

***NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL***  
***IN COOPERATION WITH***  
***UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES***

**REPORT FOR THE**  
**WORKSHOP ON THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON INTERNAL**  
**DISPLACEMENT**

Baku, Azerbaijan 27 – 28 November 2003

## *TABLE OF CONTENT*

<u>BACKGROUND</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>ORGANIZATION AND OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>GROUP WORK ON THEMATIC ISSUES</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>ANNEX 1: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>ANNEX 2: WORKSHOP AGENDA</u>	<u>17</u>

## BACKGROUND

Large numbers of people are still forced to leave their homes and seek safety elsewhere within their own country because of conflict and violence. Nearly 25 million people have been internally displaced by conflict worldwide, and many still lack adequate assistance or protection. Displaced people often require help in meeting their basic needs. In the immediate aftermath of displacement, displaced people cannot access shelter, food and health services. In protracted situations, IDPs need education, livelihoods and prospects for the future. In nearly two-thirds of countries covered, including protracted situations, IDPs face malnutrition and require food aid. Many people are displaced in countries already severely affected by poverty, natural disasters, and epidemics. Leading international experts, advocates and others concerned with internally displaced persons see government accountability, improved coordination of aid and better protection for IDPs as key challenges in the international community's efforts to respond to global IDP problems<sup>1</sup>.

In 1998, Francis M. Deng, the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons, presented a set of "Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement" to the UN Commission on Human Rights. Although the Guiding Principles do not constitute a binding legal instrument like a treaty, these 30 principles are based on binding international legal standards in international human rights law and humanitarian law. They address all phases of displacement—providing protection against arbitrary displacement, offering a basis for protection and assistance during displacement, and setting forth guarantees for safe return, resettlement and reintegration. Following the presentation of the Guiding Principles to the Human Rights Commission, a wide range of humanitarian agencies have disseminated and used them in their work with IDPs. Three commentaries on the Guiding Principles have been published with the objective of enhancing their impact. The similarity of the plight of the internally displaced to that of refugees has increasingly led UNHCR to extend its humanitarian expertise to instances of internal displacement.

In 1998, the NRC started designing the Global IDP Database, which was launched in December 1999 as an effort to collect facts, figures and analysis on internal displacement worldwide into one integrated information system. During the same year the NRC also developed a training program on the Guiding Principles in cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. The training program is designed to be used at the national level and has been implemented by the NRC through the Global IDP Project. The Protection and Training component has since been expanded to include cooperation with various other training initiatives by the UN and other organizations dealing with protection and internal displacement. A third component of the Project, Advocacy and Publications aims at utilizing the information available in the Database to produce cross-country analysis and thematic papers for advocacy purposes.

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<sup>1</sup> NRC Report: IDPs – Accountability, coordination and protection sees as challenges (Geneva, 29 April 2003). See at: [http://www.idpproject.org/video/IDP\\_event\\_apr03/IDPchallenges\\_apr03.pdf](http://www.idpproject.org/video/IDP_event_apr03/IDPchallenges_apr03.pdf)

## **ORGANIZATION AND OBJECTIVES**

On the 27 – 28 November 2003 the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) Office in Azerbaijan jointly with the Global IDP Project of NRC in Geneva and UNHCR Office in Baku co-organized a training workshop on the Guiding Principles in Baku, Azerbaijan. The workshop was a part of a global NRC effort to disseminate and explain the Guiding Principles to representatives of governments, NGOs, the UN agencies and communities of the displaced, in order to ensure better protection and assistance to IDPs. In the framework of the Global IDP Project of NRC Geneva, previous workshops have been organized in Philippines, Thailand, Uganda, Angola and Georgia.

The main objectives of the workshop were:

- To introduce the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement to the participants;
- To promote the basic international human rights and humanitarian law concepts as covered in the Guiding Principles;
- To look into the displacement situation in Azerbaijan, using the Guiding Principles as a point of departure;
- To analyze the current state of implementation of the Guiding Principles in Azerbaijan;
- To support the dialogue between national NGOs, international organizations and governmental institutions on protection and assistance needs of the IDPs in Azerbaijan;
- To encourage organizations working with the internally displaced to share among themselves their work experience and best practices.

