

Statement of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at the high-level segment on enhancing international cooperation, solidarity, local capacities and humanitarian action for refugees in Africa

**Sixty-fifth session of the Executive Committee
of the High Commissioner's Programme**

(Geneva, 29 September 2014)

In his opening statement to the high-level segment, the High Commissioner will provide an overview of the major refugee situations in Africa and outline the context and objective of the high-level segment.

- Major refugee situations: short summary of major African refugee and internal displacement situations including Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and others; operational challenges; contribution of hosting countries and communities.
- Protection: protection environment and respect for asylum; African leadership in protection of refugees and internally displaced people; statelessness; refugee protection in mixed migration flows (including smuggling and human trafficking).
- Solutions: Redoubled efforts to achieve durable solutions (comprehensive approaches in Southern Africa, Global Initiative on Somali Refugees, role of regional organizations, need for more international support to durable solutions); role of civil society; capacity building at community level.
- Prevention: call for more focus on conflict prevention; strengthening resilience of affected populations to help cope with future shocks.
- Appeal for international cooperation and burden-sharing/solidarity: need for common commitment to address the needs of refugees more adequately; appeal to keep borders open for people in need of international protection; support to refugee hosting communities; importance of burden-sharing mechanisms such as resettlement; need for adequate and predictable funding; importance of collective international resolve and political commitment to end conflicts and prevent further forced displacement.

12 September 2014

