



CONFERENCE B

**National Model United Nations • New York**  
**29 March - 2 April 2015 (Conf. B)**



**Documentation of the Work of the Economic and Social Commission for  
Western Asia (ESCWA)**

# Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

## Committee Staff

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Director</b> | Aly El Salmy   |
| <b>Chair</b>    | Ruan Meintjies |

## Agenda

- I. Social and Economic Implications of Refugee Influx in the ESCWA Region
- II. Meeting Growing Energy Demands
- III. Countering Radicalization through Social and Economic Development

## Resolutions adopted by the Committee

| <b>Code</b> | <b>Topic</b>   | <b>Vote</b>  |
|-------------|--|--|
| ESCWA/1/1   | Social and Economic Implications of Refugee Influx in the ESCWA Region | 14 votes in favor, no votes against, one abstention  |
| ESCWA/1/2   | Social and Economic Implications of Refugee Influx in the ESCWA Region | 13 votes in favor, no votes against, two abstentions |

# **Summary Report for the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Social and Economic Implications of Refugee Influx in the ESCWA Region
- II. Meeting Growing Energy Demands
- III. Countering Radicalization through Social and Economic Development

The session was attended by representatives of 16 ESCWA Member States. The first session opened with several statements concerning the adoption of the agenda. On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of I, III, II, beginning discussion on the topic of Social and Economic Implications of Refugee Influx in the ESCWA region.

By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of five proposals covering a wide range of sub topics including: refugee housing, health and security; and financial assistance for refugees, as well as raising living standards in refugee camps. Many of the working papers were very complementary and thus fostered a healthy atmosphere of cooperation, collaboration, and constructive discussion. By Tuesday evening, multiple working papers merged along complementary and similar themes, leaving only two working papers.

On Wednesday, two draft resolutions were approved by the Dais. The committee adopted two resolutions by roll call, with one resolution having a friendly amendment. The vote count was 14 votes, none against, with one abstention for the first draft resolution, while the second received 13 votes for, none against, with two abstentions. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including refugee camp infrastructure, Islamic microfinance for refugees, and economic diversification of Host States. The work of the body was characterized by efficiency and thoroughness: different proposals were combined into the final resolutions, without compromising on its each proposal's scope. A structured commitment to empowering ESCWA secretariat and fostering collaboration with relevant stakeholders underscored Member States' vision in realizing a solution to the refugee influx issue from both their perspective and that of their host states.



## National Model United Nations • NY

**Code:** ESCWA/1/1

**Committee:** Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

**Topic:** Social and Economic Implications of Refugee Influx in the ESCWA Region

**Sponsors:** Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

**Signatories:** Bahrain, Egypt, Qatar

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1 *The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

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3 *Recognizing* the ESCWA mandate, which is to promote cooperation and integration in order to facilitate inclusive  
4 and sustainable development in the ESCWA region, as provided by ECOSOC resolution 1818 (LV),

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6 *Deeply concerned* with the tremendous influx of refugees within the ESCWA region, particularly the 3.8 million  
7 Syrian refugees and the 7.6 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Syria, as well as the long-term crisis of  
8 4.7 million Palestinian refugees, which have placed an unequal burden of responsibility on several Member States  
9 within the region, as a result of existing conflicts and tensions due to challenges to governance posed by increased  
10 terrorist and other radical insurgent activities and asymmetrical warfare,

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12 *Recognizing* that different countries within the ESCWA region are addressing varying responsibilities regarding the  
13 current refugee crisis, namely those of countries of origin, refugee host countries, and donor states,

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15 *Reaffirming* the importance of the principle of sovereignty of each Member State in regard to the settlement of  
16 domestic issues, as stated in Article 2, Chapter 1, of the UN Charter,

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18 *Cognizant* that youth unemployment in the ESCWA region is the highest average rate in the world, as recognized in  
19 the 2014 report on An Arab Perspective on the Post-2015 Agenda highlighting the examples of Tunisia and Egypt,  
20 where unemployment rates amounted to about 15 percent in 2013 and were estimated to increase steadily and that  
21 the female and male unemployment rates in the Middle East amount to about 43.5 percent and 25.2 percent  
22 respectively, while also considering that unemployed youth are easy targets for terrorist recruitment,

