

Committee Documentation



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**Documentation of the Work of the Office of the United Nations High
Commissioner for Refugees**

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Committee Secretariat

Director	Tsesa Monaghan
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Agenda

- I. Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict
- II. Addressing and Adapting to the Effects of Climate Change on the Environment

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
Resolution UNHCR/1/1	Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict	46 votes in favor, 4 votes against, 1 abstention
Resolution UNHCR/1/2	Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict	Adopted by acclamation
Resolution UNHCR/1/3	Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict	38 votes in favor, 4 votes against, 9 abstentions
Resolution UNHCR/1/4	Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict	Adopted by acclamation
Resolution UNHCR/1/5	Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict	Adopted by acclamation
Resolution UNHCR/1/6	Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict	45 votes in favor, 5 votes against, 1 abstention

Summary Report

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees held its first session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict
- II. Addressing and Adapting to the Effects of Climate Change on the Environment

The session was attended by representatives of 51 Member States. The conference began with 51 delegations present in the Committee. After the first session, the topic order was set to 1, 2. Delegations immediately began discussion on the first topic: Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict. Introductory speeches emphasized the importance of children's rights, including education and health care.

On Thursday, Member States formed multiple small working groups comprised of approximately 5-6 Member States each. The issues that were most popularly discussed seemed to be the lack of education, health care, and Child Friendly Spaces in refugee camps. Delegates passionately discussed all the considerable issues child refugees could face, and productively and diplomatically worked together. During formal session, the delegates were very active with making motions and giving speeches updating the body on their progress. By the end of the day, the Dais received 9 Working Papers in total with various sub-topics including ways to provide education, food security, and Child Friendly Spaces; how to enhance birth registration, data collection, and processing of refugees; and various other subtopics.

The next day, the Dais gave feedback on all of the first drafts of Working Paper that were received. The Dais was impressed with delegates' engagement; delegates actively worked to learn about other proposals by different working groups, and to identify areas of mutual concern. Especially on the topic of education, delegates engaged in cooperative discussions and merged their Working Papers. As the delegates continued their discussion, they identified further areas where they could merge papers and expand upon ideas on such topics as reception centers and capacity building. The Dais accepted 3 Draft Resolutions by the end of the session.

On Saturday, the remaining four Working Papers were adopted as Draft Resolutions. A number of amendments were produced by the body before entering into voting procedure. The committee adopted 3 resolutions by acclamation, with a total of 6 resolutions being adopted.

Japanese Translation of UNHCR Summary Report

国連難民高等弁務官事務所は第一回目の討議にて、下記の議題について話し合うことを検討した。

1. 社会危機・紛争における子どもの保護
2. 気候変動による環境難民の強制移住などへの対応

第一回討議には 51 の国連加盟国の大使たちが参加し、まず初めに議題の順序を決めるため議論を開始した。結果、議題 1、議題 2 の順序で議論することが決まり、大使たちはすぐに議題 1：社会危機・紛争における子どもの保護について議論を始めた。初めの方のスピーチでは、多くの大使が子供難民たちの教育を受ける権利や医療を受ける権利など、権利保護の重要性を訴えた。

木曜日、大使たちは 5、6 か国ほどずつ集まっていくつかのグループを形成し、草案を練り始めた。論点として最もよく見受けられたのは、難民キャンプにおける教育、医療、子供にやさしい空間などの欠如をどう解決するか、だった。大使たちは子供難民たちが直面すると考えられる様々な問題点について白熱した議論を繰り広げ、生産的かつ外交的に協力して草案を作成していった。公式討議中は、大使たちは活発に動議を挙げ、積極的にスピーチを行って自国の考えやグループの草案の進捗具合を共有した。この日の終わりには、子供難民たちに対し、どのようにして教育の機会、食料、そして子供にやさしい空間を提供するか、どのようにして出世届や情報の取集、そして対応を強化するか、など様々な論点をもとにした 9 つの草案の第一草稿が議長の元に提出された。

金曜日、議長は木曜日に提出された九つの第一草稿すべてにフィードバックを返した。大使たちは常に意欲的な姿勢を見せ、自国の関与しているグループ以外のグループの草稿を確認し、論点の重複や類似した草稿がないかどうかを確かめた。特に、教育を主題とした草案がいくつかあったため、大使たちは協力的に話し合い、2 つの草案を統合させた。討議が進むにつれてさらにもう 2 つの草案が統合され、草案の内容はより深く具体的になり、子供難民たち専用の受け入れ所やキャパシティビルディングを主題とした草案ができていった。この日の討議が終了するまでに、議長は 3 つの草案を決議案として承認した。

土曜日には、残り 4 つの草案が決議案として議長に承認された。投票行動の前には決議案に対する修正案もいくつか提出された。最終的に、3 つの決議案が全会一致で決議として認められ、全体としては 6 つの決議が認められた。



