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33<sup>rd</sup> Annual

**BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY MODEL UNITED  
NATIONS CONFERENCE**

Sponsored by the David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies  
Friday, October 28, 2022 – Provo, Utah

Esteemed Delegates,

Welcome to the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Brigham Young University Model United Nations Conference (BYUMUN)! My name is Katherine Jolley, and I will be the director of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). As I have participated in Model United Nations, I have come to better understand the ways I can help drive innovative solutions to some of the most challenging global issues. In addition, I have had the chance to meet and become friends with people from all across the globe.

This year we will discuss topics that have a profound effect on millions of people's lives and wellbeing. The topics are:

1. Natural Disaster Displacement: Housing, Food and Water Security
2. Operationalizing UNHCR's Commitments to the IDP-Initiative

The United Nations needs to present a united front in addressing both issues. UNHCR's mandate is to bring relief to refugees and enable host countries to effectively administer aid. I encourage you to invest time in understanding the jurisdiction of UNHCR, as it will help you tailor your solutions to what the Committee can implement.

As you prepare for the conference, keep in mind that this background guide will serve as an introduction to our committee but is not meant to replace individual research. Seeking out innovative ideas and researching ways to address these serious topics will not only help you be prepared and have a better conference experience but will help shape your view of the world.

Feel free to contact our team with any question or concern that you may have.

Sincerely,

Katherine Jolley  
Director, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
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## Committee History

### Introduction

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was established in 1950 by the General Assembly (GA) in order to provide assistance to Europeans who had lost their homes or were forced to flee in the aftermath of World War II. The mandate was intended to last for three years, but the GA continued to expand the sphere of influence of the UNHCR in order to assist with other emergencies, such as the Hungarian Revolution and decolonization of Africa and Latin America. The UNHCR was made a permanent subsidiary of the UN on July 28, 1951, at the 1951 Refugee Convention. In 2003, the General Assembly extended the mandate of the UNHCR indefinitely. Today the UNHCR has 18,879 personnel working in 137 countries.

### Mandate, Functions and Powers

The UNHCR reports to the GA and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The purpose of the UNHCR is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. The founding document for the UNHCR is GA resolution 428(V). The mandate of the UNHCR is as follows:

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, acting under the authority of the General Assembly, shall assume the function of providing 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 the governments concerned, private organizations to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of such refugees, or their assimilation within new national communities.

The *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) recognizes the right to seek asylum in another state for all individuals, providing the foundation for the UNHCR's mandate. The 1951 *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* officially defines a refugee as a person who has fled their home country due to "a well-founded fear of persecution because of his/her race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion." The 1967 *Protocol* expands the influence of the UNHCR to address all refugee crises by removing time and location limitations.

The purpose of the UNHCR is to "lead and coordinate international action for the worldwide protection of refugees." In practice, this includes partnering with Member States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other groups. UNHCR's collaborative approach is a product of the structure of their budget. UNHCR does not have allocated funds, rather it is financed almost entirely by voluntary donations. Each year, the UNHCR presents a Global Appeal that addresses UNHCR's main areas of concern and lays out plans to address the various situations in order to appeal to donors. The budget is used to support four objectives: refugees, stateless people, reintegration programs, and Global Internally Displaced Persons Projects.

## **Definitions: other forcibly displaced persons**

As previously mentioned, the purpose of the UNHCR is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. A few definitions of other groups of people that the UNHCR also assists will be helpful to better understand their scope of influence.

The term **forcibly displaced person** includes all refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced people and Venezuelans displaced abroad. The **population of concern** refers to all people that the UNHCR can assist. The population of concern includes all forcibly displaced people, stateless persons, those that have returned home within the previous year or are part of a group the UNHCR provides assistance to. An **asylum seeker** is someone who has fled their home country and is waiting to receive an answer to their request for sanctuary. An **internally displaced person (IDP)** is an individual who faces persecution similar to a refugee, but remains in their home country. They often are located in areas where it is difficult to provide assistance, making them one of the most vulnerable populations in the world. A **stateless person** is someone that is not considered to be a citizen of any country.

## **Recent Discussion and Current Priorities**

In May 2022, there were more than 100 million forcibly displaced people worldwide. At the end of 2021, there were 89.3 million forcibly displaced people, where 53.2 million were internally displaced people, 27.1 million were refugees, and 4.6 million were asylum seekers. The Russian invasion of Ukraine and emergencies in Africa and Afghanistan were direct contributors to the record-breaking amount of forcibly displaced people worldwide, but the number of refugees has been growing consistently for the past 15 years. The UNHCR aims to lower this number by working with policymakers to create a legal framework that protects displaced people, rehabilitating environments of displaced groups, providing clean forms of energy to refugees, and promoting peace-keeping.

As presented in the Global Appeal for 2022, High Commissioner Filippo Grandi stated, “2022 will be shaped by the world’s response to three threats: conflict, COVID-19 and climate change.” The UNHCR is mainly concerned about protecting basic rights in safe environments, and it will spend 49 percent of its estimated budget to achieve that goal this year. The UNHCR is also very concerned with the displacement of persons due to climate change and will focus 23 percent of its budget on protecting the environment this year.

## **Conclusion**

As the number of forcibly displaced persons continues to grow, the urgency of the UNHCR’s mission is clear. As Filippo Grandi has said, “Our entire strategic approach is based on our responsibility to fulfill our mandate. UNHCR aims to save and improve the lives of the people of concern, lessen the burden on States that do so much to host them, and solve their situations as soon as possible.” The mandate of UNHCR is more relevant today than ever as the world faces an unprecedented refugee crisis. Whether the cause of displacement be a disrupted environment, violence, or persecution based on ideology, the UNHCR is continually engaged in accomplishing their objective of protecting and caring for the most vulnerable populations.



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*Outlines implications of 1951 Refugee Convention and emphasizes its legal implications and current relevance.*

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*Compilation of various dialogues about proper refugee care into a cohesive document that outlines shared goals, structures and framework for caring for refugees.*

## **Topic 1: Natural Disaster Displacement: Housing, Food and Water Security**

A natural disaster is defined as “the consequences of events triggered by natural hazards that overwhelm local response capacity and seriously affect the social and economic development of a region.” Thus, a natural disaster is only a disaster if it affects a population and the local government is unable to adequately respond. Natural disasters have increased in intensity and frequency in recent years, often with devastating effects to the populations residing in the high risk areas. UNHCR aims to protect from and respond to natural disasters, as outlined in UNHCR’s 2012-2021 Strategic decisions. Major floods in South Sudan and Malawi, a tropical cyclone in Mozambique, and a famine in East African countries are just a few of the natural disasters that the UNHCR has responded to this year. Disasters result in a high level of displacement as individuals are often forced to flee the area. In 2021, 23.7 million people were internally displaced, and 94 percent of the displacements were caused by natural disasters. It is estimated that one person has been displaced every second by a natural disaster since 2009.

Natural disasters have the harshest effect on the world’s most vulnerable populations, including refugees, stateless people and internally displaced persons. Destruction of the environment limits the ability of displaced persons to return home, even after homes have been rebuilt or conflict has ended. Natural disasters are also disproportionately likely to adversely impact the elderly, the disabled, indigenous people, and women. 80 percent of IDPs and refugees come from the most climate vulnerable countries. Thus, people displaced for other reasons, such as political refugees or those displaced by conflict are likely to live in climate hot spots, or areas that are disproportionately likely to suffer from natural disasters or depletion of environmental resources as a result of ongoing climate change.

### **UNHCR Mandate**

The UNHCR’s main objective is to provide relief to refugees. A refugee is an individual that has fled their home country due to “a well-founded fear of persecution because of his/her race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.” The definition of refugee can be hard to meet in the case of a natural disaster because many of those affected by a natural disaster in need of emergency assistance do not end up fleeing their home country, rather they are internally displaced. In some instances, there is overlap between conflict and natural disasters that easily qualifies those affected as refugees. For example, a catastrophic natural disaster may collapse a government or lead to severe civil unrest. Additionally, some ethnic, social, religious, or political groups may be more likely to be affected by a disaster because of persecution. The UNHCR is also part of the Global Cluster Lead for Protection (Global Protection Cluster) which obligates them as a “provider of last resort” to assist those affected by disasters.

