

GPC

HUMAN

RIGHTS

ENGAGEMENT

TASK TEAM



Global Protection Cluster
Human Rights Engagement
Task Team

Human rights engagement at a glance – first half of 2022

Letter from the Global Protection Cluster Coordinator on human rights engagement

In a letter of 31 January 2022, Global Protection Cluster (GPC) Coordinator William Chemaly emphasized the importance of human rights engagement for protection clusters (PCs), stressing that: “protection actors and conveners at the national and sub-national level are encouraged to make every effort to ensure that the protection of affected populations against human rights violations, international humanitarian law abuses remain at the centre of your respective strategies through the use of available policies, tools, and key partnerships”.

The letter can be found on the Global Protection Cluster Human Rights Engagement Task Team webpage [here](#)





ENGAGEMENT WITH OHCHR

MOZAMBIQUE

In Mozambique, OHCHR is part of the National and Sub-National PC, and their Strategic Advisory Group and Technical Group for the establishment of the Protection Incident Monitoring System (PIMS). This joint project has allowed effective human rights integration in several strategic documents guiding the humanitarian response, such as an advocacy strategy on the centrality of protection and the Humanitarian Needs Overview for 2022.

HAITI

In May 2022, the GPC and OHCHR in Haiti have strongly worked together to reinforce the architecture of the protection sector and the coordination mechanism between the AoRs, whilst continuing to enlarge the protection network in the country.

SYRIA

In April 2022, the Whole of Syria PC contributed to OHCHR thematic advisory notes focusing on economic, social and cultural rights. The OHCHR Human Rights Advisor created a Human Rights Reference Group (HRRG) to which the Northwest Syria Hub is extensively contributing with information and analysis.

DRC

In DRC, the PC regularly engages with the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office (UNJHRO) at MONUSCO. UNJHRO contributed to several strategic processes, including a workshop on the development of the PC's strategy and the integration of human rights in humanitarian responses.

In the first half of 2022, PCs in Northwest Syria, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and DRC have benefited from the expertise of OHCHR in the drafting of the Protection Analysis Updates with stronger human rights elements.



INTEGRATING A STRONGER HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH IN PROTECTION CLUSTERS' PROCESSES



DRC

Based on an alert system commonly established in 2021, the DRC PC continues to regularly work with UNJHRO to ensure systematic documentation of human rights violations, especially in the Tanganyika Province. Moreover, the PC is regularly engaging with local and national human rights partners on areas of impunity reduction and protecting human rights defenders as a way to foster better protection for people affected by humanitarian crises.

PHILIPPINES

In the Philippines, the PC integrated human rights aspects in their processes. Four strategic objectives of the Protection Strategy in Mindanao are focusing on: 1) A national framework protecting the rights of the IDP is enacted; 2) Rights of IDPs are protected during emergencies, in all phases of response and rehabilitation; 3) Support IDPs in attaining durable solutions through sustainable recovery and rehabilitation programmes; 4) Ensure that grave child rights violation (GCRVs), gender-based violence (GBV), and other specific protection concerns affecting vulnerable groups are effectively addressed through specialized services and programs at all stages of emergencies.

MYANMAR

In Myanmar, the PC has mainstreamed human rights in their processes, such as the protection strategy, which includes a focus on "Segregation and violation of human rights", the protection monitoring and advocacy activities, where the PC has committed to engage with the GPC Human Rights Engagement Task Team. The PC has also contributed to the development of the HCT strategy and recommended a stronger human rights focus.



COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS



In 2022, the National Human Rights Commission for Mozambique, the Comissao Nacional de Direitos Humanos (CNDH), has become a cluster member and has started to participate in the PC's meetings. The PC regularly briefs the CNDH on protection and human rights issues related to Cabo Delgado. The CNDH is a strong ally in relation to advocacy on durable and returns in Cabo Delgado. As a pilot of the enhanced partnership established between OHCHR and the GPC, OHCHR-Mozambique and the PC are jointly supporting the CNDH in its engagement on issues related to durable solutions for internally displaced people in conflict areas.

In the Philippines, the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) is a member of the Protection Working Group/Mindanao Virtual Protection Coordination Platform. The CHR IDP monitors and staff from the regional offices regularly participate in the PC's meetings and share updates and information obtained through the protection monitoring activities in their respective jurisdictions.

ENGAGEMENT WITH UN HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Several PCs across all regions have engaged on a confidential manner with different UN human rights mechanisms by providing crucial information to the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs for her thematic report on IDPs' right to participate in elections, the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing's report on Ending Domicide, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as Human Rights Council-mandated Commissions of Inquiry and country Special Rapporteurs.



GET IN TOUCH WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS ENGAGEMENT TASK TEAM

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