



## **The Global Refugee-led Network Announces a New Leadership Team and Structure**

Sydney, October 06, 2022: From 12 to 19 August 2022, the Global Refugee-led Network (GRN) conducted a leadership retreat in Sydney, Australia, in which it has elected a new leadership team and introduced a new leadership structure of the organisation. The leadership retreat took place following GRN's registration in the UK (in April 2022) as a non-profit organization.

According to the outcome of the leadership retreat, GRN's former leadership organ, the Steering Committee, is now renamed the Board. The Board will have a total 13 elected members: two from each of the six regional chapters of GRN and one independent Chairperson elected by the Board. The Chairperson will renounce their regional duties while serving in this role in order to maintain equal representation from each region. The newly elected Chair is Amer Alkayed.

All Members of the Board are elected for a two-year term, which is renewable for a maximum of two terms. The representatives from each region will be elected every two years through their respective chapters at a regional summit. Board Members are responsible, among other things, for designing the strategic direction of GRN, approving operational programmes, providing updates from and leasing engagements with regional chapters, and preparing and leading the General Assembly of GRN, including the Global Summit of GRN that takes place every two years. All Board Members will serve on a voluntary basis.

The day-to-day activities of GRN will be run by a separate Programme Unit, the appointment of which will be approved by the Board. The Programme Unit will be led by a coordinator. It will also be staffed with engagement and advocacy leads, a communications officer, and a part time financial consultant. The Programme Unit is to be established over the coming months.

As in the past, GRN will continue to count on volunteer contributions from various stakeholders, which have served as members of a Mentors and Advisors Committee, as well as a Board of Allies. The Regional Chapters of GRN will continue to operate independently from the global Board, while still complying with the mission, vision, and strategic plan of the GRN, and as amplifiers GRN's work in their respective regions.

In another step towards inclusion and transparency, the GRN is pleased to announce the launch of its new Membership Portal. Accessible on the GRN website, this Portal provides an opportunity for GRN members to engage and collaborate on policy positions and activities. Through the portal, GRN members will have access to GRN-only materials, such as advice, training modules, thematic conversation boards, and more. The GRN looks forward to broadening its membership and continuing to advocate fiercely for refugee inclusion in the decision-making processes that directly affect their lives.

For more information, please contact Amer Alkayed at [amer@grnmena.org](mailto:amer@grnmena.org).