The specific goals of the workshop were to review the Guiding Principles, with a particular focus to those more relevant to the situation in Azerbaijan, to strengthen coordination and cooperation among different actors, to identify unfulfilled protection and assistance needs and recommend solutions based on the Guiding Principles, as well as to contribute to a better understanding of the government's plans and policies concerning the IDPs in Azerbaijan in near future.

More than 40 participants attended the workshop. Among the invitees, were representatives of the UNHCR and other UN agencies, OSCE, IOM, international and local organizations. National authorities were also well represented, with officials from various governmental bodies, such as the State Committee for Refugees and IDPs, the Social Fund for Development of IDPs, Ministry of Economic Development –PRSP team, Ombudsman's Office, as well as the representatives of NRC offices in Geneva, Oslo and Tbilisi (Annex 1, List of participants).

## **WORKSHOP CONTENT: PRESENTATIONS AND GROUP WORK**

The workshop contained a mix of presentations, group exercises and plenary discussions, as outlined in the enclosed agenda (Annex 2, Agenda of the workshop). The structure and the content were based on the training modules and materials designed by the Norwegian Refugee Council office in Geneva, which has been successfully used in a number of countries and mainly covers the following major topics:

- Definition of Internally Displaced Persons: International and national definitions;
- Legal origins of the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement: International Human Rights Law, Humanitarian Law and International Refugee Law.
- Protection and prohibition of discrimination against IDPs;
- Durable solutions: Return, Resettlement and Reintegration;
- IDP communities as recipients of resources.

The first day of the workshop covered more theoretical issues, such as the history and nature of the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, its legal sources, definition of an IDP in international and domestic legal documents, national procedure for acquisition of IDP status etc. On the second day, the presentations were complemented by group works on various thematic issues followed by debriefings in plenary sessions, discussions and concluding recommendations.

### ***“The crisis of internal displacement and international response”***

***Presenter: Christophe Beau, Information and Training Coordinator, NRC Geneva, Switzerland***

During the first session, Mr. Beau informed participants about the increasing number of IDPs due to the augmentation of internal conflicts in different parts of the globe and about the international response to the IDP crisis worldwide. It was mentioned that the present number of IDPs is estimated to be around 25 million as compared to 5 million in 1970. As an international response to the increasing crisis of internal displacement, the UN Secretary General appointed Francis Deng as his *Special Representative on IDPs* in 1992. In 1998, Mr. Deng presented the “Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement” to the UN Human Rights Commission. The speaker mentioned that although the Guiding Principles did not have binding effect, it derived from the binding international norms and could be defended under both international and national law. They cover issues related to *prevention, protection, assistance and return/resettlement*. The GP therefore provide a comprehensive tool specific to internal displacement situations for state authorities, military and security forces, non-state actors, humanitarian and development agencies. Another UN structure dealing with the problems of internal displacement is the *IDP Unit* within the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. This Unit has the mandate to strengthen the collaboration of all relevant international agencies and institutions in providing the response to internal displacement. The contribution of regional organizations, such as the OSCE, to the response to the IDP crisis was also noted. The regional response to the IDP crisis in the example of the OSCE was also noted. It was pointed out that OSCE institutions and field missions has a particular role by monitoring return conditions.

***“The role of UNHCR in protection of IDPs”***

***Speaker: Bogdan Nahajlo, Head of the UNHCR Office in Baku, Azerbaijan***

Mr. Nahajlo pointed out that, although working with IDPs was not the primary mandate of UNHCR, they were considered as persons of concern and UNHCR provides assistance and protection to IDPs in many countries. Involvement of UNHCR in IDP affairs has been ongoing for many years. It usually aims to tackle the remaining protection and assistance gaps in the countries affected. The followings criteria shall be met for involvement of UNHCR in IDP affairs:

1. Relevance of UNHCR experience;
2. Special request from governments, UN Secretary General and General Assembly;
3. Adequate resources and capacity;
4. Access to beneficiaries;
5. Adequate security conditions.

The head of the UNHCR Office in Baku also briefed the participants on the assistance and protection activities implemented by the organization he represents on behalf of IDPs. He also insisted that primary responsibility for the provision of protection and assistance to IDPs rested with national authorities, and that the role of international organizations was no to substitute them but to help them better fulfill their role towards their own citizens. As the humanitarian emergency is coming to an end in Azerbaijan, the government should assume the full scope of its responsibilities towards the IDPs, according to Mr. Nahajlo.

