23 April 2020
Submission of POLAND relating to the future work
of the UN Secretary General’s High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement

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1. To encourage states to give adequate prominence to the interrelationship between the IDPs
and the 2030 Agenda. It is worth stressing in this regard, that the IDPs – as very vulnerable
social group – are specifically referred to in paragraph 23 of the stipulations of the 2030
Agenda.
2. At the same time, given the content of paragraph 41 of the 2030 Agenda, it has to be
underscored that it is each country that “has primary responsibility for its own economic and
social development”, bearing in mind that the IDPs are an important segment of the society.
3. Certain internally displaced persons, such as children, especially unaccompanied minors,
expectant mothers, mothers with young children, female heads of household, persons with
disabilities and elderly persons, shall be entitled to protection and assistance required by
their condition and to treatment which takes into account their special needs.
4. The authorities undertaking such displacement should ensure, to the greatest practicable
extent, that proper accommodation is provided to the displaced persons, that such
displacements are effected in satisfactory conditions of safety, nutrition, health and hygiene,
and that members of the same family are not separated.
5. Adequate measures should be taken to guarantee to those to be displaced full information
on the reasons and procedures for their displacement and, where applicable, on
compensation and relocation;
6. The free and informed consent of those to be displaced shall be sought; the authorities
concerned should endeavor to involve those affected, particularly women, in the planning
and management of their relocation;
7. Displacement shall not be carried out in a manner that violates the rights to life, dignity,
liberty and security of those affected.
8. Internally displaced persons should have the right to be protected against forcible return to
or resettlement in any place where their life, safety, liberty and/or health would be at risk.
9. Property and possessions left behind by internally displaced persons should be protected
against destruction and arbitrary and illegal appropriation, occupation or use.
10. IDPs should not be discriminated against as a result of their displacement in the enjoyment
of the right to seek freely opportunities for employment and to participate in local economic
activities and to associate freely and participate equally in community affairs.
11. They should have the right to vote and to participate in governmental and public affairs,
including the right to have access to the means necessary to exercise this right; and the right
to communicate in a language they understand.
12. All authorities concerned should grant and facilitate the free passage of humanitarian
assistance and grant persons engaged in the provision of such assistance rapid and
unimpeded access to the internally displaced.
13. Persons engaged in humanitarian assistance, their transports and supplies should be
respected and effectively protected by the state and local authorities. They should not be the
object of attack or other acts of violence.
14. Competent authorities have the primary duty and responsibility to establish conditions, as
well as provide the means, which allow internally displaced persons to return voluntarily, in
safety and with dignity, to their homes or places of habitual residence, or to resettle

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voluntarily in another part of the country. Such authorities should endeavor to facilitate the
reintegration of returned or resettled internally displaced persons.
15. It would be appropriate to evaluate the successes and failures experienced in the process of
execution of the Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced
Persons in Africa adopted by the African Union (of 2009) and the Great Lakes Protocol on the
Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (of 2006).
16. Procedures worked out in this regard by all major, UN in particular, agencies and institutions
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should be taken due advantage of.
17. There are many sources for large groups displacements. One of major reasons for
displacement is preventive or post disaster displacement. Therefore national legal provisions
aimed at reducing disaster displacement risk, should respond to disaster displacement and
strengthen the resilience of people displaced by disasters. To ensure that, the relevant legal
stipulations should be included within national and local disaster risk reduction strategies,
plans and policies, as well as wider efforts to embed disaster risk reduction in other relevant
laws, regulations and policies.
18. Countries with increased risk of population displacement should prepare their specific step-by-step displacement procedures well in advance. A possible six step procedure may involve
the following actions
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a. PREVENTIVELY AVOID DISPLACEMENT and STRENGTHEN RESILIENCE: map previous
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