
CONFIDENTIAL

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons on his follow-up mission to Georgia

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present report contains the findings and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons subsequent to his follow-up visit to Georgia from 24 to 29 September 2016. The objective of the visit was to re-examine the human rights situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and to follow-up on the visit he conducted in 2013, as well as the visits of his predecessor, the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons, in 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2005.

Although the Government of Georgia has made considerable progress in providing durable solutions for all internally displaced persons and in addressing the issue of those displaced by disasters, the Special Rapporteur encourages the Government to review its approach to addressing internal displacement and find alternative ways of supporting IDPs that allow for ending 'IDP status' and the inheritance thereof in line with international standards. Moreover, further efforts to improve the living conditions and livelihoods of internally displaced persons remain necessary.

One of the main obstacles to the achievement of durable solutions has remained the presence of coiled razor wire fences along the administrative boundary line of the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, which continues to have the effect of depriving internally displaced persons and displacement affected communities of freedom of movement and choice of residence, creating tangible obstacles to their access to land, property, as well as access to water and livelihoods. In relation to Abkhazia, Georgia, the Special Rapporteur particularly stresses that access to documentation must be guaranteed to all returnees in order for them to enjoy their rights, including freedom of movement. Therefore, documentation should be issued to those affected at the earliest opportunity in a transparent and accountable manner.

In that connection, the Special Rapporteur calls upon all parties to approach durable solutions from a humanitarian and development perspective and to take all necessary measures to ensure that all internally displaced persons can exercise their right to make a free and informed decision as to whether to return voluntarily to their homes in safety and dignity, to locally integrate or to resettle elsewhere in the country.

**Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced
persons on his follow- up visit to Georgia**

24 – 29 September 2016

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I. Introduction

1. In accordance with his mandate contained in Human Rights Council resolution 32/11 and at the invitation of the Government of Georgia, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Chaloka Beyani,¹ conducted an official follow-up visit to Georgia from 24 to 29 September 2016. The objective of the visit was to re-examine the human rights situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and to follow-up on the visit he conducted in 2013, as well as the visits of his predecessor, the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons, in 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2005.

2. During his five-day follow-up visit, the Special Rapporteur met with the Minister and First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; the Minister and Deputy Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees (MRA); the State Minister and First Deputy Minister for Reconciliation and Civic Equality; the Public Defender; the UN Resident Coordinator; the representatives of the United Nations system and representatives of civil society. He also met with internally displaced persons in collective centres and private accommodation to hear directly from them about their situation and their preferred solutions.

3. The Special Rapporteur visited Tbilisi and also travelled to Khurvaleti, Nikozi, Zugdidi and Rukhi. He regretted that he was unable to visit Abkhazia, Georgia, as his request was not granted by the *de facto* authorities. He was given to understand that the timing of the mission was difficult to accommodate for the *de facto* authorities in control there, which prevented him from witnessing the situation first-hand. Nonetheless, he was able to meet with IDPs who have returned there at Khurcha and Inguri bridge crossing points, so as to learn from those primarily concerned of the challenges they face.

4. The Special Rapporteur wishes to express his gratitude to the Government of Georgia for its continuing cooperation and the constructive dialogue in which he was able to engage with the authorities he met. He would also like to sincerely thank the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for ably coordinating his visit to Georgia. He is grateful for all the logistical, administrative and substantive support he received, which facilitated the conduct of the visit. Lastly, the Special Rapporteur is also grateful to all his interlocutors, especially IDPs, who kindly shared their experiences and different perspectives with him. He looks forward to a fruitful and continued dialogue with the Government and other stakeholders on the implementation of the recommendations contained in this report.

5. The present report is intended to provide an updated assessment of the human rights situation of internally displaced persons in Georgia. An updated overview of the legal framework for the protection of the human rights of internally displaced persons, and an analysis of the challenges and progress made in that regard, and in relation to the overall response to internal displacement, are provided in section II. Section III discusses current opportunities and challenges for an integrated approach to the situation of internally displaced persons and the obstacles to achieving durable solutions to displacement. Section IV contains the Special Rapporteur's findings and action-oriented recommendations for the Government of Georgia, *de facto* authorities in Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, civil society, the international community and internally displaced persons.