Notwithstanding current difficulties with allocating resources to those that fall outside of the refugee definition, there have been 43 instances since 1999 where UNHCR has provided assistance to internally displaced people. Currently, 35 percent of UNHCR’s efforts are in response to floods, with 25 percent in response to earthquakes. Over half of the disasters that UNHCR responds to are in Africa, followed by Asia. UNHCR initiatives to respond to natural disasters include field operations to minimize displacement, legal guidance to protect the rights

of displaced people at national and international levels, projects to find gaps and overlaps in international policy and allocation, and research funding to raise awareness for climate change and best practices for responding to natural disasters.

## **Housing**

UNHCR is partnered with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to lead the Global Shelter Cluster. The Global Shelter Cluster helps to coordinate response efforts to both conflict and natural disaster related displacement to ensure safe and appropriate shelter. UNHCR leads in conflict-generated displacement while IFRC oversees natural disaster situations.

UNHCR supports housing in several ways. In the immediate aftermath of any kind of disaster, UNHCR distributes tents, plastic sheeting and mats that can be used to form a temporary structure. In long term responses, UNHCR is involved with helping individuals rebuild homes and community structures. A major concern with rebuilding homes after a disaster is addressing structural problems that contributed to the collapse of the home in the first place, combined with the tendency to move back to generally insecure locations. 80 percent of individuals affected by a disaster recover on their own, often rebuilding their homes in the exact same way as before with no adjustment to how the dwelling is structured. Failure to restabilize buildings can lead to continued displacement, something UNHCR is working to reduce. UNHCR and the IFRC are currently engaged in extensive research projects to collect best practices for rebuilding homes in climate hot spots and determining the best way to disseminate that knowledge to the people affected.

UNHCR is also involved in minimizing secondary displacement for those located in refugee camps. There are several initiatives to prevent secondary displacement, such as the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster and UNHCR's Preparedness Package for Refugee Emergencies (PPRE) that include contingency planning and prevention of disaster displacement. For example, refugees in Kenya were moved to higher ground after a flood in 2014. Concerns about secondary displacement remain high, even with current preventative measures due to increasing frequency of natural disasters.

## **Food**

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) Article 25(1) states that "everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food." Natural disasters impede an individual's access to food almost immediately. Additionally, natural disasters, such as drought, when coupled with weak governmental structures, can lead to famine. Persecution of various populations is often exacerbated during food shortages as local governments may be unable to provide equal access to food for everyone. Lack of food security can also escalate to human rights violations as people are anxious to hold a population accountable and governments are unable to maintain strong rule of law. Thus, food shortages caused by natural disasters can quickly involve the UNHCR in order to protect persecuted populations.



The UNHCR also provides immediate emergency food rations to those affected by disasters. Currently, there is no universal method for assessing emergency food needs. A main focus is providing adequate nutrition in order to save lives and protect those at high risk, such as pregnant women. Emergency food rations are also intended to prevent mass migration and damage to food production and other economic activity. UNHCR also provides Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) to manage malnutrition in emergencies. All relief efforts by the UNHCR are geared to the long-term goal of self-reliance.

Concern about funding to support food rations is growing as funding has not increased at the same rate as the frequency of natural disasters, nor the general surge of refugees. Furthermore, food shortages have been intensified due to current global conflict, including the Russian invasion of Ukraine. For instance, 18.4 million people in East Africa alone face severe hunger. In general, a lack of funding will result in food ration cuts across refugee camps and current areas recovering from natural disasters.

## **Water**

Natural disasters affect delivery of UNHCR operations by increasing displacement and by jeopardizing already existing relief efforts. Floods and other disasters may damage freshwater resources, contaminating drinking water and increasing risk of disease. Decrease in resources, including water, can lead to extended conflict. The crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan is an example of this. Disagreement over farming lands and water between African farmers and Arab communities are attributed to triggering the conflict. Lack of water continues to remain an issue in the region today. Climate related conflicts are expected to continue. Thus, demand for UNHCR refugee support is expected to grow.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) are vital to the health of a refugee. UNHCR is responsible to ensure accurate WASH resources for all refugees. Refugees frequently have less than adequate WASH as they live in densely populated areas like refugee camps. Tight quarters and communal bathrooms contribute to transmission of disease. Additionally, many refugees have to walk long distances in order to find a clean water source, placing them in danger of physical danger and potential exposure to sexual or psychological violence. UNHCR ensures refugee access to WASH by working to include refugees in WASH systems of their host country or by building, operating and funding WASH supply directly. UNHCR also engages in educational campaigns to promote best practices, especially considering that refugee displacements now last for an average of 20 years. Sustainable and adequate access to WASH is imperative to the health of refugees.

