

**Executive Committee of the
High Commissioner's Programme**

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Held at the Hôtel Mercure, Geneva

Summary record,* Friday, 16 June 2023, at 10:05 a.m. (hybrid)

Chairperson: Ms. Katharina Stasch (Germany)

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Ms. Stasch (Germany), Vice-Chair, took the Chair

The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

b. Global Report 2022

1. **The Director of the Division of External Relations, UNHCR**, said that, in 2022, for the first time, there were more than 100 million forcibly displaced or stateless people; the war in Ukraine was central to the increase but numbers had grown in almost every region. New asylum applications surged to a record of 2.6 million, with four out of every ten applications being made by nationals of Latin America and the Caribbean. Globally, conflict and natural disasters forced people to flee, prompting the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to issue 35 emergency declarations. People were displaced by conflicts, such as those in the far north of Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, and Myanmar, as well as by floods in Pakistan and drought in the Horn of Africa. People seeking international protection made risky journeys across the Mediterranean, the Andaman Sea and through the Darién. There were new levels of desperation, with rising costs of food and fuel, and many barriers still remaining in place after the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The level of need demanded an unprecedented response and member States had answered the call. UNHCR had received a record level of funding, with a 25 per cent increase since the previous year. The Global Report 2022 was built for the first time on the new results-based framework.

2. **The Director of the Division of Strategic Planning and Results, UNHCR**, providing further information on the format of the report, said that many Member States had expressed interest in the reporting available following the introduction of COMPASS, the new results-based management approach of UNHCR. COMPASS had been fully implemented for the first time in 2022, as reflected in the Global Report, with results shown across four impact areas and 16 outcome areas which included regional snapshots. The process used to compile the report was transformational, with greater use of evidence to show not just the action taken but the change achieved as a result. Data was presented on nearly all operations at the impact and outcome level, where relevant. Output level data had been generated through multi-sectoral monitoring. At the country level, key stakeholders met to engage in a moment of reflection on what had worked or not worked well, what had been achieved and what lessons could be learned for the year ahead. The process could be termed multi-year planning in action.

3. The operational data had been collated into country annual results reports which were available on Global Focus and then aggregated into the Global Report. In Impact area 1, on attaining a favourable protection environment, work involved advocating as powerfully as possible to galvanise a broad set of actors to safeguard the principles of protection, access to territory and asylum and the rights and dignity of those affected by displacement. In collaboration with partners, achievements included facilitating access to territory, registration and documentation with 3.1 million individuals registered through PRIMES and 4.1 million individuals enrolled biometrically. In 23 countries, UNHCR saw evidence of reported improvements on registration for refugee children with more than 21 million people, including eight million children, accessing protection services. The advocacy and collaboration had borne fruit with 32,000 stateless persons gaining nationality and new provisions to issue travel documents had been included as part of new refugee and statelessness laws in Benin and Senegal.

4. Operations had been able to report changes in protection environments through changes in policies, laws and protection outcomes. In 86 countries, with a total of over 19 million refugees and asylum seekers, almost all of those who had sought international protection had been able to do so. Maintaining the asylum space was a fundamental human right. In those 86 countries, refugees and asylum seekers enjoyed freedom of movement, which was a critical pathway to self-reliance and dignity.

5. Impact area 2 dealt with realizing rights in safety and security. The emergency response capacity of UNHCR had been considerably tested in 2022. The emergency response had to be rapidly scaled up in a number of countries and cash had been used as the preferred method of delivering protection and assistance, delivering almost \$1 billion to 10 million people. Healthcare services had been provided to 12 million people and close to one million women and girls had received sexual and reproductive health services. There were 9 million health consultations in facilities supported by the UNHCR, a significant 20 per cent increase over 2021. The impact of the assistance had been notable in emergency and post-emergency settings: in 79 countries hosting over 25 million refugees and asylum-seekers, almost everyone had access to health services. In 55 countries, refugees and asylum-seekers reported feeling that they lived in physically safe areas.

6. Impact area 3 focused on empowering communities and achieving gender equality, promoting access to decent work, education and implemented interventions that helped people to lead dignified lives free of violence and exploitation. Throughout the year, UNHCR partners had continued to make investments in gender-based

violence response, mitigation and prevention. Three quarters of the countries in which UNHCR worked made gender-based violence services available to survivors. In 37 countries, secondary education was made available to a high proportion of boys and girls. In 56 countries, refugees and asylum seekers had the right to decent work. Collaboration on solutions saw great progress in 2022, including the right of refugees and asylum-seekers to housing and land. 6.6 million refugees and asylum seekers gained residency status during the year, while 6.2 million had benefited from social protection programmes. The windows of inclusion and support were encouraging and evidence of the generosity of hosting States. However, solutions were far outpaced by the rate of new displacements and UNHCR echoed the interventions by many member States that solutions were foundational for lasting protection and stressed the importance of stepped-up efforts anchored in the principles of burden and responsibility sharing.

