

FORUM: Human Rights Council Sub-Commission 2 (HRC)

QUESTION OF: Protecting Human Rights of asylum seekers stranded on borders

SUBMITTED BY: Togolese Republic

CO-SUBMITTERS: Myanmar, Eritrea, Austria, European Union, UNHCHR, Lithuania, Spain, Greece, Yemen, IOM, Turkmenistan, Denmark, Mauritius, Canada, Iran, Czech Republic, Portugal, Ecuador, Viet Nam, United States of America, Latvia

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION,

Bearing in mind that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that all humans are born free and must be treated as individuals that are “equal in dignity” without distinction of race, nationality or religion,

Deeply concerned that large numbers of asylum-seekers are currently subjected to detention and other harshly restrictive measures in different parts of the world without any governmental review by reason of their status,

Noting that the term “asylum seekers”, under the terms of the 1951 Refugee Convention, was defined as “a person that enters a country either legally or illegally and later claims refugee status”,

Recognizing the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol as a guiding legal document regarding the protection of the rights of all refugees and asylum-seekers,

1. Urges all Member States to sign, ratify and fully comprehend the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol, in order to be further enlightened about the importance of the human rights of asylum seekers and the severity of the current situation regarding the protection of the rights of these people;
2. Encourages the improvement of the security and protection of the camps where asylum seekers are residing in and in border cities of host-governments in order to protect the migrants from possible dangers such as but not limited to kidnappings, extortion, rape, terror and armed attacks by:
 - a) working in cooperation with the specialized forces of host-nations consisting of law enforcement officers
 - b) finding them safe housing options by:
 - i. finding housing alternatives by making better use of empty government land
 - ii. accessing temporary government housing
 - c) getting assistance from organizations such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization of Migration (IOM), and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
 - d) developing emergency strategies applicable to the current situation, by providing tools such as tents, plastic sheeting, and matting, as well as guidelines to help these people build simple, weather-resistant shelter;
3. Suggests concerned governments and organizations to ensure constantly available and professional emergency aid in order to provide safety, protection, and security, by:
 - a) setting up risk monitoring, scenario-based contingency planning, and establishing how to deliver assistance and protection
 - b) taking the Refugee Coordination Guidance Note and the UNHCR Emergency Handbook into account to make refugee coordination more predictable, inclusive and collaborative
 - c) following the model created by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) to collaboratively work with governmental and non-governmental organizations;
4. Recommends ensuring the health of asylum seekers stranded on borders, especially those overcrowded in camps, by:

- a) working in close cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) as well as regional health services to ensure professional health care and constantly available health care directly on site by:
 - i. observing the health conditions of people and providing necessary treatments and applications, including medication for the sake of their personal well-being and the national health
 - ii. conducting screening tests to detect potential health problems and reduce the risk of certain diseases
 - iii. conducting regular check-ups and examinations depending on the patient's health
 - b) providing counseling, psychological therapy and rehabilitation to increase mental health to empower concerned individuals to cope with the challenges of displacement by:
 - i. helping them adapt to the system of the nation as rapidly as possible
 - ii. assist them on having sustained and healthy psychological status
 - c) giving access to quality reproductive health services in order to reduce the number of women who die during or after childbirth, as well as giving reproductive health education to prevent sexually transmitted diseases
 - d) providing clean, safe sanitation and hygiene facilities, as well as services to prevent the spread of diseases;
5. Further encourages host-governments of asylum seekers to facilitate and assist the asylum seekers through the course of their settlement and rehabilitation process by means of collaboration between the related government ministries and UN bodies to establish educational programmes in order to rehabilitate asylum seekers into the nation in which they're seeking asylum, while preserving their identity, heredity, and culture by:
- a) providing specific language lessons accessible to various age groups
 - b) informing them about the cultural attributes of the nation in which they're residing in
 - c) ensuring that these educators are well-informed on the particular educational aspect that they are teaching and aren't showing any prejudicial behaviour towards these people
 - d) getting support from organizations such as but not limited to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for better integration;
6. Requests the protection of the rights of asylum seekers in each Member State by means of equal laws, created in accordance with the state's existing legislation, that will require each state to treat every person, including asylum seekers, fairly by:
- a) acknowledging that they are individuals that are entitled to all the freedoms and rights provided to all persons, including the right to life and shelter,
 - b) ensuring that these people are protected and are living under safe conditions through:
 - i. laws which will prevent the danger of refoulement for asylum seekers
 - ii. laws which will provide penalties for people showing discriminatory, xenophobic and violent approach towards these people
 - iii. laws which will provide asylum seekers the option of shelter, food and healthcare
 - c) asking for regional social and health organizations to give their surplus of clothes and other necessities to asylum seekers;
7. Further recommends Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as but not limited to ECHO 100PLUS and government organizations to provide vocational training opportunities and jobs for asylum seekers by:
- a) giving them the chance to experience the profession firsthand and in programs
 - b) providing the mentorship of experienced employees to:
 - i. teach them the intricacies of the profession
 - ii. guide them in the workplace
 - iii. certify that the employees treat these people fairly
 - c) providing them the option of both non-paid and paid internship in order to:
 - i. assist them to advance in the profession and have the chance to experience, and