## **Conclusion**

Natural disasters continue to disproportionately affect refugees and other vulnerable populations as disasters often lead to continual forced displacement and inadequate food and water supply. The increasing frequency of natural disasters is expected to add to the growing number of refugees as well. UNHCR is challenged with the task of providing adequate aid in the form of housing, food and water to a growing number of refugees.

**Questions to consider**

Should the UNHCR play a role in aiding internally displaced persons due to natural disaster?

How should the UNHCR maximize their limited funds and/or pursue partnerships with other stakeholders to increase funding?

How can the UNHCR minimize repeated displacement more effectively?

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*Delegates can find a basic overview of UNHCR efforts to provide adequate water, sanitation and hygiene for refugees here.*

## **Topic 2: Operationalizing UNHCR's Commitments to the IDP-Initiative**

The number of internally displaced people in the world has risen steadily for the past 15 years, with a record 59.1 million people displaced within their home-country in 2021. The global community has long been invested in attempting to solve the displacement crisis. Historical efforts to provide solutions for the IDP crisis include the creation of Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in 1998, a document intended to provide rights and legal protections to IDPs before, during, and after their displacement. Some of the rights set forth in the Guiding Principles include the right to not be displaced, the right of children to not be conscripted, the right to an adequate standard of living, and the right to reintegrate safely and with dignity. Today, more than 20 years later, the United Nations continues to face the challenge of providing solutions to the IDP crisis. The twentieth anniversary of the Guiding Principles (GP20) led to a call for a three year, multi-stakeholder initiative that would conduct thematic research in order to learn more about preventing, responding to and resolving internal displacement. More recently, the UN Secretary General called a High-Level Panel (HLP) on Internal Displacement in order to find concrete recommendations for long-term financing, identify best practices for knowledge sharing, and create incentives for including IDPs in SDG action plans. Complementing the efforts of global and national stakeholders, the UNHCR is also currently stepping up their commitment to ensure reliable and consistent aid to IDPs.

A record 59.1 million people were displaced within their home-country last year. The ability of UNHCR to adequately assist internally displaced persons (IDPs) has been inadequate due to their rapid increase in numbers. While the plight of refugees was the original justification for the formation of the UNHCR, the present primary purpose of UNHCR is “to safeguard the rights and well-being of people who have been forced to flee.” Thus, internally displaced people are among the people of concern for the UNHCR. The vision of UNHCR regarding IDPs is that “all internally displaced people can find protection from harm, live peacefully, learn, work and flourish as contributing members of the communities in which they live, and find longer term solutions to build a secure future.”

The UNHCR uses a cluster approach when assisting with IDPs. UNHCR is partnered with a group of agencies, including the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) in order to run the Global Protection Center, the Global Shelter Cluster and Global Camp Coordination Camp Management Cluster (CCCM). The group of agencies works together to provide camp management, shelter, protection, and healthcare. These are the same agencies in the cluster to help with refugee crises. While the processes for assisting in a refugee crisis are consistent and predictable, this has not historically been the case for UNHCR involvement with IDPs. Thus, in 2019, the IDP-Initiative was introduced to better address the growing IDP crisis and was most recently updated in March 2020.

