



United Nations

**United Nations High Commissioner
for Refugees**

**Report of the Executive
Committee of the Programme
of the United Nations High
Commissioner for Refugees**

**Sixty-fourth session
(30 September to 4 October 2013)**

**General Assembly
Official Records
Sixty-eighth Session
Supplement No. 12A**



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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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I. Introduction

A. Opening of the session

1. The Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme held its sixty-fourth plenary session at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, from 30 September-4 October 2013. It was opened by the Chairperson, Her Excellency Ambassador Alicia Arango Olmos (Colombia).

B. Representation on the Committee

2. The following members of the Committee were represented at the session:

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

3. The Governments of the following States were present as observers:

Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Armenia, Belarus, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Cuba, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Palestine, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe.

4. The European Union was represented as an observer.

5. Also present were the following intergovernmental organizations, specialized agencies and other entities:

African Union, Council of Europe, East African Community, Economic Community of West African States, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Labour Organization, International Organization for Migration, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, Organization for Economic

Cooperation and Development, Organization for Islamic Cooperation, Sovereign Military Order of Malta, and the World Bank.

6. The United Nations system was represented as follows:

Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Relief and Works Agency, and the World Food Programme.

7. Almost forty non-governmental organizations were in attendance.

C. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

8. The Executive Committee adopted by consensus the following agenda ([A/AC.96/LXIV/1/Rev.1](#)):

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
3. High-level segment on solidarity and burden-sharing with countries hosting Syrian refugees
4. Statement by the High Commissioner and general debate
5. Consideration of reports on the work of the Standing Committee:
 - (a) International protection;
 - (b) Programme budgets, management, financial control and administrative oversight
6. Consideration of reports relating to programme and administrative oversight and evaluation
7. Consideration and adoption of the biennial programme budget 2014-2015
8. Review of the annual consultations with non-governmental organizations
9. Other statements
10. Working methods of the Executive Committee and meetings of the Standing Committee in 2014
11. Consideration of the provisional agenda of the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Committee
12. Election of officers
13. Any other business
14. Adoption of the report of the sixty-fourth session of the Executive Committee
15. Closing of the session

D. Election of officers for the sixty-fifth session

9. Under Rule 10 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation, to serve the Committee from the day immediately following their election to the end of the last day of the following annual plenary session:

Chairperson:

H.E. Ambassador CHOI Seokyoung (Republic of Korea)

Vice-Chairperson:

H.E. Ambassador Pedro COMISSÁRIO (Mozambique)

Vice-Chairperson:

H.E. Ambassador Carsten STAUR (Denmark)

Rapporteur:

Mr. Guillermo REYES (Mexico)

II. Work of the sixty-fourth session

10. The sixty-fourth session began with a high-level segment on solidarity and burden-sharing with countries hosting Syrian refugees. A statement adopted by the Executive Committee at the end of the high-level segment is contained in annex I.

11. A summary of the general debate, delivered by the Chairperson, is contained in annex II.

12. The High Commissioner's statements delivered during the session, including for the high-level segment, and summary records of each meeting are available on UNHCR's website <http://www.unhcr.org/excom>.

III. Conclusion and decisions of the Executive Committee

A. Conclusion on civil registration

13. *The Executive Committee,*

Recalling its previous Conclusions, notably Nos. 22 (XXXII), 47 (XXXVIII), 90 (LII), 91 (LII), 95 (LIV), 100 (LV), 101 (LV), 102 (LVI), 105 (LVII), 106 (LVII), 107 (LVIII), 108 (LIX), and 109 (LX), and taking note of relevant UN resolutions,

Recognizing civil registration and documentation, especially birth registration as a proof of birth of a person, contribute to enhancing protection and the implementation of durable solutions, including by documenting links with countries of origin,

Reaffirming that every child shall be registered immediately after birth, without discrimination of any kind,

Recognizing that civil registration systems, which record births, deaths, cause of death, and marriage, provide substantial information for policy and humanitarian planning,

