



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.96/997
11 August 2004

Original: ENGLISH/FRENCH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
HIGH COMMISSIONER'S PROGRAMME

Fifty-fifth session

REPORT ON CONSIDERATION OF THE WORKING METHODS
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. At its fifty-fourth session in October 2003, the Executive Committee took a decision to consider, in cooperation with UNHCR, measures to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Executive Committee and that of its Standing Committee, and requested the Bureau to initiate the necessary consultations (A/AC.96/987, para.19 (m)).
2. Pursuant to this request, the Chairman of the Executive Committee held consultations during the first half of 2004. Various aspects of the working methods and the meetings of the Executive Committee and its Standing Committee were considered during these consultations. Participants in the consultations were able to express their views on the election of officers of the Executive Committee Bureau, the calendar of meetings of the Standing Committee and a detailed schedule for implementing the programme of work delegated to it. Furthermore, ways of strengthening the interaction between the Bureau and members of the Executive Committee and the participation by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as observers in the work of the Executive Committee and its Standing Committee were considered during these consultations.
3. Following these consultations, a draft decision was prepared for presentation to the fifty-fifth session of the Executive Committee. If adopted, this decision will be included in the draft report of the Executive Committee's fifty-fifth session.