

Pledge Statement of the CtA for the Global Refugee Forum

Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies

The Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence (GBV) in Emergencies (CtA) is a global initiative of governments and donors, international organisations (IOs) and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Its aim is to drive change and foster accountability from the humanitarian system to address GBV from the earliest phases of a crisis.

During the last ten years, the CtA has achieved substantial progress, such as the establishment of GBV response networks between women-led organisations in specific regional contexts; the publication of a system-wide GBV Accountability Framework and a GBV Risk Mitigation framework; and technical recommendations on how to improve GBV funding overall and particularly to women-led organisations.

However, the CtA recognizes the specific, ongoing barriers and challenges that forcibly displaced and stateless women and girls face when it comes to accessing safe, inclusive and quality humanitarian assistance, including life-saving protection and health services. Furthermore, unequal power relations and discrimination prevail, which not only impede women's participation broadly, but also limit women refugee-led organisations' meaningful participation and leadership in policy processes, decision-making and advocacy.

In line with the Global Refugee Forum 2023 [Multistakeholder Pledge for Gender Equality \(GE\) and Gender-Based Violence \(GBV\)](#), the CtA is pledging the following:

Incorporate enhanced focus on forced displacement, including refugees in core CtA processes and commitments

The CtA will foster an enhanced and inclusive focus on GBV prevention, response and risk mitigation in forced displacement in **advocacy, events and processes** such as the IO working group work plan commitments and the next CtA Roadmap.

The CtA will seek to **expand membership to more states hosting refugees**, especially those hosting large, newly arriving and/or protracted refugee populations. In the spirit of the Global Compact on Refugees the CtA seeks to support more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing, and as such the enhanced participation of states hosting refugees is pivotal for collective action and joint contributions towards protection from GBV.

Prioritize the participation and leadership of diverse local Women-Led Organizations and Girl-Led Organizations

The Call to Action commits to expand its membership towards the **enhanced inclusion** of women-led organisations (WLOs) and girl-led organisations, including those led by displaced and stateless women and girls, adapting governance structures to facilitate equal participation.

The CtA will support – financially and technically – the **establishment of spaces and platforms for regular and ongoing coordination, exchange of experiences** and building of solidarity among organisations led by displaced women and girls, including those from other diverse groups. As such future events and processes are more inclusive for the participation of local, women-, girl- and/or refugee-led organisations, e.g. by providing interpretation support, hybrid attendance possibilities,

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advocacy engagement, dedicated space and time for sharing, leveraging inclusion through technologies, And funding for participation.

The CtA will regularly **consult** with diverse WLOs and Girl-Led Organizations, including those led by forcibly displaced and stateless women and girls, to empower them in decision making, as well as in developing tools and materials and in ensuring accountability to affected populations is prioritized in all consultations and engagements.

The CtA will explore improved possibilities for the **funding** of women-, girl- and refugee-led organizations through its localisation and funding workstreams, e.g. through the mapping of the barriers, as well as the exploration of innovative and accessible funding mechanisms. The CtA will also simultaneously work to ensure the equitable inclusion of local, women-, girl-, and/or refugee-led organisations across these workstreams.

Mainstreaming of Gender Equality and GBV Protection in Forced Displacement & Emergency Response Contexts

The CtA commits to provide ongoing advocacy and technical guidance, in line with Interagency standards and guidelines, to stakeholders across humanitarian sectors, to ensure that **GBV risk mitigation and the promotion of gender equality are effectively prioritized and integrated** into individual entity's pledge areas, as well as programs.

In particular, the CtA will further advocate for the mainstreaming of the **GBV Accountability Framework and the GBV Risk Mitigation Framework** in contexts of forced displacement, especially in shelters, camps, and any other context of identified risk and significant needs, including through high-level engagement with diverse stakeholders and sectors on a systemic level.

The CtA will provide a regular space for sharing lessons learned, challenges, results and wider updates regarding the pledge commitments outlined above.