



UNHCR Refugee Status Determination (“**RSD**”)

Self Help Kit for Asylum Seekers in Indonesia

First Instance:

How to Write Your Statement for your
RSD Interview with UNHCR

What to Expect at Your RSD Interview

October 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS

What is the Purpose of this Self Help Kit?	3
Who is a Refugee?	3
Who Helps Refugees in Indonesia?	3
What Happens During the UNHCR's Refugee Status Determination Process?	4
Step 1 - Registration	4
Step 2 - RSD Interview	4
Step 3 - Decision	4
How to Write Your Statement for UNHCR	6
Your Written Statement	6
Purpose of Your Statement	6
When Should You Submit Your Statement?	6
Collect Evidence Before Writing Your Statement	6
Things to Remember When Writing Your Statement	7
How to Organize Your Statement	8
Sample Statement Outline	10
Before You Give Your Statement to UNHCR	11
Preparing for your RSD Interview with UNHCR	12
Your RSD Interview	12
Prior to the Interview	12
Introduction to the Interview	12
Problems with the Interviewer or Interpreter	12
Telling Your Story	12
Sensitive Information	13
Questioning by the Interviewer	13
At the End of the Interview	13
Second Interview	14
After the Interview	14

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SELF HELP KIT?

This Self Help Kit is for people seeking recognition as refugees under the UNHCR mandate in Indonesia who have not yet had their first interview.

It will:

- Help you understand whether you are a refugee under international law
- Explain UNHCR's process of recognizing RSD applicants as "refugees"
- Advise you on how to prepare a statement for UNHCR
- Explain what you might expect in your interview with UNHCR.

WHO IS A REFUGEE?

The definition of a refugee is found within the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees

To meet this definition you must meet all of the following criteria:

You must be outside your country of origin;

You must be unable or unwilling to return to the country you are from;

Because you have a well-founded fear of

persecution, or serious harm or threat to your life or freedom, or other serious human rights violations,

due to one or more of the following reasons:

- *Your race;*
- *Your religion;*
- *Your nationality;*
- *Your political opinion; or*
- *Your membership of a particular social group (for example, women, families, tribes, occupational groups, or due to your sexual orientation / gender identity);*

and

The persecution you fear is by the government or by another group and the government cannot or will not protect you.

Note: UNHCR's mandate has on some occasions been extended to those who have fled widespread generalized violence, so you may be recognized as a refugee if there is a war or a breakdown in law and order in your country.

It is also important that your case is not "excluded" under sections of the Convention regarding issues such as serious non-political crimes. Even if you meet all of the 5 criteria set out above, under certain circumstances, you may not be recognized as a refugee.

WHO HELPS REFUGEES IN INDONESIA?

The Government of Indonesia does not formally recognize refugees. The UNHCR, the United Nations Refugee Agency, has an office in Indonesia that is responsible for registering asylum seekers and conducting Refugee Status Determination (RSD).

Suaka is the Indonesian Civil Society Network for Refugee Rights Protection. Suaka is not the same organisation as UNHCR. Suaka helps refugees and asylum seekers with information and advice about the UNHCR's refugee status determination process.

Other organisations that work with refugees and asylum seekers in Indonesia are: International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Church World Service (CWS) and Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS). They are all different organisations and are not part of UNHCR.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE UNHCR'S RSD PROCESS?

STEP 1 - REGISTRATION

Approach the UNHCR office and register as an asylum seeker:

UNHCR Representative in Indonesia
Menara Ravindo
Jl. Kebon Sirih Kav.75
Jakarta Pusat 10340, Indonesia

What will happen at registration?

Registration is the initial process to collect data. Please bring all available documents with you. If you have already written a statement, bring that with you as well. At registration, you will fill out the Registration Form. Then UNHCR staff may conduct a registration interview in order to collect information, such as basic bio-data, reasons for flight, photos and fingerprints.

Make sure to tell UNHCR if you have specific needs or vulnerabilities such as serious health conditions to ensure appropriate follow up as necessary.

Unaccompanied Minors

Note: there will be special procedure if you are an unaccompanied minor. An unaccompanied minor is a person who is under the age of eighteen years, separated from both parents, and is not cared for by an adult who by law or custom has responsibility to do so.

