

WORKSHOP ON THE PROTECTION OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs)

Training for humanitarian actors (NGOS and UN
agencies) in Puntland, Somalia

Bossaso, 8-10 March 2006

Report

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Executive summary

Upon the request of the UN Country Team for Somalia, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) conducted a training workshop on the protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Puntland, Somalia. More than 40 representatives of local and international NGOs as well as staff members of international agencies attended the workshop. The workshop was sponsored and organized jointly by the UN Country Team (in particular the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees) and the IDMC

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Raise awareness on international standards for the protection of internally displaced persons, as highlighted in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, with particular attention to the protection concerns facing IDPs in Puntland;
- Review good practices for the operational protection of IDPs and implementation of the Guiding Principles and identify relevant practical responses to the protection priorities in Puntland;
- Promoting dialogue and coordination among civil society actors and with international agencies with regard to the protection of IDP in Puntland.

During the workshop, participants reviewed the main concerns relating to the protection of IDPs in Puntland and discussed suggestions on how to address them, in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.

At the end of the workshop, participants adopted recommendations highlighting policies and practices which should be promoted. Participants agreed that the monitoring of internal displacement should be conducted more systematically, with the view of identifying displaced communities at risk and improving their protection. There was also a consensus that the Guiding Principles should be further promoted among all relevant actors in Somalia, including local authorities and traditional leaders. IDPs themselves should be sensitized about their rights and that training projects should be developed to disseminate the Guiding Principles among displaced communities.

It was recommended that more efforts should be made to prevent displacement, in particular by addressing root causes of disasters and conflicts. Participants also highlighted the need to address the protection of IDPs' rights during displacement. The protection capacity of displaced communities, local authorities and civil society actors should be reinforced, in particular with regard to the safety of displaced women and girls. Participants highlighted the importance of supporting the integration of displaced populations into local communities, by improving their access to essential services and protection mechanisms, developing their self-reliance capacity and promoting solutions for durable settlements.

Introduction

Upon the request of the UN Country Team for Somalia, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) conducted a training workshop on the protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Puntland, Somalia, on 8-10 April 2006. More than 40 representatives of local and international NGOs as well as staff members of international agencies attended the workshop (see annex 2 – list of participants).

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- Promote dialogue and coordination among civil society actors and with international agencies with regard to the protection of IDPs in Puntland.

The workshops were officially opened by Dr. Muuse Geelle Yuusuf, Governor of the Bari Region, and Mr. Khadar Abdi Hajji Mire, Mayor of Bossaso. The governor welcomed all participants and thanked UN and the IDMC for the preparation of the workshop. He expressed his hope that the workshop would have a positive impact on the protection of IDPs in Puntland. The mayor of Bossaso highlighted that his city hosts the largest number of IDPs in the province. He expressed his gratitude for the work done by international organizations to improve the living conditions of IDPs, such as the construction of market places and other infrastructures by UNDP, the development of schooling and health services by UNICEF, the planning of pilot durable settlements for IDPs and other vulnerable groups by HABITAT. He recommended that these initiatives should be extended to all IDPs in Bossaso.

Mr. Francis Olayiwola, UNHCR Bossaso, informed the participants about future training plans. Recognising that the main responsibility for the protection of IDPs lies with national and local authorities, he highlighted that special workshops would be organized for these authorities at a later stage. He also pointed out that that training to reach out to displaced and local communities was also planned.

This report reviews the main issues discussed during the workshop, organized by session (see annex 1 – workshop's agenda). The concluding section contains the final recommendations adopted by the participants. Each participant received a set of training materials, including thematic handouts, as well as copies of the Guiding Principles in English and in Somali, the Handbook for Applying the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, and the Joint UN Strategy for IDPs in Somalia.

The workshop was facilitated by the training team of the IDMC, and was sponsored and organized jointly by the UN Country Team (in particular the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees) and the IDMC. The IDMC wishes to express its gratitude to the staff of UNHCR and UN OCHA in Bossaso for their efficient support in organizing the workshop and ensuring its smooth running.

