

Comments on the Draft Global Compact on Responsibility Sharing for Refugees

Speaking Points Switzerland

--> thank co-facilitators/authors of the document

Overall we can support the elements suggested in the draft Global Compact, We do believe that reiterating these principles at the highest political level is necessary and a sign of continuous commitment. The tragedies still unfolding in various regions of the world affecting millions of displaced persons and their host communities, should however give us the necessary impetus to move beyond previously stated principles. We would like to suggest four areas where additional commitments should be considered to be included in the Global Compact: Prevention, Self-reliance, humanitarian development gap, gender.

Prevention

A core element of responsibility sharing is also our common obligation to prevent forced displacement in the first place. The Global Compact is merely reactive and does not sufficiently address this essential element of a comprehensive response to forced displacement.

We suggest to include for instance the following commitments:

A commitment to strengthen and support efforts to mainstream human rights issues throughout the entire UN system, in particular as an early warning instrument within those institutions whose work focuses on the UN peace and security pillar, inter alia by supporting the Human Rights Up Front Initiative
A Commitment to universally implement the 2030 Agenda with a particular focus on Goal 16 when it comes to preventing forced displacement related to conflict and persecution.

It is our intention to emphasize that we can prevent forced displacement better and that the international community is acknowledging this as a

Let me conclude with some final general remarks.

It would be good to get some clarifications on the exact nature of the Global Compact. While we understand that it should be adopted as an Annex to the Political Declaration does it then become a more independent document or will it continue to be read in the context of the Political Declaration?

One possible approach would be to have a close interrelation between the documents and would therefore suggest specifying this at the beginning of the Global Compact. We would favor a close interrelation between the documents and would therefore suggest specifying this at the beginning of the Global Compact. This would have an impact on the implementation and the review of the documents.

Speaking

Check against delivery

Return

As we already mentioned we welcome the mention of return, but we would like to reiterate that this should be combined with a reference to human rights norms and standards as well as a reference to compliance with the principle of non-refoulement.

Nansen/ MICIC

As we have stated last time we are very supportive of those references. With regard to the Nansen Paragraph we suggest to update the language by also referring to the newly launched state-led Platform on Disaster Displacement.

High Level Dialogue instead of conference

With regard to the Global Compact on safe, orderly and regular migration and the process of its elaboration we would like

- When referring to international cooperation regarding migration we suggest to not only mention cooperation but also partnerships
- On several occasions the text would benefit from a clear distinction between voluntary and involuntary movements. Especially when referring to "addressing large movements of migrants"

Finally we would like to express our full support for the co-facilitators approach to avoid line-by-line negotiations. Agenda 2030 sets a good precedent. It demonstrates that such an approach can be very successful and there is still sufficient room for delegations to make detailed comments.

Thank you