

2013 UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs

ADVOCATING TOGETHER FOR PROTECTION



Message from the High Commissioner to the 2013 Annual Consultations with NGOs

“Advocating together for protection”

IT IS A PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU ALL to this year’s annual consultations between UNHCR and its much valued NGO partners. Over 410 humanitarians are participating this year, representing some 220 international and national NGOs from a broad range of operations around the globe. Every year, these consultations are an excellent opportunity to review and strengthen the way we work together, with the goal of better serving those in need of protection and assistance.

Partnership is integral to UNHCR’s ability to deliver upon its mandate, and improving it is one of our corporate priorities. Last year, I convened a “Structured Dialogue” with NGO partners and the IFRC to review the quality of our partnership and recommend ways in which to strengthen the application of the principles of partnership to which we have all committed. We reiterated that working together requires open communication and information, and reconfirmed that we strive for mutual respect, trust, transparency, and understanding, while recognizing that there are both complementarities and distinctions between our mandates and positions within the international humanitarian system.

The Inter-Agency Unit would like to thank the many colleagues who have contributed to the preparation of these consultations. We would especially like to thank the speakers and moderators of the sessions, including Karina Sarmiento for her role as the Rapporteur of the Annual Consultations with NGOs and the Rapporteur of UNHCR’s Executive Committee, Hassane Boukili, for attending.

NGOs are vital operational and advocacy partners in many different contexts and contribute significant expertise and competencies in protection-based responses, providing a strong voice for the constituencies we jointly serve. As humanitarian needs have surged significantly across the globe in recent years, and the difficult global economic environment risks diminishing the available resources to respond, it is all the more important that we find ways to strategically pool our resources, maximize complementarities and, in a common effort, ensure the greatest possible impact in providing protection for the forcibly displaced.

This year’s theme “Advocating together for protection” could not be timelier. The global context in which UNHCR and its partners strive to provide protection is becoming increasingly challenging. For one, protection delivery is often constrained by a shrinking of the space in which we as humanitarians operate. Several states are prioritizing national sovereignty to the detriment of the protection of human rights, limiting access by humanitarian actors, or even expelling them, despite the adverse impact of such expulsions on the protection and assistance available to their own citizens. The responsibility to protect is far from being a reality in many circumstances.

Secondly, racism and xenophobia continue to threaten the protection space available to refugees in many parts of the world. These are not just the preserve of extremists; similar sentiments are expressed by populist politicians and some irresponsible elements of the media. Unfortunately, mainstream political and social movements do not always oppose such sentiments with sufficient energy and courage.

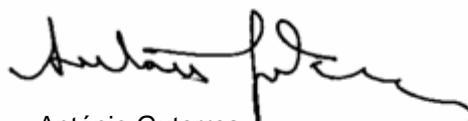


In anxious times such as these, messages of 'otherness' and exclusion play on common fears of the new and unfamiliar, and undermine the universal values of tolerance and respect for human dignity. Governments need to address the legitimate security, social and economic concerns of their citizens. But if there is a message for us to get across it is surely that human rights are for all, including the forcibly displaced.

UNHCR and its NGO partners are already engaged successfully in cooperative advocacy in many operations throughout the world. For example, UNHCR has collaborated with a broad range of civil society organizations across Europe in advocacy around changes to EU asylum legislation, and in a major joint project to promote resettlement to EU Member States. In operations as diverse as Kyrgyzstan, Tunisia or Colombia, UNHCR works

closely with national NGOs and civil society actors in promoting the rights and protection of persons of concern. We also jointly advocate with NGOs through the judicial system, for example through *amicus curiae* briefs which UNHCR can submit to courts in support of petitions filed by civil society groups.

I believe that advocacy is an area where UNHCR and international NGOs have joint responsibility for investing in the capacity and activities of local actors, including faith and community based organizations. This year's consultations provide a platform for us to identify opportunities for this important area of collaboration. I am confident that together we can improve the quality of our response to today's humanitarian and protection challenges.


António Guterres

Tuesday 11 June 2013 | International Conference Center (CICG)

	ROOM
08:30 – 11:00	Registration of participants (CICG entrance hall, UNHCR welcome desk) Enregistrement des participants (entrée du CICG, bureau d'accueil du HCR)
09:30 – 10:30	Orientation session – <i>Séance d'orientation</i> 3 (<i>Interpretation in English-French-Spanish</i>)
11:00 – 13:00	PLENARY SESSION SEANCE PLENIERE 2 (<i>Interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Russian-Spanish</i>)
	OPENING ADDRESS AND PLENARY DISCUSSION DISCOURS D'OUVERTURE ET DISCUSSION EN PLENIERE Alexander ALEINIKOFF, <i>Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees</i> Daniel ENDRES, <i>Director, Division of External Relations, UNHCR</i> Nan BUZARD, <i>Executive Director, International Council of Voluntary Agencies</i> Kemlin FURLEY, <i>Head, Inter-Agency-Unit, UNHCR</i>
13:00 – 14:30	LUNCH BREAK (<i>free</i>) - PAUSE DÉJEUNER (<i>libre</i>)
13:15 – 14:15	SIDE EVENT (<i>interpretation in English-French-Spanish</i>) Room 3 Cash-based interventions in UNHCR operations <i>L'aide en espèces dans les opérations du HCR</i> A brief overview will be provided of the use of cash and vouchers in UNHCR operations, with discussion on some current issues and the way forward.
14:30 – 16:15	REGIONAL SESSION SÉANCE RÉGIONALE Bureau for MENA (<i>interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Spanish</i>).....2 The MENA session this year will focus, among other topics, on the current emergencies that continue to sweep the region, mainly the Syrian refugee crisis, its effects on neighboring countries, as well as the rising internal displacement inside Syria itself. Given that the majority of refugees in the Middle East and North Africa are residing in urban areas, the session will also discuss the situation of “Urban refugees” and debate the best practices of partnering with NGOs to provide assistance and protection. In addition, we plan to discuss the continued influx of Malian refugees to Mauritania and the mixed migration flows across the region, including the situation in Yemen. THEMATIC SESSION SÉANCE THÉMATIQUE (<i>interpretation in English-French-Spanish</i>) Advocating together to resolve statelessness - <i>Plaidoyer commun pour résoudre l'apatridie</i> 3

THEMATIC SESSION | SÉANCE THÉMATIQUE

(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

SGBV in emergencies: our collective responsibility to move from rhetoric to reality, from policy to implementation 4

SGBV dans les situations d'urgence : notre responsabilité collective à passer de la rhétorique à la réalité, de la politique à la mise en œuvre

16:15 – 16:45 COFFEE BREAK – PAUSE CAFÉ

16:45 – 18:30 REGIONAL SESSION | SÉANCE REGIONALE

Bureau for MENA (continued) 2

(interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Spanish)

THEMATIC SESSIONS | SÉANCES THÉMATIQUES

(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

Advocating together to resolve statelessness *(continued)*
Plaidoyer commun pour résoudre l'apatridie (suite) 3

Achieving durable solutions for IDPs in changing operational context 4
Réalisation de solutions durables pour les personnes déplacées internes dans un contexte opérationnel changeant

