

**ANNUAL CONSULTATIONS WITH NGOs
11 – 13 JUNE 2013 - International Conference Center Geneva**

THEMATIC SESSION

BACKGROUND PAPER

”Achieving durable solutions for IDPs in a changing operational context”

Tuesday 11 June 2013, 16h45 – 18h30 - Room 4

Increasingly, governments are taking steps to include the protection of internally displaced persons and durable solutions to their problem with their development and social programs. In addition, the piloting of the UN Secretary-General’s Framework on Durable Solutions calls on all UN actors to engage more decisively in the process of achieving durable solutions for IDPs. This apparent momentum is challenged, however, by an often changing operational context which at times results in less than optimal engagement in longer-term processes.

The thematic session on internal displacement will examine UNHCR’s partnership with NGOs and CSOs in promoting a sustained and coordinated action toward durable solutions from the outset of an emergency by engaging with a number of different actors.

Purpose and structure of the session

The thematic session on internal displacement seeks to promote dialogue on the steps UNHCR and NGOs can take to drive forward an inclusive engagement with regard to durable solutions, especially in fast-changing operational contexts often characterized by diminishing resources.

Panelists will notably speak on the following topics:

- **“UNHCR’s engagement in IDP protection and solutions”** (Volker Türk)
- **“The role of advocacy: lessons from the past”** (Roberta Cohen)
- **“Opportunities for engagement and advocacy for CSOs to promote durable solutions”** (IDMC tbc)

Plenary discussion

Mr. Türk will moderate a plenary discussion with participants, possibly framed by the following questions:

- a) How can UNHCR and NGOs/CSOs strengthen their partnership in designing and implementing effective advocacy for durable solutions?
- b) How can an inter-agency approach be optimized to support durable solutions for IDPs? (Participants from countries where the UN Secretary-General's Framework on Durable Solutions is being piloted—Afghanistan, Cote d'Ivoire, and Kyrgyzstan—are particularly invited to share reflections on the experience to date).
- c) From NGOs'/CSO's perspective, what is the experience of government institutions in considering the specific needs of IDPs and meaningfully involving them in responses?
- d) Do relevant actors have adequate capacity to respond? How can specific capacity gaps in the field be supported at the global level?
- e) What is the level of engagement of CSOs in the context of durable solutions? What are the factors that impede effective engagement by CSOs with governments?
- f) What experiences can be drawn from global-field coordination and support in the context of durable solutions?

A rapporteur will be assigned to provide a short synopsis of the discussion and action points.