Acknowledging the long-standing generosity extended by host countries, particularly the developing States, some hosting large numbers of refugees, sometimes over a protracted period of time, and the socio-economic and environmental impact on those countries and their communities; and recognizing the necessity for mobilizing the necessary support, including funding to assist countries receiving refugees in line with the principles of equitable burden-sharing, and international solidarity and cooperation,

Noting that the lack of civil registration and related documentation makes persons vulnerable to statelessness and associated protection risks, and that birth registration is often essential to the reduction and prevention of statelessness,

Recognizing the need to further strengthen efforts where there is a low level of birth registration and related documentation, to improve access to civil registration, while acknowledging the need to assist countries hosting large numbers of refugee children, as well as to intensify efforts to implement durable solutions,

(a) *Urges* States to ensure civil registration and emphasizes that every child shall be registered immediately after birth without discrimination of any kind, taking into consideration that civil registration and, in particular, birth registration provide substantial information for policy and humanitarian planning, through regulations that contribute towards enhancing protection and the implementation of durable solutions;

(b) *Encourages* States to undertake, in accordance with its own laws and, as appropriate, in cooperation and with the support from UNHCR, any necessary legal and practical measures to overcome the difficulties in conducting civil registration, including through establishing or strengthening existing institutions responsible for civil registration, building their capacity and ensuring the safety and confidentiality of their records;

(c) *Urges* UNHCR, with the consent of and in full cooperation with the Governments concerned, and, when appropriate in cooperation with other relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, as well as regional organizations and civil society, to facilitate civil registration, in particular birth registration, through for example collecting and sharing good practices, holding technical workshops, capacity building activities, and providing information and advice to concerned persons, and also to abide by the fundamental principles and international norms and standards governing the protection of personal data;

(d) *Encourages* States to make accessible civil registration, in particular through

(i) adopting simplified administrative procedures and, where appropriate, integrating civil registration with other public services including those relating to childbirth, maternal-infant care, immunization and education;

(ii) carrying out regular awareness campaigns or community outreach activities;

(iii) putting in place measures, as appropriate, to ensure that rural or remote locations are reached, such as through, for example, mobile registration units;

(iv) considering free birth and death registration in accordance with national laws and regulations; in particular facilitating late registration and the waiving of late registration fees and penalties;

(v) supporting the recording of medically certified cause of death, as appropriate;

(e) *Encourages* States to request technical and other assistance, if required, from other States, UNHCR and other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, as well as civil society and regional organizations;

(f) *Requests* UNHCR to provide periodic updates to the Executive Committee, within existing reporting mechanisms, on progress made in the field of civil registration.

B. Decision on the working methods of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme and its Standing Committee¹

14. *The Executive Committee,*

Recalling the terms of reference entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its Resolution 1166 (XII) and by the Economic and Social Council in its Resolution 672 (XXV),

Recalling its Rules of Procedure (A/AC.96/187/Rev.6),

Recalling the decision it took at its extraordinary session held on 1 November 2012 (A/AC.96/1120) to review options for designation of bureau members in an effort to "reflect the growing membership and diversity of the Committee, in order to come up with a clear, transparent and equitable formula",

Taking note with appreciation the consultations carried out by its Chairperson,

1. *Decides*, with respect to the working methods of the Executive Committee:²

(a) Rule 10 of the Executive Committee's Rules of Procedure (A/AC.96/187/Rev.6) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"With effect from the annual plenary session of the Committee in 2013, the Committee shall, at the last meeting of its annual plenary session, elect the officers who will serve the Committee from the day immediately following their election to the end of the last day of the following annual plenary session: Chairperson, two Vice Chairpersons and Rapporteur.";

(b) Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The officers of the Committee shall hold office until the end of the day on which their successors are elected. The Vice-Chairpersons, acting as Chairperson, shall have the same powers as the Chairperson. The main functions of the Officers shall be to prepare and organize the meetings of the Executive Committee and its subsidiary bodies, to ensure the link between

¹ The consultative process which led to this decision is detailed in annex III.

² These revisions to the Executive Committee's Rules of Procedure will be reflected in A/AC.96/187/Rev.7.