19:00 – 20:30 RECEPTION – UNHCR Cafeteria, UNHCR main building (94, rue de Montbrillant)

Wednesday 12 June 2013 | International Conference Center (ICC)

ROOM

09:00 – 10:45 REGIONAL SESSIONS | SÉANCES RÉGIONALES

Bureau for AFRICA (*interpretation in English-French-Spanish*) 2

In 2012, UNHCR worked directly with 249 NGOs in Africa, including 60 national ones to ensure protection and assistance for almost 12 million people of concern. Partnership with NGOs remains at the heart of the Office's interventions in the region. The Africa Regional Session aims at providing a platform for an open discussion between NGO participants and the Africa Bureau's management team on policy issues and programmes in sub-Saharan Africa, as per the following themes:

- 1) Advocating together for protection: refugees in urban settings
Case study: Kenya
- 2) Durable solutions strategy: Rwandan refugees
- 3) UNHCR 2014-2015 Programmes in Africa

Bureau for ASIA and the PACIFIC (*interpretation in English-Russian*) 3

The Asia /Pacific Regional session will engage NGO participants in an open exchange with the Bureau colleagues on current programmes and operations in Asia and the Pacific, with a specific focus on urban refugees who constitute the overwhelming majority of refugees in Asia. The following topics will be discussed:

- Protection in urban contexts
- Livelihood and self-reliance
- Promoting durable solutions

Bureau for AMERICAS (*interpretation in English-French-Spanish*) 4

Advocating for protection of persons with specific needs: LGBTI, unaccompanied children, indigenous people and Afro-descendants in the Americas

Plaidoyer pour la protection des personnes ayant des besoins spécifiques : LGBTI, enfants non accompagnés, population indigène et Afro-descendants dans les Amériques

This session will explore how the rights of LGBTI, unaccompanied children, indigenous and Afro-descendants are defended in the Americas through advocacy with national and local authorities. The discussion will be framed around the mobilization of urban protection networks, the potential for advocacy with the municipality and urban communities, using the particular example of Quito/Solanda, Ecuador. The aim is to explore gaps and challenges and share best solutions to the plight of persons of concern with specific needs.

10:45 – 11:15 COFFEE BREAK – PAUSE CAFÉ

11:15 – 13:00 REGIONAL SESSIONS | SÉANCES RÉGIONALES

Bureau for AFRICA (*interpretation in English-French-Spanish*) 2 (continued)

Bureau for ASIA and the PACIFIC (*interpretation in English-Russian*) 3 (continued)

Bureau for AMERICAS (*interpretation in English-French-Spanish*) 4 (continued)

13:00 – 14:30 LUNCH BREAK (free) – PAUSE DÉJEUNER (libre)

13:15 – 14:15 **SIDE EVENT** (interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

Room 3

Faith and protection: follow-up to the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges

Foi et protection : suivi du Dialogue du Haut Commissaire sur les défis de protection

ROOM

14:30 – 16:15 **THEMATIC SESSIONS | SÉANCES THÉMATIQUES**

(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

Advocacy and action for the protection of children 2
Plaidoyer et action pour la protection de l'enfant

Partnership in focus – *Ciblage du partenariat*..... 3

National asylum system: building and maintaining protection systems for refugees 4
Système d'asile national : construire et maintenir des systèmes de protection pour les réfugiés

16:15 – 16:45 **COFFEE BREAK – PAUSE CAFÉ**

16:45 – 18:30 **THEMATIC SESSIONS | SÉANCES THÉMATIQUES**

(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

Advocacy and action for the protection of children (continued) 2
Plaidoyer et action pour la protection de l'enfant (suite)

Strengthening the Implementing Partnership Framework
Renforcer le cadre du partenariat opérationnel..... 3

REGIONAL SESSION | SÉANCE RÉGIONALE

Bureau for EUROPE (interpretation in English-Russian) 4
Refugee protection and international migration in Europe: challenges and responses
Protection des réfugiés et migration internationale en Europe : défis et réponses

Thursday 13 June 2013 | International Conference Center (ICC)

09:00 – 10:45 **THEMATIC SESSIONS | SÉANCES THÉMATIQUES**

(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

Refugee resettlement: expanding its reach and effectiveness through broader NGO participation 3
Réinstallation des réfugiés: expansion de sa portée et de son incidence grâce à la participation plus large des ONG

Immigration detention – finding alternatives 4
Détention à l'immigration - trouver des alternatives

10:45 – 11:15 **COFFEE BREAK – PAUSE CAFÉ**

11:15 – 12:00 **PLENARY SESSION | SÉANCE PLÉNIÈRE** 2
(interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Russian-Spanish)

Report back on the NGO Consultations • Rapport sur les consultations avec les ONG

Karina SARMIENTO, *Rapporteur to the Annual Consultations with NGOs*
Hassane BOUKILI, *Rapporteur of the Executive Committee (Morocco)*
Daniel ENDRES, *Director, Division of External Relations, UNHCR*
Khassim DIAGNE, *Head, Secretariat and Inter-Agency Service, UNHCR*
Nan BUZARD, *Executive Director, International Council of Voluntary Agencies*
Kemlin FURLEY, *Head, Inter-Agency Unit, UNHCR*

ROOM

12:00 – 14:00 **CLOSING ADDRESS | DISCOURS DE CLOTURE** 2
(interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Russian-Spanish)

António GUTERRES, *High Commissioner for Refugees*

14:00 – 15:00 LUNCH BREAK (*free*) – PAUSE DÉJEUNER (*libre*)

15:00 – 18:00 **ADVOCATING TOGETHER FOR PROTECTION** 2
(Interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Russian-Spanish)
Plaidoyer commun pour la protection

Joint strategies and best practices – *Stratégies communes et meilleures pratiques*

Tuesday 11 June 2013 | International Conference Center**11h00 – 13h00** **PLENARY SESSION** (*interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Russian-Spanish*)**Room 2****OPENING ADDRESS AND PLENARY DISCUSSION**

Alexander ALEINIKOFF, *Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees*
Daniel ENDRES, *Director, Division of External Relations, UNHCR*
Nan BUZARD, *Executive Director, International Council of Voluntary Agencies*
Kemlin FURLEY, *Head, Inter-Agency-Unit, UNHCR*

13h00 – 14h30 **LUNCH** (*free*) – **DÉJEUNER** (*libre*)**13h15 – 14h15** **SIDE EVENT** (*interpretation in English-French-Spanish*)**Room 3****Cash-based interventions in UNHCR operations**

In-kind distributions are still the predominant form of assistance in humanitarian emergencies and in transitional settings. In recent years, however, there has growing awareness that in-kind distributions such as seeds, tools, food, non-food items, etc. may not always be the most appropriate response. Cash-based interventions can play an important role in assisting people to meet their various needs in emergency settings, and evaluations conducted during the last decade have been largely positive. UNHCR and its partners have been using cash and vouchers in displacement and return contexts since the early 1980's. This session explores the role, actual and potential, that cash and vouchers have in protecting people in displacement settings.

Speakers: Haley BOWCOCK, *Cash Learning Partnership, OXFAM GB*
Hanna MATTINEN, *Senior Food Security and Liaison Officer, UNHCR*
Najla Marie-Louise TABET CHAHDA, *Caritas Lebanon*

14h30 – 16h15 **REGIONAL SESSION****Room 2****Bureau for MENA** (*interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Spanish*)

The number of refugees in the Middle East and North Africa region has considerably increased over the last year, mainly due to the Syrian refugee crisis as well as the conflict in Mali. Far from being stable, the region continues to experience dramatic developments which have resulted in more refugee outflows, more internal displacement, and sadly, more loss of life.

Last year marked a turning point in the crisis in Syria. By end of April 2013, over 1.4 million Syrian refugees had already been registered or received registration appointments, mainly in the neighboring countries and beyond. Equally so, the crisis had its catastrophic impact inside Syria with more than 4 million persons internally displaced and over 6 million persons affected. In some cases, Syrians had to be displaced more than once as a result of the ongoing violence spread across Syria.

On the other side of the region, the conflict in Mali forced many people to flee into neighboring countries including Mauritania. By the end of April, over 74,000 Malian refugees, among them women and children, were hosted and assisted in Mbera camp in southern Mauritania.

The region continues to attract mixed migration movements. In 2012 alone, 107,500 new arrivals from the Horn of Africa, mainly Ethiopians, landed on Yemen's shores— a record number and a 4% increase compared with last year. Similar mixed population movements continued across the North African countries, both as destination and transit.

Yemen remained a host to more than 237,000 refugees, and maintains its open-door policy towards those individuals fleeing from the Horn of Africa. Moreover, 350,000 Yemenis are internally displaced, mainly in the north of the country.

With some exceptions, refugees in the MENA region reside largely in urban settings not camps. This requires the adoption of different assistance strategies and methods on part of the humanitarian community.

The above topics will be discussed in the MENA session, with a focus on the current humanitarian emergencies, mainly the Syrian, Somali and Malian refugee crises as well as mixed migration flows across the region, and the largely urban nature of the refugee situations in the region.

Moderator: Shaima AL ZAROONI, *International Humanitarian City*

Speakers: Yacoub EL-HILLO, *Director, Bureau for MENA, UNHCR*
Khalid AL DUBAI, *Interaction in Development Foundation*
Mohamed Vall ISSA, *Association pour la lutte contre la pauvreté et le sous-développement*

14h30 – 16h15 THEMATIC SESSIONS

Room 3

Advocating together to resolve statelessness (*interpretation in English-French-Spanish*)

Collaborative advocacy efforts between UNHCR, civil society, academic institutions and stateless persons themselves are vital to resolving statelessness. While there has been significant progress towards realization of commitments made by Governments in areas such as reform of nationality laws, creation of determination procedures and accession to the two UN Conventions, more effective strategies are needed to resolve protracted situations of statelessness, such as those affecting the Rohingya in Myanmar and former Soviet citizens in Europe and Central Asia. There is also a need to develop strong, working partnerships and to increase the number of NGOs working on statelessness worldwide. To this end, the upcoming commemorations of the 60th anniversary of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (1954 Convention) provide an excellent opportunity through which to strengthen existing and develop new advocacy partnerships and networks.

This session will focus on improving advocacy and collaboration in three key areas, with speakers from civil society and UNHCR for each:

- 1) *Advocating for implementation of commitments by States to address statelessness*
This presentation will look at successful examples and challenges faced by civil society and UNHCR in ensuring implementation of formal State commitments to address statelessness.
- 2) *Advocating to resolve protracted situations of statelessness*
This presentation will examine how civil society actors and UNHCR can strengthen their individual and collective efforts to resolve protracted situations of statelessness around the world.
- 3) *Advocating for action on statelessness in 2014 in the context of the 60th anniversary of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons*
This presentation will look to future action by and collaboration between civil society and UNHCR to reinforce awareness and new networks and to promote action to address statelessness.

Moderator: Laura VAN WAAS, *Statelessness Programme, Tilburg University*

Advocating for implementation of commitments by States to address statelessness:

Speakers: Gabor GYULAI, *Hungarian Helsinki Committee*
Janice MARSHALL, *Deputy Director, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*

Advocating to resolve protracted situations of statelessness:

Speakers: Amal DE CHICKERA, *Equal Rights Trust*
Nicholas OAKESHOTT, *Regional Protection Officer (Statelessness), UNHCR Bangkok*

Advocating for action on statelessness in 2014 in the context of the 60th anniversary of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons:

Speakers: Zahra ALBARAZI, *Women's Refugee Commission*
Mark MANLY, *Senior Legal Coordinator (Statelessness), Division of International Protection, UNHCR*

Room 4

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in emergencies: our collective responsibility to move from rhetoric to reality, from policy to implementation *(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)*

It is imperative in humanitarian response to deliver assistance in ways that strengthen protection and mitigate risk. Humanitarian organizations know that conflict and displacement increases vulnerability to gender-based violence (GBV), especially for women and girls. We also know that humanitarian response will be more effective and risks will be reduced if protection considerations are integrated into all programming and if specialized gender-based violence (GBV) programs are in place at the beginning of an emergency. The humanitarian community has developed guidelines for addressing GBV across program areas, including the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Guidelines on Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings. We have pledged to hold one another accountable for meeting basic protection standards in our work. Yet in too many places, we continue to fall short. And those most at risk pay the price.

This session will focus on the concrete, practical steps that must be taken across program areas to address gender-based violence and meet our collective responsibilities to affected populations. Through the panel presentations and audience discussion, we will share agencies' successes and challenges in integrating GBV prevention and response efforts into their work across sectors in emergencies. Information will also be shared on the revision now underway of the multi-sectoral IASC GBV Guidelines. The revised Guidelines will provide updated, user-friendly guidance and tools for all actors in humanitarian settings, and the outcomes from this session will be fed into the revision process.

Moderator: Julien SCHOPP, *InterAction*

Speakers: Gina BRAMUCCI, *International Rescue Committee*
Willington SSEKADDE, *Raising Voices*
Kim Thuy STEELINGER, *Human Rights Center, University of California, Berkeley*
Volker TÜRK, *Director, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*

16h15 – 16h45 COFFEE BREAK (free) – PAUSE CAFÉ (*libre*)

16h45 – 18h30 **REGIONAL SESSION**

Room 2

Bureau for MENA (continued) *(interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Spanish)*
The session continues.

16h45 – 18h30 **THEMATIC SESSIONS**

Room 3

Advocating together to resolve statelessness (continued)
(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)
The session continues.

Room 4

Achieving durable solutions for IDPs in changing operational context

(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

The process towards durable solutions for internally displaced people almost always continues well beyond the humanitarian emergency phase. Sustained engagement with a wide array of actors, including with governments, and the civil society, and development actors is required.

At the UN level, the piloting of the UN Secretary-General's Framework on Durable Solutions calls on all UN agencies to engage in the process of finding durable solutions for IDPs. Various governments have recently taken steps to include IDP protection and durable solutions in development and social protection programs. Many civil society organizations, national and international, implement programs in support of the search for durable solutions.