### **The IDP-Initiative**

The IDP-Initiative refers to the organizational commitment of UNHCR for “decisive and predictable engagement” when helping in instances of internal displacement. The main objectives of the IDP initiative are as follows:

- “1. Generate examples of good practices to inform the continued operationalization of the IDP Policy.*
- 2. Contribute to heightened visibility and advocacy on the impact of internal displacement on affected populations.*
- 3. Inform resource mobilization strategies and equitable resource allocation.*
- 4. Facilitate focused support to the nine target operations on specific thematic, strategic and operational issues”*

The first objective of the IDP initiative requires an initial improvement in responses to IDP crises. UNHCR recently released a Preparedness Package for IDP Emergencies (PPIE) that will better utilize inter-agency resources with the goal of creating a UN system that will support, or even be led by, local governments. UNHCR has years of institutional knowledge of early warning mechanisms that can be analyzed in order to prevent and mitigate displacement crises. UNHCR also aims to better integrate its existing knowledge of shelter and camp management in their IDP responses. Another component of improving UNHCR aid responses is focused on deploying staff to crisis areas as quickly as possible. By providing examples of good practices for dealing with IDP crises, the UNHCR will be able to better achieve their other objectives.

While the amount of IDPs is increasing rapidly, global recognition of their plight is not. Part of the lack of global recognition comes from the fact that IDPs are less visible than refugees because they, by definition, do not flee their home country. UNHCR is now aiming to highlight the voices of IDPs by publishing IDP experiences that showcase their humanitarian needs even after current efforts. The second objective is largely built on the fact that the UNHCR relies on monetary contributions in order to fund its relief efforts. UNHCR also plans to create country specific communications that will foster support. By increasing awareness of the catastrophic effect of displacement, the UNHCR will be better equipped with the resources it needs for relief efforts.

The third objective focuses on better utilization of existing data and providing ways to continue to gather data on IDP responses to find best practices. The UNHCR has a new Data Transformation Strategy that will gather data to be shared among the UNHCR and its cluster partners to allow for evidence-based planning and execution. Part of this data objective also includes better training of employees, specifically in managerial positions. Data will also be shared with local governments in order to allow for an easier transition to national services, development plans and social safety nets, as outlined in the 2030 Agenda.

The final objective recognizes that there are several regions in the world that continue to be affected by overlapping refugee crises. There are nine target areas within the IDP initiative. These areas include Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Iraq, South Sudan, Sudan, and Ukraine. As detailed below, each target area faces specific challenges that are unique to the region. By recognizing and planning for displacement mechanisms regionally, the UNHCR will be better equipped to quickly provide aid to displacement crises.

*Afghanistan-* UNHCR has a long-standing presence in Afghanistan, providing aid since 1979. The current focus is to mitigate protection risks and ensure access to basic needs, while working

to establish peaceful relations with host-communities. Almost two-thirds of the population of Afghanistan is directly impacted by either conflict, movement of population, or forced displacement. Like other long-standing conflicts, UNHCR is working towards self-reliance through community-based protection and sustainable reintegration.

*Burkina Faso*- Host-communities and local authorities are currently overwhelmed with needs for shelter, food and water. UNHCR is working to strengthen partnerships with local authorities and prioritize operational delivery of required goods.

*Colombia*- UNHCR leads the Protection cluster in Colombia and is currently focused on a peaceful transition of government ownership, amidst calls for re-armament and challenges on securing borders. Protection and peace-keeping remain primary concerns.

*Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)*- While political instability and conflict were the original causes of displacement, improvement of the situation has resulted in some IDPs returning home. UNHCR is focused on strengthening protection against future emergencies, supporting areas where IDPs have returned, and supporting local leadership.

*Ethiopia* - Mass displacement in 2017 was originally caused by conflict along borders; continued displacement has been caused by climate change, including flooding. UNHCR efforts in Ethiopia are centered on operational delivery and maintaining protection by improving social cohesion.

*Iraq* - UNHCR is currently leading Protection, Shelter and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Clusters. Main challenges faced include destruction of homes, land and property, hazardous contamination, and centrality of protection.

*South Sudan* - While efforts to de-escalate the conflict are promising, there is still significant uncertainty and insecurity. UNHCR will focus on data collection and updating information management and analysis from previous records in 2019 in order to guide development of national law and return IDPs.

*Sudan* - IDPs are at significant risk for human rights violations in Sudan due to weak rule of law and insufficient social services. UNHCR is working to stockpile emergency resources to continue to provide food and water security. Long-term goals include improving data collection and improved operational delivery.

*Ukraine* - Displacement in Ukraine dates back to 2014. UNHCR efforts include partnering with local authorities in order to provide connections to social services, access to legal services, and protect conflict-affected populations.