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24 *Recalling* ESCWA Resolution 305 (XXVII) on sustainable development in the Arab region and follow up to the  
25 decisions of the Rio+20 Conference, which underlines the importance of educating underprivileged youth,

26

27 *Recalling* the Amman deliberation as part of ESCWA's Arab High Level Forum on Sustainable Development held  
28 in April 2014 that emphasized goals addressed in the Sustainable Development Goals...An Arab Regional  
29 Perspective, specifically Goal 2 which focuses on creating decent jobs, Goal 3 which focuses on providing quality  
30 education, Goal 4 which focuses on empowering women and achieving gender equality, Goal 5 which focuses on  
31 ensuring healthy lives, and Goal 9 which promotes sustainable and inclusive cities, human settlements, and quality  
32 housing,

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34 *Recognizing* the specific challenges which refugee children face, not only in terms of obstacles to education, as  
35 outlined in the report of UNHCR The Future of Syria, but also in terms of psychological trauma and forced  
36 recruitment into terrorist groups, as addressed in recent reports of Human Rights Watch on the recruitment of  
37 children into the Islamic State (IS) insurgent militias, these conclusions being based on interviews with several  
38 children who were among more than 150 Kurdish boys from Kobanî abducted in late May in the city of Aleppo,

39

40 *Applauding* the efforts made by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) according to the February 2015 Syrian  
41 Crisis Monthly Humanitarian Situation Report in contributing to health needs through polio vaccination,  
42 psychosocial support, water supply and education, particularly amongst vulnerable children affected by conflict and  
43 displacement in the ESCWA region,

44

45 *Appreciating* the creation of regional humanitarian assistance programs, in particular the Syrian Humanitarian  
46 Assistance Response Plan (SHARP) and the yearly iterations of the Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP), while also  
47 identifying various shortfalls in the funding and the execution of these programs,

48  
49 *Expressing* its deep concern that the Strategic Response Plans and other fund appeals in the Middle East and North  
50 African Region (MENA) suffer from a shortfall of \$3.64 billion USD (56.3 percent of the total), according to  
51 United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) figures of December 2014,  
52 demonstrating a need for efforts to ensure the realization of Member States pledges,  
53  
54 *Taking note* of refugee camps originally planned for a short period of time and their enduring existence to the  
55 present day and the importance of the need for decent accommodation of refugees in urban areas, particularly in  
56 light of the fact that 84 percent of Syrian refugees live in urban areas in Jordan, according to United Nations High  
57 Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR),  
58  
59 *Appreciating* the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)  
60 Infrastructure and Camp Improvement Programme's efforts in the restoration of unsafe shelters, as well as the Job  
61 Creation Programme (JCP) to accommodate to the needs of refugees,  
62  
63 *Recalling* ESCWA Resolution 297 (XXVI) regarding the Arab Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Monitor  
64 for Societal Progress that is concerned with the lack of transparency and data on health development indicators in  
65 many ESCWA Member States,  
66  
67 *Deeply disturbed* by the Yale School of Public Health statistic reported in 2012, which notes that one in every seven  
68 registered and pregnant refugees within the Arab region find hospital unaffordable due to the large health care fees,  
69  
70 *Alarmed* by the Healthy Newborn Network's reports of 2012 that reflect low prenatal coverage for refugee women  
71 in the ESCWA region and their lack of awareness on where to seek care during child labor and delivery within  
72 refugee camps,  
73  
74 *Seeking* financial assistance as per the recommendations from the UNHCR's Global Appeal 2015 Update - Middle  
75 East on revising and increasing the financial requirements for the Middle East to \$1.7 billion USD in order to  
76 support several ESCWA Member States,  
77  
78 *Reaffirming* the solidarity expressed by the ESCWA Resolution 316 (XXVIII) Support for the Palestinian People,  
79 adopted at the 28th session of ESCWA in 2014, and being appalled by the latest developments in the West Bank and  
80 Gaza Strip,  
81  
82 *Recalling* the International Finance Corporation stating a high demand in Islamic microfinance products in the  
83 ESCWA region due to religious reasons as the largest obstacle to obtain microcredit, ranging from around 20  
84 percent in Jordan, 40 percent in Yemen, nearly 50 percent in Syria, to more than 60 percent in the West Bank and  
85 Gaza,  
86  
87 *Recognizing* E/ESCWA/ECRI/2009/Technical Paper.4 on Microfinance in Conflict: Strategies for the Development  
88 and Peace in the ESCWA Region,  
89  
90 *Considering* the United Nations Development Program's (UNDP) case study of November 2012 which reported on  
91 the highly successful introduction of Islamic microfinance schemes in the People's Republic of Bangladesh,  
92  
93 *Reminding* of the introduction of Islamic microfinance in ESCWA Member States, including Bahrain, Jordan,  
94 Lebanon, Iraq, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen, which so far operate on a small scale and only  
95 reach a minor number of recipients,  
96  
97 *Commending* the UN Industrial Development Organization's (UNIDO) sustainable development projects *for* Poverty  
98 Reduction through Productive Activities in Arab States,  
99  
100 *Recognizing* that Paragraph Twelve of the Statute of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (hereafter  
101 the Statute), mandates the UNHCR to "invite the co-operation of the various specialized agencies" in the fulfillment  
102 of UNHCR's remit,  
103