Asylum Seeker Certificate

UNHCR will issue an Asylum Seeker Certificate for you and each member of your family (if you have any). This Asylum Seeker Certificate will give a right to temporary stay in Indonesia and must be kept safe at all times. This Asylum Seeker Certificate will be valid for four months, and when you go to renew it, you will also be given an appointment date for your first instance RSD interview.

If you have not yet provided UNHCR with a statement about your case, you can provide it when you go to renew your Asylum Seeker Certificate.

Other key points

It is important to provide truthful information at the time of registration and at all subsequent stages of the process – you must always tell your own story and not give any misinformation that has been given to you by other people.

Please remember that you have obligation to respect Indonesian laws, regulations, and customs.

You may seek support and financial assistance. However, financial assistance is provided by UNHCR only to a very limited number of recognized refugees. Other organizations may also assist a small number of vulnerable asylum seekers.

STEP 2 - RSD INTERVIEW

UNHCR will schedule you for your Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interview. There is no standard timeframe for when your interview will be. It is possible that your interview will not take place for at least one year due, but it depends on various factors.

There may or may not be a second interview before the UNHCR makes a decision about your case. Further details about your RSD interview is set out later in this document, starting at page 12.

STEP 3 – DECISION

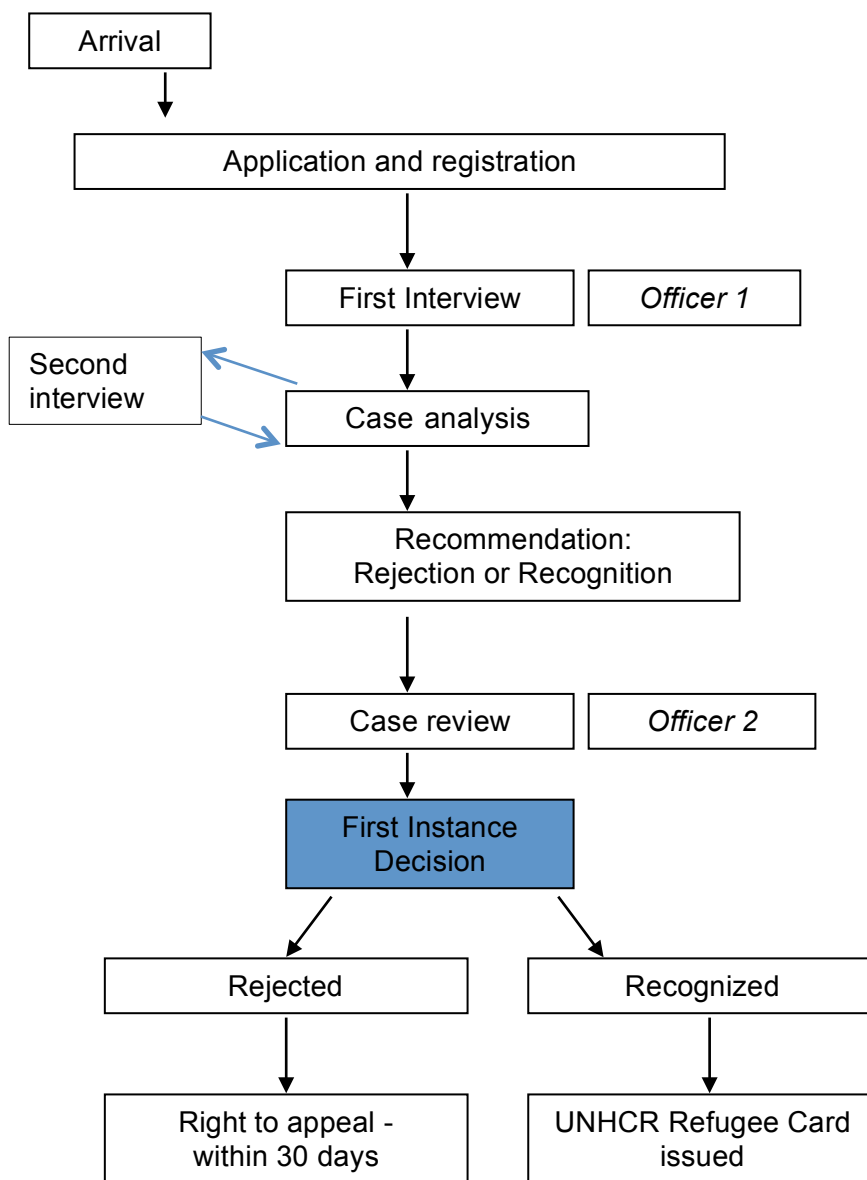
Following the interview, UNHCR will make a decision on your case.

