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Summary record of the 3rd meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 31 October 2022, at noon.

President: Ms. Stoeva (Bulgaria)

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The meeting was called to order at noon.

Agenda item 12: Coordination, programme and other questions

(e) Long-term programme of support for Haiti (E/2023/L.3)

Draft decision E/2023/L.3: Appointment of an additional member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

1. **The President** expressed condolences to the Governments and peoples of the Republic of Korea, India and Somalia for the tragic losses of life that they had experienced in recent days.

2. **Ms. Herity** (Secretary of the Council), reading out a statement of programme budget implications in connection with draft decision E/2023/L.3 in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, said that, under the draft decision, the Council, recalling its previous resolutions and decisions on the membership of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, and having considered the letter dated 26 September 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Council (E/2023/6), would decide to appoint the Permanent Representative of Kenya as an additional member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti.

3. The support to be provided to the additional member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group was expected to consist of travel expenses for missions to be conducted to Washington, D.C., and to Haiti; the travel to Haiti was not expected to occur in 2022. The resource requirements related to the draft decision, for which no provisions had been made in the programme budget for 2022 or the proposed programme budget for 2023, were set forth in the relevant oral statement of programme budget implications circulated on 28 October 2022. Those requirements consisted of \$900 under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the programme budget for 2022 and \$2,800 under section 9 of the proposed programme budget for 2023 for the travel of representatives to Washington, D.C., and to Haiti.

4. In accordance with the request, contained in General Assembly resolution 76/246, that the resources requirements for the Ad Hoc Advisory Group be included in the proposed programme budget, resource requirements had been included under section 9, Economic and social affairs, subprogramme 1, Intergovernmental support and coordination for sustainable development, of the proposed programme budget for 2023 for 15 members, the number of

members at the time of the preparation of the proposed programme budget. Should the Council adopt the draft decision, the additional resource requirements arising from the appointment of the additional member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group, amounting to \$900 under the programme budget for 2022 and \$2,800 under the proposed programme budget for 2023, would be accommodated within the existing resources under section 9 of the programme budget for 2022 and within the proposed resources under section 9 of the proposed programme budget for 2023, and would therefore not result in any budgetary implications.

5. *Draft decision E/2023/L.3 was adopted.*

6. **Ms. Hinton** (Canada) said that, as Chair of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, Canada welcomed the addition of Kenya to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group and was confident that Kenya would enrich the quality of the Group's work and help it to provide useful insight and advice in order to support the socioeconomic development of Haiti.

Agenda item 18: Economic and environmental questions

(i) Geospatial information (E/2023/46)

Draft decision: Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its twelfth session and provisional agenda and dates of the thirteenth session of the Committee

7. **The President** drew attention to the draft decision entitled "Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its twelfth session and provisional agenda and dates of the thirteenth session of the Committee", contained in the report of the Committee of Experts on its twelfth session (E/2023/46).

8. *The draft decision was adopted.*

9. **Ms. Mendoza Elguea** (Mexico) said that Mexico supported the work of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management. Her delegation welcomed the adoption of the draft decision and recognized its contribution to data generation, geospatial information, land administration and related matters. It was necessary to strengthen the Committee in order to enable it to continue to fulfil its mandates effectively, as it had done since its establishment.

Agenda item 19: Social and human rights questions**(e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/2023/L.2)**

Draft decision E/2023/L.2: Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

10. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

11. **Ms. Silva** (Observer for Angola), introducing the draft decision, said that Angola was a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. The national laws of Angola concerning refugees and asylum seekers were based on the principles enshrined in the Convention and in international law, human rights norms and treaties. Angola attached particular importance to the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Global armed conflict and political, economic, social and environmental developments in recent decades had led to emergencies that had required international protection for thousands who had been forced to leave their places of origin.

12. Over the years, Angola had demonstrated unwavering commitment to refugee-related issues, including by hosting refugees and displaced persons from other African countries, in particular the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The number of refugees and internally displaced persons worldwide had increased, as indicated in the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) *Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2021* and in the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons ([A/77/182](#)).

13. Against that backdrop, Angola had submitted the draft decision in order to contribute to the activities of UNHCR through its experience in managing refugees and internally displaced persons over more than 30 years of internal armed conflict, and in hosting refugees. Under the draft decision, the Council would decide to enlarge the membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from 107 to 108 States by electing Angola as an additional member. Angola currently hosted more than 50,000 refugees, mainly from neighbouring countries. Angola had also recently sent its first contingent of police personnel to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), demonstrating its commitment to regional peacebuilding efforts, and was preparing to contribute troops to peacekeeping missions worldwide.

Membership of the Executive Committee would therefore enable Angola to enhance its commitment to refugee-related matters.

14. *Draft decision E/2023/L.2 was adopted.*

The meeting rose at 12.15 p.m.