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## Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement 2022 Concept Note

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### I. Background

The Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) event is the most important multilateral forum for UNHCR, States, NGOs, private sector, academia, and refugees to discuss and advance refugee resettlement issues of common interest. The ATCR allows for open and frank dialogue and strives to produce outcomes that forge collaborative resettlement solutions for refugees and displaced populations. Since 1995, this annual event provides an opportunity to address a wide range of policies and procedures, including advocacy, capacity building and operational support. An important outcome of the ATCR is the development of new and innovative ways to solve problems and combine resources to improve resettlement and complementary pathways for refugees.

In July 2021, the United States assumed the Chair of the 2022 ATCR. The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration will serve as the State Chair and Refugee Council USA will serve as the NGO Co-Chair. The U.S. Chairs will work collaboratively with UNHCR to coordinate and implement the ATCR in 2022. Representatives of the Refugee Advisory Group will contribute to the planning of the 2022 ATCR and will continue to amplify refugee voices throughout the ATCR cycle.

The 2022 ATCR will take place June 20-22, 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland, although a final determination on the safety of an in person ATCR will be made closer to the date of the event based on the latest public health guidelines concerning the COVID-19 pandemic. It is hoped that the Working Group on Resettlement will be held in person in the United States from March 8-10, 2022. By meeting in person for both the ATCR and the WGR, it is expected that participants will have a meaningful opportunity to engage with other stakeholders and strengthen working relationships in order to further the goals of the ATCR.

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## II. Overarching Theme

In 2021, the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic combined with other ongoing and emergent crises to compound the already dire situation of the world's 80 million plus refugees. Despite these unprecedented challenges, the global community began to reemerge from the devastating effects of these crises with a renewed sense of solidarity for the plight of refugees and a greater sense of urgency to find both protection and durable solutions through resettlement, as well as opportunities for other third-country solutions and complementary pathways. While 2020 saw the lowest resettlement numbers in over 40 years, 2021 brought growing efforts to use innovation and technology to meet the challenges of the moment. 2022 remains a pivotal year to build momentum and strengthen and expand protection and opportunities for refugees. The 2022 ATCR will endeavor to capitalize on this momentum with the aim of expanding opportunities for refugees among existing and new resettlement countries globally.

The overarching theme of the 2022 ATCR will be:

***Reemerging and Building Globally***

This theme allows for a broad framework for discussing challenges, demands, and opportunities in a changing environment. The ATCR will continue to be a global, multi-stakeholder forum focused on strengthening partnerships and increasing capacity for resettlement, complementary pathways, and integration of refugees into welcoming and inclusive societies.



**ATCR/WGR**  
Annual Tripartite Consultations and  
Working Group on Resettlement



**PRM**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

**REFUGEE  
COUNCIL  
USA**

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### III. Objectives of the 2021-2022 ATCR Cycle

The expected objectives of the 2022 ATCR include:

1. To **reemerge** from the worst effects of COVID-19 and reduced global admissions stronger than before the pandemic through a renewed commitment to resettlement, the expansion of complementary pathways, strengthening refugee integration into new communities, and more equitable sharing of the responsibility for supporting refugees globally.
2. Drawing on the lessons of the past few years, **to build resilience into the global resettlement system** to enable it to better withstand political, resource, environmental and/or other shocks.
3. To **build** on the progress made by stakeholders in expanding opportunities for resettlement and complementary pathways in response to the pandemic, to increase the size, scale, and quality of existing programs, and to build capacity for new programs.
4. To **expand** the number of stakeholders committed to resettling, hosting, and supporting refugees and to enable them to respond more nimbly to emerging crises.
5. To **share and promote** innovative strategies developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and other ongoing and emergent crises that can help create efficiencies and facilitate increased resettlement and the development of complementary pathways.

6. To **advance** the meaningful inclusion of refugee participants at all stages of the ATCR process and to strengthen refugee contributions to the ATCR.
7. To **continue** discussions on the reform of the ATCR and other efforts at innovation.

#### IV. **Expected Outcomes of the 2022 ATCR**

In line with these objectives, the expected outcomes of the 2022 ATCR are as follows:

1. The number of countries offering resettlement or opportunities for complementary pathways is expanded globally and increased numbers of refugees are able to access these pathways.



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2. Strategies to enhance the size, scope, and quality of existing programs are discussed to meet the most urgent needs of vulnerable refugees.
  3. The global infrastructure for resettlement and complementary pathways is modernized and strengthened to continue to respond to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and other ongoing and emergent crises.
  4. Best practices and innovative approaches, including the use of new technologies, are shared to enable countries to address evolving demands and opportunities.
  5. Meaningful refugee participation is promoted and practiced throughout the ATCR process.
  6. Contingent on the abatement of the COVID-19 pandemic, participants and stakeholders have a purposeful opportunity to meet face-to-face to facilitate engagement and strengthen partnerships.
  7. Reforms for the ATCR process are identified and global strategies for innovation are shared.