Committee members and the Office of the High Commissioner, and to promote dialogue in decision-making and in the elaboration of conclusions.”;

2. *Decides*, that in electing the officers of the Executive Committee bureau, due consideration will be given in its composition to the diverse contributions made to UNHCR’s work, and that consultations among regional groupings should facilitate the establishment of a bureau representative of the Committee’s membership. Regional groupings are expected to resolve the identification of potential officers being proposed for the bureau within their constituency.

3. *Decides* that a technical change to replace the words “Chairman” or “Vice Chairman” with “Chairperson” or “Vice-Chairpersons” will be made throughout its Rules of Procedure, in particular in paragraphs 8, 15, 16, 18, 19, 26 and 27.

C. General decision on administrative, financial and programme matters

15. The Executive Committee,

(a) *Recalls* that the Executive Committee, at its sixty-third session, approved a revised budget for 2013 covering total requirements of \$3,924,238,600; notes that the additional needs under supplementary budgets in 2013 amount to \$1,348,178,500; approves the total revised requirements for 2013 amounting to \$5,269,917,200; and authorizes the High Commissioner, within these total appropriations, to effect adjustments in regional programmes, global programmes and headquarters budgets;

(b) *Confirms* that the activities proposed in the biennial programme budget for the years 2014-2015, as set out in document [A/AC.96/1125](#), are consistent with the Statute of the Office of the High Commissioner ([A/RES/428 \(V\)](#)); the High Commissioner’s other functions as recognized, promoted or requested by the General Assembly, the Security Council, or the Secretary-General; and the relevant provisions of the financial rules for voluntary funds administered by the High Commissioner for Refugees ([A/AC.96/503/Rev.10](#));

(c) *Approves* the programmes and budgets for regional programmes, global programmes and headquarters under the proposed 2014-2015 biennial budget, as set out in document [A/AC.96/1125](#) and amounting to \$5,307,842,800 and \$5,179,463,700 for 2014 and 2015 respectively, including the United Nations regular budget contribution towards headquarters costs, the reserves and the Junior Professional Officer programme; and authorizes the High Commissioner, within this total appropriation, to effect adjustments in regional programmes, global programmes and headquarters budgets;

(d) *Takes* note of the Report of the Board of Auditors to the General Assembly on the accounts of the Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2012 ([A/AC.96/1124](#)) and the Report by the High Commissioner on key issues and measures taken in response to the recommendations in the Report of the Board of Auditors ([A/AC.96/1124/Add.1](#)), as well as the Report by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on UNHCR’s biennial programme budget for 2014-2015 ([A/AC.96/1125/Add.1](#)) and various reports of the High

Commissioner related to oversight activities (A/AC.96/1126 and A/AC.96/1127); and requests to be kept regularly informed on the measures taken to address the recommendations and the observations raised in these various oversight documents;

(e) *Requests* the High Commissioner, within the resources available, to respond flexibly and efficiently to the needs indicated under the biennial programme budget for the years 2014-2015, and authorizes him, in the case of additional emergency needs that cannot be met fully from the operational reserve, to create supplementary budgets and issue special appeals under all pillars, with such adjustments being reported to the subsequent Standing Committee meeting for consideration;

(f) *Acknowledges* with appreciation the burden that continues to be shouldered by developing and least developed countries hosting refugees; and urges Member States to recognize this valuable contribution to the protection of refugees and to participate in efforts to promote durable solutions; and

(g) *Urges* Member States, in light of the extensive needs to be addressed by the Office of the High Commissioner, and in parallel with the long-standing and substantial support provided by refugee hosting countries, to respond generously and in a spirit of solidarity, to his appeal for resources to meet in full the 2014-2015 biennial programme budget; and to ensure that the Office is resourced in a timely and predictable manner, while keeping earmarking to a minimum level.