7. **The Director of the Division of External Relations, UNHCR**, said that everything accomplished by UNHCR had been thanks to a record level of funding, a large portion of which was for Ukraine. It had helped that many of the funds had been softly earmarked, allowing UNHCR precious flexibility to use unearmarked funds from other donors. Nevertheless, underfunding remained a problem in 2022 and 2023 and there were many areas in which more could have been done. The failure to invest in areas such as livelihoods, education, health and sanitation, resilience, cash or nutrition, meant that problems were being stored up for the future. Greater demands were being placed on all member States with a bigger burden on host states. Despite the challenges, UNHCR was determined to create the conditions for success, working even more closely with development actors, making the case for including forcibly displaced and stateless people as part of a wider ambition for stability, peace and development and reflecting the ethos of the Global Compact for Migration, manifested through solidarity with host countries that often faced their own development challenges. More information on the Global Report 2022 was also available on Global Focus. In closing, she expressed appreciation to the Executive Committee for their vital support and commitment.

8. The representative of the **European Union** said that she was speaking on behalf of the European Union and its member States. **The candidate countries North Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, Ukraine and Bosnia and Herzegovina¹ as well as the potential candidate country Georgia aligned themselves with the statement.** She expressed appreciation for the presentation of the Global Report 2022.

9. She stated that 2022 had again been a record year for forced displacement. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine had triggered one of the largest and fastest-growing displacement crises in the history of UNHCR. The European Union was extremely concerned that new forced displacements around the world continued to outpace solutions for both refugees and internally displaced persons, occurring in situations where conflict, violence against civilians, natural disasters, climate change and environmental degradation intersected.

10. She commended the commitment of UNHCR and its partners on the ground and expressed sincere condolences to the families and colleagues of staff who had lost their lives while providing assistance to people in need. She welcomed the adaptability of UNHCR in meeting new operational challenges with its partners on the ground.

11. The European Union expressed gratitude to governments and host communities who had generously welcomed forcibly displaced persons, demonstrating true solidarity. The European Union remained fully committed to addressing and supporting the needs of forcibly displaced persons. The upcoming Global Refugee Forum would be an important stepping-stone for all to enhance commitment and cooperation.

12. Given rising needs and increased response costs, the funding situation for UNHCR and many other humanitarian organizations was challenging; there was a need to mobilize additional humanitarian and development funding globally and to achieve a more balanced funding structure which drew on the resources of traditional, emerging and potential donors. She invited UNHCR and all relevant partners to join forces with a view to expanding the donor and resource base and to search for efficiency gains to unlock new funding streams.

13. A strong collective response was necessary more than ever, with different stakeholders contributing in line with their core strengths and comparative advantages to address the short- and long-term needs of the forcibly displaced. The European Union encouraged UNHCR to further build on inter-agency synergies and efficiency gains through coordination, working as "One UN". The UNHCR-WFP Joint Programme Excellence and Targeting Hub was a good example of efficient collaboration. Further, she welcomed UNHCR's strengthened engagement with development actors.

¹ North Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

14. The European Union and its member States welcomed UNHCR's continuous efforts as a guardian and promoter of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. The European Union and its member States provided protection to persons fleeing war, conflicts, and persecution and were committed to preserving the right to seek and enjoy asylum and the principle of non-refoulement as enshrined in the 1951 Refugee Convention and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

15. The European Union and its member States underlined their contribution to international burden and responsibility sharing for refugees, and to addressing the root causes of forced displacement, including through its engagement with all existing support platforms. Regional cooperation frameworks had proven to be essential and in Europe they had formed part of a collective response to the refugee crisis triggered by Russia's war in Ukraine and the activation of the Temporary Protection Directive.

16. The European Union and its member States recognized the increased protection challenges faced by women, children, persons with disabilities and other forcibly displaced persons in vulnerable situations and stressed the importance of combatting sexual and gender-based violence, as well as sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in all its forms. A zero-tolerance approach in that respect should be followed by all.