Code: UNHCR/1/1

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*
2
3 *Recalling* Article 1 of the *Charter of the United Nations*, which makes provision international cooperation and
4 universal peace based on mutual respect, equality, and self-determination,
5
6 *Guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*, which attributes certain absolute rights and protections to
7 aimed at the wellbeing of children, including protection against discrimination, detention, imprisonment, exile,
8 deportation, death, and any other forms of violence and neglect,
9
10 *Emphasizing* the right of refugees to seek and apply for asylum as enshrined in Article 14 of the *Universal*
11 *Declaration of Human Rights*,
12
13 *Reaffirming* the importance of the 1951 *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees*, the 1954 *Convention*
14 *Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons*, and the 1967 *Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees*,
15
16 *Applauding* the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 16 which calls for equality, and
17 access to justice for all including refugees and those rendered stateless,
18
19 *Further guided by the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict*,
20
21 *Noting with interest* the 2016 *Annual Report of the Secretary-General on Children in Armed Conflict* which
22 highlighted the disturbing exploitation of children in conflict areas,
23
24 *Alarmed by* the report *Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2015* published by the UN High Commissioner for
25 Refugees, which found that 51% of all displaced persons are children and minors under the age of 18,
26
27 *Condemning* all forms of violence against children in refugee camps, especially age-based, sexual, and gender-based
28 violence,
29
30 *Recalling* UNHCR Executive Committee’s Conclusion No. 84 on child refugees and adolescents, and Conclusion
31 No. 94 on civilian and humanitarian character of asylum,
32
33 *Bearing in mind* UNHCR Document “Agenda for Protection (A/AC.96/965/Add.1)” which points out that UNHCR
34 has developed its institutional capacity through an enhanced security project, and that two major threats to refugee
35 children in camps are military recruitment of refugee children and age-based, sexual, and gender-based violence,
36
37 *Having devoted attention* to the positive work of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in highlighting and
38 seeking to correct critical areas of child endangerment and exploitation in its ‘Children, Not Soldiers’ campaign,
39
40 *Reiterating* Security Council Resolution 2143 urging Member States, the international community, NGO’s, and civil
41 society to assist in the safe reintegration of child refugees into society,
42
43 *Reaffirming* that having a safe and secure environment for children in refugee camps is essential to ensure the
44 smooth provision of critical services such as education and health care,
45
46 *Deeply concerned* that the recruitment of refugee children in camps as child soldiers constitutes a major threat to the
47 security and welfare of refugee children,
48

- 49 1. *Calls upon* Member States to take serious steps in implementing SDG 16, specifically target 2 which calls for
50 the end of “abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence against children”;
51
- 52 2. *Urges* all Member States that have not yet done so to ratify and fully implement the CRC including the
53 *Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts*;
54
- 55 3. *Strongly condemns* attacks on refugee camps and recruitment of vulnerable and unaccompanied child refugees
56 to armed conflicts;
57
- 58 4. *Recommends* that states hosting or accepting child refugees take special care to process these refugees by:
59
- 60 a. Examining and, if necessary, strengthening legislation concerning the treatment of child refugees in
61 keeping with the dignity a child is entitled to;
62
 - 63 b. Collaborating with civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations on an education
64 and sensitization campaign on the rights of the child and the responsibility to protect child refugees in
65 their new communities;
66
 - 67 c. Working with individual states to strengthen the institutions geared towards child refugee resettlement
68 through information sharing along with bilateral and multilateral technical exchanges;
69
- 70 5. *Urges* Member States along with UNHCR to develop an implementation plan for the six goals of the Agenda
71 for Protection (A/AC.96/965/Add. 1), and to conduct yearly reviews of the state of international child
72 protection;
73
- 74 6. *Urges* the Member States and UNHCR, in collaboration with UNICEF, and the Office of the Special
75 Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflicts to plan capacity-building of UN staff
76 and local NGOs to prevent and respond to age-based, sexual, and gender-based violence against refugee
77 children in following areas:
78
- 79 a. Management to enhance the safety of camps, including re-build of community in camps;
80
 - 81 b. Workshops for adults in camps to empower their capacity to protect their children and others by
82 themselves within their own situation;
83
 - 84 c. Workshops for children in camps to recognize and know their rights, especially their right to get legal
85 protection;
86
 - 87 d. Preservation of evidence of crimes and cooperation with investigations by authorities with jurisdiction;
88
 - 89 e. Assistance to the victims through physical and mental health care and legal advices;
90
- 91 7. *Calls upon* Member States to encourage volunteer workers to represent children in cases involving international
92 laws and crimes against all children especially those in refugee camps, including but not limited to sexual and
93 gender based violence, killing and maiming, abduction, recruitment for armed conflicts, attacks on schools, and
94 hospitals, and the denial of humanitarian assistance;
95
- 96 8. *Requests* the Secretary General through the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for
97 Children and Armed Conflict to expand the reporting of cases of targeted child abuse in conflict areas by:
98
- 99 a. Including and transmitting cases of child refugee sexual harassment and abuse by parties involved or
100 participating in a particular conflict;
101
 - 102 b. Undertaking additional training for UN Peacekeeping personnel in the necessity to protect children in
103 their custody and at refugee camps;
104

- 105 c. Identifying states which actively exploit children in conflict either through military recruitment, or
106 using them as 'spoils of war' in order to effectively avoid areas which may not be feasible for refugee
107 camps;
108
- 109 9. *Further recommends* Member States to strengthen the fight against illegal arms trade especially in preventing
110 the use of child refugees for the transfer of munitions and arms to other countries,
111
- 112 10. *Encourages* collaboration and capacity-building on the collection of migration and population data based on the
113 already existing templates to ensure effective identification of refugee children in addition to all children who
114 are potential victims of human trafficking;
115
- 116 11. *Calls for* the enhancement of cooperation between the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
117 and UNHCR in order to address child refugees who are victims of human trafficking by:
118
- 119 a. Identifying refugee camps or communities that are most vulnerable;
120
- 121 b. Educating refugee populations on the dangers presented by Transnational Organized Crime (TOC),
122 terrorist organizations, and rebel groups who abduct children for trafficking;
123
- 124 c. Engaging with host Member States to coordinate adequate security for refugee communities to prevent
125 and combat the human trafficking of child refugees;
126
- 127 12. *Underlines with concern* the heavy burden that lies on countries welcoming refugees and the necessity to share
128 the burden and responsibility from all Member States in accordance with the international burden sharing
129 principle.