D. Decision on the programme of work of the Standing Committee in 2014

16. *The Executive Committee,*

Having reviewed the issues before it at its sixty-fourth session, and bearing in mind the decisions adopted at that session,

(a) *Decides* to convene no more than three formal meetings of the Standing Committee in 2014, to be held in March, June and September;

(b) *Reaffirms* its decision on the framework for the Standing Committee's programme of work (A/AC.96/1003, paragraph 25, subparagraph 2 (c)); authorizes the Standing Committee to add and delete items, if appropriate, to this framework for its meetings in 2014; and requests member States to meet in December 2013 to draw up a detailed work plan for formal adoption by the Standing Committee at its first meeting in 2014;

(c) *Calls* upon its members to continue efforts to ensure that debate at the Executive Committee and its Standing Committee is of a substantive and interactive nature, yielding practical guidance and clear advice to the High Commissioner, in keeping with the Committee's statutory functions;

(d) *Calls* upon the Office of the High Commissioner to be explicit and analytical in its reports and presentations to the Committee and to submit documentation in a timely manner; and

(e) *Further* requests the Standing Committee to report on its work to the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Committee.

E. Decision on observer participation in meetings of the Standing Committee in 2013-2014

17. *The Executive Committee,*

(a) *Approves* applications by the following Government observer delegations for participation in meetings of the Standing Committee from October 2013 to October 2014: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Nepal, Slovakia and Uruguay.

(b) *Authorizes* the Standing Committee to decide upon any additional applications from Government observer delegations to participate in its meetings during the aforementioned period;

(c) *Approves* the following list of intergovernmental and international organizations to be invited by the High Commissioner to participate as observers in relevant meetings of its Standing Committee from October 2013 to October 2014:

United Nations specialized agencies, departments, funds and programmes; African Union; Council of Europe; East African Community; Economic Community of Central African States; Economic Community of West African States; European Union; Executive Secretariat of the Commonwealth of Independent States; Intergovernmental Authority on Development; International Centre for Migration Policy Development; International Committee of the Red Cross; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; International Organization for Migration; League of Arab States; Organization of Eastern Caribbean States; International Organisation of La Francophonie; Organization of Islamic Cooperation; the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe; Southern African Development Community; and Sovereign Military Order of Malta.

F. Decision on the provisional agenda of the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Committee

18. *The Executive Committee,*

Recalling its decision on working methods adopted at its fifty-fifth plenary session (A/AC.96/1003, paragraph 25);

Decides to adopt as the provisional agenda for the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Committee the standard model contained in subparagraph 1 (f) of the above-mentioned decision.

Annex I

Statement of the Executive Committee on solidarity and burden-sharing with countries hosting Syrian refugees

At the end of the high-level segment on solidarity and burden-sharing with countries hosting Syrian refugees, the Executive Committee adopted a statement as follows:

“We, Member States of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner’s Programme, gathered in Geneva, Switzerland, on 30 September and 1 October 2013 on the occasion of a high-level segment on solidarity and burden-sharing with countries hosting Syrian refugees, deliberated upon the following, in a solely humanitarian and non-political spirit:

We are deeply grateful for the detailed briefing by the Ministers of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey — neighbouring States hosting Syrian refugees — on the impact on their countries and communities of more than 2 million refugees. We commend the exemplary generosity and hospitality of refugee-hosting countries and communities, and their significant investments in hosting Syrian refugees, as a temporary measure until the refugees voluntarily return to their country in safety and dignity. We recognize the profound impact on host communities, economies, societies, services, infrastructure, environment and security. At the same time, we remain mindful of the needs of a huge number of persons that had to leave their homes inside the Syrian Arab Republic.

We are alarmed at the gravity and complexity of the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and recognize the urgent need for a settlement. We believe that without a comprehensive political solution, the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and the whole Middle East region will continue to deteriorate, and we commend efforts to convene the Geneva-2 International Conference.

We reaffirm, therefore, our commitment to the principles of international solidarity and burden-sharing, in supporting host countries and in responding to the assistance needs of refugees and the communities hosting them. We are grateful for the commitments expressed by Member States and the affirmations of support to the host countries and communities, UNHCR, other United Nations and relevant humanitarian actors working on behalf of Syrian refugees. We call upon all actors to closely coordinate with hosting governments and UNHCR so as to avoid duplication of efforts.

