

THE 1999 GLOBAL REPORT

BACKGROUND

This is UNHCR's second Global Report, following the first edition which covered activities carried out during 1998. It builds on the plans set out in the 1999 Global Appeal (issued in December 1998) and expands on achievements and priority activities described in the 1999 Mid-Year Report (issued in September 1999). Any programmes created after the publication of the latter report have also been incorporated.

This year's edition of the Global Report – the first and last to cover General and Special Programmes – is intended to meet the reporting requirements of as many of UNHCR's donors as possible, with the aim of eliminating the need for tailor-made reports. It therefore offers a much more detailed account of the use of funds put at the High Commissioner's disposal than its predecessor. A number of new features, described in further detail below, have also been introduced.

UNHCR is most grateful for the constructive comments and suggestions received from donors on the 1998 Global Report and would warmly welcome further feedback about this latest edition. This 1999 Global Report already responds to some of the comments received by focusing more clearly on constraints, achievements and impact, and assessing performance and exit strategies.

WHAT'S NEW

The section entitled – UNHCR - An Overview – contains nine general information chapters that provide a summary of developments in several key areas. This year, the chapter on funding has been expanded to include information on contributions from the private sector. This reflects UNHCR's overall strategy to reach out to private individuals, foundations, the corporate sector and NGOs to improve understanding of – and ultimately increase funding for – its programmes. Three new financial tables containing government

and private sector contributions and Headquarters expenditure have also been added to this section. Two theme boxes are included: the Microsoft Registration Project and UNHCR's 50th Anniversary.

The next section – Operations – begins with a short description of General and Special Programmes, and shows allocations from the Emergency Fund, Voluntary Repatriation Fund and Programme Reserve. It continues by describing UNHCR's activities in 17 geographical regions, each introduced in a Regional Overview followed by either Special Programme, Situational or Country Operation chapters.

The **Regional Overviews** summarise developments affecting refugees and other persons of concern to the Office, and highlight challenges as well as progress made in finding solutions to their plight. Where appropriate, each overview contains a short account of operations by country, especially those not covered in separate chapters, with emphasis on activities under General Programmes.

With a few exceptions, **Special Programmes** are generally a combination of activities conducted in more than one country for a particular refugee population, i.e. the situational approach. In 1999, UNHCR implemented a total of 20 Special Programmes, of which five in Africa, eight in Asia, three in Europe and one in the Americas.

Country Operations cover all activities carried out in a country (under both General and Special Programmes). As far as this report is concerned, the "country approach" has been adopted for the following regions: East and Horn of Africa; South-West Asia; Eastern Europe; and South-Eastern Europe.

A number of **Situations** and **Themes** have also been described in separate sections within their respective regions. These are: the Sierra Leonean Refugee Operation; Consolidating Reintegration in Mali; Emergency Assistance in Gabon; Promoting Local Integration of



Refugees (in Southern Africa); the Angolan Refugee Operation; the Western Sahara Operation; the Kosovo Emergency; the Chechnya Emergency and Supporting IDPs in Colombia. Other themes include Policy Priorities (Refugee Women, Refugee Children and Adolescents, and the Environment), and International Activities (in Eastern Europe).

Finally, to respond to donor requests to see their contribution patterns and earmarking trends more clearly reflected, a new feature, called **Donor Profiles**, has been introduced. The profiles contain a detailed breakdown of the contributions (above USD 100,000) of 35 government donors, four intergovernmental organisations and 30 private sector donors, by geographical region, programme, country, sector, activity and item (as applicable). These profiles also indicate the extent to which donors have responded to UNHCR's calls to limit earmarking.

DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

For a proper understanding of the information presented in this report, the following should be noted:

All information presented in the financial reports is as at 31 December 1999. This is also the case for the number of staff, offices and partners, statistics on persons of concern as well as the situation described in the maps, unless otherwise stated. Most of the information on income and expenditure can be cross-referenced to UNHCR's Accounts for the Year 1999 to be submitted to the 51st session of the Executive Committee in October 2000. Relevant cross references are indicated

in the Financial Reports. Minor differences between the figures in the Global Report and those found in various statements and schedules in the Accounts are due to the rounding of figures. Differences may also arise from the more detailed manner in which countries and regions have been organised in the Global Report.

At a Glance

This one-page summary appears in all Special Programme and country operations chapters. It gives the reader a comprehensive but concise overview of main objectives and activities, persons of concern, impact of UNHCR's activities and key financial data. The latter is provided in a table entitled **Income and Expenditure**. It should be noted that this table contains financial data regarding Special Programmes and Trust Funds, but does not contain figures on General Programmes. This explains the difference between the figures for expenditure provided in this table and those in the financial reports following each chapter (often higher). The following terminology has been used:

- **Working Budget** – this is the final 1999 budget.
- **Income from Contributions** – represents the value of contributions made to UNHCR during the financial year, recorded in accordance with UNHCR's financial rules.
- **Other Funds Available** – includes the opening balance (carry-over from previous years) and adjustments (cancellations, refunds and transfers).
- **Total Funds Available** – includes income from contributions plus other funds available.
- **Total Expenditure** – corresponds to disbursements/deliveries plus unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 1999.