Code: UNHCR/1/2

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*
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3 *Guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), which attributes certain absolute rights and*
4 *securities aimed at the wellbeing of children enforcing the protection against discrimination, detention,*
5 *imprisonment, exile, deportation, armed conflict recruitment, and any other forms of violence or neglect,*
6

7 *Supporting fully the importance of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) three, four, sixteen, and seventeen which*
8 *provide the proper foundation for stronger focus on the rights of children,*
9

10 *Firmly convinced of the importance of data collection for the purpose of protection needs assessment in accurately*
11 *evaluating refugees' status in terms of health and asylum status, in order to identify how to best assist and provide*
12 *relief to refugees,*
13

14 *Acknowledging with deep gratitude the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit's (WHS) Commitments to Action,*
15 *especially the Financing Initiative to Support the Middle East and North African region,*
16

17 *Re-emphasizing with importance of legal counseling provided to all children fleeing crisis zone and applying for*
18 *asylum,*
19

20 *Aware of the heightened vulnerability and requirement of reproductive health care and assistance for children*
21 *affected by child marriage, specifically pregnant adolescents, and the need for the appropriate medical care and*
22 *facilities to perpetuate the health and welfare to both mother and child,*
23

24 *Having received and examined Reproductive Health During Conflict and Displacement - A Guide for Programme*
25 *Managers and noting its best practices,*
26

27 *Noting with deep concern the obvious detrimental effects of the recent dramatic spike in child marriages from*
28 *twelve to over thirty-two percent in refugee camps, with the global percentage totaling over fifteen million girls in*
29 *underage marriages,*
30

31 *Appealing to all Member States to give their full commitment to the UNHCR principle of international burden*
32 *sharing and identifying durable solutions for all children at risk as stated in the UNHCR Executive Committee 55th*
33 *Session,*
34

35 *Dismayed by the high risk of exploitation, abuse, and lack of legal assistance faced by Unaccompanied and*
36 *Separated Children (UASC),*
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39 1. *Requests that Member States prioritize the full protection of the rights of refugee children as found in the CRC;*
40
41 2. *Further requests that each teacher in refugee camps take part in collection of data in the form of survey*
42 *questions developed and distributed by UNHCR to refugee camps assessing the needs of children fleeing crisis*
43 *and conflict and submit the data to respective UNHCR field office to be processed and used for:*
44
45 a. *Geographic mapping, similar to that of the Global Database of Events, Language and Tone (GDELT)*
46 *project of the prevalence of specific issues and needs related to refugee children;*
47

- 48 b. Collection and presentation of the data to an international body of Member States, UN agencies, and
49 NGOs to facilitate targeted needs alleviation and delivery of services by UNHCR and its partners, in
50 order to provide the precise and immediate action needed by those concerned;
51
- 52 3. *Further recommends* Member States to realize the importance of legal counselling provided to refugee children
53 through:
54
- 55 a. Further coordinating with the Asylum and Immigration Unit of UNHCR and pro bono legal groups in
56 Member States to provide legal counseling to refugee children and their families seeking asylum by;
57
- 58 i. Increasing the number of volunteer legal advisors in UNHCR field offices;
59 ii. Inviting lawyers from Member States with refugee camps to offer their services pro-bono in
60 UNHCR offices to provide the most vulnerable refugee children and their families with legal
61 guidance in the asylum-seeking process;
62 iii. Creating child-accessible brochures informing children and their families about where to go to
63 receive the legal assistance mentioned above;
64
- 65 b. Collaborating with international NGOs, civil societies, and human rights organizations to participate in
66 the process of providing information on legislative procedure of asylum at the field level;
67
- 68 c. Conducting focus group discussions to create innovative methods to provide information on asylum
69 procedure and refugee status determination to refugee children in a child-friendly setting;
70
- 71 4. *Remains deeply concerned* for the need of stable and ensured medical health care for pregnant minor girls living
72 in camp settlements during prenatal and postnatal stages of pregnancy, including:
73
- 74 a. Increasing the capacity of community health workers to provide psychosocial support to pregnant
75 minor girl refugees through;
76
- 77 i. Increasing the number of counselors in camps available to provide all necessary psycho-social
78 support to refugee adolescents affected by minor pregnancy;
79 ii. Encouraging the expansion and training to existing counselors to expand their counselor
80 capacity;
81
- 82 b. Creating community-based daycare centers for refugee mothers under the age of eighteen to use while
83 they are in school during the day;
84
- 85 5. *Suggests* providing reproductive health education to all adolescent refugee boys and girls in camps, schools, and
86 health centers by:
87
- 88 a. Encouraging all minor refugees' participation in reproductive health education through various
89 advocacy campaigns focusing on the different aspects of reproductive health and their effects on
90 adolescence as exemplified in *Chapter Three of the Reproductive Health During Conflict and*
91 *Displacement Guide for Programme Managers*;
92
- 93 b. Educating teachers in best practices of teaching reproductive health in refugee camps, especially
94 sensitization to cultural differences in approaching the topic through the *Core Package of Reproductive*
95 *Health Interventions* of the aforementioned guidelines;
96
- 97 6. *Requests* Member States hosting refugee children in camp settlements to meet local health standards, if
98 applicable, with the guidance of the best practices of the UNHCR Public Health and HIV Operation and
99 partnerships with NGOs and local hospitals and medical centers, for proper delivery procedures and birth
100 control measures to maintain the health of expectant minor refugee mothers and their children by:
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- 102 a. Providing contraceptives and sanitary health kits under example of the *Provision of Reproductive*
103 *Health in Conflict and Emergency Situations*;

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- b. Pairing with medical NGOs and local governments to provide post-natal equipment and medical care to any refugee child (including pregnant mothers) residing in camp settlements;
7. *Further invites* Member States to put all resources they can toward the aforementioned initiatives in accordance with the “international burden sharing” principles and remind Member States to:
- a. Underline with concern the fact that developed countries have special responsibilities to aid those countries hosting large amounts of refugees, seeing that 86% of refugees are hosted in low and middle-income countries;
 - b. Insist on the responsibility to which every Member State agreed at the 2016 WHS to raise the ceiling of the central emergency response fund and to fund it accordingly.



