

MEMBER STATES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

UNHCR's governing body – the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (ExCom) – was created in 1958, pursuant to a request by the General Assembly. Its main tasks are to approve the High Commissioner's assistance programmes, advise the High Commissioner in the exercise of his/her functions (mainly on protection issues), and oversee the Office's finances and administration.

ExCom holds an annual session in Geneva every October. The fifty-ninth session was held from 6 to 10 October 2008. Meetings of the Executive Committee's Standing Committee are held at various dates throughout the year.

Membership is on the widest possible geographical basis from those States (members of the United Nations and others) with a demonstrated interest in, and devotion to, the solution of refugee problems.

In 2008, the 76 members were:

Algeria	Holy See	Portugal
Argentina	Hungary	Republic of Korea
Australia		Romania
Austria	India	Russian Federation
	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	
Bangladesh	Ireland	Serbia
Belgium	Israel	Somalia
Benin	Italy	South Africa
Brazil		Spain
	Japan	Sudan
Canada	Jordan	Sweden
Chile		Switzerland
China	Kenya	
Colombia		Thailand
Costa Rica	Lebanon	The former Yugoslav
Côte d'Ivoire	Lesotho	Republic of Macedonia
Cyprus	Luxemburg	Tunisia
		Turkey
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Madagascar	
Denmark	Mexico	Uganda
	Montenegro	United Kingdom of
Ecuador	Morocco	Great Britain and
Egypt	Mozambique	Northern Ireland
Estonia	Namibia	United Republic
Ethiopia		of Tanzania
	Netherlands	United States of America
	New Zealand	
Finland	Nicaragua	Venezuela
France	Nigeria	(Bolivarian Republic of)
	Norway	
Germany		Yemen
Ghana	Pakistan	
Greece	Philippines	Zambia
Guinea	Poland	