This session seeks to promote dialogue on the steps UNHCR and NGOs can take to jointly engage in the search for durable solutions, especially in fast-changing operational contexts and diminishing resources.

Panel presentations will address:

- UNHCR's vision for IDP protection and solutions
- The role of advocacy: lessons from the past
- Opportunities for engagement and advocacy for NGOs to promote durable solutions

The following main themes will frame the discussion:

- The search for durable solutions in the context of limited resources
- Building national capacity and the role of government in promoting durable solutions
- Building and strengthening partnership and coordination at the global and field levels

Moderator: Volker TÜRK, *Director, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*

Speakers: Roberta COHEN, *The Brookings Institution*

Clare SPURRELL, *Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), Norwegian Refugee Council*

19h00 - 20h30 **RECEPTION – UNHCR Cafeteria,
UNHCR main building (94, rue de Montbrillant)**

Wednesday 12 June 2013 | International Conference Center

There will be two side meetings taking place between 08h00 to 09h00:

Room 5: Kidnapping (of refugees) for ransom

Room 6: Harnessing the potential of displaced youth

More details can be found on the Agenda of Side Meetings

09h00 – 10h45 REGIONAL SESSIONS

Room 2

Bureau for AFRICA (*interpretation in English-French-Spanish*)

i) The first part of the session will be dedicated to UNHCR's urban refugee policy and on how advocating together in an urban setting can bring tangible protection results. The Director for International Protection will give an update on the implementation of the policy in Africa.

In Kenya, the implementation of the Urban refugee policy was effectively suspended, in December, when the Government announced a directive discontinuing the registration of refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas and ordering them to relocate to the refugee camps in Dadaab and Kakuma. Kituo Cha Sheria (Legal Advice Centre) was one of the NGOs that filed a petition on the legality of this Directive. The High Court issued an injunction halting all action to implement the directive, pending a court hearing on the matter. The Director of Kituo Cha Sheria will provide a presentation on the legal and advocacy activities in this regard.

ii) During the second part of the session, the Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa will provide an update on the implementation of the comprehensive solutions strategy for Rwandan refugees. The Director will brief the participants on the outcomes of the Ministerial meeting recently held in Pretoria, South Africa, involving the countries of asylum and of origin, as well as on the next steps with regard to the strategy's recommendation to invoke cessation of refugee status for those who fled Rwanda before 31 December 1998, by 30 June 2013.

iii) During the final part of the session, participants will be briefed on UNHCR's programmes in Africa for 2014 and 2015. While funding for UNHCR programmes in Africa has increased, so have the needs, with multiple emergencies on the continent, commanding the bulk of the funding available. The Deputy Director of the Division of Programme Support and Management will present the Office's 2014-15 Global Strategic Priorities that have guided the prioritization of programme activities for the next two years.

In all three parts of the session, presentations will be followed by debate on the subject.

Moderators: Halima ADAN, *Save Somali Women and Children*
George OKOTH-OBBO, *Director, Bureau for Africa, UNHCR*

Speakers: Liz AHUA, *Deputy Director (West and Central Africa and the Great Lakes), Bureau for Africa, UNHCR*
Solomon Wasia MASITSA, *Kituo Cha Sheria (Legal Advice Center)*
Raouf MAZOU, *Deputy Director (East and Horn of Africa), Bureau for Africa, UNHCR*
Henrik NORDENTOFT, *Deputy Director, Division of Programme Support and Management, UNHCR*
Volker TÜRK, *Director, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*
Noriko YOSHIDA, *Deputy Director (Southern Africa), Bureau for Africa, UNHCR*

Room 3

Bureau for ASIA and the PACIFIC (*interpretation in English-Russian*)

The Asia / Pacific Regional session will engage NGO participants in an open exchange with the Bureau colleagues on current programmes and operations in Asia and the Pacific with a specific focus on urban refugees. Of the 3.6 million refugees in Asia, fewer than 1.3 million live in refugee camps. The overwhelming majority is located in urban environments. While urban settings may sometimes offer certain advantages compared to camp settings, such as greater freedom of movement and livelihood opportunities, they also bring significant risks for vulnerable populations. The absence of legal and institutional frameworks for refugee protection in many countries in Asia

poses great challenges. Disparities in asylum practices often lead to secondary movements as refugees and asylum seekers search for countries where they have a better chance of having their needs met. In some countries, the granting of residence permits and socio-economic rights have allowed good progress in the situation of urban refugees, but presents other challenges in terms of access, assistance, and funding. The discussions will focus on how NGOs and UNHCR can be innovative in their collaboration in order to find adequate responses to contemporary challenges in urban environments.

After the introductory discussion, the session will break-out in three groups around three large sub-themes (and will reconvene in plenary for conclusion):

- Protection in urban contexts: including irregular /secondary movements, temporary stay arrangements, advocacy and constructive collaboration
- Livelihood and self-reliance: in the context of shrinking humanitarian funding, how to increase awareness about need for self-sufficiency, needs assessments for targeted interventions, and partnership
- Promoting durable solutions: including in mixed migrations, protracted refugee situations, SSAR, reintegration challenges, and joint advocacy

Moderator: Mehdi KHAJENOURI, *MAHAK Charity-Care Organization*

Speakers: Daisy DELL, *Director, Bureau for Asia, UNHCR*
Father Jose MATHEW, *BOSCO*

Room 4

Bureau for AMERICAS (*interpretation in English-French-Spanish*)

Advocating for protection of persons with specific needs: LGBTI, unaccompanied children, indigenous people and Afro-descendants in the Americas

All individuals forced to flee because of persecution, conflict or violence leave behind their homes, families and communities and find themselves in a situation of acute vulnerability. Fear, lack of protection, disorientation and feeling of defenselessness are common characteristics of forcibly displaced populations.

However, asylum-seekers, refugees and displaced persons also have distinct and specific needs depending on their gender, experience during flight or their belonging to minority groups. Those needs require special attention, to ensure access to protection and to safeguard individual rights.

How are these distinct protection needs addressed? Are joint advocacy efforts bringing the desired results in this respect? Can we improve our strategies and outcomes?

This session will explore how the rights of displaced LGBTI, unaccompanied children, indigenous and Afro-descendants are defended in the Americas through advocacy with national and local authorities. The aim is to explore gaps and challenges and share best solutions to the plight of persons of concern with specific needs in the region.

Interactive dialogue

Moderator: Luisa CREMONESE, *Senior Coordinator (Gender Equality and Women), Division of International Protection, UNHCR*

Speakers: Steeve LAGUERRE, *Fondation SEROVie*
Pablo MINDA, *Universidad Luis Vargas Torres de Esmeraldas*
Alejandro NUNEZ MEDINA, *Fundación Casa Alianza*

Each presenter will focus on one of the groups with specific needs indicated above and share his/her perspectives from the operational context he/she works in. The audience will have 45 minutes to ask questions or bring forward personal experiences in advocating for the protection of persons with specific needs.

