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HUMAN RIGHTS ENGAGEMENT

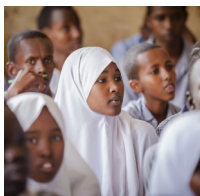
April-June 2021



**Inputs to Agenda for
Protection (A4P) Process**



**Four Webinars on UPR Related
Topics**



**Guide on Collaboration with
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- ⇒ Consultation Session with Special Rapporteur on IDPs
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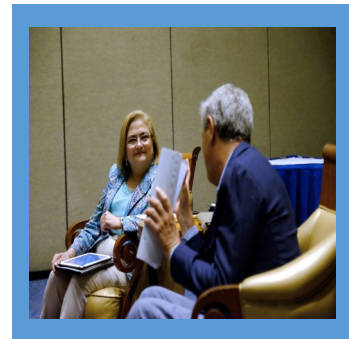
- ⇒ A Video of William Chemaly from HRE TT Session
- ⇒ UNSG's Call to Action for Human Rights
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- ⇒ Two Thematic Mini Modules
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UNSG’s Call to Action (C2A) and Inputs to Agenda for Protection (A4P)

Based on informal discussions, the peer exchange session and dedicated C2A/ A4P discussion held in May, the HRE TT prepared inputs to the A4P process. GPC HRE TT shared inputs and good practices to the A4P process. The note can be located [here](#).

The third peer exchange session with field colleagues was organized on 19 May, focusing on the UNSG’s Call to Action for Human Rights and Agenda for Protection.



Humanitarian Networking and Partnership Week

During the Humanitarian Networking and Partnership Week (HNPW), TT HRE ran two online events – one on 3 May, which focused on introducing the task team to participants of the HNPW (recording available [here](#)), the second event was a dedicated content session on engaging with the UNSG C2A and A4P (recording available [here](#)). More than 120 people participated and key input were given from the perspective of the GPC, field protection clusters, NGOs and the C2A secretariat. The Special Rapporteur on IDPs also made a presentation and participated in the event.



A Video of William Chemaly from HRE TT Session Organized During HNPW

A short video clip from the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW) session opening by William Chemaly, the Global Protection Cluster Coordinator, was created and can be watched [here](#).

Innovation Protection Sprint– Focus on Human Rights Violations

Norway organized a session called Innovation sprint on protection in the humanitarian sector. The desired outcomes were:

- A deeper understanding of two-three protection challenges
- A deeper understanding of how innovation partnerships can contribute to new tools/ solutions to these, wicked protection problems
- Connecting a wider network of people with relevant expertise, as a basis for new partnerships

Following an initial discussion amongst protection experts, a follow up discussion to further explore challenges/needs related to human rights violations in the sector was organized on 8th June. The discussion focused on the below questions:

- How do human rights violations manifest themselves in humanitarian operations?
- Who are impacted?
- How are they impacted?
- What could the function of a new tool/solution to the identified human rights challenge be?
- Who could we potentially partner with to develop new tools?

Four Webinars on UPR Related Topics

Three webinars/ training sessions focusing on the UPR process were conducted in April 2021 by UPR-Info for field protection clusters to share relevant information and exchange with field protection cluster members. One session was in English, one was in French, and the third one was in Spanish.

The total number of registered participants in all sessions was 268. Based on the data obtained from the French and English sessions of 220 participants, the below analysis is provided.

NGOs had the highest participation rate, accounting for 53% of all registered participants, followed by UN organizations who accounted for 22%. INGOs, IGOs, consultants, and other types of organizations comprised the remaining 25%.

The top attending region was West and Central Africa with 104 attendees, followed by Europe with 35 attendees, East and Horn of Africa, and Great Lakes with 31 attendees, the Americas with 19 attendees, Asia and the Pacific with 14 attendees, Southern Africa with 7 attendees, the Middle East with 7 attendees, and 2 attendees from a global level.

Overall, interest was shown in greater engagement with the UPR process, including through engagement with stakeholders. Many participants also expressed interest in learning more about how they could submit reports. The recordings of the sessions are available [here](#).