We call upon the international community to:

- Provide direct aid to governments;
- Provide financial and in-kind assistance to support refugee populations and the communities hosting them, in coordination with the State concerned, to relieve pressure on host communities;
- Take into consideration the assessment by host countries, together with United Nations agencies and international financial institutions, of the impact of refugees on country economies, societies, services,

infrastructure, the environment and security, in order to provide the assistance required;

- Offer enhanced resettlement, humanitarian admission and family reunification opportunities in third countries; and
- Urge development actors to consider initiatives and projects directed to host communities to ease the economic and social costs of hosting Syrian refugees.

We express our gratitude to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for supporting the organization of the high-level segment on solidarity and burden-sharing with countries hosting Syrian refugees.”

Annex II

Chairperson's summary of the general debate

The Chairperson summarized the general debate of the sixty-fourth session of the Executive Committee as follows:

“Let me begin by thanking the High Commissioner for his extensive and engaging presentation. Let me also thank the more than 90 delegations who responded with expressions of support and constructive recommendations for UNHCR.

Delegations commended the High Commissioner and UNHCR staff for the work they do on behalf of the displaced. Many speakers expressed their appreciation for the high-level segment on solidarity and burden-sharing with countries hosting Syrian refugees and affirmed their support for both the people of the Syrian Arab Republic and the neighbouring countries, which have opened their borders and already welcomed more than two million refugees. Many delegations equally recognized other crises, as well as protracted situations, which must not be forgotten and which require continued support from the international community. Committee members recalled the tremendous burden refugee situations may place on host countries and, in keeping with the statement which this Committee agreed in relation to the high-level segment, restated the need for international solidarity and burden-sharing to address the needs of host communities, refugees and internally displaced persons. Regarding the latter, several delegations welcomed the upcoming dialogue on the protection of internally displaced persons.

The High Commissioner referred to reforms and initiatives that his Office has undertaken in recent years, and delegations commented on a number of them. In particular, support was expressed for UNHCR's efforts to strengthen its emergency response capacity; to improve children's education; to ensure age, gender and diversity mainstreaming; to promote birth and other civil registration, particularly for newborns; and to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence. Delegations welcomed internal reforms in management, including results-based approaches, transparency in audit procedures and compliance with the international public sector accounting standards (IPSAS), and the reduction in the proportion of headquarters' costs relative to the overall budget, with one delegation commending the High Commissioner and his team 'for their sound and solid financial management'.

In addition to welcoming UNHCR's reforms and innovations, many speakers encouraged the Office to continue to strengthen strategic partnerships with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and sister agencies and its work within the framework of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to promote education for children, to prevent and resolve statelessness, and to address the needs of urban refugees and internally displaced persons. There was also strong support for UNHCR's engagement with the Transformative Agenda and its leadership of key clusters.

All of these efforts are, of course, geared to fulfilling UNHCR's core mandate — protection and the search for durable solutions. Many speakers noted the importance of enhancing resettlement opportunities as one form of durable

solution, while others recalled that voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity remains the preferred, and in some cases perhaps the only, feasible solution for many refugees. Many States commented on the importance of unlocking protracted situations. In doing so, they emphasized that humanitarian and development actors must jointly ‘use their creative synergies to come forward with solutions’, such as is being done with the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees and the Transitional Solutions Initiative. One delegation encouraged UNHCR to continue to advocate for the inclusion of refugees in development planning; others supported UNHCR’s efforts to improve refugee self-reliance. These remarks reinforced the High Commissioner’s call for all partners in the search for solutions to ‘recognize solutions-oriented approaches for what they are: not only an investment in people, but indeed a better use of scarce funding than measures that perpetuate long-term aid dependency’.

In relation to protection, it was heartening that many States reaffirmed their commitment to the principles of international protection, to the refugee convention and the conventions on statelessness, and to international humanitarian law. Many delegations provided excellent updates on efforts they have undertaken to assist UNHCR and the people of concern to the Office, at both national and regional levels. These include the European Union’s Common Asylum System, several initiatives in Latin America, the Regional Housing Programme in the Balkans, and individual State initiatives regarding legislation or programmes such as Ethiopia’s ‘out-of-camp’ policy. Delegations commented on the importance of humanitarian access and enhancing the safety and security of humanitarian personnel. Many delegations paid tribute to those staff who have lost their lives while assisting others.