Code: UNHCR/1/3

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*

2
3 *Guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human*
4 *Rights,*

5
6 *Committed to the cooperation models and multilevel approaches as enshrined in the Preamble of the UN Charter,*

7
8 *Recognizing the fundamental importance of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as its Optional*
9 *Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict,*

10
11 *Emphasizing General Assembly resolution 70/137 and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the*
12 *Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict are critical for protection of children in any sort of a crisis,*

13
14 *Referring to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, adopted in 2009 by the General Assembly,*

15
16 *Reaffirming the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goals number 2 and 3,*

17
18 *Underlining the fundamental importance of cooperation with such organizations as United Nations Children's Fund*
19 *(UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs*
20 *(OCHA), as well as other relevant institutions and organizations,*

21
22 *Following the guidelines of General Assembly resolution 63/188 that emphasizes the vital importance of family*
23 *reunification,*

24
25 *Emphasizing the essential role of culture and language for the identity of children,*

26
27 *Recalling the General Assembly Resolution 44/25 Article 3 to reiterate the importance of the institutions, services,*
28 *and facilities responsible for the care or protection of children,*

29
30 *Recognizing that long-term programs by the International Fund Agricultural Development (IFAD) have been having*
31 *a positive effect on refugees in many areas of the world,*

32
33 *Recognizing the values of cooperation among regional organizations such as African Union, and their approach*
34 *towards children's rights in the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC)*
35 *Charter,*

36
37 *Referring to the success of the Tripartite Agreement between the Government of Kenya and Somalia and UNHCR*
38 *on governing the voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees living in Kenya (2013), and EC/54SC/CRP14 Article 38,*

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40 1. *Urges Member States in collaboration with UNHCR to improve and establish shelters, camps, and*
41 *institutions such as schools and dormitories and to cooperate not only with international organizations but*
42 *also NGOs and companies where refugee children should be protected with:*

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44 a. *Sufficient food assistance by introducing food projects with support from not only NGOs, but also*
45 *international organizations such as WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)*
46 *based on:*

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- i. Good practices for feeding programs such as Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP), Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP), and School Meals Programme conducted in Africa by World Food Programme (WFP);
 - ii. Agroecology, which is agricultural production systems introduced by FAO in 2014, in order to manage sustainable food systems to spread as much food assistance as possible among schools and shelters;
 - iii. R.E.S.O.L.V.E program, which stands for Review, Enumerate, Systemize, Optimize, Launch, Verify, Enhance, in order to provide an efficient program in order to analyze the information for improvement of food security;
 - b. High quality health care by:
 - i. Equipping shelters and refugee camps with adequate medical facilities to attend to the various health needs of refugee children, in particular, the services allowing for the recovery of children suffering from PTSD;
 - ii. Providing immunization and primary care including preventative care;
 - iii. Adopting specific measures that will be undertaken to provide sexual and reproductive health education to children at appropriate ages;
 - iv. Providing necessary assistance to victims of age-based, sexual and gender-based violence including medical treatments and medical health cares;
 2. *Urges* Member States to create national electronic databases (National Electronic Databases Project) of child refugees that should:
 - a. See involved groups of social workers or volunteers surveying children and analyzing the information;
 - b. Include information on name, surname, age, gender, nationality, and whereabouts of children;
 - c. Be strictly protected from abuses and illegal access of unauthorized people;
 - d. Promote family reunification;
 - e. Increase the ability of states to provide food and necessary medical assistance to children;
 3. *Encourages* Member States to increase cooperation by merging national data bases in order to create subsequently an efficiently functioning regional databases of children fleeing from conflict zones and conflict areas;
 4. *Invites* willing and able Member States to provide:
 - a. Necessary technological expertise;
 - b. Economical support in form of a new National Databases Fund for Refugee Children under the UNHCR;
 - c. Technical equipment for realizing this project;
 5. *Invites* Member States to support the creation of Culture Preservation Centers under the aegis of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which will:
 - a. Provide information about the culture of the places where these children come from;
 - b. Give linguistic support to the children;
 - c. Teach children about the traditions and values of the host country;

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6. *Invites* for this aim to promote training of Centers' personnel in order to guarantee their fluency in both the language of the host country and country of origin;
 7. *Suggests* Member States ratify the OP-CRC-AC as a model framework to save children from any affairs which give a threat to their health, while adopting not only international approaches, but also regional frameworks and agreements with support from other international organizations.

Code: UNHCR/1/4

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*
2
3 *Recalling* Article 24 Section 2e of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, which states that all segments of
4 society, especially children, should have access to education,
5
6 *Further noting* the World Humanitarian Summit and its outcome and the need for funding aimed at the provision of
7 education and included learning opportunities for children during conflicts and crises,
8
9 *Recognizing* the importance of such initiatives as the fund Education Cannot Wait and UNHCR's Educate A Child
10 in order to provide children refugees with access to learning opportunities and educational equipment in times of
11 conflict and crises,
12
13 *Recognizing* that education provides opportunities to contribute to the greater community regardless of citizenship or
14 refugee status,
15
16 *Observing* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 on quality education and SDG 5 on gender equality as it relates
17 to girl refugees and forced migrants in conflict areas,
18
19 *Deeply concerned* about the situation of refugee children becoming victims of child trafficking and sexual
20 exploitation, especially unaccompanied and separated children (UASC),
21
22 *Fully aware* of the fact that children who have the opportunity to be educated are less prone to be victims of human
23 trafficking and sexual exploitation,
24
25 *Recognizing* the obligation of all Member States to contribute to the well-being of all refugees, especially to the
26 development of refugee children under the *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees*, regardless of their ability
27 to host refugees fleeing from conflict and crisis within their state borders,
28
29 *Welcoming* the creation of various programs and actions following the guidelines of the UNHCR's voluntary
30 repatriation programs and the Solidarity Resettlement program to ensure the safe and secure resettlement and
31 reintegration of refugees in host states,
32
33 *Acknowledging* the need to register refugees in their host states suggested and outlined in the *Regional Child*
34 *Protection Framework* to provide resources for refugees to educate and reunify children and their families,
35
36 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution 70/1 outlining a comprehensive model for addressing needs of refugees and
37 the commitment of Member States to achieve Sustainable Development Goal Number 4, which ensures inclusive
38 and quality education to allow for lifelong learning opportunities,
39
40 *Bearing in mind* that reunification with families and guardians will create a stable environment which is essential for
41 children's development to education and growth,
42
43 *Observing* some Member States' intentions to receive refugee students into universities through a government-
44 sponsored exchange program as well as the international capabilities of such a plan if implemented globally,
45
46 *Acknowledging* the UN Institute of Training and Research (UNITAR) as the premier organization for the training of
47 individuals and staff, both locally and globally, to enact UN plans and policies,

