



Upholding the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons Organizing, Empowering, Delivering

National Day in Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the Kampala Convention on IDPs

Organizers:

National Commission For Refugees, Migrants and IDPs (NCFRMI)
Public Services International (PSI)

Date and Venue:

29-30 October 2019, NAF Event Centre, Abuja, Nigeria

Concept Note

Background

The drivers of internal displacement in Nigeria are multi-faceted, intricate and often cross cutting, with the different Zones witnessing displacement as a result of varied issues peculiar to the region. In the north-east, the operation of the vicious militant group Boko Haram has continued to inflict havoc since 2004, resulting in an unprecedented level of internal displacement in the country's history. In the Middle Belt region, the struggle for grazing rights between farmers and herders have persistently been a cause of conflict and the displacement of communities. In the Northern part, ethno-religious conflicts and armed banditry are displacing communities. Along with conflicts, flooding and climate-related disasters are further aggravating displacement and are affecting almost the entire country.

Figures from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) show that there are over 2.2 million IDPs in Nigeria, placing it as among the top five countries with the highest level of internal displacement in Africa. The Federal Government of Nigeria has ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention) that was adopted on 6th October 2009 and came into force on the 6th December 2012. Ten years after its adoption by the AU, the Kampala Convention remains to be domesticated in Nigeria into National Law.

The Activity

The activity will be a National Day for IDPs, with the theme ***“Upholding the Human Rights of IDPs: Organizing, Empowering, Delivering.”*** This activity is conceived as a strategy to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the adoption of the Kampala Convention. Noting that the AU declared 2019 as the *“Year of Returnees, Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons: Towards durable solutions to forced displacement in Africa,”* this national activity therefore aims to bring into context the peculiar issues associated with the protection of IDPs in Nigeria and advocate for durable solutions for them, including through the development and implementation of a national legal framework on internal displacement domesticating the Kampala Convention (in line with the recommendations of the UN Special Rapporteur's 2017 country visit¹). It will also consider how internal displacement issues can be integrated into relevant national and regional development frameworks, to ensure that IDPs and returnees are not “left behind” in the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Agenda in Nigeria.

Moreover, the event will also link to the celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the GP20 Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions

¹ Country mission report available here:
<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/G1709125.pdf>

for Internally Displaced People 2018-2020. The Plan of Action calls on governments and the wider community working on internal displacement to join forces and work more closely around four priorities:

- engage IDPs in decision-making processes that affect them;
- promote, develop and implement national frameworks to prevent and address internal displacement;
- enhance the quality of data and analysis on internal displacement; and,
- address protracted displacement while driving solutions for IDPs.

Durable solutions can be achieved through the sustainable return of IDPs to their places of origin, their local integration in their places of refuge, or integration in another part of the country of their choice. Any prospect for sustainable durable solution will depend on the establishment of conditions in these places. Moreover, IDPs need to be involved in the planning and management of durable solutions in line with the principles of voluntariness, safety, dignity and non-discrimination.

The 2010 Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) *Framework on Durable Solutions* for IDPs identifies the following criteria to determine to what extent a durable solution has been achieved:

- safety, security and freedom of movement;
- adequate standard of living, including access to adequate food, water, housing, health care, basic education, employment and livelihood opportunities, access to effective mechanisms to restore housing, land and property;
- access to documentation;
- voluntary reunification with family members separated during displacement;
- participation in public affairs and access to remedies for displacement-related violations.

In supporting efforts to this end, the role of humanitarian and development actors, as well as frontline public service workers providing the services is critical, along with the participation of the IDPs themselves. The activity will bring all these relevant actors and stakeholders together and highlight these efforts in pushing for a legal framework for IDPs and for durable solutions.

Overall Objective

The overall objective of the activity is to uphold the human rights of IDPs by advocating for the adoption of a National IDP Policy and supporting durable solutions for internally displaced persons in the country.

Specific Objectives:

- To raise awareness on the plight of IDPs in Nigeria;
- To recognize the courage and resilience of IDPs, ensure their participation in society and relevant decisions that affect them and promote their empowerment;
- To advocate for durable solutions to the plight of IDPs, including their access to quality public services;
- To promote safe and decent working conditions for humanitarian actors and frontline workers assisting IDPs;
- To seek support aimed at meeting the human rights and humanitarian needs of the IDPs through a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach;
- To push for the passage of the National IDP Law in line with the Kampala Convention and the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.

Methodology

The National Day for IDPs will be a two-day event convening all relevant actors and stakeholders working on internal displacement or advocating for the rights of IDPs including the IDPs themselves.

Participants

Participants will include all relevant state and non-state actors, i.e. trade unions, NGOs, humanitarian organisations, experts, representatives of IDP communities, international agencies and donor organisations. Participants will be drawn from the 36 States including FCT.

PROGRAMME

<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 1: 29th October 2019</p>			
<p>7.00am-10.00am March from the Federal Secretariat Complex to Millennium park followed by Joint Press Briefing by NCFRMI and PSI</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 2 30th October 2019</p>			
TIME	SESSION	ACTIVITY	ACTION BY
9 -10 am		Registration	NCFRMI/PSI
10-10:05am		Introduction of Special Guests	Master of Ceremony
10 – 10.30am	Session One	<p>Opening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Anthem • Opening Prayer • Opening Remarks • Goodwill messages • Welcome Address • Key note Address • Minister’s Address 	<p>All</p> <p>All (2nd Stanza)</p> <p>PSI</p> <p>AU, ECOWAS, UNRC, ASSR</p> <p>Honourable Federal Commissioner (NCFRMI)</p> <p>UN Special Rapporteur on IDPs</p> <p>Honourable Minister for Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development</p>
10.30 – 11.30 am		Group Photograph and Tea/Coffee Break	
11.30 am – 12.30pm	Technical Session NCFRMI/PSI	<p>Setting the Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Humanitarian situation in Nigeria (5 Mins) - Workers’ rights in situations of internal displacement (10 Mins) - Presentation on the Kampala Convention (10 Mins) - Presentation on Draft IDPs Policy 	<p>NCFRMI</p> <p>Nigeria Labour Congress</p> <p>UNHCR</p>

		- Discussions (25 Mins)	NCFRMI
12.30 – 1.30 pm	Panel Discussion 1 Moderator (OCHA)	Panel discussion on durable solutions for IDPs <i>"The role of humanitarian and frontline actors in the provision of durable solutions to IDPs by experts and stakeholders."</i> General Discussion	PSI, UNHCR, ICRC, NEEM Foundation, IDP/Frontline worker
1.30 – 2.00pm		Lunch	All
2:00pm-3:00pm	Panel Discussion 2 Moderator (NEMA)	Panel Discussions on durable solutions for IDPs <i>"Pathways to sustainable solutions for the Internally displaced: Operational Challenges and Prospects "</i> General Discussion	NCFRMI, IOM, UNDP, Human Rights Commission, UNICEF
3:00pm-3:10pm		Closing Remarks	(Humanitarian Affairs)
3.10 pm		Tea/Coffee	