## **Issues with Operationalizing**

Notwithstanding the renewed focus of the UNHCR on the IDP crisis via the IDP Initiative, a disconnect between the goals of the Initiative and the actual response effort exists. The High Level Panel (HLP) on Internal Displacement was established in 2019 to find concrete solutions for international displacement. They were focused on finding long term funding sources, ways to



discover and share best practices, fostering incentives for including IDPs and facilitating more predictable area-based relief. Since the adoption of the IDP Initiative, the UNHCR has utilized feedback from the HLP in order to continue to improve their response. The HLP has highlighted a focus on the centrality of protection, meaning that the purpose of all humanitarian groups is to protect vulnerable populations from danger. The HLP also is concerned about the displacement continuum, or movement from internal displacement to eventually crossing country borders as the crisis that caused the initial displacement escalates. Mainly, HLP has stressed the importance of automaticity, or responding to an IDP crisis as quickly as possible. Other suggestions from the HLP include early preparation, changing the mindset of the UNHCR organization to include IDPs, removing internal institutional barriers, monitoring the early stages of crises more closely.

Aside from the issues highlighted by the HLP, another concern with the IDP-Initiative is the transition from the emergency response of UNHCR to including the local government in support of IDPs. In line with the 2030 Agenda, IDP relief initiatives should have the end goal of sustainability. Sustainability in this context, has a wide variety of applications, including transitioning management of IDPs to governments where they reside in order to discourage extended periods of displacement. Viable solutions to internal displacement require supporting local government efforts to rehome displaced individuals and provide them with national services. Long term solutions must also consider working to eliminate the causes of internal displacement, such as violence, violation of human rights and climate change.

## **Conclusion**

The continual internal displacement of millions of people across the globe rightfully calls for a more focused approach from the UNHCR. While the UNHCR has several plans and initiatives in place, they continue to see room for improvement in their response efforts. The challenge of providing adequate relief to IDPs is not only bettering the initial response of the UNHCR but also of coordinating and collaborating with local authorities.

## **Questions to consider:**

How can Member states support the IDP initiative?

What role do regional blocs play in providing relief to IDPs in the nine target areas of the IDPs?

How can the UNHCR better collaborate with local governments for sustainable relief efforts?

## Annotated Bibliography

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*This article discusses Guiding Principles and IDP crisis responses. Delegates may find this article useful for understanding the response to IDP-related crises.*

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*Here is a key document on operationalizing UNHCR IDP relief effects. It is especially useful due to its inclusion of detailed recommendations for improvements.*

**"Persons of Concern to UNHCR." UNHCR Philippines, <https://www.unhcr.org/ph/persons-concern-unhcr>.**

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*Overview of the Sustainable Development Goals, which are helpful for evaluating sustainable practices in IDP relief and response.*

**"The Centrality of Protection: What It Means in Practice." *Global Protection Cluster*, <https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/tools-and-guidance/protection-cluster-coordination-toolbox/communication-package-on-protection/the-centrality-of-protection-what-it-means-in-practice/>.**

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**“The IDP-Initiative Quarterly Update, January 2022 - Yemen.” *ReliefWeb*, 28 Jan. 2022, <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/idp-initiative-quarterly-update-january-2022>.**

*Most recent quarterly update on UNHCR progress. Delegates may go back and read several of the previous quarterly updates in order to familiarize themselves with recent improvements as well as continuing concerns. This also provides breakdowns of practices that were helpful to specific member states.*

**“UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement |.” *United Nations*, United Nations, <https://www.un.org/internal-displacement-panel/#:~:text=The%20High%2DLevel%20Panel%20on%20Internal%20Displacement%20was%20established%20by,the%20global%20internal%20displacement%20crisis>.**

*Overview of the HLP and its functions.*

**UNHCR Initiative on Internal Displacement 2020-2021.  
<https://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/UNHCR%20Initiative%20on%20Internal%20Displacement%202020-2021.pdf>.**

*This article provides an overview of the IDP Initiative. Delegate may find this helpful for starting their research on the topic.*

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*Here is a simple explanation of the definition of internally displaced people. Delegate may find this helpful for starting their research on the topic.*