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Madame Chairperson,

High Commissioner Grande reminded us that the number of refugees globally has gone beyond 25 million and that the Syrian crisis has generated 5.6 million refugees across the region, a crisis that my delegation believes would continue to drive more Syrians into displacement if no political solution is found and if the bloodshed continues. We therefore underline the importance of supporting Syrians in reaching a solution in accordance to Security Council Resolution 2254; one that guarantees Syria's sovereignty and territorial integrity, restores its stability and allows for the safe return, of its people to their country.

Over a period of eight years, this displacement has affected my country. Jordan has had to tackle the difficult task of hosting 1,38 million Syrians who fled the crisis, 10% of which are in camps. The direct financial impact alone of this crisis is estimated at around \$2 billion annually. This crisis impacted Jordan in every possible way. Its economic growth, budget, debt, unemployment, its infrastructure, its water, education, health and energy sectors. It also severely affected the hosting local communities.

To respond to these challenges, the government did everything good in the book, including developing a number of comprehensive and integrated response plans to deal with the impact based on a resilience-supporting approach that promotes economic development and opportunities for Jordanians and Syrians alike. The most recent of these plans has only received 18% of the required funding. We appreciate the support extended to date by the international community but we underline that continued support would be required to enable us to continue to provide projected protection and services to refugees.

Madame Chairperson,

The High Commissioner described the IDA18 refugee sub-window, and the Global Concessional Financing Facility as "trailblazing", and Ms Kristalina Georgieva, the Chief Executive Officer of the World Bank, on her part, mentioned the innovative programs that the World Bank is supporting in Jordan and Lebanon. We thank the World Bank for their partnership with Jordan. Indeed, as the High Commissioner said, millions of refugees and members of local communities stand to benefit from the resources being made available under these schemes. Moreover, for Middle Income Countries like mine confronted with major refugee emergencies, we believe, that this form of support and financing constitutes an important tool to strengthen resilience and should be reinforced, including through potential ability to be eligible for IDA funding.

As for the Refugee Compact, while we understand the difficulty of the balancing act and appreciate UNHCR's efforts, the final document unfortunately falls short from reflecting many of our concerns as a major hosting country. We have voiced our concerns, presented our amendments and stated our position on the NY Declaration, the CRRF and the Global Compact on refugees in all the rounds of discussions and consultations. We have engaged positively throughout the process with the following understanding:

Neighboring states in certain regions must not continue to shoulder the biggest burden. The solutions we seek for refugee protection should lighten that burden as long as the refugees stay.

Some countries like Jordan have incorporated refugees in their plans rather than creating parallel systems for example for health and education. As we speak, over 132000 Syrian kids are in our schools and 100,00 Syrians have been issued working permits. This incorporation has been undertaken solely as a temporary/interim measure pending eventual return once peace is restored.

And while refugees are welcome as long as they need protection. The preferred solution for both receiving country and refugee remains return. It is these refugees that we host today that will help in rebuilding their country and its future tomorrow. Countries of origin need to take in their people and should be assisted to ensure that their returnees are properly integrated.

On resettlement, we cannot but agree with the High commissioner. It "must be restored and reinforced - as a tool for solutions, and an instrument for international responsibility sharing". We also express deep concern over the drop in available places. In this context, we regret that section on resettlement in the GCR calls for allocating only 25% of the annual resettlement submissions. We therefore encourage the UNHCR to enlarge the pool of resettlement, to develop new resettlement programs and expand existing ones, and to follow up with states to accelerate the implementation of previously made resettlement pledges.

Madame Chairperson,

At a time we are discussing the Global Compact and CRRF and charting a new path for refugees, a statement attributed to UNHCR spokesperson is made on the severe funding shortfall for UNHCR's work in support of the millions of Syrian refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs). These funds include critical preparations for the oncoming winter. This concern is echoed by the High Commissioner in his statement to Excom. We in turn echo his worry of signals of declining support.

So for the global compact on refugees to "chart a stronger, fairer, better response model" as the High Commissioner wishes, we believe that host countries should not end up with losing straw of additional burdens. The desired path to be charted will therefore ultimately hinge on first and foremost equitable and predictable burden sharing. The crucial importance of international cooperation cannot be underestimated if this framework is to succeed.

Finally, we cannot conclude without extending our deep appreciation to the High Commissioner and his team for their tremendous efforts exerted to protect refugees and assist their hosting countries.