



WASHINGTON, DC USA
November 11-13, 2016
nmun.org/nmun_dc.html



OFFICE OF THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES BACKGROUND GUIDE 2016

Written by: Ashley Boyer, Director; Kelly Morrison, Assistant Director;
Jessie-Lynn Anik Mace, Director of Conference Services



NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS



THE 2016 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

11 November - 13 November • www.nmun.org

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2016 National Model United Nations Conference in Washington, DC (NMUN•DC)! We are pleased to introduce you to our committee, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). This year's staff is: Director Ashley Boyer and Assistant Director Kelly Morrison. Previously, Ashley completed both her B.A. and M.A. in Political Science and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Cartagena, Colombia. This will be her second year on staff, and she is excited to return to NMUN•DC. Kelly graduated with a B.A. in Political Science and Spanish from Lee University and will begin a PhD in Political Science at the University of Pittsburgh this fall.

The topics under discussion for UNHCR are:

- I. Exploring Alternatives to Refugee Camps
- II. HIV and Reproductive Health Services for Displaced Persons

UNHCR is an important organization within the UN system, and it plays an integral role in advancing global refugee policy. UNHCR administers emergency assistance when crises emerge and actively works to increase collaboration between states and Nongovernmental Organizations in order to address global refugee issues. To accurately simulate the committee, the best policy recommendations both in position papers and resolutions should not only be grounded in the policies and recommendations of the UNHCR, but also the success stories of Member States' responses to particular refugee crises.

We hope you will find this Background Guide useful as an introduction to the topics for this committee. However, it is not intended to replace individual research. We highly encourage you to explore your Member State's policies in-depth, as well as use the Annotated Bibliography and Bibliography to further your knowledge on these topics. In preparation for the conference, each delegation will submit a [position paper](#). Please take note of the [NMUN policies](#) on the website and in the [Delegate Preparation Guide](#) regarding plagiarism, codes of conduct, dress code, sexual harassment, and the awards philosophy and evaluation method. Adherence to these guidelines is mandatory.

The [NMUN Rules of Procedure](#) are available to download from the NMUN website. This document includes the long and short form of the rules, as well as an explanatory narrative and example script of the flow of procedure. It is thus an essential instrument in preparing for the conference, and a reference during committee.

If you have any questions concerning your preparation for the committee or the conference itself, feel free to contact the Under-Secretary-General for the committee, Katrena Porter, or the Secretary-General for the conference, Lauren Shaw. You can reach either staff member by contacting them at: usgkat.dc@nmun.org or secgen.dc@nmun.org.

We wish you all the best in your preparations and look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Sincerely,

Ashley Boyer, Director
Kelly Morrison, Assistant Director



Committee Overview

Introduction

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), also known as the United Nations (UN) Refugee Agency, is the UN's primary agency for coordinating international action in order to protect refugees.¹ UNHCR was created on 14 December 1950 by the General Assembly (GA) to address the European refugee crisis following World War II.² The following year, the *United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* (1951), which is the legal framework for protecting refugees, was adopted.³ UNHCR won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1954 for its dedication to the refugees affected by World War II.⁴ Nonetheless, the refugee crisis following the Soviet intervention in Hungary in 1956 made it clear that the UN needed a more permanent system to protect refugees.⁵ Soon UNHCR began supporting the rights of refugees from Africa, Asia, and Latin America, and today UNHCR is active in protecting refugees, IDPs, and stateless persons in almost every major conflict.⁶

UNHCR's resources are primarily focused on addressing the needs of refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and those seeking asylum.⁷ UNHCR defines a refugee as a person who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country."⁸ The second category of people served by UNHCR are IDPs, who are individuals that moved within their own country to find refuge from human rights violations, armed conflict, or general violence and who legally remain under the protection of their own government.⁹ The third major category of people served by UNHCR are asylum seekers, who are people who have fled their country and claim to be refugees, but whose claims have not been independently verified by a national asylum system.¹⁰ UNHCR also works to address the needs of stateless individuals. The legal definition of a stateless person is "a person who is not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law."¹¹ There are many causes of statelessness, including discrimination by a state towards a particular group and the creation of new territorial boundaries by states.¹² Statelessness affects an estimated 10 million people globally and can result in individuals not being able to access basic government resources, including attending school and receiving medical care.¹³ With its staff of 9,300 people working in 123 countries, UNHCR remains the leading international organization for protecting the millions of people that have been uprooted throughout the world.¹⁴

Governance, Structure, and Membership

UNHCR is governed by the GA and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and its budget and biennial programs are approved by an Executive Committee (ExCom).¹⁵ The ExCom was created in 1958 and its purpose is to advise on international protection and discuss a wide range of other issues during its annual meetings in Geneva, Switzerland.¹⁶ The ExCom Standing Committee meets three times per year to discuss relevant issues and new

¹ UNHCR, *About Us*, 2016.

² UNHCR, *History of UNHCR*, 2016.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ UNHCR, *Who We Help*, 2016.

⁸ UNHCR, *Refugees*, 2016.

⁹ UNHCR, *Internally Displaced Persons*, 2016.

¹⁰ UNHCR, *Asylum Seekers*, 2016.

¹¹ UNHCR, *What We Do*, 2016.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ UNHCR, *About Us*, 2016.

¹⁵ UNHCR, *Governance and Organization*, 2016.

¹⁶ UNHCR, *Executive Committee*, 2016.



developments.¹⁷ ExCom’s documentation is issued in a report that is submitted directly to the GA Third Committee.¹⁸ ExCom was originally composed of 24 Member States; it increased to the current amount of 98 Member States in 2015.¹⁹ ExCom members are selected from representative geographical regions and are elected by ECOSOC.²⁰ UNHCR has a diverse national and international staff that provides protection and assistance to nearly 60 million refugees, returnees, internally displaced people, and stateless persons.²¹ UNHCR is led by the High Commissioner, Deputy High Commissioner, and Assistant High Commissioners who are responsible for implementing the agency’s mandate and obligations.²² The current High Commissioner, Filippo Grandi, was elected 1 January 2016 to serve a five-year term.²³

Mandate, Functions and Powers

The foundational framework and mandate of UNHCR can be found in GA resolution 428 (V), which is also known as the *Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees* (1950).²⁴ This founding document states that UNHCR will ensure “international protection, under the auspices of the United Nations, to refugees who fall within the scope of the present Statute and of seeking permanent solutions for the problem of refugees by assisting Governments and, subject to the approval of governments concerned, private organizations to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of such refugees, or their assimilation within new national communities.”²⁵ The *United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* (1951) is an essential document in determining UNHCR’s mandate as it defined the term “refugee” and created the legal framework for how refugees were to be protected.²⁶ Furthermore, the 1967 *Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees* removed all geographical and temporal restrictions from the convention.²⁷ The *Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons* (1954) defined and categorized stateless persons as those “not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law” and included this group under protection by UNHCR.²⁸ UNHCR was originally created with a limited three-year mandate and was to be disbanded after its mandate expired, but by 1954 its mandate was further extended until the end of the decade.²⁹ In 2003, the GA extended its mandate “until the refugee problem is solved.”³⁰

UNHCR is mandated to lead an international response in assisting refugees worldwide by providing protection, emergency response, and durable solutions.³¹ UNHCR provides initial life-saving assistance to refugees, including access to clean water and sanitation, health care, and shelter items such as blankets and sleeping mats.³² Often the worst refugee situations are those involving environmental emergencies.³³ To prepare for this, UNHCR has assembled teams of experts who are ready to deploy rapidly and who have access to emergency funds and stockpiles of humanitarian non-food items.³⁴ After the emergency is over, UNHCR works with refugees to find durable solutions that may include repatriation, resettlement, or local integration.³⁵ Another key function of UNHCR is fundraising, which is fundamental to the other services that UNHCR provides, such as refugee reintegration, emergency response, advocacy, and protection. UNHCR relies primarily on voluntary contributions from Member

¹⁷ UNHCR, *Executive Committee*, 2016.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ UN General Assembly, *Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/RES/428 (V))*, 1950.

²¹ UNHCR, *Governance and Organization*, 2016.

²² UNHCR, *The High Commissioner*, 2016.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ UNHCR, *Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*, 1950.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

²⁶ UNHCR, *The 1951 Refugee Convention*, 2016.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ UNHCR, *Stateless People*, 2016.

