



United Nations

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

covering the period from January 2006 to mid-2007



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Note

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Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction	1–4	1
II. Focus and objectives of the report	5	1
III. Populations of concern	6–13	2
IV. Protection and operations	14–41	3
V. Durable solutions.	42–48	10
VI. Partnerships and coordination	49–57	11
VII. Management and oversight of programmes.	58–78	13
VIII. Conclusion	79–80	17

Tables

1. Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum. . .	19
2. UNHCR expenditure in 2006 by regional bureau and type of assistance activity	22

I. Introduction

1. A significant increase in the numbers of persons of concern to UNHCR brought new challenges in 2006. While there was a 14 per cent increase in refugee numbers from the previous year, the Office's involvement, together with other humanitarian partners, in protecting and assisting internally displaced persons (IDPs) under the inter-agency cluster approach, resulted in a doubling of IDP figures. Thanks to better data capturing, many more stateless people have been identified, also swelling numbers.

2. Despite a plethora of complex challenges, much progress has been achieved in upholding and strengthening international protection in many areas across the world in recent years, notably through sustained efforts to implement the Agenda for Protection. However, as many States increase their efforts to manage migration, the problems of identifying people with a well-founded fear of persecution within irregular mixed migration movements in order to ensure appropriate protection measures remain of particular concern to the Office today. This will be the main focus of discussions at the first meeting of the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges in December 2007.

3. Evolving partnership commitments, including moves to participate in the United Nations "Delivering as One" initiatives, as well as the increased responsibilities as lead agency for the protection, emergency shelter and camp management clusters in conflict-generated situations of internal displacement, have added impetus to UNHCR's determination to step up its efficiency, performance and results.

4. In February 2006, the Office launched an in-depth process of structural and management change designed to improve its flexibility and responsiveness to the needs of beneficiaries. The overall aim is to streamline and simplify organizational processes, reduce administrative costs and enhance the efficiency of field operations, thus providing better services to persons of concern. Alongside this, new financial and management structures and systems are being set in place to support the overall reform process.

II. Focus and objectives of the report

5. This report provides an account of the work carried out by UNHCR between January 2006 and mid-2007, in response to the needs of 32.9 million people of concern. It describes major challenges and developments with respect to protection, assistance and finding durable solutions for refugees, IDPs, stateless persons and others of concern. The report reviews partnerships and coordination of action with other concerned entities both within and outside of the United Nations system, including the Office's involvement in the inter-agency "cluster approach" to managing IDP situations, as well as ongoing contributions towards the debate on irregular, mixed population movements. An update is provided on progress with structural and management reform measures being pursued by the organization and on other current management and oversight issues. More detailed information on regional and country operations and on global priorities can be found in UNHCR's Global Report 2006 and Global Appeal 2007, as well as in the various governance reports presented to the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's

Programme, and its Standing Committee. All of these reports are available on the following website: www.unhcr.org.

III. Populations of concern

6. Table 1 at the end of this report reflects the populations of concern by the end of 2006. For more detailed statistical information, please refer to UNHCR's 2006 Global Trends: Refugees, Asylum-seekers, Returnees, Internally Displaced and Stateless Persons, published on 19 June 2007 and available at: www.unhcr.org/statistics.

7. During the reporting period, UNHCR's protection activities were extended to a considerably greater number of persons of concern than in previous years. By the close of 2006 the global figure of persons of concern stood at 32.9 million, including an estimated 9.9 million refugees. For the first time since 2002, a trend of declining refugee figures worldwide was reversed, primarily reflecting 1.2 million new Iraqi refugees in Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon.

8. UNHCR systematically extends its core protection and assistance activities to refugees. At the same time, it has also committed itself to the framework of shared humanitarian responsibilities under the inter-agency "cluster approach", resulting in an increasing demand for its services in respect of protection, assistance and solutions to respond to the needs of IDPs. By the end of 2006, a total of 12.8 million IDPs were receiving humanitarian assistance under both the cluster approach and other arrangements in which UNHCR was either the lead agency or a partner.

9. Under the provisions of this inter-agency division of labour arrangement, UNHCR has assumed the global leadership of the protection cluster, and co-leads the camp coordination and camp management cluster with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the emergency shelter cluster with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). In the clusters it co-chairs, UNHCR is responsible for the people displaced by conflict while IOM and IFRC are responsible for those displaced by natural disaster. UNHCR also participates actively in other global clusters. At the field level, UNHCR, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) decide on protection leadership in situations of natural disaster.

10. The number of people displaced within their own country by armed conflict currently stands at approximately 25 million. In 2005, before the activation of the cluster approach, UNHCR was involved in the assistance of 6.6 million IDPs; whereas in 2006, some 12.8 million IDPs received humanitarian assistance and/or protection from the Office and its partners, either through the cluster approach or under other arrangements. This substantial increase was due mainly to the following three factors: a) hundreds of thousands people became newly displaced, in particular in the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste; b) with the activation of the cluster approach at the beginning of 2006, UNHCR's new lead agency responsibilities resulted in an expansion of activities in a number of countries, notably the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda; and c) several countries revised their IDP estimates

upwards. For example, in Côte d'Ivoire, IDP estimates increased from 38,000 to 709,000 as a result of a survey undertaken in that country.

11. As requested by the Executive Committee, UNHCR has discussed the policy, protection and operational aspects of its increased involvement with IDPs extensively in meetings and consultations with Member States.

12. The figure of 5.8 million stateless persons reported in 2006 was more than double the 2.4 million recorded the year before. However, this number still does not capture the full scale or magnitude of the phenomenon of statelessness. A significant number of stateless people have not been systematically identified and statistical data on statelessness are not always available.

13. The global number of asylum-seekers fell to 738,000 at the end of 2006, 35,000 fewer than the year before. Some 734,000 refugees repatriated voluntarily during 2006 (one third less than for the previous year), mainly to Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, and Sudan.

IV. Protection and operations

A. Major challenges

14. Protecting persons of concern presented many challenges, notably in the Middle East. In Iraq, constant insecurity resulting from insurgent attacks, sectarian strife and continued military operations spurred massive population displacement. Attacks and persecution in Iraq were based on factors such as religion, ethnicity, profession, social group and actual or perceived political opinion, indicating that Iraqis claiming asylum could indeed be considered as refugees.

15. By early 2007, over 1.9 million people had been displaced within Iraq while up to 2 million had fled abroad. To highlight the humanitarian dimensions of the crisis, the Office organized a conference in April 2007 attended by 103 States, numerous non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, as well as other concerned United Nations agencies. At the conference, a commitment was made to improve the response to the humanitarian crisis, and the Government of Iraq pledged USD 25 million to this effect. Specific concerns were raised about the plight of Iraqi Palestinians, many of whom fled targeted violence in Baghdad. Some of them are trapped at the borders of neighbouring countries and refused entry by countries that already host large numbers of Palestinian refugees. Inside Iraq, UNHCR continued to provide protection and assistance through some 30 national and three international staff, missions by staff from support offices in Jordan and Kuwait as well as via remote management. In neighbouring countries, notably Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, the Office worked with national authorities to secure the widest possible protection space for Iraqi refugees. This involved promoting common regional protection standards, using a harmonized registration procedure to identify and respond to individuals with specific needs, including for resettlement.

16. The hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon in mid-2006 displaced around 750,000 Lebanese within the country and some 250,000 abroad, mostly to the Syrian Arab Republic. Despite massive returns when hostilities ceased, up to 200,000 people remained displaced in Lebanon at the end of 2006,

their return hampered by the need for reconstruction and demining, especially in the southern part of the country.

17. Situations where armed elements may be mixed with refugees present very complex protection challenges. This has been a serious concern in eastern Chad where ethnic violence has spread, which has severely strained the ability of the Government security forces to protect hundreds of thousands of internally displaced Chadians and Sudanese refugees. Fighting has restricted humanitarian access to camps and to the many IDPs in the surrounding villages. Further protection challenges surfaced as the civilian character of camps was undermined when rebels were found to be recruiting refugees. The Office responded by moving two camps further away from the border and in September 2006, UNHCR issued Operational Guidelines on Maintaining the Civilian and Humanitarian Character of Asylum, which provide practical guidance on the identification, separation and internment of armed elements in such situations.

18. The plight of 2.1 million Sudanese, displaced internally by the violence in Darfur, remained extremely precarious. UNHCR has been assisting in providing protection to the displaced populations in West Darfur, in response to a request by the United Nations Secretary-General. In April 2007, as agreed with the Sudanese Government, the Office started to “scale up” its activities in West Darfur. Depending on any agreement reached with the authorities, UNHCR may eventually extend its activities to North and South Darfur. In May 2007, some 2,600 refugees fled from South Darfur to the Central African Republic. Repeated clashes between rebels and the army in northern Central African Republic caused internal displacement and flight to Cameroon, Chad and to South Darfur.

