United Nations

General Assembly

**Executive Committee of the
High Commissioner's Programme**
Sixty-second session
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Item 5 of the provisional agenda
Consideration of reports on the work of the Standing Committee

Report on the Work of the Standing Committee

Report of the Secretariat

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Contents

I.   Introduction

1.   At its sixty-first session in October 2010, the Executive Committee adopted a decision which set out the issues to be examined by the Standing Committee in its programme of work for 2011.[1] This report provides a summary of the implementation of this programme.

2.   The Standing Committee held three meetings in 2011: in March, June and September. A planning meeting of Executive Committee members in December 2010 established the calendar of meetings and determined the distribution of the different agenda items in 2011. This is provided in Annex I.

3.   A detailed account of the work undertaken at each of the meetings of the Standing Committee in 2011 is contained in the following reports: *Report of the fiftieth meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1097); Report of the fifty-first meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1104); and Report of the fifty-second meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1105).* A list of documents relating to these meetings is provided in Annex II

II.   Issues covered by the Standing Committee in 2011

A.   Programme budgets and funding

4.   At each of its meetings, the Standing Committee considered updates on overall budgets and funding through which it was kept informed of programme requirements, budgetary measures and funding levels. The Committee also adopted decisions, as listed in chapter III below. In its September meeting, the Standing Committee reviewed the Biennial Programme Budget for 2012 and 2013, and considered the Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on the budget for 2012-2013. It also discussed UNHCR's resource mobilization strategy, including private sector fundraising.

B.   International Protection

5.   In March, the Committee received an oral update on the High Commissioner's 2010 Dialogue on protection gaps and responses. The June meeting included a debate on the Note on International Protection, as well as the Note on Statelessness.

C.   Regional activities and global programmes

6.   Regional reviews of UNHCR's programmes and activities in all five regions: Africa; the Americas; Asia and the Pacific; the Middle East and North Africa; and Europe, were considered comprehensively at the Standing Committee's meeting in March. In addition to the regional reviews, the Committee discussed the Office's global programmes and

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[1] A/AC.96/1095, para. 15(b).

partnerships. The Committee also received a report on UNHCR's emergency preparedness and response, and a report on supply management. In June, the Committee received an update on the technical integrity of UNHCR programmes.

D.   Programme/Protection policy

7.   In March, the Standing Committee was presented with a draft of the Strategic Priorities for 2012-2013. In June it considered reports on refugee women; HIV/AIDS and Refugees; community services (including elderly and disabled persons); security and welfare issues, including refugee security; the role of host countries, and UNHCR's role in protecting persons affected by natural disasters.

E.   Coordination

8.   The Committee considered elements for UNHCR's oral update to the 2011 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council at its June meeting. An update on coordination issues and strategic partnerships was discussed in the September meeting.

F.   Management, financial control, administrative oversight and human resources

9.   At each meeting, the Standing Committee received an update on UNHCR's structural and management change process. In March, the Committee received a report on follow-up measures taken in response to the recommendations in the Report of the Board of Auditors for 2009. It also heard an oral update on the work of the Inspector General's Office, and considered proposals on the funding of end-of-service and post-retirement benefits, and on the establishment of an Independent Audit and Oversight Committee. In June, the Committee was apprised of progress made on the introduction of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), and again considered the proposals on the funding of end-of-service and post-retirement benefits and the establishment of an Independent Audit and Oversight Committee.

10.   In September, the meeting considered the Report of the Board of Auditors on UNHCR's accounts for 2010, discussed UNHCR's responses to recommendations in the Report of the Board of Auditors for 2010 and previous years and received a summary report on main risk areas raised in the Report of the Board of Auditors. The Office of Internal Oversight Services presented its annual report on internal audit activities undertaken at UNHCR for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011. The Committee considered a proposal for a revision of the Financial Rules; received an update on human resources issues, including staff security; and heard an oral update on the establishment of the Independent Audit and Oversight Committee. The Committee also adopted decisions, as listed in chapter III below.

G.   Governance

11.   In March, the Standing Committee adopted the work programme for 2011 as proposed at its December 2010 planning meeting. In June, under governance issues, the Committee called on delegations to provide suggestions for issues to be included in the High Commissioner's opening statement at the sixty-second plenary session of the Executive Committee. In September, it received the elements of the High Commissioner's opening speech at the suxty-second session of the Executive Committee.