***“Legal sources of the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement”***

Representatives of 3 different agencies presented the three main sources of the Guiding Principles:

1. *“International Human Rights Law”*, Paal Nesse, Advisor, NRC Oslo
2. *“International Humanitarian Law”*, Maria Dzanova, IFRC, Baku
3. *“International Refugee Law”*, Mahoa Parums, UNHCR, Baku

The representative of the NRC office in Oslo, Mr. Nesse introduced *International Human Rights* as the first pillar of the Guiding Principles. He pointed out that many provisions of this UN document derive from international human rights instruments, that guarantee personal dignity for everybody without any discrimination based on race, color, religion, political or social status, language, nationality etc. It was also mentioned that IDPs are entitled to all kinds of rights and freedoms as citizens of their countries and that violation of their internationally guaranteed rights creates liability for their governments.

The representative of the IFRC in Baku, Mrs. Dzanova informed that although *International Humanitarian Law* (IHL) does not specify IDPs as a separate category, it places restrictions on the use of violence in armed conflicts against all civilians including internally displaced persons not

taking part in hostilities. She also added that as in 1993, the Republic of Azerbaijan acceded to the main document of Humanitarian Law, the Geneva Conventions of 1949, its provisions apply on the territory of the country. As to the protection of IDPs, IHL has a role in the of prevention of displacement as it prohibits forced displacement unless imperative security of civilians is involved and even then the displacement shall be temporary and carried out in satisfactory conditions.

The UNHCR representative, Mrs. Parums presented the main principles of the third pillar of the Guiding Principles –*International Refugee Law* by analogy. She spoke about the differences in definitions of refugees and internally displaced people, details of the refugee status determination procedure. She stressed that the Refugee Convention of 1951 signed and ratified by the member states regulates the status of refugees. She highlighted that the Guiding Principles contain a number of provisions deriving from the Refugee Convention, particularly the provision on not sending back persons to places where their lives, safety, health may be at a risk (the principle of *non-refoulement*).

### ***“Definition of an IDP”, C. Beau, NRC Geneva***

Mr. Christophe Beau presented to participants the definition of IDPs as persons who has been forced or obliged to flee or leave their home within their country in the situations of armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violation and natural or human made disasters. Speaker from the NRC Baku mentioned that Azerbaijani legislation does not refer to situations of generalized violence and human rights violations as a cause of displacement. Mr. Zviadadze, a lawyer working for NRC in Georgia outlined that the only difference between the Georgian definition and the UN definition of IDP is that the former does not refer to situations of *natural or human made disasters*; otherwise the Georgian definition fully coincides with the international definition. The speakers concluded that IDPs should be considered a special category as they face specific protection and assistance, which have not been met fully. The development of the Guiding Principles also required beforehand identifying the group, which the normative framework was mean to protect.

### ***“Protection and non-discrimination of IDPs”***

***Presenters: I. Utmelidze, Human Rights Consultant, NRC Azerbaijan***

***C. Beau, NRC Geneva, Switzerland***

The speakers emphasized that displacement should be prevented to the extent possible. If there was no alternative, displacement should meet various requirements such as respect to dignity, adequate living conditions and freedom of movement to other parts of the country. It was also underlined that the displacement must carry a temporary character and be ceased in a reasonably short time. Avoidance of family separation, provision of proper conditions, proper legal guarantees and remedies, adequate information were mentioned as the prerequisites for displacement in urgent situations.

*The right to liberty of movement* and freedom to choose his or her residence were also mentioned as important rights, during and after displacement. A special concern was the IDPs’ right to move freely in and out of camps or other settlements. The Guiding Principles also restate clearly other

important rights of IDPs, such as the right to subsistence, health, identification and documentation and property.

***“Involvement of IDPs in decision making and supporting strategies of self help”***

***Presenter: N. Velikhanova, UNHCR Office in Baku***

Mrs. Velikhanova pointed out the importance of involving IDPs in the project planning, implementation or in decision making on the issues that affect their lives or daily activities. From her previous experience in community development and mobilization, she concluded that projects involving beneficiaries at an initial stage have more chances for successful implementation. Beneficiaries would also feel more responsibility for the successful implementation of projects. IDPs would not only consider themselves as beneficiaries and as passive recipients but would have an attitude of participants in the project implementation. This would encourage IDPs to seek, generate and use their inner resources. The sustainability is also strengthened when IDPs are closely involved in the decision-making process.