II. Legal protection

6. The Special Rapporteur welcomes the steps taken by Georgia to strengthen the legal framework for the protection of the human rights of internally displaced persons. A draft law, which was prepared at the time of his last visit in 2013, was subsequently adopted in February 2014 and entered into force on 1 March 2014, abrogating the 1996 Law of Georgia on Forcibly Displaced Persons-Persecuted Persons.

¹ Mr. Beyani completed his term as Special Rapporteur on 31 October 2016. Ms Cecilia Jimenez-Damary was appointed Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons by the Human Rights Council in September 2016 and assumed the mandate on 1 November 2016.

7. The main changes that were introduced with the new law include²: increase in the IDP monthly allowance to GEL 45; suspension of IDP allowance if the taxable income of an IDP amounts to 1,250 GEL or more; elimination of differentiation between IDPs in ‘compact’ and ‘private’ accommodation, so that all IDPs receive an equal amount of allowance; full protection of IDPs from evictions in premises under their legal ownership; simplified granting procedure of IDP ‘status’; new definition of the concept of family in order to respect the right to family unity; recognition of right to restitution of IDP property in the occupied territory and right to its inheritance; introduction of guarantees for integration of IDPs into other parts of the country before returning to their places of ‘permanent residence’³.

8. As documented in his previous report⁴, the Special Rapporteur appreciates the fact that the new law seeks to address some of the main concerns reiterated by his predecessor regarding the protection of internally displaced persons. The political will demonstrated by the Government of Georgia and relevant stakeholders in addressing gaps in the national legislation on internally displaced persons and ensuring its compliance with international standards continues to be recognized, and the new law contains several important provisions which align the Georgian legal framework on internally displaced persons with the Guiding Principles.

9. While noting that the definition of “internally displaced person” is exclusive to situations of forced displacement as a result of “occupation of the territory by a foreign State, aggression, armed conflict, mass violence and/or massive human rights violations”, the Special Rapporteur welcomes the adoption of the normative act: “Approval criteria of Accommodation of Persons Affected by and Displaced as a Result of Natural Disasters” and its amendment in 2015 that identified the circumstances in which the family is considered as eco-migrant.⁵ However, the Special Rapporteur continues to encourage the Government to develop and adopt legislation for communities displaced as a result of environmental changes, known as “eco-migrants” to define the rights and guarantees for legal, economic and social protection for persons who have been internally displaced owing to natural and human-induced disasters, in accordance with applicable international standards.

10. In order to support the implementation of the IDP law, in 2007 the government endorsed the IDP State Strategy, which signalled an important shift in Government policy from temporary assistance to a focus on providing longer term opportunities for integration. The strategy was accompanied by various action plans (2009-2012, 2012-2014 and 2015-2016), formulating in more detail the activities to be implemented to achieve the objectives of the strategy. The current action plan sets three main goals for the state: (i) to improve living conditions of IDPs by means of provision of durable housing solutions; (ii) to improve livelihoods and socio-economic integration; and (iii) to raise the awareness of IDPs about available services.⁶

III. From status-based to needs-based approaches

11. In 2013, the MRA carried out a new registration exercise for all internally displaced persons, in order to update information in its IDP database regarding numbers, place of residence and family composition for all internally displaced persons, with a view to addressing their specific needs and finding durable solutions for them, as well as improving the policy planning process. IDPs were still able to register at the central MRA office in Tbilisi until 1 April 2014. Subsequent to the end of the registration exercise, internally displaced persons can still register by contacting the MRA

² <http://mra.gov.ge/eng/static/3421>

³ Art. 4 of the 2014 Law of Georgia on Internally Displaced Persons – Persecuted from the Occupied Territories of Georgia defines IDP’s ‘permanent place of residence’ as “a place selected for residence by an IDP, his/her displaced parent(s) or his/her lineal relative of ascending generation from where he/she, his/her parent(s) or his/her lineal relative of ascending generation were displaced and where he/she cannot return due to the reasons referred to in paragraph 1, Article 6 of this Law”.

