



**FOURTH CYCLE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF KENYA**

**JOINT STAKEHOLDERS'S SUBMISSION BY REFUGEE RIGHTS CLUSTER OF  
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW KENYA COALITION**

**OCTOBER 2024**



**For additional information contact**

**Lillian Kantai**

Senior Programme Officer – Protection and Social Cohesion  
Lutheran World Foundation

Phone: 254 723663399 Email: [lilian.kantai@lutheranworld.org](mailto:lilian.kantai@lutheranworld.org)

**Phillip Ogonda**

Programme Officer – Legal Aid and Governance  
Refugee Consortium of Kenya

Phone: +254 702 371 726 Email: [philip@rckkenya.org](mailto:philip@rckkenya.org)



THE LUTHERAN  
WORLD  
FEDERATION  
Department  
for World Service  
member of actalliance



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Minority Rights  
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# UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE

## REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

### **Executive summary**

1. This stakeholder report has been prepared and submitted by the Refugee Rights Cluster, a member of Universal Periodic Review Kenya, a coalition that brings together over 200 Civil Society Organisations, all of which are divided into 30 clusters. Member of this cluster include Caring for Widows and Orphans Organization- Refugee Led Organization (RLO), Centre for Minority Rights Development, Community Hope Revival, Finn Church Aid, FRENA Community Based Organisation, International Detention Coalition, International Rescue Committee, KADANA- RLO, La'Africana- RLO, Lutheran World Federation, Pamoja Trust, Refugee Consortium of Kenya and Small Support for Self-Reliance- RLO.
2. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> time that the coalition is submitting an UPR report, that analysis comes from the field work of the 12 organizations that have been engaged in the process. Some of the partners are RLOs while others are organizations that have been working with refugees in Kenya. A number of engagements were convened to agree on the issues that needed to be included in the report. The report has been prepared by the Refugee Thematic Group of the Kenya Stakeholders Coalition for the Universal Periodic Review comprising 13 organizations and institutions working on human rights and development concerns. The Coalition is coordinated by the East African Centre for Human Rights (EACHRights).
3. The Submission focuses on these key issues:
  - a) Refugees' inability to Access All Government Services in Kenya.
  - b) Arbitrary Arrests and Detention of Asylum Seekers in Kenya.
  - c) Insecurity and tension in refugee areas.
  - d) Limited meaningful participation of refugees, asylum seekers and local hosting communities to participate in governance, social planning and development.
  - e) High prevalence of Gender Based Violence (GBV) cases in refugee hosting areas.

### **Issue 1: Refugees' inability to Access All Government Services in Kenya**

4. Limited access to services has hampered efforts towards socio-economic inclusion of refugees. Restrictive laws and the absence of clear policies primarily drive this issue on the recognition of refugee documents, which hinders refugees' ability to obtain work-permits, register businesses or access financial services. Additionally, insufficient awareness and training of many businesses, financial institutions and government officials on the validity and effect of refugee documents; lack of a customized government institutional and administrative system that recognizes refugee documentation and; limited private sector knowledge and appreciation of the potential for engaging refugees in formal employment further compounds this issue.
5. These barriers have profound effects on the refugee population who face significant difficulties in starting businesses, which restricts their ability to become economically self-sufficient and contribute to the local economy. Without recognized documentation, they struggle to secure formal employment, leading to high unemployment rates and increased reliance on informal,

## UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE

### REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

and often exploitative, work conditions. The lack of financial inclusion further marginalizes refugees, limiting their ability to engage in formal business and employment opportunities. These challenges contribute to heightened poverty levels among refugee populations, exacerbating their vulnerability to exploitation and abuse.

