Agenda item 5
Oral update on the preparations for the High-Level Officials Meeting

The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) call for a High-Level Officials Meeting (HLOM) two years after each Global Refugee Forum (GRF) to take stock of progress and maintain the momentum towards achieving the objectives of the GCR. The first HLOM will take place in Geneva, Switzerland on 14 and 15 December 2021. It is envisioned that the HLOM will convene senior government officials and representatives of other relevant stakeholder groups to identify progress, challenges and areas where further engagement and responsibility sharing are required to strengthen support, self-reliance and access to solutions for refugees, particularly considering the impact of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

The HLOM pursues three priorities: expanding support for refugees and the countries that receive and host them; advancing implementation of the pledges made at the first GRF; and identifying areas in need of further support, with a view to informing the development of pledges and contributions for the next GRF in 2023.

Preparations for the HLOM at the global level include a series of stocktaking events, briefings, consultations, pledge updates, and virtual preparatory roundtables. A briefing for member States and other stakeholders was held on 8 July 2021 to discuss the preliminary outcomes of the stocktaking process. A summary of the key findings from the thematic and stakeholder-specific stocktaking to date is available here. UNHCR will provide the first GCR indicator report in November 2021, which will also help inform the HLOM.

The updated roadmap for the HLOM is as follows:

Key dates	Event
January to November	Regional, thematic, stakeholder-specific stocktaking events
27 January	Informal consultation on the HLOM and orientations for the GCR indicator report
28 April	Informal consultation on the proposed programme for the HLOM
May-June	Request for progress updates through the dashboard for pledges
8 July	Informal briefing on outcomes of stocktaking to date
October	Request for progress updates through the dashboard for pledges
27 October	Informal briefing on programme and modalities for the HLOM
4 November	Stocktaking event on statelessness pledges (made during the High-Level Segment on Statelessness in 2019)
16 November	Virtual launch of the GCR indicator report
22 November	Virtual preparatory roundtable on financing
25 November	Virtual preparatory roundtable on partnerships
29 November	Virtual preparatory roundtable on self-reliance
2 December	Virtual preparatory roundtable on solutions
13 December	Advance day of meetings and side events for GCR initiatives and stakeholder groups (Due to logistical constraints posed by the pandemic, spaces for side events are limited. If you wish to discuss alternative options for sharing progress on pledges and initiatives, please contact the hqgcr@unhcr.org.)
14 and 15 December	HLOM (updates to the programme will be available here)

Stakeholders are encouraged to contribute to the HLOM preparations including through:
- implementing the pledges and initiatives announced at the 2019 GRF;
- aligning financial and other pledges of support with policy pledges made by host countries to share responsibility and enhance the protection and inclusion of refugees;
- sharing concrete examples about the impact of the GCR on the lives of refugees through interventions, communications products, and for the virtual exhibition space for the GCR;
- ensuring representation at the senior officials level (such as heads of departments engaged in refugee affairs) at the HLOM;
- reporting through the pledges dashboard progress made in the implementation of the GRF pledges; and
- identifying challenges and opportunities and making recommendations for the future.

For further information, please visit the HLOM webpage, see the Frequently Asked Questions, or contact the GCR Coordination Team at hqgcr@unhcr.org.

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