

## **No. 2 Small report Third Committee meetings , UN in New York – 2/11/2022**

After the report of the High Commissioner for Refugees was given, various countries made interventions. Some 16 countries spoke yesterday and 24 spoke in this session. Below are some that are of interest:

**Algeria** – They have some 90,000 refugees from the Western Sahara war (1975 – 1991) living in Algeria . These are called the Sahrawi refugees. There is a need for money.

**Ukraine** – The delegate made a heartfelt intervention calling the situation “Russia’s unprovoked war”. Some 6.2 million people have been internally displaced and 7.5 million are externally displaced (A Ukrainian family is living in a vacant Church Manse opposite side of the park from where the author lives in Scotland). There have been 1.6 million Ukrainians forcibly sent to Russia. The delegate spoke of “hunger games “ and how Russia has been destroying energy facilities in Ukraine, The delegate gave a very moving and heartfelt thanks to all the neighbouring countries who have offered assistance.

**USA** – They are the largest donor of foreign aid in the world , \$17 billion /year. Out of this \$2.3 Billion goes to HCR (High Commissioner for Refugees) . The delegate also mentioned the food crisis in Ukraine, problems in Somalia, Syria, and the Rohingya (Myanmar to Bangladesh). He also spoke of the problem of climate change. ( Author’s note : The climate has always changed and there is scant evidence it is now changing due to human effect. )

**Myanmar** – They mentioned the illegal military coup in 2021, which caused the displacement of 1.4 million people. They need financial assistance.

**Azerbaijan** – Some 700,000 refugees have got to go home. There have been many deaths and injuries from landmines.

**Greece** – The delegate rightly pointed out that they are the first country middle eastern “refugees “enter when coming into the E.U. Under the 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees the refugees are meant to remain in the first safe country they reach. Sadly Britain is getting upward of 1000 illegal aliens getting across the English channel each day when there is calm weather.

**Georgia** – They have 28,000 Ukrainian refugees in their country.

**Angola** – The delegate wants **Reproductive health services** for the more than 50,000 refugees in his country. Most of these come from the Congo. There has been 27 years of internal conflict here.

**Syria** – The delegate spoke with real emotion, some one million refugees have returned to this devastated country , he blamed “ external actors “, and that they are not to blame. I agree.

**Eritrea** – (A member of the friends of the UN Charter along with Russia). They were critical of countries like Australia who ship “asylum seekers” off to other countries. The author is from Australia, originally, and notes that there is almost no illegal immigration into Australia. However, Australia accepts many genuine refugees every year from all over the world and treats them very well.

**Pakistan** – Mentioned the fertilizer crisis which is very real due to the Russia / Ukraine war and the insane green policies of certain governments, especially Sri Lanka, and now the Netherlands. The delegate spoke of 40 years of Afghan refugees totalling 1.4 million over 40 years and 850,000 others. Pakistan provides primary school education for them. He then made the very good point that 85% of refugees live in non-developed countries which was an inequitable burden.

**Ethiopia** – Have 1 million refugees, they need money.

**Australia** – My home country is great at taking in genuine refugees , however they want to push an age, gender and diversity hiring system on the staff of the UN high Commissioner for refugees. How sad , we need the best people for the job, period.

**Turkey** – They host 4 million Syrian refugees.

**Albania** – The delegate was pushing for **reproductive health services** for refugees. He did not give a definition of the term.

**Montenegro** – They have housed 6,000 refugees.

**Japan** – They are very generous in giving money and are giving \$40 million for emergency supplies for refugees this year. In 2018 they accepted 42 refugees only.

**Serbia** – The delegate said 1.5 million refugees had passed through his country in the last year “on the migrant route”. They had donated 3 million euros to Ukraine.

**Morocco** – Complained about the refugee camps in Algeria. Claimed Algeria was recruiting child soldiers from the camps.

**International red cross and red crescent** – This very commendable IGO partners with UNHCR. They do a commendable job, and gave an excellent intervention. No NGOs spoke at this session.

There was then a right of reply by Russia. Also, Morocco and Algeria has a go at each other, twice.

44<sup>th</sup> Plenary session – afternoon of 2 Nov 2022

### **Report of the Human Rights Council**

Documents A/77/53 , A/77/53/Add1

The president of the human rights council is Ambassador Federico Villegas from Argentina. Some 25 years ago this country was very conservative, but now they are quite trendy.

As a general note this entity of the UN is perhaps the most pro-abortion, anti-family element in the UN structure. They have designed a rights-based approach to almost everything. Never any mention of individual responsibility. A very anti-Christian position.

Around 24 countries spoke mostly in their individual capacity, some are recorded below.

**Costa Rica** – They want a right to a safe and clean environment. Well who doesn't, but who pays is the big question.

**Lithuania** – Spoke on behalf of the Nordic and Baltic countries. They need funding for Ukrainian refugees. They were disappointed that there was no resolution condemning China for their concentration camps for Uighurs in Xinjiang province. I imagine the arm twisting by the Chinese, in Geneva, would have been a sight to behold.

**Chile** – Want to protect especially **LGBTQ**... refugees

**Cameroon** – Delegate gave a brilliant intervention begging that they focus on issues that unite us not what divide. For example freedom of the press, abolishing slavery etc. She suggested having an International Migrant Day each year. I was shocked to hear some sensible comments from the 3rd committee.

**Argentina** – Was pushing diversity and gender equality, weasel words.

**Cuba** – They are still complaining about the US embargo. They should not have stolen US businesses during their communist revolution.

**Ethiopia** – Does not like country specific resolutions, especially the ones critical of them

**China** – The delegate was in full wolf warrior mode , they do not like being criticised for their concentration ( I mean re-education ) camps with 2 million Uighur Muslims and half a million of their children in forced boarding schools.

**Malawi** – Spoke of contemporary forms of slavery , trafficking in persons, requested help from other countries.

**Nigeria** – Spoke about the need for treaty body review panels to stick to the clear provision of each treaty, more later.

**El Salvador** – Spoke of dis-information on the internet.

**Netherlands** – Wants more NGO involvement in the process, but perhaps only certain types of NGOs, not the pro-family one !

**Italy** – Wants support for **LGBTQI** people and wants to condemn child , early and forced marriages.

The president of the HRC Amb Villegas then spoke about how he liked to have NGOs work alongside him, to report on state problems. He talked about how there was once just the right of states, but now the rights of citizens. He did not mention anything about responsibility. He talked about parity on panels, even though 70% are now women.

### **General debate**

**South Africa** – They want gender parity, so 50% of every post filled by women.

**India** – Want a right to development. I have always wondered what this looks like. Britain and the Netherlands never talked about such a right when they developed.

**Cuba** – Also wants a right to development (Throwing off communism would help)

**Iran** – Does not like country specific resolutions especially one ones against Iran.

**Nigeria** – This was the best intervention all day. The delegate strongly pressed for national sovereignty, that LGBT rights are not recognised and that the compliance committees go beyond their mandates. He referred to these “so-call rights “. Then he mentioned family and religious values. He condemned the attempt to make abortion a human right, and as abortion is not even mentioned in all these treaties the so called experts should stick to what is in the treaty. One of the best interventions I have heard at the UN. I wished I had been in New York to shake his hand and congratulate him, Nigeria is always strong on these matters.

**Bangladesh** – Want a special rapporteur for older people and one for leprosy.

**Indonesia** – Wanted polarisation to stop and for common ground to be respected. A good intervention.

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