In addition, the HRE TT along with UPR-Info organized a webinar in French on 27 May on the topic of submitting stakeholder reports to the UPR. The recording can be found [here](#). You can also access the two PowerPoints ([PP1](#) / [PP2](#)) and a list of [additional resources](#), shared in relation to the session.

Note on Human Rights Engagement

A note on human rights engagement to strengthen protection through law and policy was issued jointly between the GPC HRE TT and the GPC Task Team on Law and Policy. A note on human rights engagement to strengthen protection through law and policy was issued jointly between the GPC Human Rights Engagement Task Team and the GPC Task Team on Law and Policy. The note can be found [here](#).

Two Thematic Mini Modules

Two mini-modules on human rights-related topics were developed to support protection clusters, following a prioritization exercise by the GPC HRE TT members. They include guidance on:

1. Human rights analysis - look forward to the link in the next newsletter
2. Stakeholders mapping- draft short animation can be accessed [here](#)



SESSION FOR STUDENTS AT GENEVA CENTER FOR HUMANITARIAN STUDIES: PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS, FROM HUMANITARIAN TO PEACE OPERATIONS

The HRE TT co chair delivered on June 11 a session on protection clusters at the course on Protection Of Civilians, From Humanitarian To Peace Operations organized by the Geneva Center for Humanitarian Studies.

The aim of the course was to provide a general introduction to students on the protection of civilians, with a focus on conflict and post-conflict environments. It provided insight on both theory and practical realities and applied critical thinking on concepts, principles and professional practices most common amongst protection actors in humanitarian or peace operations.

Guide on Collaboration with NHRIs for Field Protection Clusters

Following up on the HRE TT's action plan based on consultations with the field protection clusters, a practical guide for field protection clusters on collaboration with national human rights institutions was prepared. You can consult it [here](#).

Consultation Session with the SR on IDPs

A consultation session with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Cecilia Jimenez- Damary, was held on 28 May, with field protection clusters. The consultation focused on prevention of arbitrary displacement in the context of armed conflict and generalized violence, which is the topic for the 2021 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons to be presented to the General Assembly. Over 60 field colleagues participated in the consultations. Following the consultations, five field protection clusters submitted written inputs. The report of the Special Rapporteur will be presented in October to the UN General Assembly.

Webinar on Human Rights Education in Humanitarian Settings: Challenges and Opportunities

A webinar on human rights education in humanitarian settings was held on June 17 2021. The webinar highlighted that human rights abuses can be the root causes of forced displacement and statelessness and also occur during situations of displacement or statelessness. In this context, human rights education is a key element for displaced persons to understand and exercise their human rights and respect the rights of others.

Human rights education promotes values, beliefs and attitudes that encourage all individuals to understand and uphold their own rights and those of others. It contributes to ensuring that the rights of all persons are respected and valued.

The webinar aimed at:

- Shedding light on the importance of human rights education as a key tool to enhance protection of human rights of displaced persons.
- Creating a space for sharing best practices on human rights education in humanitarian contexts, and discuss existing challenges and opportunities.
- Tackling needs and gaps of human rights education in protection clusters context and identify if there is an interest in devising a possible pilot project.



GENERAL UPDATES

- ⇒ The HRE TT is on track with all elements in the action plan for 2021. It can be located [here](#)
- ⇒ A dedicated session was held with protection clusters in Sahel region protection clusters on protection analysis framework (PAF) and human rights elements. Current practices were identified, along with areas for support going forward.
- ⇒ The GPC Task Team on Human Rights Engagement (TT HRE) met with 12+ donors group on May 10 and presented its work, its objectives and some of the achievements since it was formed. The donor meeting was convened by the Permanent Missions of Norway and Netherlands, and brought together key donors based in Geneva
- ⇒ On 4 May, the directors of the GPC TT HRE co-chairs (UNHCR, Soka Gakkai International, Lutheran World Federation) met, to discuss the work of the Task Team and ways forward.

CONTACT US:

GPC HRE TT's co-chairs

Valerie Svobodova, UNHCR
svobodov@unhcr.org

Isaiah Toroitich, World Lutheran Federation
Isaiah.Toroitich@lutheranworld.org

Elisa Gazzotti, Soka Gakkai International
elisa.g@sgi-ouna.org