²⁹ UNHCR, *Governance and Organization*, 2016.

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ UNHCR, *What We Do*, 2016.

³² UNHCR, *Assistance*, 2016.

³³ UNHCR, *Emergency Response*, 2016.

³⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁵ UNHCR, *Durable Solutions*, 2016.



States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private corporations, and citizens.³⁶ Eighty-five percent of the funds raised by UNHCR are spent in the field providing basic needs, security, and protection to refugees.³⁷

Recent Sessions and Current Priorities

UNHCR's 66th session of the ExCom took place from 5 October to 9 October 2015.³⁸ In particular, this session focused on organizational matters, a General Debate, and an update on the Afghan refugee situation, in addition to budgeting matters.³⁹ UNHCR's Global Strategic Priorities (GSPs) for 2016-2017 serve as targets for all UNHCR operations.⁴⁰ These are meant to be utilized by both UNHCR and its partners in regards to all country-level operations.⁴¹ There are eight GSPs that cover a wide range of issues from protecting the environment to the processing and registration of legal documents.⁴² Each GSP is associated with key indicators of achievement.⁴³ These GSPs also encompass a wide range of thematic issues including, but not limited to, responding to emergencies, encouraging self-reliance, ending statelessness, engaging IDPs and working in cooperation with partner organizations around the world.⁴⁴

The number of individuals forced to flee their homes has continued to rise in 2016.⁴⁵ Over two million persons have fled in Yemen alone, another half million in South Sudan, and hundreds of thousands in Burundi, Libya, and elsewhere around the world.⁴⁶ Syrian refugees have become the largest refugee population under UNHCR's mandate, with four million being hosted by neighboring countries and another 12.2 million requiring humanitarian aid.⁴⁷ Additionally, those situated in proximity to Syria continue to face challenges as the conflict persists; this has pushed some to attempt to leave the region by dangerous means, including sea travel.⁴⁸ As such, countless people have lost their lives crossing the Mediterranean Sea as they attempt to escape.⁴⁹ In particular, April 2016 saw as many as 500 people perish as their ship capsized on its way to Europe from Libya.⁵⁰ On 13 May 2016 another 1000 refugees and migrants were rescued off the coast of Italy, as the situation in the region continues to deteriorate.⁵¹

At the beginning of 2015, there were 16.8 million people deemed to be of concern to UNHCR in sub-Saharan Africa.⁵² As the year passed, that number increased by tens of thousands due to crisis situations in the Central African Republic, Nigeria, and South Sudan.⁵³ In particular the situation in South Sudan is escalating as funding for relief to the region is reaching its end.⁵⁴ Recent clashes between government forces and the opposition in Western Bahr al Ghazal state has forced over 96,000 people to be internally displaced, and all six neighboring countries have reported an influx in refugees.⁵⁵ UNHCR's strategic plan for addressing this region consists of organizing a response to emergency situations; investigating innovative means of addressing these crisis situations; and working with partner agencies and institutions in the region.⁵⁶

³⁶ UNHCR, *Donors*, 2016.

³⁷ UNHCR, *Global Appeal 2015 Update: Identifying Needs and Funding Requirements*, 2015, pp. 97-98.

³⁸ UNHCR, *2015 Executive Committee Meeting*, 2016.

³⁹ UNHCR, *Executive Committee*, 2015.

⁴⁰ UNHCR, *UNHCR: Global Appeal 2016-2017*, 2016.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ UNHCR, *Survivors report massive loss of life in latest Mediterranean Sea tragedy*, 2016.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

⁵¹ Splinder, *Coastguard rescues some 1,000 refugees and migrants off Italy*, 2016.

⁵² UNHCR, *UNHCR: Global Appeal 2016-2017*, 2016.

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ Dobbs, *South Sudan refugee outflow grows as relief funds lag*, 2016.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ UNHCR, *UNHCR: Global Appeal 2016-2017*, 2016.



Conclusion

Forced displacement affects over 60 million people worldwide; a situation which has gained an increasing amount of attention from the international media this past year, and by consequence the international community.⁵⁷ UNHCR's work is more important than ever as crises like the conflicts in Syria and Iraq are displacing more people than the world has seen since the 1940s. UNHCR seeks to reduce situations that force displacement by working with Member States to peacefully resolve disputes and protect human rights. UNHCR will continue to work alongside Member States and global partners until it has achieved all aspects of its mandate by fully addressing the needs of the world's refugees, IDPs, and stateless people.

⁵⁷ UNHCR, *UNHCR: Global Appeal 2016-2017*, 2016.



Annotated Bibliography

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *About Us* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c2.html>

This Website explains the basic responsibilities undertaken by UNHCR. Delegates will find this source useful because it gives a succinct overview of UNHCR's mission and the actions it performs around the world. This source also notes the founding principles and goals of UNHCR. This will guide delegates in their research of UNHCR because it outlines ways in which it interacts with Member States, refugees, IDPs, and stateless people.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *History of UNHCR* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646cbc.html>

Using this source, delegates may delve into the history of the agency since its formation in 1950. This site explains not only the history of UNHCR but also shows how UNHCR has evolved to its work in present day conflicts. This source will also assist delegates with understanding what world events factored into the creation of UNHCR and why its mandate has been modified and extended past the original mandate.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *UNHCR: Global Appeal 2016-2017* [Report]. Retrieved 20 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/ga16/index.xml>

This document represents a vital source for delegates to gain an understanding of UNHCR's current priorities and strategies for the 2016-2017 year. It highlights key thematic areas of work, as well as gives an update on areas of concern for UNHCR. It allows delegates to gain a better understanding of the situations in Africa and the Middle East and the means by which it is being addressed by UNHCR and its partners, as well as more work that must be done to help those affected.

Bibliography

Dobbs, L. (2016, April 19). South Sudan refugee outflow grows as relief funds lag. *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*. Retrieved 20 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/571634ac9.html>

Splinder, W. (2016, May 13). Coastguard rescues some 1,000 refugees and migrants off Italy. *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*. Retrieved 15 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/57359b096.html>

United Nations General Assembly, Fifth Session (1950). *Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/RES/428 (V))*. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: [http://www.undocs.org/A/RES/428 \(V\)](http://www.undocs.org/A/RES/428 (V))

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *Global Appeal 2015 Update: Identifying Needs and Funding Requirements* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/5461e5f30.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016, April 20). Survivors report massive loss of life in latest Mediterranean Sea tragedy. *UNHCR*. Retrieved 15 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/57177c199.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *The 1951 Refugee Convention* [Website]. Retrieved 29 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/1951-refugee-convention.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *2015 Executive Committee Meeting* [Website]. Retrieved 15 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/55d72d356.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *About Us* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c2.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Assistance* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646cd4.html>



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Asylum Seekers* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c137.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Donors* [Website]. Retrieved 29 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/donors.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Durable Solutions* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646cf8.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Emergency Response* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/503352e46.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Executive Committee* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c83.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Governance and Organization* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c80.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *The High Commissioner* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c8.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *History of UNHCR* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646cbc.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Internally Displaced Persons* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c146.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Refugees* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c125.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Stateless People* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c155.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *UNHCR: Global Appeal 2016-2017* [Report]. Retrieved 20 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/ga16/index.xml>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *What We Do* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646cbf.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Who We Help* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c11c.html>



I. Exploring Alternatives to Refugee Camps

“At the UN refugee agency we believe that camps should be the exception and only a temporary measure in response to forced displacement.”⁵⁸

Introduction

When refugees, asylum-seekers, and internally displaced persons (IDPs) cannot return to their country or place of origin, the *1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* and its *1967 Protocol* mandate that host countries and the international community establish permanent settlement for displaced individuals.⁵⁹ This principle is known as non-refoulement, which means that “no one shall expel or return a refugee against his or her will, in any manner whatsoever, to a territory where he or she fears threats to life or freedom.”⁶⁰ Refugee camps, defined as “any purpose-built, planned and managed location or spontaneous settlement where refugees are accommodated and receive assistance and services from government and humanitarian agencies,” provide one settlement option.⁶¹ However, camps can only have limited success as they cannot guarantee the rights protected under the Convention, including property, employment, permanent housing, and public education.⁶² Needs such as education, vocational training, legal aid, and social support are best met outside of camps through the existing institutions of host countries.⁶³ This is why refugee camps are only meant to be a temporary measure used in desperate circumstances.⁶⁴ Instead, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) aims to provide alternatives such as rented land and housing, informal occupation, or private hosting arrangements.⁶⁵ With nearly 60 million individuals displaced globally, UNHCR’s efforts to provide long-term alternatives to refugee camps are critical.⁶⁶

