



Executive Committee of the UNHCR

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Resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees on April 12, 2019

Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees,

Alarmed by the number of stateless persons in the post-Soviet Union region,

Having examined ongoing situation in all post-Soviet Union states,

Bearing in mind current international practice on the matter of fighting statelessness,

Gravely concerned by the tremendous danger of children statelessness,

Declaring the will of the international community to abolish statelessness in post-Soviet states,

Welcoming further intergovernmental cooperation in the field of bilateral agreements adoption,

1. *Further requests* member states to take their efforts to grant on the legislative level social, cultural and economic rights to stateless persons to exercise them while acquiring citizenship;

2. *Recommends* to grant a citizenship to all the children who were born on the territory of the state according to the principle of *jus soli*, in case if they cannot acquire the citizenship of any other existing state;

3. *Proposes* member states to experience the concept of non-citizens as legal in those countries where non-citizens are not stateless, but former citizens of the USSR but are politically linked or born in the territory of the USSR after 1940, play a significant role in society and granted with inalienable economic, social and cultural rights, which are under protection of their country of origin;

4. *Calls upon* simplifying the procedure of gaining citizenship for stateless people by following steps:

i. to provide probationary period for all stateless people for as long as 2-3 years in order to reassure that a person corresponds to the citizenship requirements;

ii. to provide the stateless people with language courses or special courses where by “special” means the courses which help to gain necessary knowledge to acquire citizenship;

5. *Calls upon* Governments to co-operate with the UNHCR in the performance of its duties concerning stateless people falling under the competence of his Office, especially by:

- I) becoming parties to international conventions providing for the protection of refugees and stateless people, and by taking the necessary steps of implementation under conventions such as but not limited to:
 - i) Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
 - ii) International Convention on Civil and Political Rights;
 - iii) Convention on the Rights of the Child;
 - iv) Convention on the Nationality of Married Women International;
 - v) Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
 - vi) Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness;
- II) entering into special agreements with him for the execution of measures calculated to improve the situation of stateless people and to reduce the number requiring protection;
- III) providing the UNHCR with information concerning the number and condition of stateless people, and laws and regulations concerning them by means of:
 - i) disseminating reliable data on the characteristics and dimension of statelessness and the rights of stateless persons in post-soviet countries and agreeing on a follow-up research;
 - ii) reviewing current approaches of Governments, local administrations and communities, national human rights institutions, NGOs and activists to the problem of statelessness;
 - iii) identifying and evaluating practices of local, national, regional and international actors;

6. *Urges* all member states to develop and implement National Action Plans to undertake relevant Actions;

7. *Suggests* to undertake sustained global awareness-raising and advocacy on statelessness, ensuring that the plight of stateless people is understood and their voices are heard;

8. *Calls* all member states to provide stateless people with the same right to obtain the visa regime of the country of citizenship. in order to reduce the difference between the rights of citizens and people with the status of statelessness

9. *Urges* member states which have relation to the current issue to hold procedures of registration of stateless people and actively cooperate on this question with the experienced and qualified bodies such as UNHCR;

10. *Urges* all member states to promote the exchange of good practices in resolving statelessness.