

Education Above All's Contribution: Consultation on Global Compact on Refugees—Geneva, July 2018

Thank you, Chair, for giving Education Above All Foundation (EAA) the opportunity to speak. We also wish to convey our thanks to UNHCR for this open consultative process.

The Education Above All Foundation appreciates the importance that is placed on the education of those who are forcibly displaced. Without this, their contributions to society may be much more limited.

We wish to emphasize that The Global Compact on Refugees must ensure that foreign qualifications are recognized in host countries as referenced in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, Annex 2.

In this regard, EAA

- **Supports para 58** because lack of documentation is serving as a major obstacle to forcibly displaced persons pursuing an education or finding dignified work.
- We would like to request **that the second sentence in para 69 read as follows**

Additional areas for support include efforts to meet the specific education needs of refugees (including through “safe schools” and innovative methods such as online education) and overcome obstacles to their enrolment and attendance, including **validation and certification of credentials and** flexible certified learning programmes, **at all levels**, especially for girls, as well persons with disabilities and psychosocial trauma.

- EAA has been participated on 4th and 5th consultation and have been reminded on the critically of this issue. Also, high level discussions have been under way between EAA, UNHCR, and UNESCO in this regard.

In summary, EAA, which supports education in 50 countries, in many cases the education of the forcibly displace, respectfully requests that the Global Compact on Refugees highlight recognition of certification and accreditation across national boundaries. This is an essential part of the solution for return, resettlement and/or local integration.

Thank you.