International and Regional Frameworks

The core document for UNHCR’s work is the *UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* and its *1967 Protocol*.⁶⁷ Initially, the Convention defined refugees as those who fled Europe following World War II.⁶⁸ The *1967 Protocol* expanded the geographic and temporal definition of a refugee.⁶⁹ Today, more than 13.7 million individuals qualify as refugees and are entitled to the rights outlined in this convention, including the right to housing and resettlement.⁷⁰ UNHCR has created multiple strategies and policies to protect the rights of refugees.⁷¹ Most relevant to the issue of refugee camps and their alternatives are the *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* (1998), *UNHCR Policy of Refugee Protection and Solutions in Urban Areas* (2009), *UNHCR Policy on Alternatives to Camps* (2014), and *UNHCR Global Strategy for Settlement and Shelter* (2014-2018).⁷² Each document prioritizes long-term solutions, including the creation of long-term housing options and alternatives to refugee camps.⁷³ The *UNHCR-NGO Toolkit* is another important resource and provides a repository of standards and best practices on successful UNHCR partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGOs).⁷⁴

⁵⁸ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps*, 2016.

⁵⁹ UNHCR, *Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees*, 2010, p. 30.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ UNHCR, *Policy on Alternatives to Camps*, 2016, p. 12.

⁶² UNHCR, *Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees*, 2010, pp. 20-30.

⁶³ UNDP, *Migration, Refugees, and Displacement*, 2016.

⁶⁴ UNHCR, *Policy on Alternatives to Camps*, 2016, p. 3.

⁶⁵ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps*, 2016.

⁶⁶ UNHCR, *UNCHR Global Appeal 2016-2017*, 2016, p. 28; UNHCR, *UNHCR Global Appeal 2015 Update*, 2015, p. 7; UNHCR, *UNHCR Global Appeal 2014-2015*, 2014, p. 6.

⁶⁷ UNHCR, *Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees*, 2010.

⁶⁸ Ibid., p. 2.

⁶⁹ Ibid.

⁷⁰ UNHCR, *UNCHR Global Appeal 2016-2017*, 2016, p. 28.

⁷¹ UNHCR, *UNHCR Policy on Refugee Protection and Solutions in Urban Areas*, 2009; UN OCHA, *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* 2004; UNHCR, *UNCHR Global Appeal 2016-2017*, 2016; UN, *Global Strategy for Settlement and Shelter*, 2014; UNHCR, *Policy on Alternatives to Camps*, 2014.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ UNHCR, *UNHCR-NGO Toolkit*, 2015.

On the regional level, several foundational documents also provide for the rights of refugees. For example, the *Organization of the Africa Union Refugee Convention* (1969) is the core set of standards for the protection of refugees on the African continent.⁷⁵ Likewise, the *Cartagena Declaration* (1984), *Mexico Declaration and Plan of Action* (2004), and *Brazil Declaration* (2014) expand on the rights of refugees in Latin America.⁷⁶ The European Union follows the *Common European Asylum System*, which provides a streamlined framework for acceptance of refugees and asylum-seekers to the region.⁷⁷ Beyond these broad frameworks, many Member States and regions adopt policy outlines for specific refugee crises. For example, with the recent influx of more than 4.7 million refugees to Europe from Syria, UNHCR coordinated the national efforts of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey to form the *Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) for 2016-2017*.⁷⁸ The plan streamlines national efforts to coordinate budgets, designate tasks, and create outcome targets and goals.⁷⁹ With regard to settlement, the 3RP explains how 18,100 households within camps and 438,700 households outside of camps will receive assistance for shelter and shelter upgrades.⁸⁰

Role of the UN System

Guided by these documents and frameworks, the UN system works primarily through UNHCR to provide resettlement opportunities for displaced individuals.⁸¹ The first main aspect of UNHCR's work on this topic is policy analysis.⁸² UNHCR publications such as the annual *Global Appeal* are crucial in outlining key actions that policymakers can take and best practices that they can follow.⁸³ In addition to the formulation of policy, UNHCR uses its resources and partners with national governments, NGOs, and the private sector to provide long-term housing solutions for refugees.⁸⁴ For instance, the Nobody Left Outside campaign calls on the private sector to contribute resources to provide housing for the displaced.⁸⁵ The UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is another refugee-focused UN body that works with 5 million displaced Palestinians and manages 58 refugee camps spread through Jordan, Lebanon, the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Syria.⁸⁶ Like UNHCR, UNRWA seeks to improve infrastructure and refugee camps while also providing alternatives to camps.⁸⁷ For example, UNRWA's Infrastructure and Camp Improvement Programme (ICIP) rebuilds and rehabilitates homes as well as utilizes urban planning techniques to improve the conditions in camps.⁸⁸

Many other organizations assist UNHCR in the humanitarian aspects of their work. The World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) provide refugees with food supplies and long-term employment opportunities in agriculture.⁸⁹ Most recently, both organizations have responded to the Syrian refugee crisis by providing rations of food to malnourished children, pregnant women, and nursing mothers.⁹⁰ The WFP and FAO have also partnered in stable areas to provide displaced families with opportunities to garden or work with poultry production as long-term employment opportunities.⁹¹ Additionally, the World Health Organization (WHO) provides healthcare to displaced individuals and works to integrate refugees into the healthcare

⁷⁵ UNHCR, *Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees*, 2010, p. 2.

⁷⁶ UNHCR, *Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees*, 2010, p. 2; UNHCR, *Global Appeal 2007*, 2007; UNHCR, *The Brazil Declaration*, 2016.

⁷⁷ EC, *A Common European Asylum System*, 2014, p. 3.

⁷⁸ UNHCR, *Strategic Overview*, 2016.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

⁸⁰ UNHCR, *3RP Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2016-2017*, 2016, p. 40.

⁸¹ UN, *Global Issues: Refugees*, 2016.

⁸² UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps*, 2016.

⁸³ UNHCR, *UNCHR Global Appeal 2016-2017*, 2016.

⁸⁴ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps*, 2016.

⁸⁵ UNHCR, *UNHCR Warns of Worsening Shelter Conditions for Refugees, Launches Global Campaign*, 2016.

⁸⁶ UNRWA, *What We Do: Infrastructure and Camp Improvement*, 2016.

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

⁸⁹ UN WFP, *Syrian Emergency*, 2016; FAO, *FAO and UNHCR Launch Joint Project for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Eastern Sudan*, 2015.

⁹⁰ UN WFP, *Syrian Emergency*, 2016.

⁹¹ *Ibid.*

systems of their destination countries, outside of camp boundaries.⁹² The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) also works with the displaced to ensure that they find access to vocational training, education, and other resources that they need within their host countries.⁹³ Other UN organizations that provide such support, both through their own efforts and through partnerships with NGOs, include the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the UN Population Fund, and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.⁹⁴

Shortcomings of Refugee Camps

Though refugee camps serve as a viable measure of short-term relief for displaced individuals in crisis, they cannot provide for the long-term needs of refugees, IDPs, and asylum-seekers.⁹⁵ Refugee camps cannot provide the displaced with basic goods and services such as water, sanitation, and health care, to which refugees are entitled under international law.⁹⁶ Even if camps have access to water and sanitation facilities, the haphazard construction of refugee camps means that it is often impossible to distribute these goods efficiently.⁹⁷ As a result of water shortages and unsanitary conditions, which are common problems in refugee camps, refugees are more susceptible to disease and malnutrition.⁹⁸ For instance, following the Rwandan genocide as many as 60,000 refugees to the Democratic Republic of the Congo died as a result of water shortage and cholera in refugee camps.⁹⁹ In another example, the only water accessible to 40,000 Syrian refugees in the Shatila refugee camp near Beirut was so salty that it could decompose metal cutlery after only half an hour.¹⁰⁰ These are only some of the problems that result from overcrowding and poor infrastructure in refugee camps.¹⁰¹ Many refugees live in a constant state of poverty.¹⁰² In Jordan, 84% of Syrian refugees lived below the poverty line, while one in six families lived in abject poverty, surviving on less than \$40 per month.¹⁰³

Viable Alternatives to Camps

UNHCR’s efforts to promote alternatives to camps fall into three major key action points that were released in 2015.¹⁰⁴ These action points suggest guidance and best practices for Member States as they attempt to carry out the recommendations of UNHCR’s *Policy on Alternatives to Camps*.¹⁰⁵ The three actions are Settlement and Shelter Response, Contingency Planning and Preparedness, and Adapting Service Delivery.¹⁰⁶

Settlement and Shelter Response

UNHCR’s *Policy on Alternatives to Camps* provides several alternative settlement options.¹⁰⁷ At the core of UNHCR’s recommendation is the need to link settlement with the unique culture and political context of each host

⁹² UN WHO, *Refugee and Migrant Health*, 2016.