19. Political turmoil resulting in widespread armed confrontation in Somalia led to continuous outflows of Somalis into Ethiopia, Kenya and across the Gulf of Aden to Yemen, as well as to an increase in internal displacement. The protection cluster, co-led by UNHCR and OCHA, established a protection monitoring and population movement tracking systems together with local cluster partners, assisting the United Nations Country Team’s early warning system and strategic planning.

20. In Sri Lanka, the security situation also deteriorated dramatically in 2006, causing the displacement of an additional 200,000 people in the country. UNHCR set up 56 emergency sites to protect these IDPs and provided them with shelter and non-food items. Even though the situation remained volatile in parts of the country, some 100,000 IDPs have returned home in eastern Sri Lanka with the assistance of UNHCR and partners. In Timor-Leste, violence erupted as a result of political unrest, causing the displacement of some 150,000 people in and around the capital Dili. This triggered UNHCR’s participation in the inter-agency emergency response, which was extended for six months beyond the planned initial involvement. In consultation with other United Nations partners UNHCR withdrew from its emergency response role, as of June 2007. In the absence of political solutions to the complex crisis in Timor-Leste, some 25,000 people remain in emergency shelter in camps.

B. Strengthening the implementation of the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol

21. With the succession of the Republic of Montenegro to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 147 States are now parties to one or both of these instruments. UNHCR provided States that have expressed an interest in the Refugee Convention, especially in the Middle East, with information, legal and technical support to encourage them to sign up. The Office also worked with Governments that have applied reservations to the legal instruments so that they would consider lifting them.

22. Two new human rights conventions adopted in December 2006 strengthened the legal protection framework: the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. The latter introduces a new *non-refoulement* obligation in Article 16, while Article 5, which stipulates that “widespread or systematic practice of enforced disappearance” constitutes a “crime against humanity”, may have an impact on exclusion assessments.

23. Respect for the principle of *non-refoulement* is critical to strengthened implementation of the Convention and States have continued to reaffirm their commitment to the principle. Yet, in a number of situations during the reporting period, asylum-seekers and even recognized refugees were unable to gain access to safe territory and/or were *refouled*. Violations occurred for various reasons, including concerns that those seeking entry included armed elements or were otherwise a threat to national security; failure to distinguish between asylum-seekers and irregular immigrants; refusal to allow asylum-seekers from particular countries to enter or access asylum procedures; and the existence of legislation or practices allowing asylum applicants or refugees suspected of supporting terrorist activities to be expelled or extradited to their countries of origin in a manner inconsistent with substantive and procedural standards under international law.

24. The reception and treatment of unaccompanied and separated children during asylum procedures raised concerns. While in some countries, new legislation introduced additional safeguards for children and vulnerable groups, in others, protective legislation, including for the appointment of guardians for these children, was either absent or not implemented. Overall, UNHCR promoted child-sensitive asylum procedures as well as child-sensitive application of the refugee definition. To strengthen child protection, UNHCR focused in particular on the implementation of the Best Interest Determinations Guidelines, which will be finalized and become available to all country operations in 2007. A Conclusion on children at risk is under preparation for adoption by the 58th plenary session of the Executive Committee in October 2007.

C. Protecting people with a well-founded fear of persecution within broader migration movements

25. UNHCR’s 10-Point Plan of Action to address migratory movements aimed at ensuring that measures taken to curb irregular migration remain sensitive to the international protection requirements of people with a well-founded fear of persecution and that these measures are consistent with international refugee law.

Through participation and advocacy in different forums, including the Global Migration Group,¹ UNHCR worked to preserve asylum space and to put refugee protection on the agenda of the migration debate. Later this year, the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges will focus on the asylum and migration nexus with the aim of furthering a comprehensive international response to this global challenge.

26. The 10-Point Plan of Action builds on examples of good State practice, such as the cooperation between UNHCR, the Government of Italy, IOM and the Italian Red Cross in Lampedusa, Italy, to provide information to new arrivals, identify asylum-seekers and individuals with specific needs, and direct them to appropriate processing channels. In Hungary, a tripartite memorandum of understanding on border management between UNHCR, border guards and a non-governmental organization (NGO) established the cooperation and coordination modalities giving asylum-seekers access to Hungarian territory and asylum procedures.

27. More and more people are losing their lives as they take to dangerous journeys across the Mediterranean Sea, the Gulf of Aden and other maritime areas. UNHCR collaborates with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), responsible for the safety and security of shipping and the prevention of marine pollution by ships. In an effort to prevent further deaths, UNHCR and IMO have published a leaflet: "Rescue at Sea: A guide to principles and practice as applied to migrants and refugees", which provides a quick reference guide for ships' masters. It offers guidance on relevant legal provisions and on practical procedures to ensure the prompt disembarkation of survivors of rescue operations, as well as measures to meet their specific needs, particularly in the case of refugees and asylum-seekers.

28. In Africa, in response to increasing migratory pressure on North African States, UNHCR has worked to strengthen protection capacities, increasing its presence and advocating for greater governmental engagement in refugee status determination, as well as to provide durable solutions. In Mauritania and Morocco, the 10-Point Plan of Action framework is helping the Office work towards a comprehensive approach with all stakeholders. In north-east Somalia ("Puntland"), where a September 2006 crackdown on irregular arrivals led to arrests, detentions and deportations, the United Nations Country Team and NGO partners provided humanitarian assistance and a protection response for the people concerned. UNHCR conducted refugee status determination for people claiming to need international protection.

29. In the Americas, delegates at the November 2006 Regional Consultation Group on Migration of the Regional Migration Conference, known as the *Puebla Process*, and the Ibero-American Summit in Montevideo, Uruguay, agreed on key safeguards to identify asylum-seekers and refugees within mixed migration flows. In Mexico, UNHCR worked with relevant authorities to promote proper reception, identification and referral mechanisms at border crossings, focusing in 2006 on the protection needs of unaccompanied and separated children within mixed migration movements.

¹ Formerly known as the Geneva Migration Group.

D. Identification, prevention and reduction of Statelessness

30. In addition to its traditional responsibilities for refugees under its statutory function of providing international protection, in 1974, UNHCR was entrusted by the General Assembly with a specific and global mandate relating to the prevention and reduction of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons. This was further expanded and detailed by various other General Assembly resolutions, as well as by a number of conclusions of the Executive Committee. In Conclusion No. 106 adopted in 2006, the Executive Committee reiterated its request for UNHCR to intensify its action to address statelessness in cooperation with States and relevant United Nations organs, in particular UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). This latest conclusion divides the activities of UNHCR into four broad areas: identification, prevention and reduction of statelessness and protection of stateless persons.

31. Renewed efforts to identify stateless people led to an increase of the number of stateless persons known to the Office to 5.8 million in 49 countries. It should be noted that this increase does not necessarily reflect new situations of statelessness, but rather the result of better identification methods. This led to a rise in the reported number of stateless persons in Nepal from 400,000 to 3.4 million in 2006. The figures for stateless persons in Myanmar have also been revised from 236,500 to 669,500, the latter now including not only the previously reported Muslim returnees in northern Rakhine State, but the entire stateless population there as well.

32. The main way to reduce statelessness is to enable stateless persons to acquire the citizenship of the State where they reside. During the reporting period, several countries, including Estonia, Latvia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine, were able to reduce the number of stateless persons through naturalization. Although significant numbers of people have remained stateless in these countries, efforts are being pursued to integrate them by granting, confirming or restoring their citizenship.

33. The Office kept up its longstanding practice of providing technical advice on nationality legislation and its application. In 2006 such assistance was provided to Belgium, Georgia, Montenegro and the Philippines. A number of countries, including Bahrain, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Morocco and Nepal, enacted amendments to citizenship legislation to prevent or reduce statelessness. UNHCR also gave guidance to stateless individuals, NGOs and legal associations.

E. Global priorities and responses

Health, nutrition, HIV and AIDS and sexual and gender-based violence

34. In February 2007, the High Commissioner allocated USD 15 million to health, nutrition and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) projects in a number of countries where UNHCR had previously lacked sufficient resources. Health and nutrition interventions, amounting in value to USD 11.25 million focused on seven operations in Africa and Asia. These projects include the provision of supplementary food and micronutrients; malaria prevention and treatment; reproductive health; child survival; improving water and sanitation infrastructure; provision of medicines and related materials/equipment; non-food items; human resources; capacity building; and measures to improve monitoring and evaluation.

A concerted effort has been, and will continue to be made to improve the health and nutrition status of these refugees, who live primarily in camps, in protracted situations. A similar level of funds will be provided to these operations in 2008 to ensure the sustainability of the projects.

