



UNHCR's Best Interests Principles

2018:

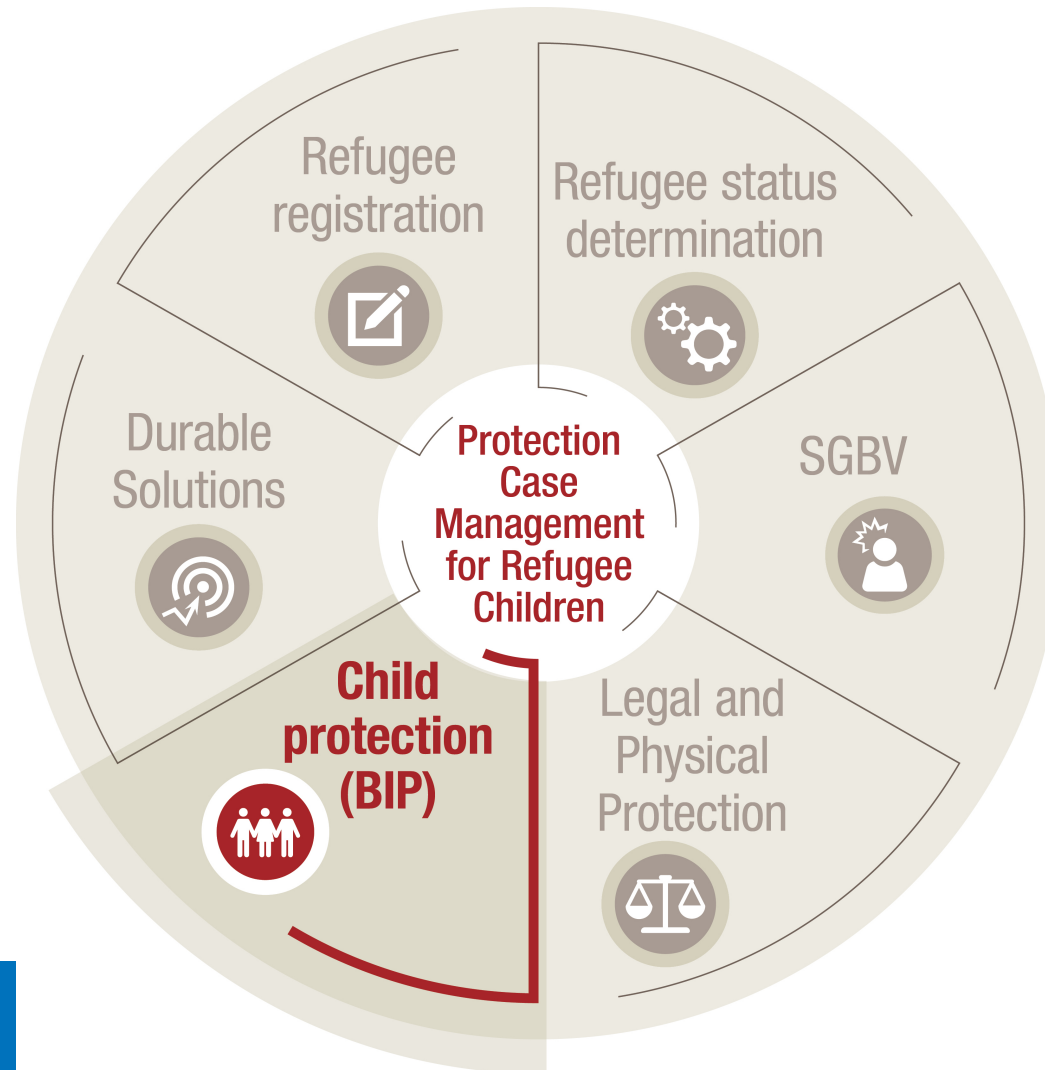
**Guidelines on Assessing and
Determining the Best Interest of the
Child**

**[https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/5c18d7
254.pdf](https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/5c18d7254.pdf)**

Child protection – risks in displacement

- Refugee children are more vulnerable to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect
- Globally, only 1 in 2 refugee children are registered at birth
- Globally, 50% of child refugees do not finish primary school

Refugee Protection Case Management



Factors affecting BI of a Child

Durable solutions for UASC

Child's views

Relationship with family and community

Education

Protection and safety

Family history & care arrangements

Family unity

Culture & Identity

Reasons for departure and experiences

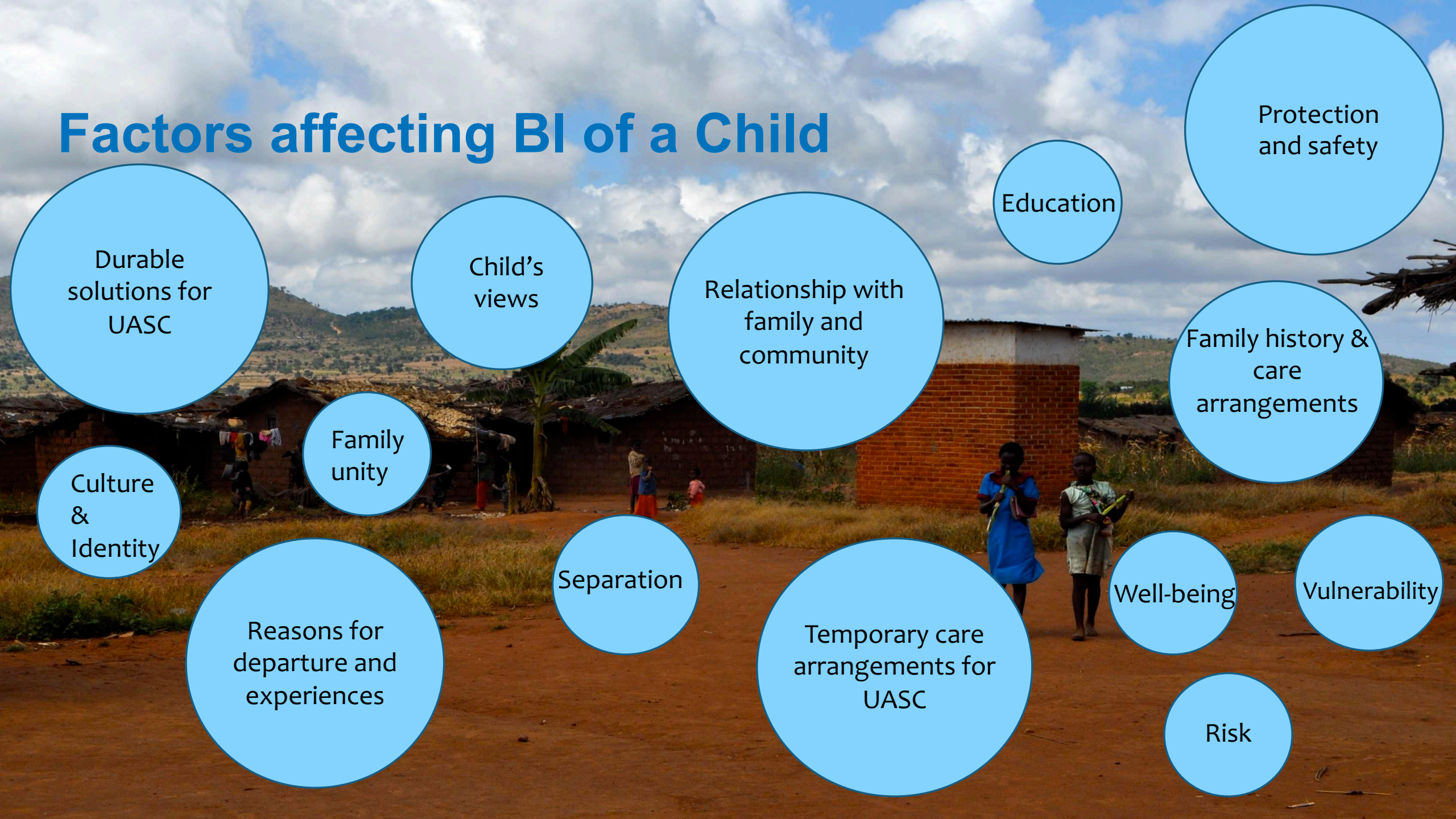
Separation

Temporary care arrangements for UASC

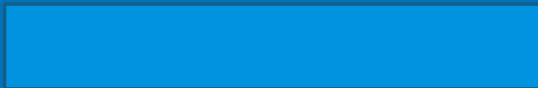
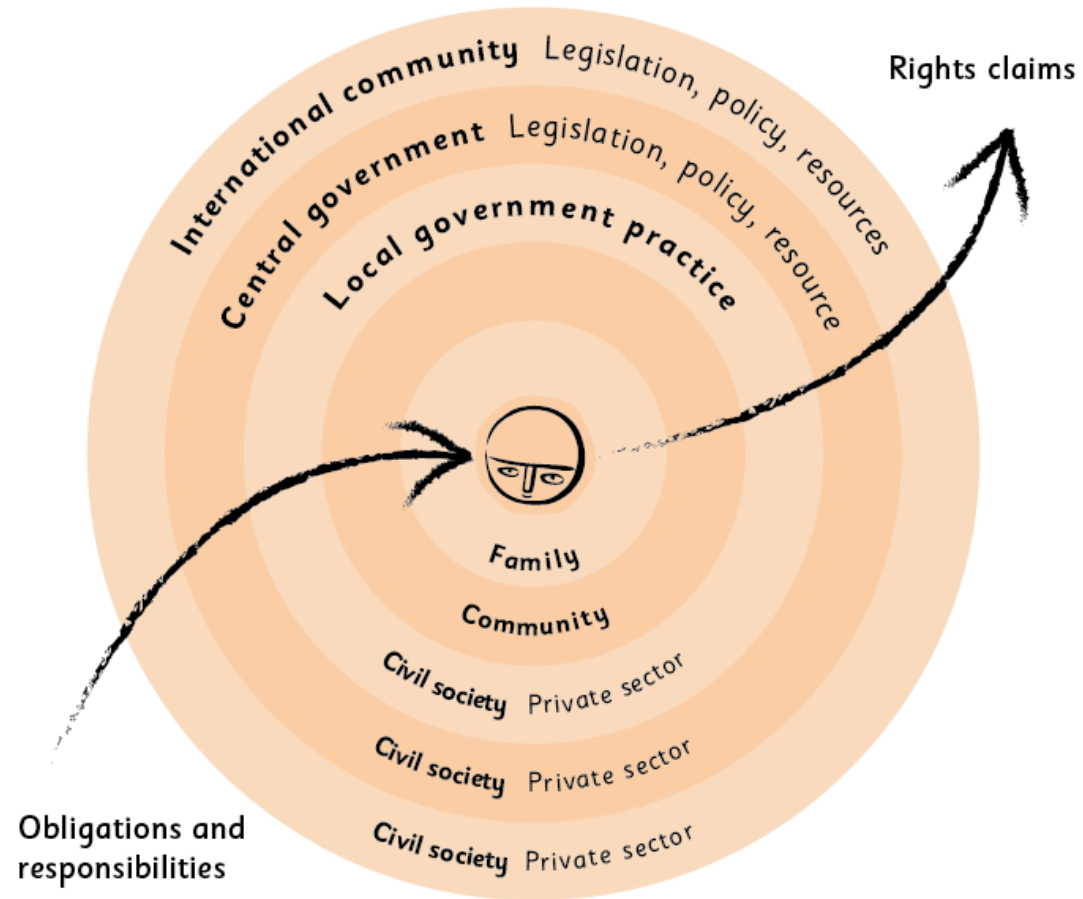
Well-being

