



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Comprehensive Responses to Refugee Situations – Effective Parliamentary Approaches **African Regional Parliamentary Conference**

Midrand (South Africa), 11–13 November 2019

Organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and hosted by the Pan-African Parliament

Provisional Agenda

11 November 2019

9.15 - 9.45 a.m. Registration of participants

9.45–10.15 a.m. Welcoming remarks

- Mr. Valentin Tapsoba, Director, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Southern Africa
- Ms Gabriela Cuevas Barron, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
- Mr. Roger Nkodo Dang, President of the Pan-African Parliament

10.15 – 10.30 a.m. Group photo

10.30 - 11 a.m. Coffee Break

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Session 1: The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR)

- Overview of refugee framework, needs, rights and governments accountability
- Challenges of mixed movement
- Overview of key objectives of GCR
- Role of MPs in adopting legislation in support of GCR

Overview presentation: Ms. Shahrzad Tadjbakhsh, Deputy Director, International Protection, UNHCR HQ

Presentation will be followed by a debate with participants.

1 – 2 p.m. Lunch break

2 – 4 p.m. Session 2: The Global Refugee Forum and prioritized themes

- Burden/responsibility sharing and protection capacity
- Education, jobs and livelihoods
- Solutions, energy and infrastructure
- Discussion on how parliamentarians can make a difference
- Discussion on how to support Global Refugee Forum pledges

Speakers:

- Mr. Mamadou Dian Balde, Deputy Director, Resilience and Solutions, UNHCR HQ
- Dr Ágnes Vadai, MP, Chair, IPU Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law

Presentations will be followed by a debate with participants.

4 - 4.30 p.m. **Coffee break**

4.30 – 5.30 p.m. **Session 3: African Union and UNHCR Project 2019: Sharing of best practices**

Speaker: Mr. Cosmas Chanda, Representative, UNHCR Regional Office to the African Union, Ethiopia

6 p.m. **Cocktail in honour of participants**

12 November 2019

10 - 10.30 a.m. **Welcoming coffee**

10.30 – 1 p.m. **Session 4: Inclusion of refugees in national systems**

- Experiences in selected countries/ sub-regions and sectors (education, health, WASH, etc.)
- Moving from camps settings and towards a settlement approach, fostering social cohesion between refugees and host communities
- Contributions from development partners and the private sector in supporting refugee hosting areas.

Speakers:

- Mr. Mamadou Dian Balde, Deputy Director, Resilience and Solutions, UNHCR HQ
- Mr. Yonatan Araya, Senior Policy Advisor, UNHCR Regional Bureau,
- Ms. Daniela Henrike Klau Panhans, Operations, International Finance Corporation

Presentations will be followed by a debate with participants.

1 – 2 p.m. **Lunch break**

2 – 4 p.m. **Session 5: Plenary session and Presentation on the situation of stateless persons**

- Eradicating statelessness, including best practice examples; Highlight of pledges made by African States on statelessness
- Role of Parliaments in implementing the pledges

Speakers:

- Ms. Shahrzad Tadjbakhsh, Deputy Director, International Protection, UNHCR HQ
- Dr Ágnes Vadai, MP, Chair, IPU Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law
- Mr. Seth Rajoelina Andriam-Harimanana, MP, Madagascar
- Ms. Emmanuelle Mitte, Regional Statelessness Expert, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Southern Africa
- Ms. Diana Gichengo, Programme Manager, Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC)

Presentations will be followed by a debate with participants.

4 - 4.30 p.m. **Coffee break**

4.30 – 6 p.m. Session 6: A conversation on peace and reconciliation

- Building social cohesion, facilitating peace and reconciliation
- Role and inclusion of women in fostering peaceful coexistence/peacebuilding
- Role of Parliaments and civil society

Speakers:

- Ms. Safak Pavey, Senior Adviser, UNHCR, HQ
- Mr. Henk-Jan Brinkman, Chief, UN Peacebuilding Fund, UN HQ
- Ms. Mboni Mohammed Mhita, MP, United Republic of Tanzania
- Ms. Noella Alifwa Usumange, Coordinator, SOFEPADI, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Ms. Ayo Ayoola-Amale, President, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Ghana section

Moderated Q&A with the panellists and with the floor.

13 November 2019

10 - 10.30 a.m. Welcoming Coffee

10.30 – 12 a.m. Technical session 1: How to fight stereotypes and xenophobia?

- An interactive exchange on fighting stereotypes and xenophobia;
 - How to constructively engage other actors i.e. civil society and the media in these debates.
- Ms. Madalena Hogg, Senior Manager, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Southern Africa
 - Advocate Tseliso Thipanyane, CEO, South African Human Rights Commission

10.30– 12 a.m. Technical session 2: How to develop legislation and build adequate frameworks?

- How to develop effective legislative frameworks to address situations of forcibly displaced people and statelessness
- Ms Emmanuelle Mitte, Regional Statelessness Expert, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Southern Africa
 - Ms Kiran Kaur, Operations Coordinator, UNHCR, South Africa

12 a.m. – 1 p.m. Closing session: Role of parliamentarians in the build up to GRF / Adoption of the Declaration of the Conference

- Mr Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
- Mr. Roger Nkodo Dang, President of the Pan-African Parliament