⁹³ UNDP, *Migration, Refugees, and Displacement*, 2016.

⁹⁴ UN Global Issues, *Refugees*, 2016.

⁹⁵ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps*, 2016.

⁹⁶ UNRWA, *What We Do: Infrastructure and Camp Improvement*, 2016; UNHCR, *Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees*, 2010.

⁹⁷ UNRWA, *What We Do: Infrastructure and Camp Improvement*, 2016.

⁹⁸ Cronin, *A Review of Water and Sanitation Provision in Refugee Camps*, 2008, p. 3.

⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

¹⁰⁰ The Guardian, *Syrian Refugees in Lebanon*, 2015.

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰² UNHCR, *UNHCR Study Shows Rapid Deterioration in Living Conditions of Syrian Refugees in Jordan*, 2015.

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁴ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #1 Settlement and Shelter Response*, 2015; UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #2 Contingency Planning and Preparedness*, 2015; UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #3 Adapting Service Delivery*, 2015.

¹⁰⁵ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #1 Settlement and Shelter Response*, 2015, p. 1.

¹⁰⁶ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #1 Settlement and Shelter Response*, 2015; UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #2 Contingency Planning and Preparedness*, 2015; UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #3 Adapting Service Delivery*, 2015.

¹⁰⁷ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #1 Settlement and Shelter Response*, 2015, p. 1.

country.¹⁰⁸ UNHCR recommends that policymakers integrate resettlement plans into national and local legislation through consultation with local and national officials, reminding policymakers that the initial plans for settlement have long-term implications.¹⁰⁹ Whenever possible, UNCHR further recommends that refugees should have similar living standards as their hosts, while being as immersed in the local communities as possible, thus providing for long-term integration into host communities.¹¹⁰

One successful case of resettlement under UNHCR’s policies can be seen in a refugee settlement in Niger named Intikane.¹¹¹ The 14,500 residents of Intikane fled Mali following violence at the hands of Al-Qaeda sympathizers.¹¹² Though many refugees and asylum-seekers were absorbed into Nigerien camps or cities, some nomadic refugees could not pursue this opportunity due to their dependence on their livestock.¹¹³ In the nomadic culture, livestock carries as much importance as children, meaning that the nomads preferred to live in the relative danger at the Mali-Niger border rather than abandoning their lifestyle for a camp or urban life.¹¹⁴ UNHCR recognized this unique need and worked with the Nigerien government to set up a vast expanse of land in the Tahoua region where the refugees could roam and set up villages with their livestock and families.¹¹⁵ In exchange for the land, UNHCR agreed to rehabilitate a well and build a school in the area to provide for the remaining needs of the Malian refugees.¹¹⁶

Contingency Planning and Preparedness

Another way to create successful alternatives to camps is to ensure that existing operations have a contingency plan in place that will allow them to respond effectively to the needs of increased refugee inflows.¹¹⁷ Local and national governments could anticipate future influxes of refugees and use the strategies listed previously to ensure alternatives to camps before refugees even arrive.¹¹⁸ Unfortunately, less than half of current operations have a contingency plan in place.¹¹⁹ For this reason, UNHCR provides tips for action in their follow-up publication to the Policy on Alternatives to Camps.¹²⁰ At the center of these recommendations is risk management in line with the Preparedness Package for Refugee Emergencies.¹²¹ By tracking international conflicts and trends, local and national governments can prepare themselves for the potential influx of refugees.¹²² Thus another crucial suggestion is that international policymakers engage with government authorities in host communities, in order to determine what alternative housing arrangements could be possible.¹²³ UNHCR further recommends that any contingency plan set up a realistic time frame and establish standard operating procedures for the event of an emergency.¹²⁴

UNHCR cites the Tunisia Inter-Agency Contingency Plan as a best practice for a viable alternative to camps.¹²⁵ Recognizing in 2014 that Tunisia would likely experience an influx of Libyan refugees fleeing civil violence, the country set up a contingency plan through a partnership with UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration and the Red Cross – Red Crescent Movement.¹²⁶ The organizations worked closely with local and national Tunisian authorities to set up a worst case and probable scenario plan.¹²⁷ As an alternative to camps, the plan allowed refugees

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Ibid.

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹¹ Wiesner, *A Different Kind of Refugee Settlement*, 2015.

¹¹² Ibid.

¹¹³ Ibid.

¹¹⁴ Ibid.

¹¹⁵ Ibid.

¹¹⁶ Ibid.

¹¹⁷ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #2 Contingency Planning and Preparedness*, 2015, p. 1.

¹¹⁸ Ibid.

¹¹⁹ Ibid.

¹²⁰ Ibid.

¹²¹ Ibid.

¹²² Ibid.

¹²³ Ibid.

¹²⁴ Ibid.

¹²⁵ Ibid., p. 2.

¹²⁶ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #2 Contingency Planning and Preparedness*, 2015, p. 2.

¹²⁷ Ibid.



to live in collective shelters or host communities, providing them with cash transfers for their basic necessities.¹²⁸ As suggested in UNHCR policies, this plan took into account local contexts and capacities for refugees.¹²⁹

Adapting Service Delivery

Poor service delivery in camps has resulted in water shortages, disease, and malnutrition, and camps cannot provide all the long-term services displaced individuals need.¹³⁰ UNHCR's third key action point provides recommendations for stakeholders in four main categories: advocate, align, partner, and plan.¹³¹ First, UNHCR recommends that stakeholders advocate an integrated system to provide public goods and services that complies with the Sustainable Development Goals.¹³² Next, stakeholders are encouraged to act by aligning the strategies for refugees and the strategies for nationals such that both benefit equally.¹³³ Throughout this process, international policymakers should partner with national and local policymakers such that all stakeholders are working towards the same goal.¹³⁴ Finally, policymakers must plan carefully through expert assessment and multi-year programmatic changes such that policy reflects and integrated approach to both short and long-term goals.¹³⁵

Rwandan education reform represents a best case scenario for the provision of educational services to refugees.¹³⁶ UNHCR, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affaires, UNICEF, and NGOs collaborated to create the Inclusive Refugee Education Management Programme to improve education for displaced individuals as well as members of communities hosting refugees and IDPs.¹³⁷ The program invested in public schools to improve their capacity to host refugees as well as the quality of education by monitoring student progress, providing psychosocial services to students, training teachers, strengthening involvement of parents, and constructing additional infrastructure.¹³⁸ These efforts resulted in improved quality of education for all students, while ensuring that displaced individuals could begin the process of integration into their local contexts.¹³⁹

Conclusion

It is evident that refugee camps do not provide individuals with the rights they are entitled under the *1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* and the *1967 Protocol*.¹⁴⁰ Accordingly, UNHCR has advocated for the creation of alternatives.¹⁴¹ UNHCR recommendations call for policy changes, including the integration of national and international strategies for refugees, long-term contingency planning, and the provision of basic services to refugees through national institutions.¹⁴² As the number of displaced individuals continues to increase, these efforts only grow in importance to the international community.¹⁴³

Further Research

Delegates are first encouraged to look at particular best practices and successful alternatives to refugee camps. The best policy recommendations both in position papers and resolutions will not only be grounded in the policies and

¹²⁸ Ibid.

¹²⁹ Ibid.

¹³⁰ UNHCR, *UNHCR Study Shows Rapid Deterioration in Living Conditions of Syrian Refugees in Jordan*, 2015.

