintegration (restoration of national protection, sustainable development etc);
- Returnee monitoring (concept and modalities).

B. Local integration

Issues to be addressed might include:

- Local integration as an element of a comprehensive approach;
- Self-sufficiency as an interim measure (including role of refugee communities).

C. Resettlement

Issues to be addressed might include:

- Resettlement as a protection tool (special groups and needs);
- Resettlement as a durable solution (relationship to other solutions);
- Resettlement and responsibility sharing (e.g. quotas and diversification of countries).

4th theme: Protection of Refugee Women and Refugee Children

The appropriate form and format of discussions are still to be decided. This being said, protection aspects of refugee women and refugee children is a crosscutting theme, which will be considered throughout the discussions of the aforementioned topics.