

**73<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Executive Committee  
of the High Commissioner's Programme  
10 – 14 October 2022  
*Statement of the Federal Republic of Germany***

Thank you Chair,  
High Commissioner,

[*confirm the high-level officials in the room*]

1. Germany aligns itself with the statement by the European Union.

2. As the High Commissioner vividly described on Monday, we are facing a deeply worrying scale of displacement at the global level. The system of international protection is increasingly under pressure and fast and durable solutions to protracted refugee situations are needed.

After the humanitarian system had to absorb already the challenges of a global pandemic, Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine caused an immense increase in displacement in Ukraine and to the neighboring countries. Germany strongly condemns yesterday's unjustifiable – and as the High Commissioner stressed – “horrific attacks” by Russia against cities across Ukraine. The Secretary-General rightfully described them as an “unjustifiable escalation”.

The war also unleashed secondary effects – increased food insecurity and aggravated humanitarian crises worldwide.

Mr. Chairman,

Germany is engaged at the forefront to fight these effects and supports the most affected countries and communities, including those hosting refugees.

To put our efforts in concrete terms: Germany is the second largest humanitarian donor worldwide, with a record humanitarian budget in 2022 of already *Two Point Seven* billion Euros [2,77], including more than *four hundred* million Euros [400] to UNHCR.

To fight the global food crisis and its effects, Germany has contributed already more than *four* billion Euros [4]. And to respond swiftly to the emerging needs, we have contributed additional *four hundred and forty* million Euro [440] to humanitarian assistance in Ukraine and neighbouring countries.

On this point, let me be clear once again: our contributions for Ukraine and neighbouring countries as well as the funds to fight the global food crisis are additional funds.

We do this in the spirit of solidarity with those affected and as part of burden and responsibility-sharing within the international community.

3. In this context, allow me to commend the admirable efforts of countries and communities hosting refugees. As a major host country itself, Germany appreciates this invaluable contribution to international protection and global solidarity. We will remain a steadfast partner of host countries to advance the necessary inclusion of refugees in national systems.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Sharing the burden requires also sharing the financial burden. This means: more donors. Larger contributions. And more flexible funding. We are delighted that UNHCR's recent efforts to mobilize private donors have been successful. We expect this work to continue and inspire other agencies.

Likewise, the growing funding gap calls for increased efficiency within the system; therefore, we continue our strong support to the reforms foreseen in the *Grand Bargain*. We also call on development actors to reinforce their engagement in protracted displacement settings and to strengthen their coordination with UNHCR.

5. While we continue the work to find durable solutions, UNHCR's core protection mandate remains vital. Repeated and systematic violations of the norms of international protection, including through push-backs and the discrimination of certain groups, are deeply concerning. Germany will remain a steadfast supporter of the right to seek asylum and the international protection system.

In this regard, Germany welcomes UNHCR's efforts to integrate age, gender and diversity considerations systematically into all aspects of its work as well as UNHCR's engagement with women and refugee-led organisations.

6. Recognising the special protection needs of IDPs, we also we fully support the Organization's efforts to strengthen its engagement on solutions for IDPs, in particular as part of the Secretary-General's Action Agenda.

7. To conclude, we would like to congratulate you, High Commissioner, to the extension of your term, a tribute to your able stewardship of your office. Many challenges lie ahead, but we will continue our support and close partnership. We are confident that your dedication and experience will ensure an effective preparation of the next Global Refugee Forum.

And finally, Germany would like to extend its deepest respect and gratitude to UNHCR staff, in particular those serving in remote and dangerous duty stations.

Thank you.