The internal displacement crisis in Puntland



The workshop started with a session devoted to the definition of an internally displaced person, and its relevance to the displacement crisis in Puntland. Using short case studies based on individual stories of IDPs in Somalia, participants were briefed on key aspects of the IDP definition contained in the introduction of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. It was highlighted that IDPs are people who have moved from their homes or places of habitual residence involuntarily, as a result of circumstances leaving them no choice but to leave or flee. Furthermore, IDPs are displaced within their own country, and therefore remain under the responsibility of national authorities.

There was a consensus about the fact that victims of displacement as a result of conflict and natural disasters in Somalia face a particular vulnerability as a result of their displacement and therefore require special attention. Participants agreed that discrimination hampers IDPs' access to assistance and protection in areas of displacement. Psychological distress was also mentioned as another example of factors aggravating the vulnerability of IDPs in Somalia.

Participants were asked to record population groups displaced in Puntland, and indicate their current location, estimated figures, the types of settlement and the causes for their displacement. The table below provides an overview of the information provided by the participants.

| Table: Displaced populations in Puntland | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| District | Location | IDP figures / types of settlements | Causes |
| Bari | Bossaso | 30,000 persons / Camps made of cartons and sacks | Conflict and disasters (tsunami, drought) |
| | Qardho | 1000 families – 10,000 persons / Shanty houses, slums | Conflict (South Central Somalia) Disasters (tsunami, drought) |
| | Dangorayo | 500 families / Shanty houses | Conflict (South and Central Somalia) Drought |
| | Yubbe district | 100 families | Drought |
| | Iskushuban | 70 families | |
| | Baargal | 50 families | |
| | Xaafun | 100 persons | |
| | Bandarbeyla | 100 persons | |
| | Foarm, Fundhi, Dulle | | |
| Mudug | Galkayo | 20,000-15,000 persons (incl. Somali coming back from Ethiopia) / Scattered and shanty houses, slums | Conflict (South Central Somalia, and Somaliland) Drought |
| | Garacad | 200 families (?) / Slums | Disasters (Tsunami, drought) |
| | Galdogas, Jir Ban, Burtinle, Margaago, Ba'Adweyn, Seemade, Bur Salah, Beyra | | |
| | Ba'ad Weyn | | Disaster |
| Nugaal | Garowe | 10,000 persons / Scattered and shanty houses | Conflict (South and Central Somalia) Disasters (drought) |

| | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------------------|---|
| | | | and tsunami |
| | Dhakar | 470 families | Conflict and disasters |
| | Lasqoray | 300 families | Conflict (South-Central Somalia and Somaliland) Disasters (floods) |
| | Badhan | Shanty houses | Drought, charcoal "harvestation" |
| | Eyl, Dangorayo | | |
| Sool | Laascaanood | 1000 families / Slums | Conflict (Somaliland, South and Central Somalia) Drought |
| | Xudun | 400 persons | |
| | Taleh | 300 persons | |
| | Boocane | | |
| Togdheer | Buuhoodle | 500 families / Slums | Conflict (Somaliland and South Central) Drought |

Participants agreed that some displaced groups tend to be overlooked by actors in charge of their protection. This is in particular the case of those who are living with relatives outside settlements. Participants also highlighted the situation of young women obliged by pastoralist families to move to urban centres as a coping mechanism in the face of drought and poverty. In the cities, these women find low-paid jobs, often as domestic workers, and have no protection against exploitation. Short-term displacement, as a result of natural disasters (floods) or inter-clan tensions and violence, was also mentioned as a pattern which should be documented and monitored more systematically. Finally, participants agreed that those IDPs who belong to minority clans in areas of displacement do not receive the adequate level of attention from the local authorities.

