

**41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee  
4–6 March 2008**

**Agenda Item 4  
Outline for the oral update on  
the High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Protection Challenges**

*Presented by the Director of the Division of International Protection Services*

- The first meeting of the Dialogue, on the theme of “refugee protection, durable solutions and international migration”, was held on 11 and 12 December 2007 in the Palais des Nations in Geneva.
- The main outcomes and recommended follow-up actions are contained in the Chairman’s Summary, which benefited from the comments of the Co-Chairs (see [www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/476146702.pdf](http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/476146702.pdf)). Copies of the Chairman’s Summary will also be available in the meeting room.
- The proposed follow-up actions can be divided into four broad categories:
  1. Establishment of an informal working group to examine in more depth the question of effective protection gaps or grey areas affecting those involved in mixed movements.
  2. Discussions on application of the 10-Point Plan of Action on Refugee Protection and Mixed Migration in specific situations of mixed movement and other activities relating to the 10-Point Plan.
  3. Continued consultations on the issue of rescue at sea.
  4. Preparations for the next meeting of the High Commissioner’s Dialogue in late 2008 and selection of a topic for that meeting.
- On the first two components of follow-up – delving into the question of protection gaps and applying the 10-Point Plan – UNHCR is convinced that follow-up should be essentially field-based. Progress on addressing challenges and dilemmas in specific mixed movement situations on the ground should inform discussions on gaps at Geneva level in a second phase. The Standing Committee will receive information on how UNHCR will be taking forward these issues.
- The Standing Committee will receive information on how UNHCR plans to follow up on specific issues relating to the protection of asylum-seekers and refugees rescued at sea.
- The Standing Committee will receive information on the High Commissioner’s own assessment of the first meeting of the Dialogue, as well as his initial thoughts on dates and potential topics for the High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Protection Challenges in 2008.