H. Consultations

12. In accordance with its standard practice, the Standing Committee held informal consultative meetings and briefings in the course of the year on issues requiring in-depth discussion or necessary action. In 2010, the Standing Committee held two informal consultative meetings in January: one on the establishment of the Independent Audit and Oversight Committee, and one on resettlement. In February, it held two informal consultative meetings: one on UNHCR's role in natural disasters and another on the programme of work of the Policy Development and Evaluation Service; it also received a briefing on the situation in Pakistan. In March, the Committee received two joint IOM-UNHCR briefings on the humanitarian situation in Tunisia. In June and July it held informal consultative meetings on the Financial Rules; at the latter, it also discussed human resources issues. Finally, in September, there was an informal consultative meeting held to discuss the 2012-2013 budget.

III. Standing Committee decisions

13. In accordance with the authority vested in it by the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee adopted a number of decisions which are annexed to the reports of the different Standing Committee meetings, as follows:

(a) *Report of the fiftieth meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1097)*

- Decision on programme budgets and funding in 2011

(b) *Report of the fifty-first meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1104)*

- Decision on funding of end-of-service and post-retirement liabilities

- Decision on the establishment of an Independent Audit and Oversight Committee

- Decision on overall programme budgets and funding for 2011

(c) *Report of the fifty-second meeting of the Standing Committee (A/AC.96/1105)*

- Decision on overall programme budgets and funding for 2011

- Decision on a proposed revision of the Financial Rules

Annex I

Standing Committee work programme calendar for 2011

	50th Meeting *1-3 March 2011*	*51st Meeting* *21-23 June 2011*	*52nd Meeting* *20-21 September 2011*
PROGRAMME BUDGETS AND FUNDING	• Update on programme budgets and funding in 2010 and projections for 2011	• Update on programme budgets and funding for 2011 • Global Report (2010)	• Update on programme budgets and funding for 2011 • Biennial Programme Budget for 2012-2013 • Report of the ACABQ on the budget for 2012 - 2013 • Report on UNHCR's resource mobilization strategy , including private sector fundraising strategy
INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION	• Oral update on the High Commissioner's 2010 Dialogue on protection gaps and responses	• Note on International Protection • Note on Statelessness	
REGIONAL ACTIVITIES AND GLOBAL PROGRAMMES	• Strategic presentations on Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and the Middle East and North Africa, including impact on host countries; as well as strategic presentation on global programmes and partnerships • Emergency response and preparedness • Supply chain management	• Technical integrity of UNHCR programmes	
PROGRAMME / PROTECTION POLICY	• Global Strategic Priorities (GSP) Framework for the 2012-2013 biennium	• Refugee Women • HIV/AIDS • Community Services (including elderly and disabled) • Security and welfare issues, including refugee security • The role of host countries • UNHCR's role in natural disasters	

	50th Meeting *1-3 March 2011*	51st Meeting *21-23 June 2011*	52nd Meeting *20-21 September 2011*
MANAGEMENT, FINANCIAL CONTROL, ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT AND HUMAN RESOURCES	• Oral update on UNHCR's structural and management change process • Follow-up to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts for 2009 and previous years • Oral update on the work of the Inspector General's Office • Proposal on methodology for funding end-of-service and post-retirement liabilities • Establishment of an Independent Audit and Oversight Committee	• Update on International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) • Oral update on UNHCR's structural and management change process • Proposal on methodology for funding end-of-service and post-retirement liabilities • Establishment of an Independent Audit and Oversight Committee	• Voluntary funds administered by the High Commissioner: Accounts for the year 2010 • Report of the Board of Auditors to the General Assembly on the Accounts of the Voluntary Funds Administered by UNHCR for the period ended December 2010 • Measures taken or proposed in response to recommendations in the Report of the Board of Auditors for 2010 and update on measures taken on recommendations in previous years • Summary report on main risk areas raised in the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts for 2010 • Report on internal audit in the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees • Briefing on the Independent Audit and Oversight Committee • Proposal for a revision of the Financial Rules • Human resources issues including staff security • Update on UNHCR's structural and management change process
COORDINATION		• Elements for UNHCR's oral update to ECOSOC	• Update on Coordination: strategic partnerships
GOVERNANCE	• Adoption of work programme for 2011	• Suggestions on issues for the High Commissioner's opening speech at the 62nd session of the Executive Committee	• Elements of the High Commissioner's opening speech at the 62nd session of the Executive Committee

