



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

13 June 2019

**TOWARDS THE FIRST GLOBAL REFUGEE FORUM:
Organizational note for the second preparatory meeting - 25 June 2019
CICG, Geneva, Switzerland**

I. BACKGROUND

1. On 17 December 2018, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution [73/151](#), affirming the Global Compact on Refugees as presented by the High Commissioner for Refugees in his 2018 annual report to the General Assembly. The Global Compact on Refugees aims to provide a basis for predictable and equitable burden- and responsibility-sharing among all United Nations member States, together with other relevant stakeholders.

2. The objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees are to: (i) ease pressures on host countries; (ii) enhance refugee self-reliance; (iii) expand access to third country solutions; and (iv) support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity. The Global Compact establishes that follow-up and review of progress made towards achieving its objectives will be conducted at the global level every four years through the Global Refugee Forum, at ministerial level. This will be complemented by high-level officials' meetings, held every two years between Forums, to provide an opportunity for "mid-term review".

3. At the first Global Refugee Forum, which will take place on 17 and 18 December 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland, all United Nations member and non-member observer States as well as relevant stakeholders will have the opportunity to announce concrete pledges and contributions towards the objectives of the Global Compact.

4. In preparation of the first Global Refugee Forum, a series of preparatory meetings will be held to provide States and other relevant stakeholders an opportunity to discuss the pledging process as well as other preparations.

5. The preparatory meetings for the first Global Refugee Forum will be held at the International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG). The first preparatory meeting took place on 29 March 2019. The dates and locations for the remaining preparatory meetings are as follows:

- [Preparatory meeting 2](#): 25 June 2019 (room 2)
- [Preparatory meeting 3](#): 14 November 2019 (room 2)

II. PROCEEDINGS

6. The agenda for the second preparatory meeting is available [online](#). This meeting will focus on organizational arrangements for the Global Refugee Forum. Under this agenda item, States and relevant stakeholders will have the opportunity to announce co-sponsorships of a specific area of focus for the Global Refugee Forum. The afternoon will be dedicated to key considerations for the structure of the Forum and a preliminary agenda will be presented. Under this agenda item, States and relevant stakeholders will be able to provide an indication of their potential engagement and contributions at the Forum.

7. The second preparatory meeting will be co-chaired by the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, Mr. Volker Türk, and a member of the Bureau of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme.

III. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Participation

8. All United Nations member and non-member observer States will be invited to participate in the preparatory meeting. Specialized and intergovernmental agencies with which the Secretary-General has established a working relationship will be invited. A number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other stakeholders will also be invited. The second preparatory meeting will be private; it will not be webcast, nor will it be open to the media.

Conduct of the meeting

9. Seating will follow the United Nations General Assembly seating for the seventy-third session, with Mali occupying the first seat to be followed by other countries in English alphabetical order. Intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and other stakeholders will be seated behind States. As seating in the conference room will be limited, States will be allocated one seat at the desk and one seat behind for the meetings. Seating for other participants will be arranged according to capacity.

10. For the second preparatory meeting, there will be no formal list of speakers nor rules of procedure. Participants wishing to make an intervention will be asked to raise their

nameplates and to limit their remarks to three minutes or less. Those speaking on behalf of a group or region are requested to notify the UNHCR Governance Service in advance and to limit their interventions to five minutes or less. Depending on the number of delegations that wish to take the floor, the co-chairs may reduce the speaking time.

11. NGOs will be able to make an intervention under each agenda item. They are requested to coordinate their intervention with the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA). Any NGO that wishes to give an indication of their potential contributions and announce co-sponsorships are requested to notify the UNHCR Partnership Section in advance to receive further guidance regarding their intervention.

Interpretation

12. Interpretation will be provided in English and French.

IV. REGISTRATION AND ACCESS TO CICG

13. Delegations are requested to register for each preparatory meeting during a two-week period, which will end on the Friday prior to the meeting. A list of key dates for registration is as follows:

- Preparatory Meeting 2: 21 June 2019
- Preparatory Meeting 3: 8 November 2019

Participants will be advised via email when registration for each preparatory meeting has opened and is about to close.

14. To register, all participants, except NGOs, must send a note verbale or letter of accreditation with exact names and titles of all members of the delegation in order of seniority to the UNHCR's Governance Service (hggovern@unhcr.org). NGOs are requested to send their letter of accreditation to the UNHCR Partnership Section (partnership@unhcr.org). Due to seating limitations, NGOs are asked to limit the size of their respective delegations to two people.

15. Delegates with special needs who require assistance to enter the building or with respect to seating and other arrangements are invited to contact UNHCR's Governance Service for support (hqexcom@unhcr.org).

Badges

16. Participants who have a UNOG badge are requested to bring their badge with them and present it to security at the entrance of the meeting room.

17. Participants who do not possess a UNOG badge must present an identity document – such as a passport – along with the note verbale or letter of accreditation that contains

their name in order to receive their visitor's badge at the entrance of the meeting room.

V. OTHER

18. For any questions and/or assistance, please contact the UNHCR's Governance Service (hggovern@unhcr.org). NGOs should contact UNHCR's Partnership Section (partnership@unhcr.org).

19. Please visit the webpage for the Global Refugee Forum (unhcr.org/global-refugee-forum) regularly for updates.

UNHCR, 13 JUNE 2019