Advocacy strategy break-out groups

Moderator: Jason KNAPP, *Church World Service*

Participants will divide in three break-up groups and focus on a particular group with special needs. They will discuss three different group-based (not individual case) scenarios on:

- A) LGBTI in Haiti;
- B) Unaccompanied children at the US-Mexico Border;
- C) Colombian indigenous people and Afro-descendants refugees in Ecuador.

Groups will have 45 minutes to brainstorm and suggest an advocacy strategy. In turn, at the plenary, each group's rapporteur will present their respective strategy for discussion and inputs from the audience. To conclude, a synthesis of the discussion and outcome of the practical exercises will be presented along with concluding remarks on advocacy for the protection of vulnerable groups.

Concluding remarks

Marta JUAREZ, *Director, Bureau for Americas, UNHCR*

10h45 – 11h15 COFFEE BREAK – PAUSE CAFE

11h15 – 13h00 REGIONAL SESSIONS

Room 2

Bureau for AFRICA (continued) (interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

The session continues.

Room 3

Bureau for ASIA and the PACIFIC (continued) (interpretation in English-Russian)

The session continues.

Room 4

Bureau for AMERICAS (continued) (interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

The session continues.

There will be one side meeting taking place between 13h15 to 14h15:

Room 4: Advocating together to protect stateless Rohingya

More details can be found on the Agenda of Side Meetings

13h00 – 14h30 LUNCH BREAK (free) – PAUSE DÉJEUNER (libre)

13h15 – 14h15 SIDE EVENT (interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

Room 3

Faith and protection: follow-up to the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges

A special session on Faith and Protection at the June 2011 Annual UNHCR-NGO Consultations explored the challenges faced by national FBOs, their unique strengths and protection potential, and how INGOs, UNHCR and national FBOs can maximize their collective field-level protection efforts. Building upon that special session, UNHCR devoted its 2012 High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges to the theme of Faith and Protection. The High Commissioner closed the 2012 Dialogue with a series of actionable suggestions for follow-up. To build on the momentum around this topic, participants of the 2012 Dialogue also proposed a side event at the 2013 Annual Consultations. The side event will provide an opportunity to take note of progress made in follow-up, solicit inputs into thinking on good practices, and invite broader NGO engagement and commitment to the follow-up initiatives. Given the short time available for the

side event, a longer, informal dinner-time conversation will be organized on 12 June 2013 for those particularly interested in this topic, providing an opportunity for deeper engagement and fresh ideas and recommendations.

Outline:

- I. Anchoring the issue in history: The 2011 Annual NGO Consultations
- II. Key Takeaways from the HC's Dialogue on Faith and Protection
- III. Update on the Code of Conduct ("Affirmations for Faith Leaders")
- IV. Update on Compilation of Good Practices
- IV. Open Discussion

Moderators: James THOMSON, *Act for Peace*
Helen STAWSKI, *Archbishop of Canterbury*

Speakers: Volker TÜRK, *Director, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*
Bishop Dr. Munib A. YOUNAN, *Lutheran World Federation*
Rachel LEVITAN, *Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society*
Atallah FITZGIBBON, *Islamic Relief Worldwide*

14h30 – 16h15 THEMATIC SESSIONS

Room 2 Advocacy and action for the protection of children

(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

Children represent half of the populations of concern to UNHCR and their protection is a priority for UNHCR. The UNHCR Framework for the Protection of Children, launched last year, outlines the direction for the protection of children as it pertains to the mandate of the Organization. Effective partnership between UNHCR and NGOs is crucial for the implementation of the Framework.

The session is an opportunity to share experience in effective advocacy and action for the protection of children. Two contexts will be considered. Firstly, we will consider advocacy and action for children in emergencies. The concept of "a children's emergency" has emerged over the past few years - indicating that children are often those most affected and with the most acute protection needs. Secondly, we will consider children in mixed migration flows. An increasing number of children are moving across borders, moving on their own or 'assisted' by smugglers. The reasons for the movements vary – some of them are seeking better opportunities but a number of them have international protection needs.

These two scenarios pose new and unprecedented challenges to governments, UN Organizations, and NGOs as we try collectively to address the protection risks facing children and adolescents. The session is an opportunity to take stock of current practices and to make recommendations for the way forward for the protection of children, specifically in emergency situations and in mixed migration. The session will also be an opportunity to provide an update on the implementation of the UNHCR Protection Framework for Children.

Moderator: Vladimir HERNANDEZ, *Community and Family Services International*

Speakers: Michael KLOSSON, *Save the Children US*
Monika SANDVIK-NYLUND, *Senior Adviser (Children), Division of International Protection, UNHCR*

Break-out groups discussions will be introduced by the following speakers:

1. Strengthening child protection systems in emergencies

Moderator: Preeta LAW, *Senior Coordinator, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*

Speakers: Ernest LORDA, *Jesuit Refugee Service*
Daisuke FUNAI, *International Rescue Committee*
Lucy BATCHELOR, *Save the Children Sweden/UNHCR Child Protection Officer*
Scholastica NASINYAMA, *INTERAID Uganda*

2. *Enhancing the protection of children in mixed migration contexts*

Moderator: Jane BLOOM, *International Catholic Migration Commission*

Speakers: Yasmin RAJAH, *Refugee Social Services*
Ludovic LATASTE, *International Catholic Migration Commission*
Alexis GARNETT, *Child Protection Officer, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*
Nathalie LUMMERT, *U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops*

Room 3

Partnership in focus *(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)*

At the end of 2011, the High Commissioner invited the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), InterAction and their members, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to participate in a ‘Structured Dialogue’ to review the quality of partnership with UNHCR with the broad objective of strengthening operational collaboration in the field through stronger mutual respect and trust, and a culture of transparency and shared responsibility. The Dialogue served as a platform to develop a series of recommendations on translating into action the five Principles of Partnership (PoP), namely equality, transparency, results-oriented approach, responsibility and complementarity, to which UNHCR and partners are all committed. UNHCR, ICVA, InterAction and the IFRC committed to take these recommendations forward in the field as well as in various fora in 2013, including at the Annual UNHCR-NGO Consultations.

Participants will be given an overview of the process and outcomes of the Structured Dialogue and will discuss the follow-up to the Dialogue’s recommendations, to be taken forward both at the HQ and field level.

This session provides an opportunity to exchange on cross-cutting partnership issues and to share suggestions on strengthening the fora for dialogue and consultation between UNHCR and NGOs at global, regional and field levels, including the UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs.

The overall aim is to gather feedback from participants on taking forward these partnership recommendations, especially at the field level.

Moderator: Khassim DIAGNE, *Head, Secretariat and Inter-Agency Service, UNHCR*

Speakers: Janet LIM, *Assistant High Commissioner (Operations)*
Mitzi SCHROEDER, *Jesuit Refugee Service on behalf of InterAction*
Nan BUZARD, *International Council of Voluntary Agencies*

Room 4

National asylum systems: building and maintaining protection systems for refugees *(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)*

States are primarily responsible for the protection of refugees, including by (a) ensuring access to territory and protection from *refoulement*, (b) humane and dignified reception arrangements, including protection against arbitrary detention, fair and efficient status determination procedures, (c) guaranteeing the enjoyment of rights, and (d) facilitating durable solutions. A range of actors are relevant to determine the quality of the protection in a state, including the legislature/parliament, the executive, the judiciary, the legal community, the media and press, civil society, the public, academia, and the international community as a whole, including UNHCR.

