

**GLOBAL COMPACT ON REFUGEES FIFTH FORMAL
CONSULTATION MEETING
12-13 June 2018
STATEMENT BY TURKEY**

Agenda item 3: Programme of action: Areas in need of support (Part III.B)

- As a country facing mixed and large movements, we acknowledge early warning, preparedness and contingency planning as key elements in comprehensive and inclusive response to refugee situations.
- Under the safety and security sub-title, we appreciate the inclusion of “timely security screening of new arrivals”.
- In some cases, health can also be a matter of security as well as protection, for example under the risk of epidemic or mortal communicable diseases. We believe that such a risk should be taken into consideration by including “health screening in parallel to the registration process, where necessary”, to the text.
- Under the section “**meeting needs and supporting communities**”, we welcome that our proposals are taken on board and it is emphasized that all efforts under the areas of support listed in the GCR will be undertaken in coordination with relevant national authorities and be linked to ongoing efforts and policies.
- Education is one of the outstanding areas in which we all should invest for refugees.
- It is essential to incorporate all cycles of education in the text. We particularly support the new sentence at the end of paragraph 69 on the recognition of equivalency of academic, professional and vocational accreditation.
- Additionally, support for innovative methods such as online education opportunities could be included.
- On the other hand, we deem it necessary to reiterate that we attach great importance to promotion of preferential trade arrangements, especially for goods and sectors in which labour force of refugees are intensive.

- Under the health section, as a country where refugees have free access to the health services and only the number of Syrian babies that have been born in Turkish soil exceeded 300 thousand, we prefer the inclusion of “building and equipping new health facilities”. This phrase was used in the second draft.
- We welcome the inclusion of youth under the section on children as well as the adding of specific commitments vis-à-vis young people throughout the text.
- We strongly support the part referring to peaceful coexistence. This closes an important gap in the GCR. As long as the refugee situations gain a protracted nature, refugees and host communities will be in an increasing need of dialogue, engagement and mutual understanding. With a view to clearly reflect this, we also suggest to change the title to “social cohesion and peaceful coexistence”.
- We believe that civil society and the media could indeed have a positive impact in fostering peaceful coexistence.
- Under the resettlement part, although a wide range of parameters in order to be eligible for resettlement are indicated in the text, the UN Vulnerability Criteria is still not mentioned. We attach importance to include a reference in that regard as well as to highlight the non-discriminatory approach in line with the language of the CRRF, with the ultimate aim of making the resettlement exercise much more functional.
- On the other hand, we appreciate the targets set and support the multi-year strategies and schemes in order to enlarge the pool of resettlement countries and the volume of resettled people.
- We hope that the GCR will result in swiftly reaching this target so that we can further increase the annual resettlement submission above the foreseen 25 percent in the near future.
- We are satisfied with the additional language included under “voluntary repatriation”.
- Under para 98, we agree that additional support from the international community is required to ensure successful local integration. However we deem it useful that support to be provided should be better described by adding the terms “financial” and “technical”.

- Lastly, we welcome the new section on other local solutions, which pave the way for different options that can be chosen by countries once they are exposed to large movements. National realities reveal that in some cases tailor-made measures to refugee situations could make significant changes in the lives of displaced people. Therefore, we strongly support the rationale behind this new section. Thank you.