¹³¹ UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #3 Adapting Service Delivery*, 2015.

¹³² Ibid., p. 1.

¹³³ Ibid.

¹³⁴ Ibid.

¹³⁵ Ibid.

¹³⁶ Ibid., p. 2.

¹³⁷ Ibid.

¹³⁸ Ibid.

¹³⁹ Ibid.

¹⁴⁰ UNHCR, *UNHCR Study Shows Rapid Deterioration in Living Conditions of Syrian Refugees in Jordan*, 2015.

¹⁴¹ UNHCR, *Policy on Alternatives to Camps*, 2016.

¹⁴² UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #1 Settlement and Shelter Response*, 2015; UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #2 Contingency Planning and Preparedness*, 2015; UNHCR, *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #3 Adapting Service Delivery*, 2015.

¹⁴³ UNHCR, *UNCHR Global Appeal 2016-2017*, 2016, p. 28; UNHCR, *UNHCR Global Appeal 2015 Update*, 2015, p. 7; UNHCR, *UNHCR Global Appeal 2014-2015*, 2014, p. 6.



recommendations of UNHCR, but also the success stories of Member States' responses to particular refugee crises. Delegates should ask: What are the patterns of best practices in the world today, and how could these be put into action on a larger scale? Other aspects that delegates could research are the policies and recommendations of other UN bodies besides UNHCR. A wide variety of humanitarian organizations work on issues such as sustainable housing, urban planning, disaster preparedness, and agricultural development, all of which could be incorporated into recommendations for this topic. Finally, delegates should consider ways that the Sustainable Development Goals could be incorporated into their work.



Annotated Bibliography

United Nations Development Programme. (2016). *Migration, Refugees and Displacement* [Website]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/sustainable-development/development-planning-and-inclusive-sustainable-growth/migration-refugees-and-displacement.html>

One of the organizations that works closely with UNHCR to provide long-term settlement options for refugees is UNDP. Based on its expertise in general development strategies, UNDP can provide delegates with policy ideas for innovative alternatives to refugee camps. Delegates should consider long-term strategies, solutions and recommendations in their position papers, and this webpage should provide them with a helpful starting point to do so.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2013). *Note on the Mandate of the High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office*. Retrieved 11 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/526a22cb6.html>

A crucial aspect of a good policy proposal is that it falls clearly within the mandate of the committee. As with all UN committees, UNHCR has a clear set of tasks that are outlined in its mandate. This document provides detailed annotations for the different elements of UNHCR's mandate, thus comprising a helpful framework that delegates may consult when writing their position papers and resolutions.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2014). *Global Strategy for Settlement and Shelter* [Report]. Retrieved 17 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/530f13aa9.pdf>

This strategy outline is closely related to the UNHCR Policy on Alternatives to Camps. Both documents prioritize long-term solutions to provide safety and dignity to refugees by improving their social, economic, and environmental quality of life. This strategy also prioritizes the provision of shelter, but only when long-term settlement is not possible. The strategy encourages policymakers to partner and coordinate with all stakeholders, build capacity of local communities, advocate for the long-term needs of refugees, and use measurement and innovation to ensure the best solutions. Delegates should consider these principles when crafting their own policy proposals.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2014). *UNHCR Policy on Alternatives to Camps* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/5422b8f09.html>

This document represents the official stance of the UNHCR with regard to camps and alternatives to camps. In this policy, the UNHCR resolves to find alternatives to camps whenever possible, using refugee camps only as a last resort for refugees. After declaring this position, the document suggests means to phase out camps and create viable alternatives. Delegates should consult this guide to understand the official position of UNHCR on this matter; they should recognize that all policy recommendations must be grounded in this framework.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *UNCHR Global Appeal 2016-2017* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/ga16/index.xml>

This report provides delegates with the most recent statistics and regional descriptions of groups of concern for UNHCR, including refugees, asylum-seekers, IDPs, and migrants. The report includes a global overview or recent trends, summaries of the situation of displaced individuals in each region, and thematic chapters on the various facets of UNHCR's mandate. Most relevant to this topic, in the chapter "Ensuring Protection" delegates will find UNHCR's policy targets for 2016 as well as the means to achieve these goals. Delegates may consult the Global Appeal for a general overview of the work of UNHCR as well as a description of the organization's most recent policy objectives.



Bibliography

Cronin, A., et al. (2008). A Review of Water and Sanitation Provision in Refugee Camps. *Journal of Water and Health*, 6 (1): 1-13.

European Commission. (2014). *A Common European Asylum System*. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/e-library/docs/ceas-fact-sheets/ceas_factsheet_en.pdf

Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. (2015, August 25). *FAO and UNHCR Launch Joint Project for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Eastern Sudan* [Press Release]. Retrieved 13 May 2016 from: <http://www.fao.org/sudan/news/detail-events/en/c/326268/>

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon Camp Reliant on 'Hell Water' that Reduces Metal to Rust. (2015, May 26). The Guardian. Retrieved 15 May 2016 from: <http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/may/26/syrian-refugees-lebanon-shatila-camp-hell-water>

United Nations Development Programme. (2016). *Migration, Refugees and Displacement* [Website]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/sustainable-development/development-planning-and-inclusive-sustainable-growth/migration-refugees-and-displacement.html>

United Nations Global Issues. (2016). *Refugees* [Website]. Retrieved 17 April 2016 from: <http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/refugees/>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2007). *Global Appeal 2007* [Report]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/455443b30.pdf>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2009). *UNHCR Policy on Refugee Protection and Solutions in Urban Areas* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4ab8e7f72.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2010). *Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/3b66c2aa10.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2013). *Note on the Mandate of the High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office*. Retrieved 11 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/526a22cb6.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2014). *Global Strategy for Settlement and Shelter* [Report]. Retrieved 17 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/530f13aa9.pdf>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2014). *UNHCR Policy on Alternatives to Camps* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/5422b8f09.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #1 Settlement and Shelter Response* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/55fff7026.pdf>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #2 Contingency Planning and Preparedness* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/5638c5359.pdf>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *Alternatives to Camps: Making it Work, Key Action #3 Adapting Service Delivery* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/5673d5529.pdf>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *UNHCR Global Appeal 2014-2015* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/528a0a0fe.html>



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *UNHCR Global Appeal 2015 Update* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/5461e5ec3c.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *UNHCR Study Shows Rapid Deterioration in Living Conditions of Syrian Refugees in Jordan* [Press Release]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/54b635b49.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *UNHCR-NGO Toolkit* [Repository]. Retrieved 11 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/4ce54a949.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016, May 18). *UNHCR warns of worsening shelter conditions for refugees, launches global campaign* [Press Release]. Retrieved 30 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/news/press/2016/5/573c0b0f7/unhcr-warns-worsening-shelter-conditions-refugees-launches-global-campaign.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *3RP: Strategic Overview* [Website]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.3rpsyriacrisis.org/the-3rp/strategic-overview/>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Alternatives to Camps* [Website]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/54d9c7686.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Asylum-Seekers* [Website]. Retrieved 11 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c137.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *The Brazil Declaration* [Website]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/54d0d66d6.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Internally Displaced People* [Website]. Retrieved 11 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c146.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Refugees* [Website]. Retrieved 11 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c137.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2016-2017* [Report]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.3rpsyriacrisis.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/3RP-Regional-Overview-2016-2017.pdf>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *UNCHR Global Appeal 2016-2017* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/ga16/index.xml>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016, May 18). *UNCHR Warns of Worsening Shelter Conditions for Refugees, Launches Global Campaign* [Press Release]. Retrieved 10 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2016/5/573c0b0f7/unhcr-warns-worsening-shelter-conditions-refugees-launches-global-campaign.html>

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (2004). *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* [Report]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/43ce1cff2.html>

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. (2016). *What We Do: Infrastructure and Camp Improvement* [Website]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.unrwa.org/what-we-do/infrastructure-camp-improvement>

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2016). *Syrian Emergency* [Website]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.wfp.org/emergencies/syria>



United Nations, World Health Organization. (2016). *Refugee and Migrant Health* [Website]. Retrieved 12 May 2016 from: <http://www.who.int/migrants/who-response/en/>

Wiesner, C. (2015). *A Different Kind of Refugee Settlement*. Retrieved 15 May 2016 from: <https://blogs.state.gov/stories/2015/07/29/different-kind-refugee-settlement>



