



General Assembly

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Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations

High Commissioner for Refugees

Sixtieth session

Summary record of the 638th meeting

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Monday, 15 February 2010, at 10.00 a.m.

Chairperson: Mr. Badr.....(Egypt)
(Vice-Chairperson)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Opening remarks by the Vice-Chairperson

1. **The Vice-Chairperson** declared the meeting open and welcomed Mr. Alexander Aleinikoff, the newly appointed Deputy High Commissioner.

Adoption of the agenda (document without a symbol distributed in the Committee room)

2. *The agenda was adopted.*

Election of a Chairperson

3. **The Vice-Chairperson** announced that since Ambassador Caroline Millar of Australia was no longer able to serve the Executive Committee as Chairperson, a replacement must be elected in accordance with the rules of procedure to complete her term of office, which would expire on the final day of the plenary meeting of the sixty-first session of the Executive Committee. He thanked Ms. Millar for her excellent leadership and wisdom, which had been instrumental in ensuring the smooth-functioning of the Executive Committee during her tenure, and requested nominations for the position of Chairperson.

4. **Mr. Hannan** (Bangladesh) nominated Mr. Peter Woolcott, of Australia, for the position of Chairperson.

5. **Mr. Gooderham** (United Kingdom) seconded the proposal.

6. **The Vice-Chairperson** said he took it that in the absence of any comments or objections Mr. Woolcott's nomination was approved by acclamation.

7. *It was so decided.*

8. **The Chairperson** thanked the Executive Committee for having elected him Chairperson, and thanked the Vice-Chairperson for his efforts since Ms. Millar's departure. He said that he intended to build on the work of the previous Chairpersons of the Executive Committee, and would actively support the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in its efforts to find practical and durable solutions for protracted and other refugee situations. He looked forward to working with all members of the Executive Committee.

Closing remarks

9. **The Vice-Chairperson** declared the meeting closed.

The meeting rose at 10.30 a.m.