17. The representative of **the Netherlands (Kingdom of)** thanked UNHCR for the 2022 Global Report and for the associated presentations. With the number of displaced persons reaching a new high of 180 million, and the recent resurgence of conflict in Sudan, it was easy to despair at the huge increase in needs. It was important not to lose heart, however, but to use the Global Refugee Forum as an opportunity to substantially strengthen support for solutions and increase burden and responsibility sharing. The Global Report also showed the continuing need for engagement by UNHCR and the paramount nature of its mandate. Demonstrating its commitment to that mandate, the Netherlands (Kingdom of the) planned to make a significant pledge at the Global Refugee Forum and to increase its unearmarked contributions. He requested other member States to make similar efforts to increase burden- and responsibility-sharing and to support solutions and asked UNHCR to further prioritize efficiencies by consolidating small operations.

18. He commended UNHCR on the use of the global results framework in the Report and encouraged the Office to consider adding targets and baselines to further strengthen its results-based management approach. Partners should also be monitored to a greater extent, since results-based management was only as good as the information it was based on; given that 57 per cent of UNHCR's funding now flowed through partners it was crucial to monitor their expenditure and results. It was also essential that partners were not merely seen as implementing partners but as partners on an equal footing who effectively co-created programmes for refugees. He renewed his call for all parties to continue working on protection and solutions and to come to the Global Refugee Forum with substantial and measurable pledges.

19. The representative of **Australia** thanked UNHCR for the thought-provoking analysis in the 2022 Global Report, which provided an important common basis for discussion. She noted with concern the rise in displacement over the past 10 years, along with an increase in both needs and the humanitarian funding gap. In that environment it was important that spending on humanitarian assistance should provide the best possible value. Australia therefore supported responses that considered specific capabilities and needs and recognized the importance of humanitarian partners such as UNHCR in alleviating human suffering around the world. The previous six months had shown the dramatic consequences of lack of funding and hard prioritization in the second round of ration cuts to the Rohingya refugees living in the world's largest refugee camp in Bangladesh. Australia remained committed to supporting the response in Myanmar and Bangladesh and encouraged the international community not to lose sight of that crisis.

20. Acknowledging the generosity of countries that hosted large numbers of refugees, Australia continued to play its role in responsibility-sharing for global displacement. Her Government provided UNHCR with consistent core unearmarked multi-year funding, which would be increased in the coming years. Australia had also supported specific UNHCR responses in places including Myanmar, the Horn of Africa and Jordan; its country and regional response contributions had been softly earmarked, and private-sector contributions had increased in recent years. Recalling that the humanitarian system alone could not solve the drivers of displacement, she encouraged greater coherence between humanitarian development and peace actors to help bring more resources to protection needs and to solutions, as well as to address root causes. In the run-up to the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023, Australia hoped to work collaboratively alongside its established partners as well as new donors, new resettlement countries and other emerging stakeholders in support of refugees.

21. The representative of **Denmark** expressed her appreciation of the 2022 Global Report, which demonstrated the importance and impact of UNHCR's work, and would welcome any reflections on lessons learned and how they would be incorporated in operations and the following reporting cycle.

22. Her remarks with regard to the budget are added to the record of the discussion on item 5 (a) of the agenda (Update on budgets) on 15 June.

23. The representative of **Switzerland** thanked UNHCR for the 2022 Global Report which painted a fairly bleak picture and confirmed the increasing gap between needs and available resources. The multiplicity of crises throughout the world, combined with a majority of earmarked contributions, had led to an imbalance – both between and within regions – in the funding of response plans. While he realized that the UNHCR faced enormous challenges, obliging it to make extremely difficult choices by prioritizing needs, he requested clarification on disparities in a number of figures cited in the report. For example, at interregional level, despite a 26 per cent rise in displacements in 2022 in the Americas, there had been a budget fall of 12 per cent. There were also major disparities within regions; for example in West Africa, Ghana had been funded at 88 per cent compared to 34 per cent for Mali, while in the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes, operations in Djibouti had been funded at 77 per cent compared to 34 per cent for Somalia. He would appreciate additional information to explain those differences. He would also be grateful for more information on UNHCR's methodology for determining budget priorities both within and between regions. That exercise of forced prioritization, involving very difficult choices from an ethical and humanitarian point of view, made it especially important to have more flexible and unearmarked funding, to which Switzerland was committed.

24. In the run-up to the Global Refugee Forum, he requested UNHCR to assess the humanitarian consequences of the high rate of earmarked funding. While he appreciated the results-based management made possible through the COMPASS tool introduced in 2022, the Global Report lacked baselines and targets, which were essential for any monitoring and evaluation system; he therefore wished to know when UNHCR planned to introduce them. While certain value ranges had been provided to measure the results of certain indicators for certain countries, it would have been useful to give a global percentage to enable a better year on year comparison. If one looked at Impact area 1, it was surprising that little information was provided on the results achieved through UNHCR system reform. That applied in particular to the recommendations of the external review of protection policy by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee; for example, recommendation 4 talked of the simplification of protection architecture and gave UNHCR responsibility for reforming the global protection cluster. He requested an update on the efforts made by UNHCR efforts in that area, notably in connexion with the plan of action associated with the review.

25. The representative of **Finland** expressed his appreciation to UNHCR and to its staff and all partners for their fearless work around the world and thanked the Office for the 2022 Global Report. As shown in the Report, UNHCR was facing unprecedented challenges, with record numbers of forcibly displaced persons, as a result of both protracted and new crises, including the humanitarian catastrophe caused by the Russian Federation's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine. In many contexts, natural disasters and climate change intersected with conflicts and aggravated their consequences. That had happened at a time when operating costs had soared, presenting significant challenges for UNHCR and host countries alike. He commended the Office's strong resilience under those circumstances.

26. He was pleased to note that despite those challenges, UNHCR had been able to both implement internal reforms, with a view to streamlining operations, and find new sources of financing, including non-conventional donors. He had been particularly pleased to see the increased role of the private sector and encouraged further attention to ensure the sustainability of private-sector funding. He also welcomed the increased cooperation of UNHCR with development banks and financial institutions to increase the sustainability and impact of its operations.

27. While the global landscape was characterized by a high degree of uncertainty, he underlined the need to address the protection challenges involved in forced displacement. He strongly supported the commitment of UNHCR to integrate age, gender and diversity into its policies, programmes and advocacy. While humanitarian needs continued to rise and resources remained insufficient, it was essential not to forget persons in the most vulnerable situations. That included also a robust response to combatting sexual and gender-based violence, as well as sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in all its forms.

28. He noted that whereas the 2021 Global Report had contained a specific section on persons with disabilities, the 2022 Report did not. He observed that the word "disability" only appeared half as many times in the 2022 Report. While in 2021 UNHCR had reached nearly half a million persons with disabilities with targeted assistance, the 2022 Report mentioned only reaching 127,000 persons. UNHCR was therefore far from having a disability-inclusive response.

29. The representative of **France** expressed appreciation for the publication of the 2022 Global Report as well as the work of UNHCR for the international protection of refugees and other persons falling under its mandate, in an international environment marked by the multiplication and prolongation of crises, which called for new, innovative responses especially in the area of funding, as underlined in the Report. France was actively involved in the preparation – on the basis of the 2022 Global Report – of the upcoming Global Refugee Forum, of which it was a co-sponsor.

30. The representative of the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** thanked UNHCR for the comprehensive overview of its operations in the 2022 Global Report, which described the overwhelming challenge faced by all to address global displacement, but also areas of hope and progress, particularly the support and solidarity expressed by the international community towards Ukraine.

31. The United Kingdom acknowledged the intense hardships experienced by those displaced by conflict and persecution, commended their bravery, and reaffirmed its commitment to protect them. In a challenging global landscape still reeling from the impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, she commended the commitment of UNHCR to provide protection and seek solutions for forcibly displaced and stateless persons.

32. She thanked UNHCR for highlighting the important role played by the communities that hosted refugees and displaced persons and helped them to live in safety and dignity. Noting the importance of the emergency response capabilities of UNHCR in a year of numerous and complex emergencies, she thanked the Office for ensuring that the basic requirements of those in need were met, and lives saved.

33. As the halfway mark for the realization of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals approached, it was more important than ever to ensure that no one was left behind. In that regard, she was grateful for the detailed analysis of the ongoing needs of the most vulnerable in society, including women and girls.

34. She warmly welcomed the reference to the importance of the meaningful participation of refugees in decisions affecting their lives. In the search for long-term, sustainable solutions for the displaced and affected communities, she also welcomed the Report's focus on the role of development efforts to enable inclusion, and its explanation of how UNHCR worked with development partners to make those efforts a reality.

35. The representative of **Algeria**, drawing attention to the finding, in the Middle East and North Africa regional summary, on the Saharawi refugees in the camps near Tindouf, said the number of refugees had increased from 93,000 to 173,000 and called on UNHCR to address the gaps in the humanitarian assistance that they were provided, taking into account the increasing food costs. Long-standing situations must not be neglected or forgotten.