35. Together with its partners, UNHCR continued to work to combat HIV and AIDS among refugees, IDPs and others of concern, but underfunding of refugee programmes remained a challenge. Cooperation with fellow UNAIDS cosponsors aimed at including refugees and others of concern in HIV and AIDS policies and host country programmes. By early 2007, several countries in southern Africa had included refugees in their national anti-retroviral therapy (ART) programmes. Asylum-seekers and refugees were included in the national HIV and AIDS strategic plans of other countries. UNHCR's January 2007 anti-retroviral medication policy for refugees highlighted the need for equity in, and access to, programmes to prevent HIV transmission from mother to child and to provide post-exposure prophylaxis after rape and therapeutic ART. UNHCR has been designated by UNAIDS as the lead agency on HIV and AIDS among displaced populations.

36. The 2006 United Nations Study on Violence against Children highlighted the fact that displaced children are especially vulnerable to violence, reporting that in "cases of forced displacement, women and girls in particular can be exposed to protection problems related to their sex, gender issues, including their cultural and socio-economic position, and their legal status, which means that they may be less likely than men and boys to be able to exercise their rights."

37. To strengthen prevention and response to SGBV, UNHCR issued instructions to all country offices to establish standard operating procedures for SGBV, where not already in place. Further initiatives included the deployment of female police officers to patrol refugee settlements in Uganda and Zambia; increased policing and firewood distribution in Kenyan refugee camps; mobile courts in Zambia; intensive awareness campaigns and a more effective referral system in Chad; and a microcredit programme in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for women at risk of SGBV, which promotes income-generating activities to reduce their vulnerability.

Education

38. Austerity measures in 2006 severely affected educational services for refugee children. For example, pupil-to-teacher ratios increased and the overall quality of education decreased. Reduced support for refugees' secondary education and vocational training in numerous countries left adolescents more exposed to the risk of abuse and exploitation. Advances were nevertheless achieved. Based on UNHCR's education strategy for 2007-2009, offices continued to address low enrolment rates and SGBV in schools. In Malaysia, for instance, Acehenese with temporary permits were granted access to public education and support was provided to community-based schooling projects. In Central Asia, UNHCR managed to integrate most refugee children into local schools with some after-school education in their mother tongue and on their country of origin. In South America, the "Group of Montevideo" network of "solidarity universities" cooperated to enhance refugees' access to tertiary education. Some 1,000 refugee students continued to receive university scholarships in 38 countries of asylum through the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative Fund (DAFI). In mid-2007, UNHCR and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) launched a

joint appeal for funding to support countries hosting large numbers of Iraqis to provide schooling for 155,000 young Iraqi refugees during the 2007-2008 school year.

Employment opportunities

39. Access to employment remained restricted in several countries, because of limitations on freedom of movement, lack of language or other skills or non-recognition of diplomas. Asylum-seekers faced particular difficulties securing the right to work and, like refugees, were often forced into the informal labour market to survive, exposing themselves to exploitation including child labour, or obliged to resort to other negative coping strategies, such as prostitution and child marriage. UNHCR therefore worked in many operations to promote vocational training and self-reliance initiatives and to encourage the recognition of the potential of refugees, by giving them opportunities to put their skills and energies to constructive use. In Ecuador, the Office negotiated refugees' exemption from work permit fees otherwise required of foreigners. In several Latin America countries, including most recently in Argentina, asylum-seekers were permitted to work.

Access to basic services

40. UNHCR is responsible for providing basic services, including shelter, water, sanitation, health, and food; however the Office also strives to uphold the dignity and well-being of refugees and others of concern. The provision of basic services takes on particular significance in a refugee operation, because of the vulnerability of refugees and their dependence on external help. Refugees are often located in inhospitable environments and insecure regions and most do not have access to regular services. UNHCR's Standards and Indicators Initiative monitoring tool has consistently revealed gaps in the provision of basic services, both in emergency settings and in protracted situations. To address these gaps, UNHCR has endeavoured to secure additional resources; established strong partnerships with other humanitarian actors; and worked towards improving cross-sectoral linkages for optimal results.

Mainstreaming age, gender and diversity considerations in operations

41. In 2006, the Office's age, gender and diversity mainstreaming strategy (AGDM) was introduced in 41 country operations across Africa, Asia and Europe, bringing the total number of offices applying this strategy to 97. Each country formed a multifunctional team with staff from the protection, programme, community services and other sectors, as well as from amongst NGO partners, government counterparts and, in some instances, with refugees themselves. Teams spoke with populations of concern to gather accurate information on their protection risks and the underlying causes. This process has raised UNHCR's capacity to work with communities to develop solutions and to address identified protection gaps. The impact of the participatory assessments could be seen in various countries. In Morocco, a self-reliance programme that paid special attention to women, boys, girls, older people and persons with disabilities was set up in partnership with two national NGOs. As a result, refugee women started cooperatives and managed a safe house for unaccompanied children. Moreover, the number of female representatives in the refugee committees increased considerably.

V. Durable solutions

42. Three durable solutions - voluntary repatriation, local integration in the country of asylum or resettlement to a third country – are the options available to end the refugee displacement cycle. They are durable in the sense that they will put an end to refugees' need for international protection and, in most cases, to their dependence on international assistance. In Latin America, the Mexico Plan of Action is the agreed framework between UNHCR and 20 Latin American countries to enhance refugee protection and to implement an innovative approach to finding durable solutions.

A. Voluntary repatriation

43. After four years of exceptionally high levels of repatriation, the number of people returning to Afghanistan (388,000) declined considerably in 2006. This has led to renewed pressure to accelerate the repatriation of the remaining Afghans, estimated at 2.16 million (in Pakistan) and 920,000 (in the Islamic Republic of Iran). More than 4.8 million Afghans have returned since 2002, but there are significant challenges for the return and reintegration of the remaining Afghans in the region. Eighty per cent have been outside Afghanistan for more than 20 years; approximately half of them were born in exile; and significant numbers originate from areas affected by the rise in violence last year. This makes their return more complex and will require greater support and attention.

44. In Liberia, UNHCR and partners facilitated in 2006 the return of 43,000 and 238,000 IDPs after almost 15 years of civil war. In total more than 600,000 refugees and IDPs returned home. With the end of large-scale organized repatriation operations in June 2007, UNHCR worked with Country Team partners to ensure a successful shift from relief to development on the basis of a Joint Action Plan for community-based recovery and restoration of social services. In March 2007, the organized repatriation to Angola formally ended. Since the signing of the peace accord in 2002, over 400,000 Angola refugees have returned home, all of them benefiting from UNHCR-supported reintegration activities.

45. In June 2007, the Government of Mauritania announced its decision to invite Mauritanian refugees to return home, most of them having been in exile for almost 20 years and asked UNHCR to be part of the return and reintegration process. It is expected that the first return movement will start in October 2007.

B. Local integration

46. The acquisition of the citizenship of the country of asylum is an essential step in obtaining the full rights of the host country as foreseen by the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees. However, many countries do not make possible the naturalization of refugees. For 2006, UNHCR was informed of the following significant numbers of refugees being granted citizenship by their host countries: the United States of America (98,500), Turkmenistan (9,500), Belgium (2,500), Armenia (1,200), Kyrgyzstan (600) and the Russian Federation (420). Progress was also made on negotiations with several African Governments on local integration opportunities for long-staying refugees who were unlikely to return to their

countries of origin, notably: refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Angola; Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugees in West Africa; and Angolan refugees in Botswana, Namibia and Zambia.

C. Resettlement

47. Resettlement is a vital protection tool for refugees whose life or liberty may be at risk in the first country of asylum and who cannot return to their country of origin. It is also an important responsibility-sharing mechanism between countries. In 2006, over 29,500 people were resettled with UNHCR's assistance. By nationality, the main beneficiaries of UNHCR-facilitated resettlement were refugees from Myanmar (5,700), Somalia (5,200), Sudan (2,900), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2,000) and Afghanistan (1,900). A total of 15 countries reported the admission of resettled refugees, notably the United States of America (41,300), Australia (13,400), Canada (10,700), Sweden (2,400), Norway (1,000), and New Zealand (700). The numbers for the United States, Australia and Canada may include people resettled under family reunification or other humanitarian programmes. Overall, the number of resettled people was 11 per cent lower in than in 2005.

48. Under the "Solidarity Resettlement" chapter of the Mexico Plan of Action several States in Latin America have emerged as new resettlement countries, offering a durable solution for Colombian refugees in particular. In 2007, a group of 100 Palestinian refugees, who formerly lived in Iraq, were resettled from Jordan to Brazil.

VI. Partnerships and coordination

49. This part of the report covers some key aspects of UNHCR's work in partnership with United Nations coordination bodies, bilaterally within the United Nations system and other international organizations, and with NGOs.

