

**76th meeting of the Standing Committee
18-19 September 2019**

Agenda item 4

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

The Director of the Global Refugee Forum, Mr. Daniel Endres, and the Head of the Global Refugee Forum Coordination Team, Ms. Perveen Ali, will brief the Committee on the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and preparations for the first Global Refugee Forum. The key areas to be covered are outlined below.

1. UNHCR continues to implement the Global Compact on Refugees, expanding the application of the comprehensive responses in key operations and putting in place the arrangements for facilitating burden- and responsibility-sharing set out in the Compact. UNHCR has finalized an [indicators framework](#) and launched the [Three-Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways](#). In addition, the Global Academic Network will convene a [workshop](#) focused on research towards the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees in November 2019. A third workshop on measuring the impact of hosting, protecting and assisting refugees will also be convened in November 2019.

2. Preparations for the Global Refugee Forum, which will take place on 17 and 18 December 2019, are well underway. Switzerland is co-hosting with UNHCR. We have five confirmed co-convenors who will participate at the Head of State/Head of Government level, including Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Germany, Pakistan, and Turkey. The United Nations Secretary-General is also expected to participate with the co-hosts and co-convenors in the opening plenary of the Forum. Invitations to Ministers of Foreign Affairs were issued in July 2019, and the issue of invitations for other stakeholders is ongoing. A logistical note with detailed information about, inter alia, registrations, the conduct of the meeting and speaking arrangements is being prepared.

3. The identification of good practices and the development of pledges and contributions are being conducted at the global, regional and country levels. At the global level, the co-sponsorship groups have been formed and are comprised of States and other stakeholders wishing to mobilize contributions around a particular area of focus for the Forum. Currently, there are more than 110 co-sponsors, including nearly 30 States and 80 other stakeholders. It is essential to the success of these co-sponsorship groups that they have wide representation from both host States and donor States as well as organizations. The presence of these States is critical to helping shape the focus and efforts of the co-sponsorship groups.

4. Co-sponsorship is a key means of working towards the development of impactful and multi-stakeholder pledges, helping to shape the outcomes of this first Forum and also paving the way for future contributions. The co-sponsorship groups play a critical role in mobilizing support for global mechanisms such as policy approaches by donors, thematic funding mechanisms and programmes and the priorities identified at the country level. It is important, in the limited time left before the first Forum, that the co-sponsorship groups be ambitious, but also realistic, in what they hope to achieve, focusing on showcasing good practices that we can build upon and developing the first contributions towards the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees.

5. At the regional and country levels, many regional organizations and national governments as well as multi-stakeholder groups have begun to organize consultations on the development of pledges and contributions as well as the identification of good practices for the Forum. Governments are encouraged to pursue a whole-of-government approach to these consultations by involving members of relevant ministries engaged in refugee responses as well as other stakeholders, including donors, where appropriate. At the country level, funding, technical and policy commitments can be matched most effectively. These kinds of compacts at the country level will help demonstrate in practical, concrete terms how the Global Compact on Refugees is making a difference over the long term. UNHCR Representatives are available to support this process.

6. It is important to share information about the good practices selected for showcasing and the kinds of pledges and contributions that are being developed at an early stage. This will help ensure that such commitments can be part of a comprehensive approach and complemented by the contributions of others, which is of particular importance for the countries most directly affected by large refugee movements.