

STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
76TH SESSION OF THE UNHCR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 6 – 10 OCTOBER 2025
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.

Mr. Chairman,

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Sierra Leone thanks the High Commissioner for convening this important session. In these challenging times – marked by conflict, climate shocks, and displacement – we are reminded of our collective duty to protect the rights and dignity of people on the move.

On behalf of His Excellency President Julius Maada Bio, Chair of ECOWAS, Sierra Leone reaffirms its commitment to protecting persons of concern and pursuing durable solutions aligned with regional and global frameworks.

We are working through ECOWAS and national initiatives to phase out protracted refugee situations, enhance livelihoods, and support host communities. Key efforts include implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement and Migration Project which aligns with the Global Compact for Migration, and supports SDGs 5, 8, 10, and 16.

We continue strengthening our Asylum system through capacity building, operationalizing the Refugee Status Determination framework, and adopting digital case management tools for efficiency. Additionally, we are advancing ratification of the Protocol on the Right to a Nationality to prevent statelessness.

Integration remains a national priority. Through the Productive Social Safety-Nets and Youth Employment (PSSNYE) and IOM supported 'Cash Plus' initiative, we are delivering livelihood support, education access, and protection for vulnerable adolescents, especially in border areas.

We are grateful for our partners' support and call for enhanced technical assistance, stronger public private partnerships, and investment in digital transformation and legal capacity building – especially as we confront climate vulnerabilities, limited budgets, and rising irregular migration.

We thank UNHCR and partners for their continued collaboration and reaffirm Sierra Leone's steadfast support.

Thank you.