⁴ A/HRC/26/33/Add.1.

⁵ Minister’s Decree N. 779 13/11/2013.

⁶ By late 2016, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees (MRA) was preparing the IDP Action Plan 2017-2018.

hotline to schedule an appointment for registration. Periodically, according to the rules set by legislation, the Ministry carries out registration of IDPs for data optimization.⁷

12. According to the government, 272,049 persons remain internally displaced in Georgia as of the end of September 2016.⁸ The number of IDPs has continued to increase yearly, due to the registration of new IDPs including returned IDPs (mainly migrants) from other countries and of children born to at least one IDP parent, given that under the current legislation the 'IDP status' descends from one generation to the next. This should be brought in line with international standards.

13. The Special Rapporteur stresses that the notion of who is an internally displaced person does not connote a legal status. IDPs remain citizens or habitual residents of their particular state and are entitled to protection and assistance on that basis alone, as stated in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. While noting that the 'IDP status' provided for by Georgian law has a strong value that is linked to return for displaced persons in Georgia and many wish to retain it, the Special Rapporteur emphasises that the better approach is the transition from 'legal status' to needs based responses, as proposed by the Government, which will allow for ending the 'inheritance of IDP status' and enable needs-based approaches to durable solutions for IDPs in Georgia. In that regard, as it is clearly stated in the 2010 Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons, "An IDP's choice of local integration or settlement elsewhere in the country, in the absence of the option to return, must not be regarded as a renunciation of his/her right to return should that choice later become feasible." According to the Framework, IDPs should be considered IDPs until they can enjoy their rights without discrimination and do not have any protection issues or assistance needs related to the displacement of their family.

14. A rights-based approach, with rights supplementing the proposed shift by the Government of Georgia to a needs-based approach to its response,⁹ would still retain the purpose that the IDP 'status' was intended to safeguard, namely the right of return. In this context, a comprehensive assessment and analysis of the situations of IDPs based on the IASC Framework for Durable Solutions would therefore help to inform national policies and programmes, as well as more efficiently target those who still have clear displacement-related needs, while mitigating the rise in IDP numbers which is resulting from the 'inheritance' of the 'IDP status'. Such comprehensive evidence base would also inform area-based solutions, adequately emphasising the role of regions and municipalities in the response and the need for strengthening their capacity in order for them to be able to adequately integrate IDPs in existing service programs for the population at large.

15. As the current IDP action plan is coming to an end, the preparation of the 2017-2018 IDP action plan¹⁰ offers an opportunity to elaborate further which steps the Government of Georgia should take to continue its gradual transition from status-based to needs-based responses. The Special Rapporteur recommends that this process is carried out in a way which is transparent, consultative and inclusive of all relevant stakeholders including civil society, international organizations as well as the IDPs themselves, as provided for in the IDP law. He encourages the Government to continue to share information relating to its ongoing initiatives and other relevant measures with IDPs, to consult with them and enable their participation in decisions affecting them.

⁷ Note for the file shared by the Government of Georgia with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons on 24 September, 2015.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Government of Georgia, 2007 State Strategy for IDPs and its 2014-2016 Action plan.

¹⁰ By late 2016, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees (MIRA) was preparing the IDP Action Plan 2017-2018.

IV. Search for durable solutions for internally displaced persons: progress made and remaining challenges

16. While durable solutions for internally displaced persons should continue to be approached from a humanitarian and development perspective, the continuing absence of a political solution to the unresolved conflict continues to remain a major obstacle to achieving durable solutions for IDPs from Abkhazia, Georgia, and from the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia. The Special Rapporteur reiterates the recommendation made in the previous reports by this mandate and calls upon all parties to take all necessary measures to ensure that all internally displaced persons can exercise their right to make a free and informed decision as to whether to return voluntarily to their homes in safety and dignity, to locally integrate or to resettle elsewhere in the country.