36. The **Director of the Division of Strategic Planning and Results (UNHCR)**, expressing appreciation for the various comments and suggestions made, and the acknowledgement of the effort that had gone into making the current edition of the Global Report more evidence-based and focused on outcomes and impact, informed the Standing Committee that the 2023 edition would also include core indicator data for output areas, thereby providing a clearer line of sight between the Office's activities, resource use and results.

37. In response to the suggestion made by the representative of the Netherlands (Kingdom of) about setting targets and baselines, she said UNHCR already did so for its partner agreements; those targets and baselines were converted into work plans then monitored and regularly assessed by programme officers, project control officers and other colleagues on the ground. Meanwhile, it was a priority in the ongoing reform of the Office's partner management processes, including through the business transformation programme, to ensure that the new ways of working, partner agreements and approaches to risk management and due diligence, among other things, were based on the core principles of partnership, mutual trust and accountability.

38. In response to the representative of Switzerland's comments on the lack of global targets and baselines in the Global Report, she pointed out that targets and baselines were set at the country level and could vary greatly between countries, which made it difficult – if not confusing or misleading to provide a global aggregate.

39. Responding to the representative of Denmark on the lessons learned in preparing the current edition of the report, she said that headquarters and the bureaux took very seriously the ongoing reflective processes with country operations, including not only the collection, collation, synthesis, analysis and interpretation of data, but also the “strategic moments of reflection”, country-level annual reporting and the results monitoring surveys that had been launched in a number of countries, the results of which would be used to track progress in outcome, impact and some output areas, thus further streamlining the Office's reporting. The lessons learned would lead to significant improvements the following year.

40. On the protection issues raised by a number of representatives, UNHCR favoured a “quiet advocacy”

approach to its in-country work of enhancing the protection environment for refugees, the displaced and the stateless, with a focus on concrete changes to policies and laws to ensure their well-being. The Office had various tools and systems in place to assist it in that challenging work.

41. In response to the comments of the representative of Finland, UNHCR continued to attach great importance to its work to promote disability inclusion, which, while it might not be highlighted in the Global Report 2022 to the extent that it had been in the 2021 report, was covered in a number of regional summaries and under outcome area 7 (Community engagement and women's empowerment). The Office remained committed to advancing the action plan for disability inclusion, in line with the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, and concerned States should find useful the additional information provided by regular reporting through the United Nations system.

42. As to the request for clarification from the representative of Switzerland, apparent discrepancies between percentage increases in budgetary allocations and displacements were to be expected given that a UNHCR budget was shaped by a combination of factors, ranging from population planning figures through levels of inclusion and service availability to service, labour and partnership costs, and resource allocation decisions were based on a needs assessment that determined the places where it was most urgently needed. UNHCR continued actively to monitor situations, and senior management regularly conferred with the bureaux on the emerging needs requiring further allocations, to which end the flexibility afforded by unearmarked contributions was of the utmost importance.

43. The **Director of the Division of External Relations (UNHCR)**, assuring the representative of Switzerland that the issues of budgetary allocations and earmarked contributions, as well as the impacts of unearmarked contributions, could be discussed more fully in the Standing Committee at its 88th meeting, pointed out that the issue of quality funding was at the heart of the ongoing discussions under the Grand Bargain, in which all partners were encouraged to engage; members were also invited to take part in the ministerial pledging event to support the humanitarian response in Sudan (the) and the region co-organized with the Governments of Egypt, Germany, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, as well as the European Union and the African Union.

44. Further to the comments of the European Union on combatting gender-based violence, UNHCR regarded its work in that field as of the utmost importance, as reflected in the emphasis on the issue both in the Global Report and on the Global Focus reporting platform, and colleagues were encouraged to provide more flexible funding.

6. Governance

45. The **Chairperson** invited members to suggest issues for inclusion in the High Commissioner's opening statement at the forthcoming seventy-fourth session of the Executive Committee.

46. The representative of **Germany** said that in 2023, UNHCR and its Member States would be taking stock of achievements since the last Global Refugee Forum and setting priorities and targets for progress until 2027. Preparations had already begun, as many initiatives on different thematic areas were already under way, but in view of the high-level political nature of the Forum, it would be useful for the High Commissioner to consider using his statement to outline the strategic high-level objectives he hoped the upcoming Global Refugee Forum would achieve.

