

**ANNUAL CONSULTATIONS WITH NGOs**  
**14 – 16 JUNE 2017**  
International Conference Center Geneva

***DISCUSSION PAPER***

**Session title:**        ***Addressing statelessness in displacement context***

**Date:**                ***Wednesday 14 June***

**Time/Room:**        ***11h00 – 12h30 – Room 4***

In order to address statelessness as a root cause and consequence of forced displacement, as highlighted in the New York Declaration (para. 72), it is necessary to prevent and reduce statelessness, and ultimately eliminate it. This is consistent with the ambition of the Campaign to End Statelessness by 2024, as endorsed by the General Assembly. Stateless refugees and those at heightened risk of statelessness have specific protection needs; therefore it is crucial to be able to identify these persons during reception and admissions procedures.

**Objectives of the session**

- Raise awareness about statelessness as a cause and consequence of forced displacement.
- Raise awareness about identifying and protecting stateless refugees.
- Raise awareness about identifying returnees at risk of statelessness and assisting them with confirmation of nationality.
- Showcase good practices for identifying refugees at risk of statelessness and assisting them with acquisition of birth certificates and other civil documentation.

- Discuss actions that may be taken to streamline statelessness prevention and the protection of stateless persons into refugee responses.

Desired outcome of the session:

- Participants have a more nuanced understanding of the linkages between statelessness and forced displacement.
- Participants are inspired to think about ways in which to: (1) better identify and protect stateless refugees, (2) better identify refugees at risk of statelessness and assist them with acquisition of birth certificates and other civil documentation, and (3) better identify returnees at risk of statelessness and assist them with confirmation of nationality.
- Participants are motivated to include actions addressing statelessness in the forced displacement context into their planning and programming.

Methodology:

- Panel discussion followed by Q & A.