Financial Data

Voluntary Contributions

All voluntary contribution tables show the difference (if any) between amounts reported as contributions and amounts reported as income. The following definitions apply:

- **Contribution** represents the value of pledges received.
- **Income** represents the value of pledges recorded in UNHCR's accounts, in accordance with the Office's financial rules. Unconditional pledges from governments are fully recognised as income at the time of receipt of the pledge. In the interest of prudent financial management, up to half of the value of conditional pledges by governments, or firm pledges by organisations of established repute, is recognised as income at the time the pledge is received.

The following types of voluntary contribution tables can be found in this report:

- **Regional tables:** These include the following information (by donor): funds earmarked for the region, funds earmarked for Special Programmes and Trust Funds in the region, and funds earmarked for country operations in the region. The difference between total expenditure in a region and earmarked voluntary contributions consists of (as applicable): unearmarked contributions; contributions earmarked to a level higher than the country or region; carryover; and adjustments (cancellations, refunds and transfers).
- **Special Programmes (including Trust Funds)/ Situations:** These include: funds earmarked for a Special Programme or theme included in a Special Programme (initiatives for refugee women, children and adolescents, and the environment, etc.) or funds earmarked for a Situation.

There are no separate voluntary contribution tables for Country Operations. Information pertaining to funds earmarked for country operations can be found in the regional tables.

Financial Reports

For the purposes of this Global Report, the headings Protection, Monitoring and Co-ordination and Administrative Support include costs incurred both at Headquarters and in the field. Where applicable, this is indicated with an asterisk next to these headings. The following types of financial reports have been included:

- **Budget and Expenditure (by geographical region):** These tables are organised by country. The expen-

diture figures presented under each country's General Programme include allocations from the Voluntary Repatriation Fund and the Emergency Fund.

- **Financial Report (by fund, country or situation):** The format of this financial report was agreed with donors during informal consultations in early 1999. The financial reports on Special Programmes in East and Horn of Africa, South-West Asia, Eastern Europe and South-Eastern Europe can be found in the respective regional overviews.

A slight difference may be noted when comparing total expenditure reported under the country operation with the figure reported for that country in the corresponding regional overview. This is due to the fact that some country operations implement projects that "belong" in more than one region (for example, in Kenya, projects were implemented both under the Special Programme for the Horn of Africa, reported in the corresponding regional overview, and under the Great Lakes Operation, reported in the regional overview for the Great Lakes). The financial report for the country operation contains all projects implemented in that country.

The following terminology has been used:

- **Opening Balance** – includes the carry-over from the previous year.
- **Other Funds Available** – includes adjustments (cancellations, transfers and refunds).
- **Closing Balance** – represents the carry-over into the subsequent year.
- **Current Year's Projects** – contains details of disbursements made against obligations incurred during 1999.
- **Prior Years' Projects** – this column contains details of disbursements made against obligations raised during previous financial years (1994-1998); negative amounts are offset by positive entries under one or more line items in this column.
- **Obligation** – refers to an allocation of available funds constituting the ceiling for disbursements. Obligations are liquidated by payment, by delivery in kind or by cancellation.
- **Expenditure** – represents the amount of funds obligated.
- **Unliquidated Obligations** – represent amounts yet to be disbursed.
- **Transit Account** – is a temporary account from which entries are cleared to their final destination. This account will be brought to zero before the project(s) concerned is (are) closed.

- **Instalments with Implementing Partners** – represents payments made to partners (allocated to a general sector) for which reports on the use of such funds had not been received as of the end of the financial year. These amounts will be cleared upon receipt of financial reports from the partners, which indicate to which specific sector the amounts should be allocated.
- **Protection, Monitoring and Co-ordination** – represents the cost of UNHCR's presence at operating locations (i.e., the direct cost of protecting refugee populations). This differs from the sector Legal Assistance, which refers to the cost of specific projects and/or materials.
- **Combined Projects** – some projects may be financed from several sources of funds. Funding for a particular project may be increased in a subsequent financial year from either the same or a different funding source. In either of these scenarios, a "combination" of two or more projects is created. Disbursements are recorded under the original project (under which the budget is also held).
- **Administrative Support** – refers to administrative and personnel costs for the operation and includes such items as salaries, office rental, office equipment, supplies, vehicles and contributions to joint UN activities.

asylum procedure or who are otherwise registered as asylum-seekers.

- **Returnees:** refugees who have returned to their place of origin and who remain of concern to UNHCR (up to a maximum period of two years from their date of return).
- **Others of Concern:** certain specific groups of persons not falling within the ordinary mandate of UNHCR, including internally displaced persons who have returned to their place of origin.
- **Internally displaced persons:** persons who are displaced within their country and to whom UNHCR extends protection and/or assistance pursuant to a special request by a competent organ of the UN.

STATISTICS

The statistical tables and graphs in this Global Report are provisional and subject to change. They can be cross-referenced with UNHCR's official statistical report, which was published in May 2000. For the purposes of this Global Report, the term "Beneficiary" is used for persons having benefited directly or indirectly from UNHCR's protection and assistance. The term "Person of Concern" includes all persons who are of concern to the Office, but not necessarily assisted. Due to the fact that the regions defined in this report are not mutually exclusive, the statistics by region may not necessarily tally with the global total.

The following definitions have been used:

- **Refugees:** persons recognised as refugees under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and/or the 1969 Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Convention, in accordance with UNHCR's statute, as well as persons granted a humanitarian status and those granted temporary protection.
- **Asylum-seekers:** persons whose application for refugee status is being processed according to the