

14-18 April 2019

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



Conference B

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Committee Staff

Director	Michael Valdivieso
Assistant Director	Melissa Salgado
Chair	Maame Dede Aggrey
Rapporteur	Tatiana Colonel
Rapporteur	Samantha Moore

Agenda

- I. Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
- II. Supporting Sustainable Return and Reintegration of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
- III. Strengthening the Capacity of Refugees Resettlement Countries

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
UNHCR/1/1	Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons	60 votes in favor, 4 votes against, 2 abstentions
UNHCR/1/2	Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons	61 votes in favor, 2 votes against, 3 abstentions
UNHCR/1/3	Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons	Adopted without a vote
UNHCR/1/4	Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons	60 votes in favor, 1 vote against, 5 abstentions
UNHCR/1/5	Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons	43 votes in favor, 20 votes against, 2 abstentions
UNHCR/1/6	Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons	50 votes in favor, 4 votes against, 12 abstentions

Summary Report

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

- I. Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
- II. Supporting the Sustainable Return and Reintegration of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
- III. Strengthening the Capacity of Refugee Resettlement Countries

The session was attended by representatives of 73 Member States and one Observer state. On Sunday night, the committee adopted the agenda of I, II, III, beginning with the discussion on the topic of “Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons.”

By Monday, the Dais received a total of 10 working papers covering a wide range of sub-topics, such as the use of technology to strengthen sustainable infrastructure for shelter, the needs of vulnerable groups regarding shelter, and the added value of partnerships between Member States and non-governmental organizations and private corporations. On Tuesday, through dedicated collaboration, delegates successfully managed to combine ideas brought by different working groups into a total of 6 working papers.

On Wednesday, 6 draft resolutions were approved by the Dais, one of which had amendments. The committee adopted 6 resolutions following voting procedure, one of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including the sustainable use of technology in shelter management, the creation of better systems for waste and hygiene management in high occupancy areas, as well as the necessity of partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to provide refugees with materials and skills needed to create safe and adequate shelter. Throughout the week, delegates were eager to work, discuss, and share their ideas for the benefit of creating adequate shelter for both Internally Displaced Persons and refugees. Delegates continuously reminded one another of the significance and benefits of collaboration on this timely and urgent issue.



Code: UNHCR/1/1

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*

2
3 *Recalling the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants 71/1 (2016) stating the importance of*
4 *improving the safety aspect of shelters in refugee-hosting countries through the provision of humanitarian*
5 *assistance and coordinated response by Member States,*

6
7 *Mindful of the Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) specifically article 21*
8 *that reaffirms the housing rights for refugees and shelter conditions equivalent to that of citizens within*
9 *host countries to be recognized by the international community,*

10
11 *Reconfirming the New Urban Agenda (2016), specifically articles 5 and 11, which focus on readdressing*
12 *human settlements and the importance of managing sustainable development to reduce inequality and*
13 *ensure the resilience of infrastructure,*

14
15 *Reaffirming the clause 78 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (2015) which notes the relevancy of*
16 *worldwide accountability for human impact on the environment with assistance from the public and private*
17 *sector to ensure refugee camps are able to withstand environmental disasters,*

18
19 *Acknowledging with deep gratitude the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) chiefly articles 22*
20 *and 25 which assert every person's right to an adequate standard of living and social security through the*
21 *effort of international cooperation,*

22
23 *Calling attention to the importance of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development (2015), especially*
24 *the Sustainable Development Goal 7 which ensures universal access to affordable, reliable and modern*
25 *energy services,*

26
27 *Having regarded the Charter of the United Nations (1945) with intentional focus on article 71 which*
28 *stipulates that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) may give input and aid in social and economic*
29 *matters,*

30
31 *Recalling article 16 of the Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions*
32 *relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions A/C.3/71/L.44 (2016)*
33 *which encourages cooperation between national authorities, United Nations agencies, international and*
34 *intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, the private sector, and NGOs to coordinate*
35 *emergency relief and crisis assistance,*

36
37 *Considering the Economic and Social Council Resolution E/1996/31 (1996), which outlines current and*
38 *appropriate arrangements regarding seeking consultation from NGOs as well as inclusion of NGOs in*
39 *United Nations meetings when an invitation is extended,*

40
41 1. *Encourages creating an international framework outlining any necessary guidelines for coordination,*
42 *with special attention to the availability of brownfields and any such use of them; that all relevant*
43 *actors, agree to follow; which incorporates NGOs, state actors, IOs, and other relevant actors in*
44 *housing refugees and internally-displaced persons (IDPs), structuring it by:*

45
46 a. *Electing a Chair and Vice Chair who will act in facilitation and evaluation roles;*

47

- 48 b. Forming sub-committees to pinpoint and prioritize specific shelter concerns, such as Camp
49 Management, Shelter Infrastructure, Sustainability, Land-Use, and Sanitation and Water
50 Needs that:
51
- 52 i. Have been pre-authorized by a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
53 (UNHCR) accredited team to evaluate available sites;
 - 54 ii. Maintain suitable development for refugee accommodation financing that have not
55 previously been earmarked for development;
 - 56 iii. Emphasize the sharing of responsibility between these relevant actors;
 - 57 iv. Create evaluative mechanisms to analyze camps and brownfields to be completed by
58 the Chairs and Vice Chairs to measure any progress made by the framework;
59
- 60 2. *Calls upon* all willing Member States to use the framework for the construction of:
61
- 62 a. Accommodation to enable progressive social integration guided by the UNHCR officials;
 - 63
 - 64 b. Accommodation for the residence of both locals and refugees to ensure comprehensive
65 levels of intercultural connectivity;
 - 66
 - 67 c. Social structures such as schools and educational programmes;
 - 68
 - 69 d. Medical facilities that provide walk-in medical care;
70
- 71 3. *Recommends* the redefinition of what qualifies as an “adequate shelter” as set by the Office of the
72 United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) through the inclusion of the
73 importance of self-sustainability in refugee communities through:
74
- 75 a. Educational and social services in part of adequate services, such as:
76
 - 77 i. Expanding the access to devices which enables refugees to learn online courses;
 - 78 ii. Language courses following with a final test to serve as a certification;
 - 79 iii. Exchanging books with local citizens under the leadership of community;
80
 - 81 b. Training programs to make sure refugees are directly integrated in the procedures of the
82 camp, which contains:
83
 - 84 i. Inviting volunteers share the same background with refugees to work as teachers in
85 shelter;
 - 86 ii. Promoting sustainable building techniques;
87
 - 88 c. Adequately address forced displacement on land including potential brownfield land;
89
- 90 4. *Encourages* the increased collaboration with private sectors to increase responsibility sharing in
91 providing adequate shelter for refugees and IDPs, by:
92
- 93 a. Promoting the channeling of donations that support sustainable shelter for refugees, like:
94
 - 95 i. Cash donations to assist sustainable shelter efforts;
 - 96 ii. Minimum standard supplies such as shelter, clothes, food, blankets, metal sheets,
97 and cooking items;
98
 - 99 b. Sharing innovative ideas and technology on improving the quality of the life of refugees in the
100 shelter;
101

