

- the **host state**, which has primary responsibility for refugee security, **and their local police force**;
- the **local judicial system and correctional facilities**, as police need the support of the other elements of the security triad;
- the **international community**, and particularly **UNHCR**, which has primary responsibility for the protection of refugees under international law;
- **international and local NGOs**, who play an important role in the care and maintenance of refugees;
- the **refugees themselves**, who can and will "self-police" the camps - the challenge here is to ensure that the genuine refugee leadership cadres are involved;
- **private security firms** which can be contracted by camp management to undertake various security tasks under the close supervision of the camp managers; and
- depending on the circumstances, **international police and the military** could play key functions in ensuring and maintaining security in refugee camps, as described in more depth below.

### **International Police:**

Workshop participants were supportive of involving international police in efforts to ameliorate refugee camp security. Depending on the overall situation, international police can carry out tasks ranging from training the local police and carrying out liaison functions among all the parties involved in security matters, including the local communities, to executive policing, to the provision of paramilitary crowd control units. However, the latter options require an appropriate legal framework (including a Security Council Resolution), and can take many months to be fully operational. Therefore, participants were agreed that the most rapid and flexible response, and the one which has the most potential for sustainable benefit to the refugee population and the host country, would be to support local police, inter alia through training and mentoring.

Operating with the consent of the host country government in such instances, the role of the international police would be to support local authorities, not replace them. They could provide advice and training, and coordinate technical and logistical support, as well as playing a mentoring/monitoring role. International police and other actors in the international community can play an important role in enhancing the professionalism of local police: the former can often exert influence upon local police due to their shared "policing culture". Joint patrolling and other mentoring activities are ideal ways to achieve the immediate goal of refugee camp safety while providing valuable training and capacity development for local law enforcement personnel. Community-based policing, with an emphasis on communication and negotiation, was the recommended norm. An example of this is in western Tanzania where an International Security Liaison Officer supports and advises the local police, as well as carrying out a variety of security-related tasks.

In exceptional circumstances, e.g. "failed state situations" with no local police, it may be necessary for international police to provide executive policing<sup>4</sup> in and around refugee camps.

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<sup>4</sup> Executive policing is the term used to describe the work of international police who have powers of arrest, and who undertake to enforce a criminal code in the absence of local police to execute this function.