

Australian Intervention – 7 July

Noting the request for country statements to not at this stage be a line-by-line negotiation, Australia would like to lay out some key principles which will guide our proposed text changes – which we will submit in writing to co-facilitators.

- We agree on **reaffirming existing international legal frameworks**, and that our response to large movements of refugees and migrants must be based on international human rights law and, as applicable, IHL.
 - support the **reaffirmation of the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol**, including that the **institution of asylum and principle of non-refoulement apply regardless of a country being a signatory** of the 51 Convention and 67 Additional Protocol
- We support **building on key commitments made at the World Humanitarian Summit** and reflecting strong regional processes such as the **Bali Process**
- We welcome focus on **implementation of the 2030 Agenda**, given its aim of **addressing the root causes** of large movements of refugees and migrants and facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility.
 - Where possible, use previously agreed language from Paris, Sendai and SDG agreements in discussing related issues
 - Use agreed language from relevant GA resolutions and the most recent Declaration of the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development
- We need to recognize the need to **counter, reduce and prevent irregular migration**, as well as the importance of sending and receiving countries to facilitate both **return** and **readmission**.
 - Reflect need to counter irregular, unsafe and unplanned migration, as well as the exploitation, abuse and discrimination suffered by many as a result.
 - Pursue recognition of the right and responsibility of states to manage borders and acknowledgement that a strong and efficient border management system is an enabler of both refugee protection and of safe, orderly and regular migration
 - Discourage dangerous, secondary movements beyond first safe country of asylum.
 - Support co-operation between countries of origin/nationality and destination, to ensure migrants not meeting the criteria to stay are **able to return** (4 xix).
- In considering **climate change** as a factor in migration, language should be consistent with the Paris Agreement.
 - Proposals to endorse/develop guidelines on the treatment of **migrants in vulnerable situations** - who have not qualified for refugee status, or other similar initiatives - should not blur existing

international law by creating new categories of migrants and should build on existing good practice and reflect development and availability of alternative pathways that offer complementary protection.

- Any new principles/guidelines aimed at **migrants** – while acknowledging the indivisibility and universality of human rights – should not imply that there should be no differentiation in national policies based on migrant status
- We recognise the **positive contribution of migrants** (4.vi) and support for the Secretary-General's campaign against **xenophobia** (5.xiv)
- We commit to **strengthen host communities' self-reliance and resilience** (6 xxi) and the widening of this to include refugees themselves – in particular the importance education for refugee children
- We encourage more coherent and integrated ways of working by political, security and aid actors to **tackle root causes of displacement**
 - Acknowledge the role of humanitarian, development, stabilization, peace keeping and building actors in creating the conditions for inclusive peace settlements, laying the foundations for peaceful societies and durable solutions for refugee (6 xxii).
 - Encourage States to consider actions to reduce the incidence of statelessness