48
49 *Stressing* that education lays the foundation for efficient reintegration and an independent life, and that a lack of
50 education in refugee camps will continue to affect refugee children,
51
52 *Noting with satisfaction* the work of the Think Equal Campaign, a civil society initiative working in refugee camps,
53 to promote social and emotional learning for young children in critical growth ages,
54
55 *Recognizing* the work of the Interagency Standing Committee to communicate, distribute, and provide resources,
56 data, and other necessary tools for proper cooperation and coordination between agencies and other Member States
57 for refugees,
58
59 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 64/142 which states the necessity of strengthening the growth and well-
60 being of a family environment that leads to a better upbringing and development for children,
61
62 *Realizing* the need for consideration of varying cultures and peoples when educating refugees, addressing the
63 individual circumstances presented,
64
65 *Acknowledging* that education is a basic human right as established in Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of*
66 *Human Rights* and that through higher education programs, such as the Refugee Higher Education Program (RHEP)
67 and Borderless Higher Education Program (BHER), stagnation of the education of child refugees in camps can
68 decline and ultimately lead to more efficient and successful resettlement of refugees,
69
70 *Defining* Knowledge Society as a society that fosters and multiplies access to knowledge and education which can
71 be used to improve the human condition and emphasizing the importance of including refugees in building these
72 knowledge societies on a global scale, in reference to UNESCO's World Report *Towards Knowledge Societies*,
73
74 *Recognizing* the right of birth registration enshrined in the Convention of the Rights of the Child and also
75 emphasized in the United Nations Human Rights Council resolution 19/9, which is crucial for ensuring the
76 enjoyment of rights and being alarmed by the consequences of statelessness as difficulties emerge in providing
77 access to social services such as healthcare and education facilities,
78
79 *Believing* that cooperation between international organizations, regional agencies, governments, and NGOs is key in
80 addressing the issue of registration processes of displaced persons by enabling each organization in giving
81 immediate and precise actions required by the persons concerned,
82
83 *Alarmed by* the UN Office on Drugs and Crime's *2009 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* which states 20% of
84 all trafficking victims are children and recognizing that refugee camps increase trafficking risks,
85
86 *Noting* the resource that provides distance learning through internet and satellite technology focusing on youth
87 education even when displaced,
88
89 *Recognizing* that the largest share of the world's refugees and the cost of education and protection for refugee
90 children has unfairly burdened particular areas of the world,
91
92 *Further understanding* the important role NGOs, along with Inter-Governmental Organizations, play within the
93 international community especially when realizing policies and plans on site,
94
95 1. *Emphasizes* the need for Member States that host refugees to cooperate with NGOs that provide
96 educational programming and assist in educational access to provide as many opportunities for refugee
97 children and their families to enroll in schooling as possible;
98
99 2. *Advocates* for engagement with education-focused NGOs in order to provide additional financial and
100 human resources to existing host Member States to:
101 a. Work with Member States to identify resource gaps;
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- b. Identify refugee communities that are most limited in their access to education;
 - c. Prioritize NGO resources to serve these communities;
3. *Encourages* supporting children through educational programs to inform and raise awareness of child trafficking led by the Interagency Standing Committee through:
- a. Investing in research programs and exchanging data on child trafficking such as IOM's trafficking database which includes the number of victims assisted, their country of origin, age, travel route, and the manner in which they were trafficked,
 - b. Emphasizing the importance of cooperation between civil society, governments, businesses, international organizations, and the media to bring attention to the issue of child trafficking through social media campaigns,
 - c. Informing refugee children on the characteristics of child trafficking to enable them to recognize and report trafficking;
4. *Suggests* the need for central rehabilitation centers within the refugee camps to handle victims of child trafficking through:
- a. Reintegrating victims of human traffickers avoiding any political, social, and cultural stigmatization;
 - b. Providing education according to the child's education level identified by using the International Standard Classification of Education established by UNESCO;
 - c. Protecting the confidentiality of refugee children;
5. *Endorses* the programs that attempt to prevent educational stagnation in refugee camps and promote successful resettlement and integration into communities by establishing strong early education as child refugees enter camps and guide child refugees through higher education by working with NGOs such as Education Above All (EAA), and supervision of the successful Refugee Higher Education Program (RHEP) and Borderless Higher Education for Refugees (BHER) programs;
6. Recommends the utilization of the Interagency Standing Committee to provide better communication and distribution of resources and information about education to both government officials and refugees through:
- a. Providing an equal distribution of educational resources to refugee settlements for children in conflict;
 - b. Improved and increase legal advice and information on the resettlement process and expansion of resources to be properly allotted in areas that requires more attention;
 - c. Increase participation of children through appropriate child-friendly methods to aid during the reunification and resettlement process;
7. *Further invites* Member States to provide and give access to information such as name, birth, citizenship, ethnicity, and sex, to form a guardianship program based on an international database for displaced children which will:
- a. Be accessible to governmental agencies;
 - b. Monitor travelling routes of UASC, by comparing registration data on refugee children collected by other governments;