A. UNHCR's collaboration with the coordination bodies within the United Nations system

50. UNHCR is participating in the initiatives to reform the United Nations system and improve the global humanitarian response capacity. These include follow-up to the humanitarian response review through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and to the 2005 World Summit, as well as liaising with the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on System-wide Coherence, notably the follow-up to the relevant recommendations of the Panels final report "Delivering as One". The Office has thus contributed to the policy development and field implementation of the "Delivering as One" initiative. The newly formed Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Support Office are also of interest, as the successful return and reintegration of displaced people depend upon sustainable peace and development. Improvement of the planning process for integrated peacekeeping missions is another initiative in which UNHCR has played a role to ensure that the needs of displaced people are fully taken into account.

51. In the past two years, the Office has taken some decisive steps towards greater coordination with the humanitarian community. This was particularly evident with regard to ensuring protection and assistance for IDPs through the IASC cluster approach initiative.

52. UNHCR continued to be fully engaged in other coordination bodies, including the Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies, the High-Level Committee on Programmes and the High-Level Committee on Management, as well as the United Nations Development Group, the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs (ECHA) and the Executive Committee on Peace and Security. Through ECHA, the Office participated in efforts to address current operational challenges for the humanitarian community, such as in the Chad/Darfur situation and Timor-Leste.

B. Bilateral partnerships within the United Nations system

53. Bilateral collaboration with a large number of agencies continued to be a key feature of the implementation of UNHCR's mandate. High-level advocacy with the World Food Programme (WFP) yielded positive results in covering the serious gaps in funding of food aid for refugees in a number of countries and in raising awareness about their nutritional needs. UNHCR remains engaged with the "Ending Child Hunger and Under-nutrition Initiative," led by UNICEF and WFP to help reach the first Millennium Development Goal. Close cooperation on logistical and supply-related matters, both in and outside the cluster approach continues between UNICEF, WFP and UNHCR. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and UNHCR continued to collaborate in assessments and in the promotion of food security for refugees and others of concern. With the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Office focused on specific activities in a number of countries, as well as on a possible ILO-FAO-UNHCR initiative for recovery in priority post-conflict situations. Given the links between refugee protection and human rights, UNHCR continued to cooperate closely with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. In July 2006, the Office signed a memorandum of understanding with the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons to address outstanding policy gaps on human rights and protection of IDPs.

54. UNHCR also collaborated with other United Nations agencies to ensure that the integrity of asylum is upheld. For example, the Office cooperated with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in an effort to ensure that legislation promulgated to address security concerns does not curtail the right to seek and obtain asylum. Work was also undertaken with UNODC and other organizations, such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to ensure that anti-trafficking legislation includes measures to protect the victims.

C. Cooperation with other international organizations

55. IOM is a key partner for UNHCR in operations around the globe and co-leads the inter-agency cluster on camp coordination and management (with IOM taking the lead in natural disaster situations and UNHCR in cases of conflict-generated

displacement). Cooperation between UNHCR and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is of crucial importance and collaboration on activities in favour of refugees was more recently expanded to IDPs, in tandem with the progressive involvement of UNHCR in situations of internal displacement. Collaboration with the IFRC was enhanced through cooperation in co-chairing the inter-agency cluster on emergency shelter.

D. Partnerships with non-governmental organizations

56. UNHCR strives to improve and build on its vital partnership with NGOs. To this end, the Office initiated a review of its management of the sub-project agreement (grants management) process and the current levels of UNHCR contributions to NGO headquarters' overhead costs and expatriate salaries. Among the concrete proposals currently being implemented are: improvements in the overall management of sub-project agreements, including timely signing of agreements and transfer of instalments; and an increase in the headquarters overhead support costs for international NGO implementing partners from 5 to 7 per cent, effective July 2007.

57. In 2006, the Office channelled some USD 247.7 million – close to 20 per cent of its annual budget - through implementing partner agreements with some 645 NGOs, including 489 national NGOs. More than 84 per cent of the funds channelled through NGOs covered seven main sectors: legal assistance/protection; agency operational support; shelter/other infrastructure; health and nutrition; community services; education; and transport/logistics.

VII. Management and oversight of programmes

A. Structural and management change

58. UNHCR is in the midst of a process of structural and management change which aims to improve the Office's responsiveness to the needs of its beneficiaries by channelling more of its resources into operations; reducing administration and headquarters costs; and locating staff and services where they are most effective. This involves reviewing and realigning structures and processes as well as workforce and implementing arrangements with a view to maximizing flexibility, effectiveness and overall performance.

59. In terms of structures, the goal of the reforms is to create a Headquarters capable of providing overall direction and maximum support to the Field from the smallest, most efficient platform. To this end, the organization is seeking to rationalize and consolidate functions, including by examining ways of devolving support services to the Field and locating administrative functions where they are most efficient and cost-effective. In parallel, the Office has set itself the goal of streamlining and simplifying processes with a view to reducing bureaucracy and making decision-making more efficient, empowering managers, and ensuring effective and efficient control and accountability mechanisms. Finally, in order to optimize operational flexibility and effectiveness, an effort is being made to achieve the best possible balance between international staff, national staff and additional workforce arrangements.

Structures

60. The structural part of UNHCR's reform has comprised two main strands. Under the first of these, UNHCR has decided to outpost a number of its centralized administrative and support functions to Budapest, thereby freeing up resources for its beneficiaries. The savings accruing from outposting are expected to be in the range of USD10 million per year, once the initial investment in the establishment of the new centre has been made.

61. Under the second structural strand, the Office has been examining ways of improving operational effectiveness by strengthening regional structures, decentralizing a number of operational support functions, and strengthening its capacity to undertake situational and solutions planning at the sub-regional level. In June 2007, UNHCR adopted a set of framework decisions on decentralization and regionalization. These set out four models for regional structures, to be used flexibly in response to conditions on the ground, and establish clusters of countries that are to be grouped around these structures by 2010. As a result, the number of stand-alone country operations reporting directly to UNHCR Headquarters will be reduced from 71 today to 12 by the year 2010.

Processes

62. Work in this area has included clarification of organizational priorities by means of a revision of UNHCR's Global Strategic Objectives (GSOs) and the establishment of a clearer linkage between the GSOs and the organization's planning processes. Equally important has been the development of a new resource allocation model which empowers field and operations managers, increases responsiveness and clarifies accountabilities for the content of operations and for financial management and control. A set of procedural guidelines and structures is currently being developed to support these process-related reforms. In addition, an initiative has been proposed for the redesign of UNHCR's budget structure to introduce the flexibility that UNHCR requires in a changing operational environment characterized by, inter alia, increasing levels of inter-agency collaboration at the field level and decentralizing sources of funding.

Workforce and implementing arrangements

63. The reforms include ongoing work on the alignment of staffing policies and strategies with organizational needs, a review of the deployment of UNHCR staff between capital cities and field locations and of the balance between international and national staff. Implementing modalities are also under review, notably in relation to the balance between implementation carried out directly by UNHCR and that undertaken through implementing partners.

64. A Global Staff Survey was carried out in November 2006 as a tool to underpin UNHCR's reform efforts.

Results-based management

65. During 2006 UNHCR continued to develop, support and maintain a management approach that emphasizes the achievement of results as its essential task. Building on the RBM Gap Analysis, a self-evaluation of UNHCR's implementation of Results-based Management (RBM) completed in 2005, UNHCR

finalized its Results-based Management Conceptual Framework, which describes efforts to address areas identified for improvement.

66. Priority action to strengthen management based on results concentrated on three main areas: improved strategic planning, improved operations planning and reporting, and better use of information technology to support the implementation of RBM. As part of the effort to improve strategic planning, UNHCR's senior management revised and improved the global results framework for the organization, the Global Strategic Objectives for 2007-2009. These were complemented by a set of more precise global performance targets, all of which were disseminated in December to initiate and feed into UNHCR's annual planning exercise. The Office revised its planning and reporting formats to make them more results-oriented and to reflect better the linkage between country-level results and global priorities.

67. UNHCR also made significant progress in 2006 in developing and building custom-designed RBM software to assist UNHCR's field and headquarters units with results-based planning, managing and reporting. The RBM *Focus* software application will be fully integrated with the Management Systems Renewal Project (MSRP) and UNHCR's registration software. The objective of the *Focus* software is not only to support the planning, management, monitoring, and assessment of UNHCR's operations worldwide but also to facilitate the communication and central coordination of operational plans for some 115 country operations, as well as departmental operations at Headquarters. UNHCR's Protection Gaps: Framework for Analysis and related results of recent efforts to systematize the capture of essential information on the situation of each population of concern, were used for the design of the software and the revision of reporting processes. This was done to ensure that assessment, planning and reporting functions of operations are consistent, capture the results of participatory assessments and build on the standards and indicators reporting already achieved. The initial version of *Focus* has been developed and is currently entering the testing phase in preparation for piloting in field locations by the end of 2007.

