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Ingushetia: Camp closure must not result in involuntary returns

The Russian authorities have announced that they will close yet another camp for displaced Chechens in Ingushetia. Amnesty International is concerned that the closure of the "Alina" tent camp -- the third in one year -- will result in more involuntary returns of internally displaced persons to the Chechen Republic without guarantees for their security or well-being. Amnesty International has received credible reports of intimidation and harassment of IDPs in connection with previous camp closures.

According to the UNHCR, 103 families from the camp wish to be relocated to another camp in Ingushetia, while 72 families plan to return to the Chechen Republic. Amnesty International urges the Russian authorities to ensure that none of the IDPs are coerced into returning to what continues to be an unsafe environment. The organization also urges the authorities to guarantee that appropriate accommodation, necessary infrastructure services and facilities and official registration will be provided to the families who choose to return to Chechnya as well as those who remain in Ingushetia.

Public Document

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