Forum: General assembly 3(GA3): Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural

Agenda: On measures to ensure that asylum seekers have equitable access to the

asylum system

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Introduction

Throughout the world, disasters and conflicts are prevalent, causing people to flee their country or residence. Entering other countries in applying or seeking for asylums. It is estimated by UNHCR at mid-2022 there is over 103 million people are forcibly displaced while 4.3 million people being asylum seekers and 32.5 million people being refugees around the globe. The form of a refugee is formulated by asylum seekers. The UNHCR's assessments estimate that the forced displacement will continuously increase for the remainder of 2022. It is important to understand that refugees could be potentially beneficial to a country's economic development, they can bring productivity to their host country, enriching the cultural diversity within the local population, boosting economic activity.

After 10 years, the Syrian refugee crisis still remains the largest refugee crisis around the world. More than 6.3 million of Syrians has been forced to flee Syria in 2011, while another 6.9 million remain internally displaced. Health care, schools, water and sanitation system and many more civilian infrastructures destroyed or damaged. Numerous human rights violations occurred during the Syrian civil war, for instance, genocide, rape and massacres against civilians, forcing Syrians to have no choice but to flee their homes and country. As the world is rampant of uncontrollable factors and conflicts, it is General Assembly 3's goal to draft resolutions that will aid the communities inflicted with such factors and conflicts, perpetuating a promising future for the unfortunate individuals

Key Terms

<u>Asylum -</u> The grant, by a State, of protection on its territory to persons from another State who are fleeing persecution or serious danger. Asylum encompasses a variety of elements, including non-refoulement, permission to remain on the territory of the asylum country and humane standards of treatment.

<u>Asylum seekers -</u> Asylum seekers are individuals who seeks international protection. Countries with individualized procedures, asylum seeker is an individual whose claim have not been decided on by the country. There are chances that an asylum seeker will not be considered or recognized as a refugee, but every refugee initially started out to be an asylum seeker.

Refugees - Refugees are people who have fled war, violence, conflict or persecution and have crossed an international border to find safety in another country.

<u>Internally displaced people -</u> Internally displaced people (IDPs) are the people who have not crossed a border to find safety. Unlike refugees, they are on the run at their own State.

Refugee crisis - A refugee crisis when many displaced people move from their home country to another, in a difficult or dangerous way. The term refugee crisis can refer to displacement happening in the country of origin, the country of arrival, or to problems and dangers facing refugees whilst they are on the move. A crisis can refer to the perspective of the refugees, the country to which they flee, or, in many cases, both.

General Overview

The UNHCR's data base suggests that more than 7 in 10 of all refugees under UNHCR's mandate and other people in need of international protection come from just five countries. These five countries being, the Syrian Arab republic generating 6.8 million refugees, Venezuela generating 5.6 million refugees, Ukraine generating 5.4 million, Afghanistan generating 2.8 million and South Sudan generating 2.4 million.

At the end of 2021, within the 89.3 million forcibly displaced people, there is an estimate of 36.5 million of children below the age of 18. A 36% of refugees are being hosted in five countries, in which are, Turkey, hosts the largest number of refugees, with 3.7 million people. Colombia, hosts more than 2.5 million, including other people in need of international protection. Germany, hosts 2.2 million refugees. Pakistan, hosts 1.5 million refugees. Uganda hosts 1.5 million refugees.

The UHNCR's data base estimated that 74% of the world's refugees and other people in need of international protection are hosted in low to middle income countries. The least developed countries provide asylum to 22% of the world's refugees.

A refugee crisis refers to displacement happening in the country of origin, the country of arrival, or to problems and dangers facing refugees whilst they are on the move. A crisis can refer to the perspective of the refugees, the country to which they flee. As there is no a definitive start to refugee crisis, events like war and civil war, human rights violations, environment and climate issues, and economic hardship could contribute to the growing refugee crisis.

War and civil war

During June of 2015 the UNHCR has stated that wars and persecutions are the main reason behind most of the refugee crisis around the world. Currently due to the Ukrainian war, there are over 7,891,977 recorded refugees from Ukraine spread across Europe and 4,776,606 refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe.

Human rights violation

The violation of human rights resulting many individuals and family to flee their home land. Take example of the Rohingya crisis in 2017 where thousands of Rohingya people were forcibly displaced due to sectarian violence, most of the refugee fled to Southeast Asian countries like Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand, a small portion fled to the neighboring country Bangladesh. This crisis is also known as the Rohingya genocide where it is a series of persecution and murdering of the Muslim Rohingya people conducted by the Burmese military 60% of the refugees being children bellow the age of 18. It is estimated by the UNCHR that 50,000 people had fled via boats by immigrant smugglers.