- 102 5. *Requests* the provision of adequate housing and regular evaluation of housing safety through
103 voluntary Member States and relevant partners, specifically those primarily receiving large refugee
104 populations and large IDP populations by:
105
- 106 a. Providing effective housing units on a country by country basis for refugees living within
107 camps because it is a strong long-term solution and by incorporating technology into refugee
108 camps, better housing will facilitate the integration;
109
 - 110 b. Requesting Member States to create plans of action where epidemiological/public health
111 problems concerning IDPs and refugees can be addressed to protect the health of the entire
112 population, these concerns are to be in accordance with the hosting Member State;
113
 - 114 c. Improving water and hygiene infrastructure through cooperation from relevant NGOs and
115 public-private partnerships (PPPs), such as IRC-WASH and the Stockholm International
116 Water Institute by:
117
 - 118 i. Assessing camps to discern the best possible route of action for reconfiguring water
119 systems;
 - 120 ii. Latrines being placed far from the water supply, utilization of a cistern if climate is
121 adverse or spring water is unobtainable, and usage of tests for water quality and if
122 necessary, purification;
 - 123 iii. Improved water purification equipment and centralized sewage treatment instead of
124 transporting water by trucks;
125
- 126 6. *Calls Upon all willing* Member States to adopt a series of best practices as stated in the *Addis Ababa*
127 *Action Agenda* to create sustainable development initiatives with cooperation from relevant partners
128 by the year 2022, through:
129
- 130 a. The creation or revitalization of *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* based programs in each Member
131 State to further engage local authorities in sustainable development;
132
 - 133 b. The promotion of the Tent Partnership for Refugees to facilitate the creation of a triangular
134 relationship between local governments, private corporations, and NGOs to provide
135 sustainable shelter and alternative to camp policies, with specific attention to:
136
 - 137 i. Supporting the implementation of Airbnb's Open Homes Refugee Housing to
138 temporarily host refugees until long-term shelter is found;
 - 139 ii. Supporting the implementation of the Unilever-Lifebuoy hygiene program, to increase
140 refugee access to hygiene, clean water, and sanitation infrastructure in refugee and
141 IDP shelters;
142
 - 143 c. The creation and adoption of national shelter strategies specific to urban versus rural areas
144 and the recognition that urban and rural forcibly displaced migrants each have their own
145 specific shelter needs;
146
- 147 7. *Further encourages* participating Member States to commit to using Refugee Housing Units (RHU) to
148 build shelters for refugees and IDPs:
149
- 150 a. Priority will be given for the production of RHU to the least developed countries in order to
151 stimulate economic production;
152
 - 153 b. Ideally, RHU resources will be locally available and used for sustainable construction of
154 housing developments in projects such as those aforementioned;
155
- 156 8. *Recommends* willing Member States to use renewable energy technology for the creation of
157 adequate housing by encouraging the integration of renewable energy technology into refugee camps

158 of neighboring Member States of ongoing refugee crises in order to deliver electricity and promote
159 technology use for every refugee household by integrating renewable energy technology within 3 year
160 of a willing Member State requesting assistance.



Code: UNHCR/1/2

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*
2
3 *Guided by Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) which states the inalienable*
4 *rights of adequate living conditions,*
5
6 *Recognizing the right to adequate standards of living as stated in Article 11 of the International Covenant*
7 *on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966),*
8
9 *Deeply concerned by the lack of established global standards and worldwide guidelines for shelter*
10 *conditions,*
11
12 *Cognizant of the decreased quality of shelters provided to refugees and internally displaced persons*
13 *(IDPs) within host nations,*
14
15 *Stressing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015), specially the Sustainable Development*
16 *Goal (SDG) 11.1, which calls for access to equitable, adequate, safe and affordable housing, and the*
17 *Right to Adequate Housing, which asserts that housing must be secure, habitable, and accessible to*
18 *disadvantaged and marginalized people,*
19
20 *Acknowledges the presence of innovative communities as discussed at the Comprehensive Refugee*
21 *Response Framework Annual Consultations with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and their*
22 *ideas on providing sustainable shelter through science and innovation,*
23
24 *Affirming the role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Member States and*
25 *the international community under the Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees Article*
26 *21 of the importance of regulated shelter provisions,*
27
28 *Recalling the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) that defines who is a refugee and*
29 *sets out the rights of individuals who are granted asylum and the responsibilities to shelter them,*
30
31 *Noting General Assembly resolution 25/2718 (2002) which takes into consideration what each Member*
32 *State has to offer in terms of land and resources to further shelter refugees,*
33
34 *Reaffirming that in 2016 the General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and*
35 *Migrants which addresses the conditions of refugee shelters, with the aim to create a Comprehensive*
36 *Refugee Response Framework and calling for a global compact on refugees,*
37
38 *Recalling the Right to Adequate Housing (2009) asserting that housing must be secure, habitable, and*
39 *accessible to disadvantaged and marginalized people,*
40
41 *Reaffirming the importance of local communities in terms of creating an atmosphere of safety, affiliation*
42 *and belonging within shelter facilities,*
43
44 *Deeply alarmed by intolerance towards refugee settlements in host countries,*
45
46 *Considering the New Urban Agenda (2016), which introduces informal settlements and where most*
47 *refugees and IDPs are accommodated,*
48

49 *Deeply concerned* by the current state of highly demanded refugee camps in terms of sanitation, health
50 care, schooling, infrastructure and nutrition,
51

52 *Alarmed by* the 68.5 million refugees denied of their basic human rights such as the right to adequate
53 shelter which is fundamental in recognizing their potential of individual development and alleviation from
54 their conflicted state,
55

56 *Recognizing* the importance of information system technologies and SDG 11 in achieving a monitoring
57 system for adequate shelter for refugees and IDPs,
58

59 *Noting* the importance of the UNHCR Strategic Directions (2017-2021), which underlines inclusion and
60 resilience to prioritise people's human rights and needs,
61

62 *Conscious* of the burden on Member States when accepting large numbers of refugees causing a
63 decrease in quality of shelters,
64

65 *Having considered* the principle that occupancy in refugee settlements is temporary and is contingent on
66 host countries' capacity,
67

68 *Affirming* the principle that occupancy in refugee settlements is temporary and is contingent on host
69 countries' capacity,
70

71 1. *Calls* for the establishment of a system of transitional occupancy for refugee shelters, subject to:

72
73 a. Occupant units' adherence to UNHCR standards as outlined in clause 2, subclause "a" with
74 regards to permanency;
75

76 b. Volunteer renewal and funding by host countries on a biannual basis on the standards of:

77
78 i. Reason for occupancy in settlements;

79 ii. Past five-year criminal history;

80 iii. Level of societal participation;
81

82 2. *Recommends* the creation of global standards by the UN-Habitat addressing the necessary
83 infrastructure for refugee settlements by:

84
85 a. Collaboration between Member States and local governments to implement guidelines and
86 assistance to shelter such as sanitation, electricity, running water, permanency, safety
87 concerns, education, and legal counsel;
88

89 b. Creation of yearly reports drawn by the UNHCR on the conditions of the refugee settlements
90 in order to support monitoring the shelters biannually and ensure adherence to the
91 guidelines;
92

93 3. *Suggests* that settlement placement consider possible impacts on and effects of the natural
94 environment such as eco-friendly housing establishments:

95
96 a. Via a solar-powered layer on shelter roofs, which can later be converted into batteries to
97 provide electricity;
98

99 b. Roofs equipped with a water storage tank which collects water from natural sources;

100
101 c. Thermosiphoning system that would allow water that rises to be stored in a tank to ensure
102 that the shelters are not flooded;
103

104 d. The use of recycled materials to decrease the environmental impact can be implemented by:

