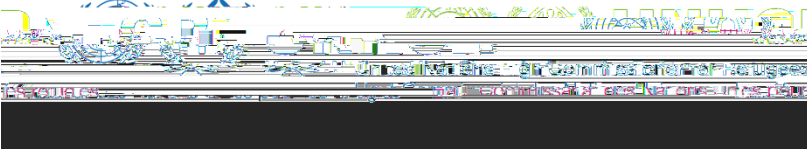


UNHCR Contributions
Report of the Secretary General on Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
June 2015

A. BACKGROUND AND TRENDS



Discussion focused on the three core themes of search, rescue and disembarkation; addressing drivers and providing safer options; and international cooperation to share burdens and responsibilities. Side events on regional challenges and opportunities allowed for reflection on developments in the Caribbean, the Gulf of Aden, the Mediterranean and the Asia-Pacific region.

A strong view was expressed by many participants that acting unilaterally or focusing only on would not stop the phenomenon of mixed migration by sea, but would instead exacerbate the dangers involved and merely lead to travel routes being displaced. The Dialogue notably reinforced the need for effective State-led search-and-rescue arrangements; continued dialogue with the shipping industry on its role and the challenges it faces; cooperation to improve data collection and analysis on travel routes, profiles and protection needs of those taking to the sea; improved arrangements for the reception and treatment of rescued people; and substantially increased access to alternatives to dangerous sea journeys.

C.

