



**Statement by India at the General Debate of the 76st Annual Session of
UNHCR Executive Committee (ExCom) [6-10 October 2025]**

Thank You Mr. Chairperson,

1. The delegation of India thanks the High Commissioner for his opening statement and underscoring the real challenges in managing refugees. We take this opportunity to express our profound gratitude to the outgoing High Commissioner, Mr. Filippo Grandi, for his outstanding leadership and invaluable contributions during his tenure.
2. Throughout history, India has welcomed refugees from all over the world despite our own developmental and security related challenges. Let me emphatically state that for some of the refugee communities in India, they would have lost their heritage, culture and even language but for India nurturing and protecting these communities under our pluralistic framework. We continue to host them, entirely, using our own resources.
3. We are a key international development partner and through our sustained and growing efforts continue to make contributions to helping find long term and durable solutions to the refugee problem by addressing issues through building and strengthening the capacities of states. The humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations undertaken by India are statements of capability as much as responsibility.
4. Our Constitution, adopted over seven decades ago, guarantees to all persons, not merely citizens of India, the basic rights such as rights to life, personal liberty, equality before law and equal protection of laws.
5. While India remains committed to humanitarian assistance and protection of refugees, we believe that safe, speedy and sustainable return of displaced persons and refugees to their homes is the best long term solution to address refugee influxes.

6. As a host to refugees, we also commend other States currently hosting displaced persons in their territories. It is important for the world to recognize and understand the humanitarian responsibility that the host States, including India, continue to shoulder to ensure the well-being of refugees and displaced persons. We urge the international community to enhance its support to such States engaged in providing humanitarian assistance to refugees.

Mr. Chair,

7. India would like to commend the contribution being made by the Office of UNHCR in dealing with global refugee issues. The affirmation of the Global Compact on Refugees as a voluntary, apolitical, non-prescriptive and cooperative action-oriented framework premised on national ownership was a milestone step in the right direction.

8. We encourage UNHCR to continue to help build, strengthen and use national capacities for protection and humanitarian action and increasingly work with local responders for ensuring localization of solutions and ownership of the process.

Mr. Chair,

9. We take this opportunity to renew India's commitment to UNCHR's mandate to address refugee situations and look forward to productive outcomes through constructive engagement during this 76th Session of the Executive Committee.

Thank you