6. Lengthy Refugee Status Determination (RSD) processes and untimely renewal of expired identification documents leave refugees and asylum seekers in legal limbo, unable to access certain protection services and assistance. In cases of delayed documents renewal, refugees often get arrested. Moreover, their access to employment, education and healthcare is impeded. Prolonged uncertainty and lack of protection further expose refugees to exploitation, trafficking, and abuse, while the inefficiencies in the system strain host communities, creating tensions and reducing support for refugee populations.
7. In the past two years, Kenya has received thousands of onward movers from the neighbouring countries mainly South Sudan and Uganda. At least 3,000 onward movers remain at the Kakuma and Kalobeyei reception centres. Some of them have been in this context for over two years. Onward movers faced increasing issues with accessing the territory and asylum procedures following the enactment of the Refugees Act 2021. While the Governments of Kenya and Uganda agreed to return some 1,500 onward movers; some 5,000 onward movers in Kakuma remained unregistered by the end of 2023, resulting in significant overcrowding in reception centres. Currently, the over-stretched reception centres accommodate over 3,000 onward movers.
8. Several recent reports highlight these challenges. The 2023 report by the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) indicates that access to work permits remains a lengthy process<sup>i</sup>, with refugees required to demonstrate exceptional skills not available to Kenyans, limiting their employment opportunities.<sup>ii</sup> The joint report by the UNHCR and the World Bank (2023) states that only 2% of refugees in Kenya have access to formal loans due to the non-recognition of refugee identity documents by financial regulators.<sup>iii</sup> Additionally, the 2022 policy evaluation report by the International Rescue Committee observes that refugee documentation is not recognized for online business registration, forcing refugees to rely on Kenyan proxies.<sup>iv</sup> This exposes them to legal risks, including fraud, and limits their legal ownership and control over businesses.
9. The Government of Kenya has made efforts to address these issues through various policies and initiatives. The Refugee Act of 2021 recognizes refugees' rights to participate in economic and social development, emphasizing their inclusion in national and county development plans. It also guarantees refugees the right to engage in gainful employment, economic enterprise, or trade, subject to applicable laws. Additionally, the government is developing the Shirika Plan, which promotes the inclusion of refugees by investing in key economic and social sectors in refugee-hosting areas, adopting a settlement approach that enhances integration between refugees and host communities. The County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) of Garissa and Turkana counties (2023-2027) have in Refugee matters in the planning. The same efforts need to be reflected the in Nairobi City County Government on matters pertaining to urban refugees. The inclusion of refugees is further enhanced through the creation of Kakuma and Dadaab municipalities. Nairobi City County now provides an online platform for

## UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE

### REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

refugees and host communities to apply for single business permits, further promoting self-reliance.

10. Despite these efforts, significant challenges remain. As of January 2024, there were 168,000 asylum seekers in Kenya whose refugee status had not yet been determined, according to the UNHCR.<sup>v</sup> A 2021 survey by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) found that 70% of refugees experienced delays in renewing their documents, with an average waiting time of six months. This delay in RSD processing, which can range from several months to years, leaves refugees without the protection and services they require. Although the government gazetted refugee documents in September 2023 to facilitate access to public services, many government institutions have not customized their systems to recognize these documents, further restricting refugees' access to basic services. Financial exclusion remains a significant issue, as refugee documents are still not widely accepted by banks and other financial institutions, limiting refugees' ability to engage in self-employment and business activities. Furthermore, while the government has included refugees in the Recognition of Prior Learning program<sup>vi</sup> to certify their skills and boost employability, the lack of vocational training institutions and freedom of movement continues to restrict their opportunities for employment.
11. Although the government has made good progress in ensuring refugees access education services, a lot more needs to be done to ensure that refugees access free primary education and transit to secondary and tertiary institutions to gain knowledge with ease. Teaching and learning materials, adequate learning spaces and the cost of assessment remain a barrier to education for many refugees, especially with the dwindling of Humanitarian Aid. Access to Secondary and Tertiary education for refugees is hampered by the limited learning institutions at these levels and the apparent lack of recognition of certification offered to refugees. UNHCR<sup>vii</sup> report states that despite significant gains in enrolment at all levels, an estimated 50% of school-age refugees are still out of school. Enrolment rates drop at the secondary level, and access to post-secondary education and training is limited. Only 3% of refugees can attend university. Barriers to school enrolment include supply issues as well as socio-economic factors, cultural norms and traditions, many of which are shared by the communities that host refugees and asylum-seekers in Kenya.

#### **Recommendations**

12. The government should:
  - a) implement and enforce laws and policies that recognize refugee documents for business registration and financial inclusion.
  - b) engage and sensitize ministerial departments, financial institutions and private sector on the importance of accepting and recognizing refugee documents in facilitating access to services.
  - c) streamline administrative processes to make it easier for refugees to register businesses and access work and financial services.
  - d) simplify and expedite RSD procedures and document renewal processes to reduce delays in obtaining documents.
  - e) leverage on technology to manage and process applications more efficiently, including digital documentation and online renewal systems.

UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE  
REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

- f) prioritize refugee education in the County and National Education Sector Plans with a view of playing a role and improving a role in refugee education in line with the Djibouti Declaration 2017 and Refugees Act 2021, seeking to enhance socio-economic integration of the refugee in Kenya.

**Issue 2: Arbitrary Arrests and Detention of Asylum Seekers in Kenya**

13. The arbitrary arrest and detention of asylum seekers and refugees in Kenya persist due to restricted freedom of movement, inadequate awareness and inefficient administrative processes. Despite the Refugees Act of 2021, which mandates the Department of Refugee Services (DRS) to conduct sensitization and capacity-building for relevant stakeholders, these efforts have been insufficient in addressing the issue comprehensively.
14. A critical challenge is the limited presence of DRS personnel at key entry points. While Section 25 of the Refugees Act permits government officials at border areas to act as reception officers, many remain unaware of their role. This lack of knowledge leads to delays in registering asylum seekers and issuing the necessary documentation, such as Form 1 provided for under Section 2 of the Refugee (General) Regulations, 2024 that is to aid in proper referral of asylum seekers to DRS for Refugee Status Determination. As a result, many asylum seekers in transit are arrested for lacking proper documentation and charged with unlawful presence under Section 15 of the Refugees Act. In some cases, this leads to deportation, even though the asylum seekers may have reported their intention to seek asylum within the legally required 30 days. In 2022, the Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) provided legal representation to over 700 forced migrants facing immigration-related charges, successfully concluding 403 cases<sup>viii</sup>. Many of these arrests stemmed from police officers' limited understanding of the legal rights of refugees and the documentation required for asylum seekers<sup>ix</sup>. Although some regions, such as Turkana and Garissa counties, have officials who collaborate with the DRS and RCK to assist asylum seekers, this is not standard practice across the country. Judicial oversight is essential to ensure the release of detained refugees once their status is verified, but without consistent awareness and training, the system remains flawed, restricting asylum seekers' access to protection.
15. Furthermore, many asylum seekers and new refugees, particularly those in transit, are arrested due to the failure of authorities to recognize the movement passes issued by the DRS at designated areas. This issue is compounded by a general lack of awareness among both police officers and asylum seekers about the validity of these movement passes. Corruption within the police force also plays a role, as some officers exploit the ignorance of asylum seekers by extorting money or demanding additional documents beyond what is legally required.
16. Urban refugees face additional challenges due to the lack of clarity among police officers regarding the designated areas in which they are permitted to reside. While urban refugees are issued proof of registration and designated areas of residence, there is no uniform understanding within the police force about the geographic scope of these areas, such as Nairobi versus the broader Metropolitan Area. The law does not explicitly address the movement of urban refugees, leaving room for misinterpretation. As a result, police officers

## UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE

### REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

sometimes demand movement passes from refugees even when they are traveling within their designated refugee hosting areas especially in the Nairobi Metropolitan area such as Kitengela, Kiambu and Kajiado counties respectively.

17. International recommendations to Kenya have repeatedly called for ensuring freedom of movement for refugees and the protection of their basic rights. For instance, in 2015, during the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle, Argentina recommended that Kenya grant exemptions for refugees with specific protection needs to reside in urban centres and avoid family separations. However, restrictions on movement outside refugee camps continue to prevail. Additionally, Belgium and the Republic of Korea during the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle urged Kenya to adhere to the principles of non-refoulement, stressing the need to prevent the arrest, detention, and deportation of asylum seekers, as such actions violate international protections.

#### **Recommendations**

18. The Government of Kenya should:

- a) sensitize duty bearers across the country on all provisions of the Refugees Act 2021 and relevant international instruments related to refugees ensuring they are well trained to handle asylum seekers and refugees in line with best practices for their protection.
- b) investigate and prosecute cases of corruption targeting refugees and asylum seekers especially during transit.
- c) ensure that duty bearers who act as reception officers are sensitized on the reception duties and are able to effectively refer asylum seekers for RSD through Form 1.
- d) review the law to remove criminal detention of asylum seekers, in compliance with national and international law and explore alternatives to detention, allowing asylum seekers to reside in the community rather than being detained for immigration-related offenses.
- e) establish an online portal for the ease of document verification.
- f) clarify the meaning of "designated areas" under the Refugees Act 2021.  
ensure their commitment to Global Refugee Forum (GRF) 2023 on education for refugees is well implemented.
- g)

