

ExCom

Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (as at December 2003)

UNHCR's governing body – the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (ExCom) – was created in 1958, pursuant to a request by the General Assembly. Its main tasks are to approve the High Commissioner's assistance programmes, advise the High Commissioner in the exercise of his/her functions (mainly on protection issues), and oversee the Office's finances and administration.

ExCom holds an annual session in Geneva every October. The fifty-fourth session was held from 29 September to 3 October 2003. Meetings of the Executive Committee's Standing Committee were held at various dates throughout the year.

Membership is on the widest possible geographical basis from those States (members of the United Nations and others) with a demonstrated interest in, and devotion to, the solution of refugee problems. In 2003, **the 64 members were:**

Algeria	Guinea	Pakistan
Argentina	Holy See	Philippines
Australia	Hungary	Poland
Austria	India	Republic of Korea
Bangladesh	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Russian Federation
Belgium	Ireland	Serbia and Montenegro
Brazil	Israel	Somalia
Canada	Italy	South Africa
Chile	Japan	Spain
China	Kenya	Sudan
Colombia	Lebanon	Sweden
Côte d'Ivoire	Lesotho	Switzerland
Cyprus	Madagascar	Thailand
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mexico	Tunisia
Denmark	Morocco	Turkey
Ecuador	Mozambique	Uganda
Ethiopia	Namibia	United Kingdom
Finland	Netherlands	United Republic of Tanzania
France	New Zealand	United States of America
Germany	Nicaragua	Venezuela
Greece	Nigeria	Yemen
	Norway	