- 105
106
107
108
109
- i. Using salvaged or reclaimed wood for construction of shelters the harm to the environment harvesting causes is decreased;
 - ii. Choosing materials that will promote sustainable energy to cut down on;
- 110 4. *Emphasizes* the use of the Emergency Handbook of the UNHCR (2019) in each situation where the settlement is needed to be established, so each Member State should follow the right procedure to place the shelter, regarding socio-economic dynamic, specific context of the affected area and host nations, and natural resources;
- 111
112
113
114
- 115 5. *Suggests* dispatching research teams through the UNHCR to better understand the location of resources and potential for infrastructure by:
- 116
117
- a. Sending out respective experts in their field to survey where there are water sources and the potential for safe building with limited effects of natural disasters;
 - 118
119
120
 - b. Delegating research teams would send this information to the Member States that have taken in refugees for their safety and sustainability;
 - 121
122
123
 - c. Conducting a global-scale study on the current situation of housing facilities and their utilized capacities in order to detect unused capacities that could serve for the purpose of refugee resettlement by building a worldwide database called the International Housing Facilities Database (IHFD);
 - 124
125
126
127
128
- 129 6. *Suggests* the development of monitoring refugees and IDPs to determine the expansion shelter growth to provide adequate resources through a digital database system by:
- 130
131
- a. Each government monitoring the activity of refugees and IDPs in shelters through the digital database system done through an implementation of electronic identities (eID) to administer personal and governmental access to the associating persons;
 - 132
133
134
135
 - b. Implementing necessary document sources on the database information system to assist in monitoring and transfer of refugees and IDPs in shelters of different Member States;
 - 136
137
138
 - c. Maintaining stability in the long term for shelters by having current information in these datasets to ensure security from natural disasters for refugees and IDPs;
 - 139
140
141
 - d. Preparing for the migration of climate-related displaced individuals through updating accurate information in the database system for each Member State;
 - 142
143
144
- 145 7. *Suggests* taking advantage of an online platform by creating and implementing a database produced by the Economic and Social Council in collaboration with the UNHCR to:
- 146
147
- a. Better distribute funds and disseminate tactics to refugee settlements as determined by:
 - 148
149
 - i. The number of refugees and IDPs currently living below globally acknowledged living standards;
 - 150
151
 - ii. The financial stability and capacity of the country hosting refugee settlements;
 - 152
153
 - iii. The environmental conditions of the refugee settlement location;
 - 154
 - b. Connect and organize the efforts of NGOs, non-profits, and private companies in order to facilitate:
 - 155
156
 - i. Funding through donations and investments;
 - 157
158
 - ii. Allocation of resources, such as water, food, and healthcare, to refugees and IDPs within refugee camps;
 - 159
160

- 161 iii. Implementation of dome structures for the use of the shelter for said refugees and
162 IDPs due to the increased durability to withstand adverse conditions;
163 iv. Providence of legal counsel to refugees and IDPs in order to speed the process of
164 integration into host countries or return to countries of origin;
165
166 c. Organize information sharing between Member States to discuss monetary contributions and
167 distributions to achieve set goals;
168
169 8. *Further invites* the Member States to provide adequate shelter for refugees by:
170
171 a. Giving them a sustainable place to live;
172
173 b. Supporting the technology to provide clean water, energy, facilities, and food;
174
175 9. *Emphasizes* the need for diversifying the provenance of UNHCR's capital and resources through the
176 use of NGOs, private investors and private enterprises such as:
177
178 a. Community based NGOs who could share their services beyond the local community to:
179
180 i. Provide materials that would be necessary to build adequate shelters;
181 ii. Commit additional assistance to physical labor and project planning;
182 iii. Provide food from food banks;
183
184 b. Local private investors who can provide assistance from local banks to increase the number
185 of shelters and assistance;
186
187 c. International private investors from the Member States for:
188
189 i. Bilateral and multilateral research projects regarding adequate emergency
190 accommodation, technologies, and infrastructure;
191 ii. Capacity of national health systems in refugee resettlement countries;
192
193 d. International NGOs concentrated on communication (NetHope), shelter, infrastructure such
194 as the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), and technologies and databases;
195
196 e. Private enterprises willing to share services or products such as IKEA;
197
198 10. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with private financing entities including national banks in
199 order to grant refugees, migrants, and IDP populations with access to small loans to be used to fund
200 construction projects for new and more sustainable homes:
201
202 a. Eligible refugees will be identified through the UNHCR ProGres Database, and will be notified
203 and provided a temporary address from which they can receive communications;
204
205 b. Notifying and providing a temporary address from which said refugees can receive
206 communications, ensuring that:
207
208 i. High skilled refugees are identified and have access to these small loans upon their
209 arrival;
210 ii. Refugees are able to relocate themselves and their families into urban areas with
211 greater opportunities for commerce and equitable employment to their host country;
212 iii. A streamlined relocation process is in place to help refugees find available housing
213 accommodations that will be facilitated by the assistance of local NGOs and civil-
214 society organizations (CSOs) to relieve the strain of overcrowding in existing shelter
215 facilities;
216

- 217 11. *Calls upon* the Member States to comply with the SDG Goals 3 to promote well-being for all at all
218 ages and 6 for clean water and sanitation by:
219
220 a. Engaging with local communities;
221
222 b. Encouraging the placement of settlements on agricultural grounds;
223
224 c. Conducting reviews on the progress of health and well-being and adequate access to water
225 and sanitation;
226
- 227 12. *Recommends* a close collaboration through information sharing between all Member States in order
228 to inform refugees and upon arrival of the availability and locations of fundamental necessities such
229 as amenities such as house supplies, medical aid for the refugees, and food supplies;
230
- 231 13. *Reiterates* its request to establish training courses within refugee camps for the inhabitants and any
232 volunteers who would like to help refugees and IDPs to ensure the social cohesion within the
233 shelters, on topics such as violence against women in shelters, mental and physical health of
234 refugees who have suffered from trauma, and oppression towards minority groups;
235
- 236 14. *Encourages* each Member States to the creation of a safe area where refugees can be helped with
237 the engagement of UNHCR and with the collaboration with others UN agency, NGOs and civil
238 organizations, providing:
239
240 a. Appropriate shelter where basic need will be provided (access to running water and food);
241
242 b. The medical and the psychological support to the vulnerable people;
243
- 244 15. *Urges* Member States to adhere to the *UNHCR Strategic Directions (2017-2021)*, which underline
245 inclusion and resilience to put people first, to support refugees in shelters to holistically integrate
246 within the communities they reside by:
247
248 a. Providing refugees in shelter with vocational skills training in urban and rural areas by
249 volunteer NGOs;
250
251 b. Developing language and cultural adaptation of refugees to be integrated refugees with in
252 their community to merge the gap between refugees and citizens;
253
254 c. Helping with welfare and employment to bridge the possible gaps in refugee development in
255 shelter;
256
- 257 16. *Reiterates* the implementation of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) into shelters, to separate
258 waste from drinking and hygienic water by:
259
260 a. Using the technology of water wipes and wells to deliver water rather than relying on trucks
261 and persons to carry their own water which cost a lot of seepages;
262
263 b. Using PVC or stainless-steel pipes rather than conventional water reservoirs;
264
- 265 17. *Further recommends* Member States to stronger rely on alternative accommodation facilities such as
266 host families or buddy programs in order to extend social acceptance of refugees and IDPs, correct
267 misconceptions and inform about the benefits that can arise from a transcultural community.



Code: UNHCR/1/3

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*

2
3 *Guided* by inclusive human rights principles of the right to adequate housing to promote economic, social,
4 cultural, civil and political rights, as well as the protection of refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
5 (IDPs),
6

7 *Recalling* the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 which focuses on making cities and human
8 settlements inclusive, resilient, safe, and sustainable,
9

10 *Referring* to the *Pinheiro Principles* of the Economic and Social Council that state opportunities for
11 refugees, right to sustainable shelter regardless of status, and issues such as property ownership and
12 shelter construction in the relocation and resettlement of refugees into communities,
13

14 *Acknowledging* that cash-based assistance in specific terms of grants and vouchers has been effective in
15 assisting refugees to gain supplies for shelter and building shelter in a more efficient and cost-effective
16 way and enables refugees to have choices whilst stimulating local markets,
17

18 *Affirming* the need to provide refugees and IDPs “Suitable and well-selected sites, soundly planned
19 refugee settlements with adequate shelter and integrated, appropriate infrastructure which are essential
20 in the early stages of a refugee emergency as they are lifesaving and reduce suffering” as stated by the
21 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Emergency Handbook,
22

23 *Guided* by the works of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster which aims to ensure
24 equitable access to services and protection for displaced persons living in communal settings to improve
25 their quality of life after displacement by providing cluster support field operations with tools, guidance,
26 and capacity building,
27

28 *Acknowledging* the *Guide to International Refugee Protection and Building State Asylum Systems* (2017)
29 that refugees camps must be located in safe areas that allow refugees to have access to medical
30 services, education, employment, should provide legal security for refugees in all forms, in order to
31 protect them against harassment, expulsion, discrimination and any other danger,
32

33 *Recognizing* that creating a fund in order to fully support and manage refugees and IDP shelters,
34 specifically in urban areas, can create effective, diverse, and targeted methods,
35

36 *Observing* of the *Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR)* (2011) methods of diversifying and
37 prioritizing financing and funding, as well as raising awareness for such fund,
38

39 1. *Calls* for the establishment of a system of transitional occupancy for refugee shelters, subject to:

40
41 a. Occupant units’ adherence to UNHCR standards as outlined in clause 2, subclause “a” with
42 regards to permanency;
43

44 b. Volunteer renewal and funding by host countries on a biannual basis on the standards of:

45
46 i. Reason for occupancy in settlements;

47 ii. Past five-year criminal history;

48 iii. Level of societal participation;
49

- 50 2. *Recommends* the creation of global standards by the UN-Habitat addressing the necessary
51 infrastructure for refugee settlements by:
52
- 53 a. Collaboration between Member States and local governments to implement guidelines and
54 assistance to shelter such as sanitation, electricity, running water, permanency, safety
55 concerns, education, and legal counsel;
56
 - 57 b. The creation of yearly reports drawn by the UNHCR on the conditions of the refugee
58 settlements in order to support monitoring the shelters biannually and ensure adherence to
59 the guidelines;
60
- 61 3. *Suggests* that settlement placement take into account possible impacts on and effects of the natural
62 environment such as eco-friendly housing establishments:
63
- 64 a. Via a solar-powered layer on shelter roofs, which can later be converted into batteries to
65 provide electricity;
66
 - 67 b. Roofs equipped with a water storage tank which collects water from natural sources;
68
 - 69 c. Thermosiphoning system that would allow water that rises to be stored in a tank to ensure
70 that the shelters are not flooded;
71
 - 72 d. The use of recycled materials to decrease the environmental impact can be implemented by:
73
 - 74 i. Using salvaged or reclaimed wood for construction of shelters the harm to
75 the environment harvesting causes is decreased;
 - 76 ii. Choosing materials that will promote sustainable energy to cut down on;
77
- 78 4. *Emphasizes* the use of the Emergency Handbook of the UNHCR (2019) in each situation where the
79 settlement is needed to be established, so each Member State should follow the right procedure to
80 place the shelter, regarding socio-economic dynamic, specific context of the affected area and host
81 nations, and natural resources;
82
- 83 5. *Suggests* dispatching research teams through the UNHCR to better understand the location of
84 resources and potential for infrastructure by:
85
- 86 a. Sending out respective experts in their field to survey where there are water sources and the
87 potential for safe building with limited effects of natural disasters;
88
 - 89 b. Delegating research teams would send this information to the Member States that have taken
90 in refugees for their safety and sustainability;
91
 - 92 c. Conducting a global-scale study on the current situation of housing facilities and their utilized
93 capacities in order to detect unused capacities that could serve for the purpose of refugee
94 resettlement by building a worldwide database called the International Housing Facilities
95 Database (IHFD);
96
- 97 6. *Suggests* the development of monitoring refugees and IDPs to determine the expansion shelter
98 growth in order to provide adequate resources through a digital database system by:
99
- 100 a. Each government monitoring the activity of refugees and IDPs in shelters through the digital
101 database system done through an implementation of electronic identities (eID) to administer
102 personal and governmental access to the associating persons;
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 - 104 b. Implementing necessary document sources on the database information system to assist in
105 monitoring and transfer of refugees and IDPs in shelters of different Member States;

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- c. Maintaining stability in the long term for shelters by having current information in these datasets to ensure security from natural disasters for refugees and IDPs;
 - d. Preparing for the migration of climate-related displaced individuals through updating accurate information in the database system for each Member State;
7. *Suggests* taking advantage of an online platform by creating and implementing a database produced by the Economic and Social Council in collaboration with the UNHCR to:
- a. Better distribute funds and disseminate tactics to refugee settlements as determined by:
 - i. The number of refugees and IDPs currently living below globally acknowledged living standards;
 - ii. The financial stability and capacity of the country hosting refugee settlements;
 - iii. The environmental conditions of the refugee settlement location;
 - b. Connect and organize the efforts of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), non-profits, and private companies to facilitate:
 - i. Funding through donations and investments;
 - ii. Allocation of resources, such as water, food, and healthcare, to refugees and IDPs within refugee camps;
 - iii. Implementation of dome structures for the use of the shelter for said refugees and IDPs due to the increased durability to withstand adverse conditions;
 - iv. Providence of legal counsel to refugees and IDPs in order to speed the process of integration into host countries or return to countries of origin;
 - c. Organize information sharing between Member States to discuss monetary contributions and distributions to achieve set goals;
8. *Further invites* the Member States to provide adequate shelter for refugees by:
- a. Giving them a sustainable place to live;
 - b. Supporting the technology to provide clean water, energy, facilities, and food;
9. *Emphasizes* the need for diversifying the provenance of UNHCR's capital and resources through the use of NGOs, private investors and private enterprises such as:
- a. Community based NGOs who could share their services beyond the local community to:
 - i. Provide materials that would be necessary to build adequate shelters;
 - ii. Commit additional assistance to physical labor and planning of projects;
 - iii. Provide food from food banks;
 - b. Local private investors who can provide assistance from local banks to increase the number of shelters and assistance;
 - c. International private investors from the Member States for:
 - i. Bilateral and multilateral research projects regarding adequate emergency accommodation, technologies, and infrastructure;
 - ii. Capacity of national health systems in refugee resettlement countries;

- 162 d. International NGOs concentrated on communication (NetHope), shelter, infrastructure such
163 as the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), and technologies and databases;
164
165 e. Private enterprises willing to share services or products such as IKEA;
166
- 167 10. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with private financing entities including national banks in
168 order to grant refugees, migrants, and IDP populations with access to small loans to be used to fund
169 construction projects for new and more sustainable homes:
170
- 171 a. Eligible refugees will be identified through the UNHCR ProGres Database, and will be notified
172 and provided a temporary address from which they can receive communications;
173
174 b. Notifying and providing a temporary address from which said refugees can receive
175 communications, ensuring that:
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- 177 i. High skilled refugees are identified and have access to these small loans upon their
178 arrival;
179 ii. Refugees are able to relocate themselves and their families into urban areas with
180 greater opportunities for commerce and equitable employment to their host country;
181 iii. A streamlined relocation process is in place to help refugees find available housing
182 accommodations that will be facilitated by the assistance of local NGOs and civil-
183 society organizations (CSOs) to relieve the strain of overcrowding in existing shelter
184 facilities;
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- 186 11. *Calls upon* the Member States to comply with the SDG Goals 3 to promote well-being for all at all
187 ages and 6 for clean water and sanitation by:
188
- 189 a. Engaging with local communities;
190
191 b. Encouraging the placement of settlements on agricultural grounds;
192
193 c. Conducting reviews on the progress of health and well-being and adequate access to water
194 and sanitation;
195
- 196 12. Recommends a close collaboration through information sharing between all Member States in order
197 to inform refugees and upon arrival of the availability and locations of fundamental necessities such
198 as amenities such as house supplies, medical aid for the refugees, and food supplies;
199
- 200 13. *Reiterates* its request to establish training courses within refugee camps for the inhabitants and any
201 volunteers who would like to help refugees and IDPs to ensure the social cohesion within the
202 shelters, on topics such as:
203
- 204 a. Violence against women in shelters;
205
206 b. Mental and physical health of refugees who've suffered from trauma;
207
208 c. Oppression towards minority groups;
209
- 210 14. *Encourages* each Member States to the creation of a safe area where refugees can be helped with
211 the engagement of UNHCR and with the collaboration with others UN agency, NGOs and civil
212 organizations, providing:
213
- 214 a. Appropriate shelter where basic need will be provided (access to running water and food);
215
216 b. The medical and the psychological support to the vulnerable people;
217

- 218 15. *Urges* Member States to adhere to the *UNHCR Strategic Directions (2017-2021)*, which underlines
219 inclusion and resilience to put people first, to support refugees in shelters to holistically integrate
220 within the communities they reside by:
221
- 222 a. Providing refugees in shelter with vocational skills training in urban and rural areas by
223 volunteer NGOs;
 - 224
 - 225 b. Developing language and cultural adaptation of refugees to be integrated refugees with in
226 their community to merge the gap between refugees and citizens;
 - 227
 - 228 c. Helping with welfare and employment to bridge the possible gaps in refugee development in
229 shelter;
 - 230
- 231 16. *Reiterates* the implementation of WASH into shelters, to separate waste from drinking and hygienic
232 water by:
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- 234 a. Using the technology of water wipes and wells to deliver water rather than relying on trucks
235 and persons to carry their own water which cost a lot of seepages;
 - 236
 - 237 b. Using PVC or stainless-steel pipes rather than conventional water reservoirs;
 - 238
- 239 17. *Further recommends* Member States to stronger rely on alternative accommodation facilities such as
240 host families or buddy programs in order to extend social acceptance of refugees and IDPs, correct
241 misconceptions and inform about the benefits that can arise from a transcultural community.



Code: UNHCR/1/4

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*
2
3 *Remembering* that the UNHCR mandate as dictated by the High Commissioner for Refugees and His
4 Office Executive Summary includes but is not limited to special humanitarian activities, broader
5 development work, and other various activities related to the assistance of refugees and internally
6 displaced persons, such as health care services, employment options, schools and other social facilities,
7
8 *Highly appreciating* the International Organization on Migration (IOM) *Health Promotion Strategy for East*
9 *and Southern Africa 2012-2017 (2012),*
10
11 *Reaffirming* the work done by the *Joint Assessment Missions Guidelines (JAM)*, which has been
12 conducted in collaboration with UNHCR and the World Food Program since 1994 to understand the
13 situation, profiles and needs of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), with regards to food
14 security and nutrition,
15
16 *Highlighting* the Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees Article 21, and Article 25 of
17 the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)* which both recognize the right to provide adequate
18 shelter to refugees and IDPs,
19
20 *Recalling* the *UNHCR Emergency Handbook* which establishes standards for emergency shelter, which is
21 described as a location for protection from elements, space to live, storage space for belongings, privacy
22 and emotional security within planned/ existing refugee camps,
23
24 *Reaffirming* the Nobody Left Outside Campaign which strives to protect the needs of women, children, the
25 elderly and disabled as vulnerable refugee populations who face an increased risk of abuse, sexual
26 violence, and exploitation,
27
28 *Bearing in mind* the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 stressing the importance of the Global
29 Refugee Forum to cultivate bilateral and multilateral cooperation between UNHCR and relevant partners
30 and stakeholders,
31
32 *Acknowledging* the need for Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVET) programs that enhance
33 training, education, and employment of refugees through services that support adequate shelter similar to
34 the UNESCO-partnered collaboration in Iraq,
35
36 *Emphasizing* General Assembly Resolution 64/292 on "The Human Right to Water and Sanitation," which
37 states: "The human right to water entitles everyone to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible
38 and affordable water for personal and domestic uses",
39
40 *Recognizing* Population Registration and Identity Management Ecosystem (PRIMES) as the single-entry
41 point for all digital interaction between the UNHCR and partners with the individuals who are registered,
42
43 *Acknowledging* the Global Shelter Coalition (2016) which created the secure and durable Refugee
44 Housing Unit (RHU) which can hold up to five people for three years and provide a locked door, an LED
45 lamp, kitchen, and room dividers for privacy,
46
47 *Mindful* of the 1997 UNHCR Resolution on the *Note on the International Protection* which affirms that the
48 generational refugees living in camps are causing overcrowding which results in the following
49 consequences; aid-dependency, lack of resources, and disease spreading, among many others,

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Reaffirming the Inter-Agency Standing Committee established under the UN General Assembly Resolution 46/118 (1991), and the Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychological Support in Emergency Settings which inform the Psychological First Aid principles: feeling safe, connected to others, calm and helpful,

Recognizing collaboration with Stanford University and Ennead Architect Labs in Rwanda to create programs that integrate refugee and IDP population in urban areas with host populations,

1. *Decides* accordingly to further cooperate with IOM and Member States to facilitate adequate shelter, by;
2. *Encourages* Member States to predict potential settlement locations along transport corridors in order to create emergency healthcare funds for possible refugee influxes;
 - a. Supporting partnerships with healthcare-related non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and volunteer coordination in urban refugee shelters;
 - b. Expanding the access of preventive and primary health care in refugee camps and urban shelters, following the example of the Public Health Program;
3. *Suggests* that all Member States consider the number of refugee and IDP families, women, unaccompanied minors, and other vulnerable populations so that they can provide shelter according to their needs by;
 - a. Utilizing the RHU as a model for a secure and durable housing;
 - b. Distributing informational materials on mental and physical health services, sexual assault awareness and available educational and vocational training skills:
 - i. With particular attention given to the health concerns of women and individuals with special needs;
 - ii. Increase the response capacity for refugees who suffer from severe mental health symptoms which impairs their daily function and exceeds the scale of existing State capacity;
 - c. Expand the access of preventive and primary health care in refugee camps near border areas and refugee shelters in the urban areas following the example of the Public Health Program, which publicly financed health insurance for psychological well-being of refugees;
4. *Urges* for the improvement of the UNHCR Emergency Handbooks Planned Settlement Specifications by the Global Refugee Forum through;
 - a. Specificity of long-term settlement standards and solutions regarding sustainable shelter in order to encourage development and stability by bridging the division between short term and durable long-term shelter;
 - b. Production of shelters of sufficient size to accommodate the needs of families adequately including:
 - i. Increased support for refugees' self-reliance in constructing their own accommodations;
 - ii. Implementation of a timeline for the construction of the housing;
 - c. Addition of the "ASAP" guidelines which will recall all international standards concerning refugee and IDPs shelters in a unified agreement;

