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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
HIGH COMMISSIONER'S PROGRAMME

Fifty-fifth session

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

(submitted by the High Commissioner)

1. Opening of the session

The Chairman of the Executive Committee will open its fifty-fifth session on Monday 4 October 2004, at 10 a.m, in Conference Room XIX at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

2. Election of officers

The Executive Committee will elect its officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The Executive Committee will consider the *Provisional Annotated Agenda*, contained in A/AC.96/LV/L.1, as the basis for adoption of the agenda of the session.

The Executive Director of the World Food Programme and the High Commissioner will take part in a panel discussion on the subject of food security on the afternoon of Monday 4 October. A Panel on the subject of statelessness will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday 6 October, to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. Background notes will be provided in advance for both events.

4. Statement by the High Commissioner, guest speaker and general debate

The Standing Committee agreed at its thirtieth meeting in June 2004 that, in place of the annual theme, the general debate will focus, as in the past three years, on the statement of the High Commissioner at the beginning of the session.

The High Commissioner's statement will also describe progress achieved with respect to the Convention Plus initiative, following the Forum and Core Group meetings held in the course of 2004.

The Committee will have before it an outline of the High Commissioner's statement. The presentation will be followed by a statement by the guest speaker, Mr. James Morris, Executive Director of the World Food Programme.

5. Reports on the work of the Standing Committee

Under this item, the Committee will review successively the results of the work of the Standing Committee on international protection and on programme, administrative, financial and oversight matters<sup>1</sup>.

(a) International protection

Of relevance to the deliberations of the Committee are the High Commissioner's *Note on International Protection* (A/AC.96/989), the *Report on the Work of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/999) and the reports on the *twenty-ninth* and *thirtieth meetings of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/988 and A/AC.96/998) which, inter alia, review implementation of the Agenda for Protection (A/AC.96/965/Add.1).

As part of its annual proceedings, the Executive Committee will also consider a draft general conclusion on international protection as well as draft conclusions on legal safety issues in the context of voluntary repatriation and on international cooperation and burden and responsibility sharing in mass influx situations.<sup>2</sup>

(b) Programme, administrative and financial matters

The Committee will have before it the following reports of relevance to these matters:

- *Report on the Work of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/999);
- *Report of the Twenty-ninth Meeting of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/988);
- *Report of the Thirtieth Meeting of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/998);

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<sup>1</sup> The draft report of the Standing Committee's thirty-first meeting (23 to 24 September 2004) will be presented for adoption at the end of the afternoon on Tuesday 5 October 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Tentative list

- *Report of the Thirty-first Meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1001), including preliminary consideration of the recommendations formulated by the Joint Inspection Unit with respect to management and administration in the Office of the High Commissioner;*
- *Voluntary Funds Administered by the High Commissioner: Accounts for the Year 2003 (A/AC.96/990);*
- *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 Period Ended December 2003 (A/AC.96/991), and Measures Taken or Proposed in Response to the Recommendations of the Report of the Board of Auditors (A/AC.96/991/Add.1);*
- *Report on Internal Audit in UNHCR for 2003-2004 (A/AC.96/995).*

6. Reports relating to evaluation and inspection

This item will include a review of the following reports:

- *Report on UNHCR's Inspection and Investigation Activities (A/AC.96/993)*
- *Evaluation and Policy Analysis: UNHCR's Plan and Activities (A/AC.96/994)*

7. Consideration and adoption of revised Programme Budget for 2004 and proposed Programme Budget for 2005

Under this item, the Committee will review regional activities and Global Programmes, as well as programme support budgets for 2005, and revised programmes and budgets for 2004. This review will be based on *UNHCR's Annual Programme Budget for 2005 (A/AC.96/992)*, a *Proposal to create an additional Assistant High Commissioner post for Protection (A/AC.96/992/Add.1)* and the *Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/AC.96/992/Add.2)*.

In light of its discussions under agenda items 5(b), 6 and 7, the Executive Committee will consider a draft decision on administrative and financial matters.

8. Working methods of the Executive Committee and its Standing Committee

The Committee will have before it the *Report on Consideration of the Working Methods of the Executive Committee (A/AC.96/997)*. A decision will be considered for adoption, based on the consultations carried out by the Chairman in furtherance of the Committee's decision at its fifty-fourth session (A/AC.96/987, para. 19(m)). The decision will include provision for the participation of non-governmental organizations as observers in the work of the Executive Committee and Standing Committee, in accordance with the decision taken by the Executive Committee at its fifty-fourth session (A/AC.96/987, para. 28).

9. Meetings of the Standing Committee in 2005

The Executive Committee will adopt a decision on the programme of work for the Standing Committee in 2005.

Also under this agenda item, the Executive Committee will adopt a decision on applications by government delegations, intergovernmental and international organizations to participate as observers in the meetings of the Standing Committee in 2005.

10. Consideration of the provisional agenda of the fifty-sixth session of the Executive Committee

The Committee will consider a draft provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session of the Executive Committee.

11. Other statements

The Rapporteur of the Annual Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations and the Chairperson of UNHCR's Staff Council will make brief statements on the afternoon of Thursday 6 October 2004.

12. Any other business

13. Adoption of the report on the fifty-fifth Session of the Executive Committee

The draft report of the fifty-fifth session presented to the Committee for adoption will include the conclusions and decisions identified under the preceding agenda items.

14. Closure of the session

The High Commissioner and the Chairman will make brief closing remarks.