#### **Issue 3: Insecurity and tension in refugee areas**

19. Numerous cases of intra and inter-communal violent conflict among refugee communities as well as tensions between refugees /asylum seekers and local hosting communities have been reported over the years.
20. On June 29, 2024<sup>x</sup>, a conflict in Kakuma between Nuer and Anyuak refugees that lasted a few days resulted in at least five (5) reported deaths, 28 were injured one fatality and the displacement of over 2,450 families, some fleeing to Nairobi. Also in December 2019, a sporting event turned violent resulting in the death of five people. These conflicts stem from inadequate early warning systems, insufficient police resources, perceived inequalities,

## UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE

### REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

competition for scarce resources, sports instigated tensions as well as lack of coherent community and security personnel working modalities for reporting and action.

21. Insecurity in refugee-hosting areas disrupts essential services such as healthcare and education, making survival increasingly difficult. Population displacements caused by conflict have severe and long-lasting effects on the stability of both individuals and communities. These include immediate humanitarian crises, mental health challenges, and economic instability. Conflicts often lead to property destruction, further hindering long-term economic recovery and social cohesion. Additionally, the loss of life frequently triggers cycles of revenge attacks prevalent among refugee communities, prolonging violence and making recovery more challenging. Restoring peace requires significant resources, rebuilding public trust, and addressing the root causes of conflict to prevent future outbreaks.
22. To address the conflict and insecurity in the refugee camps as per the recommendation made during Kenya's 3<sup>rd</sup> UPR session, the Government has established two (2) additional police posts in Kakuma and Dadaab Refugee Camps<sup>xi</sup>. Furthermore, in collaboration with non-state actors such as Lutheran World Federation and the UNHCR, the County Commissioners, local administrators, National Police Service (NPS) have trained youth peace clubs and peace champions, including leaders and women from refugee and host communities. They are trained to monitor, report as well as, where possible, intervene to de-escalate potential conflicts.

#### **Recommendations**

23. The government of Kenya should:
  - a. in accordance with the provision of the Refugee Act 2021 8 (2) (w) and 34(1), ensure sustainable use of resources and fair use of public institutions, facilities and space between the refugees and the host communities in designated refugee hosting areas.
  - b. as envisioned in the Refugee Act 2021, 34 (2) should continuously organize community sensitization campaigns on social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.
  - c. strengthen early warning and conflict detection systems, both community-based and state-based as well as the community policing committees by building the capacity of Peace Committees, *Nyumba Kumi* and Community Policing Committees.
  - d. ensure thorough investigations and prosecutions of perpetrators of violent conflicts pursuant to Section 8 (2) (j), Refugee Act of 2021.

#### **Issue 4: Limited meaningful participation of refugees, asylum seekers and local hosting communities to participate in governance, social planning and development.**

24. The right of refugees and local hosting communities to participate in processes where strategies and decisions are made concerning their well-being and development is guaranteed in various national, regional and international instruments. The Kenya Refugee Law 2021 envisions the transition of refugee governance from encampment to local integration. In this context both communities' right to participate in socio-economic development of their society is of great importance.

## UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE

### REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

25. Notably, refugees/asylum seekers and local communities have been included in the preparation of the Garissa and Kakuma (CIDP) III<sup>xii</sup> through the consultation with some Refugee Led Organizations in Kakuma and Dadaab refugee Camp.<sup>xiii</sup> Further, the Nairobi City County is in the process of developing the Nairobi City County Refugee Integration and Community Building Strategy to enhance refugee engagement in County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs). However, a framework for refugee involvement in governance issues remains undeveloped.
26. Refugees and local hosting communities have historically been systematically excluded from decision-making platforms related to their issues. This is because of inadequate communities' knowledge of their rights as well as the non-recognition of their agency by state and non-state actors. There is also inadequate legal and policy framework for the inclusion of refugees in governance, a lack of appreciation among the host communities of the right of refugees to participate in governance, limited resources to facilitate proper public participation as well as restrictive freedom of movement.
27. Policies, plans, programs, and legal and institutional reforms are not responsive to or address the specific and diverse issues of the refugees and local communities as well as the specific needs of women, youth and other most at-risk population. The reactionary government responses results in perpetuation of human rights violations against the refugee community. This in turn creates mistrust among these communities, thereby hindering peaceful coexistence.