***“Durable solutions”***

***Presenters: Bela Ismayilova, UNHCR Protection Officer***

***Elnur Nasibov, NRC Project Coordinator***

Mrs. Ismayilova introduced durable solutions for refugees and asylum seekers as defined in the UNHCR Statute and Refugee Convention of 1951. Repatriation, local integration and resettlement were mentioned as three possible long-term solutions for the mentioned category. It was stressed that *repatriation* – return of asylum seekers to their places of origin was the most favored solution, whereas *local integration* – the process of integrating asylum seekers into the political, economic, social and cultural of sphere of the host society is the most difficult and lengthy process. *Resettlement* – acceptance of asylum seekers by third countries is usually implemented through bilateral agreements and quotas.

The representative of NRC presented existing durable solutions for internally displaced persons as defined in the Guiding Principles 28, 29 and 30. *Return* –going back to one’s house, place of habitual residence and *resettlement* –settling in other part of one’s country were mentioned as two main lasting solutions for IDPs. *Reintegration* in case of IDPs was mentioned as a re-entry of former IDPs into the social, economic, cultural and political fabric of their original societies. The speaker also noted that in case of refugees it is a host country or the third country providing durable solution to situation of refugees, in case of IDPs, it is the government’s responsibility to ensure lasting solutions to their citizens. The reason for it is that refugees are not able or willing to benefit from protection of their countries because of fear of persecution, whereas IDPs are still under the jurisdiction of their government and its assistance and protection should be available for all citizens. The international community shall assist national governments in providing this assistance and protection to their citizens.

***“Plans of the government of Azerbaijan for improving the situation of the IDPs in 2004”***

***Presenter: Telman Mammadov, Legal Advisor to the Chairman of State Committee for Refugees and IDPs***

The speaker informed the participants that in recent years, the displaced have received an increasing amount of attention from the government of Azerbaijan. In 1999, a new law on the status of IDPs and a law on social protection of IDPs were adopted. In 2001 and 2002, the president adopted several decrees ordering the State Oil Fund to provide funds to improve the shelter and social economic conditions for the IDPs through the State Committee for Refugees and IDPs. In rural areas, the government has undertaken the construction of nearly 6000 houses to provide more durable shelter options for IDPs. With the support of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, UNDP and USAID, the government has released a National Plan for Poverty Reduction Strategy and Economic Growth, which target IDPs as one vulnerable group. The presenter also mentioned that IDPs receive substantial social assistance from government such as monthly food subsidy of 25.000 AZM per person. A decree from 2001 granted IDPs tax exemption and other economic-social privileges.

As for the year 2004, the speaker did not specify concrete plans or measures, just informed that the government was going to prepare a plan for eradication of all camps in Azerbaijan and resettle IDPs in the newly built houses in different regions of the country. The President’s office had requested the State Committee to prepare a plan for improving living conditions of IDPs residing in public buildings in urban areas. The speaker also mentioned about the future plans to increase micro-credit support to IDPs engaged in agricultural activities. Participants asked questions concerning the ownership issue of the government-built houses. The speaker confirmed that the government holds all property rights to those houses.

## **GROUP WORK ON THEMATIC ISSUES**

In order to assess the compliance of the IDP protection and assistance standards in Azerbaijan with the Guiding Principles the participants were asked to work on different subjects in separate groups. The group work took place on day two following lectures and presentations on theoretical issues of IDP protection and assistance. This enabled the participants to look into the existing situation in Azerbaijan, compare it to the international standards and identify existing gaps. During the group work interesting issues were raised and discussed. Each group recorded its conclusions on flipchart and presented them to the plenary (See *Sessions*). Based on the conclusions of the thematic groups, the participants compiled a list of recommendations to the Azerbaijani government, international governmental and non-governmental, national and community-based organizations in order to tackle the remaining gaps in facing the needs and problems of IDPs (See *Recommendations*).

### **Session 1. Protection during displacement**

Group A: Equality and non-discrimination

Group B: Movement related rights

Group C: IDPs living in urban areas

**Group A:** Participants in this group concluded that there are no grave patterns of discrimination against IDPs in the legislation of Azerbaijan, although in practice there are some problems. For example, according to law IDPs benefit of free usage of telephone, but in reality they often have no phone connection in their places of residence, leaving IDPs in a disadvantaged position. Payment for water, electricity and other public utilities is made to service providers on behalf of IDPs. In urban areas, it works properly while IDPs living in rural areas face problems in receiving those services on a regular basis. The group suggested that these benefits should be replaced with a direct money allowance to IDPs. Medical care and public clinics are also poorly organized and managed at the places of compact IDP settlement. The unemployment rate is usually higher among IDPs than non-IDPs.

