EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STATEMENT

76th session of the Executive Committee 6-10 October 2025

- 1. We, the Member States of the Executive Committee, in this unprecedented time of financial crisis and in the context of rising numbers of forcibly displaced people, express our support for the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), its mandate, and its vital work in upholding the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and other relevant instruments, General Assembly resolutions, and principles of international law, in a manner that is responsive to the needs of refugees, internally displaced and stateless persons, as well as host communities and countries.
- 2. In this seventy-fifth anniversary year of the establishment of UNHCR and marking the final year of tenure of High Commissioner Filippo Grandi, we value the enduring commitment of the organization and its staff in these challenging circumstances in upholding the mandate of UNHCR in providing protection, seeking durable solutions, and assisting refugees, internally displaced and stateless persons.
- 3. We express our deep concern that the current financial challenges will diminish UNHCR's ability to advance durable solutions that restore dignity, safety and long-term prospects for the forcibly displaced. As UNHCR delivers on its mandate, we highlight the importance of UNHCR to also focus on durable solutions, in close cooperation with States, host communities and relevant partners, recognizing that successful implementation of these solutions depends on national contexts and requires sustained international support.
- 4. In the same vein, we express solidarity with refugee hosting countries that continue to bear the burden of hosting growing and continuous numbers of refugees amidst the challenges posed by declining funding.
- 5. We recognize the importance of meaningful refugee participation and integrating the perspectives of refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner in humanitarian responses.
- 6. We reiterate the importance of addressing the root causes of forced displacement and supporting countries of origin to address growing displacement.

- 7. We recall the significance of UNHCR's efforts to strengthen international cooperation, facilitate humanitarian and development work and strategic engagement, and further enhance partnerships with relevant actors to that end.
- 8. We emphasize the importance of equitable burden- and responsibility-sharing, including support for host countries and communities, in addressing the growing needs and challenges, encourage more States to respond generously with flexible and unearmarked contributions, in a timely manner in a spirit of solidarity, and urge UNHCR to diversify its funding sources.
- 9. We call upon UNHCR to ensure its work is in accordance with the UN Charter, reflecting non-discrimination to ensure its ongoing review reflects the paramount consideration of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence, and integrity, and the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographic and equitable basis as possible, and is coherent with broader United Nations system-wide processes.
- 10. We request UNHCR to engage the Executive Committee on its ongoing and any future reviews with full transparency and in close consultation with Member States.