

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (f) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: civil registration, vital statistics and statelessness statistics

Document E/CN.3/2022/10 – Report of Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics on statelessness statistics

Statement provided by:

Somalia

Statement:

Somalia would like to express on behalf of the Africa Group on the subject matter.

It is estimated by UNHCR that around 30 million internally displaced persons, refugees and asylum-seekers live in Africa, representing almost one-third of the world's refugee population. In the last few decades the African continent has witnessed large scale forced displacement of people fleeing persecution, armed conflict or human rights violations. Ten African countries account for 88 percent (28 million) of all forcibly displaced people on the continent.

Incomplete or inadequate statistics on displaced populations is a major continental challenge limiting implementation of informed policies and interventions and overall improvement of the well-being of these populations. In many countries, the collection and publication of the statistics is undertaken by UNHCR on behalf of the country, until such time that the country has the capacity to produce its own statistics. However, in addition to the capacity building needs of many countries there are several challenges associated with the collection, compilation and presentation of data on refugees and asylum seekers, which affects the quality of published statistics. Under the Sustainable Development Goal 10 to reduce inequality within and between countries, a key target is “to facilitate the orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.”

Statistics on Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Stateless persons are needed to provide the basis for planning and policy making. Countries are urged to improve collection for both quantitative and qualitative data on these populations including by including questions related to nationality in national censuses and surveys, conducting studies on stateless populations in partnership with relevant stakeholders and establishing statelessness determination procedures.

The Africa Group

- Agree with key elements of the proposed statistical framework for statelessness which include the statistical definitions of the stateless and undetermined nationality population and stateless-related persons
- Welcomes the proposal from the Expert Group on International Migration Statistics, which informed the proposed framework for statelessness statistics.
- Support the continuation of the work of the Expert Group Steering Committee to complete the international recommendations on statelessness statistics
- Request the Expert Group to report back to the fifty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission in March 2023 and present the full international recommendations on statelessness statistics for discussion.

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<i>Submitted on:</i>	2/17/2022