



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT ON THE NANSEN
REFUGEE AWARD**

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile to
the Permanent Council,
Vienna, 21 January 2016

Mr Chairman,

Let me briefly inform the Permanent Council on the Nansen Refugee Award and invite participating States to nominate candidates.

Mr Chairman,

The Nansen Refugee Award was established by the UNHCR in 1954 and named after the Norwegian polar explorer and humanist Fridtjof Nansen. He was the first High Commissioner for Refugees for the League of Nations. The award honours an exceptional person or organisation whose work goes beyond the call of duty and has a direct impact on the lives of refugees, internally displaced or stateless persons.

The award consists of a prize of 100,000 US dollars donated by the governments of Norway and Switzerland to support a project of the winner's choice.

Anyone can nominate a candidate. Nominations must be sent before the 8th of February.

Mr Chairman,

We will circulate further information on the award and on how to nominate candidates through the Secretariat.

Thank you, Mr Chairman