If UNHCR recognizes you as a refugee, UNHCR will issue a Refugee ID card to you and each member of the family (if any).

If UNHCR **does not recognize you** as a refugee, UNHCR will give you written notification of rejection. It will include reasons for the negative decision. Please note that you will have 30 days to submit an appeal. UNHCR should provide you an appeal application in your own language. Individuals who wish to receive counselling can request an appointment.

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOUR APPLICATION IS REJECTED AND YOU NEED TO APPEAL, REFER TO THE “APPEAL” SELF-HELP KIT.

RSD PROCESS – FIRST INSTANCE



IF YOUR APPLICATION AT FIRST INSTANCE IS REJECTED, PLEASE REFER TO THE “APPEAL” SELF-HELP KIT. IF YOU ARE REJECTED AGAIN AFTER THE APPEAL, YOUR FILE WILL BE CLOSED BY UNHCR - REFER TO THE “REOPENING” SELF-HELP KIT.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SUAKA CANNOT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN RELATION TO RESETTLEMENT ONCE YOU HAVE BEEN RECOGNISED AS A REFUGEE. SUAKA IS NOT ABLE TO LIAISE WITH EMBASSIES REGARDING YOUR CASE.

HOW TO WRITE YOUR STATEMENT FOR UNHCR

It is important to explain why you need international protection. The UNHCR staff's role in the RSD interview is to help you establish the facts. This means that you should try to give as much evidence as you can. There are three types of evidence:

- (1) your written statement,
- (2) documents and other evidence,
- (3) your oral testimony during your interview.

Your written statement is a good way to ensure that you have all the information you need to give to UNHCR about your case.

It is important to provide truthful information – you must always tell your own story. Do not use any misinformation other people tell you to include. Also remember to include as much detail as possible. Do not leave out information about what happened to you and what you fear. If there is information you do not feel safe about including in your written statement, make sure to tell UNHCR about it at your interview.

Remember that everything you write and say to UNHCR is kept strictly confidential and cannot be shared with anyone else without your consent.

YOUR WRITTEN STATEMENT

If you have a specific condition that makes you unable to write a statement (including but not limited to illiteracy, physical disability, etc), please ask UNHCR to provide an interpreter to assist you.

PURPOSE OF YOUR STATEMENT

Your written statement describes what happened to you in your country of origin or habitual residence to make you leave and why you cannot go back to your country. Your statement will help UNHCR understand why you are a refugee and help them to prepare questions for your interview. UNHCR will decide whether you meet the criteria for a refugee using:

- Your written statement and any documents you can present
- Your interview
- Information about the situation in your home country

If you have already submitted a written statement to UNHCR, it is possible for you to submit another statement that includes additional or clarifying information you may not yet have provided to UNHCR.

WHEN SHOULD YOU SUBMIT YOUR STATEMENT?

If possible, you should submit your statement when you register with UNHCR. If you cannot prepare a statement before you register with UNHCR, you should submit your statement to UNHCR at least one month before your RSD interview. This gives UNHCR time to review your statement before the RSD interview.

COLLECT EVIDENCE BEFORE WRITING YOUR STATEMENT

It may be easier to establish the facts of your case if you can provide valid documents that support your statements. However, you are not required to documents supporting your claim. If you have documents, collect all these documents if possible before you begin to write your statement. Please collect documents like:

- passports or ID cards
- medical records
- membership cards for groups or organisations that you belonged to
- threatening letters or photographs of incidents
- letters that you have written asking for help or letters from witnesses
- police reports

THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN WRITING YOUR STATEMENT

When you write your statement, remember that it should:

- Include complete and truthful information about:
 - All the things that happened to you to make you leave your country;
 - Why those things happened to you and who did them;
 - How you left your country;
 - Why you cannot go back to your country and what you think will happen to you if you go back; and
- Explain the things that happened to you in the order they happened

Include as much detail as you can remember about the important things that happened and generally include the following:

Dates and Times: When things happened. For example, “On 16 June 2005 at about 6pm...” If you don’t remember exact dates and times, then you should try to remember approximate dates and times or things that happened around the same time. For example, “One day in March 2006, late at night...”, “One day, about two weeks before New Year in 2007, early in the morning...”, “Soon after my 30th birthday...”, “When I was about 20 years old...”, etc. You can also say things like “Soon after the [last event]...” or “Around the same time as ...”