None of UNHCR’s activities can occur, of course, without financial support. Delegations took note of the significant increase in UNHCR’s budget in recent years and the funding gap that exists. Bearing this in mind, a number of speakers encouraged donors to provide more funding — especially more unearmarked funding — and welcomed a broadening of the donor base to include new Member States and more individual and private sector donors.

So, in spite of a rise in the numbers of displaced persons and severe emergencies, along with continuing and protracted crises, there is room for optimism about the future. And I would like to issue a challenge to each and every delegation here to unite behind the High Commissioner’s call to us at the end of his opening statement. Recalling that, for as long as human memory extends, people everywhere have sheltered strangers in need, he encouraged us, ‘Let us stand together to protect this fundamental human value, for the millions of people around the world who depend on it. And let us join our efforts to make sure that those who help them are supported in doing so.’

Please, let us do so. Thank you.”

Annex III

Explanatory note on the process of the selection of the Executive Committee bureau and indicative application

<i>Year</i>	<i>Chairperson</i>	<i>Vice chairperson</i>	<i>Vice chairperson</i>	<i>Rapporteur</i>
2012-2013	Americas (host)	Asia (donor)	Asia (host)	Africa (host)
2013-2014	Asia (donor)	Africa (host)	Europe (donor)	Americas (donor)
2014 -2015	Africa (host)	Europe (donor)	Americas (donor)	Asia (host)
2015-2016	Europe (donor)	Americas (donor)	Asia (host)	Africa (donor)
2016-2017	Americas (donor)	Asia (host)	Africa (donor)	Europe (host)
2017-2018	Asia (host)	Africa (donor)	Europe (host)	Americas (host)
2018-2019	Africa (donor)	Europe (host)	Americas (host)	Asia (donor)
2019-2020	Europe (host)	Americas (host)	Asia (donor)	Africa (host)
2020-2021	Americas (host)	Asia (donor)	Africa (host)	Europe (donor)
2021-2022	Asia (donor)	Africa (host)	Europe (donor)	Americas (donor)
2022-2023	Africa (host)	Europe (donor)	Americas (donor)	Asia (host)
2023-2024	Europe (donor)	Americas (donor)	Asia (host)	Africa (donor)
2024-2025	Americas (donor)	Asia (host)	Africa (donor)	Europe (host)
2025-2026	Asia (host)	Africa (donor)	Europe (host)	Americas (host)
2026-2027	Africa (donor)	Europe (host)	Americas (host)	Asia (donor)
2027-2028	Europe (host)	Americas (host)	Asia (donor)	Africa (host)
2028-2029	Americas (host)	Asia (donor)	Africa (host)	Europe (donor)
2029-2030	Asia (donor)	Africa (host)	Europe (donor)	Americas (host)

Note: This proposal aims to respond to the decision taken by the Executive Committee at its extraordinary session held on 1 November 2012 (A/AC.96/1120) to review options for the designation of bureau members in an effort to “reflect the growing membership and diversity of the Committee, in order to come up with a clear, transparent and equitable formula”. This option should require only a modest amendment to the UNHCR Executive Committee rules of procedure, and effectively meet the needs of the Executive Committee, helping to ensure that the UNHCR benefits from a bureau that is broadly representative of the ExCom membership and the diverse contributions made by member states to UNHCR’s work.

The proposal would:

- (a) Enlarge the ExCom bureau by one position — adding a second Vice-Chairperson.
- (b) Retain the existing regional groups (Africa, Americas, Asia and Europe).

(c) Establish a bureau comprised of a mix of host countries, countries contributing finances, and countries that may make other contributions to the work of the organization consistent with its mandate. The reference to “host” and “donor” above is shorthand to convey this idea. It would be up to regional groups to determine internally the candidates they intend to put forward against these notional criteria, and there should be sufficient advance consultation in the event adjustments are required across groups in order to maintain an equitable balance along the lines proposed in the chart above. There may be a need for a modest adjustment every four years to ensure the bureau composition retains an equitable representation of all ExCom members. Regional groupings are expected to resolve any concerns within their constituency regarding the identification of potential officers to be nominated.

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