#### **Recommendations**

28. The Government of Kenya should:
  - a) coordinate the establishment of inclusive structures and mechanisms that promote meaningful participation for refugees and local communities for peaceful and harmonious co-existence pursuant to Refugee Act sec. 8(2) (s&t).

#### **Issue 5: High prevalence of Gender Based Violence (GBV) cases in refugee hosting areas**

29. Harmful cultural norms and GBV persist in the refugee hosting areas, i.e. among the refugees and asylum seekers as well as within the hosting communities. These include forced, early and child marriage, rape, FGM and defilement. Refugees and host community members, especially women and girls, face high levels of GBV. A combination of various social, economic, and cultural factors drives the GBV vice.
30. Poverty plays a significant role, as individuals facing economic hardship may experience heightened stress and vulnerability, which can contribute to violent behaviour. A lack of awareness about rights and available protections mechanisms leaves many survivors of GBV vulnerable to GBV as well as its impacts. In some communities, harmful cultural practices are intertwined with religion, perpetuating beliefs that normalize or justify violence, particularly against women and girls. The failure to prosecute GBV cases further exacerbates the problem, allowing perpetrators to act with impunity and discouraging survivors from reporting abuses. Instead, many communities over-rely on traditional cultural mechanisms for resolving



## UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE

### REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) cases, which often prioritize reconciliation over justice, leading to ineffective solutions. Additionally, deeply entrenched cultures of violence and blood revenge foster an environment where acts of GBV are not only tolerated but sometimes expected, further perpetuating the cycle of abuse.

31. The effects of GBV are devastating and far-reaching. In severe cases, GBV can lead to death, whether through direct violence or because of related harm. Survivors often suffer from deep emotional trauma and depression, which can affect their mental well-being and overall quality of life. Physical violence can also lead to the destruction of property, further destabilizing affected families. For young girls, GBV often results in poor education outcomes, school dropout, depriving them of education and future opportunities. This disruption contributes to the perpetuation of conflict within families and communities, as unresolved violence breeds resentment and tension. Moreover, the cycle of violence and missed education exacerbates poverty, especially for women and their families. When children are forced to grow up in such environments, their health and development are placed at risk, and the long-term impacts of interrupted schooling and deepened poverty can extend across generations.
32. While forcibly displaced persons in camps and Nairobi have access to GBV case management services<sup>xiv</sup>, these are limited in other urban areas. Still, awareness of these services is low: 63% in Kakuma, 39% in Dadaab, and 31% in urban areas know where to access them. The GBV National Technical Working Group collaborates to provide non-discriminatory services and engages with government departments. Gender desks in police stations have been established. As a result, of better coordination of the Court Users Committee the number of concluded GBV cases increased by 8% compared to 2022. The cases varied from defilement, rape, attempted defilement, sodomy and attempted rape, gang rape and sodomy.
33. As a result, of the recommendation made in the 3rd UPR Cycle for Kenya to improve the preventive and prosecutorial measures to combat GBV including among refugee communities, the Government of Kenya has set up gender desks. However, challenges in enforcement persist.

#### **Recommendations**

34. The Government of Kenya should:
  - a) address knowledge gaps among service providers and duty-bearers to improve their effectiveness in responding to GBV.
  - b) establish and fully equip at least five more safe shelters in each of the refugee hosting Counties.
  - c) establish poverty eradication programs targeting the refugee communities.
  - d) create awareness among the refugee communities on the dangers of GBV and harmful cultural practices.
  - e) expeditiously investigate and prosecute all GBV cases.

# UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE

## REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

- <sup>i</sup> <https://wusc.ca/refugee-access-to-work-permits-and-business-licenses-in-kenya/>
- <sup>ii</sup> Form 25; eFNS Information Pack. (n.d.). Retrieved from [immigration.go.ke](http://immigration.go.ke)
- <sup>iii</sup> World Bank & UNHCR. (2021). *Understanding the Socioeconomic Differences of Urban and Camp-Based Refugees in Kenya*. Retrieved from [UNHCR Data](#).
- <sup>iv</sup> International Rescue Committee (IRC). (2022). *An Analysis and Evaluation of Refugee-related Policies and Legislation: Kenya and Uganda*. Page 23. Retrieved from [Re](#)
- <sup>v</sup> UNHCR. (2024). *Refugee Status Determination in Kenya*. Retrieved from [UNHCR Kenya](#).
- <sup>vi</sup> Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA). (2020). *Recognition of Prior Learning Quality Assurance Manual*. Retrieved from [KNQA](#)
- <sup>vii</sup> [Education – UNHCR Kenya](#)
- <sup>viii</sup> <https://www.rckkenya.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Annual-Report-2022.pdf>
- <sup>ix</sup> [https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/528267\\_KENYA-2023-HUMAN-RIGHTS-REPORT.pdf](https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/528267_KENYA-2023-HUMAN-RIGHTS-REPORT.pdf)
- <sup>x</sup> DRS\_UNHCR\_Kakuma\_Situation\_Summary\_Update\_01072024 1.pd
- <sup>xi</sup> The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights UPR 3rd Cycle Mid-term report
- <sup>xii</sup> ReDSS Seizing the Moment report p13
- <sup>xiii</sup> Seizing the Moment, A ReDSS report, p13
- <sup>xiv</sup> UNHCR Annual Report 2023

### **ANNEX I**

#### **List of organizations that participated in the drafting and submission of the report**

SN	NAME OF PARTNER ORGANIZATION	CONTACT PERSON	EMAIL ADDRESS
1.	Caring for Widows and Orphans Organization- Refugee Led Organization (RLO)	Mr. William Saidi	<a href="mailto:Cmatador412@gmail.com">Cmatador412@gmail.com</a>
2.	Centre for Minority Rights Development.	Mr. Nyang'ori Ohenjo	<a href="mailto:nyangori.ohenjo@cemiride.org">nyangori.ohenjo@cemiride.org</a>

UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE  
REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

3.	Community Hope Revival	Mr. Karbino Gatbany Dor	<a href="mailto:karbinogatbany@gmail.com">karbinogatbany@gmail.com</a>
4.	Finn Church Aid	Ms. Hellen Muriithi	<a href="mailto:Hellen.Muriithi@kirkonulkomaanapu.fi">Hellen.Muriithi@kirkonulkomaanapu.fi</a>
5.	FRENA Community Based Organization	Mr. Frederick Bizimana	<a href="mailto:frenakenya02@gmail.com">frenakenya02@gmail.com</a>
6.	International Detention Coalition	Ms. Lilian Obiye	<a href="mailto:lobiye@idcoalition.org">lobiye@idcoalition.org</a>
7.	International Rescue Committee	Mr. Jamin Kusuania	<a href="mailto:Jamin.Kusuania@rescue.org">Jamin.Kusuania@rescue.org</a>
8.	KADANA- RLO	Mr. Said Abukar	<a href="mailto:proud2brefugee7@gmail.com">proud2brefugee7@gmail.com</a>
9.	La'Africana- RLO	Mr. Benjamin Sango	<a href="mailto:Benjamin.sango@lafrikana.or.ke">Benjamin.sango@lafrikana.or.ke</a>
10.	Lutheran World Federation	Ms. Lilian Kantai	<a href="mailto:Lilian.kantai@lutheranworld.org">Lilian.kantai@lutheranworld.org</a>
11.	Pamoja Trust	Ms. Irene Wanjiru	<a href="mailto:wanjiruirene@pamojatrust.org">wanjiruirene@pamojatrust.org</a>
12.	Refugee Consortium of Kenya.	Mr. Philip Ogonda	<a href="mailto:philip@rckkenya.org">philip@rckkenya.org</a>

UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE  
REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