Information management

Management systems renewal project

68. In 2006 the MSRP team continued to roll out operations in the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Middle East. By mid-2007, 155 out of UNHCR's 178 locations are using the MSRP Finance and Supply Chain. In September 2006, the first components of MSRP Human Resources were launched and Global Payroll was implemented in June 2007.

Operations/Protection support systems

69. Project Profile (refugee registration system) was closed down as planned by the end of 2006. The successful development of the project resulted in a global roll-out of refugee registration standards and a standardized information technology application (*proGres*). *ProGres* is now deployed in 156 locations in 51 countries, registering more than 5 million refugees. *ProGres* biometric technologies were also being used in 2006, making the registration exercise of several UNHCR operations more efficient.

Financial management

70. UNHCR's total requirements for 2006 amounted to USD 1.47 billion. In October 2005 the Executive Committee had approved an Annual Programme Budget of USD 1,145.3 million, including the Operational Reserve and the budget for Junior Professional Officers. Eighteen supplementary programmes were established during the year, for an amount of USD 324.3 million. Ten of these supplementary programmes were related to UNHCR's engagement with IDPs, under the new inter-agency framework.

71. In light of the financial challenges of recent years, in late 2005, the Office anticipated that funding would not be forthcoming to meet all requirements, and measures were put in place to reduce the predicted shortfall between projected income and expenditure, including the decision to limit programmes to 80 per cent of what had originally been budgeted. As in previous years, these cutbacks in operations meant that some projects had to be delayed or suspended, negatively affecting the well-being of refugees and others being cared for by UNHCR. Overall expenditure in 2006 was USD 1,100.7 million, as shown in table 2.

72. During 2006, unlike the previous year, UNHCR benefited from a favourable rate of exchange, resulting in a net gain of some USD 24 million by the end of the year. While in the long run, the impact of foreign exchange movements on UNHCR's budget and income has been neutral, the challenge of managing a USD 35 million foreign exchange loss in 2005 was extremely disruptive to the organization. As a measure of fiscal prudence, in 2007 the Office will maintain the net gain of USD 24 million of 2006 as a buffer against unfavourable exchange fluctuations.

73. In addition to the 20 per cent capping of the 2006 programme and non-staff administrative costs budgets, efforts were made to ensure financial stability and to reduce administrative costs. The 2007 Annual Programme Budget included a net reduction of 612 posts between 1 January 2006 and 1 January 2007. Thanks to these measures and strong donor confidence during 2006, UNHCR started 2007 with a carry-over of USD 121 million, including the USD 24 million exchange rate gains, and had received USD 895.9 million in contributions by mid-year. The High Commissioner is cautiously optimistic that no capping of refugee assistance programmes will be necessary and, early in the year, decided that some of the carry-over from 2006 should be used to address specific needs in the areas of health, nutrition and sexual and gender-based violence in refugee camps.

Accounting standards

74. UNHCR has also increasingly been engaged in an extensive inter-agency dialogue on accounting policy options in relation to the transition from the United Nations System Accounting Standards to the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), which UNHCR will adopt in 2010.

Treasury management system

75. UNHCR launched a project for a fully-fledged Treasury Management System (TMS) which includes modules for cash management, deal management of foreign exchange and investment transactions, and risk management, together with banking interfaces to institute global integrated liquidity pooling and centralized payment

execution platforms. The TMS will be developed utilizing the existing MSRP/Peoplesoft enterprise resource planning system and it is expected that full implementation and integration of the TMS will be achieved by end-2007. Through the interfacing of the TMS to the MSRP/Peoplesoft financials in conjunction with the completion of the global MSRP roll-out by the end of 2007, the organization will be in a position to optimize cash flow management, maximize investment income, and enhance the mitigation of foreign exchange impacts.

B. Oversight and audit

OIOS audit service

76. The UNHCR audit service of the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Service (OIOS) assumes the internal audit function for the Office. In 2006, the audit service introduced a more risk-based approach to its planning process, selecting and prioritizing audit assignments based on the level of risk they pose to UNHCR. This ensures that audit resources are focused on higher risk areas and determines which and how often programmes and activities should be audited. In 2006, OIOS conducted 32 audits and issued 197 recommendations, of which 103 were critical, to improve accountability mechanisms, control systems, as well as recommendations for the development or clarification of policies and procedures and workflow processes.

Inspection and investigation

77. The Inspector General's Office (IGO) carried out 23 inspections at the country level and one at Headquarters, resulting in over 400 recommendations. A number of recurring problems were highlighted for corrective action, including improper use of non-staff personnel, which had an impact on the effectiveness of some operations and obscured actual staffing costs. Other issues included the difficulties faced by managers in addressing conflicts –in particular inter-personal conflicts- in their respective offices; unclear relationships between field offices and functional units at Headquarters; the need of standardized protection monitoring guidelines for implementing partners; the uneven use of standards and indicators; and the fact that the level of available resources, rather than the actual needs of beneficiaries, is the main basis for programme planning and implementation.

78. Furthermore, the IGO conducted 131 investigations resulting in 32 investigation reports sent to the Department for Human Resources Management for appropriate disciplinary action. In addition, a total of 13 Management Implication Reports were issued. These reports highlight procedural or management problems revealed during the course of an investigation and covered a range of topics from asset management to implementation of refugee status determination procedures.

VIII. Conclusion

79. UNHCR is committed to improving its responsiveness to the needs of its beneficiaries, to doing more and to doing it better. The internal reform process aims to free up more resources for field operations and improve protection and assistance services to refugees and others of concern to the Office. The results-based

management approach backed up by new software systems is helping staff to plan, manage and report on protection measures and operations in a more efficient way.

80. Innovative partnerships – starting with the participation of beneficiaries themselves in the identification of their needs and in programme design – are being sought and developed on many levels in order to address these needs and problems more appropriately and effectively. Advocacy and negotiations with governments, civil society and private enterprise bodies are being pursued constantly in order to build greater understanding and support for the refugee cause. As the environment evolves, UNHCR will continue to move with it to anticipate, plan and respond efficiently and effectively, and counts on States, the United Nations at large, and its many other partners and supporters to help it do so.

Table 1
Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum, end-2006
 Source: 2006 ASR. Data are provisional and subject to change. Status as at 15 June 2007.