To effectively build, strengthen and sustain state asylum/protection systems it is important to understand the gaps, problems and challenges in respect of the system and the stakeholders involved. How progress is leveraged in this area varies depending on a range of factors, including the political, economic, socio-cultural, legal, and regional contexts, as well as broader migration trends. Crucial is the level of development of the system in issue ranging from (1) a system with no functioning state asylum system, to (2) transitional systems where the state has assumed some responsibilities and finally (3) developed systems where the state is in full control.

The panel will include representatives from each of the three systems. Using their experience from a specific country each panelist will draw some general remarks and conclusions. Focusing on what is needed and how civil society and UNHCR can cooperate in assisting states in building,

strengthening and sustaining asylum/protection system the following three questions will be addressed:

- What are the essential building blocks for a national asylum system that enables refugees to enjoy their rights?
- How can key stakeholders best take responsibility for building and maintaining a national asylum system? And for which block or blocks?
- How can civil society and UNHCR better advocate for and cooperate in this regard?

Moderator: Karin KEIL, *Caritas Internationalis*

Speakers: Pill Kyu HWANG, *Gonggam Human Rights Law Foundation*
Martin JONES, *Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights*
Janice L. MARSHALL, *Deputy Director, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*
Reut MICHAELI, *Hotline for Migrant Workers*

16h15 – 16h45 COFFEE BREAK – PAUSE CAFE

16h45 – 18h30 THEMATIC SESSIONS

Room 2

Advocacy and action for the protection of children *(continued)*

(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

The session continues.

Room 3

Strengthening the Implementing Partnership Framework

(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)

Throughout its history, UNHCR has worked in close partnership with NGOs to protect and assist refugees. One major manifestation of these partnerships is programmes facilitated by UNHCR and implemented by NGO partners. In 2012, over a third of the \$2.3 billion spent by UNHCR on protection and assistance was channeled through more than 760 NGOs across the globe. Of these, 600 were national or local NGOs and 160 were international.

As discussed at length during the 2012 NGO Consultations, UNHCR has been working in consultation with NGO partners, including field and network reference groups, to review and revise the whole framework of cooperation with implementing partners, including the types and formats of agreement between UNHCR and NGOs, the terminology used, the mechanisms for joint management of agreements, joint monitoring of projects and mutual establishment and review of partnership. The intention is to promote accountability and consistency in the establishment and maintenance of implementing partnerships with NGO partners.

This dialogue on how implementing partnerships are established and maintained is not merely technical. Partnership dynamics among UNHCR and NGOs have always been influenced by the manner in which UNHCR and NGO field offices engage with one another in implementing projects. A new framework for engagement could present significant new opportunities as well as challenges for UNHCR and its NGO partners in serving refugees together.

This session will brief and solicit feedback from NGOs on components of the UNHCR-NGO implementing partnership framework which has emerged since the 2012 NGO Consultations: the new partnership portal developed by UNHCR to identify qualified and interested NGOs for project partnerships, the draft agreement for implementing partnerships, changes in the transference of funds from UNHCR to NGOs, and new approaches to joint (NGO-UNHCR) monitoring of programmes.

The most recent draft of the Implementing Partnership Agreement, the draft procedures (“Work Step Two”) for Establishing and Maintaining Partnership, the Implementing Partnership Management Guidance Note for Joint Monitoring, and “Annual Partner Feedback” questions will be shared in advance of the session. NGO Consultation participants are strongly encouraged to

read the materials. Those who represent organizations currently in implementing partnerships with UNHCR are encouraged to come to the session with an idea of how they would answer the Annual Partner Feedback questions provided in advance.

Moderator: Mark HETFIELD, *Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society*

Speakers: Steven CORLISS, *Director, Division of Programme Support and Management, UNHCR*
Steven MUNCY, *Community and Family Services International*
Fatima SHERIF-NOR, *Head, Implementing Partnership Management Service, UNHCR*
Zainab RAZZA JAFRI, *Society for Human Rights and Prisoners Aid (SHARP)*

16h45 – 18h30 REGIONAL SESSION

Room 4

Bureau for EUROPE (*interpretation in English-Russian*)

Refugee protection and international migration in Europe: challenges and responses

All countries in Europe are, albeit in different ways, affected by irregular mixed movements of refugees and migrants and all are struggling with the complex challenges arising in this context. Countries in the EU's eastern and southeastern neighborhood and EU Member States at the external border face a particularly challenging task in controlling unauthorized entry and preventing security threats while at the same time taking account the protection needs of people within these movements.

Civil society plays a vital role in crafting effective and protection-sensitive responses to mixed movements at national, regional and international level and rising xenophobia in some countries, including through its advocacy efforts and direct provision of assistance to those in need. In many countries, civil society, UNHCR and governments are working together to address mixed movements in protection-sensitive ways following UNHCR's 10-Point Plan of Action on Refugee Protection and Mixed Migration.

This session aims to bring together representatives of NGOs from all around Europe to share their experience, exchange relevant good practices and explore areas for enhanced cooperation among each other, with their governments and with UNHCR. The session will be structured around a couple of questions which the moderator will pose to each of the panelists. 20 years after UNHCR established presence in Eastern Europe and 18 years after the ParInAc Conference, the session will offer an opportunity to take stock of the challenges facing NGOs in Eastern Europe and review in what ways partnership and sustainability could be enhanced.

Moderators: Vincent COCHETEL, *Director, Bureau for Europe, UNHCR*
John BINGHAM, *International Catholic Migration Commission*

Speakers: Carlotta BELLINI, *Save the Children Italy*
Leila ZHDANOVA, *Civic Organisation 10th April*
Sonja TOSKOVIC, *Belgrade Centre for Human Rights*

Thursday 13 June 2013 | International Conference Center

There will be two side meetings taking place between 08h00 to 09h00:

Room 6: Access to refugee status determination in Latin America: challenges and opportunities for regional cooperation

Room 19: Professional standards for protection work carried out by humanitarian and human rights actors in armed conflict and other situations of violence

More details can be found on the Agenda of Side Meetings

09h00 – 10h45 THEMATIC SESSIONS

Room 3

Refugee resettlement: expanding its reach and effectiveness through broader NGO participation *(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)*

UNHCR currently has the capacity to submit some 91,000 persons for resettlement out of the nearly 181,000 refugees estimated to be in need of resettlement in 2013. Systematic and transparent identification systems are essential to determining which individuals from amongst the total population in need of resettlement will be prioritized according to their specific needs and vulnerabilities during the year. An effective and consistent identification system ensures fair access to resettlement consideration and prevents fraud in the resettlement process. It requires close collaboration between UNHCR Protection, Community Services, and Durable Solutions staff and NGO partners in the field.

