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Report on the Work of the Standing Committee

Report of the Secretariat







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I. Introduction

1. At its sixty-sixth session in October 2015, the Executive Committee adopted a decision which set out the issues to be examined by the Standing Committee in its programme of work for 2016.¹ This report provides a summary of the implementation of this programme.

2. The Standing Committee held three meetings in 2016: in March, June and September. A planning meeting of Executive Committee members in December 2015 established the calendar of meetings and determined the distribution of the agenda items in 2016. This is provided in the work programme contained in annex I.

3. A detailed account of the work undertaken at each meeting of the Standing Committee in 2016 is contained in the following documents: the report of the sixty-fifth meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1155); the report of the sixty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1162); and the report of the sixty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1163). A list of conference room papers, strategic overviews and other documents considered at these meetings is contained in annex II.

II. Issues considered by the Standing Committee in 2016

A. Programme budgets and funding

4. At each of its meetings, the Standing Committee considered updates on budgets and funding, through which it was kept informed of programme requirements, budgetary measures and funding levels. The Committee also adopted decisions on budgets and funding, as listed in chapter III below. In June, the Standing Committee was briefed on UNHCR's Global Report on activities in 2015. At its September meeting, the Committee reviewed the biennial programme budget for 2016-2017 (revised), as well as an advance version of the Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), in relation to the biennial budget.

B. International protection

5. At each of its meetings, the Standing Committee was briefed on developments concerning the Executive Committee conclusions on international protection. In March, the Standing Committee received an oral update on the High Commissioner's Dialogues on Protection Challenges. In June, the Standing Committee discussed the note on international protection; updates on resettlement and voluntary repatriation; and a paper on refugee status determination. At the September meeting, an oral update on UNHCR's campaign to end statelessness was presented to the Committee.

C. Regional activities and global programmes

6. UNHCR's operations in all five regions (Africa; the Americas; Asia and the Pacific; Europe; and the Middle East and North Africa) were comprehensively considered at the Standing Committee's meeting in March. The Committee also received an update on

¹ A/AC.96/1154, para. 14.

global programmes. In June, the Committee was presented with reports on new approaches to solutions and on livelihoods and self-reliance. A paper on private sector fundraising and partnerships was discussed at the September meeting.

D. Programme/protection policy

7. In March, the Committee discussed in detail UNHCR's programme in the United Nations proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019. The June Standing Committee reviewed reports on the 2014-2015 global strategic priorities; refugee, internally displaced and stateless youth; and gender equality in UNHCR's operations.

E. Management, financial control, administrative oversight and human resources

8. In March, the Standing Committee considered a report on follow-up to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements for previous years and received an oral update on the work of the Inspector General's Office.

9. In September, the Committee reviewed the report of the Board of Auditors on UNHCR's financial statements for the year 2015 and discussed the key issues identified in the report and measures taken by UNHCR in response. The United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services presented its annual report on internal audit activities undertaken at UNHCR for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, and the Committee received the annual report of the Independent Audit and Oversight Committee. Updates were also provided on risk management in UNHCR; human resources, including staff welfare; and staff safety and security.

F. Coordination

10. At the March Standing Committee meeting, a paper on strategic partnerships, including coordination and the World Humanitarian Summit, was presented to the Standing Committee.

G. Governance

11. The Standing Committee adopted the work programme for 2016 in March, as proposed at its December 2015 planning meeting. In June, the Committee was invited to make suggestions on issues to be included in the High Commissioner's opening statement to the sixty-seventh plenary session of the Executive Committee.

III. Standing Committee decisions

12. In accordance with the authority vested in it by the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee adopted the following decisions, which are annexed to the reports of the Standing Committee meetings:

(a) *Report of the sixty-fifth meeting of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/1155)

Decision on budgets and funding for 2015 and 2016;

(b) *Report of the sixty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/1162)

Decision on budgets and funding for 2015 and 2016;

(c) Report of the sixty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1163)

Decision on budgets and funding for 2016.

