

## **Semi-Structured Interview Protocol**

### *Informed Consent*

- A letter of information describing the project and providing assurances of confidentiality will be provided to all participants. (See Letter of Information).
- Written consent will be obtained from all participants. (See Consent Form).
- Any participant may withdraw their consent at any time, including after the fact; contact information will be provided.

### *Data Storage*

- All interviews, where possible, will be digitally recorded. Recordings will be downloaded every day onto the PI's laptop, and stored in an encrypted folder. They will be backed up on the secure QUB server.
- All interview recordings will be supplemented by hand-written notes. Notes will be kept in a notebook on the PI's person, or in a secure location.
- At no time will identifying information or names be stored in the same location as recordings, notes or transcripts.

### ***Interview Questions***

The interviews as designed are semi-structured, with five questions for each group of participants that will be asked in all sites. Follow up questions will vary according to the answers provided.

### *Policy Makers*

- 1) How responsive is government policy to global patterns? In your view, have these changed (how)?
- 2) How responsive is government policy to public opinion? In your view, has this changed (how)?
- 3) How important is international law in government policy making? How well known (and considered) is the 1951 Convention? The Law of the Sea?
- 4) How much intergovernmental cooperation is there?
- 5) How active is the government in operations over seas with relation to mobility, refugee protection, and resettlement?

### *International Governmental and Non-Governmental Actors*

- 1) How important is intergovernmental cooperation to successfully addressing the challenges of refugee migration and protection in the current era?
- 2) How receptive are governments to cooperation and bi- or multi-lateral agreements? Why?
- 3) In your view, are the challenges of the maritime space different at all to those presented by migration over land?
- 4) In your view, is the experience of migrating over sea different from over land in ways that affect the decision making structures of refugees and asylum seekers?
- 5) In your view, how important are the current international laws and treaties (specifically the 1951 Convention, and the Law of the Sea)? Are they effective?