



# World Health Organization

WHO Statement Formal Consultations on the Global Compact on Refugees  
Geneva, 20 March 2018

AGENDA ITEM 1: Introduction: background, goals of the global compact on refugees and prevention and addressing root causes.

Thank you Assistant High Commissioner and Mr Co-chair ,

At the outset, WHO welcomes this revised draft I of the global compact on refugees and commends UNHCR on having incorporated so diligently the comments provided during February's consultation.

WHO values the four progress areas outlined under paragraph 5 , particularly points 1 and 2 which allude to an improved burden and responsibility sharing among all stakeholders and strengthened national protection systems and response capacities to safeguard rights of refugees.

When it comes to enhancing predictability, WHO recognizes this is an area that needs further strengthening, particularly the commitment to “leave no one behind”. In the same breath, strengthening the focus to preventing and addressing root causes, WHO aligns with the global compact reference to UN



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reforms, as they require improved cooperation and complementarity among all actors.

WHO would recommend that health is included in section 7, along increased investments in building human capital and resilience for host communities, alongside with education and livelihoods.

Overall, we would like to see better reflected in this Global Compact a more robust reference to health interventions and WHO's role better defined as the leading health coordinating UN agency within the One UN Strategy.

Finally, we would like to extend our gratitude to UNHCR and look forward to working in concert with all stakeholders and remains committed towards the adoption of the GCR in 2018.

Thank you very much.