

International Standard for Archival Description

1.1 Reference code	UNHCR 12
1.2 Title	Records of the Executive Committee
1.3 Dates of creation	1950-2000
1.4 Level	Fonds
1.5 Extent (quantity)	22 m

2.2 Administrative/Biographical history The High Commissioner's Advisory Committee was established in 1951 by the Economic and Social Council. The UNREF Executive Committee was set up in accordance with General Assembly resolution 832 (IX) to supersede the Advisory Committee in 1955.

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) established the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme in 1958 to replace the UNREF Executive Committee. The Executive Committee functions as a subsidiary organ of the UN. The mandate of the Executive Committee is to determine the general policies under which the High Commissioner shall plan, develop and administer programmes and projects and to give final approval on the use of funds. The Executive Committee holds one annual session in Geneva each year.

2.3 Archival history The records were transferred to Archives in 2001 when the Center for Documentation and Research was disbanded.

3.1 Scope and content The records provide an excellent source of information on the establishment of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees and address some of the early problems of assistance. The Records of the Ad Hoc Committee on Statelessness and Related Problems from 1950 deal with the provisions for the function of the Office, the Draft Convention and the definition of the term "refugee".

The High Commissioner's Advisory Committee was a small body that was instrumental in maintaining early cooperation not only between States Members but between such States and non-member States, some of which had the largest early refugee populations. This role is well reflected in the official records of the sessions and in the conference room documents included in the fonds.

ExCom documents are official UN documents and the UN Library is the official repository for this series. The complete collection is available for consultation at the UN libraries in Geneva and New York (and at other UN depository libraries worldwide: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/deplib/countries/index.html>). The UNOG Documents Distribution section also maintains a complete archive of ExCom documents.

The following ExCom documents are available electronically on the UNHCR website:

ExCom plenary session documents (A/AC.96/-, English and French) : 1995 to date (a few documents are available for 1993/1994); ExCom Summary Records (A/AC.96/SR.-, English and French) : 1995 to date; Standing Committee documents (EC/session/SC/CRP.-, English and French) : December 1995 to

date; Conclusions on International Protection (English and French) : 1975 to date; Notes on International Protection submitted annually to ExCom plenary (English and French) : 1964 to date; Sub-Committee of the Whole in International Protection (EC/SCP/-, English and French) : 1977 to 1995; Sub-Committee on Administrative and Financial Matters (EC/SC.2/-, English and French) : 1993 to 1995.

3.3 Accruals

Accruals are expected

3.4 Arrangement

The records are arranged by session.

4.1 Conditions governing access

Records are subject to the Archives Access Policy of the UNHCR Archives

4.2 Conditions governing reproduction

Records are subject to the Copyright Policy of UNHCR

7.2 Rules or conventions

Internal UNHCR rules

7.3 Date of description

28 February 2006