

Introduction to the APRRN Resource Database January 2014

Dear APRRN members,

we would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the APRRN Resource Database. This member-driven project aims to consolidate the tools, best practices, and other relevant sources of information into one point of reference for members and other stakeholders. The website is set up through a wiki portal that can be accessed at aprrn.info/wiki. Revisions and updates can be made by any members who have registered and been approved by the administrator. Registration is a simple process that can be completed by providing a user-name, password and email address.

The first part of the homepage features a short introduction to the database, followed by a link to “Refugee Legal Aid – Useful Resources.” This will take you to a page with general useful information about international legal standards and refugee law. Sections include UN Conventions and Treaties, RSD Procedures, Case Law Resources, and Articles and Reports. Back on the homepage is also a “Country List” with internal links to each of the countries included in the database. The country page displays a chart of the international conventions that have been ratified in that country and is followed by two main sections: Legal Aid and Statelessness. While there are currently only two main headings, the database can be modified in the future to incorporate additional areas of interest to members. The following is a brief overview of the types of information available:

1. Legal Aid	2. Statelessness
National Laws	Overview
RSD Procedure	Groups of concern and protection issues
APRRN Member NGOs	Organizations working on issues of statelessness
Non-APRRN Member NGOs	Good practices
COI Experts	Sources
Case Law and Court Decisions	
Articles and Reports	

While most of the sections on each page are in progress, we also recognize that this is not an exhaustive list of sections; there can be additional sections made when necessary and others can be

omitted when no information is available. Some of the pages are more concise (such as Japan and New Zealand) while others remain largely incomplete (such as Myanmar and Maldives). All sections are self-explanatory; though please note that the "In the News" section should include only news reports that are relevant to case law, change in policy, etc., instead of just events involving refugees. Also, the news should be kept within the last 6-12 months to keep it more relevant to recent events.

The intention of the database is to provide a platform from which future mapping projects can be launched. Since this is a member driven project, changes and additions are encouraged and welcomed. Changes in the database should also be shared with the rest of working group. For technical help, there is a link under the help tab at the top that gives a guide to syntax. Any new information and/or links that need to be added can be emailed to the APRRN staff to be added to the database. At the top of the screen there is another tab that will lead to a forum. No topics have been created yet, so feel free to start any forum discussions that you think are relevant. This would also be another good domain for asking and answering questions that you or others may have. If you have any questions, please contact jessica@aprrn.info or evan@aprrn.info for assistance. We look forward to your feedback and information that you have for the database!

Thank you,

With Best Regards,

The APRRN Secretariat