#### Statement

# by the Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UNHCR Executive Committee

10-14 October 2022

## High Commissioner, Mr. Filippo Grandi, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

- Let me begin by extending our appreciation for the High Commissioner and the UNHCR Agency, for their work with member states in protecting refugees indiscriminately and seeking a durable solution for refugees.
- 2. It is indeed a difficult task. In the past several years, we are dealing with increasingly complex humanitarian situations.
- 3. In many parts of the world, new conflicts arising while the existing ones remain unsolved. We are exposed to more frequent, climate-fuelled natural disasters. The pandemic has also severely impacted our capacity to prepare and response to humanitarian calls.
- 4. In 2022 alone, around 100 million people have been forcibly displaced.
- 5. Every country is now dealing with the increasing number of refugees, internally displaced persons, and asylum seekers and there no other recourse but a more effective international cooperation
- 6. Against this backdrop, allow me to highlight 3 key points.

## 7. First, upholding the principle of humanity

- 8. All countries must uphold the principle of humanity and nonrefoulement.
- 9. We therefore regret that the push-back policies are being implemented by several countries, including the parties to the

- Refugee Convention. Such policies are endangering refugees' right to life.
- 10. As a **non-party to the Refugee Convention**, Indonesia has contributed beyond our obligations.
- 11. In 2020-2022, Indonesia rescued around 695 boat refugees.
- 12. We must work together to ensure that no more refugees take perilous sea migration journeys and become victim to inhumane treatment and exploitation.
- 13. Guided by humanitarian principles, Indonesia has worked closely with the UNHCR and IOM in providing basic needs for around 13,000 refugees, who are currently transiting in Indonesia.
- 14. Including providing access to education for refugee children
- 15. This is one of the concrete realizations of Indonesia pledges at the 2019 Global Refugee Forum.
- 16. Indonesia is also working through regional mechanisms.
- 17. Bali Process, for example, provides a forum for countries of origin, transit and destination and partners to cooperate and enhance their capacities to address and prevent irregular migrations.
- 18. The Bali Process is working and will continue to advance new and practical cooperation, including throughout the pandemic

### 19. Second, the importance of burden and responsibility sharing

20. Data shows that 85% of the world's refugee population is being hosted in developing countries, and 27% of the total are granted asylum in the least developed countries.

- 21. In the face of such disproportion and imbalance, it is critical to immediately put into practices the Global Compact on Refugees' principle of burden and responsibility sharing.
- 22. Hence, we call countries, especially parties to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its protocol, to realize their commitments and obligations.

#### 23. Third, efforts to achieve permanent and durable solutions

- 24. Indonesia has been working closely with UNHCR to find a durable solution for refugees and asylum seekers. This includes providing a speedy process of repatriation and/ or resettlement.
- 25. While we understand the pressure faced by traditional resettlement countries due to the recent influx of refugees, it is our hope that those relevant countries would continue to consider positively the refugee resettlement applications.

#### 26. Mr. Chair,

- 27. We believe in ensuring our equal assistance and contribution for all refugees around the world, including existing refugees population from protracted conflicts.
- 28. For this, Indonesia will continue to support the Agency in its effort to broaden donor base.. to attain innovative, sufficient, predictable, and sustainable financing, which will help lessen the burden of the host countries.
- 29. In closing, Indonesia looks forward to work with all states, and UNHCR, to obtain the best and most durable solutions for refugees including addressing the root causes of crises.
- 30. Ultimately, sustainable peace and safe environment are our hope in breaking the cycle of displacement... so that refugees can return voluntarily, safely, dan with dignity. Thank you.