II. HIV and Reproductive Health Services for Displaced Persons

“Every day, all over the world, people make the most difficult decision of their lives; to leave their homes in search of a better life.”¹⁴⁴

Introduction

Globally, 36.9 million people are living with the incurable Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), which attacks CD4 cells and weakens the immune system.¹⁴⁵ Over time, HIV destroys so many cells that the body is unable to fight off infections, leading to premature death.¹⁴⁶ This state of immune deficiency is known as Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).¹⁴⁷ However, despite its incurable nature, HIV/AIDS can be effectively managed through adequate medical treatment and care.¹⁴⁸ Antiretroviral therapy (ART) is utilized to treat HIV/AIDS and if utilized properly, can drastically prolong life and reduce the risk of disease transmission, enabling a healthy life.¹⁴⁹

The number of persons forcibly displaced has reached unprecedented levels, totaling roughly 60 million displaced individuals in 2015.¹⁵⁰ Globally, 2015 saw the highest displacement level on record, resulting from discrimination, war, violence, and human rights violations.¹⁵¹ As conflict persists in many countries in North Africa and the Middle East the number of individuals fleeing persecution, conflict, and poverty is not expected to lessen.¹⁵² Those displaced primarily come from states experiencing conflict, including countries such as Syria, Afghanistan, and Somalia.¹⁵³ Individuals living with HIV are increasingly vulnerable to displacement, and often their health and treatment regimens are negatively impacted.¹⁵⁴ As of 2006, roughly two million people living with HIV were displaced.¹⁵⁵ Given that displacement has increased by over 24% since 2006, it is likely that the number of those displaced living with HIV has correspondingly increased.¹⁵⁶ HIV in emergency situations often requires a targeted response that integrates HIV-related concerns, which is a priority of the Office of the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).¹⁵⁷

The general health of refugees and other displaced persons is of the utmost importance to UNHCR.¹⁵⁸ The *UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* and its *1967 Protocol* outlines this priority, stipulating that it should be ensured that refugees and displaced persons receive adequate health services and are guaranteed that right under international law.¹⁵⁹ UNHCR asserts that “integrating reproductive health and HIV services could help maximize collective outcomes [for those displaced].”¹⁶⁰ During crises, such as displacement, reproductive and health needs do not dissipate.¹⁶¹ Frequently, women who are displaced are confronted by unplanned and unwanted pregnancies as a result of inadequate access to contraceptives and family planning services.¹⁶² The World Health Organization (WHO) defines reproductive health “as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being- and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity - in all matters relating to the reproductive system and to its functions and

¹⁴⁴ Amnesty International, *People on the Move*, 2015.

¹⁴⁵ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, *What is HIV/AIDS?*, 2015.

¹⁴⁶ Ibid.

¹⁴⁷ Ibid.

¹⁴⁸ Ibid.

¹⁴⁹ Ibid.

¹⁵⁰ UNHCR, *World at War*, 2014.

¹⁵¹ Ibid.

¹⁵² Amnesty International, *People on the Move*, 2015.

¹⁵³ Rafei, Record number of forcibly displaced people has reached 60 million worldwide, *World Bank*, 2015.

¹⁵⁴ UNAIDS, *The GAP Report 2014*, 2014.

¹⁵⁵ Ibid.

¹⁵⁶ Ibid.

¹⁵⁷ Ibid.

¹⁵⁸ UNHCR, *Reproductive Health*, 2016.

¹⁵⁹ Ibid.

¹⁶⁰ UNHCR, *HIV*, 2016.

¹⁶¹ UNHCR, *Reproductive Health*, 2016.

¹⁶² UN General Assembly, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*, 1948.

processes.”¹⁶³ Accessibility to adequate reproductive health services decreases the number of fatalities during or after childbirth, and improves the chances for children and mothers to survive and thrive.¹⁶⁴ Focusing on the interplay between HIV, reproductive health services, and the displacement of populations is highly important, particularly as the number of displaced persons continues to rise.

International and Regional Framework

Numerous international and regional frameworks influence the global approach toward HIV and reproductive health services for displaced persons. Foundational documents include the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948), which outlines the right for persons seeking asylum from persecution.¹⁶⁵ Drawing from Article 14 of the UDHR, the *1951 Refugee Convention* emerged and proves to be fundamental for the advancement and protections of refugee rights.¹⁶⁶ Likewise, the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (1966), the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (1966), and the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (1979) are equally important in outlining vital human rights principles that must be considered when approaching the issue and ensuring that the rights of displaced persons are upheld.¹⁶⁷

The *Declaration of Sexual Rights* (DSR) (1997) outlines 16 fundamental sexual and human rights, including principles such as equality and the right to the premier standard of sexual health.¹⁶⁸ Likewise, the UN General Assembly’s adoption of the *Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS* in 2001, 2006, and 2011 advances HIV treatment and reproductive health service accessibility.¹⁶⁹ Collectively these documents serve as the basis for guiding the international community in framing policy and ensuring that a human rights-based approach is utilized to address the HIV epidemic.¹⁷⁰ Moreover, following the *2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS*, the *International Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights* were adopted and are vitally important in the formation of global and national policy pertaining to HIV/AIDS.¹⁷¹ In 2008, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) developed the framework “Making Reproductive Rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health a Reality for all” which comparatively discusses reproductive rights and sexual reproductive rights.¹⁷²

Role of the International System

UNHCR is the main organization advancing global refugee policy and is essential in centralizing the rights of refugees globally.¹⁷³ UNHCR maintains that HIV treatment and accessibility to reproductive health services should be ensured for all individuals, especially those displaced.¹⁷⁴ However, during crises, critical health regimens are often interrupted, greatly impacting those needing sustained medical treatment, such as those living with HIV.¹⁷⁵

¹⁶³ UNHCR, *Reproductive Health*, 2016.

¹⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁵ UNHCR, *History of UNHCR*, 2015.

¹⁶⁶ UN General Assembly, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*, 1948; UNHCR, *The 1951 Refugee Convention*, 2015.

¹⁶⁷ UN General Assembly, *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI))*, 1966; UN General Assembly, *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI))*, 1966; UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/RES/34/180)*, 1979.

¹⁶⁸ WAS, *Declaration of Sexual Rights*, 1997, pp. 1-3.

¹⁶⁹ UN General Assembly, *Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS (A/RES/65/277)*, 2011; UN General Assembly, *Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS (A/RES/60/262)*, 2006; UN General Assembly, *Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (A/RES/S-26/2)*, 2001.

¹⁷⁰ UN HRC, *The protection of human rights in the context of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS): Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/HRC/19/37)*, 2011, p. 4.

¹⁷¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁷² UNFPA, *Making Reproductive Rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health a Reality for All: Reproductive Rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health Framework*, 2008.

¹⁷³ UNHCR, *History of UNHCR*, 2015.

¹⁷⁴ UNHCR, *HIV*, 2016.

¹⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

UNHCR strives to establish programs advancing global accessibility to HIV and reproductive health services.¹⁷⁶ UNHCR is a co-sponsor of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and is the primary entity responsible for addressing HIV in conflict areas.¹⁷⁷ Moreover, UNHCR furthers the delivery of public information and services to raise awareness about reproductive health.¹⁷⁸ Critical services such as obstetric and neonatal care can reduce the number of fatalities resulting from complications during pregnancy or labor.¹⁷⁹

In addition to UNHCR, other international organizations such as UNFPA also play an integral role in advancing the rights for women refugees, with a specific focus on pre-natal health.¹⁸⁰ UNFPA has initiated gender-based health care guidelines and provided health services in areas with increased numbers of refugees.¹⁸¹ UNFPA also provides emergency reproductive health services globally and prioritizes reproductive health as an impetus to economic development.¹⁸² Furthermore, entities such as the UN Human Rights Council and the United Nations Children's Fund also advocate for the rights of refugees, including rights related to sexual and reproductive health, and monitor the enforcement and implementation of existing human rights treaties.¹⁸³ Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) also play a significant role in providing HIV and reproductive services to displaced populations. For instance, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation set the goal of reducing the occurrence of HIV and improving the quality of lives of those already living with HIV.¹⁸⁴ The Foundation prioritizes the most impoverished countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and has pledged over US \$2.5 billion in HIV grants globally.¹⁸⁵