Vulnerability

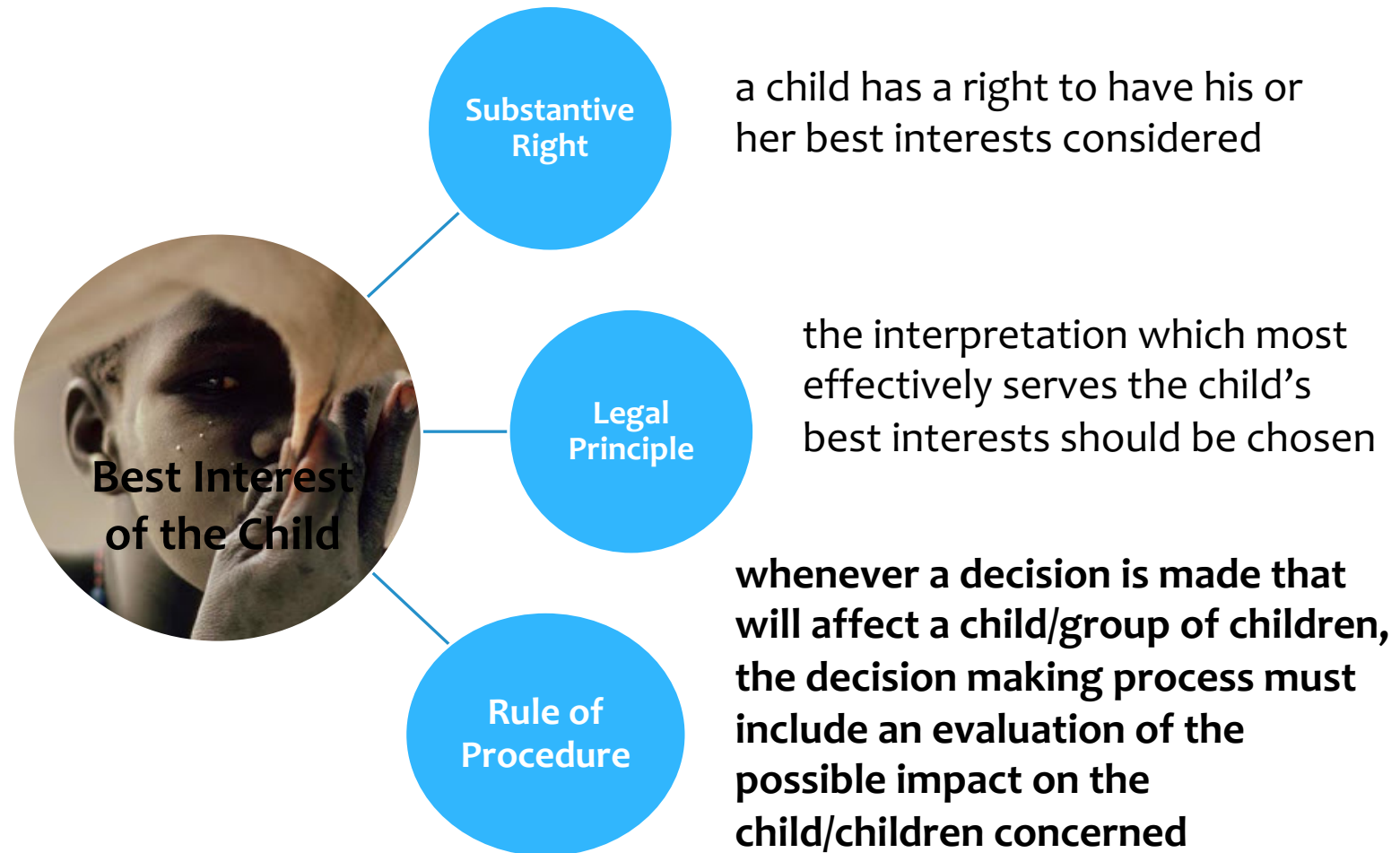
Risk



Protective Environment



CRC Committee General Comment No.14 (2013)



Best Interests Principle

Article 3.1 CRC

Actions affecting all children or groups of children

measures of a general nature that inform and affect the best interests process for individual children

Actions affecting individual children

Measures to identify the best interests of the individual child at risk

Legislation

Policy

Procedures

Resource allocation

Best Interests Procedures



National Legislation

The best interests principle is also adopted in various national child protection laws.

- *According to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the principle should be:*
- Reflected in domestic laws, in child-rights statutes and in "sectoral" laws (health, education, etc.)
- Written in a way that enables it to be invoked before the courts.

Importance of National Systems

→ **State Responsibility:**

UNHCR and partners work to supplement and strengthen the national child protection systems only where gaps exist or where States are unwilling to extend services to refugees.

→ **Where States have established procedures with capacity to adjudicate child protection issues, UNHCR defers.**

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