**Group B:** Members of this group raised a number of problems related to the movement rights of IDPs. Some of these problems concern registration as it creates a double dependency: with regard to local administrative bodies in both the previous and current places of residence. Another type of problems concerns employment of IDPs: registration at certain places of settlements or camps limits IDP's right to move freely to urban areas with more employment opportunities as de-registration is a complicated and lengthy process.

**Group C:** Inadequate living condition in public buildings was mentioned as the major problem for IDPs in urban areas. The government is only considering rehabilitation of public buildings and not resettling IDP inhabitants to places with more adequate living conditions. Malnutrition, insufficient access to micro credit schemes and poor health care services were the other problems mentioned by the group.

## **Session 2. Durable solutions, participation and self-reliance**

Group A: Return to liberated areas

Group B: Closure of camps and relocation to the new settlements

Group C: Participation and empowerment

Group D: Strategies of self-help

**Group A:** The participants noted that in theory, IDPs are involved in planning and management of the return process. IFRC has tried to involve IDPs in this process but involvement has been limited. Security and landmines are still of serious concern. Return to the liberated area could be stimulated by economic measures, such as support to the creation job or micro credits for agricultural activities. The provision of public health and education services in return areas also needs more attention from the government side.

**Group B:** The members of the group pointed out that the resettlement of IDPs to the houses built by the government is usually preceded by an official survey conducted in camps in the perspective of relocation. IDP leaders and representatives from the relevant governmental bodies visit the places of relocation. However, IDPs themselves have no right to choose sites of relocation. The government has the final word on selection of site and resettling IDPs based on lists made in advance. Unemployment, rehabilitation of infrastructure, allocation of land plots are among the problems faced by the IDPs in the new settlement areas.

**Group C:** The group agreed that IDPs have limited amount of participation in planning and management of their lives. Executive committees in exile have little influence on decisions and merely implement orders made by relevant governmental bodies, such as the state committee of refugees and IDPs. Decisions made at the level of local executive committees are mostly not transparent and ordinary IDPs have no mechanism to influence them. The group concluded that there is a need for an IDP forum with participation of government, NGOs, IDP communities and UN agencies.

**Group D:** The group made the conclusion that the level of awareness of IDPs on their rights and privileges is not satisfactory, which hampers their successful integration into the society. They also pointed out to the psychological status of many IDPs, who have not overcome the trauma of displacement and have developed a victim mentality and dependence on external assistance. Programs of psychological counseling should be developed. Dissemination and training on the Guiding Principles could be one possible way of empowering IDPs in the protection of their rights. Furthermore, the need for skill trainings and capacity building was emphasized for the purpose of self-mobilization and independent solution of problems at a community level. The participants suggested that IDPs should be more involved in the design and implementation of programs affecting their lives and situations, which would improve the quality of those programs and increase the chances of their successful implementation.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were consolidated based on the discussions held during the workshop and the conclusions reached by participants. The participants highlighted the primary responsibility of national authorities with regard to the protection and assistance of IDPs within their jurisdiction, as confirmed in the Guiding Principles. International community shall assist and complement the protection gaps at the request of national governments. The international community shall also strengthen the “collaborative response” to IDPs worldwide: the collaboration between all relevant national and international agencies and other actors, such as regional organizations, should also be reinforced in Azerbaijan. The participants further agreed that although the Guiding Principles are not binding as such, its provisions could be claimed and defended under international and domestic legislation as its provisions are based on or derive from binding norms.

Recognizing that protection and assistance needs of IDPs in Azerbaijan continue to require special attention, participants adopted the following recommendations:

1. The creation of an IDP forum comprising all relevant institutions, national and international, and representatives of the IDP communities was suggested for better coordination of protection efforts.