Theme	65 th meeting 15-17 March 2016	66 th meeting 21-23 June 2016	67 th meeting 21-22 September 2016
Programme budgets and funding	Update on budgets and funding	Update on budgets and funding	Update on budgets and funding
		Global Report 2015	Biennial programme budget 2016-2017 (revised)
			Report of the ACABQ on the biennial programme budget for 2016-2017 (revised)
International	Oral update on the High Commissioner's Dialogues on Protection Challenges Oral update on ExCom conclusion(s)	Note on international protection	Oral update on the campaign to end statelessness Oral update on ExCom conclusion(s)
protection		Refugee status determination	
		Update on resettlement	
		Update on voluntary repatriation	
		Oral update on ExCom conclusion(s)	
Regional activities	Regional updates (Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa)	Solutions: New approaches to displacement	Private sector fundraising
and global programmes		Livelihoods and self-reliance	
	Global programmes		
Programme / protection policy	UNHCR's Programme in the United Nations: proposed strategic framework for 2018-2019	Report on the 2014-2015 global strategic priorities	
		Youth	
		Gender equality	

Standing Committee Work Programme for 2016

Annex I

	65 th meeting	66 th meeting	67 th meeting
Theme	15-17 March 2016	21-23 June 2016	21-22 September 2016
Management, financial control, administrative oversight and human resources	Follow-up to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements for previous years		Financial statements for the year 2015 as contained in the Report of the Board of Auditors to the General Assembly
	Oral update on the work of the Inspector General's Office		Key issues and measures taken in response to the Report of the Board of Auditors for 2015
			Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on internal audit in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
			Report of the Independent Audit and Oversight Committee
			Human resources, including staff welfare
			Staff safety and security
			Risk management in UNHCR
Coordination	Strategic partnerships, including coordination and the World Humanitarian Summit		
Governance	Adoption of the Standing Committee Work Programme for 2016	Suggestions for the High Commissioner's opening speech at the 67 th plenary session of the Executive Committee	

67th PLENARY SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S PROGRAMME: 3-7 October 2016

Annex II

Standing Committee documentation issued during 2016

Sixty-fifth meeting (15-17 March 2016)

Conference room papers:

EC/67/SC/CRP.1	Provisional annotated agenda
EC/67/SC/CRP.2	Standing Committee work programme for 2016
EC/67/SC/CRP.3	Global programmes
EC/67/SC/CRP.4	UNHCR's programme in the United Nations proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019
EC/67/SC/CRP.5	Follow-up to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements for previous years
EC/67/SC/CRP.6	Strategic partnerships, including coordination and the World Humanitarian Summit
EC/67/SC/CRP.7	Update on budgets and funding
EC/67/SC/CRP.8/Rev.1	Report of the sixty-fifth meeting of the Standing Committee

Strategic overviews:

- Africa
- Asia and the Pacific
- Europe
- The Americas
- The Middle East and North Africa

Other documents:

- Oral update on the work of the Inspector General's Office
- Oral update on the High Commissioner's Dialogues on Protection Challenges

Sixty-sixth meeting (21-23 June 2016)

Conference room papers:

EC/67/SC/CRP.9	Provisional annotated agenda
EC/67/SC/CRP.10	Note on international protection
EC/67/SC/CRP.11	Update on resettlement
EC/67/SC/CRP.12	Refugee status determination
EC/67/SC/CRP.13	Update on voluntary repatriation
EC/67/SC/CRP.14	New approaches to solutions

EC/67/SC/CRP.15	Livelihoods and self-reliance
EC/67/SC/CRP.16	Report on the 2014-2015 global strategic priorities
EC/67/SC/CRP.17	Youth
EC/67/SC/CRP.18/Rev.1	Gender equality
EC/67/SC/CRP.19/Rev.1	Update on budgets and funding
EC/67/SC/CRP.20/Rev.1	Report of the sixty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee

Sixty-seventh meeting (21-22 September 2016)

Conference	room	papers:

EC/67/SC/CRP.21	Provisional annotated agenda
EC/67/SC/CRP.22	Risk management in UNHCR
EC/67/SC/CRP.23	Human resources, including staff welfare
EC/67/SC/CRP.24	Staff safety and security
EC/67/SC/CRP.25	Report of the Independent Audit and Oversight Committee, 2015-2016
EC/67/SC/CRP.26	Private sector fundraising and partnerships
EC/67/SC/CRP.27	Update on budgets and funding
EC/67/SC/CRP.28/Rev.1	Report of the sixty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee

Other document:

• Oral update on UNHCR's campaign to end statelessness