At the 2012 NGO Consultations, UNHCR and NGOs collectively acknowledged that identification of cases for resettlement is one of the biggest challenges in the resettlement system. UNHCR's resettlement efforts are often dependent upon referrals from other UNHCR units or partners, including NGOs and service providers, to help identify and prioritize the refugees most in need of resettlement. NGOs are often in a strong position to identify the most vulnerable refugees and refer them to UNHCR for resettlement consideration.

This session will focus primarily on how international and local NGOs can partner effectively with UNHCR to ensure that the refugees in greatest need of resettlement have access to this life-saving intervention. The session will highlight the programmes and best practices of three NGOs that, alongside providing assistance to refugees, actively seek to refer their most vulnerable clients to UNHCR for resettlement consideration. Ultimately, the goal of the session is to demystify resettlement so that more NGOs globally feel empowered and capacitated to collaborate with UNHCR to identify refugees for resettlement.

A summary of this session will be shared with the participants in the 2013 Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR), strengthening the voice of NGOs in this important resettlement forum.

Moderators: Martin ANDERSON, *RefugePoint*
Johannes VAN DER KLAUW, *Senior Resettlement Coordinator, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*

Speakers: Rubina ANWAR, *DANESH*
Shane BRISTOW, *St Andrew's Refugee Services*
Kaajal RAMJATHAN-KEOGH, *Lawyers for Human Rights*

Room 4

Immigration detention – finding alternatives *(interpretation in English-French-Spanish)*

Detention continues to affect thousands of men, women and children within the mandate of UNHCR. At times, their detention falls below international standards, may lack adequate due process safeguards, and be for prolonged periods. In 2012, UNHCR released new *Guidelines on the Applicable Criteria and Standards relating to the Detention of Asylum-Seekers and Alternatives to Detention* (2012), which were launched at the 63rd session of the Executive Committee. They set out the international legal framework governing detention in this context. International human rights and refugee laws and standards require that detention of asylum-seekers should be used only as a last resort, in exceptional cases and after all other options have been shown to be inadequate in

the individual case. In other words, where a government intends to detain a person for immigration-related reasons, it needs to first consider and pursue alternatives to detention.

An increasing number of governments have implemented or are exploring alternatives to immigration detention (ATD) and recent research highlights their benefits, including that they reduce the financial and human costs of detention.

This session aims to highlight that there are various ways to address irregular migration – other than through detention – that take due account of government concerns around irregular migration and misuse of asylum systems, while respecting the particular circumstances and rights of asylum-seekers and others. The session will provide an overview of UNHCR's Detention Guidelines, share the latest research in this area, and provide a platform to discuss advocacy strategies around these issues, such as building partnerships and networks, information-gathering and sharing, research dissemination, good practices promotion, campaigning, litigation, training and capacity-building, and monitoring.

Individuals and groups are invited to share examples of advocacy around alternatives to detention, and how to identify and seize upon advocacy opportunities.

The session will be guided by the following three questions:

- What advocacy strategies have worked and why? What lessons can be learned (good practices as well as practices that did not work)?
- What tools have been developed and used to support this advocacy?
- How can partnerships be strengthened?

Moderator: Michelle BRANE, *Women's Refugee Commission*

Speakers: Cathryn COSTELLO, *University of Oxford*
Alice EDWARDS, *Senior Legal Coordinator and Chief, Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*
Reut MICHAELI, *Hotline for Migrant Workers*
Grant MITCHELL, *International Detention Coalition*

10h45 – 11h15 COFFEE BREAK – PAUSE CAFE

11h15 – 12h00 **PLENARY SESSION** (interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Russian-Spanish)

Room 2

Report back on the NGO Consultations

Karina SARMIENTO, *Rapporteur to the Annual Consultations with NGOs*
Hassane BOUKILI, *Rapporteur of the Executive Committee (Morocco)*
Daniel ENDRES, *Director, Division of External Relations, UNHCR*
Khassim DIAGNE, *Head, Secretariat and Inter-Agency Service, UNHCR*
Nan BUZARD, *Executive Director, International Council of Voluntary Agencies*
Kemlin FURLEY, *Head, Inter-Agency Unit, UNHCR*

12h00 – 14h00 **PLENARY SESSION** (interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Russian-Spanish)

Room 2

CLOSING ADDRESS

António GUTERRES, *High Commissioner for Refugees*

There will be a side meeting taking place between 14h00 to 15h00:

Room 3: Screening the film: *Refugees: sexual orientation and gender identity*

14:00 – 15:00 LUNCH BREAK (*free*) – PAUSE DÉJEUNER (*libre*)

15h00 – 18h00 **Advocating together for protection** (*interpretation in Arabic-English-French-Russian-Spanish*)

Room 2

The 2012 High Commissioner's Structured Dialogue on NGO-IFRC-UNHCR Partnership recognized that protection of refugees, IDPs and stateless people requires strengthened coordination and partnership in today's increasingly complex humanitarian landscape.

This session will explore how international and national NGOs, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and UNHCR can work together more effectively by examining strategies, tools and best practices. The session will consider the application of the Principles of Partnership to advocacy, collaboration in developing advocacy strategies, and practical next steps partners can take together.

Following an introductory panel discussion, three break-out groups will have an in-depth discussion on how UNHCR, IFRC and NGOs can advocate better for protection at the global, regional and field level. The break-out groups will then report back to the plenary.

Rather than focusing on specific protection issues - as these would already have been covered during the previous sessions - the break-out groups will focus on how to strengthen partnerships to preserve and broaden protection space; how to work together strategically to increase influence over national policies related to asylum, IDP protection and nationality laws; how to advocate together on sensitive issues; discuss the differing roles and complementarities between UNHCR and partners; and how to enhance advocacy in emergency operations.

Information-sharing considerations and ongoing investments for strong partner relationships will be threaded throughout the session. Participants are invited to be prepared to be frank, yet constructive, to reflect in advance on examples of good practice, and to bring fresh ideas into the conversation.

Co-moderators: Volker TÜRK, *Director, Division of International Protection, UNHCR*
Ingrid MACDONALD, *Norwegian Refugee Council*

Speakers: *NGO Representatives (names to be confirmed)*

Wednesday 12 June 2013

International Conference Center Geneva (ICCG)

8h00 – 9h00 • Room 5 (3rd floor)

Kidnapping (of refugees) for ransom

(interpretation in English-Spanish)

Moderator: Karin KEIL, *Caritas Internationalis*

Speakers: Dolores PALENCIA ENCARGADA, *Migrant Shelter Decanal Guadalupano Diocesis de Veracruz*

Ran COHEN, *Physicians for Human Rights Israel*

Chris HORWOOD, *Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat, Horn of Africa & Yemen Office*

Padre José Guadalupe VALDES, *Migrant Shelter Piedras Negras Mexico*

Kidnapping of refugees for ransom has become a more and more attractive source of income for human smugglers and traffickers. Migrants from South-America have been kidnapped and tortured for ransom on their way to the US for several years. The Catholic Church has been providing assistance to victims along the route and has built a wealth of information about the violations and possible ways to assist the victims. The ransom method has been taken over by human traffickers and smuggler in North Africa and some Arabian countries who kidnap refugees (and migrants) from Sub-Saharan countries to be held for ransom in Egypt and Yemen. During their ordeal the victims are routinely tortured, often while calls with the ransom demand are made to relatives in the countries of origin or in the country of destination. This alarming trend is particularly prominent in the Sinai desert where several camps are known to hold refugees prisoner and subject to frequent torture. Once payments are made these victims are released close to the Israeli border and some make it across facing new challenges, including prolonged detention. The multiple traumatization experienced as a refugee, as a kidnapping victim and as a torture survivor needs effective medical response and access to rehabilitative services, and not the current prolonged imprisonment or poor reception conditions.

