



Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the
United Nations Office and other international organizations

intervention

By

Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Before

72nd Executive Committee of the Ex-Com of UNHCR

Item 4 (a)

Geneva, 7 October 2021

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Chair person,

My delegation wishes to align itself with the statement delivered by the representative of Pakistan on behalf of the OIC group.

The Islamic Republic of Iran while thanking UNHCR secretariate for their efforts to provide member states with informative reports, expresses its rejection of paragraph 30 of the UNHCR's Note on International protection (A/AC.96/1211).

As it is highlighted in IOC statement, the mandate and operations of UNHCR should remain apolitical and based on the universally agreed humanitarian principles of objectivity, neutrality, impartiality and humanity. Bringing in politically sensitive and controversial notions, concepts and language by the Secretariat can raise questions about the neutral character of UNHCR.



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My delegation reserves its position on the use of terms which do not enjoy international consensus in particular in paragraph 30 of the UNHCR's Note on International protection (A/AC.96/1211) and paragraph 16 and 18 of "International Protection and Durable Solutions in the Context of a Public Health Emergency" (EC/72/SC/CP.5). In order to preserve the consensual spirit of our work, the UNHCR should rather be objective and avoid the use of such non-consensual language that could be understood by some as creating new commitments for the host countries among others and might not be productive.

The Islamic Republic of Iran once again would like to express its appreciation to UNHCR for all efforts in the discharge of its responsibilities to eliminate the suffering of refugees.

I thank you.