Speakers and moderator Bios

Session: Regional Review and Stocktaking on the Global Refugee Forum

Date 28 June 2021, 14:30-16:00 BKK Time

Moderator



Tamara Domicelj, Country Director of Jesuit Refugee Service, Australia

Tamara Domicelj is the Country Director of Jesuit Refugee Service Australia. She has worked in the areas of refugee protection and forced migration for almost twenty years, including across a range of advisory and executive roles. Most recently these have included leading regional and global advocacy on refugee protection with Act for Peace and serving as the Chair and GCR focal point of APRRN's Regional Protection Working Group. In these capacities Tamara has had extensive engagement with processes relating to the development and operationalisation of the GCR, including preparations for the GRF and the development of joint pledges such as those made by APRRN and APNOR, and by Act for Peace and ACT Alliance.

Speakers



Dr. Seong Ha Eun Marcellino, Representative of Good Neighbors International Cooperation Office in Geneva

Dr. SEONG Ha Eun Marcellino is the Representative of Good Neighbors (GNI) International Cooperation Office in Geneva. With a 15 years career in development, refugee support and human rights, he has been active both in international UN advocacy as well as empowerment of GNI's 38 country offices in developing partnership with peer NGOs and UN agencies. As the Chief Humanitarian Coordinator of GNI, he coordinates the main refugee programs of GNI, he played a leading role in the whole-of-society pledge of the Republic of Korea during GRF, and contributed to the GRF Cosponsorship Group for livelihood. Dr. Seong is focusing on strengthening the capacity and awareness of humanitarian stakeholders of East Asia for larger burden and responsibility sharing.



Martina Pomeroy is a Policy Officer in the Protection Service of UNHCR's Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, where she covers situations and countries and regional coordination for the Global Compact on Refugees. She graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in 2008 and has worked for UNHCR ever since.

Martina Pomeroy, Policy Officer, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and Pacific



Carmen Ghaly, International Protection Senior Officer at Settlement Services International (SSI)

Carmen Ghaly is the International Protection Senior Officer at Settlement Services International (SSI). Carmen is an experienced social worker in forced migration, international development and project management having worked in West Africa, the Middle East and Australia. Carmen coordinates SSI's engagement in international advocacy, policy, global partnerships and is the focal point at SSI for the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and the Global Refugee Forum (GRF). Carmen's work focusses on advancing durable solutions for refugees through resettlement, complementary pathways, strengthening the capacity of the sector and supporting refugee access to jobs and livelihoods. She is also leading SSI's engagement in advocating for a Community Refugee Sponsorship program in Australia.



Najeeba Wazefadost, founding members of Global Refugee Network, Global Independent Refugee Women Leaders and the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees (APNOR). At 10 years old, Najeeba Wazefadost fled Afghanistan with her parents. She sought asylum from Australia by sea in September 2000. She spent several months in mandatory immigration detention before being recognized as a refugee. Arriving with no knowledge of English, by the age of 14, Najeeba had mastered it well-enough to win a national essay writing competition, and start the advocacy journey. She has graduated from a Bachelor of Medical Science. Najeeba Wazefedost is the one of the founding members for Global Refugee Network, Global Independent Refugee Women Leaders and the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees. Najeeba has been actively involved in the development of refugee-led networks at both the regional and global level, which focuses on bringing together refugee-led organizations and refugee change-makers from around the world to gather to discuss their lived experiences and propose solutions for more effective and sustainable refugee policy. She is an advocate, educator, public speaker, and researcher with strong qualitative and quantitative skills. She has worked throughout policy and program cycles from design, implementation, review and evaluation. Through all her work, she priorities and amplifies the voices, experiences, and aspirations of those most directly impacted. She has been a gender audit to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and ensuring Gender equality and the empowerment of refugee and migrant women remains a top priority commitment. She is the founder of an Afghan women business network in Asia Pacific, supporting women to establish their own businesses. Since her advocacy journey Najeeba has been awarded for her work on number otimes " Human rights medal award, Local Citizen Award, Young Women of the west award and etc. "Leaving your country is one of the most important decisions a human being can be forced to make." Najeeba.



Gül İnanç, Founder and Co-Director of Centre for Asia Pacific Refugee Studies (CAPRS), University of Auckland, NZ

Gül İnanç (holds a joint appointment) as a faculty at School of Art, Design and Media, NTU, Singapore and as the founding co-director of Centre for Asia Pacific Refugee Studies (CAPRS), University of Auckland, New Zealand. She is a historian of modern West Asian diplomacy. Her other expertise are in the areas of cultural heritage education for peace and inclusive global higher education for the displaced communities. She is the founder of Opening Universities for Refugees (OUR) an educational initiative which works closely with the displaced communities in Asia Pacific region, it now runs as a program under CAPRS. Her latest publication is Access to Higher Education, Refugees' Stories from Malaysia (Routledge) co-authored with Lucy Bailey and she has an upcoming co-edited book NGOs and Forced displacement in Asia Pacific with Themba Lewis in early 2022 (Routledge).



David Keegan, Founder and CEO, HOST International

David Keegan is the founder and CEO of HOST International, an organisation seeking to find innovative and community-based solutions to refugee protection throughout South East Asia and the Pacific. Prior to this, David was an executive leader in the Australian resettlement services and has worked as a social worker in community-based child protection and homelessness services. David is the recently elected chair of the Regional Protection Working Group with the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) and has been an advocate for innovation in refugee protection and durable solutions with refugees and host communities at the centre.