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**ANNEX II**

**Profile of organizations**

- i. The Lutheran World Federation is a registered faith-based humanitarian organization with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. It has been active in northwest Kenya in the Kakuma Refugee Camp since the camp was established in 1992. In Turkana West district, the program has been implementing host community projects since December 1999. In 2008, the UNHCR invited us to start operations in Dadaab Refugee Camps. In 2017 the program opened an office in Kismayu, Somalia, responding to the drought and in support of Internally Displaced, local populations and Somali refugees returning home.
- ii. The Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) is a Kenyan non-governmental organization aiming to protect and promote the well-being of displaced and host populations through legal aid, peace, women's empowerment, and mental health support, using various strategic approaches.
- iii. Finn Church Aid (FCA), founded in 1947, is the largest Finnish development organization and humanitarian assistance provider. Operating in 11 countries, FCA supports vulnerable people, regardless of religion or political beliefs, in fragile and disaster-affected areas. Its vision is a world with resilient societies, sustainable livelihoods, quality education, and peace. FCA works with refugees in Kenya, promoting their rights to education and livelihoods.
- iv. The Centre for Minority Rights Development (CEMIRIDE) is a non-profit organization in Kenya that empowers minorities and indigenous peoples to advocate for their rights. Established in 2001, CEMIRIDE has raised awareness of rights violations and secured their recognition in the Kenyan Constitution. Through public interest litigation, CEMIRIDE has led successful campaigns, such as the Moyale-Isiolo highway construction. The organization also works with refugees and host communities to promote quality education and livelihood rights.
- v. Frena is a community-based organization in Kenya that focuses on refugees and host groups, aiming to help them lead self-reliant and dignified lives. Their main areas of focus include education, livelihoods, food security, advocacy, and awareness programs. They actively engage in coalitions and platforms, such as the RELON-KENYA coalition and the Great Trek Campaign, which led to the construction of the Moyale-Isiolo

UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE  
REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

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- highway. They prioritize equality, non-discrimination, and accountability in their interventions.
- vi. Community Hope Revival (CHR) is a refugee-led organization founded in 2017 to empower displaced communities through sustainable development, advocacy, and education. CHR believes refugees are the best advocates for their needs and solutions. They aim to create a world where refugees can lead fulfilling lives, contribute to society, and advocate for their rights with dignity and autonomy. CEMIRIDE empowers indigenous communities to engage in national and international advocacy, influence devolution discourse, and create legal frameworks and institutions protecting these communities.
- vii. KADANA is a network of refugees and asylum seekers from Kakuma, Dadaab, and urban centers, established in December 2018 by a group trained on the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism. Its mission is to promote refugee agency by amplifying their voices and participating in debates and decision-making platforms. KADANA works on capacity building, including training on national laws and policies, human rights advocacy, peacebuilding, information sharing, networking, and psychosocial support. It has also empowered indigenous communities to engage in national and international advocacy, influencing devolution discourse, and creating legal frameworks and institutions protecting these communities.
- viii. Pamoja Trust is a non-profit making organization dedicated to promoting access to land, shelter and basic services for the marginalized communities in the urban, peri-urban and rural areas including informal settlements dwellers, urban refugees, indigenous communities among others. Pamoja Trust envisions an equitable and democratic society where urban citizens have adequate space. We exist to facilitate and advocate for processes and approaches aimed at strengthening people's organizational formations to ensure human dignity for all, particularly the marginalized groups.
- ix. L'Africana is a refugee-led community-based organization in Kenya and Canada founded in 2013 to empower refugees and host communities for integration and socio-economic development. The organization believes that refugees can better understand and address the needs of the less privileged in society. By involving refugees in finding solutions to their challenges, the global burden of refugee service delivery becomes lighter, and the impact on both refugee and host communities' increases. L'AFRIKANA aims to be a channel of transformation, empowering refugees to contribute to their welfare and the social and economic development of their host nation Kenya. The

## UPR KENYA 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE

### REFUGEE THEMATIC CLUSTER REPORT

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organization also works with indigenous communities in Kenya to promote the right to quality education and livelihoods for affected persons.

- x. The International Detention Coalition (IDC) is a global network of organisations, groups and individuals in over 75 countries from academia, law, research, policy, direct service, advocacy and community organising, as well as representatives of communities affected by immigration detention. IDC coordinates with members and partners on advocacy, research, coalitions and capacity building, as well as creating opportunities for national, regional and global collaboration to reduce and end immigration detention and promote rights-based alternatives to detention (ATD).
  
- xi. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is a global humanitarian aid organization founded in 1933. It provides emergency aid and long-term assistance to refugees and those displaced by war, persecution, or natural disaster. The IRC works in 40 countries and 26 U.S. cities, focusing on health, education, economic wellbeing, power, and safety.
  
- xii. Caring for widows and orphans RLO was founded in 2018. The organization aims to provide vocational training and livelihood skills to women, adolescent women, and people with special needs. They offer tailoring, dressmaking, computer, internet access, and counselling. They also assist orphans and create a computer centre. The organization aims to expand services beyond Africa and worldwide, empowering vulnerable women to develop their natural abilities and excel in their workplaces and communities. They aim to harness economic power and understand the connection between gender and climate change.