It was agreed that local authorities and other relevant actors, including international organizations, should strengthen their effort to monitor movements of populations in the country, with the objective of identifying all populations victims of forced displacement. Furthermore, internal displacement should be used by humanitarian actors as an indicator of potential vulnerability when conducting assessment of needs among victims of armed conflicts or natural disasters. Such assessments should be conducted on a non-discriminatory and impartial basis.

The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

Participants were briefed on the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, which have become a document of reference for the protection of IDPs. Since their presentation to the UN Human Rights Commission in 1998, the Guiding Principles have increasingly been used as a tool of guidance by states, inter-governmental agencies, and NGOs, to inform their IDP-related law, policies and programmes. The Guiding Principles have been used to help relevant actors to monitor the protection and assistance needs of IDPs on the ground. The Guiding Principles have also been increasingly disseminated to empower IDPs by raising awareness of their rights and the responsibilities of relevant authorities towards them.

The IDMC reviewed the sources of the Guiding Principles under international law. It was highlighted that the Guiding Principles restate existing international human rights and humanitarian standards which are relevant to the protection of IDPs, and explain how these standards should be interpreted and applied to address their specific needs. As stated in the

introductory section of the Guiding Principles, they “reflect and are consistent” with 1) human rights law and 2) international humanitarian law. Somalia has acceded to most of the international and regional treaties of human rights and humanitarian law, which sustain the Guiding Principles, with the exception of the Convention of the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the two additional protocols to the 1949 Geneva Conventions. However, many of the norms contained in these instruments are nonetheless part of international customary law.

It was noted that the absence of a fully operational government in Somalia limited the impact of these instruments. However, it was agreed that authorities at the local and provincial levels should uphold human rights and humanitarian principles and are responsible for the protection of populations in areas under their control. As to non-state actors, the Guiding Principles advocate that they also have the duty to protect IDPs’ rights. In situations of armed conflict, their responsibility towards civilians is clearly stated under international humanitarian law. The IDMC highlighted the relevance of customary international humanitarian law, which confirms key principles relevant to the protection of civilians in situations of international and non-international armed conflict and applicable to both state and non-state actors. A comparative table of the Guiding Principles and customary standards of international humanitarian law was distributed to the participants.

To conclude this session, participants were invited to debate about the relevance of the Guiding Principles in Somalia. Two groups were asked to prepare arguments against the Guiding Principles and their use in Somalia, while two other groups were given the task to support the Guiding Principles and defend their relevance in the country. The debate highlighted the role of traditional and sharia law in Somalia, which may conflict with international protection standards. However, the participants agreed that sharia law imposes similar obligations on authorities and leaders towards victims of displacement as the Guiding Principles. Furthermore, participants suggested that traditional leaders, including religious authorities, should be sensitized to the situation of IDPs in the country and encouraged to advocate for their protection with reference to the Guiding Principles where relevant.

Protection from displacement

Using short case studies, participants reviewed key standards providing for protection against displacement. It was first highlighted that arbitrary displacement is prohibited under international law. In situations of conflicts, civilian populations cannot be forcefully displaced, except when motivated by the security of the populations involved or by imperative military reasons. Participants agreed that efforts should be pursued to prevent displacement as a result of the drought, in particular by developing projects of water management, and the provision of camel livestock, which require less water, to pastoralists. Such efforts would be in line with Guiding Principle 5, which restate the obligation of all relevant actors to comply with their obligations under international law, including the protection and promotion of economic, social and cultural rights, so as to prevent displacement.

Should displacement take place, it is the duty of the authorities concerned to minimize the effects of displacement, in particular by ensuring that minimum conditions are met, with regard to safety, shelter, health and hygiene, and family unity. Participants agreed that relevant authorities in Somalia should develop their capacity to provide an emergency response to displacement with the support of the international community.