*Objectives for such a forum should be:*

- To ensure that development institutions adequately address IDP needs as UNHCR and other humanitarian actors are phasing down their IDP related activities. The involvement of the OSCE should also be encouraged;
  - To facilitate dialogue between governmental institutions and NGOs;
  - To enable IDPs to have their voice better heard by the national authorities;
  - To combine joint advocacy efforts of different actors for meeting protection and assistance needs of the IDPs;
  - To mobilize donors in the response to internal displacement.
2. Participants recommended that the Guiding Principles should be widely disseminated and explained to the internally displaced in workshop, meetings and through publications.
  3. Non-governmental and community-based organizations were called upon to be more active in raising awareness and knowledge of IDPs on their rights and privileges.
  4. As was concluded the participation of IDPs has been limited in the return and resettlement process, all actors concerned should make a special effort to ensure that IDPs are consulted and can take part in the decisions, which affect their life, in particular with regard to return and resettlement. Special attention should be given to the participation of displacement women.

5. Authorities should strengthen their support to the returnees by ensuring that all necessary social services (health, education, connection) are available in the return or resettlement communities. A special effort should also be done to improve the social-economic conditions in these areas. Allocation of land and support to agricultural activities in return or resettlement areas should be continued.
6. International and local organizations should be more closely involved in the return and resettlement process to monitor protection issues.
7. All measures should be taken to support the local integration of the displaced people while safeguarding their right to eventually return:
  - Improve housing conditions:
    - a) Alternative shelters should be constructed in urban areas;
    - b) All IDPs living in camp towns should be provided with adequate housing conditions;
  - Skills training should be reinforced and access to micro-credit should also be facilitated.
8. Psychosocial counseling, both in urban and rural areas, is still needed to address trauma of displacement and help IDPs to overcome victim mentality and dependence on external assistance.
9. Privileges granted to IDPs under national law continue to be necessary among vulnerable IDPs. However, the government should ensure that IDPs really benefit from them by improving access to utilities and social services (for instance water and phone connection), in particular in camps. Converting these privileges into direct financial subsidies to be allocated to IDPs should be considered.
10. IDPs continue to face excessive bureaucracy when applying for the IDP status. The delivery of personal documents is also made more difficult for IDPs than for other citizens. The government should continue its efforts to simplify the procedure for the application to the IDPs status and the issuance of other documents to IDPs.
11. Simplify the registration of IDPs when moving to new places of inhabitation in order ensure full freedom of movement within the whole territory of the country.

## **EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP**

The evaluation of the workshop was compiled based on the feedback from the participants. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the level of fulfillment of the participants' expectations and improve the quality of content of the future workshops.

### ***1. What did you expect to learn from the workshop? Were your expectations fulfilled?***

The participants mainly expected to learn more about the UN IDP Guiding Principles. Some of the participants wanted to see how these principles had been applied in Azerbaijan and what the Azerbaijani government, international and local agencies are doing about the IDP situation. In addition, the participants expected to learn about national definitions and procedures for acquisition of IDP status. The majority of the respondents expressed that these expectations had been fulfilled. Meanwhile, one participant noted that she felt there was a gap between day 1 and 2 (the theory behind the GP's and the practical situation in Azerbaijan) and that even though both theoretical and practical aspects were discussed, it was not easy to see how the two were connected, at least within the context of the discussions held.

### ***2. What did you expect the general outcome to be from the workshop?***

Some participants simply expected that their awareness regarding international standards of IDP protection would be raised. Other hoped that the government, INGOs and LNGOs would come with an action plan on IDP related issues, such as security, protection and resettlement. One respondent replied that he expected closer co-operation between the relevant representatives of the Government of Azerbaijan and humanitarian agencies as a result of the workshop. Some of the participants supposed the general outcome to be a bit more of an evaluation of how the GP's have thus far been applied in Azerbaijan and an identification of which GP's have not been applied (and why). It was stated that this outcome was reached in general terms, and specific enduring problems for IDP's in Azerbaijan were identified.

### ***3. Do you have any suggestions for improvements to the format and contents of the workshop?***

Overall opinion was that the workshop was very well run and the cooperation between NRC/UNHCR was well-coordinated. The participants thought that the presenters were all interesting and well-prepared. Meanwhile, some suggestions were forwarded for improvements:

- To invite more government officials and national NGOs;
- To ensure the participation of IDP/refugee community groups;
- To invite the Sumgayit ExCom, as well as other officials from the towns/regions of NRC intervention in order to hear from them their expectations and lessons learned;
- To devote a part of the workshop to mapping what each organization is doing (or is planning to do) with regard to IDPs – a review of programs in place, results, achievements, activities planned etc.;

- To organize meetings with a focus on more specific topics and compile a review of the practice in Azerbaijan with regard to each Guiding Principles;
- To provide more visual aides so that people can see what has been done in the field for the assistance and protection of IDPs.

