

## Statement of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees at the Sixty-fourth Session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme

*(Geneva, 1 October 2013)*

### Elements

In keeping with past practice, the High Commissioner will deliver a statement to the 64<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee, preceding the general debate. This year, the High Commissioner's statement will immediately follow the conclusion of the High-Level Segment on Solidarity and Burden-Sharing with Countries Hosting Syrian Refugees.

In his statement, the High Commissioner will outline his strategic vision for the year ahead, setting out the key challenges facing UNHCR today and the efforts required to meet them.

- Operating environment: Multiple crises in 2012 and 2013 – in particular the Syria emergency – bring global forced displacement to its highest level in nearly two decades; overview of emergency operations in Africa and Asia; impact of these simultaneous pressures on the Office.
- Response strategy: Strong support by host countries and donor community; investing in partnerships; structural impact of reform process 2006-2012; innovation; staff resources.
- Global protracted situations and prospects for solutions: Situation of Somali and Afghan refugees and strategies for durable solutions.
- Update on protection trends: Mixed migration flows; asylum space; sexual and gender-based violence; statelessness; internally displaced persons.
- Mitigating the impact of asylum: Assistance to refugees in urban areas; cash-based assistance; support to host communities.
- Solutions: Continued commitment to finding durable solutions.

*18 September 2013*