Country ¹	Refugees ²	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ³	Returned refugees ⁴	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR ⁵	Returned IDPs ⁶	Stateless persons ⁷	Various ⁸	Total population of concern
Afghanistan	35	35	5	387,917	129,310	10,443	-	-	527,710
Albania	56	56	36	10	-	-	-	-	102
Algeria ⁹	94,180	90,062	941	-	-	-	-	-	95,121
Angola	13,090	668	1,588	47,017	-	-	-	-	61,695
Argentina	3,158	389	867	-	-	-	-	-	4,025
Armenia	113,714	5,871	78	-	-	-	-	-	113,792
Australia	68,948	-	1,420	-	-	-	-	-	70,368
Austria	25,486	-	42,396	-	-	-	501	-	68,383
Azerbaijan	2,618	2,618	88	1	686,586	-	2,300	395	691,988
Bahrain	1	1	17	-	-	-	-	-	18
Bangladesh	26,311	21,716	79	-	-	-	300,000	-	326,390
Belarus	690	281	23	-	-	-	8,886	2,431	12,030
Belgium	16,820	-	15,724	-	-	-	426	-	32,970
Belize	488	81	1	-	-	-	-	-	489
Benin	10,797	10,797	1,349	-	-	-	-	-	12,146
Bolivia	567	366	20	-	-	-	-	-	587
Bosnia and Herzegovina	10,318	3,079	91	1,419	135,500	4,184	-	-	151,512
Botswana	3,160	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,160
Brazil	3,492	2,257	398	-	-	-	-	17,000	20,890
Bulgaria	4,504	-	860	-	-	-	-	-	5,364
Burkina Faso	511	511	756	-	-	-	-	-	1,267
Burundi	13,176	12,867	7,137	48,144	13,850	-	-	-	82,307
Cambodia	99	95	127	-	9	-	-	60	295
Cameroon	35,083	35,083	4,161	1	-	-	-	-	39,245
Canada	151,827	-	23,593	-	-	-	-	-	175,420
Central African Rep.	12,357	2,227	1,907	51	147,000	-	-	-	161,315
Chad	286,743	268,783	8	20	112,686	-	-	-	399,457
Chile	1,134	1,134	338	1	-	-	-	-	1,473
China ¹³	301,027	8,168	83	1	-	-	-	19	301,130
Colombia	143	46	77	38	3,000,000	-	9	-	3,000,267
Comoros	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Congo	55,788	42,331	4,289	4,508	3,492	1,008	-	-	69,085
Costa Rica	11,515	-	332	-	-	-	-	5,055	16,902
Côte d'Ivoire	27,288	27,288	2,313	7	709,228	149	-	-	738,985
Croatia	2,443	2,443	10	4,633	3,975	829	18	-	11,908
Cuba	667	510	27	1	-	-	-	-	695
Cyprus	924	4	12,508	-	-	-	-	-	13,432
Czech Rep.	1,887	1,887	2,876	-	-	-	-	-	4,763
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	208,371	5,358	94	41,228	1,075,297	490,000	-	-	1,814,990
Denmark	36,659	-	446	-	-	-	796	-	37,901
Djibouti	9,259	7,021	19	-	-	-	-	-	9,278
Ecuador	11,789	11,789	5,521	-	-	-	-	250,000	267,310
Egypt ¹⁰	88,022	18,022	16,368	1	-	-	77	-	104,468
El Salvador	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eritrea	4,621	4,621	2,004	-	-	-	-	32	6,657
Estonia	5	-	8	-	-	-	119,204	-	119,217
Ethiopia	96,980	96,980	323	23	-	-	-	-	97,326
Fiji	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Finland	11,827	-	1,133	-	-	-	68	-	13,028
France	145,996	-	39,571	-	-	-	904	-	186,471
Gabon	8,429	8,429	4,127	-	-	-	-	-	12,556
Gambia	13,761	8,727	602	-	-	-	-	-	14,363
Georgia	1,373	1,373	8	1	245,980	-	1,273	61,067	309,702
Germany	605,406	-	52,807	-	-	-	10,013	-	668,226
Ghana	44,938	44,938	5,588	9	-	-	-	-	50,535
Greece	2,289	7	13,504	-	-	-	108	3,000	18,901
Guatemala	382	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	385
Guinea	31,468	31,468	3,887	1	-	-	-	-	35,356
Guinea-Bissau	7,804	7,804	317	-	-	-	-	-	8,121
Haiti	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Honduras	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Hong Kong SAR, China	1,940	121	2,407	-	-	-	-	-	4,347
Hungary	8,075	-	531	-	-	-	53	-	8,659
Iceland	267	-	30	-	-	-	1	-	298
India	158,366	11,560	681	1	-	-	-	-	159,048
Indonesia	301	301	265	-	-	-	-	-	566

Country ¹	Refugees ²	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ³	Returned refugees ⁴	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR ⁵	Returned IDPs ⁶	Stateless persons ⁷	Various ⁸	Total population of concern
Iraq	44,406	44,406	2,180	20,235	1,834,368	150,000	130,000	-	2,181,189
Ireland	7,917	-	3,424	-	-	-	-	-	11,341
Islamic Rep. of Iran	968,370	968,370	1,019	103	-	-	-	-	969,492
Israel	837	837	863	-	-	-	-	-	1,700
Italy	26,875	-	-	-	-	-	886	-	27,761
Japan	1,844	200	1,217	-	-	-	1,826	-	4,887
Jordan ¹⁰	500,229	229	19,248	-	-	-	9	-	519,486
Kazakhstan	4,412	1,363	89	-	-	-	45,698	-	50,199
Kenya	272,531	272,531	18,515	-	-	-	100,000	-	391,046
Kuwait	50	50	525	-	-	-	88,086	21,000	109,661
Kyrgyzstan	366	366	569	-	-	-	10,190	1,129	12,254
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Latvia	21	-	3	-	-	-	393,012	-	393,036
Lebanon ¹⁰	20,164	164	2,579	-	200,000	550,000	-	110	772,853
Lesotho	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Liberia	16,185	4,811	53	107,954	-	237,822	-	8	362,022
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	2,760	2,760	1,994	1	-	-	-	-	4,755
Liechtenstein	277	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	302
Lithuania	531	-	50	-	-	-	7,215	-	7,796
Luxembourg	2,206	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	2,256
Madagascar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malawi	3,943	3,943	5,245	-	-	-	-	-	9,188
Malaysia	37,170	37,170	9,186	-	-	-	-	61,314	107,670
Mali	10,585	10,585	1,884	-	-	-	-	-	12,469
Malta	2,404	-	211	-	-	-	-	-	2,615
Mauritania	770	770	91	1	-	-	-	29,500	30,362
Mauritius	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	3,319	149	136	-	-	-	-	-	3,455
Micronesia (Federated States of)	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Moldova	161	161	78	-	-	-	1,706	-	1,945
Mongolia	5	5	2	-	-	-	581	-	588
Montenegro ¹¹	6,926	6,926	10	-	16,196	199	-	-	23,331
Morocco	503	503	1,375	-	-	-	-	-	1,878
Mozambique	2,558	1,554	4,316	-	-	-	-	-	6,874
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	58,500	-	669,500	-	728,000
Namibia	5,462	-	1,122	35	-	-	-	-	6,619
Nepal	128,175	108,021	1,481	-	100,000	-	3,400,000	10,387	3,640,043
Netherlands	100,574	-	13,118	-	-	-	4,461	-	118,153
New Zealand	4,906	-	229	-	-	-	-	-	5,135
Nicaragua	199	34	9	7	-	-	-	-	215
Niger	317	195	20	-	-	-	-	-	337
Nigeria	8,768	8,768	676	4	-	-	-	-	9,448
Norway	43,336	-	4,284	-	-	-	672	-	48,292
Occupied Palestinian Territory	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Oman	7	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	14
Pakistan ¹²	1,044,462	1,044,462	2,677	2	-	-	-	-	1,047,141
Panama	1,848	1,635	242	-	-	-	1	13,500	15,591
Papua New Guinea	10,183	2,681	2	-	-	-	-	-	10,185
Paraguay	59	59	2	-	-	-	-	-	61
Peru	911	115	488	3	-	-	-	-	1,402
Philippines	100	13	40	-	-	-	-	416	556
Poland	6,790	-	2,057	-	-	-	74	-	8,921
Portugal	333	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	333
Qatar	46	46	35	-	-	-	-	-	81
Rep. of Korea	96	82	614	-	-	-	-	-	710
Romania	1,658	200	177	-	-	-	223	-	2,058
Russian Federation	1,425	1,425	291	140	158,905	2,017	53,982	235,799	452,559
Rwanda	49,192	49,192	3,945	5,971	-	-	-	-	59,108
Sao Tome and Principe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	240,772	772	278	-	-	-	70,000	-	311,050
Senegal	20,591	20,464	2,634	1	-	-	-	-	23,226
Serbia	98,997	98,997	5	6,074	227,590	1,433	-	85,000	419,099
Sierra Leone	27,365	27,365	228	134	-	-	-	-	27,727
Singapore	1	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	11
Slovakia	248	248	2,744	-	-	-	-	-	2,992
Slovenia	254	-	180	-	-	-	4,090	-	4,524
Somalia	669	669	1,221	1,845	400,000	-	-	-	403,735

Country ¹	Refugees ²	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ³	Returned refugees ⁴	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR ⁵	Returned IDPs ⁶	Stateless persons ⁷	Various ⁸	Total population of concern
South Africa	35,086	5,906	131,107	4	-	-	-	-	166,197
Spain	5,275	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	5,295
Sri Lanka	162	162	135	375	469,165	89,405	-	-	559,242
Sudan	196,200	129,758	4,460	42,258	1,325,235	11,955	-	42,114	1,622,222
Suriname	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swaziland	752	612	256	-	-	-	-	-	1,008
Sweden	79,913	-	17,405	-	-	-	5,571	-	102,889
Switzerland	48,523	-	12,385	-	-	-	153	-	61,061
Syrian Arab Rep. ¹⁰	702,209	-	5,213	3	-	-	300,000	-	1,007,425
Tajikistan	929	919	238	142	-	-	184	-	1,493
TFYR Macedonia	1,240	1,189	205	176	-	-	762	479	2,862
Thailand	133,117	133,117	18,424	-	-	-	-	288	151,829
Timor-Leste	3	3	3	-	155,231	11,727	-	-	166,964
Togo	6,328	1,328	442	7,917	-	3,000	-	-	17,687
Tunisia	93	59	68	-	-	-	-	-	161
Turkey ¹⁰	2,633	2,633	6,219	15	-	-	-	306	9,173
Turkmenistan	750	750	1	-	-	-	-	-	751
Uganda	272,007	222,330	5,812	5,035	1,586,174	300,000	-	-	2,169,028
Ukraine	2,275	248	1,183	-	-	-	64,992	5,000	73,450
United Arab Emirates	174	174	32	-	-	-	-	-	206
United Kingdom	301,556	-	12,300	-	-	-	205	-	314,061
United Rep. of Tanzania	485,295	287,061	380	4	-	-	-	-	485,679
United States	843,498	-	124,223	-	-	-	-	-	967,721
Uruguay	125	77	28	-	-	-	-	-	153
Uzbekistan	1,415	1,415	-	4	-	-	7	-	1,426
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	720	241	7,754	-	-	-	-	200,000	208,474
Viet Nam	2,357	-	-	63	-	-	7,200	-	9,620
Yemen	95,794	95,794	859	2	-	-	-	-	96,655
Zambia	120,253	64,690	215	-	-	-	-	-	120,468
Zimbabwe	3,519	2,149	296	1	-	-	-	-	3,816
Various	-	-	-	67	-	-	-	-	67
Total	9,877,707	4,474,092	740,165	733,622	12,794,268	1,864,171	5,805,943	1,045,409	32,861,285

Notes

The data are generally provided by Governments, based on their own definitions and methods of data collection.

A dash (-) indicates that the value is zero, not available or not applicable.

¹ Country or territory of asylum or residence. In the absence of Government estimates, UNHCR has estimated the refugee population in most industrialized countries, based on recent refugee arrivals and recognition of asylum-seekers. For Canada, Australia and New Zealand, estimates are based on arrivals/recognition during the past five years, whereas for most European countries and the United States a 10-year period has been applied. These periods reflect the different naturalization rates for refugees in these regions.

² Persons recognized as refugees under the 1951 UN Convention/1967 Protocol, the 1969 OAU Convention, in accordance with the UNHCR Statute, persons granted a complementary form of protection and those granted temporary protection.

³ Persons whose application for asylum or refugee status is pending at any stage in the asylum procedure.

⁴ Refugees who have returned to their place of origin during the calendar year. Source: Country of origin and asylum.

⁵ Persons who are displaced within their country and to whom UNHCR extends protection and/or assistance.

⁶ IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR who have returned to their place of origin during the calendar year.

⁷ Refers to persons who are not considered nationals by any State under the operation of its laws.

⁸ Persons of concern to UNHCR not included in the previous columns including a.o. forced migrants (Russian Federation), local residents-at-risk (Serbia, Kosovo), Sahrawis (Mauritania), Afghan asylum-seekers (Russian Federation, UNHCR est.), Muslims from the Philippines (Malaysia), Colombians (Ecuador and Venezuela), etc.

⁹ According to the Government of Algeria, there are an estimated 165,000 Saharawi refugees in the Tindouf camps.

¹⁰ The decision to apply *prima facie* status to Iraqis originating from south and central Iraq was taken in January 2007. As a consequence, UNHCR estimates on Iraqi refugees at end-2006 do not take into account the total number of Iraqis in the respective countries. Estimates for the number of Iraqis in Egypt and Turkey at end-2006 are not available.

¹¹ Although counted as IDPs here (and officially referred to as such by the Montenegrin Government), this population consists of persons displaced from Serbia (Kosovo) who are not being accorded the same rights as Montenegrin citizens in practice.

¹² UNHCR figures for Pakistan only include Afghans living in camps who are assisted by UNHCR. According to a 2005 government census of Afghans in Pakistan and subsequent voluntary repatriation during the year, there are an additional 1.3 million Afghans living outside camps, some of whom may be refugees. Those Afghans living outside camps receive no UNHCR assistance except access to UNHCR-facilitated voluntary repatriation. These figures are currently under review as result of the registration of Afghans which took place in Pakistan from October 2006 to February 2007.

¹³ This population is well integrated and in practice receives protection from the Government of China. With the transfer of the last assistance programme from UNHCR to the Government of China in 2007, UNHCR anticipates that this population will not be reflected in next year's statistics.

Source: UNHCR/Governments. Compiled by: UNHCR, FICSS.

Table 2
UNHCR expenditure in 2006 by regional bureau and type of assistance activity
 (All sources of funds - in thousands of US Dollars)

Regional Bureau / Country	Type of Assistance					Support		Total
	Emergency Assistance	Care and Maintenance	Voluntary Repatriation	Local Settlement	Resettlement	Programme Support	Management & Administration	
	(All sources of funds - in thousands of US Dollars)							
1. West Africa								
Benin	-	621.5	-	301.8	10.9	1,067.6	-	2,001.8
Cameroon	204.3	-	1.0	1,187.8	30.9	501.8	-	1,925.8
Côte d'Ivoire	-	3,899.7	1,425.3	492.3	-	2,111.5	-	7,928.8
Gambia	-	-	-	362.9	-	291.6	-	654.5
Ghana	-	1,985.9	1,545.0	1,243.3	1,054.5	3,164.6	-	8,993.3
Guinea	-	6,231.3	1,511.5	1,284.7	-	2,582.3	-	11,609.8
Liberia	-	935.7	27,480.2	4,736.6	-	5,390.1	-	38,542.6
Nigeria	-	-	1,464.4	1,170.1	12.4	670.3	-	3,317.2
Senegal	-	-	-	264.6	26.9	1,164.7	-	1,456.2
Sierra Leone	-	7,155.7	4,202.4	361.3	-	2,353.6	-	14,073.0
Togo	-	63.5	-	-	-	-	-	63.5
Regional Activities	-	1,248.0	201.8	2,013.0	64.1	-	-	3,526.9
sub-total (1)	204.3	22,141.3	37,831.6	13,418.4	1,199.7	19,298.1	-	94,093.4
2. East and Horn of Africa								
Djibouti	-	1,261.1	348.6	-	-	1,065.8	-	2,675.5
Eritrea	-	2,030.7	3,464.5	-	1.7	1,048.7	-	6,545.6
Ethiopia	930.5	9,274.3	2,683.2	942.0	0.1	2,678.1	-	16,508.2
Kenya (incl. regional support hub)	6,600.2	20,645.3	1,943.4	-	337.5	7,686.1	-	37,212.5
Somalia	-	302.7	5,138.3	939.1	4.1	709.7	-	7,093.9
Sudan	1,453.7	5,325.7	51,365.8	4,631.0	114.4	5,680.5	-	68,571.1
Uganda	1,016.7	370.8	1,887.4	15,310.3	44.2	2,326.9	-	20,956.3
sub-total (2)	10,001.1	39,210.6	66,831.2	21,822.4	502.0	21,195.8	-	159,563.1
3. Central Africa and the Great Lakes								
Burundi	-	3,274.4	22,844.7	-	19.5	4,370.5	-	30,509.1
Central African Republic	-	193.1	2,037.4	550.7	-	914.9	-	3,696.1
Chad	-	52,381.6	0.8	7,479.6	-	5,351.6	-	65,213.6
Congo	-	3,265.6	1,995.9	671.3	-	1,683.8	-	7,616.6
Democratic Republic of the Congo	-	9,918.2	23,368.5	2,114.8	-	4,805.4	-	40,206.9
Gabon	-	-	29.5	1,949.4	43.6	589.9	-	2,612.4
Rwanda	-	4,993.2	373.1	-	10.8	847.8	-	6,224.9
United Republic of Tanzania	-	16,139.5	8,359.9	267.8	260.0	2,371.3	-	27,398.5
Regional Activities	-	6,412.5	25.2	-	73.9	-	-	6,511.6
sub-total (3)	-	96,578.1	59,035.0	13,033.6	407.8	20,935.2	-	189,989.7
4. Southern Africa								
Angola	-	-	14,558.6	380.0	-	2,859.5	-	17,798.1
Botswana	-	1,148.8	-	-	-	594.4	-	1,743.2
Malawi	-	1,575.8	-	-	-	572.5	-	2,148.3
Mozambique	-	-	-	2,112.0	13.7	707.1	-	2,832.8
Namibia	-	2,005.0	-	-	-	786.2	-	2,791.2
South Africa	-	-	611.4	-	23.6	2,412.6	-	3,047.6
Zambia	-	4,841.0	1,199.3	3,882.2	31.7	2,489.9	-	12,444.1
Zimbabwe	-	-	-	1,327.7	-	493.0	-	1,820.7
Regional Activities	160.3	341.8	-	1,564.5	95.7	-	-	2,162.3
sub-total (4)	160.3	9,912.4	16,369.3	9,266.4	164.7	10,915.2	-	46,788.3
SUB-TOTAL AFRICA (1-4)	10,365.7	167,842.4	180,067.1	57,540.8	2,274.2	72,344.3	-	490,434.5
5. Central Asia, South West Asia, North Africa and the Middle East - CASWANAME								
Afghanistan	-	141.6	42,091.3	-	-	5,299.8	-	47,532.7
Algeria	749.4	4,750.6	-	-	-	483.1	-	5,983.1
Egypt	-	-	86.2	3,211.7	40.0	1,162.0	-	4,499.9
Iraq	-	-	14,970.9	-	-	2,021.9	-	16,992.8
Islamic Republic of Iran	-	1,173.4	4,445.1	4,778.4	-	2,602.8	-	12,999.7
Israel	-	135.1	-	-	-	84.7	-	219.8
Jordan	38.1	1,171.3	1,468.8	-	18.2	660.2	-	3,356.6
Kazakhstan	-	824.6	1.8	-	-	768.0	-	1,594.4
Kyrgyzstan	-	769.1	-	181.2	-	422.8	-	1,373.1
Lebanon	2,866.1	1,044.5	484.2	-	185.1	1,390.5	-	5,970.4
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	-	397.4	47.0	-	-	354.3	-	798.7
Mauritania	-	380.2	-	-	-	457.0	-	837.2
Morocco	-	765.9	-	-	-	-	-	765.9
Pakistan	17,493.7	11,710.3	9,996.3	-	26.5	3,883.0	-	43,109.8
Saudi Arabia	-	897.1	-	-	-	1,043.5	-	1,940.6
Syrian Arab Republic	147.9	1,048.9	763.2	-	40.1	762.0	-	2,762.1
Tajikistan	-	404.4	192.7	-	-	455.4	-	1,052.5
Tunisia	-	253.6	-	-	-	54.5	-	308.1
Turkmenistan	-	55.9	-	439.7	-	363.3	-	858.9
United Arab Emirates	-	-	-	-	-	149.2	-	149.2
Uzbekistan	-	327.6	-	-	-	264.6	-	592.2
Western Sahara (Conf Bid Measures)	-	1,022.0	-	-	-	305.1	-	1,327.1
Yemen	-	3,492.6	160.7	-	15.9	724.5	-	4,393.7
Regional Activities	7,703.0	634.8	1,919.9	223.4	-	303.2	-	10,784.3
sub-total (5)	28,998.2	31,400.9	76,628.1	8,834.4	325.8	24,015.4	-	170,202.8

