United Nations A_{/AC.96/76/2}



Distr.: General 16 July 2025

Original: English and French

Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme Seventy-sixth session Geneva, 6–10 October 2025 Item 4 of the provisional agenda Consideration of reports of the Standing Committee

Report of the Standing Committee on its ninety-second meeting (11-13 March 2025)

I. Introduction

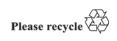
- 1. The Standing Committee of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (Executive Committee) held its ninety-second meeting at the Geneva International Conference Center from 11 to 13 March 2025.
- 2. The Chairperson of the Executive Committee, the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations Office at Geneva, chaired the ninety-second meeting of the Standing Committee.
- 3. New requests for observer status at the meetings of the Standing Committee were approved for the following States: Indonesia, Malaysia, Panama and South Sudan. Including those approved at the seventy-fifth session of the Executive Committee in October 2024, this brought the total number of Standing Committee observer States for the period of October 2024 to October 2025 to 18.²
- 4. All documents cited in this report and all available presentations made by senior managers of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) during the meeting may be found on the Standing Committee webpage.

II. Representation

5. The following Executive Committee members were represented at the meeting:

Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Republic of), Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian

An overview of the composition of the UNHCR Executive Committee, including Member States with observer status, may be found on the UNHCR global website.





¹ See A/79/12/Add.1

Federation, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

6. Other United Nations Member States present as Standing Committee observers were as follows:

Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iraq, Malaysia and Panama.

7. The European Union was represented as an observer. Also present were the following intergovernmental organizations and other entities:

International Development Law Organization, International Labour Organization, International Organization for Migration, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the Sovereign Order of Malta.

8. The United Nations system, specialized agencies and related organizations were represented as follows:

World Bank Group, World Food Programme, and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

9. Fifteen non-governmental organizations were in attendance.

III. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work of the Standing Committee in 2025

- 10. The Committee adopted by consensus the following agenda for the meeting:
 - 1. Adoption of the agenda.
 - 2. Adoption of the Standing Committee work programme in 2025.
 - 3. Regional activities and global programmes:
 - (a) Regional updates:
 - i. East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes;
 - ii. Southern Africa;
 - iii. West and Central Africa;
 - iv. Americas;
 - v. Asia and the Pacific;
 - vi. Europe;
 - vii. Middle East and North Africa.
 - (b) Global programmes;
 - (c) Emergency response and supply;
 - (d) Security of the UNHCR workforce and operations.
 - 4. Programme budgets and funding:
 - (a) Update on budgets and funding;
 - (b) UNHCR programme in the United Nations: proposed framework for 2026.
 - 5. Management, financial control, administrative oversight and human resources: Oral update on the work of the Inspector General's Office.
 - 6. International protection: Oral update on the Executive Committee conclusion.
 - 7. Coordination: Strategic partnerships, including coordination.

8. Any other business.

11. The work programme of the Standing Committee in 2025, as discussed at the planning meeting held in December 2024 and as contained in annex I, was adopted as presented.

IV. Work of the Standing Committee at its ninety-second meeting

- 12. The Deputy High Commissioner made opening remarks. The Assistant High Commissioner (Operations) then provided an overview of the challenges and opportunities facing UNHCR operations in the seven regions under its organizational structure and highlighted advances in key programmatic areas.
- 13. Presentations under each agenda item were made by senior management of UNHCR, and Executive Committee members and Standing Committee observers were given the opportunity to make comments and ask questions. Comprehensive summary records of the discussion will be made available on the webpage of the Standing Committee. The documents considered during the meeting are listed in annex II and are also available on the webpage of the Standing Committee.

V. Decisions of the Standing Committee of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme

A. Programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for 2026

14. At its meeting, on 13 March 2025, the Standing Committee:

Takes note of part VI, section 25, programme 21: International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees of the United Nations proposed programme budget for 2026.

