

Excellencies, thank you for this opportunity to share my organization's perspectives with you today.

The mission of the Women's Refugee Commission is to improve the lives and protect the rights of women, children, and youth displaced by conflict and crises.

We have seven central priorities for the summit that I will very briefly mention, some of which are well reflected in the most recent work of the Commission.

ssitmf)

In closing, I want to highlight the line in paragraph 4.20 that states 'civil society will be a key partner in responding to refugee needs'. It is clear from the recent meetings here, as well as the view from the field, that civil society already is a key partner in refugee response with significant expertise to inform the mobilization for the upcoming Summit, as well as ongoing and future refugee response efforts. Civil society, and particularly, those local, grassroots organizations who are the first responders in a crisis, merit this consideration and funding as such.