- 104 1. *Approves* the creation of a expert group of ESCWA Member States in order to open a dialogue for the  
105 development of action plans, facing the particularly difficult and urgent situation of Syrian refugee children to  
106 enhance cooperation between ESCWA Member States, avoid wasted efforts, and encourage:  
107
- 108 a. Countries of refugee origin to develop solutions to the security issues which create refugees such that  
109 these refugees will be able to safely return home to their States of origin, following the guidelines  
110 established within the UN-ESCWA Strategy in Conflict Mitigation and Development: Unit for  
111 Emerging and Conflict Related Issues (ECRI), issued in 2010;  
112
  - 113 b. Host States to keep accepting and supporting refugees, and receiving the necessary aid to do so and;  
114
  - 115 c. Donor states to fund programs within host States that address refugee children's education and  
116 integration, housing, health and security;  
117
- 118 2. *Further proclaims* that the right to State sovereignty cannot be disturbed throughout the region, affirming:  
119
- 120 a. The right of Member States to monitor their borders so that these host States will be conscious of the  
121 number and destination of the refugees so to adequately meet their needs;  
122
  - 123 b. The importance of all Member States to maintain open borders to refugees fleeing conflict as long as  
124 these host States receive the funding and assistance from other Member States and the security of the  
125 hosting State is not compromised;  
126
  - 127 c. The right for all refugees to have their basic human needs met, including access to water, food  
128 provisions, health, education, and housing, among others;  
129
- 130 3. *Calls upon* all UN Member States to participate in this burden sharing process, as this refugee crisis will be  
131 recognized and addressed as a global issue, not simply an Arab one, particularly under the distinction of:  
132
- 133 a. Donor State, providing both financial and non-financial aid, including but not limited to the forms of  
134 donations, loans, grants, financial transfers, resources, personnel, technology, and best practices, and;  
135
  - 136 b. Refugee host states, always taking into consideration that a resettlement of refugees should be  
137 monitored by independent UN agencies and NGOs to assure their treatments is in accordance to  
138 international standards;  
139
- 140 4. *Requests of* the ESCWA Secretariat the development of a report on Islamic microfinance, enhancing the  
141 existing surveys issued by the IFC, and, based on this report, to instigate Islamic microfinance programs as a  
142 means to create livelihood opportunities for refugees and persons of concern as well as members of host State  
143 communities:  
144
- 145 a. In compliance with Islamic law, bearing in mind that national law always remains the highest legal  
146 legislative power;  
147
  - 148 b. Based on:  
149
    - 150 i. Risk-sharing and profit-sharing;
    - 151 ii. Fixed pre-payment rates, excluding interest-bearing financial instruments;
    - 152 iii. Transparency and accountability;
    - 153
  - 154 c. Aiming to safeguard social welfare and justice;  
155
  - 156 d. Including workshops to the loan recipients, providing entrepreneurial skills training, organized by  
157 ESCWA secretariat;  
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- 159 e. Receiving funds by regional financial institutions such as the Islamic Development Bank (IDB),  
160 religious institutions, Islamic charitable sources, national agencies, as well as foreign donors;  
161
- 162 5. *Requests* ESCWA's Secretariat to write an update on the UNHCR *Policy on Refugee Protection and Solutions*  
163 *in Urban Areas of 2009* that:  
164
- 165 a. Takes into consideration recent developments regarding refugee crises that arose in the ESCWA region  
166 in the past several years since the creation of such policy, namely the Syrian refugee crisis and the  
167 Iraqi refugee influx;  
168
- 169 b. Incorporates measures that adapt to regional specificities regarding the reception of refugees in urban  
170 areas including the challenges of the region with regards to stability, the particular need for Member  
171 States for security, the diversity of ESCWA countries in terms of experiences with refugees;  
172
- 173 c. Focuses on Emergency Response Plans (ERP) for refugee crises, such as UNOCHA's *Lebanon Crisis*  
174 *Response Plan*;  
175
- 176 6. *Recommends* the implementation of specific efforts focusing on methods of expanding the reconstruction and  
177 refurbishing of infrastructure by UNHCR and UN-Habitat to accommodate refugees across the ESCWA region,  
178 by drawing upon the successes of the Infrastructure and Camp Improvement Programme;  
179
- 180 7. *Encourages* the creation of public-private partnerships (PPPs) between enterprises of Member States and the  
181 refugees within their borders, especially those that create safe and sustainable workplaces for refugees within  
182 their settlements and camps, as demonstrated in UNIDO's Enterprise Development & Investment Promotion  
183 Program (EDIP) in Lebanon, which promoted youth entrepreneurship in post-conflict society;  
184
- 185 8. *Recommends* UNHCR and UNRWA personnel in charge of refugee registration to complete a health screening  
186 of newly registered refugees within seven days of their arrival to the refugee camp in order to promptly and  
187 efficiently address all communicable and non-communicable diseases and to reduce public health barriers to  
188 successful resettlement and protect the health of the host country population;  
189
- 190 9. *Stresses* the importance of the Regional Perspective on the Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda,  
191 which effectively implements sustainable health service programs and health infrastructure that specifically  
192 meet the needs of refugees, including an increased proportion of deliveries attended by skilled health personnel  
193 between 1990 and 2010 as well as an increased proportion of women aged 15-49 who attended at least once by  
194 skilled health personnel during pregnancy between 1990 and 2010;  
195
- 196 10. *Calls upon* regional development organizations and banks in the ESCWA region, such as the Arab Gulf  
197 Program for Development and the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), to allocate sector-specific, project-based  
198 voluntary loans and grants to areas, with a focus on the health sector in the following ways:  
199
- 200 a. Improving the infrastructure of emergency service departments in refugee camp health institutions and  
201 public hospitals in highly concentrated urban cities in the host States;  
202
- 203 b. Providing vehicles, such as vans, buses, and boats, available for refugees to safely commute to public  
204 health institutions with the triangular collaboration between:  
205
- 206 i. Bombardier Transportation, a globally recognized Canadian transportation supplier that is  
207 known for donating and sponsoring means of transportation to foreign States;  
208
- 209 ii. National government entities and;  
210
- 211 iii. ESCWA-supported regional financial institutions, such as the Arab Fund for Economic and  
212 Social Development, which would subsidize the cost of providing vehicles for the refugee  
213 camp health care centers;  
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- 215 c. Building additional reproductive health centers available to women within refugee camps that provide  
216 family planning services and access to contraceptives;