B. Decision on budgets and funding for 2024 and 2025

15. At its meeting, on 13 March 2025, the Standing Committee,

Recalling the Executive Committee's decisions, at its seventy-fifth session on administrative, financial and programme matters (A/79/12/Add.1, para 12 (c)) as well as its discussions under the programme budgets and funding item at the ninety-first meeting of the Standing Committee in September 2024,

Reaffirming the importance of greater responsibility-sharing in solidarity with countries hosting refugees,

Recalls that the Executive Committee, at its seventy-fourth session, approved original programmes and budgets for country and regional programmes, global programmes and headquarters under the UNHCR 2024 annual programme budget, amounting to \$10,621.7 million,

Notes that the final 2024 supplementary budgets amounted to \$163.7 million for programmes benefiting the UNHCR programmes and projects,

Takes note of the increase in the UNHCR annual budget for 2024 to a final total of \$10,785.4 million, representing the sum of the original budget of \$10,621.7 million and the final supplementary budget of \$163.7 million,

Recalls that the Executive Committee, at its seventy-fifth session in October 2024, approved original programmes and budgets for country and regional programmes, global

programmes and headquarters under the UNHCR 2025 annual programme budget, amounting to \$10,247.5 million (A/AC.96/75/5),

Takes note of the UNHCR annual budget for 2025 at a current total of \$10,593.5 million as of 31 January 2025, representing the sum of the original budget of \$10,247.5 million supplementary budget of \$346 million,

Recognizes that emergencies and unforeseen activities unfolding in 2025 may result in the need for additional or expanded supplementary budgets and that additional resources, over and above those for existing budgets, would be needed to meet such needs, and

Urges Member States to continue to respond generously with flexible and unearmarked contributions, in the spirit of solidarity and in a timely manner, to the High Commissioner's appeal for resources to meet in full the annual budget for 2025.

Annex I

Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme: work programme of the Standing Committee in 2025

Theme	92 nd meeting 11-13 March 2025	93 rd meeting 17-19 June 2025	94 th meeting 8-9 September 2025
Programme budgets and funding	Update on budgets and funding (+ decision) UNHCR programme in the United Nations proposed framework for 2026 (+ decision)	Update on budgets and funding (+ decision) Global Report 2024 Review of the budget structure and management efficiencies	Update on budgets and funding (+ decision) Programme budget for the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees for 2026 Report of the ACABQ on the programme budget for 2026
International protection	Oral update on the Executive Committee conclusion: climate action as relevant to the activities of UNHCR	Note on international protection Durable solutions and complementary pathways, including implementation of the Executive Committee conclusion Leveraging community-based protection in evolving operational environments Asylum capacity development Oral update on the Executive Committee conclusion: climate action as relevant to the activities of UNHCR	Oral update on the Executive Committee conclusion: climate action as relevant to the activities of UNHCR
Regional activities and global programmes	Regional updates (West and Central Africa, the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes, Southern Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa) Global programmes Emergency response and supply	Engagement of UNHCR with internally displaced persons	

Theme	92 nd meeting 11-13 March 2025	93 rd meeting 17-19 June 2025	94 th meeting 8-9 September 2025
Programme / protection policy		UNHCR coordination efforts to measure the impact arising from hosting, protecting and assisting refugees	
		Sustainable responses	
Management, financial control, administrative oversight and human resources	Oral update on the work of the Inspector General's Office		Financial statements for the year 2024 as contained in the Report of the Board of Auditors to the General Assembly
			Key issues and measures taken in response to the Report of the Board of Auditors for 2024
			Follow-up to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements for previous years
			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
			Oral update on integrity in UNHCR
Coordination	Strategic partnerships, including coordination		
Governance	Adoption of the work programme of the Standing Committee in 2025		

Annex II

List of documents considered by the ninety-second meeting of the Standing Committee

Conference room papers:

- · Provisional annotated agenda
- Work programme of the Standing Committee in 2025
- · Global programmes
- Emergency response and supply
- · Security of the UNHCR workforce and operations
- Strategic partnerships, including coordination
- · Update on budgets and funding
- UNHCR programme in the United Nations: proposed framework for 2026

Regional overviews on:

- Americas
- · Asia and the Pacific
- East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes
- Europe
- · Middle East and North Africa
- · Southern Africa
- West and Central Africa

Elements of oral updates on:

- Work of the Inspector General's Office
- Oral update on the Executive Committee conclusion

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