47. The representative of **Uganda** said that she was confident that the High Commissioner would say the right things in his statement, as he always did. Nonetheless, she suggested three points that she hoped would be highlighted. Firstly, there should be an emphasis on durable solutions, in connection to the objectives laid down in the Global Compact on Refugees. There needed to be a realistic discussion of whether the persistently low resettlement numbers could be increased, and if not, there needed to be investment in making conditions conducive for people to return to their countries of origin. The second point was climate action. Putting politics aside, there needed to be a frank discussion on whether the climate had become a push factor for displacement, rather than simply a mitigating factor. Climate action was also closely related to durable solutions and protection, due to the impact of the protracted situation. The third topic was funding. The Global Report stated that only 13 per cent of the budget in 2022 was unearmarked funding, which was a huge concern. She therefore urged the High Commissioner to call on the relevant partners to practice what they preached as they sent in their contributions.

48. The representative of **the Netherlands (Kingdom of)** suggested a greater focus on localization and encouraged UNHCR to continue stepping up its efforts to work towards a more holistic localization strategy, including quality, multi-year financing for local partners, capacity-sharing, increased representation in decision-making and more equal risk-sharing. On a separate note, he recalled that the Ombudsman had been introduced at the previous session of the Executive Committee. It would be interesting to hear feedback from his first year at some point during the meeting.

49. The representative of the **Philippines** suggested that the statement include a reference to the thematic

focus identified in the Executive Committee's work plan for 2024-26, including durable solutions and complementary pathways, climate change, education, persons with disabilities and the impact of hosting refugees. It was important for there to be synergy between the remarks of the High Commissioner, providing the mandate for the work of the Organization, and the guidance that would come from member States in the coming years.

50. The representative of **Canada** echoed the sentiments expressed by the representative of Uganda; she had never been disappointed by the High Commissioner's statements, so had no real concerns. However, we would like to see him to highlight opportunities for transformation, growth and solutions. One such area was complementary pathways in the area of education and family reunification. A key topic for Canada would be refugee labour mobility, as well as education and meaningful refugee participation. She would like to see the High Commissioner use his speech to inspire the large group that would be gathered, using the opportunity to push for more.

51. The representative of **Pakistan** suggested that the High Commissioner reflect in his statement on the need for additional investment in national public service delivery systems for education, health care, social protection and vocational skills development, to support inclusive policies that benefitted both refugees and host communities. Strong advocacy was needed on the role of development actors, especially the need for grant-based financing instead of concessional loans for refugees. There also needed to be a clear message of engagement with countries of origin for voluntary returns and sustainable reintegration.

52. The representative of the **United Republic of Tanzania** also called for a focus on durable solutions, as well as voluntary repatriation to countries that were ready to receive their people, using the example of Burundi. Another important topic was climate action, both climate change root causes and the impact on host countries, with regard to refugees cutting down trees, as well as initiatives for alternative energy sources and advocacy campaigns for actions like tree planting. Another key area was localization. Including local non-governmental organizations on the ground should be given priority, without any consideration of matching funds, as no such organization could qualify that way. They should be given support because they know their communities best. One last priority was pledges, in which regard partners should be encouraged to provide funding on time so that programmes could be executed on time.

53. The **Chairperson** said that any further suggestions could be transmitted to the Secretariat in writing in the course of the next few weeks.

7. Any other business

54. The Chairperson said that the summary records would be posted on the UNHCR Governance webpage of the website. A procedural report, listing the decisions taken, would be prepared and circulated electronically by 30 June for adoption, referring to and providing a link to the summary records, leaving two weeks for the member States to submit written corrections by July 14 to the Secretariat. An updated version would be recirculated and considered adopted by the silence procedure. The Secretariat would also make available all the documentation and presentations from the meeting, on the Standing Committee page of UNHCR website.

55. The representative of **Algeria** said that she appreciated the frank exchanges of views and wanted to align her delegation with the statements made by the representatives of Uganda the previous day and Burundi earlier that morning, as well as with the proposal made earlier by the representative of the Netherlands (Kingdom of). During the discussion of item 5(a), the representative of Germany had suggested reflection on how to work more effectively, since it was not simply a case of donors versus recipients, but everybody was driven by the same ambition: to put an end to the refugee situation and its root causes. In Algeria, the Sahrawi refugees were located in a semi-desert region, so the country did not have the same issues of deforestation as Burundi. However, it was important to show solidarity and speak up for one another, in order to better manage the situation and help UNHCR fulfil its mandate.

56. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the **Chairperson** declared the eighty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee closed.

The meeting rose at 11:20 a.m.