Participants also reviewed standards for the displacement of population in non-emergency situations. Guiding Principle 7(3) reviews procedural safeguards to which populations to be displaced are entitled, including the rights to be informed, to participate in the planning and

management of their relocation, and to challenge authorities' decisions. These standards were regarded as relevant when relocating IDPs to other, more permanent settlements.

Protection during displacement

In order to introduce protection concerns currently facing IDPs in Somalia, participants were asked to prepare short plays in groups, which were performed in plenary. Each play was performed a second time, to give other participants the opportunity to stop the play at any time, suggest alternative attitudes, reactions or responses for the characters in the scenario, and test their suggestions on the stage. However, participants were not allowed to replace characters whom they cannot "change" or directly influence in reality, such as local authorities, militias, etc. The plays could only be interrupted to make suggestions relating to the attitude of IDPs, NGOs and UN staff figured in the scenarios. The objective of the exercise was to reflect on how the protection of IDPs can be improved with the resources, expertise and capacity available on the ground. Indeed, it was considered appropriate to reflect on changes and responses that are feasible within a context severely constrained by the lack of access and insecurity for international agencies in Somalia.

Following this exercise, participants were asked to prepare outlines for a protection plan in response to priority concerns. Each group was provided with an empty protection chart where participants recorded lessons learned from the play and reflected further on possible responses to the protection concerns.

The sections below provide an overview of the discussions held on protection issues identified and selected by the participants themselves.

Living conditions in settlements

The poor living conditions in the settlements of displaced communities were raised by the participants as a major concern. The lack of hygiene and sanitation facilities in these settlements was discussed, with reports of IDPs living amidst garbage dumps. Beside consequences on the health of IDPs, the poor sanitary conditions in the settlements are often a cause of tension with the local populations, and aggravate the marginalization of displaced communities. Access to drinking water also remains largely insufficient in most IDP settlements. Health services and education facilities are also lacking.

It was agreed that the fact that IDPs have settled on private land complicates the improvement of conditions there, as landowners obstruct IDPs' free access to services and possible projects. For instance, IDPs often have to pay fees to land owner to use the few services available, including latrines. Furthermore, the risk of forced eviction remains real in many settlements.

Participants suggested that the integration of IDPs into host communities should be enhanced in order to prevent tensions and violence against IDP settlements. It was also noted that the host communities are an essential source of assistance and protection for IDPs and that their needs should also be given due attention. It was concluded that assistance provided to IDPs should be "community-based" and also benefit other vulnerable groups in areas of displacement, where relevant. This approach was also recommended in settlements where IDPs have mixed with other population groups, such as seasonal migrants, urban poor, and returnees.

It was acknowledged that IDPs face discrimination and lack protection primarily as a result of their affiliation to minority clans in areas of displacement. Because they do not belong to dominant clans, IDPs do not have access to protection from traditional leaders and clan-dominated public institutions. It was agreed that the protection of IDPs should aim to ensure that IDPs enjoy non-

discriminatory access to the services and protection available to the rest of the population. It was suggested to promote the creation of joint committees, comprising representatives of IDPs and host communities, where common concerns and problems can be discussed and solutions found.

Livelihood of IDPs

One group focused its scenario on the lack of livelihood, which is both a cause of displacement, and a problem facing IDPs upon displacement. As a result of the current drought in Somalia, pastoralist communities are forced to settle down in villages, until water is again available in their home areas.

The lack of sources on income was also seen as a major problem, in particular for those who have been displaced by conflict and violence in Somalia. The lack of livelihoods particularly affects women, who are subject to exploitation and prostitution.

The access of IDPs to income-generating activities is severely constrained by the lack of jobs in local communities. It was also noted that IDPs face clan-based discrimination on the labour market. Furthermore, IDPs lack financial resources to create businesses.

Participants recommended that facilities should be created to help IDPs develop livelihoods, such as market places, workshop places for metal or carpentry works, or bakeries. Mobilization of displaced community and psychosocial support were also regarded as instrumental to the development of the self-reliance capacity of IDPs, as many have also lost confidence in their own capacities and their sense of initiative as a result of displacement.

