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Statement on EC/77/SC/CRP 6

UNHCR's programme in the United Nations: proposed framework for 2027

Thank you, Chair.

Distinguished delegates, ladies, and gentlemen,

Let me thank you once again for your continued support for UNHCR's programmes and budgets. This statement refers to the funds that UNHCR receives from the Regular Budget of the United Nations, and our programme of work for 2027, which is elaborated in the paper EC/77/SC/CRP.6. This is part and parcel of the UN Regular Budget that goes through the approval process in New York.

Based on Article 20 of the UNHCR Statute, the Programme Budget of the United Nations provides a portion of funding for UNHCR's Management & Administrative costs at Headquarter locations. Compared to UNHCR's overall budget and expenditure, the UN Regular Budget's contribution is relatively modest, but it is vitally important. In fact, this funding contributes to functions that are essential to the leadership and management of the organization, such as executive direction; governance; evaluation and oversight; information technology; design, development and risk management; emergency and programme support; external relations; people management, and resource management. These functions are critical to ensure that UNHCR can discharge its mandate and responsibilities to protect, assist and find durable solutions to the plight of forcibly displaced and stateless people.

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Parallel planning process

I would also like to clarify that, in order to receive these resources from the UN Regular Programme Budget, UNHCR prepares and submits specific programme budget proposals, within the overall processes led by the UN Secretary General's office in New York. The cycles for the UN Regular Budget submission and the UNHCR High Commissioner's Annual programme budgeting process run in parallel; however, the timelines are not entirely aligned.

So, the advance copy of this document that you have now in front of you will be reviewed by the United Nation's Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) in May, and by the 5th Committee of the General Assembly in October or November of this year. And following the deliberation of those bodies, it will be considered by the General Assembly and approved during its 81th Session.

In parallel, UNHCR operations are currently reviewing its multi-year strategies and these will be consolidated globally as the Annual Programme Budget of UNHCR for 2027. The Annual Programme Budget of UNHCR for 2027 will incorporate the UN Regular Budget appropriation. This document will be realized in July and will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), the September Standing Committee and thereafter submitted for approval by the Executive Committee in its 77th session in October this year.

The Plan for 2027

As outlined in the document, the number of forcibly displaced and stateless people continues to be high. At the same time, and as communicated before, due to last year's

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changes in funding, UNHCR consolidated its presence in more multi-country offices and reduced its workforce in 2025. As of end of 2025, UNHCR is maintaining its operational presence in 128 countries with almost 88 per cent of the workforce based in the field, and 93 percent of our global budget allocated to field-based interventions as of mid March 2026.

As per the UNGA resolution 59/276, the General Assembly had recommended that the UN Regular Budget fund 50.8 per cent of UNHCR's management and administrative costs. However, this funding has decreased and is now below half the level recommended by the Assembly, at approximately 22 per cent in 2025. While appreciating the current UN funding challenges, we call for your strengthened collaboration and support to ensure that UN Regular Budget funding, which funds our core management and administrative activities, is at the level at which it was decided in the UN resolution.

I would like to conclude by just speaking about the extent to which the UNRB contributes to our management and administrative expenses.

As you know, with a drastically changed funding environment in 2025, the UNRB's funding portion is an important contributor to supporting our ability to manage the organization in the most impactful, effective and efficient way. It helps us manage risk, provide assurance, and ensure integrity.

This work also enhances our engagement with governments and other stakeholders in promoting predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing, for example through the Global Compact on Refugees. A recent example is last year's Global Refugee Forum Progress Review meeting, which continues to generate measurable impacts for refugees and their

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host communities, including through more inclusive policies and improved access to essential services. My colleagues will brief you later today on the progress made in implementing the Global Compact on Refugees.

A few examples of how our management and administrative expenses contribute to efficiency and effectiveness. Last year, UNHCR responded to 24 emergencies across 16 countries. Our management and administration investments enable us to establish and manage global stockpiles more effectively. These stockpiles ensure life-saving support for up to one million people within 72 hours. These expenses enable us to optimize our supply chain, leading to better management of stocks and distributions.

Evaluations are a critical instrument for both oversight and organizational learning. Recent evaluation findings have contributed to strengthening partnerships with local actors, informing cross-regional emergency responses, and guiding UNHCR's strategic direction across diverse operational contexts, among other important areas.

By exploring innovation and digital solutions, we aim to boost effectiveness and optimize resources: examples include, changes in procurement processes, fleet management and global banking solutions that led to savings and efficiencies. The solarization of offices since 2024 has delivered substantial energy savings and emissions reductions equivalent to removing **410 vehicles** from the road for one year.

Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for your attention. We stand by to answer any questions that you may have on this item. Thank you.