

HIAS Kenya Resettlement Information on Fraud Awareness & Prevention

HIAS does not tolerate fraud and corruption. HIAS is committed to combating fraud and corruption in order to preserve the integrity and credibility of the Resettlement process. Any refugee who attempts to commit fraud relating to his/her Resettlement case may be permanently disqualified from Resettlement under HIAS auspices.

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Examples of fraud/ misconduct

- Providing false medical attestations.
- Fabricating documents or altering legitimate documents to falsify identity or family composition.
- Exaggerating, Omitting, inventing or otherwise misrepresenting the nature or details of the claim or protection needs.
- Being coached on how to make false claims.
- Marriage of convenience; fictitious relationships.
- Hiding family members to improve the chance of resettlement.
- Bribing - the offering, giving, soliciting, or receiving of any item of value so as to influence the outcome of a resettlement process.

Protect yourself and your family from fraud and exploitation

- Your personal information and identification documents are sensitive items that should always be kept safe and confidential.
- **Be alert to people and websites that promise services in exchange for cash or personal information—they may be scams.**
- **STOP AND THINK BEFORE SHARING YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION AND IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS WITH ANYONE.**
- Only share your personal information with HIAS staff or trusted aid agencies and authorities when asked.
- Never give away your personal information on social media and untrusted websites

Confidentiality

All Resettlement files that are processed by HIAS are kept strictly confidential.

- HIAS will request refugees whose cases are submitted for Resettlement Consideration to sign a declaration authorizing HIAS to share all information and any documents pertaining to them and their family members with government officials, embassies and UNHCR.
- HIAS will also request refugees identified for resettlement to sign an Anti-fraud declaration form, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse form.

Refugees should not pay anyone to refer their case for Resettlement. All services provided by HIAS and its implementing partners are **FREE OF CHARGE**. Please notify HIAS if anyone tries to charge money for Resettlement.

If you are aware of fraud, Corruption/bribery involving another refugee or a HIAS staff member report to:

- Physically through suggestion boxes
- Physically to any HIAS staff
- Physically through client feedback tools
- **Online via hias.ethicspoint.com**
- **By email ethics@hias.org**
- **By telephone at +1-888-559-8518.**

HIAS-Kenya Information on Durable solutions - Resettlement

There are three recognized durable solutions for refugees:

- integration into local host communities;
- voluntary repatriation to an individual's country of origin;
- and, **resettlement** to a third country.

Voluntary repatriation: A refugee family or individual return safely to their country of origin.

Intergration: a refugee integrates into their country of asylum.

Resettlement: A refugee is transferred from an asylum country to another state that has agreed to admit and grant them permanent settlement.

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What I should know about the resettlement process

The entire Resettlement process is complex and involves many steps; it takes a long time. Refugees (applicants) should therefore be patient while their case is being processed.

In accordance with its current procedures, HIAS does not accept self-referrals/ "resettlement applications" from refugees.

HIAS makes a decision to submit a case for Resettlement only after conducting an in-depth assessment of the individual and his/her family's particular situation.

During the interviews HIAS Resettlement officers will ask the refugee detailed questions about his/her history and background related to their country of origin and country of asylum.

It is very important that the information provided is truthful, clear, accurate and complete. The Resettlement Country will rely on this information when considering your case, assessing your credibility and determining whether you qualify for Resettlement in that country.

For this reason, you must tell the truth during all of your interviews and not withhold any information which could be relevant to your Resettlement case.

When identifying refugees who can be submitted, HIAS focuses on refugees who have specific protection needs and particular vulnerabilities, and who meet the Resettlement criteria.

You should, however, understand that the identification of a refugee as being particularly vulnerable does not necessarily mean that the refugee is either eligible for or in need of Resettlement. Resettlement is only one option that HIAS considers to address a refugee's particular needs.

Can I apply directly for resettlement through an Embassy?

No. If it is resettlement then the resettlement Countries directly contact with HIAS and allocate quota for the refugees.

How long does it take between the resettlement interview and departure?

The entire resettlement process is complex and takes a long time. Different cases are also processed at different timelines depending on many factors. Refugees whose cases have been submitted for resettlement should be patient while the case is being processed. It may be one to two years, or sometimes longer, for a final decision and departure to the resettlement country