

***PROTOCOL FOR THE CREATION OF A PERMANENT
FRAMEWORK FOR CONSULTATION ON THE PROTECTION OF
DISPLACED PERSONS (CPF/PDP)***

PREAMBLE

- Aware of the need to protect internally displaced persons by taking all measures to guarantee the enjoyment of their rights, without discrimination, as Burundian nationals;
- Desiring to create a forum for dialog between national authorities and humanitarian organizations on access issues and the protection of displaced populations;
- Convinced that a permanent framework for consultation between the Government of Burundi and humanitarian organizations will enable valuable information sharing and facilitate efforts to seek rapid solutions and implement preventive measures to better protect displaced persons;
- Confident that understanding between national authorities and humanitarian organizations will enable a common vision of issues pertaining to the protection of the rights of displaced persons;
- Considering the existence of other operational frameworks for consultation and the opportunity to complement them by underscoring the protection of the rights of the displaced;
- Aware that the Government of Burundi and the International Community are bound by the United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;

**A PERMANENT FRAMEWORK FOR CONSULTATION IS ESTABLISHED,
ORGANIZED AS FOLLOWS:**

I. NAME AND MANDATES

1. The Government of Burundi and Humanitarian Organizations have agreed to create a PERMANENT FRAMEWORK FOR CONSULTATION ON THE PROTECTION OF DISPLACED PERSONS (CPF/PDP)).
2. The CPF/PDP'S mandate is to:
 - a) Ensure ongoing consultation between government authorities and humanitarian organizations to share information on the protection of displaced persons and determine preventive solutions;
 - b) Implement rapid intervention mechanisms to provide solutions for issues pertaining to access and the protection of displaced persons, including joint field missions;

- c) Design and promote initiatives to improve the effectiveness of existing operational structures for the protection of displaced persons;
- d) Evaluate and monitor the situation of human and international humanitarian rights violations in displaced persons camps;
- e) Disseminate the United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;
- f) Determine the measures necessary to make existing structures operational so that they may follow up the recommendations of the CPF/PDP.

II. CPF/FDP BODIES, COMPOSITION, AND FUNCTIONS

3. THE CPF/PDP comprises two bodies:

- The Committee for the Protection of Displaced Persons (CPDP);
- and the Technical Group for Follow-up (TGF)

4. The CPDP is a high-level collegial body composed of eleven members:

- Government

1° Minister of Human Rights, Institutional Reform, and Relations with the National Assembly: Chairperson.

2° Minister of National Defense, or representative.

3° Minister of the Interior and Public Security, or representative.

4° Minister to the RRDR, or representative.

5° President of the Governmental Commission on Human Rights: Secretary.

- Humanitarian Organizations:

* Humanitarian Coordinator of the United Nations: Vice Chairperson;

* Director of the OHCHR;

* Delegate of the HCR;

* Director of the OCHA: Vice Secretary

- * Representative of the International NGO Network;
- * Representative of the Burundian Human Rights League (ITEKA);

5. CPDP meets in regular session once a month, and as necessary in special sessions convened by the Chairperson. The convening notice establishes the agenda items and states the exact place and time of the meeting.

6. The Chairperson announces the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. Once the agenda is approved, the Chairperson moderates the discussion of each item selected, declaring it closed when he or she believes every aspect of the issue has been covered. Decisions are made by consensus.

The Secretary records the minutes of the CPDP meeting, which are distributed to all CPDP members within three days of the meeting.

7. The TGF is a technical body composed of eleven members:

- * President of the Governmental Commission on Human Rights: Chairperson;
- * OCHA Director, Delegate of the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator: Vice Chairman;
- * Delegate of the Minister of National Defense;
- * Delegate of the Minister of the Interior and Public Security;
- * Delegate of the Minister for the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Displaced and Repatriated Persons;
- * Director of Human Rights for the Ministry of Human Rights, Institutional Reform, and Relations with the National Assembly: Secretary;
- * OHCHR Delegate: Vice Secretary
- * Representative of the HCR Delegate;
- * Delegate of the UNICEF Representative;
- * Representative of the International NGO Network;
- * Representative of the Burundian Human Rights League (ITEKA);

8. TGF Members shall carry out follow-up of the issues analyzed. Government Ministers and humanitarian organization Representatives shall appoint a delegate to the CPF/PDP. The delegates are ex officio members of the TGF.

9. The TGF meets in regular session once during every CPDP intercession, and as necessary in special sessions when convened by the Chairperson or upon the request of two members.

10. TGF meetings are organized similarly to the description in Point 6.

11. The TGF is a technical collegial body charged with follow-up and analysis of the issues arising during CPDP intercessions. Its recommendations have the same effects as those of the CPDP, which can dismiss them or confirm them during the next session.

12. The TGF may invite to its meetings any person (or organization) it believes may shed light on the analysis of a particular issue. It may also consult any organization that works on protecting displaced persons or enforcing international humanitarian law.

13. The CPDP and TGF recommendations on operational actions are executed by governmental agencies and existing humanitarian organizations, which submit reports to the CPDP Chairperson, with copies for all CPDP members.

14. During the TGF intercession, the Chairperson, who is also President of the Governmental Commission on Human Rights, meets directly with various humanitarian organizations on a daily basis to hear their grievances and complaints, and takes all measures necessary to ensure that the existing government structures provide appropriate solutions to the problems reported. During its weekly meeting, the Governmental Commission on Human Rights ensures the follow-up of cases submitted to the Chairperson. The Governmental Commission regularly reports to TGF members on the measures taken during the intercession. These measures are evaluated at the following TGF meeting.

15. The performance of the bodies comprising the Permanent Framework for Consultation on the Protection of Displaced Persons (CPF/PDP) as well as the results achieved shall be evaluated quarterly.

16. The CPF/PDP enters into force on the day that this protocol is signed by government Authorities and Representatives of humanitarian organizations.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
BURUNDI

Eugène NINDORERA
MINISTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS,
INSTITUTIONAL REFORM, AND
RELATIONS WITH THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY
Feb 7, 2001

FOR THE HUMANITARIAN
ORGANIZATIONS

Georg CHARPENTIER
HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR,
OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
Feb 7, 2001

Bujumbura, __/__/__

Bujumbura, __/__/__