



SUMMARY
Steering Group Meeting
GP20 Plan of Action
Thursday 5 July 2018, 15:00-17:00
Varembé Conference Centre, Geneva

Participants

Meeting participants were as follows: 13 UN Member States,¹ World Bank, UNHCR, OCHA, UNDP, IOM, Christian Aid, Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, Joint IDP Profiling Service, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), InterAction and OHCHR support to the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs. All Member States and the World Bank attended the meeting as observers, ICRC, IFRC, and InterAction attended as Standing Invitees, and all others attended as members of the Steering Group. As Special Advisor to the Steering Group, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs contributed an opening video statement.

Meeting objectives

The first meeting of the Steering Group for the GP20 Plan of Action was chaired by UNHCR and OCHA as the two current chairs of the Steering Group. The objectives of the meeting were to discuss the role and responsibilities of the Steering Group as well as possible directions for the four work streams established to mirror the four priorities under the GP20 Plan of Action: participation of IDPs, laws and policies for internal displacement, data and analysis on internal displacement and addressing protracted displacement while driving durable solutions. These work streams will harness and build on initiatives already underway and/or complete. Participants of these work streams are Steering Group members already engaged in these priorities.

Steering Group

UNHCR briefly presented the role and responsibilities of the Steering Group members, and particularly those of Member States. Discussions in the Steering Group are informal and Member States who join the Steering Group would be expected to facilitate implementation of the GP20 Plan of Action by increasing visibility of and promoting the Plan of Action; providing political and, if possible, financial support for national initiatives; and offering strategic advice on the proposed priorities and activities to be undertaken as part of the GP2 Plan of Action. Member States may participate with staff from their Permanent Missions in Geneva and/or capitals. Representatives need not have extensive expertise on internal displacement.

The co-chairs will consolidate Steering Group membership after this meeting, though the Group will remain open and inclusive leaving open the possibility for others to join at a later stage. A question was asked concerning the relationship between the Steering Group and the possible High Level Panel. This is unclear at the present time due to the lack of detail as to the nature and

¹ Afghanistan, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia, Fiji, Germany, Honduras, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States of America. All UN Member States attended the meeting as observers.

functioning of the High Level Panel. In principle, however, all efforts will be made to ensure complementarity and cooperation between the two entities. Final comments on the Terms of Reference for the Steering Group may be sent to the GP20 Coordinator (walicki@unhcr.org) by 19 July. The Steering Group's work streams will have work plans and the GP20 Coordinator will publish progress reports on implementation of the work plans.

GP20 Plan of Action Work Streams

Work stream focal points presented achievements, gaps, potential directions and key questions for Member States as they relate to their priority issues. The presentations are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/yb96r9lw>

Following the presentations, Member State participants highlighted the following:

- There is interest to strengthen law and policy frameworks on internal displacement, and a need for support for domestication of the Kampala Convention, including capacity building. Capacity building is also required for inclusion of IDPs and internal displacement in national development planning.
- Addressing internal displacement in countries where the issue is not acknowledged is a significant challenge. Understanding how existing law and policy frameworks on internal displacement came about could help identify entry points for discussions in these other more difficult contexts.
- On data, it is an interesting approach to aim for national ownership over data on internal displacement. There is a lot of work here beyond recognition of a national figures of IDPs, including measuring progress towards durable solutions.
- Support for proposed objective of 'Solutions in national development plans / planning'
- Country-level focus and national leadership are both appreciated and important for implementation of the GP20 Plan of Action.
- At the country level leadership from the Resident Coordinators (RC) and Humanitarian Coordinators (HC) is required as well as clarity concerning the role of the Steering Group vis-à-vis RC's / HC's and the Humanitarian Country Team.
- Gender equality should be ensured throughout the implementation of the GP20 Plan of Action.

The World Bank expressed potential interest to support the data work stream, while also highlighting the need to prioritize and sequence the work being proposed while ensuring coherence with other ongoing initiatives.

Next meeting

The next meeting is proposed during the last two weeks of October 2018 or first week of November 2018. Meeting participants should communicate any other date suggestions or date restrictions to the GP20 Coordinator by 13 July 2018 (walicki@unhcr.org).