- potentially attain their career goals
- ii. support their livelihoods with paid internships;

8. Further requests incorporating UNHCR's digital Population Registration and Identity Management Ecosystem (PRIMES) to:
 - a) increase identity documentation which can constitute proof of legal identity which is key to the legal, socioeconomic system
 - b) increase digital inclusion of the persons of concern with the purpose of reintegrating and better supporting the asylum seekers;
9. Further suggests holding border monitoring, controlling, search, and extraction operations with the collaboration of host-governments to assure that asylum seekers do not face the danger of refoulement and are able to have entry to territory by:
 - a) gathering data of the asylum seekers' entrance and departure through Member States with the help of control and extraction missions which will involve finding possible hosts for asylum seekers with the help of border monitoring missions conducted by border officials with the help of UN volunteers and donations so that:
 - i. an even distribution of asylum seekers is held through Member States
 - ii. a specific Member State doesn't have full responsibility over the entirety of asylum seekers
 - iii. asylum seekers are given the opportunity to have a say in the Member State in which they will, for the foreseeable future, reside and take shelter in;
10. Draws attention to the importance of acknowledging the danger and risks that unaccompanied or separated minors are in towards abuse, neglect, violence, exploitation, trafficking or military recruitment and ensuring their protection, by:
 - a) providing access to family tracing and reunification services
 - b) assigning legal guardians that care for the safety and health for the concerned children and ensuring that they maintain their legal documents
 - c) working in close cooperation with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and professionals to organize appropriate care
 - d) safeguarding children associated with armed groups and forces and providing the necessary support with the purpose of reintegrating them into their communities
 - e) especially separating and protecting unaccompanied girls to prevent sexual abuse and harassment;
11. Calls upon taking into consideration the regular violation of women's rights in migrant settlements by:
 - a) setting up specially designated, multi-purpose women-only spaces
 - b) training police officials to spot areas of potential gender-based violence and request them to monitor these areas with higher vigilance;
12. Calls for public places such as schools, official government institutions and workplaces to embrace asylum seekers and include them in the society by raising awareness on the issue through:
 - a) semi-annual international conferences which will be held in Geneva to discuss the issue elaborately considering each Member State and asking for the collaboration of Member States to create a better living environment for these people
 - b) informing citizens about the importance of the issue and the severity of the current situation, with the help of tools such as, campaigns and seminars in order to inform people and to be able to raise funds and enhance the number of volunteers, social media platforms, advertisements on television and billboards, brochures, posters, padlets and fundraising events
 - c) the help of More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs) and willing NGOs such as the World Bank in order to support Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) and

other countries with territorial disputes.