If you are unsure of dates and/or times, do not guess!

Places: Where things happened. If you cannot remember the exact place, you should try to give as much detail as possible or try to describe what the place was like. For example, you could say, “I was kidnapped when I was walking from Town A to Town B”, “I went to a large brick house which was about 5 minutes walk from my house” or “I was taken to a small village about 30km south of my village”.

People: If you can remember the names of people, you should always include this information. If you do not know people’s names or you cannot remember them, try to describe the people, especially if: you are scared of them, they are people who hurt you, they are the reason why you left your country, or if you think they are important to what happened to you.

When describing people, you can explain what they were wearing, whether they had weapons, what language they spoke, etc. You should also explain who you think the people were and why you think that.

Duration: When you are describing things that happened to you, include how long these things lasted. For example, you could say, “I was kept in prison for two days” or “I was in the hospital for two weeks”.

Some other things you need to remember when writing your statement:

- Your statement should be **in your own words and must only include information that is true** and that is not exaggerated.
- If you can write in your own language then you should write your statement.
- If you cannot write in your own language, make sure that the person who writes the statement for you only includes information you have told them to include.
- **Do NOT let anyone tell you what to include in your statement or let anyone add anything to your statement that you disagree with or that is untrue.** Untruthful statements will have negative impact on your credibility and could result in rejection.
- You should try to keep your statement to less than 10 pages. It may take UNHCR a long time to translate and read it if it is longer than this.
- If there are things you do not remember, **DO NOT** make something up. It is fine to say that you do not remember.
- If there is something you are not sure about then you should say something like, “I believe that ...” or “I think that ...” Also, it is a good idea to explain why you are not sure.

- Your statement should be consistent with all information that you have previously told or given to UNHCR. If you plan to include information in your statement that is not consistent with information that you have previously told or given to UNHCR, you should explain why the information is different.
- If you plan to include new information in your statement, you should explain why you did not previously tell UNHCR about this information. For example, you may have recently received the new information.

HOW TO ORGANIZE YOUR STATEMENT

One way you can organize your statement is set out in sections 1 to 8 below. There is a sample statement at the end of this section. Remember this is only an example and you do NOT have to set out your statement in the same way. What is important is that you tell UNHCR the truth about what happened to you in your country to make you leave and why you cannot go back.

Section 1: UNHCR Address and Personal Information

Write the date, UNHCR's address, and address the letter to UNHCR.

Next introduce yourself and say that this is your statement for your RSD interview with UNHCR.

Then write your UNHCR case number, gender, nationality, ethnicity, date of birth, place of birth, the language(s) you speak fluently, passport country and number (if you have one), marital status, the date you arrived in Indonesia, the date you registered with UNHCR, the date of your RSD interview with UNHCR (if you know it) and your current contact information.

Section 2: Background Information

Here, give UNHCR brief information about you and your family. This section should not be too long, maybe 5 to 10 lines.

You should include very brief information about who is in your family, where you grew up and where you and your family lived before you came to Indonesia.

You should also tell UNHCR whether your family is with you in Indonesia. If they are not with you, please explain where they are now living.

Section 3: What Happened to Make Me Leave My Country

Now, write about all of the problems you had that made you leave your country.

You have to **tell UNHCR why you felt you had to leave your country and what you thought would happen to you if you stayed any longer in your country.**

You need to explain to UNHCR how you meet the refugee definition (as explained in page 3) and specifically, why you have a 'well founded fear of persecution' because of one or more of: your race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a social group.

Make sure you:

- Write about the problems you had in the order they happened. If other people in your family had similar problems before your problems started, then first write about their problems. End this section with the last event that made you decide to leave your country.
- Include details of when and where you had the problems, who was involved (or who you think was involved and why you think that) and what they said and did.
- Explain how the problems made you feel and what you were worried or scared about.
- Explain why you think these problems happened to you.

Look at the questions in the table on the next page and see whether the problems happened because of some of reasons included in the table. Answer the questions that are relevant to you.

