FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 19, 2016

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IRAP URGES UNITED NATIONS TO COMMIT TO REFUGEE PROTECTION AND RESETTLEMENT

FISHER: “The international community must act at this week’s Summits to expand funding and resettlement opportunities for refugees. Now is the time for world leaders to demonstrate in concrete terms that they stand with victims of terrorism, war, and persecution.”

New York, NY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2016 – On the day of the first United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) at the Urban Justice Center urges all Member States to take this opportunity to make impactful commitments to protect refugees.

To reach this goal, IRAP calls for a significant expansion of refugee resettlement worldwide. Refugee resettlement is the only permanent solution for vulnerable refugees living in poverty and danger.

IRAP Policy Director, Betsy Fisher, stated: “The international community must act at this week’s Summits to expand funding and resettlement opportunities for refugees. Now is the time for world leaders to demonstrate in concrete terms that they stand with victims of terrorism, war, and persecution.”

In a recent press release, IRAP welcomed the President’s recent proposal to resettle 110,000 refugees in fiscal year 2017. Nevertheless, more needs to be done to ensure that refugees can start new lives and contribute meaningfully to their resettlement country. On September 20, IRAP Director and Co-founder, Becca Heller, will be speaking on the importance of private engagement in refugee resettlement at the Concordia Summit.

Refugee resettlement helps alleviate the global refugee crisis, improves foreign relations and national security, and benefits resettlement countries economically. IRAP calls on all Member States to conclude the summit with a concrete action plan on how to expand refugees’ paths to safety.

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