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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S PROGRAMME

Thirty-second session

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE 329th TO 341st MEETINGS

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
from 12 to 21 October 1981

Corrigendum

This document contains the corrections made by delegations and by the Secretariat, applying to the English text of the summary records of the meetings held by the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme during its thirty-second session (A/AC.96/SR.329-341).

With the issuance of this corrigendum, the summary records of these meetings are to be considered as final.

GE.81-04634

329th meeting

Paragraph 3

The name of the speaker should read "Mr. MATIKO".

330th meeting

Page 2

The heading should read:

STATEMENT BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND GENERAL DEBATE (agenda item 3) (continued)
(A/AC.96/INF.164)

Paragraph 25

Replace "Sub-Committee on Administration and Finance" by "Sub-Committee on Administrative and Financial Matters".

331st meeting

Paragraph 14

Replace "Laos" by "the Lao People's Democratic Republic".

Paragraph 28

In the second sentence, replace the words "was an important means" by the words "provided an important means".

332nd meeting

Paragraph 17

The name of the speaker should read "Mr. ABDEL-RAHMAN".

Paragraph 45

Replace the words "provide UNHCR with all the support it needed" by the words "increase their contributions to UNHCR".

Paragraph 47

In the second sentence, delete the word "those" and the words "which would not be able to increase their contributions very much in the years ahead".

Paragraph 48

Replace the words "assistance to special programmes" by the words "assistance to specific programmes".

Paragraph 50

In the last sentence, replace "Cameroon" by "the United Republic of Cameroon".

333rd meeting

Paragraph 6

In the first sentence, replace the word "received" by the words "given the required guarantees concerning".

Paragraphs 12 and 14

At the end of the first sentence of paragraph 12 and in the third sentence of paragraph 14, replace "Laos and Vietnamese" and "Laotians and Vietnamese", respectively, by "Lao and Vietnamese".

Paragraph 63

Replace "western Tanzania" in the second sentence by "the west of the country".

Paragraph 66

In the first sentence, replace "Tanzania" by "the United Republic of Tanzania".

Paragraph 76

The speaker should be given as "Miss ADIL (Observer for Iraq)".

Paragraph 77

Replace the last sentence by the following:

A peaceful solution to the conflict between the two countries depended on the clear, legal recognition by the Iranian Government of her country's historical and legitimate rights over its land and territorial waters, on a renunciation of that Government's aggressive racist expansionism and of its interference in the internal affairs of other countries of the region, on the return of all the territories it had usurped, and on respect by Iran for international law and custom, including international covenants.

Paragraph 78

At the end of the second sentence, insert the words "and financed" after the word "maintained".

Between the second and third sentences, insert the following text:

Those were very few in number, being the remnants of the former rebels against Iraq, namely the sons of Barazani and his followers. All other Kurds of Iraqi origin enjoyed the right to autonomy within Iraq.

334th meeting

Page 2

The wording of agenda item 3, preceding paragraph 2, should read "STATEMENT BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND GENERAL DEBATE".

Paragraph 38

At the beginning of the first sentence, delete the words "the Rangoon agreement on".

Paragraph 70

Replace the words "implementation of the Rangoon agreement" by the words "repatriation of Vietnamese residents in Thailand".

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence:

He also reiterated the position of his Government, which maintained that the full settlement of the problem of Vietnamese resident in Thailand should be based on the spirit and the content of the Joint Communiqué issued by the delegations of the two countries at Hanoi on 6 August 1976, and of the Joint Declaration of the Prime Ministers of Viet Nam and Thailand, issued at Bangkok on 10 September 1978.

335th meeting

Paragraph 6

In the third sentence, replace "Tanzania" by "the United Republic of Tanzania".

Paragraph 17

In the first sentence, replace "Tanzania, Sudan" by "the United Republic of Tanzania, the Sudan".

Paragraph 20

The last sentence should read:

In that connection, UNHCR was sensitive to the root causes of refugee problems, but those causes must inevitably be dealt with in other forums.

Paragraph 26

At the beginning of the fourth sentence, delete the words "In theory,". Also, replace the words "but in practice" by the words "although in practice".

Replace the sixth sentence by the following:

A generous law to that effect had recently been enacted in Portugal, and similar legislation was in preparation in Spain. The Philippines and Zimbabwe were also in the process of studying with UNHCR plans to incorporate provisions of the Convention in their internal law.

In the seventh sentence, replace "Tanzania" by "the United Republic of Tanzania".

Paragraph 28

Towards the end of the fourth sentence, replace the words "the status of an asylee" by the words "the status of a person granted asylum".

Paragraph 30

From the beginning of the second sentence, replace the text by the following:

Because of their geographical situation and for other reasons connected with their vital interests, some countries could not offer asylum on a durable basis, but such legitimate considerations should not encourage other States as a general rule to accept refugees on a temporary basis until a durable solution was found elsewhere. UNHCR also noted with concern the tendency to regard certain groups of asylum-seekers a priori as not being refugees, a presumption which could have unfavourable consequences for genuine refugees. Moreover, in certain States parties to the Convention or the Protocol, the recognition of refugee status under those instruments seemed to give rise to considerable difficulties. In such cases, asylum was granted on humanitarian or similar grounds, with the result that the provisions of the Convention could not be applied to them. While the definition in the Convention had been elaborated in a specific historical context, a practice had subsequently developed to enable that definition to be applied in a liberal and flexible manner.

Paragraph 32

Replace the first sentence by the following text:

32. The problem of asylum-seekers in distress at sea was one of the most complex faced by UNHCR. The Office's action in that regard was guided by a number of principles.

Paragraph 33

Replace the paragraph by the following:

33. Lastly, it should be emphasized that, while legal instruments and public understanding were important, what counted in the final analysis, when the lives and liberty of refugees were at stake, was the immediacy of action taken by Governments to ensure the safety of refugees. To that end, it was vital that the Office's strictly humanitarian and apolitical role should be preserved and that the moral authority of the High Commissioner should be maintained and reinforced.

337th meeting

Paragraph 5

Replace paragraph 5 by the following text:

5. In connection with the interpretations put forward by the Moroccan delegation concerning forms of voluntary repatriation, the Executive Committee had recognized, in its decision 18 (XXXI), that such repatriation constituted in general, and more particularly when a country acceded to independence, the most appropriate solution to the problem of refugees.

5a. The decision taken by the Implementation Committee of OAU on the Western Sahara in August 1981 had recommended that a referendum on self-determination should be held in the Western Sahara and that the entire population should take part in it, including the refugees. Voluntary repatriation could take place only in the context of the OAU decision.

Paragraph 16

The last word of the paragraph should read "self-perpetuating".

Paragraph 21

The name of the speaker should read "Mr. EL-BESHIR".

Paragraph 65

In the second sentence, replace the word "addressed" by the word "concerned".

341st meeting

Paragraph 60

Replace the word "convention" by the word "conviction".

Paragraphs 89 and 93

After the name of the speaker, his country should be given as "(United States of America)".