Environment and climate

People displaced due to the effects of environment and climate are referred as environment immigrant and climate refugees. The UN has estimated that between 200 million refugees and 1 billion people could potentially swarm the international borders within 40 years in order to escape the effects of climate change. Millions of people live in places prone to effects of climate change, these people face extreme weather such as floods and droughts, climate change might further affect these people by creating new vulnerabilities.

According to the International Organization for Migration there are three types of environmental immigration 1) induced by a sudden environmental disaster; 2) caused by gradual environmental degradation; and 3) avoidance of future climate-induced threats.

Economic hardship

A person that is forcibly displaced due to economic reason is known as an economic migrant, where the UN refers them as Migrant workers. Migrant workers are also defined as a person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national. Usually, migrant workers crosses international borders in search of an improved standard of living as the region of origin has insufficient opportunities. UNHCR also suggests that most migrant workers often experience marginalization, xenophobia, and poor living and working conditions. In serious cases, they suffer exploitation, expulsion, and risk to life.

European Union

The European Union has provided a significant aid to refugees, as they have enacted temporary protection mechanism for refugees, provided €523 million in humanitarian aid, civil protection support to Ukraine, Czechia, Moldova, Poland, Slovakia and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), financial and technical support for member states and hosting refugees border management support for EU countries and Moldova.

Africa Union

Africa Union has enabled the adoption of the OAU (Organization of African Unity) which proved significant as it promoted unity and solidarity amongst African states.

Timeline of Events

1951

Date	Description of event

UNCHR's first tasks was to aid the estimated 1 million European civilians. UNCHR's prepresses, the international Refugee organization helped 1 million people coming from camps of Germany, Austria and Italy to a new life in the United States of America and to

resettle in other countries

1956	UNCHR encountered the first post war emergency when the Hungarian revolution erupted. Organizing help for more than 200,000 people whom fled the country. There were refugees whom remained in Austria in which UNCHR funded housing project and assistant programmes.
1960s	As colonialism came close to an end, conflicts erupted amongst different African nations, hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing from the chaos fled to welcoming Independent African states. One of the greatest achievements of UNHCR was during the 1960s was the rural integration of refugees in countries of asylum.
1971	UNHCR acted as focal point for relief operations, for the flight of 10 million Bengalis to India.
1974	UNHCR coordinated food, health care and shelter, for those who became homeless during the clashes between Turkish and Greek communities in Cyprus.
1975	After the fall of Saigon to the North Vietnam forces, the flight of Vietnamese refugees began. It is estimated that 3 million Vietnamese arrived in Malaysia in 1978.
Late 1970	Thailand have become the first country with asylum for tens of thousands of refugees fleeing from Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.
1980s	Massive influx of Ethiopians fled to Sudan as a result of war and drought, tens of thousands of people died before relief efforts came to effect.
1989	After 15 years of exile, estimated 41,000 refugees from Namibia returned to Namibia.
1990	As a result of the Gulf War, there was an exodus of 1.5 million Iraqi Kurds. Some refugees were able to return within weeks.
1990	As the result of the Yugoslav wars, it has displaced 3million people, due to ethnic conflicts between different ethnicities, many ethic cleaning was conducted during the war.
Late 1991	Estimate of 750,000 Somalis have taken shelter in Ethiopia's Hararghe region resulting in a serious environmental burden, due to the demand for wood.

Early 1990s	Displacement and war revenged through West Africa, resulted in 800,000 Liberians fled their homeland, which is followed by many Sierra Leoneans.
1994	The genocide in Rwanda initiated an enormous exodus into neighboring countries such as Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania.
1999	Due to NATO's airstrikes, almost a million of civilians have or forced into exile from Kosovo.

UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

Afghanistan emergency

UNHCR is committed to staying and delivering in Afghanistan. The UNHCR have activated their emergency response to protect the most vulnerable and assist Afghans with life-saving shelter, support to insulate and warm homes, water and health facilities, core relief items, and psycho-social support both within Afghanistan and neighboring countries.

Amid winter, UNHCR has significantly intensified its outreach with targeted assistance helping families to survive. Critical aid includes household items like blankets, stoves, solar lanterns, insulation kits and support for heating, clothing, and vital household supplies.

Preventing the spread of COVID-19 also remains a priority. To help reduce the risk as much as possible, UNHCR is providing buckets and jerry cans in its relief kits to displaced families. These supplies are especially important in areas where access to clean water is difficult. UNHCR has also established handwashing stations and distributes hygiene kits including soap and face masks.

Burundi situation

UNHCR and its partners are working together every day to aid and protect Burundi's refugees in Tanzania, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Uganda and other nearby countries. Together, we are helping families reunite with lost loved ones and training camp community workers to spot signs of sexual exploitation and abuse. UNHCR are helping mothers give birth in proper health facilities and enlisting water engineers to drill new boreholes to supply water for refugees.