17. In this context, the Special Rapporteur welcomes the IDP intention survey carried out by UNHCR in 2014. The findings of the survey highlighted that 88.3 per cent of respondents wish to return voluntarily to their area of origin under conditions perceived as favourable. However, in the absence of such conditions, 57.3 per cent feel fully integrated and 33.3 per cent feel partially integrated where they live at present, indicating housing and livelihoods as their main priority concerns.

18. As highlighted in his previous mission report, the Special Rapporteur welcomes and commends the Government's efforts to provide durable housing to internally displaced persons, which has remained a high priority for the Government. According to governmental sources, in the timeframe of 2013-2016 IDPs were provided with 4,112 newly constructed or rehabilitated housing units. During the same period, the Ministry also allocated finances for purchasing 2,406 housing units for IDPs including rural housing projects, which combine the provision of shelter with agricultural land and continued its efforts towards privatization. Moreover, so far in 2016 about 4,017 IDPs have received one-time monetary support from MRA in 2016 and the Ministry has covered the rent costs for 1,207 IDP families. In total, some 40 per cent of IDPs are reported to have already received durable housing.

19. The Special Rapporteur also notes with satisfaction Government's efforts to establish transparent procedures for the allocation of durable housing to IDPs based on vulnerability criteria jointly developed with non-governmental stakeholders (although reportedly there are still concerns about the selection process), as well as the improved quality of housing provided to IDPs as he witnessed at the Tbilisi Sea complex.

20. However, a number of issues remain to be addressed. The Special Rapporteur emphasizes that there is an urgent need to continue to improve the living conditions of IDPs in some collective centres, for example for those whom he visited in a non-rehabilitated collective centre in Zugdidi. Moreover, the living conditions of internally displaced persons who reside in private accommodation are often as bad as or even less favourable than those of persons residing in collective centres. Considering the total needs and the fact that every registered IDP is entitled by law to a durable housing solution, such solutions remain limited despite authorities' efforts in this direction, and the Government struggles to find sufficient funds in the State budget for this purpose.

21. While access to adequate housing remains a fundamental component of durable solutions for internally displaced persons, other aspects must also be addressed for IDPs to achieve a durable solution.¹¹ The IASC Framework indicates that the following areas should be dedicated particular attention: access to employment and livelihoods; access to quality education, medical and social services (as key components of an adequate standard of living, together with housing); safety, security and freedom of movement, and access to effective mechanisms that restore housing, land and property or provide IDPs with compensation.

¹¹ The 2010 IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons states that "A durable solution is achieved when internally displaced persons no longer have any specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights without discrimination on account of their displacement".

22. The Special Rapporteur notes the adoption of an IDP Livelihood Action Plan (2016-2017) and the establishment within the MRA of a livelihood legal entity of public law. It is important to improve IDP livelihoods and to include IDPs in different state programs run by relevant ministries and governmental bodies. This is essential, as employment and income security remain among the most pressing issues for IDPs. During the SR's meetings with IDPs, many mentioned that their only source of income is the IDP allowance they receive from the Government. A World Bank study¹² on the subject showed that although there are no significant differences in poverty levels of IDPs and non-IDPs, differences persist in unemployment and income security for IDPs, confirming a higher dependence of IDPs on social transfers such as pensions, scholarships, social assistance and remittances.

23. However, the impact of these governmental initiatives so far has remained limited. The Special Rapporteur stresses that strengthening the efficiency and effectiveness of the Government's initiatives in support of IDPs' livelihoods and employment generating activities, particularly those that are community-based, remains fundamental. Moreover, further efforts are needed to ensure that IDPs have equal information and opportunity to access all available services, including by promoting better outreach and awareness raising among internally displaced persons on all services available to them in addition to the IDP assistance.

24. He also encourages the donor community to continue to provide funding and support to that end and in the search for durable solutions, particularly through integrated humanitarian and development approaches. As he pointed out in his previous report, the Government should also redouble its efforts to integrate the needs of internally displaced persons into displacement-sensitive national, regional and local development plans.

