

**Statement by H.E. Yun Byung- Se
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea
High-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of
refugees and migrants
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Mr. President,

Last year, at the high-level meeting on refugees and migration, I cited the remarks of Antonio Guterres, former UN High Commissioner for Refugees, that the refugee issue is not a mere crisis of numbers but a crisis of responsibility and values.

Yet we still cannot afford to breathe a sigh of relief. In fact, the

crisis of crisis has deepened. The factors of the five year old

crushing poverty. Moreover, prolonged conflicts have further

exacerbated the plight of those who flee for safety.

may as well become migrants journeying for a better life.

The twin crises of refugees and migrants are a multifaceted issue in which peace and security, development and human

rights are intertwined. It therefore requires a comprehensive

The Republic of Korea, the first in Asia to enact the Refugee Act, has continued to improve its refugee status determination process and facilitated better treatment for asylum-seekers. Last year, the Korean Government also launched a resettlement pilot project to actively join in the international community's burden sharing efforts.

To resolve the refugee crisis in a sustainable manner in the

Mr. Chairman,

Along with the high-level meeting on Syrian refugees and the World Humanitarian Summit in February and May respectively, I believe that today's high-level meeting marks the third main

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and migrant crises.

I sincerely hope that today's meeting will effectively garner the political will necessary to tackle the most pressing challenge we face together as humanity. Thank you. /end/