

8 May 2020

TO: UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement

FROM: Climate



governments/authorities hosting substantial numbers of disaster IDPs or returnees in accordance with the needs of the de facto population rather than based on official population numbers. The HLP should also explore the role of global mechanisms which can generate additional resources and which are for example being proposed in the context of the UNFCCC work on climate change induced displacement.

People affected by climate change need different mobility options:

The fact that the overwhelming majority of displacement occurs internally is, to a great extent, a function of a lack of options for those affected. While the first priority for most people would of course be for them to be able to remain, and have the root causes of their displacement effectively addressed (including though measures outlined above, and in the PDD submission), we also have to face the reality that some may not be able to return home – either for a period of time, or even permanently. Therefore, States should consider more comprehensive solutions that provide more comprehensive protection and a perspective for solutions to those forced to move by climate change. Measures to address this should include short-term humanitarian visas, dedicated long-term admission and stay for those unable to return, as well as access to labour migration pathways, and other tools to ensure safe and sustainable mobility while maintaining dignity. The recently agreed Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) gives helpful guidance in this regard, and should be taken into consideration when drafting recommendations on internal displacement in the context of climate change.