***4. These are the suggestions the respondents gave for follow-ups:***

1. A follow-up workshop at the end of the year with site-visits would be appropriate.
2. In order to strengthen the participation of IDPs, it is recommended to hold similar workshops for IDPs in their camps or settlements.
3. A document on the government's achievements to date with regard to IDPs, its annual plan as well as a compilation on activities of INGOs and other international agencies dealing with IDPs would help to improve information and experience sharing. Also regular meetings between all IDP related actors should be organized. A monthly or quarterly newsletter that disseminates information on IDP initiatives, progress made, lessons learned and other relevant issues would also be helpful.
4. Mainstream the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement into the training activities of the IDP protecting organizations, both international and local.
5. Compile a written assessment of changes/developments in the implementation of the GP's in Azerbaijan in the time elapsed.
6. Report and review examples of promotion of the Guiding Principles by the government and NGO's during the year.

## ANNEX 1. List of Participants

### NRC/UNHCR Workshop on UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement 27-28 November 2003

*Grand Hotel Europe, Baku*

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## ANNEX 2. Agenda

### Workshop on the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

**Day one: 27 November**

10:00	<i>Welcoming remarks by:</i> Merethe Kvernroed, NRC Baku Bogdan Nahajlo, UNHCR Baku Telman Mammadov, State Committee for IDPs		15
10:15	<i>Presentation of participants</i>	C.Beau	25
10:40	<i>Crisis of internal displacement and international response</i>	C.Beau	25
11:05	The Role of UNHCR in IDP protection	B.Nahajlo	20
<b>11.25</b>	<b>Break</b>	-	<b>15</b>
11:40	<i>Legal Status of the Guiding Principles</i>	C.Beau	40
12.20	First pillar – International Human Rights Law	P.Nesse	30
<b>13.00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	-	<b>60</b>
14.00	Second pillar – International Humanitarian Law	M.Dzanova	20
14.20	Third pillar – International Refugee Law	M.Parums	20
14.40	Exercise – Sources of the UN Guiding Principles	C.Beau	30
<b>15.10</b>	<b>Break</b>	-	<b>15</b>
15.25	<i>Definition of an IDP</i>	C.Beau	25
15.50	National definitions for IDPs: Georgia & Azerbaijan	D.Zviadadze E.Nasibov	30
16.20	National procedure for acquisition of IDP status	T.Mammadov	20
16.40	Compiling Azerbaijan IDP profile	I.Utmelidze	40
17:20	Debriefing in plenary	I.Utmelidze	20
17.40	<b><i>Summary of the day</i></b>	NRC	10
17.50	<i>End of the day</i>		

**Day two: 28 November**

10.00	<i>Protection of IDPs from and during displacement: Introduction</i>	C.Beau	10
10.10	Equality and non-discrimination	I.Utmelidze	10
10.20	Protection from displacement	C.Beau	10
10.30	Movement related rights during displacement	E.Nasibov	10
10:40	Physical security	I.Utmelidze	10
10:50	Subsistence needs	E.Nasibov	10
<b>11.00</b>	<b>Break</b>	-	<b>15</b>
11:15	Group work on the thematic issues of IDP protection	C.Beau	45
12.00	Debriefing in plenary	C.Beau	40
12:40	<i>Involvement of IDPs in decision making and supporting strategies of self-help</i>	N.Velikhanova	20
<b>13.00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	-	<b>60</b>
14.00	<i>Durable solutions –In the context of refugees and IDPs</i>	B.Ismailov E.Nasibov	25
14.25	Planning and management of return (Role play)	E.Nasibov I.Utmelidze	35
15.00	Return, resettlement and reintegration: Basic principles and conditions of implementation	C.Beau	25
<b>15.25</b>	<b>Break</b>	-	<b>15</b>
15.40	<i>Plans of the State Committee for Refugees and IDPs for the next year</i>	T.Mammadov	20
16.00	Group work on the issues of durable solutions	C.Beau	45
16.45	Debriefing in plenary	C.Beau	40
17.25	Conclusions and recommendations	M.Kvernroed	30
<b>18:00</b>	<b><i>Reception</i></b>		

