



## Economic and Social Council

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**Social and human rights questions: United Nations  
High Commissioner for Refugees**

### **Note verbale dated 3 June 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

The Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to communicate the interest of the Government of Burkina Faso in becoming a member of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Burkina Faso has been receiving refugees from numerous countries, mainly in Africa, for almost 30 years. Underlining its commitment to the protection of refugees and the search for durable solutions, Burkina Faso is a party to the following conventions and protocols:

- Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28 July 1951
- Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees of 31 January 1967
- Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 10 September 1969
- Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons of 28 September 1954

Burkina Faso also has a national law relating to the status of refugees (Act No. 042-2008/AN of 23 October 2008), a policy document on economic and social development for refugees and host communities and a national body responsible for questions relating to refugees.

Furthermore, in the matter of the management of the many refugees from Mali, in January 2015 a tripartite agreement was signed between Burkina Faso, the Republic of Mali and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the voluntary repatriation of refugees living in Burkina Faso.

The membership of Burkina Faso would enable the Executive Committee to strengthen and formalize its involvement in the search for appropriate solutions to the issues of refugee management in Africa, including in the Sahel and especially in Burkina Faso.



The Permanent Mission kindly requests the Secretary-General to inform the Economic and Social Council of the request of Burkina Faso to become a member of the Executive Committee and hopes that its request will be given favourable consideration.

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