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5. *Encourages* the promotion of adequate shelter through the implementation of TVET programs within refugee camps in cooperation with other relevant actors for refugees and IDPs for the purpose of improving the quality of infrastructure by:
 - a. Providing certifications, qualifications, and technical curriculums for modern trainings in vocational sectors parallel to primary and secondary education in safe learning environments as recalled in the General Assembly Resolution A/71/478 of 2017;
 - b. Facilitating the need for guidance in employment through specific hiring offices:
 - i. In order to have access to jobs and employment opportunities subsequent to graduation;
 - ii. Train TVET graduates to create new businesses with support from the employment offices;
 6. *Encourages* Member States to keep their partnership with NGOs in fundraising for projects concerning building and maintaining infrastructure within the refugee camps for refugees as well as launching simulations on a refugee influx in order to mark out the potential location of refugee camps or shelters by using satellite imagery, such as the 3D terrain model for timely and effective response to a real refugee influx under cooperation with universities;
 7. *Suggests* Member States increase contributions of previously allocated funds within a reasonable capacity to provide adequate shelter and increased quality of living for refugees and IDPs, such as to introduce innovative financing techniques and increase external financial assistance;
 8. *Fully supports* the utilization of UNHCR's Community-Based Protection to more effectively identify specific hygiene and water-related health risks in refugee shelters;
 - a. Recognizing specific sanitation issues unique to relevant communities;
 - b. Teaching refugee children good hygiene practices that address both universal and community-specific issues;
 9. *Emphasizes* the significant role of the Global Refugee Forum in strengthening the commitment to national and international cooperation and focusing international attention on global refugee situations and *further recommends* that the forum would encourage members states to implement the Sustainable Aid for Various Emergencies network which will help refugee communities to put forward daily life concerns and suggest measures that will then be ventured to national governments in charge of their coordination as follows;
 - a. Individual refugees would be able to report to their government's information addressing the needs of their communities;
 - b. The stakeholders and partners of forum will be in charge of allocating accordingly their resources to the requests of the communities;
 10. *Further recommends* PRIMES to launch a new interface which enlists the economic status of the refugees and IDPs and then allocate resources on the basis of economic profiles bearing in mind that the database is to categorize the economic profiles and provide a priority list to entertain the refugees and IDPs deprived of all economic assets;
 11. *Recommends* the promotion of programs similar to the one in Rwanda promoted by UNHCR in collaboration with Stanford University and Ennead Architect that designs shelters in urban areas to integrate refugees with host communities by;

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- a. Sharing space, water, health, education, and sanitation services with host communities;
 - b. Conducting socio-economic assessments that evaluates the urban refugee camps;
 - c. Using advanced software to conduct accurate topographical surveys that will process designs that can effectively integrate the refugee population with the host community.



Code: UNHCR/1/5

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*
2
3 *Guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), the Convention on the Political Rights of*
4 *Women (1952), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), the Guiding Principles on Internal*
5 *Displacement (1998), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015),*
6
7 *Increasingly concerned by the rising numbers of forcibly displaced migrants, currently consisting of 68.5*
8 *million people,*
9
10 *Noting with deep concern that over half of the world's refugees are children, and no less than 58% of*
11 *children were forcibly displaced because they suffered or faced harms that indicated a potential or actual*
12 *need for international protection,*
13
14 *Recognizing the challenge of climate change to achieving sustainable development as proclaimed in the*
15 *New York Declaration (2017), and expanding upon the goals of the Comprehensive Refugee Response*
16 *Framework to create a more comprehensive response through the introduction of innovative technology*
17 *and public-private partnerships,*
18
19 *Recognizing the many facets of challenges to providing adequate shelter include, but are not limited to,*
20 *allocation of resources, awareness of the plight of forcibly displaced persons, harsh weather conditions,*
21 *international and regional conflicts, funding, and education for forcibly displaced youths,*
22
23 *Acknowledging the collaborative work that has been done in the consolidation of frameworks and*
24 *cooperative shelter initiatives by Member States through organizations such as the International*
25 *Organization of Migration (IOM), and United Nations Habitat II, namely the IOM's Shelter and Non-Food*
26 *Item Programs, the UN-Habitat's Shelter Projects Series, and the UNHCR's Global Strategy for*
27 *Settlement and Shelter 2014-2018,*
28
29 *Emphasizing that the World Bank recognizes that the cheapest smartphones can be an essential asset to*
30 *refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in their journey to locating adequate shelter,*
31
32 *Acknowledging the collaborative work done by the Group for Special Mobile Association in 2010 for their*
33 *work in leveraging access to mobile technology and in bridging the gap of access to telecommunications*
34 *for women in developing Member States,*
35
36 *Deeply alarmed by the exploitation and additional hardships of refugee and IDPs, the degradation of*
37 *forcibly displaced migrant's rights as detailed in the Human Rights Council's Global Trend Report (2018),*
38 *and the vulnerability and hardships of women, children, elderly and disabled peoples, minority groups,*
39 *and stateless persons in the process of relocating to shelters as stated in the UNHCR's Handbook for*
40 *Emergencies (2007),*
41
42 *Recognizing the utility of the New Roots digital application, developed by Settlement Services*
43 *International with Beyond Blue, a non-profit working on refugee resettlement and mental health, to*
44 *increase IDPs and refugee ability to locate shelters,*
45
46 *Underscoring the crucial role of Members States in supporting the creation and implementation of the*
47 *Tracking Allocation and Organization Program (TAO), a tracking and information sharing program utilizing*
48 *personal phones to aid IDPs and refugees in locating shelters and alerting authorities in shelters to*
49 *maintain peace and security, to work towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015),*

50
51 *Seeking* to promote public-private partnerships, which allows for large-scale government and
52 infrastructure projects to be completed with private funding,
53
54 *Seeking* support from the international community for the implementation of Sustainable Shelter
55 Development Program which utilizes 3-D technology to increase the standard of living in shelters and
56 host states,
57
58 *Recognizing* the creation and implementation of the Shelter Awareness Campaign, to spread awareness
59 on the importance human rights of IDPs and refugees,
60
61 1. *Calls* for the establishment of a system of transitional occupancy for refugee shelters, subject to:
62
63 a. Occupant units' adherence to UNHCR standards as outlined in clause 2, subclause "a" with
64 regards to permanency;
65
66 b. Volunteer renewal and funding by host countries on a biannual basis on the standards of:
67
68 i. Reason for occupancy in settlements;
69 ii. Past five-year criminal history;
70 iii. Level of societal participation;
71
72 2. *Recommends* the creation of global standards by the UN-Habitat addressing the necessary
73 infrastructure for refugee settlements by:
74
75 a. Collaboration between Member States and local governments to implement guidelines and
76 assistance to shelter such as sanitation, electricity, running water, permanency, safety
77 concerns, education; and legal counsel;
78
79 b. The creation of yearly reports drawn by the UNHCR on the conditions of the refugee
80 settlements in order to support monitoring the shelters biannually and ensure adherence to
81 the guidelines;
82
83 3. *Suggests* that settlement placement take into account possible impacts on and effects of the natural
84 environment such as eco-friendly housing establishments:
85
86 a. Via a solar-powered layer on shelter roofs, which can later be converted into batteries to
87 provide electricity;
88
89 b. Roofs equipped with a water storage tank which collects water from natural sources;
90
91 c. Thermosiphoning system that would allow water that rises to be stored in a tank to ensure
92 that the shelters are not flooded;
93
94 d. The use of recycled materials to decrease the environmental impact can be implemented by:
95
96 i. Using salvaged or reclaimed wood for construction of shelters the harm to
97 the environment harvesting causes is decreased;
98 ii. Choosing materials that will promote sustainable energy to cut down on;
99
100 4. *Emphasizes* the use of the *Emergency Handbook of the UNHCR* (2019) in each situation where the
101 settlement is needed to be established, so each Member State should follow the right procedure to
102 place the shelter, regarding the specific socio-economic context of the affected area and host
103 countries;
104