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- c. Facilitate and support the reunification of refugee minors with their families;
 - d. Encourage Member States to provide legal guardianship to children who cannot be reunified with their family, especially orphans but also including children whose families' current location cannot be specified;
 - e. Encourage the sharing of regional information between governments and agencies through Interagency Standing Committee;
8. *Calls upon* Member States to implement the necessary measures that ensure the registration of birth of children and provide them with all necessary documents;
9. *Develops* standardized educational resources designed to foster transferable skills that assist refugee children in pursuing various opportunities through:
- a. Coordination with UNICEF and UNESCO in the development of the resources while carefully considering the unique needs of refugee children;
 - b. Creation of additional resources available to existing educational facilities for child refugees that focus on:
 - i. Developing basic resources that address universal learning outcomes for literacy, numeracy, and written composition,
 - ii. Education for child refugees on the rights of migrants and refugee children;
10. *Endorses* the inclusion of non-formal educational resources created for child refugees who are unable to attend formalized schooling or where less-traditional forms of education may be more applicable and beneficial to their circumstance, recognizing that non-formal and non-traditional forms of education are flexible and adaptable for some refugee children and their situations;
11. *Encourages* the promotion of Member States' government-sponsored student exchange programs for primary, secondary, and tertiary education within those Member States for refugees, selected by UNHCR, unable to possibly receive a standard education in their current area;
12. *Requests* the assistance of UNITAR in the development of the expert curriculum especially when discussing the creation and implementation of standardized teacher training focused on refugee education include, but not limited to:
- a. Training in use of technology that is available to teachers in their specific region and to use that technology to further educational experiences for students;
 - b. Multicultural teaching, tolerance training, as well as language education tailored to areas in which educators will teach;
 - c. Education that is driven towards occupation acquirement from primary levels;
13. *Further recommends* Member States cooperate with UNESCO to implement the Capacity Development for Education for All program within existing refugee camps as it aims to make education programs operational by supporting existing efforts by Member States;
14. *Suggests* the integration of social and emotional learning (SEL) training resources for children refugee educators under the supervision of the Think Equal campaign and other civil society organizations by:
- a. Training educators in refugee camps with SEL methods and tools before their arrival to the camps;

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- b. Having SEL resources readily available so that refugee children receive education they would naturally be exposed to in a traditional family setting outside a camp;
 - c. Understanding that SEL is fundamental for children between ages 3 and 5 to have children grow to understand differences that exist among people of different races, ethnicities, and genders;
15. *Draws attention to* the use of satellite technology which provides access to internet data which:
- a. Allows youth to connect to their country of origin on the basis of their national education;
 - b. Provides the resource to teachers to reach out to students who are displaced;
16. *Welcomes* all Member States who are not able to host refugees within their state borders but are financially able to increase their donations to the UNHCR and the Education Cannot Wait Fund;
17. *Decides to commission* a report for the UNHCR for January 2018 which will assess the funding-capacity of Member States which are unwilling or unable to host refugees within their state borders in order to bolster international contributions to the fund Education Cannot Wait, by:
- a. Reporting to the UNHCR and identifying which Member States that do not host refugees are able to contribute financially;
 - b. Encouraging those identified Member States to donate to the Education Cannot Wait fund with amounts under their discretion, while aiming for a goal of 0.005% of their GNI;
18. *Affirms* careful consideration of varying circumstances of the refugee populations, specifically children, in order to promote sensitivity in resources that acknowledges differences in:
- a. Culture;
 - b. Religion;
 - c. Ethnicity,
 - d. History,
 - e. Language,
 - f. Age,
 - g. Gender;
19. *Suggests* the involvement of the Knowledge Societies plans and goals of the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization as a means to assist in the dissemination of the regional curriculum and other needed educational resources through the use of existing open-source information systems to allow UN organizations, NGOs, and private partners to share resources to all applicable parties;
20. *Urges* willing and able Member States to support through monetary assistance educational programming and the UNHCR in order to provide child refugees with access to learning opportunities and educational equipment in times of conflict and crisis; and
21. *Calls upon* applicable United Nations Organizations, Member States, NGOs, and Intergovernmental Organizations to independently assist in the collection of information for the creation of the regional curriculum and the distribution of created curriculum to Member States and other involved parties.

273 ANNEX

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275 1. *Recommends* that the United Nations Human Rights Council create a Special Rapporteur for the Rights of
276 Refugee Children in order to examine and evaluate the situation of child refugees worldwide, both inside
277 and outside of refugee camps.



Code: UNHCR/1/5

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict

1 *The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*
2
3 *Guided by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Children, which ensures the rights of every child are*
4 *protected, and enforces the protection against discrimination, and detention, as well as their right to an education,*
5 *welfare, and support,*
6
7 *Emphasizing that child refugees are the victims of crisis and conflict, which strongly affects the peace and security*
8 *of the international body, creates a lack of security, and thus demands global attention to provide security and*
9 *respect,*
10
11 *Deeply conscious of the growing size of refugee camps and the difficulty for child refugees to access the resources*
12 *available within Child Friendly Spaces,*
13
14 *Noting the United Nations Children’s Fund definition of Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) as places designed and*
15 *operated in a participatory manner where children affected by natural disasters or armed conflict can be provided*
16 *with a safe environment where integrated programming includes play, recreation, education, health, and*
17 *psychosocial support ,*
18
19 *Noting with concern that CFS programs are often not targeted towards, or as effective for, children under or over the*
20 *ages of 7 and 13,*
21
22 *Reaffirming the importance of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in assisting refugees by offering social*
23 *advice and monitoring human rights both within the country of origin and the country of asylum, as laid out in the*
24 *UNHCR Protecting Refugees: Field Guide for NGOs,*
25
26 *Recalling the manual Mental Health of Refugees created in 1996 through a joint effort by the UNHCR and the*
27 *World Health Organization (WHO) which identifies the utility of conducting thorough interviews that are culturally*
28 *sensitive, minimally invasive, and confidential,*
29
30 *Expressing its appreciation of UNHCR’s Mental Health and Psychological Support for Persons of Concern and its*
31 *use of community based approaches,*
32
33 *Highlighting the guidelines Operational Guidance Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Programming for*
34 *Refugee Operations of the UNHCR in providing mental health services to refugees that includes the promotion of*
35 *educational awareness*
36
37 *Voicing its appreciation for the efforts thus far done by UNICEF, UNHCR, and other NGOs and Civil Society*
38 *Organizations (CSOs) that have provided educational resources for refugee camps in different contexts,*
39
40 *Deeply concerned that children are the first victims of malnutrition and food insecurity in emergency and post-*
41 *emergency situations, as demonstrated by UNHCR’s 2014-2018 Global Strategy for Public Health and the*
42 *UNHCR’s 1998 Refugee Children: Guidelines on Protection and Care, and keeping in mind Sustainable*
43 *Development Goal (SDG) 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable*
44 *agriculture, as well as the fourth core responsibility: Changing People’s Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending*
45 *Need, as set by the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) in its Commitments to Action,*
46