IDPs are not properly informed on available aid provided by international or local NGOs. The insufficient response from humanitarian organizations to the considerable needs among displaced communities has generated growing frustration. It was reported that IDPs complained about the numerous assessments conducted in their settlements, which were not followed by any concrete projects. Participants mentioned that in several cases, IDPs refused to answer questions from humanitarian organization any longer. It was suggested that IDPs should be more systematically informed about the follow-up given to assessments. Furthermore, humanitarian organizations should disseminate information more systematically on the opportunities accessible to IDPs for the development of livelihoods and income-generating activities.

Protection of displaced women

Two of the four plays performed by the participants illustrated the specific risks facing displaced women, including violence and rape, which participants acknowledged were particularly serious threats. It was confirmed that the vast majority of the rapes occur as displaced women are on their way to collect water or firewood, far away from their settlements. One play also showed how perpetrators violence against displaced women could easily escape any punishment from the authorities, in particular if they belonged to the dominant clan.

According to participants, displaced women are also victims of sexual exploitation, which exposes them to serious risks for their health, including HIV/AIDS. Forced marriage, domestic violence, and female genital mutilation have also been mentioned as serious protection concerns relating to displaced women. Women groups most at risk include single mothers and widows, as well as young women between 14 and 25.

Participants agreed that efforts should be strengthened to raise awareness among displaced women about the risks of violence and promote behaviours and practices which reduce such risks, including movements of women in groups and escorts. The planning of IDP settlements should also ensure that such risks are minimized, for instance by providing access to water points closer to the settlements, or locating latrines in safe areas for women. As NGOs are often the first

to provide psychosocial support and counselling to the victims of GBV, it was suggested that more training should be provided to them on this issue, as well as to staff members in health services. Furthermore, displaced communities should be also be encouraged to mobilize themselves and report cases of violence against women to the police, and to religious leaders at the mosques. Advocacy against the impunity of perpetrators of violence against women should also be continued and strengthened.

It was recommended that efforts should be pursued to mobilize displaced communities and help them organize. In particular, the creation of IDP committees should be encouraged, and such committees should be sensitised about the specific protection concerns of displaced women. Host communities should be equally involved in efforts to improve the safety and security of displaced women. Police stations should be established in the vicinity of IDP settlements, as currently done in Bossaso, with the support of UNDP. Furthermore, police stations should have a special desk to process cases of violence against women. Such desks should be staffed with women officers.

Box 1: Protection of displaced women and girls

Guiding Principles relating to the protection of displaced women

- Guiding Principle 4: prohibition of discrimination against IDPs, including on the basis of sex, age, legal and social status; Special attention to groups at risks, including children, expectant mothers, mothers with young children, female heads of household.
- Guiding Principle 7: authorities to involve women in the planning and management of their relocation.
- Guiding Principle 11: protection against gender-specific violence, forced prostitution, sale into marriage, sexual exploitation
- Guiding Principle 11: right of women to participate in the planning and distribution of basic supplies
- Guiding Principle 18: women should participate in the distribution of humanitarian supplies
- Guiding Principle 19: special attention to health needs of women
- Guiding Principle 20: rights of displaced women to have documents issued in their own names
- Guiding Principle 23: participation of women and girls in education programmes

What local NGO can do to strengthen the protection of displaced women

- Conduct advocacy on the rights and special protection concerns relating to displaced women among authorities and local communities
- Organize fund raising to support projects aiming at strengthening the protection of displaced women
- Implement capacity building projects targeting displaced women and girls
- Strengthen the assistance to women and girls victims of violence, including psycho-social counselling
- Support the development of livelihood and income generating activities for displaced women
- Raise awareness of gender specific violence and HIV/AIDS among displaced communities

International support to the protection of IDPs

On day 3, participants were briefed on key aspects of the international response to the protection of IDPs in Somalia. Reena Ghelani, UN OCHA, presented the Joint Strategy to address the needs of IDPs in Somalia, as developed by the UN Country Team. The strategy foresees to support the development of early-warning mechanisms, with the view of monitoring new displacement of populations caused by both natural and man-made disasters, and developing rapid responses to protection and assistance needs. The UN Country Team has also decided to strengthen its efforts to increase humanitarian access, support alternative protection

mechanisms, and enhance physical security of IDP, with particular attention given to groups with particular needs. The Country Team has identified three tools for protection: 1) protection monitoring, through the establishment of a protection monitoring network, and follow up mechanisms, 2) advocacy and awareness raising among relevant actors in Somalia and the donor community, based on the Guiding Principles, and 3) community mobilization in settlements of IDPs and returnees.

One component of the strategy focuses on the integration of IDPs, including through the development of long-term settlements for urban poor households, such as IDPs. This approach has been piloted in Bossaso, as explained by Gerry Reddy, UN HABITAT, during the workshop. In this project, HABITAT's objective has been to promote the integration of poor communities. HABITAT identified a series of sites where the creation of new settlements for IDPs would be supported. Criteria for the identification of such sites were defined in line with the rights of IDPs and with the concern to facilitate their integration into local communities. The pilot project also aims to ensure that the new settlements are developed within the framework of a global urban development plan, so that they can benefit the whole population. In line with this approach, HABITAT has advocated for the development of a "compact plan", where new settlements are located in vacant land within the city, which allows for a more cost-effective management of facilities and services (see box 2 below). The identification of the sites was conducted in close consultation with all the actors concerned, including IDPs, landowners and host communities.

Box 2: Bossaso pilot settlement project - Criteria for identifying adequate sites

- Feasibility to provide access to basic services and their financial sustainability
- Social sustainability & Security
- Access to security of tenure and shelter
- Access to job opportunities
- Spatial sustainability
- Cross-subsidizing possibilities and benefits for the host community

Furthermore, HABITAT has worked to improve the conditions in existing settlements, in partnership with other international agencies. One interesting aspect of the project has been to promote new policies and practices regarding the rent of private land by IDPs and other destitute groups. In particular, HABITAT advocates for the adoption of minimum conditions to be guaranteed to people renting private land, including a limited population density, availability of a minimum number of pit latrines, access to basic services, and procedures for evictions.

Concluding session and recommendations

The workshop was concluded with the review of the workshop's final recommendations. These recommendations reflect the suggestions made by the participants. The recommendations highlight good practices and policies which the participants believe are relevant to address the protection challenges currently facing IDPs in Somalia. It was agreed that these recommendations should be disseminated further by the participants among their respective organizations and other relevant actors. In his concluding statement, Rahama Mohammed, UNDP liaison officer in Puntland, reminded participants that the implementation of these recommendations and the Joint IDP Strategy require the collaboration of all actors concerned and invited participants to continue the dialogue the disseminate the outcome of the workshop among other NGOs, local authorities and displaced communities.

General recommendations



International agencies and NGOs (local and international) should set up a **network to monitor** population movements and displacement in Somalia, as an early warning and planning tool.

NGOs should be encouraged to **collect information** on population movements and forced displacement, and channel this information to this network.

Special efforts should be made to **track** situations of conflict- and natural disaster-induced displacement, and locate displaced communities, which tend to be overlooked, such as those hosted by relatives, individual young women and girls on the move, people displaced on a short-term basis.

NGOs and international actors should identify, recognize and address the special **vulnerability** of IDPs, and raise awareness of IDPs special needs among authorities and other relevant stakeholders.

Assistance and protection programmes should take a **comprehensive** approach and be extended to vulnerable members of host communities, according to needs.