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- d. Providing pregnant refugee women access to pre-natal, post-natal, and birth assistance by acquiring a higher percentage of skilled and accredited women health professionals to serve under the supervision of UNHCR under the guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO) as defined in *Care in Normal Birth: A Practical Guide* from 1996;
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11. *Invites* all ESCWA Member States to consider proposing the establishment of an annual refugee healthcare workshop, named *A Workshop on Healing ESCWA Refugees*, which pertains to having representatives of their respective Ministries of Health to participate in the workshop and to share knowledge and expertise about the effective health services and projects implemented within each host State's refugee camps along with the health conditions of host State citizens;
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12. *Fully supports* the assistance of *murshidats*, (community midwives), who provide medical assistance during pregnancy and child delivery for women who deal with complications during childbirth, as practiced in Morocco and Yemen;
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13. *Recommends* to the ESCWA Secretariat to instigate a report titled *Arab Refugee Framework for Education* (ARFE) that:
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- a. Emphasizes that education is paramount for the rehabilitation of refugee children and young people;
- b. Reminds Member States of the stunted personal development growth of refugee children that occurs without proper education, such as the underdevelopment of cognitive abilities and lack of specialized vocational skills;
- c. Takes into consideration that any educational program should aim to bridge the gap between the academic world and the access to the labor market;
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- d. Reminds Member States to look toward future economic implications of current insufficient education for refugee children, especially in regards to reduced production quality and growth within States;
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- e. Establishes common guidelines with regards to education for refugee children that:
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- i. Include and do not discriminate against refugee children in host communities;
- ii. Provide teaching environments adapted to the native language of refugee children, including schooling materials, particularly in regard to Iraq and Lebanon;
- iii. Ensure access to psychological support in schools through NGOs, UNHCR, UNICEF, or other local community based centers and;
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- f. Calls upon Member States to consider the importance of ensuring consistency and coherence of national curricula;
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14. *Proposes* the creation of a volunteer service campaign within the ESCWA region, that:
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- a. Calls upon teachers of Arab States to devote their time to volunteer in refugee camps in the ESCWA region;
- b. Encourages trained teachers among refugees to actively participate in providing education for the youth in camps, as per the aforementioned report;
- c. Would be funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, covering:
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- i. The media and publication campaigns advertising the program;
- ii. The administrative costs of the program, including a visa;
- iii. The transportation costs to the refugee camp and;
- iv. The expenses and residence provisions for volunteers;

