

UN High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement – UK Submission

Core UK objective:

people with sensory impairments and inaccessible infrastructure that excludes people with mobility issues. Stigma and discrimination against those with disabilities, older people and other marginalised groups can result in a denial of basic rights, whilst discriminatory attitudes and unequal power relations can make it more difficult for women and girls to access services. Within this context, access to sexual and reproductive health services, and quality, gender-sensitive education, should be enhanced.

Linked to these points, responses to crises should better design strategies to ensure equity of access



rights are safeguarded, they are included in national surveillance and response planning for the pandemic (including access to testing and health-care services), and they receive the necessary information and assistance. It should also explore how to mitigate risks when national authorities are unable to take such measures.

The Panel should explore the international community's role in both advocating for, and providing assistance to, IDPs affected by the pandemic. In addition, the Panel should explore how the UN and wider humanitarian sector can coordinate to ensure that the specific needs of IDPs are incorporated into all strategic COVID

The deliberate targeting and displacement of civilian populations in active conflict situations is a key issue. The Panel should reinforce the importance of the humanitarian principles and the Geneva Conventions on this subject and consider the work that ICRC and IFRC are doing to explore solutions. Inquiries should be held where investigations have determined there is credible evidence of deliberate targeting of civilians and civilian infrastructure as a tactic by a party to a conflict (in contravention of IHL). A strategy to prevent such actions should be established early in conflicts, including a monitoring mechanism.



The private sector can play a critical role in supporting more effective and holistic solutions for IDPs. Most IDPs are themselves private sector actors, working for instance in agriculture and petty trade. Improving access to finance and financial inclusion for both IDPs and the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that employ IDPs, is critical to enable IDPs to become self-reliant. In addition,

access to services) must be protected and included when finding solutions to civil documentation. The participation of marginalised communities in peace processes is also key. This includes promoting the leadership and empowerment of those often excluded from political processes, such as people with disabilities, and women.

Building on the response to question three of this UK Submission



Settlements (ITS) or camps. Needs are also likely to vary within these groups, particularly for women,