



Statement by Mr. Fayaz A. Khan, Counsellor, on behalf of the OIC Group

Agenda Item 3: Regional Activities and Global Programme

95th Meeting of the Standing Committee of UNHCR

(24-26 March 2026)

Chairperson,

Deputy High Commissioner, Regional Directors

and Distinguished Colleagues.

We thank the UNHCR for providing an update on the ‘Regional Activities and global programmes’.

The OIC Group in Geneva expresses its sincere appreciation to the UNHCR for its continued commitment to providing humanitarian assistance to displaced persons worldwide and especially across the OIC Member States. We recognize the vital role UNHCR plays in alleviating the suffering of millions of refugees and displaced communities in the current challenging circumstances. We also commend the dedication and courage of local humanitarian actors working in conflict areas to deliver life-saving assistance despite security and other challenges.

We echo the UNHCR’s call to the international community to strengthen support for its mandate and operations, particularly within OIC Member States that host large refugee populations. Such appeals are both timely and necessary, given the increasing scale and complexity of displacement globally.

We remain deeply concerned about the persistent challenges on the ground, particularly those arising from the lack of equitable burden- and responsibility-sharing. More than 70 percent of the world’s refugees are hosted by low- and middle-income countries, many of which are OIC Member States. These countries continue to demonstrate remarkable solidarity despite facing their own economic and developmental constraints. Without adequate and predictable international support, the sustainability of and continuity of these efforts is at risk.

The Group calls for enhanced international cooperation and solidarity to:

First, strengthen support to host countries and communities that continue to shoulder a disproportionate share of the global refugee response. Demonstrating **meaningful burden- and responsibility-sharing** which remains central to the credibility and effectiveness of the Global Compact on Refugees.

Second, expand **durable solutions** for refugees. This includes creating the conditions necessary for safe, voluntary, and dignified return, while also increasing opportunities for third-country resettlement and complementary pathways. Progress in these areas has been slower than needed, and renewed political commitment is essential.

Third, cover-up the **widening gap between commitments and available resources**. Predictable, flexible and multi-year sustained funding is essential to enable UNHCR to deliver its mandate, support host states and communities and to provide relief to the refugees.

Fourth, **addressing root causes of displacement** should remain top of agenda to reverse the growing trend of displacement due to conflicts and climate.

Thank you.

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