The 2001 Global Appeal



Introduction

This Global Appeal is published to alert the international community and donors to UNHCR's priorities and plans for the year 2001, and thus to the circumstances of the millions of refugees and others falling within UNHCR's mandate. This is UNHCR's fourth Global Appeal and the first to be launched at a Geneva-based pledging meeting, at which governments may inform UNHCR of their funding priorities and plans for the coming year. UNHCR's programmes are resourced under a single unified budget (with the exception of a limited number of Supplementary Programmes) which

requires sufficient cash on hand for timely implementation of quarterly plans without having to postpone or interrupt activities. As the Office depends almost exclusively on voluntary contributions to finance its programmes, it is virtually impossible to overstate the need for donors to make funding commitments as early as possible in order to ensure smooth operations.

Structure

The 2001 Global Appeal is similar in format to its predecessor: the introductory overview is little changed, and UNHCR's operations are still presented in seventeen sub-regions which include regional overviews and country chapters. A significant change, however, is the inclusion of fewer country chapters to keep the document to a manageable overall length. Only those countries with a budget of USD 5 million or above are presented in separate chapters (30 chapters compared to 41 in 2000). As in previous years, other countries are covered in the relevant regional overviews. Further information on specific countries can be located on UNHCR's website (http://www.unhcr.org/cops) where complete Country Operation Plans are posted for the convenience of members of the Executive Committee (ExCom) of the High Commissioner's programme.

In order to facilitate comparison between UNHCR's annual programme budget – as presented in October to ExCom – and the presentation in this Global Appeal, regional summary budget tables which follow UNHCR's internal management structure have been included. The five regional bureaux are Africa, CASWANAME (Central Asia, South-West Asia, North Africa and the Middle East) Asia, Europe and the Americas. However, some differences remain, for example in the style of presentation of the budget for Global Operations (or Programmes) and that for Headquarters. This is mainly because the focus of the ExCom budget document is governance (with more detail on staffing and administrative requirements) whereas the Global Appeal has a different purpose and a more diverse audience.