

**Intersessional Seminar**  
**on the implementation of the Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions**  
**for Internally Displaced Persons 2018–2020 to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Guiding**  
**Principles on Internal Displacement**

**Thursday 29 October 2020, 9.30 – 12.00, 14.00-16.00 (Geneva time)**

**Online**

Meeting link: <https://rtce-unog.webex.com/rtce-unog/j.php?MTID=m89788e4a1f0450e0ab527819c056f88c>

Meeting number: 137 757 4036

Password: EuZZkZvA566

**CONCEPT NOTE**

**Mandate**

The Human Rights Council, in its resolution [41/15](#) of 11 July 2019, requested the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to convene an intersessional seminar in order to follow up on the implementation of the Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons 2018–2020 to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. Furthermore, the Council requested OHCHR to invite States and other relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations Secretariat and relevant bodies, representatives of subregional and regional organizations, international human rights mechanisms, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations.

**Background**

In its 2017 resolution 72/182 on IDPs, the UN General Assembly called on States, UN entities, the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, NGOs and other stakeholders to mark the 20th anniversary in 2018 of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. The Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons 2018–2020 was launched by Austria, Honduras and Uganda, during the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement to galvanize and reinforce multi-stakeholder engagement towards reducing and resolving internal displacement through prevention, protection and solutions for internally displaced people. The Plan acts on the General Assembly resolution's call by bringing together stakeholders on internal displacement to work more effectively and collaboratively to promote and support the common goal of reducing and resolving displacement. The Plan of Action centres around four priority areas for strategic, coordinated and collaborative action. These include: participation of Internally Displaced Persons; national law and policy on internal displacement; data and analysis on internal displacement; and addressing protracted displacement and supporting solutions.

Overall, the twentieth anniversary of the Guiding Principles and the related GP20 Plan of Action has sparked more collaborative action on internal displacement at the national, regional and global level. The GP20 Initiative has established an inclusive platform dedicated to capturing best practices and sharing experiences and lessons learned on internal displacement, especially focused on national implementation, with the participation of key Member States, UN agencies, international and local NGOs, World Bank, ICRC, IFRC, the UN Special Rapporteur and other key experts. National-level action has included the development of legislation on internal displacement, implementation of national GP20 Plans of Action and events to draw attention to the plight of IDPs.

Building on the experience and lessons learned from the implementation of the GP20 Plan of Action, which runs to the end of 2020, the intersessional seminar will explore further actions that might be taken by the international community to continue supporting efforts at preventing, addressing and resolving internal displacement.

### **Background Documents**

- Human Rights Council resolution 41/15 of 11 July 2019
- Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons 2018–202
- Supplementary document: GP20 Submission to the UN Secretary General’s High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement

### **Objectives**

The seminar aims to:

- Highlight achievements, effective practices and lessons learned from the national implementation of the GP20 Plan of Action, including areas in need of priority attention;
- Hear internally displaced persons’ recommendations on how States, the international community and local actors should move forward to prevent, address and resolve internal displacement at the local, national, regional and global level;
- Seek support for the most promising aspects of the GP20 Plan of Action to be continued and expanded beyond 2020 and recommend further actions that might be taken by the United Nations system, including the Human Rights Council, the UN Secretary General’s High Level Panel on Internal Displacement and others, to assist internally displaced persons and support States in their efforts to prevent, address and resolve internal displacement and achieve the SDGs by 2030.
- Provide relevant inputs to the final outcomes of the GP20 processes, including by featuring seminar outcomes in the GP20 concluding event.

## **Outcome**

An informal summary report of the discussion will be prepared by OHCHR and made available online. This report will also be transmitted to the Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement. It will inform the report that will be presented by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons at the forty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council in June 2021.

## **Format**

The seminar will be open to the participation of Member States and other relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations Secretariat and relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, representatives of subregional and regional organizations, international human rights mechanisms, national human rights institutions, civil society organisations, internally displaced persons, and relevant stakeholders from across the world.

Participants are encouraged to intervene in an interactive way, through questions, comments and sharing of experiences, good practices and challenges as well as suggested recommendations on the way forward, with a view to stimulating a constructive debate.

The seminar will be structured in a brief introductory session followed by two main sessions:

- Highlights from the implementation of the GP20 Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons 2018–2020: achievements, lesson learnt, effective practices and priority areas for attention.
- Beyond 2020 and the GP20 initiative: priority areas for attention and concrete recommendations on prevention, protection and solutions for internally displaced persons, for the United Nations system, including the Human Rights Council, States and other key stakeholders.

For each session, 2 to 3 expert panelists, including at least one IDP representative per session, will make a presentation in their field of expertise and suggest concrete strategies, addressing the issues proposed for consideration in the agenda. The remainder of the sessions will be dedicated to interaction between all participants, concluded by 20 minutes for comments and replies by the panelists.