The side-event aims to raise further awareness on the issue and to address the lack of coordinated international response. Refugee assisting experts from Israel, Yemen and Mexico will share their experiences on this phenomenon. The Catholic Church will in addition share past challenges and responses.

The panelists will give an overview on current situations, including types and trend of kidnapping, the impact on refugees and coping mechanisms, access to medical assistance along the migratory routes and in country asylum, as steps forward to a more coordinated response to address the issue.

8h00 – 9h00 • Room 6 (3rd floor)

Harnessing the potential of displaced youth

Young people aged 10 – 24 make up over 33% of the world's displaced populations: 8 million young people have been forced to flee armed conflict and human rights abuses. Despite making up such a large proportion of refugee and displaced populations, displaced youth are too often ignored in humanitarian response programmes. There is very little earmarked funding for youth programming and very few youth-focused programmes. Programmes that do exist are often short-lived, ad hoc and vary enormously from country to country.

Displaced young people face serious challenges: many of them are living in a state of “limbo” with limited access to post-primary education or skills training opportunities, few livelihood and wage-earning options and scant hopes for durable solutions. This state of limbo makes it very difficult for young people to envision a future, map out plans or take meaningful life decisions. Yet young people often show great resilience in difficult situations and demonstrate enormous energy, talent and ability to adapt. If these assets can be nurtured and capitalized young people can make an important contribution not only to their communities, but also to humanitarian operations.

In this side event, we will hear from international and local NGOs working with displaced youth, as well as from UNHCR. The presentations will be followed by what we hope will be a lively discussion on how best to respond to gaps in services and response for displaced youth, with examples from country operations. The event will be moderated by the Women’s Refugee Commission.

Moderator: Rachael REILLY, *Women’s Refugee Commission*

Katrine WOLD, *Norwegian Refugee Council*: A real-time perspective of NRC programmes to assist Syrian refugee youth in Jordan. This presentation will focus on strategies to meet the needs of youth at the onset of an emergency, including education, livelihoods and recreation programmes.

Daisuke FUNAI, *International Rescue Committee*: An overview of IRC livelihood programmes for displaced youth. The IRC will explain how it integrates youth programming into its overall emergency and humanitarian response, drawing on examples from Ethiopian refugee camps to the urban slums of Nairobi.

MaryBeth MORAND, *Policy Development and Evaluation Service, UNHCR*: UNHCR will provide an overview of the findings and recommendations of its recently published *Global Review of UNHCR’s Engagement with Displaced Youth* with concrete examples of how the organization intends to build on ongoing good practices.

Local NGO: Perspective from a local NGO, or youth participant, on youth programming in their country (TBC)

13h15 – 14h15 • Room 4

Advocating together to protect stateless Rohingya

Moderator: Amal DE CHICKERA, *Equal Rights Trust*

Speakers: Thun KHIN, *Burmese Rohingya Organization*

Melanie TEFF, *Refugees International*

Chris LEWA, *Arakan Project*

The Rohingya, a stateless minority from Myanmar has endured decades of persecution, discrimination and abuse. Most recently, following the June and October 2012 violence, large scale internal displacement and segregation took place within Rakhine state of Myanmar and thousands of Rohingya fled to Bangladesh, Thailand, Malaysia and beyond. One year after the violence began, the root causes and ongoing humanitarian and human rights concerns within Myanmar remain to be addressed, and the need for reconciliation between communities is being felt acutely. Furthermore, concerns related to the Rohingya’s lack of citizenship and their treatment as refugees in third countries remain unanswered.

This meeting focuses on the different characteristics of the Rohingya situation and the role of UNHCR in relation to stateless persons, refugees and internally displaced persons. The objective of the meeting is to explore ways in which NGOs can be more effective in advocating together with UNHCR to protect and assist Rohingya who are internally displaced and refugees in the region, as well as address the root causes of their flight and find solutions to their lack of citizenship.

Thursday 13 June 2013

International Conference Center Geneva (ICCG)

8h00 – 9h00 • Room 6 (3rd floor)

Access to refugee status determination in Latin America: challenges and opportunities for regional cooperation

(interpretation in English-Spanish)

Moderator: Ana WHITE, *US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants*

Speakers: Karina SARMIENTO, *Asylum Access Ecuador*

Nancy PEREZ, *Sin Fronteras Mexico*

Are there lessons to be learned from Latin America on regional approaches to national systems? Currently we have seen greater attention on regional trends and the harmonization of asylum systems in different regions of the world. From the experiences and national legislations in several countries in Latin America this session will focus on the discussion of best practices and challenges that could benefit a regional and worldwide dialogue. The session will center on how international and regional commitments are incorporated in national systems, particularly on due process, access to information, appeals mechanisms and abbreviated RSD procedures. The session will also discuss the role of NGOs in the different national systems and how greater cooperation and dialogue could benefit from strengthened RSDs in a regional context.

8h00 – 9h00 • Room 19 (3rd floor)

Professional standards for protection work carried out by humanitarian and human rights actors in armed conflict and other situations of violence

Graciela LOPEZ, *International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)*

The objective of the session is to promote the **Professional standards for protection work carried out by humanitarian and human rights actors in armed conflict and other situations of violence**, as per their 2013 edition (2nd edition).

They reflect shared thinking among humanitarian and human rights agencies (UN, NGOs and Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement), and are the product of an ICRC-led consultation process yielding to common agreement. They constitute a set of minimum standards for humanitarian and human rights agencies, and we would maintain that the standard of protection that an agency provides should not fall below those set out in this document.

This second edition takes account of changes in the environment in which protection activities are implemented providing standards and guidelines that meet the associated challenges. The official launch of the second, revised edition took place in Geneva on 11 April.

More specifically, it reflects developments in the following three fields over the past few years:

- Data management and new technologies, taking into account the great potential that new technologies bring to protection work, but also the associated risks.
- Interaction and dialogue between human rights and humanitarian protection agencies on the one hand and UN peacekeeping missions and other internationally-mandated military and police forces on the other.
- The management of protection strategies – what we call results-based management.

14h00 – 15h00 • Room 3

Screening the film “Refugees: sexual orientation and gender identity”

The film was produced by the US-based NGO the Organization for Refuge, Asylum and Migration (ORAM), with whom UNHCR is working closely on LGBTI refugee and asylum-seeker protection.

NOTES

NOTES

Programme of Annual Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations

11 - 13 June 2013

CICG | Geneva, Switzerland



PUBLISHED BY:

UNHCR
P.O. Box 2500
1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland

www.unhcr.org

For information
and inquiries,
please contact:

Inter-Agency Unit
interagency@unhcr.org