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15. *Requests* of the ESCWA Secretariat for the development of guidelines for the establishment of national vocational and skill training programs, including education programs, in conjunction with ESCWA Members that classify themselves as host States, which:
    - a. Emphasize the importance of vocational training to increase employment prospects for the long-term alleviation of poverty and improvement of the livelihoods of refugees;
    - b. Encourage the ESCWA Member States to include youth policies in their national development strategies;
    - c. Urge NGOs and civil society actors to create vocational training for youth residing in refugee camps and rural and urban settlements modeled after the Cash-For-Training Projects launched by the World Food Programme (WFP);
    - d. Empower women to develop entrepreneurship skills and to secure income-generating activities;
  16. *Further invites* UNDP and WFP to intensify their efforts in the creation of vocational training programs aiming at women and youth, according to the recommendations stipulated in Clause 15;
  17. *Requests* the ESCWA Secretariat to solicit guidance from the United Nations Statistical Commission, a subsidiary organ of ECOSOC, in collaboration with UNICEF, to consider the creation of reports on national education systems delivered to child refugees up until the age of fourteen years old in host States, that:
    - a. Elaborate specific and appropriate guidelines, including educational indicators in conjunction with UNICEF, for the evaluation of the scope and quality of educational provisions and national curricula which can be applied in the ESCWA region;
    - b. Evaluate the education guidelines developed for the provision of education to refugee children and young people in each Member State according to statistical and qualitative criteria appropriate for the common but differentiated needs within the ESCWA region and;
    - c. Base its evaluation of the education provided by Member States upon these developed guidelines, in order to promote regional compatibility and the ability to compare education provisions among Member States in the ESCWA region;
  18. *Calls upon* ECOSOC and UNHCR to establish and empower a Refugee Arab Monitoring Partner Agency on Resources and Treatment (RAMPART), as mandated under Paragraph Twelve of the Statute, which:
    - a. Develops a system of regional criteria to evaluate the programs developed by ESCWA and other UN agencies concerning refugee influx in the ESCWA region, while recognizing differential national and cultural concerns, which:
      - i. Encourages Member States which have declared a commitment to contribute funds as part of UN-mandated humanitarian assistance programs to follow through on their financial commitments, in order to ensure that the pledged funds reach refugees and persons of concern;
    - b. Empowers RAMPART under the delegated powers provided by the Statute of the UNHCR to issue recommendations to Member States which have yet to instigate and institutionalize the regional criteria agreed upon in this resolution and;
    - c. Acknowledges that RAMPART must take into account that Member States have variegated priorities and resource availability, and that the specific national situation of Member States must be considered and duly respected;