47 *Taking note with satisfaction* of the UNHCR's continuing partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), and
48 inspired by the WFP's partnership with UNICEF to provide food based incentives for Syrian children to enroll and
49 remain in school, which was launched in 2014,

50
51 *Highly appreciating* the continuous support of private sector supporters within the UNHCR,

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53 1. *Expresses its hope* that willing and able Member States, particularly those which are not proximate to or not as
54 strongly affected by crisis and conflict, will contribute to the development and maintenance of Child Friendly
55 Spaces by:
- 56 a. Aiding in the alleviation of the economic strains that refugee camps might cause;
 - 57 b. Providing a safe haven for refugees;
 - 58 c. Protecting children fleeing from crisis and conflict areas;
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62 2. *Suggests* that UNICEF considers expanding the Child Friendly Spaces programs to be more inclusive and
63 effective for young children under 7 years old and adolescents over 13 years old;
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66 3. *Resolves* that easy accessibility to Child Friendly Spaces initiatives for child refugees should entail:
- 67 a. The implementation of multiple Child Friendly Spaces within each refugee camp;
 - 68 b. A direct correlation between refugee child population size and the amount of Child Friendly
69 Spaces available;
 - 70
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 - 72
- 73 4. *Recommends* the specialized training of NGO workers to ensure that children in crisis and conflict areas can
74 access CFS, by including measures such as:
- 75 a. Recognizing the signs of children in crisis who may be facing mental strain;
 - 76
 - 77 b. Effectively initiating a partnership between the refugee community and CFS to encourage refugee
78 families to enroll their child;
 - 79
 - 80
- 81 5. *Stresses* the importance of continuing UNHCR's partnership with the WHO in order to engage with refugee
82 camp communities to identify children who are at risk of mental health issues due to experiencing physical or
83 emotional trauma, by enabling refugee aid workers with:
- 84 a. Access to the WHO MiNDbank database;
 - 85
 - 86 b. Information on child mental health in the Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020;
 - 87
 - 88 c. Psychological interview templates catered to a child's needs;
 - 89
 - 90
- 91 6. *Further invites* Member States to provide therapy and counseling programs that include activities for CFS and
92 Newly Arrived Youth Specialist Service with the help of NGOs, NPOs and governmental programs through;
- 93 a. The implementation of programs allowing children to creatively express themselves by having
94 workshops related to art, music, theater, and dancing, such as the programs fostered by Art
95 Therapy Without Borders;
 - 96
 - 97 b. Physical activities such as sports and yoga, as exemplified by the works of Right to Play;
 - 98
 - 99
- 100 7. *Recommends* the promotion of seeking mental health assistance within the Child Friendly Spaces by imploring
101 aid workers to engage in outreach within the refugee camps with the purposes of:
- 102

- 103 a. Promoting mental health awareness through shared conversations;
104
105 b. Reducing the stigma of receiving mental health treatment;
106
- 107 8. *Expresses its readiness* to collaborate with Member States, the WFP, and UNICEF to provide food-based
108 incentives for refugee children to attend CFS in the form of additional food rations, namely snacks made of date
109 bars fortified with vitamins and minerals, to be consumed on the premises of the CSF;
110
- 111 9. *Encourages* the involvement of the private sector in supporting the creation of safe spaces for child refugees
112 through:
113
- 114 a. Financial assistance for existing Child Friendly Spaces and donations of supplies for the activities
115 they organize;
116
- 117 b. Funds for new Child Friendly Spaces in refugee camps lacking them;
118
- 119 10. *Trusts* that Member States will continue to collaborate with one another and other relevant stakeholders to
120 achieve the full protection for children in crisis and conflict situations.

Code: UNHCR/1/6

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Protecting Children in Crisis and Conflict

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR),*
2

3 *Guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and taking into special consideration*
4 *Article 1 (3) concerning the necessity of protecting and ensuring human rights,*
5

6 *Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, specifically Articles 1 and 3, stating the equality of*
7 *all people in terms of acquiring undeniable fundamental rights and dignities and highlighting the right of all people*
8 *to life, liberty, and security,*
9

10 *Emphasizing the significance of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its Optional Protocol of*
11 *1967 regarding the best interest of the child, their right to survival, right to have a family, and other principles of the*
12 *well-being of the child,*
13

14 *Taking into consideration the need for children to be with their family unit in order to ensure their mental and*
15 *developmental well-being,*
16

17 *Following the guidelines of General Assembly resolution 63/188 that emphasizes the vital importance of family*
18 *reunification,*
19

20 *Recognizing the importance of strengthening the effectiveness of the mechanism working with unaccompanied and*
21 *separated asylum-seeking children introduced by the UNHCR Guidelines on Policies and Procedures in dealing*
22 *with Unaccompanied Children Seeking Asylum of 1997, as this group of children is in an especially vulnerable state*
23 *of being temporarily or permanently deprived of their supportive family environment,*
24