- You do NOT need to answer all the questions in the table.
- The questions have been included to make you think about why the problems might have happened to you.

Questions to consider about what happened to you and what you fear:

<p>Was it because of your race? Was it because of your nationality? Was it because of the language that you spoke? Was it because of your ethnicity? Was it because of your culture or cultural things that you did? Was it because of your clan? If it was for one of these reasons, please explain why you think that.</p>
<p>Was it because of your religion? Was it because of the way you practiced your religion? Was it because of something you believe in? Was it because other people thought you had a certain religion or supported a certain religion? What made these other people think you had this religion or supported it? If it was for one of these reasons, please explain why you think that.</p>
<p>Was it because of your opinions or political views? What are your opinions or political views? What did you do to show your opinions or political views? How did other people find out about your opinions or political views? Was it because other people thought you had certain opinions or political views? What made these other people think you had such opinions or political views? If it was for one of these reasons, please explain why you think that.</p>
<p>Was it because of a group/organisation you were part of? Was it because you supported a group/organisation? What was the name of the group/organisation? Who was in the group/organisation? What did you do with the group/organisation? Why did you join or support the group/organisation? Was it because other people thought you were part of or supported a group/organisation? What made these other people think you were part of or supported the group/organisation? If it was for one of these reasons, please explain why you think that.</p>
<p>Was it because of problems other people had? What problems did they have and how did their problems cause you problems? Were these people part of your family or a group you belonged to? What was the relationship between you and these people? How did it impact you? If it was for one of these reasons, explain why you think that.</p>
<p>Was it because you are different to other people? What is different about you? Was it because other people thought you were different? Was it because of something you had done in the past? Was it because of what people thought you had done in the past? Was it because of a job you had? Was it because of your sexual orientation? What made these other people think these things about you? If it was for one of these reasons, please explain why you think that.</p>

If you know of other people who have also had similar problems to yours, include brief information about those other people and what happened to them. Explain how you know the information.

Other information:

- If you have committed a serious crime in a country other than Indonesia, please explain what you did, where and when you did it, and why you did it.
- You should also tell UNHCR if you have been convicted of a serious crime in Indonesia as well.

Section 4: How I left

- If you left your country in the past but had to come back to your country, explain what happened. Also explain if you tried to leave your country but could not and what stopped you.
- Explain what you did to leave your country and who helped you.
- If you passed through other countries before coming to Indonesia, explain which countries you went to, how long you stayed, and whether you tried to get help in those countries.

- If you did not register with UNHCR within a month after coming to Indonesia, please explain why you waited. For example, if you were not aware how to register, please say so and explain how you learned how to register.

Section 5: Why I Cannot Go Back to My Country

- Whether you did anything to try to stop the problems that happened to you in your country and whether you were able to get help. Did you try to get help from your government, the police, or anyone else? If so, when? What did they say and/or do? Did they help? Did you try to move to another part of your country to avoid your problems? Where did you move to and when? Did that help?
- What you think will happen to you if you return to your country. If you are afraid, explain why you are afraid. Include information about who you think will hurt you and what you think they will do to you. Also explain why you think they want to hurt you.
- If anyone in your country has received threats about you or had problems because of you after you left your country, please include this information as well.

Section 6: My Situation in Indonesia

If you have information about your security or your medical, physical or psychological situation that you have not already told UNHCR, please include that information in a section called “My Situation in Indonesia”.

Try to keep this section short, about 5 lines.

Section 7: Documents

- Do you have documents that support the things you have said in your statement? For example, do you have a passport, ID cards, medical records, membership cards for groups/organisations that you belonged to, threatening letters, letters that you have written asking for help, responses to your letters, police reports etc.?
- If so, please list the names of each of these documents in a section called “Documents” at the end of your statement.
- If the documents that you have listed in your statement have not previously been given to UNHCR, you should also give UNHCR copies of these documents at the same time you give the statement to UNHCR.
- Do NOT give original documents to UNCHR to keep. If UNHCR requests to see original documents, please show the original documents, but please also remember to take them with you when you leave UNHCR.

Section 8: Signature

Finally, sign your statement. You can also thank UNHCR for considering your application and say that the information you have included is the true and accurate to the best of your knowledge.