- 327 19. *Encourages* UN agencies, Member States, and NGOs to use the resources gathered from donors, including  
328 monetary and other forms of aid such as material goods, medications, and skilled professionals for the following  
329 purposes:  
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- 331 a. Ensuring the security, empowerment, and social inclusion of women and youth through the  
332 development and funding of programs which will guarantee their access to their specific needs, such as  
333 pre-natal care and education;
  - 334 b. Efficiently distributing resources to refugees who need them, including but not limited to medicine,  
335 food, and access to water and;  
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  - 337 c. Maintaining an equal amount of aid to all refugees such that certain communities of refugees are not  
338 forced to live in refugee camps without aid while other communities of refugees do not make use of all  
339 of the resources made available to them;  
340
- 341 20. *Approves* of the continuation the efforts to implement the National Agenda for the Future of Syria in 2012 in  
342 order to prevent further radicalization, which directly creates refugees and IDPs, preventing the resolution of  
343 conflicts within the concerned Member States and furthering the challenges facing the refugees throughout the  
344 ESCWA region;  
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- 346 21. *Highly supportive* of the necessity for States to accommodate a number of refugees in proportion with the  
347 capacity of the State, in order to diminish the disproportionate burden within specific States regarding the  
348 geographical size and the population density of the State, the economic stability of the States as measured by  
349 the State's gross domestic product (GDP) and other relevant indicators, including employment rates, economic  
350 growth, the internal situation of the State, the level of development and urbanization of the State, and the  
351 geographical proximity of the refugee source States and;  
352
- 353 22. *Wishes that* the UNRWA, UNHCR and ECOSOC to strengthen their cooperation, in order to make sure that  
354 both IDPs and refugees have access to relief aid and support, by increasing both formal and informal dialogue  
355 between those agencies.  
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## National Model United Nations • NY - Working Paper Template

**Code:** ESCWA/1/2

**Committee:** Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia

**Topic:** The Social and Economic Implications of Refugee Influx on the ESCWA region

**Sponsors:** Bahrain, Egypt, Kuwait, Lebanon, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

**Signatories:** Iraq, Jordan, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia

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1 *The Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia,*

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3 *Reaffirming Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that everyone has the right to a standard of*  
4 *living adequate for the wealth and well being of themselves and their family, including the right to health, adequate*  
5 *shelter, and education for both citizens and refugees within ESCWA Member States,*

6

7 *Gravely concerned with the challenges facing the economies of States directly affected by refugee influx and*  
8 *conflicts that cause motivations for refugees such as the Syrian Arab Republic, Palestine, Lebanon, Yemen, Jordan,*  
9 *Iraq and Egypt,*

10

11 *Acknowledging that host States experience implications such as: strains on their infrastructure, increased rates of*  
12 *unemployment, tensions between citizens and refugees, and an increased possibility of radicalization of both parties,*  
13 *while States work to meet the needs of refugees within their borders,*

14

15 *Highlighting these implications, which include large losses in terms of wages, profits, taxes, or private investment,*  
16 *losses in the tourism industry, depletion of healthcare resources,*

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18 *Understanding that each Member State in the Arab Region has different policies and capabilities to diversify their*  
19 *individual economic development through energy in terms of both use and commercialization, while recognizing*  
20 *energy resource scarcity in Member States,*

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22 *Highlighting the connection between having a stronger, more diverse economy and the direct and measurable*  
23 *impacts to the quality of life that this economy creates, both for citizens and refugees within a nation with a larger*  
24 *economy,*

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26 *Noting the importance of economic development in addressing the challenges created by the adverse impacts of*  
27 *refugee influx on States, including the States of Yemen, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq, who have embraced millions of*  
28 *refugees from regional ESCWA Member States,*

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30 *Having examined the Strengthening and Protect Capacity Project (SPCP), carried out in Yemen by UNHCR in that*  
31 *this project coordinated with host and international governments to measure gaps and develop a multi-year plan to*  
32 *improve the conditions of both host States and source States,*

33

34 *Highly stressing the importance of maintaining civil stability, symbolized by effective governance, the rule of law,*  
35 *and the adequate allotment of services to civilians and refugees through economic and social development in both*  
36 *countries of origin and host countries,*