The Burundian refugee situation is the lowest funded of any situation globally. In 2018, UNHCR and its partners received just 33 percent of the required US\$391 million requested to support Burundian refugees. The Burundi Regional Refugee Response Plan for 2019-2020 was published in late December 2018, and appeals for US\$ 296 million in 2019.

Burundian refugees in Tanzania, Rwanda and the DRC arrive to find camps full and only temporary shelters available. Health centers are struggling to cope with huge numbers of patients. Education is very basic, and children lack sufficient learning materials.

• COVID-19 pandemic

Since the start of the pandemic, UNHCR scaled up our work to keep refugees and internally displaced people safe across the globe. UNHCR responded with life-saving support such as boosting water and

sanitation facilities, increasing access to public health and hygiene as well as airlifting emergency supplies and establishing isolation units.

• Central African Republic situation

UNHCR is helping people affected by the violence and conflict. Inside CAR (Central African Republic), UNHCR's focus remains on life-saving protection and assistance, distributing basic relief items to the newly displaced and new community shelters are being set up in response to the growing number of IDPs. In neighboring countries, UNHCR and its partners continue to respond to new arrivals while building refugee's livelihoods and ability to sustain themselves.

DR Congo emergency

UNHCR is assisting people displaced inside the DRC through activities aimed at strengthening the protection of vulnerable people, including women and children. It also provides shelter materials and cash grants to the most vulnerable among the displaced and returnees. UNHCR strengthen community-based organizations that work for peaceful coexistence, while working towards solutions to displacement. UNHCR is working with the International Organization for Migration to lead the coordination and management of sites hosting internally displaced people (IDPs) in North Kivu and Tanganyika provinces. UNHCR also provide protection and assistance to Congolese refugees in neighboring countries, in collaboration with authorities and partners, including those forced to flee during the most recent surge of violence.

Refugees, mainly women and children, from countries like the Central African Republic, South Sudan and Burundi, who have sought refuge in the DRC, also receive life-saving support and international protection through UNHCR and its partners, notably the National Refugee Commission, UNHCR's Government partner. Most of these refugees settle in local Congolese communities and many can become self-reliant with some support. UNHCR is actively seeking durable solutions for these refugees, by developing strategic partnerships with other UN agencies, as well as by looking to reduce environmental impacts, notably deforestation, in refugee-hosting areas.

Syria emergency

UNHCR provides life-saving humanitarian aid for Syrian refugees, helping the most vulnerable with cash for medicine and other basic necessities, stoves and fuel for heating, insulation for tents, thermal blankets and winter clothing. UNHCR also help refugees with access to clean water and sanitation. For those who have been displaced but remain in Syria. UNHCR provides shelter kits and non-food items as well as protection services and psychosocial support.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, UNHCR has supported hospitals and other health structures in areas where refugees live. It also provided emergency cash grants to those who were hit hard by rising poverty during the pandemic, and were often not able to pay for rent and clothing or put food on the table.

To ensure a coordinated response in the main refugee-hosting countries, UNHCR co-leads the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) for 2021.

In 2021, the 270 partners under the plan aim at supporting more than 10 million people – including over 5.5 million Syrian refugees and 4.8 million members of their host communities. This is the highest number since the Syria crisis began.

The required funds for 2021 will be used to address the most pressing needs, among them for example covering school fees for children and youth, food and cash assistance, access to primary health care and hospital treatment for hundreds of thousands, livelihoods support. In addition, they will help to address the most common protection risks, such as gender-based violence. Much of the funds will also be used to strengthen national and local systems and their ability to deliver services to host communities and refugees who live side-by-side.

• Ukraine emergency

UNHCR staff are on the ground in Ukraine and are committed to stay and deliver assistance when and where access and security allow. UNHCR's teams have scaled up their presence and operations in central and western Ukraine, where conditions enable more humanitarian access, and where needs are also growing.

Possible Solutions

Ensuring the availability of asylums.

Encourage nations to be equitably equipped and prepare for sudden upsurge of refugee as that would provide etiquette humanitarian assistance for protection, food, water, shelter and health for refugees.

Ensuring the availability of official means of transportation for refugees.

Ensuring the safe and official route for refugees to migrate is critical, as that prevents the usage of migrant smugglers as these smugglers do not provide guaranteed protection or etiquette treatment for refugees.

Guide lines for countries regarding to forcibly displaced people.

By establishing a guide line, countries would be able to rapidly and efficiently respond to any upsurge of refugees, reducing the time of registration, the distribution of basic supplies, ETC.

Ensuring the availability of remunerated activity.

As refugees often face xenophobia and discrimination from other members of the society, it could be difficult for refugees to obtain a job. Government should provide subsidies for industries who tolerates refugees as that would promote equality and provide jobs for refugees.

Ensuring the availability of mainstream health services towards refugees.

Many refugees do not possess citizenship, there for refugee have restricted access to mainstream health services. Governments could establish temporary citizenship for refugees, thus granting access to mainstream health services.

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