



**Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN
Geneva**

Statement

91st Meeting of the Standing Committee of UNHCR

Statement on Behalf of the OIC Group¹

Agenda Item 2 (b) : Programme Budgets for 2025 of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

(12-13 September 2024)

Chairperson,

The OIC Group thank the UNHCR team for providing an update on Programme budget for 2025 and other (related) agenda items.

The OIC Group supports UNHCR's efforts to promote partnerships for equitable burden and responsibility sharing for refugees.

The Group has noted the reference to 'Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategic Framework 2024-2026' in the budget document. We appreciate the efforts of UNHCR to promote inclusion and equity. In this regard, we would like to emphasize that the scope and definition of diversity as well as any programme envisioned under the framework should be strictly aligned with international law.

The Group has concerns on the definition of diversity contained in the document, as some of its categories are not recognized in international law and could be inconsistent with the [domestic] laws of a large number of UN member states.

In this context, we reiterate our long standing request to adhere to universally recognized and non-controversial language in financial as well as technical documents of UNHCR.

I thank you!

¹ Except Albania