

Protection

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The United States firmly supports UNHCR's mandate to provide protection to all forcibly displaced and stateless persons. In this time of increasing need, numerous and complex humanitarian situations, and constrained resources, UNHCR's focus on protection is more important than ever.

In particular, we welcome UNHCR's dedicated efforts to end statelessness, demonstrated through the high-level segment and the launch of the Global Alliance to End Statelessness. We look forward to collaborating with partners across the globe and advancing participation of stateless persons in global efforts to end statelessness.

It is our collective responsibility to advance the centrality of protection for all affected persons. We share UNHCR's concern that individuals may not have access to protection out of fear of persecution based on sexual orientation or gender identity. We welcome the UN's LGBTQI+ Strategy and UNHCR's efforts to mainstream inclusion and provide targeted interventions to meet the needs of particularly marginalized groups in humanitarian contexts.

As the United States has said repeatedly at this ExCom, the scale and complexity of today's humanitarian crises require long-term, integrated solutions, rather than short-term responses. Indeed, a key piece of UNHCR's protection mandate is to advance solutions. Solutions must be at the heart of international protection. We appreciate UNHCR's deepening work with development and private sector actors. Such partnerships enhance economic opportunities and resilience for displaced populations and their

host communities, while ensuring protection outcomes are kept at the center of solutions work.

Finally, it is important to note that the United States Refugee Admissions Program plays a crucial role in international protection by offering a lifeline to refugees around the world. We are proud that our program brings refugees to the United States from every region of the world. As we reported in the opening plenary, we are especially proud that in 2024 we welcomed the highest number of refugees in the United States in three decades, the majority of whom came from the African continent.

Today's discussion encourages us all to examine how we advance protection, uphold human dignity, and sustainably provide critical assistance to people in some of the world's most vulnerable situations.