62ⁿᵈ Session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme:
(3-7 October 2011)

Annex II

Standing Committee documentation issued during 2011

Fiftieth meeting (1-3 March 2011)

EC/62/SC/CRP.1	Provisional Annotated Agenda
EC/62/SC/CRP.2	Standing Committee Work Programme for 2011
EC/62/SC/CRP.3	Enhancing UNHCR's emergency response capacity: an organization-wide approach to mobilizing human resources
EC/62/SC/CRP.4	UNHCR's supply chain management strategy
EC/62/SC/CRP.5	Global Strategic Priorities (GSP) Framework for the 2012-2013 biennium
EC/62/SC/CRP.6	Follow-up to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts for 2008 and 2009
EC/62/SC/CRP.7	Proposal on methodology for funding end-of-service and post-retirement liabilities
EC/62/SC/CRP.8	Establishment of an Independent Audit and Oversight Committee
EC/62/SC/CRP.9	Update on budgets and funding in 2010 and projections for 2011
EC/62/SC/INF.1	Questions and answers on UNHCR's Protection Cluster coordination role in natural disasters

Regional Strategic overviews on:

- Africa
- Asia and the Pacific
- Europe
- The Americas
- The Middle East and North Africa
- Global Programmes and Partnerships

Oral updates:

- Oral update on structural and management change
- Oral update on the work of the Inspector General's Office
- Oral update on the High Commissioner's Dialogue on protection gaps and responses

Fifty-first meeting (21-23 June 2011)

EC/62/SC/CRP.10	Draft report of the fiftieth meeting of the Standing Committee
EC/62/SC/CRP. 11/Rev.1	Provisional annotated agenda
EC/62/SC/CRP.12	Note on international protection
EC/62/SC/CRP.13	Note on statelessness
EC/62/SC/CRP.14	Protecting refugee women: promoting gender equality
EC/62/SC/CRP.15/Rev.1	HIV/AIDS and refugees
EC/62/SC/CRP.16	Community Services: towards a community development approach
EC/62/SC/CRP.17	Staff safety and security issues, including refugee security
EC/62/SC/CRP.18	The role of host countries: the cost and impact of hosting refugees
EC/62/SC/CRP.19	UNHCR's role in support of an enhanced humanitarian response for the protection of persons affected by natural disasters
EC/62/SC/CRP.20	Technical integrity of UNHCR programmes
EC/62/SC/CRP.21	Update on the introduction of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS)
EC/62/SC/CRP.22	Update on budgets and funding in 2010 and 2011
EC/62/SC/CRP.23	Funding of end-of-service and post-retirement liabilities
EC/62/SC/CRP.24/Rev.1	Establishment of an Independent Audit and Oversight Committee

Oral update

- Oral update on structural and management change

- Elements for UNHCR's oral update to the 2011 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Fifty-second meeting (20 September 2011)

EC/62/SC/CRP.25	Draft report of the fifty-first meeting of the Standing Committee
EC/62/SC/CRP.26/Rev.1	Provisional annotated agenda
EC/62/SC/CRP.27 and Corr.1and Add.1	Proposal for a revision of the Financial Rules
EC/62/SC/CRP.28	Summary report on main risk areas raised in the Report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts for 2010
EC/62/SC/CRP.29	UNHCR's Structural and Management Change Process
EC/62/SC/CRP.30	UNHCR's resource mobilization strategy, including private sector fundraising strategy
EC/62/SC/CRP.31	Strategic directions for human resources management in UNHCR, including staff safety
EC/62/SC/CRP.32	Update on budgets and funding for 2011
EC/62/SC/CRP.33	Update on coordination issues: strategic partnerships
EC/62/SC/CRP.34	Report by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ)