

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson

We meet here today at the 70<sup>th</sup> session of ExCom amidst an increasingly worrying global humanitarian situation with protracted crises whose solution horizons seem far fetched even though its' effects are global.

Throughout the past 8 years Jordan has witnessed the influx of 1.3 million of our Syrian brothers due to the Syrian crisis of which Jordan has called for a political solution for, that ensures the sovereignty and stability of Syria that restores its' security and achieves a national reconciliation which would eventually lead to the voluntary return of refugees into their country.

Jordan has been doing what's ethically and morally correct towards the refugees, and is still carrying the burden of hosting them on behalf of the international community.

As we value the support provided by our international partners and the U.N organizations in order to alleviate the pressures resulting from receiving overwhelming numbers on all sectors of infrastructure including education, water, sanitation, health and labor market, unfortunately the current support is decreasing in a way that it barely covers a fraction of the cost borne by Jordan.

That is were the international community should step up its role in providing necessary means of a decent living and care for the refugees.

Mr. Chairperson,

My country perceives the Global compact on refugees as a tool that hinges on the principle of burden and responsibility sharing that needs to materialize into solid action and support for host countries and alleviate the pressures they are withstanding and not to further burden them.

Jordan has set a model in incorporating refugees in its' plans, that includes enrolling over 130000 refugees students in Jordanian public schools, and issuing over 145000 work permits, in addition to providing medical and health care for them. These steps have been taken as a temporary measure till the eventual voluntary return of these refugees takes place.

We believe that return is the optimum solution in refugee scenarios and therefore we encourage voluntary return, of course for return to take place conditions must allow it and it should be voluntary. We are also convinced that these refugees will have a major role in rebuilding their own homeland once they return.

It is also noteworthy, that only around 10% of Syrian refugees in Jordan reside in camps while the remaining majority is living in cities, villages amidst Jordanians side by side.

We also like to highlight that ever since the reopening of the Jaber crossing border point with Syria last October only 153000 Syrians left the borders from Jordan to Syria, 33000 of them are registered as refugees.

My country believes that meeting the needs of refugees, providing education and dignified living means is an investment in regional and global security, as abandoning these refugees would eventually lead to sentiments of deprivation, despair and ignorance that creates an environment on which extremism would feed on, and the forces of darkness would exploit to spread its' message and culture of hatred.

As for resettlement, which is supposed to be a part of the solutions mechanism and an instrument of actual responsibility sharing, its decreasing numbers are worrying and are of deep concern, therefore we call on the UNHCR to increase the rates of resettlement.

Mr. Chairperson,

We are looking forward to the global refugee forum, which will be a true opportunity for us hosting states to

share our experiences with other partners, discuss our needs in order to lay the foundation of actual burden and responsibility sharing, so that hosting states do not remain to be the sole bearers of the burdens.

Regarding statelessness, Jordan is not part to any of the statelessness conventions, yet registration is undertaken to ensure the preservation of the nationality of origin, moreover refugees can't and should not be considered as stateless. They belong to a different legal regime.

We express our deep concern over the continuing funding gap in UNHCR's budget. that will have an adverse effect on millions of refugees and their living conditions.

It should also be highlighted that Jordan's national response plan continues to be underfunded in a considerable way.

Finally, We take note of UNHCR's transformation which is aimed at strengthening the organization and better positioning it to deliver on its responsibilities. And We commend the High Commissioner leadership and the genuine efforts of the UNHCR family.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson.