



Refugee Documentation Centre (Ireland)
LEGAL AID BOARD

Eritrea - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on 16 and 17 July 2009

Information on health care

Page 1 of a document by *Physicians for peace* issued in May 2007 says “In a country of nearly 4.8 million citizens, the World Health Organization estimates there to be only three physicians to every 100,000 people. Those physicians who remain are overburdened, under-resourced, and overwhelmed.” (Physicians for peace (1 May 2007) *Two Physicians From New Mexico Head To Eritrea To Launch Medical Education Program*)

Page 2 of a paper by the *ECHO* in April 2009 says “The health system in Eritrea suffers from a lack of qualified staff, equipment and medicines “ (ECHO, (16 April 2009), *Eritrea Fact Sheet*).

Citing another source page 113 of a *UK Home Office* report from April 2009 says

“ “In comments submitted to the Advisory Panel on Country Information on 8 March 2006, UNHCR stated: “The medical system suffers from an acute lack of resources which include medical personnel, medicines, facilities etc. There is no national cardiac treatment available, no burn unit and very limited trauma care facilities. Also, ongoing medical training is very limited and candidates for medical school may not travel abroad to accept scholarships.” “ (UK Home Office (21 April 2009) *Country of Origin Information Report – Eritrea*)

References

ECHO (16 April 2009) *Eritrea Fact Sheet*

[http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWFiles2009.nsf/FilesByRWDocUnidFilename/SODA-7R6NA4-full_report.pdf/\\$File/full_report.pdf](http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWFiles2009.nsf/FilesByRWDocUnidFilename/SODA-7R6NA4-full_report.pdf/$File/full_report.pdf)

(Accessed 16 July 2009)

Physicians for peace (1 May 2007) *Two Physicians From New Mexico Head To Eritrea To Launch Medical Education Program*

http://www.partnershipforeritrea.org/documents/New_Mexico-Eritrea_Release_FINAL.pdf

(Accessed 16 July 2009)

UK Home Office (21 April 2009) *Country of Origin Information Report – Eritrea*

<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/pdfid/49f575b00.pdf>

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This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted

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BBC Monitoring
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Lexis Nexis
Minority Rights Group International
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Refugee Documentation Centre Library
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Regional surveys of the world
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