37

38 *Recognizing the need to focus on real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth, as per in previous ESCWA reports*  
39 *detailing Member States' economic development to promote standardization,*

40

41 *Reiterating ESCWA's continued commitment to article fourteen of the Arab Ministerial Declaration of the United*  
42 *Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) of 2012, which underlines the principle of sovereignty of*  
43 *States over their natural resources, building upon the General Assembly resolution of A/RES/66/225 (2011),*

44

45 *Confirming the permanent sovereignty of the Arab peoples over their natural resources in occupied territories and*  
46 *territories in conflict, including, but not limited to, East Jerusalem, Gaza, and the Syrian Golan,*

47

48 *Reiterating the business agreement of 1981 between the United Nations and the World Bank,*

49 *Commending* the efforts of the Palestinian government despite multiple injustices that impede the economic and  
50 social development that the Israeli occupation that has violated the State's right to self-governance,  
51

52 *Appreciating* the monetary and humanitarian contributions put forth by ESCWA Member States,  
53

54 1. *Requests* of the Executive Secretary to submit an Economic Diversification Report, bring to the attention of the  
55 Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) upon its completion so as to:

- 56 a. Better understand different methods in which to diversify the economies of Member States, with focus  
57 on foreign investment, non-oil exports, and technology;
- 58 b. Promote self-reliant economies;
- 59 c. Enable Member States experiencing refugee influx to self-assess and manage their particular  
60 implications;
- 61 d. Become a guide regarding future development in energy and other areas;
- 62 e. Denounce the ramifications of unilateral and multilateral trade barriers and politically motivated  
63 measures to that effect on the economies of ESCWA Member States which inhibit national efforts for  
64 economic growth;
- 65 f. Consider the measures available for persons living under occupied powers, displaced persons and  
66 refugees to gain equitable access for the exploitation of their territory's natural resources;

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69 2. *Further agrees* that ESCWA shall revisit and decide whether further action should be taken to counteract the  
70 economic and social implications of refugees, such actions could include investment in renewable energy,  
71 foreign investment, appealing to United Nations agencies such as UNHABITAT and UNHCR, and the  
72 developing solutions of RRP6 and SHARP to resolve conflicts that stem the very motivations of refugees;  
73

74 3. *Invites* the World Bank to participation of the report in collaboration with ESCWA, bearing in mind the  
75 sovereignty of the economic policies of Member States;

76  
77 4. *Emphasizes* that the report is to help support Member States in raising living standards, improving  
78 infrastructure, boosting employing, bolstering education, and fostering comprehensive and targeted healthcare;  
79

80 5. *Further emphasizes* ESCWA's input into the ECOSOC 2015 Integration Segment developing job creation and  
81 infrastructure improvement with both short and long term goals for this development such as:

- 82 a. Providing services and investments that help create and grow real estate and small business initiatives;
- 83  
84 b. Increasing economic activity within public works and building sectors as well as agricultural  
85 production on rural areas;

86  
87  
88 6. *Encourages* other Member States to model further efforts to improve the economic and social situations after  
89 the successes for the Palestinian government;

- 90 a. Recognition of the economic development plan for the reconstruction of Gaza 2014 known as the  
91 Cairo Anti-war Conference, held regularly since 2002;
- 92  
93 b. Endorsing recognition and development of the demilitarization of the Gaza region of 2014;

94  
95  
96 7. *Notes with gratitude and satisfaction* all forms of contributions for all willing Member States of the United  
97 Nations, with these contributions including but not limited to financial contributions as well as:

- 98 a. Civil society workers and professionals such as doctors, teachers, and laborers needed to promote  
99 economic programs within States that are effected by the refugee crisis of the region;
- 100  
101 b. Raw building materials for infrastructure development such as for the creation of roads, rural  
102 electrification, and other forms of infrastructure development;

103  
104

- 105           c. Medical assistance in the form of medicine and medical practice information;  
106  
107 8. *Urges* the fair treatment and security of refugees, and for these programs outlining their needs and aid give  
108 response to this need by transparent to the international community for the best interests of the current refugees  
109 within the region;  
110  
111 9. *Insists* that while these conflicts persist, Member States must work diligently to create economic growth and  
112 stability to ensure improvement of quality of life for both citizens and refugees.