

74th meeting of the Standing Committee
5-7 March 2018

Agenda item 8

**Oral update on the Global Compact on Refugees
and on preparations for the first Global Refugee Forum**

The Director of Division of Resilience and Solutions, Mr. Daniel Endres, the Head of the Evaluation Service, Ms. Ritu Shroff, and the Senior Policy Advisor (Protection), Ms. Perveen Ali, will brief the Committee on the Global Compact on Refugees and preparations for the first Global Refugee Forum. The key areas to be covered are outlined below.

I. Update on the Global Compact on Refugees

- On 17 December 2018, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution [73/151](#), affirming the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) as presented by the High Commissioner in part II of his 2018 annual report to the General Assembly.
- The affirmation of the GCR marks a new stage in the global and collective effort to deliver more inclusive and sustainable responses to refugee situations, as it sets out a blueprint for ensuring that responses are better able to meet the needs of refugees and their host communities.
- UNHCR is working across its Divisions, Bureaux, and regional and country offices, and together with partners and key stakeholders, to translate the GCR into concrete action.
- As an operational tool, the GCR will guide the continued application of comprehensive responses in the 15 countries that have pioneered the approach since 2016.
- UNHCR is drawing upon lessons learned from implementing Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework in these situations, to move to a broader application of comprehensive responses in key operations.
- Key findings and lessons learned in the application of the CRRF have been consolidated in the following document: [Two Year Progress Assessment of the CRRF Approach: September 2016 – September 2018](#).
- These lessons learned make a compelling case for how best to refine and apply the tools set out in the GCR to transition from the CRRF pilot phase from 2016-2018 to the application of the GCR more broadly in 2019 and beyond.

II. Update on preparations for the Global Refugee Forum

- The GCR establishes that follow-up and review of progress made towards achieving its objectives will be conducted at the global level through the ministerial-level Global Refugee Forum, to be held every four years, with high-level officials meetings held every two years between forums.
- The first Global Refugee Forum will take place in Geneva on 17 and 18 December 2019. It will be co-hosted and co-convened by the High Commissioner with one or more States. The Forum will have three main elements: (i) a ministerial-level meeting, where States and other stakeholders can announce pledges and contributions towards the objectives of the GCR; (ii) a platform for sharing good practices and explore ways in which responsibility-sharing can be increased; and (iii) the opportunity to take stock of progress towards achievement of the objectives of the GCR.
- To help generate pledges and contributions, including at regional level, a system of co-sponsorship will be established to give States and other stakeholders an opportunity to act as “champions” of the first Forum. Further details on these arrangements will be shared in advance of the first preparatory meeting.
- In preparation for the first Global Refugee Forum, three preparatory meetings with United Nations Member States and other stakeholders will be convened on 29 March, 25 June, and 14 November 2019. An annotated agenda, as well as other background papers, will be shared in advance of each meeting.
- The preparatory meeting on 29 March will be dedicated to a discussion of considerations for making pledges and contributions, and indicators to measure progress towards the objectives of

the GCR.

- An oral update on preparations for the Global Refugee Forum will also be provided at the 75th and 76th Standing Committee meetings in 2019.
- Invitations to the preparatory meetings will be extended to all United Nations Member States and non-Member State observers; relevant specialized and intergovernmental agencies, with which the Secretary-General has established a working relationship, non-governmental organizations with consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council or are a member of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA); and other stakeholders.

UNHCR, 27 February 2019