

the precious marine ecosystems that inhabit the high seas.

■ **Global Refugee Population Reaches 35.3 Million, UNHCR Reports**

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has released its latest report, revealing that the number of refugees worldwide reached 35.3 million by the conclusion of 2022. This figure represents an increase of more than eight million compared to the previous year. According to the report, approximately 52 percent of all refugees originate from three countries: Syria, Ukraine, and Afghanistan. These nations continue to experience significant conflicts and instability, leading to a substantial displacement of their populations. To draw attention to the plight of refugees on a global scale, the United Nations has designated June 20 as World Refugee Day.