The Guiding Principles and other protection standards

The Guiding Principles should be widely **disseminated** and **promoted** as tool of reference for the protection of IDPs, through training, outreach campaign, public awareness, religious leaders and media. Other relevant protection instruments, including human rights and humanitarian law should also widely be disseminated and applied.

Displaced communities should be sensitized about their rights and be **empowered** to claim their rights. Special programmes for the dissemination of the Guiding Principles among displaced communities should be developed.

Authorities should address internal displacement on the basis of the Guiding Principles. Training should be provided to all relevant officials and state institutions whose mandates relate to the protection of IDPs. Authorities should be encouraged to develop a legal framework, incorporating the Guiding Principles, to enhance the protection of IDPs.

Traditional leaders, such as councils of elders, and religious leaders, should be sensitized to the protection needs and rights of IDPs with reference to the Guiding Principles and customary law. They should be encouraged to play a leadership role in promoting the rights of IDPs.

Protection from displacement

Programmes should be developed to prevent displacement. **Root causes** should be addressed, such as poverty, breakdown of law and order, conflict over land and resources, natural disasters.

Special attention should be given to the situation of **pastoralist communities**, for example through protection against environmental degradation, the provision of livestock, and support to negotiations to improved and safe access to water points.

Mechanisms of **peaceful settlement of disputes** should be developed. Disarmament should be encouraged. Efforts to advocate for and support measures to fight against impunity and promote a culture of human rights should be intensified.

Protection during displacement

International and local organizations should advocate for an inclusive and **non-discriminatory response** to the needs of all IDPs, irrespective of their clan affiliations.

They should insist upon with **local authorities**, including the police and local administrations, that they effectively fulfill their protection responsibility towards IDPs.

The efforts of **host communities** supporting displaced populations should be recognized.

Protection monitoring mechanisms should be set up, involving both local NGOs as well as the international community. There needs to be a linkage between local and international actors.

In order to strengthen the sustainability of local initiatives, international organizations should actively **support** the protection capacity of **local NGOs**, who have the greatest access to displaced communities. Trainings on gender issues, IDP settlement planning and management, community mobilization, negotiation and advocacy skills, child protection, humanitarian principles are needed.

IDPs should have a say and play a role in the design and implementation of programmes and policies affecting their lives. All projects should have an **empowerment** component.

IDPs often have common interests and face common risks and threats, such that they can find value in organizing themselves to **advocate their rights**. The creation of committees representing the displaced communities should be encouraged. Such committees should be used as partners and supported by authorities and humanitarian organizations.

NGOs and international community actors should take adequate measures to protect IDPs' **housing** and **occupancy** rights, prevent arbitrary eviction, and allow for the development of basic services in settlements.

Sensitisation among IDPs communities about risks for safety and security for **women and girls**, and strategies to mitigate these risks should be developed, such as improved settlement lay out, supporting local coping mechanisms.

Psycho-social rehabilitation **programmes** and health services (including for HIV AIDS) should be made available to victims of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as to address lack of self-esteem and stigma among IDPs.

Psychosocial care and rehabilitation needs to be prioritized, both for mentally disabled as well as those traumatized by the experience of displacement, using existing counseling mechanisms (elders, ..) which should be mobilized.

International and local organizations should advocate for the establishment of **police presence** close to IDP settlements, including IDP male and female officers. Police forces should include a female staffed women and children protection desk.

Confidence building measures to improve **relations** between host communities and displaced populations, and foster **integration**.

Access to **income generating activities** should be facilitated for IDPs. IDPs have skills and capacities which they can use provided that they receive adequate support. Skill and literacy training is essential and needs to be adapted to the schedules of IDPs. Job recruitment processes should include IDPs.

Micro finance opportunities need to be expanded.

Durable solutions



IDPs have the **right to return home** or **resettle**, voluntarily and in safety and dignity. Conditions need to be created and supported to make these solutions possible. Forced return is unlawful.

Authorities should be encouraged to develop **laws** and **policies** to enable IDPs to settle and integrate in areas and communities where they are displaced, particularly in situations of long-term displacement.

