

Statement of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Transitional measures concerning financial reporting by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees under the International Public Sector Accounting Standards

Note of the Secretary-General: A/66/352, ACABQ report: A/66/376

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/66/376) on the transitional measures concerning financial reporting by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees under the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).

The Advisory Committee has no objection to the request by UNHCR that, for the sole purpose of its timely implementation of IPSAS, the General Assembly should authorize the Office to apply *mutatis mutandis* the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules to its voluntary funds accounting processes and financial reporting in a manner that allows it to be compliant with IPSAS as of 1 January 2012.

The Advisory Committee recalls that, in its resolution 60/283, the General Assembly approved the adoption of IPSAS by the United Nations to replace the United Nations System Accounting Standards (UNSAS). In preparation for IPSAS, the financial rules for voluntary funds administered by the High Commissioner for Refugees, which are currently in accordance with UNSAS, are being revised. The Advisory Committee

has expressed no major objections on the revisions proposed by UNHCR. Its views have been communicated directly in the context of the Committee's report on UNHCR's proposed biennial programme budget 2012-2013 of UNHCR (A/AC.96/1100/Add.1).

Thank you.