



## GPC Task Team on Law and Policy Terms of Reference

### 1. [Preamble](#)

It is essential for protection actors to invest in environment-building action, aimed at creating and/or consolidating an environment – political, social, cultural, institutional, economic and legal – conducive to full respect for the rights of women, men, boys and girls, without any kind of discrimination. Promoting the implementation at the national level of relevant international law, including by supporting the ratification of relevant treaties and the establishment of adequate legal, policy and institutional frameworks, is therefore paramount.

The Global Protection Cluster (GPC) Task Team on Law & Policy (TTLP) was established in 2015 to coordinate multi-stakeholder efforts to advocate for, promote and support states' efforts in developing domestic and regional normative frameworks on the protection and assistance of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in line with the Guiding Principles and other relevant regional and international frameworks, such as the 2009 African Union Convention on the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons (Kampala Convention) and the 2006 Protocol by the International Conference on the same subject. These ToRs define purpose, roles and responsibilities, membership and ways of working of the TTLP, in accordance with the GPC Strategic Framework 2020-2024.

### 2. [Vision and Mission Statement](#)

Law- and policy-making is an essential exercise of state sovereignty. At the same time, a number of stakeholders including field Protection Clusters have an important role to play in advocating for and supporting relevant authorities in the development and implementation of (sub-)national laws and policies for protection outcomes. The engagement of protection actors in the law-and-policy area should be based on a solid analysis of the legal and policy context, which should be an integral part of the protection context-based analysis informing the overall strategic planning.

The **vision** of the Task Team is that all countries, especially those affected by or at risk of internal displacement, adopt and implement appropriate frameworks providing the necessary protection and assistance to populations at risk of or affected by internal displacement in accordance with international law and standards.

The **mission** of the Task Team is twofold:

- Support governments and local authorities in discharging their responsibilities regarding IDPs and other populations affected by humanitarian crises and internal displacement by promoting and supporting states' efforts in developing and implementing domestic normative frameworks relating to the protection of IDPs<sup>1</sup> and other populations of concern
- Support field clusters, operational partners and other relevant stakeholders in contributing to the development, implementation, and monitoring of relevant normative frameworks relating to the protection of IDPs and other populations of concern.

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<sup>1</sup> Under the term “laws and policies relating to the protection of IDPs” we understand frameworks specifically dedicated to preventing and addressing internal displacement, such as IDP laws and policies (though strategies/action plans will also be considered), as well as other laws and policies that are not IDP-specific but are nevertheless relevant to displacement, such as those related to durable solutions, disasters and climate change, land or voting rights. Due consideration will be given to the situation of other displacement-affected communities.



### 3. Roles and Responsibilities

With the support of the GPC Coordinator and Operations Cell, the Task Team assumes the following roles and responsibilities on behalf of the GPC:

- Coordinate efforts to advocate for and support the evidence-based development and adoption of regional frameworks and national laws and policies relating to the protection of IDPs, including in coordination with the AoRs (child protection, GBV, HLP, and Mine Action) and other Task Teams/Working Groups of the GPC
- Provide a platform for structured and regular collective review and exchange on trends, best practices, and lessons learned related to the promotion of and support to the development and implementation of national legal and policy frameworks relating to the protection of IDPs
- Provide technical advice and support to field clusters, humanitarian actors and other relevant stakeholders (including human rights and development actors) - or directly to national and local authorities and NHRIs as relevant and necessary - on the development, implementation and monitoring of laws and policies relating to the protection of IDPs
- Disseminate existing standards and guidance, as well as develop new tools and studies on law-and policy-related issues based on identified gaps
- Raise the profile of IDP law & policy at the global and regional levels, including through an annual publication on the state of IDP law & policy in the world.
- Maintain, update and disseminate the GPC Global Database on Laws and Policies
- Engage with relevant stakeholders, inter-agency forums and relevant human rights mechanisms to advocate and promote the development, adoption and implementation of relevant normative frameworks in line with international standards and best practices
- Coordinate law and policy training and capacity-building efforts by the GPC, members of the TTLP, and other stakeholders
- Develop a calendar of major events and trainings organized by agencies, governments and inter-governmental entities in support of national and regional efforts in developing and implementing relevant normative frameworks
- Share relevant updates to the GPC Coordinator, the operational cell, the Donor and Member States Engagement Working Group as well as the field clusters on issues related to the development and implementation of legal and policy frameworks on internal displacement, and the funding requirements to support related efforts

### 4. Membership and ways of working

Membership is open to all GPC members, partners and other stakeholders involved at global, regional or national level in promoting and supporting the development, adoption and implementation of national laws and policies relevant to the protection of IDPs and other populations of concern in line with international standards.

The Task Team is currently chaired by UNHCR, which organizes and facilitates the meetings and follow-up on action points. A strengthened regional approach in the activities of the Task Team will be pursued. Regular meetings shall take place monthly. Extra-ordinary meetings may be called by the chairs or upon request from a member.

Participating organisations are encouraged to take up leadership of different activities and to contribute to the work of the Task Team through active collaboration with one another.



## 5. Accountability and Communications

The Task Team, via its co-chairs, regularly reports to the GPC Coordinator on progress and achievements of its strategic objectives and work plan. The Task Team regularly informs and seeks engagement with field clusters and operational actors on relevant developments, resources, and events on law and policy related issues.