Regional Bureau / Country	Type of Assistance					Support		Total
	Emergency Assistance	Care and Maintenance	Voluntary Repatriation	Local Settlement	Resettlement	Programme Support	Management & Administration	
6. Asia and the Pacific								
Australia and New Zealand	-	444.4	-	-	-	533.4	-	977.8
Bangladesh	-	2,153.0	-	-	-	502.4	-	2,655.4
Cambodia	-	760.9	-	-	-	364.3	-	1,125.2
China	-	2,990.5	-	-	-	543.5	-	3,534.0
India	-	2,093.3	32.3	-	49.3	790.8	-	2,965.7
Indonesia	16,245.2	1,047.0	-	63.9	-	1,188.9	-	18,545.0
Japan	-	639.4	-	-	-	2,069.9	-	2,709.3
Korea, Republic of	-	296.3	-	-	-	404.4	-	700.7
Malaysia	-	2,118.5	-	-	156.7	878.0	-	3,153.2
Mongolia	-	52.1	-	-	-	16.7	-	68.8
Myanmar	-	-	2,891.2	-	-	1,312.1	-	4,203.3
Nepal	-	5,162.8	-	48.6	-	1,077.3	-	6,288.7
Papua New Guinea	-	-	-	431.0	-	-	-	431.0
Philippines	-	-	-	134.3	-	66.6	-	200.9
Singapore	-	37.2	-	-	-	-	-	37.2
Sri Lanka	9,380.4	139.6	-	5,881.0	-	1,544.5	-	16,945.5
Thailand	-	8,053.3	-	-	377.9	2,128.5	-	10,559.7
Timor-Leste	4,570.2	-	-	100.6	-	96.4	-	4,767.2
Viet Nam	-	-	-	337.9	-	183.2	-	521.1
Regional Activities	-	8.0	2.5	-	-	-	-	10.5
sub-total (6)	30,195.8	25,996.3	2,926.0	6,997.3	583.9	13,700.9	-	80,400.2
7. Europe								
Albania	-	344.4	-	434.8	-	647.9	-	1,427.1
Armenia	-	-	-	1,180.3	-	552.9	-	1,733.2
Austria	-	-	-	768.9	-	348.1	-	1,117.0
Azerbaijan	-	2,317.7	-	441.5	-	718.2	-	3,477.4
Belarus	-	-	-	1,012.5	-	278.8	-	1,291.3
Belgium	-	-	-	660.1	-	2,638.0	-	3,298.1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	3,639.5	2,900.8	-	-	2,182.1	-	8,722.4
Bulgaria	-	-	-	523.0	-	363.1	-	886.1
Croatia	-	-	3,034.0	197.0	-	979.1	-	4,210.1
Cyprus	70.0	-	-	275.5	-	362.3	-	707.8
Czech Republic	-	-	-	404.4	-	503.2	-	907.6
France	-	-	-	1,621.2	-	807.7	-	2,428.9
Georgia	-	-	-	3,219.2	-	938.7	-	4,157.9
Germany	-	-	82.6	960.9	-	1,003.3	-	2,046.8
Greece	-	-	-	646.5	-	690.5	-	1,337.0
Hungary	-	-	-	777.7	-	1,124.1	-	1,901.8
Ireland	-	-	-	192.4	-	401.8	-	594.2
Italy	-	-	-	915.9	-	1,883.9	-	2,799.8
Malta	-	-	-	2.4	-	19.3	-	21.7
Montenegro	-	747.7	-	-	-	-	-	747.7
Poland	-	-	-	367.0	-	440.4	-	807.4
Portugal	-	-	-	43.3	-	-	-	43.3
Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	456.1	-	269.4	-	725.5
Romania	-	247.3	-	530.5	-	544.9	-	1,322.7
Russian Federation	-	-	-	11,164.2	-	1,810.1	-	12,974.3
Serbia	-	10,205.3	961.1	4,490.0	-	4,179.1	-	19,835.5
Slovakia	-	-	-	367.6	-	388.2	-	755.8
Slovenia	-	-	-	205.0	-	128.7	-	333.7
Spain	-	-	-	513.9	-	699.0	-	1,212.9
Sweden	-	-	-	744.4	-	994.8	-	1,739.2
Switzerland	-	-	-	227.5	-	281.1	-	508.6
The former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	-	2,286.7	-	-	-	801.2	-	3,087.9
Turkey	-	-	409.1	3,481.5	-	2,702.9	-	6,593.5
Ukraine	-	-	-	1,919.5	-	1,193.2	-	3,112.7
United Kingdom	-	-	188.8	374.3	-	969.8	-	1,532.9
Regional Activities	-	-	-	857.2	-	-	-	857.2
sub-total (7)	70.0	19,788.6	7,576.4	39,976.2	-	31,845.8	-	99,257.0
8. The Americas								
Office of UNHCR in New York	-	-	-	-	-	2,306.7	-	2,306.7
Argentina	-	-	-	108.3	-	712.2	-	820.5
Brazil	-	-	-	1,139.3	733.9	364.8	-	2,238.0
Canada	-	-	-	824.4	-	844.8	-	1,669.2
Colombia	-	-	-	8,422.1	-	1,389.9	-	9,812.0
Costa Rica	-	-	-	880.1	-	625.2	-	1,505.3
Cuba	-	256.4	25.2	-	-	-	-	281.6
Ecuador	-	-	-	2,940.2	-	751.3	-	3,691.5
Mexico	-	-	-	777.5	-	806.4	-	1,583.9
Panama	-	-	-	526.3	-	290.0	-	816.3
United States of America	-	-	-	2,085.9	-	1,471.3	-	3,557.2
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	-	-	-	692.0	-	1,017.7	-	1,709.7
Regional Activities	-	-	-	2,886.7	528.9	-	-	3,415.6
sub-total (8)	-	256.4	25.2	21,282.8	1,262.8	10,580.3	-	33,407.5

Regional Bureau / Country	Type of Assistance					Support		Total
	Emergency Assistance	Care and Maintenance	Voluntary Repatriation	Local Settlement	Resettlement	Programme Support	Management & Administration	
9. Global Programmes	7,649.6	9,218.0	58.5	9,396.5	2,936.7	37,624.1	-	66,883.4
SUB-TOTAL FIELD (1 - 9)	77,279.3	254,502.6	267,281.3	144,028.0	7,383.4	190,110.8	-	940,585.4
10. Headquarters								
Programme support						71,729.7		71,729.7
Management and administration								-
- Annual Budget fund							47,116.8	47,116.8
- Regular budget fund							31,458.4	31,458.4
sub-total (10)	-	-	-	-	-	71,729.7	78,575.2	150,304.9
11. Junior Professional Officers							9,836.5	9,836.5
TOTAL UNHCR (1 - 11)	77,279.3	254,502.6	267,281.3	144,028.0	7,383.4	261,840.5	88,411.7	1,100,726.8

