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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
HIGH COMMISSIONER'S PROGRAMME

Fifty-fourth session

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

(submitted by the High Commissioner)

1. Opening of the Session

The Chairman of the Executive Committee will open its fifty-fourth session on Monday, 29 September 2003, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room XIX at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

2. Election of Officers

The Executive Committee will elect its Bureau, consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur, who will serve in these functions until the Committee's fifty-fifth session in October 2004.

3. Adoption of the Agenda and other Organizational Matters

The Executive Committee will consider the *Provisional Annotated Agenda*, contained in A/AC.96/LIV/L.1, as basis for the adoption of the agenda of the session. A panel discussion will take place on the afternoon of Monday, 29 September 2003.

4. Presentation by the High Commissioner and General Debate

The Standing Committee agreed at its twenty-sixth meeting in March 2003, that in place of the annual theme, the debate will focus, as in the past two years, on the statement of the High Commissioner at the beginning of the session.

This statement will also relate to proposals emanating from the UNHCR 2004 process regarding the strengthening of the capacity of the Office to carry out its mandate, on which a report will be submitted by the High Commissioner to the General Assembly (A/AC.96/980),

The High Commissioner will also report to the Committee on progress with respect to the Convention Plus initiative, following the first Forum meeting, held on 27 June 2003.

The Committee will have before it an outline of the High Commissioner's statement. The presentation will be followed by a question and answer session.

5. Guest Speaker

A brief statement will be made to the Committee by Mr. Jan Egeland, Emergency Relief Coordinator, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

6. Reports on the Work of the Standing Committee

Under this item, the Committee will review successively the results of the work of the Standing Committee on international protection, and of its work on programme, administrative and financial matters¹.

(a) International Protection

Of particular relevance to the deliberations of the Committee is the High Commissioner's *Note on International Protection* (A/AC.96/975).

Also of relevance are the *Reports of the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh meetings* of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/974 and A/AC.96/984) which reviewed implementation of the *Agenda for Protection*. (A/AC.96/965/Add.1).

As part of its annual proceedings, the Executive Committee will also consider draft conclusions on international protection, on the return of persons found not to be in need of international protection, or protection safeguards in interception measures and on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse².

(b) Programme, Administrative and Financial Matters

The Committee will have before it the following reports of relevance to these matters:

- *Report on the Work of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/983);
- *Report of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/974);
- *Report of the Twenty-seventh Meeting of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/984);

¹ The draft report of the Standing Committee's twenty-eighth meeting (25 September 2003) will be presented for adoption at the end of the afternoon of Tuesday, 30 September 2003.

² Tentative list

- *Report of the Twenty-eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/985), comprising a review of Voluntary Funds Administered by the High Commissioner: Accounts for the Year 2002 (A/AC.96/977); Report of the Board of Auditors to the General Assembly on the Accounts of the Voluntary Funds Administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the Period Ended December 2002 (A/AC.96/978), and Measures Taken or Proposed in Response to the Recommendations of the Report of the Board of Auditors (A/AC.96/978/Add.1).*

7. Consideration and Adoption of Revised Programme Budget for 2003 and proposed Programme Budget for 2004

Under this item, the Committee will review the country/regional and global programmes, as well as programme support budgets for 2004, and revised programmes and budgets for 2003. This review will be based on *UNHCR's Annual Programme Budget for 2004 (A/AC.96/979)* and the *Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/AC.96/979/Add.1)*.

8. Oversight activities

This item will include a review of the following activities:

- *Evaluation and Policy Analysis (A/AC.96/976 - Section I)*
- *General Audit (A/AC.96/976 - Section II)*
- *Inspection and Investigation (A/AC.96/976 - Section III)*

In light of its discussions under agenda items 7 and 8, the Executive Committee will consider a draft decision on administrative and financial matters.

9. Meetings of the Standing Committee in 2004

The Executive Committee will adopt a decision on the programme of work for the Standing Committee in 2004.

Also under this agenda item, the Executive Committee will consider applications by government delegations, intergovernmental and international organizations to participate as observers in the meetings of the Standing Committee in 2004, and adopt a decision. The Committee will also adopt a decision on the participation of non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the decision taken by the Executive Committee at its fifty-first session (A/AC.96/944, para.32).

10. Consideration of the Provisional Agenda of the Fifty-fifth Session of the Executive Committee

The Committee will consider a draft provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Executive Committee.

11. Other statements

Brief statements will be made on the afternoon of Thursday, 2 October 2003, by the Rapporteur of the pre-ExCom consultations of non-governmental organizations, and by the Chairperson of UNHCR's Staff Council.

12. Any other business

13. Adoption of the Report of the Fifty-fourth Session of the Executive Committee

The draft report of the fifty-fourth session presented to the Committee for adoption will include the conclusions and decisions identified under the preceding agenda items, and a conclusion on proposals arising from the UNHCR 2004 process.

14. Closure of the Session

The High Commissioner and the Chairman will make brief closing remarks.