25 *Guided by the statement of the second part of the outcome document of Summit for Refugees and Migrants 2016,*
26 *New York Declaration, relating to recognition of the comprehensive approach as the main tool for providing*
27 *adequate assistance and protection for refugees all over the globe and appreciating positive outputs of*
28 *implementation of UNHCR Framework 2012 for protection of children,*
29

30 *Considering the positive results of the global redistribution scheme of refugees known as the Gateway Protection*
31 *Program, in particular the successful resettlement of over 100,000 people in 2014 alone,*
32

32 *Recognizing the threat of nullifying of children's dignity and violation of rights and freedoms of refugee children*
33 *who are situated in the areas affected by armed conflicts,*
34

35 *Alarmed by the lack of provision of refugee children and their parents with the rights and specific services providing*
36 *additional protection based on causes and consequences of displacement,*
37

38 *Acknowledging the necessity to mitigate and monitor such consequences of human mobility as xenophobia and*
39 *racism, as well as discrimination, especially in the context of children, and to that extent,*
40

41 *Deeply concerned about the right to be registered at birth enshrined in Article 7 of the Convention of the Right of the*
42 *Child and in Human Rights Council resolution 19/9,*
43

44 *Expressing its deepest regret towards the current challenges of birth registration systems such as the lack of access*
45 *to centers, as well as weak approach to adaptation for indigenous people along with people having different*
46 *residence statuses and proclaims primary responsibility of the UNHCR to respond to the aforementioned obstacles*
47 *and ensure their elimination as well as provide consultations,*
48

- 49 1. *Encourages* host states or destination states to establish and provide reception centers that are specialized and/or
50 accommodative to children while including the following:
51
52 a. Employees or volunteers from public children welfare and social centers;
53
54 b. Child friendly spaces and/or nursery area;
55
56 c. Basic and daily services, legal assistance, and psychosocial guidance;
57
- 58 2. *Recommends* Members States with reception centers to establish a family reunification desk that will be:
59
60 a. Providing a monitoring system of birth registration, arrival and departure records, and family
61 consensus facilitated by civil society groups, non-governmental organizations, volunteers, and/or
62 national statistics office;
63
64 b. Providing reunification services in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration and
65 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
66
67 c. Collaborating with trained government officials to ensure Unaccompanied and Separated Children
68 (UASC) are properly identified, and are provided with the proper treatment and protection in relation
69 to the state of the individuals to facilitate the process of family reunification;
70
- 71 3. *Further recommends* improving the efficiency of birth registration through the establishment of birth
72 registration offices alongside the reception centers, which will:
73
74 a. Inform incoming refugees regarding the importance and necessity of birth registration, and the details
75 of the process involved in birth registration;
76
77 b. Ensure that the birth registration is available and accessible to all regardless of origin, language,
78 gender, age, and religion;
79
- 80 4. *Encourages* Member States with reception centers to provide services to support the family in finding
81 permanent stability by:
82
83 a. Providing counselors to assist adult refugees with finding permanent housing or resettlement options;
84
85 b. Ensuring that career counseling and support for adult refugees' employment are available and
86 accessible;
87
- 88 5. *Recommends* the establishment of a non-binding redistribution scheme for orphaned children refugees which
89 will be managed by a panel of experts elected by the UNHCR and operating with the direct supervision of the
90 UNHCR, and will:
91
92 a. Select unaccompanied child refugees suitable for redistribution taking into particularly into
93 consideration that younger children are more vulnerable than older ones
94
95 b. Select the countries from and to which child refugees should be resettled, taking the share of refugees
96 already accepted by the host country particularly into account;
97
98 c. Report every six months on the results of the implementation;
99
100 d. Encourage NGOs and private companies for financial cooperation through initiatives to facilitate the
101 selection and resettlement of refugees
102
- 103 6. *Calls upon* Member States involved in UNHCR *Framework for the Protection of Children 2012* to analyze the
104 progress achieved in the context of implementation of aforementioned framework which articulates six goals

105 that encapsulate UNHCR's commitment to protect and realize the rights of children and offers practical
106 comprehensive guidance on how to achieve those goal including:

- 107 a. Advocating against all forms of discrimination;
- 108 b. Preventing and responding to abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation;
- 109 c. Ensuring immediate access to appropriate services;
- 110 d. Ensuring durable solutions in the child's best interests;

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- 116 7. *Urges* Member States to provide UNHCR with the current results on the implementation of the UNHCR
117 Framework 2012 for the Protection of children in order to identify disadvantages and positive impacts of the
118 program and develop new methods related to treatment of refugee children especially unaccompanied and
119 separated ones in more effective way for further enlargement of the Framework via involving more crisis-
120 affected countries;
- 121
- 122 8. *Fully supports* the collaboration between the UNHCR, Member States and the UN Department of Public
123 Information aimed at raising of awareness about the vulnerability of refugee children and the obligation of the
124 international community to provide them with assistance by creating publications and videos that encourage
125 coexistence;
- 126
- 127 9. *Encourages* Member States to develop upon the guidelines and training programs regarding the vulnerability
128 and the identification and treatment of unaccompanied and separated children incorporating UNHCR
129 *Guidelines on Policies and Procedures in dealing with Unaccompanied Children Seeking Asylum* of 1997 and
130 ensuring that government officials in charge of immigration control are capable to detect all of the
131 circumstances of displacement, and to provide them with proper protection and facilitate the process of family
132 reunification;
- 133
- 134 10. *Recommends* all Member States to strengthen cooperation with civil society, implementing and financing
135 programs for local humanitarian association and schools, in order to ensure that children have an access to the
136 entertaining activities developing their psychological state and an opportunity to integrate into society;
- 137
- 138 11. *Recommends* Member States to join the "Together – Respect, Safety and Dignity for All" campaign under the
139 response of the Secretary-General striving to change negative attitudes towards refugees, and to strengthen the
140 social contract between host countries and communities, refugees and migrants.