Statement of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the general debate at the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme

(Geneva, 30 September 2014)

Elements

In his statement to the 65th session of the Executive Committee, the High Commissioner will outline his strategic vision for the year ahead, setting out the key challenges facing UNHCR today and the efforts required to meet them.

- Operating environment: exponential increase in humanitarian needs as a result of continued rise in global forced displacement. Updates on current emergencies and protracted refugee situations. Challenges of delivering in high-risk environments. Fundamental contribution of host states as asylum is largely respected and preserved, especially in the developing world.

- Protection: overall protection environment, statelessness, refugee protection in mixed flows (including irregular maritime movements), protection of women and children, internally displaced persons;

- Partnership and coordination: role of partnership in emergency response (including in five system-wide Level-3 emergencies in 12 months), refugee coordination model and Transformative Agenda, relationship with development actors, on-going efforts to strengthen and further build partnerships (operational, advocacy, funding, innovation);

- Solutions: scarce availability of solutions as compared to record-levels of new displacement, importance of comprehensive approaches, self-reliance and sustainable livelihoods;

- Funding: extraordinary donor support to UNHCR, but global humanitarian funding insufficient to cover increased needs;

- Internal management: continued steps to ensure efficiency, efforts in strengthening accountability and oversight, human resource management;

- Conflict prevention: need for greater political will and international collaboration to prevent and resolve conflicts and displacement, insufficiency of humanitarian response.

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12 September 2014