25. While progress was made towards the local integration and settlement elsewhere of internally displaced persons pending their return to areas of habitual residence, the Special Rapporteur expresses his concern that the majority of the internally displaced from Abkhazia, Georgia, and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, have been unable to return to their homes. The prospects of return for those displaced remain poor for several reasons, including obstruction and concerns for their security.

26. One of the main obstacles to the achievement of durable solutions has remained the presence of coiled razor wire fences along the administrative boundary line of the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, which continues to have the effect of depriving internally displaced persons and displacement affected communities of freedom of movement and choice of residence, creating tangible obstacles to their access to land, property, as well as access to water and livelihoods. Monitoring missions identified that although the installation of fences decreased since 2013, obstacles to freedom of movement and choice of place of residence continue to be mounted along the administrative boundary line, including so-called "state border signs", watch posts and surveillance equipment.¹³

27. The Special Rapporteur was informed that an estimated 50,000 internally displaced persons returned to their homes in Eastern Abkhazia, Georgia, and that they had maintained their situation as internally displaced persons and continued to receive the related allowances. The Special Rapporteur regrets that these returnees continue to face difficult living conditions, including housing and livelihood issues. He met with some of them at the crossing points of Khurcha and Inguri Bridge, and they shared their experiences and most pressing concerns, particularly the lack of access to documentation affecting many (estimates indicate that roughly half of the Gali population is either undocumented or holds only temporary documentation – form #9). This has an extremely negative impact on a wide variety of rights: their recognition as a person before the law, freedom of movement, access to employment and services such as health care and education, as well as social security.

28. Other major concerns he highlights relate to detention for "illegal" crossing of the dividing line, the closure of two crossing points over in 2016 and the risk that more will be closed in the

¹² World Bank (2013), "Supporting the Livelihoods of Internally Displaced Persons in Georgia"

¹³ UNGA, 16 May 2016, A/70/879 (para. 21).

near future, as well as the progressive change of language of instruction in Lower and Upper Gali schools from Georgian to Russian, in a situation in which many of the teachers and students lack proficiency in this language. This is likely to cause secondary displacement by effectively 'pushing' Georgian language speakers from these areas.

29. The Special Rapporteur also stresses that all possible measures have to be taken to ensure sustained and effective, free and unhindered access and space for concerned international actors in relation to Abkhazia, Georgia, and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, so that durable solutions can be pursued and supported in a comprehensive manner.

V. Conclusions and recommendations

30. The Special Rapporteur commends the continuing commitment by the Government and acknowledges its progress in the search for durable solutions for all internally displaced persons in Georgia. Nevertheless, further joint efforts are necessary to overcome the obstacles to durable solutions. Based on observations made and the information made available to the Special Rapporteur, he presents the following conclusions and recommendations.

31. The Special Rapporteur encourages the Government of Georgia to review its approach to addressing internal displacement and intensify its efforts to protect the rights of all IDPs, including those displaced in the early 1990s and in 2008, and assist them on the basis of their needs and rights, rather than their 'IDP status', a status that is not provided for by international law with respect to IDPs. The Special Rapporteur recommends that alternative ways of supporting IDPs be found that allow for ending IDP status and the inheritance thereof in line with international standards.

32. As the current Action Plan (2016-2017) to implement the IDP State Strategy is coming to an end, the preparation of the 2017-2018 IDP Action Plan offers an opportunity for the Government to identify concrete steps for its proposed gradual shift to a needs-based approach to IDP response, with rights supplementing such shift by the Government of Georgia, therefore retaining the purpose that the IDP 'status' was intended to safeguard. It is crucial that such process is inclusive and participatory, and that civil society, international organisations and the internally displaced persons themselves are fully consulted on this matter. Moreover, the Government should commit to conducting a serious information campaign to convince IDPs that the 'IDP status' is not necessarily a pre-condition for their enjoyment of rights.

33. The Special Rapporteur notes that, in this context, a comprehensive analysis and assessment of the situations of IDPs based on the IASC Framework for Durable Solutions would therefore help to inform and tailor national policies and programmes, as well as more efficiently target those who still have clear displacement-related needs, while mitigating the rise in IDP numbers which is resulting from the 'inheritance' of the 'IDP status'. The Special Rapporteur notes that the Government has not yet adopted a new law on eco-migrants and he encourages the Government to ensure that the proposed draft law indeed defines the rights and guarantees for legal, economic and social protection for persons internally displaced as a result of disasters, in accordance with international standards.