- 105 5. *Suggests* dispatching research teams through the UNHCR to better understand the location of
106 resources and potential for infrastructure by:
107
- 108 a. Sending out respective experts in their field to survey where there are water sources and the
109 potential for safe building with limited effects of natural disasters;
110
 - 111 b. Delegating research teams would send this information to the Member States that have taken
112 in refugees for their safety and sustainability;
113
 - 114 c. Conducting a global-scale study on the current situation of housing facilities and their utilized
115 capacities in order to detect unused capacities that could serve for the purpose of refugee
116 resettlement by building a worldwide database called the International Housing Facilities
117 Database (IHFD);
118
- 119 6. *Suggests* the development of monitoring refugees and IDPs to determine the expansion shelter
120 growth to provide adequate resources through a digital database system by:
121
- 122 a. Each government monitoring the activity of refugees and IDPs in shelters through the digital
123 database system done through an implementation of electronic identities (eID) to administer
124 personal and governmental access to the associating persons;
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 - 126 b. Implementing necessary document sources on the database information system to assist in
127 monitoring and transfer of refugees and IDPs in shelters of different Member States;
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 - 129 c. Maintaining stability in the long term for shelters by having current information in these
130 datasets to ensure security from natural disasters for refugees and IDPs;
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 - 132 d. Preparing for the migration of climate-related displaced individuals through updating accurate
133 information in the database system for each Member State;
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136 by the Economic and Social Council in collaboration with the UNHCR to:
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 - 140 i. The number of refugees and IDPs currently living below globally acknowledged living
141 standards;
 - 142 ii. The financial stability and capacity of the country hosting refugee settlements;
 - 143 iii. The environmental conditions of the refugee settlement location;
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 - 145 b. Connect and organize the efforts of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), non-profits,
146 and private companies to facilitate:
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 - 148 i. Funding through donations and investments;
 - 149 ii. Allocation of resources, such as water, food, and healthcare, to refugees and IDPs
150 within refugee camps;
 - 151 iii. Implementation of dome structures for the use of the shelter for said refugees and
152 IDPs due to the increased durability to withstand adverse conditions;
 - 153 iv. Providence of legal counsel to refugees and IDPs in order to speed the process of
154 integration into host countries or return to countries of origin;
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 - 156 c. Organize information sharing between Member States to discuss monetary contributions and
157 distributions to achieve set goals;
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- 159 8. *Further invites* the Member States to provide adequate shelter for refugees by:
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- 161 a. Giving them a sustainable place to live;
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163 b. Supporting the technology to provide clean water, energy, facilities, and food;
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166 use of NGOs, private investors and private enterprises such as:
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- 168 a. Community based NGOs who could share their services beyond the local community to:
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- 170 i. Provide materials that would be necessary to build adequate shelters;
171 ii. Commit additional assistance in regard to physical labor and planning of projects;
172 iii. Provide food from food banks;
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- 174 b. Local private investors who can provide assistance from local banks to increase the number
175 of shelters and assistance;
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- 177 c. International private investors from the Member States for:
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- 179 i. Bilateral and multilateral research projects regarding adequate emergency
180 accommodation, technologies, and infrastructure;
181 ii. Capacity of national health systems in refugee resettlement countries;
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- 183 d. International NGOs concentrated on communication (NetHope), shelter, infrastructure such
184 as the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), and technologies and databases;
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- 186 e. Private enterprises willing to share services or products such as IKEA;
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- 188 10. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with private financing entities including national banks in
189 order to grant refugees, migrants, and IDP populations with access to small loans to be used to fund
190 construction projects for new and more sustainable homes:
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- 192 a. Eligible refugees will be identified through the UNHCR ProGres Database, and will be notified
193 and provided a temporary address from which they can receive communications;
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- 195 b. Notifying and providing a temporary address from which said refugees can receive
196 communications, ensuring that:
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- 198 i. High skilled refugees are identified and have access to these small loans upon their
199 arrival;
200 ii. Refugees are able to relocate themselves and their families into urban areas with
201 greater opportunities for commerce and equitable employment to their host country;
202 iii. A streamlined relocation process is in place to help refugees find available housing
203 accommodations that will be facilitated by the assistance of local NGOs and civil-
204 society organization (CSOs) to relieve the strain of overcrowding in existing shelter
205 facilities;
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- 207 11. *Calls upon* the Member States to comply with the SDG Goals 3 to promote well-being for all at all
208 ages and 6 for clean water and sanitation by:
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- 210 a. Engaging with local communities;
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- 212 b. Encouraging the placement of settlements on agricultural grounds;
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- 214 c. Conducting reviews on the progress of health and well-being and adequate access to water
215 and sanitation;
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- 217 12. *Recommends* a close collaboration through information sharing between all Member States in order
218 to inform refugees and upon arrival of the availability and locations of fundamental necessities such
219 as amenities such as house supplies, medical aid for the refugees, and food supplies;
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- 221 13. *Reiterates* its request to establish training courses within refugee camps for the inhabitants and any
222 volunteers who would like to help refugees and IDPs to ensure the social cohesion within the
223 shelters, on topics such as violence against women in shelters, mental and physical health of
224 refugees who've suffered from trauma, and oppression towards minority groups;
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- 226 14. *Encourages* each Member States to the creation of a safe area where refugees can be helped with
227 the engagement of UNHCR and with the collaboration with others UN agency, NGOs and civil
228 organizations, providing:
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- 230 a. Appropriate shelter where basic need will be provided (access to running water and food);
 - 231 b. The medical and the psychological support to the vulnerable people;
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- 233 15. *Urges* Member States to adhere to the UNHCR Strategic Directions (2017-2021), which underlines
234 inclusion and resilience to put people first, to support refugees in shelters to holistically integrate
235 within the communities they reside by:
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- 237 a. Providing refugees in shelter with vocational skills training in urban and rural areas by
238 volunteer NGOs;
 - 239 b. Developing language and cultural adaptation of refugees to be integrated refugees with in
240 their community to merge the gap between refugees and citizens;
 - 241 c. Helping with welfare and employment to bridge the possible gaps in refugee development in
242 shelter;
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- 244 16. *Reiterates* the implementation of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) into shelters, to separate
245 waste from drinking and hygienic water by:
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- 247 a. Using the technology of water wipes and wells to deliver water rather than relying on trucks
248 and persons to carry their own water which cost a lot of seepages;
 - 249 b. Using PVC or stainless-steel pipes rather than conventional water reservoirs;
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- 255 17. *Further recommends* Member States to stronger rely on alternative accommodation facilities such as
256 host families or buddy programs in order to extend social acceptance of refugees and IDPs, correct
257 misconceptions and inform about the benefits that can arise from a transcultural community.



Code: UNHCR/1/6

Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Providing Adequate Shelter for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

1 *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*
2
3 *Mindful of Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' speech at the World Economic Forum stating, "the urgent*
4 *need for all relevant actors to commit to inclusive and credible political dialogue to address the protracted*
5 *crisis in the country, with full respect for the rule of law and human rights" and the urgent need of ending*
6 *the "suffering of the Venezuelan people",*
7
8 *Recognizing* the complexities and challenges associated with any intervention into the sovereignty of
9 Member States, regardless of the rationale of its mission, while also in accordance with national
10 authorities to allow the delivery of humanitarian aid to internally displaced persons lacking adequate
11 shelter,
12
13 *Acknowledging* that the political climate in Venezuela has impacted the health and wellbeing of
14 Venezuelans which has become a transnational issue, and has a large impact on the Latin American
15 Member States and their economies and societies,
16
17 *Emphasizing* Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), in which all persons have
18 the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and wellbeing of themselves which include but are
19 not limited to: adequate shelter, healthcare, psychosocial development, and integration into the local
20 economy,
21
22 *Welcoming* the cooperation with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to combat violence as
23 prescribed in the joint report *Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Against Refugees, Returnees and*
24 *Internally Displaced Persons* (2003),
25
26 *Noting* that most people leaving Venezuela prefer urban areas rather than refugee camps and that many
27 European Member States have joined the Solidarity City Program to accommodate for refugees,
28
29 *Accommodating* to the set of standards set for emergency shelters for displaced people distinguished by
30 the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Emergency Handbook,
31
32 *Recognizing* with appreciation the adoption of General Assembly resolution AG/RES/46/182 (1991),
33 which established the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) as a tool to address the delivery of
34 humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations such as refugees and internally displaced persons,
35
36 *Recognizing* the efforts set forth by the IKEA Better Shelter program and their ongoing desire to assist in
37 providing adequate shelter for refugees, specifically vulnerable groups such as women and children, as a
38 long-term solution in affected situation for over 14,900 people in 22 countries in partnership with the
39 UNHCR more dignified, safety, and privacy by providing secure and lockable shelter;
40
41 *Viewing with appreciation* the work of UN Women in their mission to empower women and adolescent
42 girls to access adequate education and protection in the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of
43 Violence Against Women (CEDAW) program especially in regard to protecting these vulnerable
44 populations in times of crisis when they are most susceptible to violence in shelters and camps,
45
46 *Drawing attention to* the UNHCR electronic document, "UNHCR ramps up response as Ecuador declares
47 emergency", that estimates that 40% of refugees are women and often face serious threats of sexual
48 violence in camps, especially sex trafficking,
49