HIV and Reproductive Health Services in Emergency Situations

Frequently, emergency situations expose systemic weaknesses in health care systems.¹⁸⁶ Populations displaced by emergencies are often increasingly vulnerable to HIV and other reproductive health problems due to the severe disruption of their daily routines.¹⁸⁷ In 2015 over 100 million people were recipients of humanitarian aid, of which "26 million were women and girls of reproductive age."¹⁸⁸ In 2013 nearly five percent of people living with HIV were impacted by humanitarian crises; 81% of those impacted lived in sub-Saharan Africa.¹⁸⁹ Thus, there is a pressing need to provide sexual and reproductive health services to those living in emergency situations.¹⁹⁰ In particular, women and girls are disproportionately impacted by conflict and have diverse reproductive and healthcare needs.¹⁹¹ Over 50% of maternal deaths occur in humanitarian emergencies, when maternal mortality is reported at 1 in 54 compared to 1 in 4900 in developed countries.¹⁹²

HIV treatment requires antiretroviral therapy (ART) and a combination of medications.¹⁹³ This medicine regimen must be taken daily and exactly as prescribed.¹⁹⁴ Essentially, these medications prevent HIV from metastasizing, reducing the amount of HIV present in the body, enabling the immune system to fight off infections which increases life expectancy.¹⁹⁵ Additionally, ART reduces the risk of transmitting the virus to others and is recommended for all

¹⁷⁶ UNHCR, *HIV*, 2016.

¹⁷⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁰ UNFPA, *Reproductive Health in Refugee Situations: An Inter-Agency Field Manual*, 1999.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸² UNFPA, *Universal Access to Reproductive Health: Progress and Challenges*, 2016.

¹⁸³ UNHCR, *Human Rights Committee*, 2015; UNICEF, *Humanitarian Action for Children*, 2016.

¹⁸⁴ Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, *HIV Strategy Overview*, 2015.

¹⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁶ WHO, *Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 2016.

¹⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁹ UNAIDS, *Addressing HIV in Humanitarian Emergencies*, 2016.

¹⁹⁰ WHO, *Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 2016.

¹⁹¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁹² *Ibid.*

¹⁹³ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, *Overview of HIV Treatment*, 2015.

¹⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁵ *Ibid.*



individuals who have HIV.¹⁹⁶ There are six classes of HIV medications and 25 medications approved for the treatment of HIV, with costs of up to thousands of dollars per month.¹⁹⁷ The specific method of treatment is differentiated based on the needs of the individual, with factors such as additional diagnoses and cost considered.¹⁹⁸ If HIV goes untreated the virus will replicate and eventually become AIDS.¹⁹⁹ Because of the instability of displacement, it is often difficult for persons with HIV to maintain their prescribed treatment regimen, negatively impacting their health.²⁰⁰

UNHCR has funded HIV prevention projects in countries like Nepal focusing on increasing awareness for vulnerable populations, such as sex workers and intravenous drug users.²⁰¹ These projects established voluntary counseling and HIV testing centers in an effort to bring preventive support to populations affected by conflict.²⁰² Likewise, UNHCR sponsored a groundbreaking capacity building project in the Republic of the Congo that incorporated the local community into their preventative HIV/AIDS action plan.²⁰³ This project showcased the manner in which communities can be empowered to combat HIV/AIDS by engaging with their own community as agents of change.²⁰⁴ This project was enacted via community social groups that were organized as support systems to promote behavior change.²⁰⁵ The objective was to mobilize the community by including women, men, locals, and those displaced in the conversation about HIV/AIDS transmission.²⁰⁶ Over the course of three months, over 98 social group conversations took place discussing socially disapproved topics and uncovering false assumptions pertaining to HIV/AIDS.²⁰⁷

Various projects have also been implemented by UNHCR to provide targeted reproductive health services to vulnerable areas. For instance, in 2012, in the rural city of Chamkani, Pakistan, the government established a reproductive health care unit.²⁰⁸ Prior to the establishment of the health care unit 23,000 Pakistani and 7,000 Afghan refugees were living with minimal accessibility to maternal health services and were forced to take long and expensive trips to meet their healthcare needs.²⁰⁹ This UNHCR project is one of seven health care units located in the Peshawar district in the Refugee Affected and Hosting Area (RAHA).²¹⁰ The RAHA initiative was established in 2009 to bolster the efforts of government-sponsored health services.²¹¹ Likewise, this program was initiated as a result of Pakistan's longstanding commitment to assisting refugees; Pakistan hosts one of the world's largest refugee populations, 1.6 million Afghans.²¹² UNHCR, along with many development agencies, strives to aid communities that host refugees by initiating projects that promote the general wellbeing of those displaced.²¹³ UNHCR is active in over 41 remote districts across Pakistan and aiding an estimated 273,000 locals and Afghan refugees with this particular project in the Peshawar area.²¹⁴

¹⁹⁶ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, *Overview of HIV Treatment*, 2015.

¹⁹⁷ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, *Overview of HIV Treatment*, 2015; U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, *Clinical Guideline Portal*, 2015.

¹⁹⁸ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, *Overview of HIV Treatment*, 2015.

¹⁹⁹ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, *HIV Treatment*, 2015.

²⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁰¹ UNHCR, *UNHCR's new HIV/AIDS awareness project for conflict-affected populations in Nepal*, 2007.

²⁰² *Ibid.*

²⁰³ UNHCR, *Community Conversations in Response to HIV/AIDS*, 2005.

²⁰⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁸ Khan & Redden, *Project in Pakistan ensures health services for both refugees and locals*, 2013.

²⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

²¹⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹¹ *Ibid.*

²¹² *Ibid.*

²¹³ *Ibid.*

²¹⁴ *Ibid.*



Conclusion

Globally, addressing access to reproductive health services for displaced persons is of the utmost importance. In 2014, there were 19.5 million reported refugees, 38.2 internally displaced people and 1.8 million asylum-seekers.²¹⁵ As conflict persists globally the number of individuals fleeing persecution and seeking better opportunities is not expected to cease.²¹⁶ These displaced persons are at disproportionately high risk for sexual and reproductive health issues, including HIV infection and transmission.²¹⁷ As such, the international community must unite and uphold international law and protect the rights of those displaced by preventing HIV transmission and providing reproductive and health services to refugees, IDPs, and asylum-seekers.²¹⁸

Further Research

As delegates continue their research on this issue, they should consider the following questions: How can the international community unite to meet the HIV and reproductive health needs of displaced persons? Likewise, how can care be extended to those living in conflict areas? How can global action on these issues by UN agencies, other international bodies, and NGOs be better coordinated? What expanded role might UNHCR play in ensuring access to health services for displaced persons? What successful state-level programs exist that can be implemented on a broader scale?

²¹⁵ UNHCR, *World at War*, 2014.

²¹⁶ Amnesty International, *People on the Move*, 2015.

²¹⁷ WHO, *Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 2016.

²¹⁸ Satlin, *EU Announces New Refugee Quotas*, 2015.



Annotated Bibliography

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. (2014). *The Gap Report 2014* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/10_Displacedpersons.pdf

The GAP report is particularly useful in breaking down the topic HIV, Reproductive Health Services for Displaced Persons. For instance, Chapter 1 discusses people living with HIV and the serious obstacles that they frequently face. Often people who have HIV are left behind as a result of social stigma and discrimination. Likewise, people also lack access to appropriate treatment, which negatively impacts their health and wellbeing. Moreover, Chapter 10 outlines the nuances of displaced persons providing a succinct overview of the causes of displacement and the global obstacles in redressing the issues. Delegates will find this report useful for understanding the topics more generally, and using this report as a basis to frame their countries' position paper on the topic.