34. The Special Rapporteur commends the continuing commitment by State authorities to improving the living conditions of internally displaced persons by providing durable housing to all those who were internally displaced. However, there is an urgent need to improve the living conditions of IDPs who are still living in deplorable conditions, whether in collective centres or private accommodation. The Special Rapporteur urges the Government to take all necessary measures to guarantee adequate living conditions to all internally displaced persons in conformity with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. In that connection, he also urges the Government to develop a plan for the closure of the remaining 58 centres with 'collapsing collective centres status', while ensuring that the list of such centres is comprehensive and complete.

35. The Special Rapporteur commends the Government and, in particular, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees for the efforts made to provide new housing for internally displaced persons affected by the 1990s and the 2008 conflicts. It is important that shelter solutions be made durable through a needs-based approach. In that regard, he encourages the Government to continue investing beyond infrastructure, to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of its initiatives in support of IDPs' livelihoods and employment generating activities, particularly those that are community-based.

36. The Special Rapporteur recommends that the Government increases its efforts to integrate the needs of IDPs into displacement-sensitive national, regional and local development plans and initiatives. In order to do this, it is paramount to secure a serious commitment of all Government counterparts to the mainstreaming of IDP needs in such plans and initiatives, while redoubling Government efforts to allocate sufficient State budget resources to development efforts that include IDPs. The Special Rapporteur expresses the hope that the donor community will continue to provide funding and support to that end and in the search for durable solutions, particularly through integrated humanitarian and development approaches.

37. The Special Rapporteur encourages the Government to continue to share information relating to its ongoing initiatives and other relevant measures with IDPs, international partners and civil society. He also encourages the Government to consult with internally displaced persons and enable their involvement in decisions affecting them. This is of the utmost importance in establishing conditions and means for achieving durable solutions for internally displaced persons in safety and dignity, based on their informed and voluntary choice of durable solutions.

38. The Special Rapporteur urges the Government to ensure the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of internally displaced persons, in particular women, to access land and property. Moreover, the enjoyment of internally displaced persons of the right to housing, land and property is an essential component of the building of durable solutions. The Special Rapporteur reminds the Government that internally displaced persons are entitled to restitution of or compensation for their property, regardless of whether they choose to return, integrate locally or resettle elsewhere.

39. The Special Rapporteur continues to strongly condemn the installation of the coiled razor wire fence along the administrative boundary line of the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, and calls on those responsible for installing the fence to stop the process and remove all installed barriers. The Special Rapporteur recommends that the Government continue to ensure effective monitoring of the protection of the human rights of the internally displaced persons concerned. Furthermore, the Special Rapporteur recommends that the Government of Georgia and the de facto authorities of South Ossetia ensure the full enjoyment of the human rights of those internally displaced persons, including the rights relating to freedom of movement and access to property and livelihoods.

40. The Special Rapporteur particularly stresses in relation to Abkhazia, Georgia, that access to documentation must be guaranteed to all returnees in order for them to enjoy their rights, including freedom of movement. Therefore, documentation should be issued to those affected at the earliest opportunity in a transparent and accountable manner.

41. The Special Rapporteur calls upon all parties to approach durable solutions from a humanitarian and development perspective and to take all necessary measures to ensure that all internally displaced persons can exercise their right to make a free and informed decision as to whether to return voluntarily to their homes in safety and dignity, to locally integrate or to resettle elsewhere in the country. Interim measures should be taken without delay to reduce the concerning documentation gap and vulnerability of returnees, coupled with rights-based long-term solutions.

42. The Special Rapporteur also stresses that all possible measures have to be taken to ensure sustained and effective, free and unhindered access and space for concerned international actors in relation to Abkhazia, Georgia, and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, so that durable solutions can be pursued and supported in a comprehensive manner.