50 *Applauding* Human Rights Council Advisory Committee Report 2008/1/L.14 calling upon Member States
51 to substantially increase their voluntary contributions to the UNHCR to fulfill its mandate,
52

53 *Endorsing* the cooperation with regional organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and
54 individual donors to provide economic aid and guidance to countries affected by the refugee crisis,
55

56 *Noting with importance* the need to conserve Venezuelan sovereignty and as well as increasing
57 sustainable development and economic opportunities, as prescribed by the Sustainable Development
58 Goals (SDGs) 8 and 11, for those displaced by the Venezuelan situation, within established camps,
59

60 *Acknowledging* the European Commission *Shelter and Settlement Guidelines*, and International Human
61 Rights Law that states that all shelters provided for the internally displaced persons (IDPs) will meet
62 fundamental human needs and rights to uphold their dignity and livelihood,
63

64 *Recognizing* UNHCR's Global Shelter Coalition, launched in May 2016, which aims at providing safe,
65 dignified and sustainable shelter solutions to around 2 million refugees,
66

- 67 1. *Calls on* the major urban cities of the 16 affected countries by Venezuelans seeking international
68 protection to come together to form *Ciudades Solidarias* a program to:
69
- 70 a. Exchange information and knowledge on the Venezuelan Situation in the urban cities;
71
 - 72 b. Advocate for better involvement and direct funding for cities on reception and integration of
73 refugees;
74
 - 75 c. Facilitate city-to-city technical assistance and capacity building;
76
 - 77 d. Pledge to receive relocated asylum seekers;
78
 - 79 e. Advocate for the improvement of safety features and functions within individual shelter units
80 and camps that best protect vulnerable populations like women and children by:
81
 - 82 i. implementing educational programs that teach women techniques and responses to
83 employ during encounters of sexual abuse as well as preventative measures;
 - 84 ii. creating security training programs in camps and shelters to decrease the number of
85 women subjected to sexual abuse and violence through a partnership with funding
86 from UN Women;
 - 87 iii. establishing focus groups such as Encuentros de Mujeres that help women to find
88 the strength to pursue their rights;
89
- 90 2. *Promotes* the creation of a UNHCR aid distribution center within the Western Hemisphere intended to
91 provide immediate humanitarian aid assistance and to supply shelter in accordance with UNHCR
92 guidelines;
93
- 94 3. *Reaffirms* Member States support of refugees affected by the Venezuelan crisis providing free and
95 equitable access to essential basic services necessary for their wellbeing to the best of their ability;
96
- 97 4. *Encourages* Member States to continue their commitments to the refugee crisis through voluntary
98 donations to the UNHCR and associated inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) and NGOs that
99 tackle the refugee crisis at hand;
100
- 101 5. *Emphasizes* the need to aid Member States hosting Venezuelans displaced from the current situation
102 and offering effective support and resources to local governments to best create platforms that
103 safeguard and protect Venezuelan refugees;
104

- 105 6. *Encourages* Member States hosting displaced Venezuelan refugees to support legal mechanisms
106 within emergency camps for adopting forms for legal access for Venezuelans seeking intermediate or
107 prolonged residency in host countries;
108
- 109 7. *Calls upon* UN bodies, Member States, local authorities, NGOs, and civil society organizations to
110 utilize UNHCR's ProGres Registration Database to collect, store, and manage refugee data in order
111 to reduce the risk of migrant smuggling;
112
- 113 8. *Affirms* the attention and readiness that the Organization of American States (OAS) has made to
114 address the current situation in Venezuela along with the displacement of refugees to neighboring
115 Member States and Venezuelan IDPs within Venezuela and to encourage the:
116
- 117 a. OAS to continue its role as a mediator and negotiating body for future resolutions that
118 address the refugees and IDPs from/in Venezuela;
 - 119
 - 120 b. OAS to continue to serve as a primary body in coordinating aid management and distribution
121 to the respective actors addressing the crisis directly;
 - 122
- 123 9. *Emphasizes* the need to aid informal establishments sheltering IDPs in Venezuela and maintaining a
124 politically neutral stance by:
125
- 126 a. Endorsing the increase of funding to politically neutral NGOs, like the International Red
127 Cross, local NGOs in Venezuela, and local organizations in Venezuela to address shelter and
128 related necessities for IDPs;
 - 129
 - 130 b. Encouraging the involvement of the Venezuelan government within the mediated negotiations
131 of the OAS and politically neutral NGOs for the implementation of aid and shelters into the
132 region;
 - 133
 - 134 c. Recommending all parties to respect the need for adequate shelter and facilitate IDPs in
135 Venezuela with reasonable shelter to the fullest extent practicable, and with the least possible
136 delay through NGOs such as the International Red Cross;
 - 137
- 138 10. *Invites* Venezuela to collaborate the IASC to deliver humanitarian assistance to internally displaced
139 persons to:
140
- 141 a. Collaborate in integrating IASC structure into geographical areas comprised of internally
142 displaced persons;
 - 143
 - 144 b. Cooperate in introducing IASC-Global Shelter Cluster to support the delivery of safe,
145 dignified, and appropriate shelter through the coordination of shelter actors, local and national
146 government to increase the appropriate and efficient shelter assistance;
 - 147
 - 148 c. Allow and increase the utilization of humanitarian cluster approach to address specific
149 characteristics and accountabilities lead by an IASC recognized cluster lead agency partner
150 with national authorities;
 - 151
- 152 11. *Advocates* for the training of refugees and internally displaced persons in skilled labor through
153 Technical and Vocational Education and Training in collaboration with NGOs to:
154
- 155 a. Utilize the skilled laborers capable of providing technical aid and constructing or improving
156 upon adequate shelter in refugee camps and for IDPs;
 - 157
 - 158 b. Present displaced persons with numerous opportunities to become skilled laborers and
159 acquire technical skills and knowledge;
 - 160

- 161 c. Cooperate with NGOs such as Habitat for Humanity and corporations such as Microsoft and
162 IKEA to help train and employ the refugees to help prepare them for employment that will
163 help them integrate into society more successfully;
164
165 d. Advocate for the creation of cultural enrichment programs to encourage the continuation of
166 cultural practices among refugees;
167
168 e. Allow for the uniform recognition of diplomas and certifications obtained in regional Member
169 States.
170

171 12. *Recommends* all Member States to implement the Global Shelter Coalition, including foundations and
172 private philanthropists in order to provide safe and sustainable shelter by providing them with:
173

- 174 a. Shelter kits that provide displaced persons with a means to improve their situation;
175
176 b. Building rehabilitation to improve the infrastructure of the camps;
177
178 c. Shelter repairs.