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. (2016). *On the Fast-Track to end Aids* [Report]. Retrieved 16 May 2016 from: http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/20151027_UNAIDS_PCB37_15_18_EN_rev1.pdf

The UNAIDS 2016-2021 Strategy is particularly useful in guiding delegates understanding of the global call to action in terms of advancing the rights of those afflicted with HIV/AIDS and reducing virus transmission. This report is a call to action to establish the 90-90-90 treatment targets to eradicate the AIDS epidemic. Essentially, this call to action stipulates that 90% of all individuals living with HIV will know their status by 2020. Likewise, 90% of all those diagnosed with HIV will be recipients of antiretroviral treatment. And, finally, 90% of all individuals undergoing treatment will have suppressed their virus. This report should serve as a guide for delegates' understanding of the current global agenda for redressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2014). *Global Strategy for Public Health* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/530f12d26.html>

UNHCR strives to uphold the rights of refugees and displaced populations. Particularly of importance to UNHCR, includes, the prevention, protection and treatment of HIV and providing refugees with vital health and reproductive services. UNHCR asserts that four areas are vital to ensuring that refugees, and other persons of concern, receive optimal care. For instance some areas include: general public health, HIV and reproductive health, food security, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). This report is particularly important as it outlines UNHCR's strategy and priorities for combating the spread of HIV and protecting those already afflicted. Delegates should refer to this source when framing their countries' respective positions on providing HIV and reproductive health services to displaced persons and other persons of concern.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2014). *World at War* [Report]. Retrieved 16 May 2016 from: <http://unhcr.org/556725e69.pdf>

Forced displacement is growing at an unprecedented rate. In fact, in 2014, this report indicates that 59.5 million people were forcibly displaced as a result of conflict, persecution and natural disasters. This document outlines the grave nature of the current displacement crisis reporting that this year has seen the highest number of displaced persons recorded to date. Moreover, this report showcases countries who are most impacted by the refugee crisis such as Afghanistan, which has the highest number of protracted refugee settlements globally. Likewise, Turkey, Pakistan and Lebanon are reported to host the most refugees globally. Delegates will find this report useful for understanding the dire nature of the displacement crisis and understanding the severity of the crisis cross-nationally.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *Global Appeal 2016-2017* [Website]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/564da0e9e.html>

As of 2014, 38 million internally displaced persons were reported globally. Of those displaced, more than 80% have been displaced for five years or more. This report should be utilized as a guide to understand UNHCR's efforts to meet the diverse needs of displaced populations.



Likewise, this report showcases UNHCR's actions to ensure the rights of refugees and displaced populations are upheld and advanced. This report outlines the targeted areas of intervention for 2016 and strategic actions that the international community can take to realize these changes. Delegates should consider this Global Appeal, as a resource to understand the multifaceted and diverse needs of displaced populations and the paramount importance of ensuring that the rights of displaced persons are protected.

Bibliography

- Amnesty International. (2015). *People on the Move* [Website]. Retrieved 17 May 2016 from: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/people-on-the-move/>
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. (2015). *HIV Strategy Overview* [Website]. Retrieved 17 May 2016 from: <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/What-We-Do/Global-Health/HIV>
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. (2014). *The Gap Report 2014* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/10_Displacedpersons.pdf
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. (2016). *Addressing HIV in Humanitarian Emergencies* [Website]. Retrieved 30 June 2016 from: <https://results.unaids.org/priority/cross-cutting/addressing-hiv-humanitarian-emergencies>
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. (2016). *On the Fast-Track to end Aids* [Report]. Retrieved 16 May 2016 from: http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/20151027_UNAIDS_PCB37_15_18_EN_rev1.pdf
- Khan, D. & J. Redden. (2013). Project in Pakistan ensures health services for both refugees and locals [Press Release]. *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*. Retrieved 18 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/news/latest/2013/5/51a36e999/project-pakistan-ensures-health-services-both-refugees-locals.html>
- Population Reference Bureau. (2016). *Meeting the Reproductive Health Needs of Displaced People* [Website]. Retrieved 8 June 2016 from: <http://www.prb.org/Publications/Reports/2002/MeetingtheReproductiveHealthNeedsofDisplacedPeople.aspx>
- Rafei, L. (2015, September 28). Record number of forcibly displaced people has reached 60 million worldwide. *World Bank*. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <http://blogs.worldbank.org/opendata/record-number-forcibly-displaced-people-has-reached-60-million-worldwide-data-show>
- Satlin, A. (2015, September 9). EU Announces New Refugee Quotas. *The World Post*. Retrieved 30 June 2016 from: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/eu-announces-new-refugee-quotas-for_us_55efe2dce4b093be51bcc336
- United Nations Childrens Fund. (2016). *Humanitarian Action for Children* [Website]. Retrieved 30 June 2016 from: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/>
- United Nations, General Assembly, Third session. (1948). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*. Retrieved 16 May 2016 from: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>
- United Nations, General Assembly, Fifth session. (1951). *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (A/RES/409 (V))*. Retrieved 15 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/3b66c2aa10.html>
- United Nations, General Assembly, Twenty-first session. (1966). *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI))*. Retrieved 17 May 2016 from: [http://undocs.org/A/RES/2200\(XXI\)](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2200(XXI))
- United Nations, General Assembly, Twenty-first session. (1966). *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (A/RES/2200(XXI))*. Retrieved 17 May 2016 from: [http://undocs.org/A/RES/2200\(XXI\)](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2200(XXI))



United Nations, General Assembly, Twenty-sixth special session. (2001). *Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (A/RES/S-26/2)*. Retrieved 17 May 2016 from: <http://www.un.org/ga/aids/docs/aress262.pdf>

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixtieth session. (2006). *Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS (A/RES/60/262)*. Retrieved 14 May 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/60/262>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (n.d.). *HIV and Internally Displaced Persons* [Website]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/4e1467049.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2005). *Community Conversations in Response to HIV/AIDS* [Website]. Retrieved 10 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/protection/health/43a938162/community-conversations-response-hiv-aids-capacity-building-project-refugees.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2007). *UNHCR's new HIV/AIDS awareness project for conflict-affected populations in Nepal* [Website]. Retrieved 10 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/4729ad4e2.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2014). *Global Strategy for Public Health* [Report]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/530f12d26.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2014). *World at War* [Report]. Retrieved 16 May 2016 from: <http://unhcr.org/556725e69.pdf>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2015). *Global Appeal 2016-2017* [Website]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/564da0e9e.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *History of UNHCR* [Website]. Retrieved 30 June 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/history-of-unhcr.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *HIV* [Website]. Retrieved 16 April 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646ce3.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Human Rights Committee* [Website]. Retrieved 30 June 2016 from: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CCPR/Pages/CCPRIndex.aspx>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2016). *Reproductive Health* [Website]. Retrieved 16 May 2016 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4ae95d226.html>

United Nations, Human Rights Council. (2011). *Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development* [Report]. Retrieved 30 June 2016 from: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G11/173/50/PDF/G1117350.pdf>

United Nations Population Fund. (1999). *Reproductive Health in Refugee Situations: An Inter-Agency Field Manual*. Retrieved 17 May 2016 from: <http://www.unfpa.org/emergencies/manual/>

United Nations Population Fund. (2008). *Making Reproductive Rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health a Reality for All* [Report]. Retrieved 18 May 2016 from: https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SRH_Framework.pdf

United Nations Population Fund. (2016). *Universal Access to Reproductive Health: Progress and Challenges* [Report]. Retrieved 30 June 2016 from: <http://www.unfpa.org/publications/universal-access-reproductive-health-progress-and-challenges>



United States Department of Health & Human Services. (2015) *Clinical Guideline Portal* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/guidelines/html/1/adult-and-adolescent-arv-guidelines/459/cost-considerations-and-antiretroviral-therapy>

United States Department of Health & Human Services. (2015) *HIV Treatment* [Website]. Retrieved 16 May 2016 from: <https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/education-materials/fact-sheets/21/55/following-an-hiv-regimen---steps-to-take-before-and-after-starting-hiv-medicines>

United States Department of Health & Human Services. (2015) *Overview of HIV Treatment* [Website]. Retrieved 9 June 2016 from: <https://www.aids.gov/hiv-aids-basics/just-diagnosed-with-hiv-aids/treatment-options/overview-of-hiv-treatments/>

United States Department of Health & Human Services. (2015) *What is HIV/AIDS?* [Website]. Retrieved 16 May 2016 from: <https://www.aids.gov/hiv-aids-basics/hiv-aids-101/what-is-hiv-aids/>

World Association for Sexual Health. (1997). *Declaration of Sexual Rights*. Retrieved 18 May 2016 from: http://www.worldsexology.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/declaration_of_sexual_rights_sep03_2014.pdf

World Health Organization. (2016). *Sexual and Reproductive Health* [Website]. Retrieved 17 May 2016 from: <http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/news/srhr-emergencies/en/>