For finding solutions, shelter and land must be available. The securing of land for the durable settlement of IDPs should happen within the context of long-term **urban planning** and **benefit the entire community**.

Land allocated to IDPs should meet **adequate conditions** (access to services, proximity to income generating activities) for the social and economic integration of IDPs and other vulnerable groups and promote the building of communities.

Mechanisms should be explored for property restitution or, when this not possible, to compensate IDPs for loss of property as a result of displacement.

Reconciliation initiatives, both in areas of resettlement and in potential areas of return, should be promoted.

Actors

The response to the crisis of internal displacement in Somalia will be most effective as a **collaborative effort** engaging all stakeholders, including IDPs themselves, local authorities, NGOs and international agencies. The **UN Joint IDP Strategy** provides a framework to which the contribution of local authorities and NGOs is encouraged and welcome.

Transparency, accountability and other relevant principles of **good programming**, are essential for the credibility and effectiveness of programmes for displaced communities.

International and local agencies should encourage **local authorities** to allocate adequate **resources** for responding to displacement.

The **international community** must mobilize much greater **resources** for addressing emergency and long-term needs.

Local NGOs can do **local fundraising** and resource mobilization.

Technical assistance on protection issues should be provided to local authorities, such as emergency preparedness, and disaster mitigation, training of police forces, legal and policy reform.

Annex 1: List of participants

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|----------------|--|
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Annex 2: Agenda

Day 1:

8.30 –10.00 Opening

- Registration of participants
- Opening statements
- Presentation of participants and facilitators
- Review of objectives and agenda

10.00 – 10.30 Coffee Break

10.30 - 12.30 Who is an IDP?

- Review of the IDP definition in the Guiding Principles
Participants will be briefed about the main features of the definition. The rationale for the definition and its practical use on the ground will also be discussed.
- IDPs in your region
Profile of IDPs in Somalia (region-specific): population figures, distribution, age and gender, types of settlements, recent movements. Which groups have been overlooked? Any group which have not been considered IDPs? How can the information gaps be bridged? (exercise in groups and plenary discussion)

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30-15.00 The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

- Background and legal source of the Guiding Principles? What is the status of the Guiding Principles in your region? Have the GP been used as a tool for advocacy/monitoring/educational/policy? Next steps to strengthen acceptance for the GP in the areas? (presentation, exercise and discussion in plenary)

15.00 – 15.30 Coffee Break

15.30 – 17.45 Protection from displacement

- Is displacement lawful or not? (case studies)
- Protection from arbitrary displacement in the Guiding Principles (presentation)
- Can displacement be prevented/minimized in your region? (discussion in plenary)

Day 2:

8.30 - 10.30 Protection during displacement

- Forum play: What are the protection concerns facing IDPs in your region? What are the coping mechanisms and capacity of IDPs? Who are the actors who can strengthen the protection of IDPs? What are the possible responses to the protection concerns?

10.30 – 11.00 Break

11.00 – 12.30 Protection during displacement (continued)

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 -15.00 Protection during displacement (continued)

- Planning a response to the protection needs of IDPs (group exercise)

15.00-15.30 Coffee break

15.30 – 17.00 Protection during displacement (continued)

- Review of group works

Day 3:

8.30 – 10.00 Durable solutions to internal displacement

- What are the standards for durable solutions in the Guiding Principles?
- The UN Joint Strategy for IDPs in Somalia (presentation by OCHA and discussion)

10.00 – 10.30 Coffee Break

10.30 – 11.30 Durable solutions to internal displacement (continued)

- Pilot project of local settlement in Bossaso: lessons learned and relevance for IDPs in Somalia (presentation by HABITAT)
- Discussion in plenary

11.30 – 13.00 Conclusions and recommendations

- Adoption of recommendations and follow-up propositions
- Evaluation

13.30 – 14.30 Lunch

End of workshop