SAMPLE STATEMENT OUTLINE

Your final statement could look something like the example below.

Date: [insert the date that you're writing the letter]

UNHCR Representative in Indonesia
Menara Ravindo
Jl. Kebon Sirih Kav.75
Jakarta Pusat 10340, Indonesia
Attention: RSD Unit

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is [insert your name] and this is my statement for my RSD interview with UNHCR.

1. Personal Information

UNHCR Case Number: [insert UNHCR case number]
Gender: [insert whether you're male or female]
Nationality: [insert your nationality]
Ethnicity: [insert your ethnicity]
Languages: [insert the languages that you can speak and understand fluently]
Date of Birth: [insert your date of birth]
Place of Birth: [insert the city and the country where you were born]
Passport Number: [include your passport country and number – if you have one]
Marital status: [say whether your married, single or widowed]
Date arrived in Indonesia: [insert date]
Date registered with UNHCR: [insert date]
Date of RSD interview with UNHCR: [insert date – if known]
Current contact information: [insert your mobile number if you have one, otherwise your address]

2. Background Information

[Insert your information]

3. What Happened to Make Me Leave My Country

[Insert your information]

4. Why I Had to Leave My Country and How I Left My Country

[Insert your information]

5. Why I Can't Go Back to My Country

[Insert your information]

6. My Situation in Indonesia

[Insert your information]

7. My Documents

[Insert your information]

All the information that I have included in this statement is true. Thank you for considering my application for refugee status.

[Sign your name here]

[Write your name here]

BEFORE YOU GIVE YOUR STATEMENT TO UNHCR

- Reread the statement to make sure that you have included everything you wanted to include in the statement to help UNHCR decide whether you meet the definition of a refugee.
- Make sure that everything you have included is the truth and has not been exaggerated.
- Make sure your statement is written in the order that things happened and makes sense.
- Check whether anything in the statement is different to what you have said in your registration interview with UNHCR or any other information that you have given or told to UNHCR. If there is anything that is different, please explain why it is different.
- Make a copy of the statement for yourself so that you can use it to prepare for your interview. Remember that UNCHR will likely use your statement to ask you questions at your RSD interview.

PREPARING FOR YOUR RSD INTERVIEW WITH UNHCR

YOUR RSD INTERVIEW

The UNHCR will decide whether to recognize you as a refugee under the 1951 Convention or under the extended mandate definition. Your interview is an important opportunity for you to provide information to the UNHCR to help them make a decision.

Some of the information below is similar to information provided above. Before your RSD interview, you do not need to review the information above; however,

The UNHCR will be trying to establish the important facts of your case, such as:

- why you left your country of origin and why you are afraid to return
- what might happen to you if you returned
- why you have been targeted
- whether what has happened to you amounts to persecution, and
- whether that persecution was on the basis of one of the five Convention grounds, or
- whether you are fleeing generalised violence, rather than targeted persecution

The UNHCR will also be checking whether your claim is credible and plausible. The interviewer will be testing whether you are telling the truth using available information about the situation in your country. The interviewer will also test your story by asking detailed questions about your statement. Please remember that the principal applicant, his or her spouse, and all adult family members need to be present for the interview; each of these persons will go through a separate interview.

PRIOR TO THE INTERVIEW

- Take all your original documents with you and be prepared to answer questions about them. Also, take a copy of your statement and your UNHCR asylum seeker's certificate.
- Make sure you arrive on time. If you are late, your interview might be postponed.
- There may be a long waiting period before the interview. Take some food with you.
- The interview may take several hours (usually 2-4 hours) and may even go on for the whole day.

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERVIEW

The interviewer will make a short introduction. This should explain the definition of a refugee, the confidentiality of everything that happens in the interview, and your duty to tell the truth.

The interviewer should check that you and the interpreter understand each other, and that you are comfortable with the interpreter and the interviewer.

PROBLEMS WITH THE INTERVIEWER OR INTERPRETER

If you have any problems with the interviewer or interpreter (for example, if you suspect the interviewer or interpreter has any bias towards you), you have the right to request a different interviewer or interpreter (but this will likely result in your interview being postponed).

If you feel the interpreter is not interpreting correctly or if there are any communication difficulties, you should tell the interviewer immediately.

TELLING YOUR STORY

Please listen carefully to the question asked and do your best to answer that question.

However, if the interviewer asks you a general question – for example, why did you leave your country? – you should talk about the events that happened in the order in which they happened, and this should be consistent with your written statement.

- Provide dates – if you do not know the date, do not make one up. Provide an approximate date, for example, “early May, 2007”.
- Tell the interviewer where things happened – what region, village, or even neighbourhood and street. If you are not sure of the exact location, provide an approximate location.

- Identify who did things to you – how many of them, what were they wearing, did they identify themselves, and who do you think they were?
- Identify how often events occurred – did the event happen only once? If not, how many times did it happen, and during what period of time did it happen?

Please speak a few sentences, stop, and allow the interpreter to interpret. If you do not stop frequently, the interpreter might begin summarizing your story.

SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Some aspects of your story may be sensitive or difficult to talk about. It is important to provide all the necessary information about your story and to include as much detail as possible.

- If you leave out information about what happened to you or what you fear because you not feel safe about talking about it, or if you are scared or ashamed to talk about it, UNHCR will not know important details about why you need international protection. This means that UNHCR might reject your application for RSD.
- **You should always tell UNHCR everything important about what happened to you.**
- If you feel uncomfortable about something that happened to you, or what you are scared of, you should tell UNHCR that you have something sensitive to say – UNHCR will take all steps possible to make you feel safe to tell your story.

You should be interviewed separately from your family. If you have information that you want to be kept secret from your family, make sure you tell UNHCR that you do not want anyone else to know.

Remember that **everything you write and say to UNHCR is kept strictly confidential** and cannot be shared with anyone else without your consent. UNHCR will not report back to your government or any

QUESTIONING BY THE INTERVIEWER

You should ask the interviewer to clarify any questions you do not understand.

The interviewer will ask you questions to test whether you are telling the truth, so some of the interviewing may seem tough.

- The interviewer might ask questions to clarify incomplete or contradictory statements.
- It is important not to get upset or defensive. Remain calm and answer the questions.

The interviewer may not ask questions about events in the order that the events happened. For example, the interviewer might start by asking about more recent events.

The interviewer will have looked at information about what is happening in your country and might ask you questions to test whether your story is plausible.

In providing details to the interviewer, it is important that you be precise. **If you are not sure about any facts, you should tell the interviewer why you are not sure.** You should say what you believe the facts are and why you believe that. **It is OK if you cannot remember or are uncertain.**

You can ask for a break whenever you want one. **You should ask for a break if you are feeling tired or upset.**

AT THE END OF THE INTERVIEW

If there were important points that you want to clarify or if you want to give additional information, ask for a chance to say it, and tell the interviewer.

If you have not mentioned any event associated with your reasons for leaving your country, or if no questions were asked about a certain event which is important to your case, you should mention it at the end of the interview when the interviewer asks if there is there anything you wish to add before the close of the interview. **If there is some information about your story of why you left and why you cannot return that you have not mentioned, you need to tell it to UNHCR even if they did not ask you about it.**

You should ask the interviewer to read back the important parts of your interview transcript. This is to check that it is accurate – it does not mean that you do not trust the interviewer.

If you or the interpreter wrote anything on a piece of paper, ask the interviewer to keep a copy of it in the file.

SECOND INTERVIEW

You may be called back for an additional interview if the interviewer has further questions or needs clarification on parts of your testimony. This does not always happen.

If there is any confusion about your story, you should make sure that the interviewer understands all the details about what happened and what you are afraid of.

- **If the interviewer asks you to explain any confusion and are not sure of the answer, you should tell the interviewer why you are not sure.** You should say what you believe the facts are and why you believe that.
- **It is OK if you cannot remember or are uncertain about questions the interviewer asks you.** Make sure you explain why you cannot remember.
- If there have been misunderstandings or mistranslations, make sure you clarify the facts of what happened.

AFTER THE INTERVIEW

These steps may be useful after the interview:

- Write down the names of the interviewer and the interpreter, as well as when the interview started and when it finished.
- Write down as many of the interviewer's questions as you can remember. Write down your answers.
- Write down any concerns or complaints you may have about the interview.

It may take some time for the UNHCR to determine your case. Usually you will have to wait for several months before you receive your decision.

If you receive any new information about your case (such as documents or news from your country) or remember more information after your interview, you should submit it to the UNHCR as soon as possible.