NAIROBI (regional)

COVERING: Comoros, Djibouti, Kenya, Mauritius, Seychelles, United Republic of Tanzania



The ICRC's regional delegation in Nairobi was set up in 1974 and has a dual purpose: first, to promote IHL and carry out operations in the countries covered, namely restoring contact between refugees and their families, protecting and assisting people injured, displaced or otherwise affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence, visiting detainees falling within its mandate, and supporting the development of the National Societies; and second, to provide relief supplies and other support services for ICRC operations in neighbouring countries of the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes regions, as well as further afield.

Protection	1,360
Assistance	2,378
Prevention	2,623
Cooperation with National Societies	2,402
General	-

IMPLEMENTATION RATE	
Expenditure/yearly budget	94%

PERSONNEL	
Expatriates	30
National staff	302
(daily workers not included)	

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- with the Kenya Red Cross Society, helped struggling rural communities reinforce their livelihoods through access to veterinary treatment for livestock and cash-for-work projects
- improved access to clean water and sanitation facilities for 28,681 people in Kenya and 7,971 in the United Republic of Tanzania
- helped refugees restore and maintain contact with their families
- continued to visit detainees held in detention facilities run by the police and Justice Ministry in Djibouti, and people held in connection with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in the Tanzanian town of Arusha
- briefed senior military, police, political, diplomatic and academic figures on IHL, international human rights law and the work of the Movement
- provided National Societies with funds, materials, training and logistical and technical back-up to help them, as appropriate, assist vulnerable communities, run family-links services and promote IHL

CONTEXT

In Kenya, the referendum on a new constitution, and its subsequent adoption, took place in an atmosphere of relative calm. Meanwhile, the country's coalition government, formed in 2008 in the wake of post-election violence, remained in place, despite press reports of tensions within its ranks and a number of corruption scandals. In December, the International Criminal Court named six high-profile suspects in relation to the post-election violence.

Some areas of the country, notably in the north, experienced sporadic unrest resulting from political and ethnic grievances and competition for access to water and pasture. Drought early and late in the year exacerbated tensions, while the arrival of heavier rains mid-year brought flooding to some areas, especially the North and South Rift regions. Meanwhile, Somali refugees fleeing conflict at home continued to arrive in Kenya.

In the United Republic of Tanzania, an election in October saw the governing party retain its majority. On the Zanzibar archipelago,

political tensions subsided after the signing of a power-sharing agreement between the main parties. Following efforts in recent years to repatriate, resettle or naturalize refugees in the United Republic of Tanzania, around 98,000 refugees, mainly from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), remained in camps in the west of the country.

Djibouti's government signed an accord with Eritrea seeking to normalize relations and establish a mechanism for resolving their disputed border (see *Eritrea*).

In the Comoros, clashes occurred between protesters and the military over the extension of the presidential mandate beyond May 2010. The situation subsequently calmed, however, following a constitutional court ruling intended to promote national reconciliation. An election at year-end passed off peacefully.

Mauritius, which held an election in May, and Seychelles remained politically stable.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS PROTECTION			
			CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected	20,751	7	
RCMs distributed	13,608	3	
Phone calls facilitated between family members	88		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons	Total		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	121	29	57
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	74		
including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation	16		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)	360	71	131
UAMs/SCs,* including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers	Total		Demobilized children
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	4	2	
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	4	1	
including UAMs/SCs registered by another delegation	3		
UAM/SC cases still being handled by the ICRC/National Society at 31 December 2010	69	23	
Documents			
People to whom travel documents were issued	99		
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines	1		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹			
ICRC visits	Total		
Detainees visited	923		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	42	1	
Detainees newly registered	5		
Number of visits carried out	10		
Number of places of detention visited	4		
Restoring family links	Total		
RCMs collected	1,190		
RCMs distributed	851		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1		

- * Unaccompanied minors/separated children
- 1. Djibouti and ICTR detainees held in United Republic of Tanzania

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS				
ASSISTANCE				
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security, water and habitat		Total	Women	Children
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives ²	Beneficiaries	34,731	42%	15%
of whom IDP	Beneficiaries	12,960		
Water and habitat activities ³	Beneficiaries	36,652	35%	39%
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security, water and habitat				
Essential household items ⁴	Beneficiaries	1,021		

- 2. Kenya only
- 3. Kenya and United Republic of Tanzania
- 4. Djibouti only

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC's Nairobi delegation pursued a range of activities designed to protect and assist communities affected by situations of violence, as well as by the direct consequences of armed conflict, while encouraging wider support for IHL and humanitarian principles.

To ease tensions over access to clean water in drought- and violence-prone districts of Kenya and to reduce health risks on the poverty-afflicted Tanzanian island of Pemba, the respective National Societies and the ICRC improved water and (on Pemba) sanitation facilities, benefiting more than 36,600 people.

With ICRC support, the Kenya Red Cross Society helped 34,731 people in rural communities reinforce livelihoods by providing access to veterinary treatment for livestock, training community members in veterinary care and implementing cashfor-work projects. Farmland clearance facilitated the return of derelict land to productive use, while road repairs improved communications and provided women and children in violence-prone areas with safer daily travel routes to markets and schools.

Throughout the region, thousands of refugees and detainees contacted relatives using the tracing and RCM network. The Tanzania Red Cross Society, which took over the service in late 2009 for refugees remaining in the west of the country, received ICRC support to reinforce the network.

ICRC delegates visited POWs of Eritrean origin and other detainees held in Djibouti, and the authorities were reminded of their IHL obligations to release the POWs and, if they so wished, repatriate them. Detainees were also visited at the UN facility in the Tanzanian town of Arusha, where they were being held in connection with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). To ensure continued monitoring of ICTR-sentenced detainees transferred to other countries, the ICRC liaised with relevant delegations in Africa. During all visits, conducted according to standard ICRC procedures, detainees' treatment and living conditions were monitored, and the findings reported confidentially to the relevant authorities.

Generating support for IHL and the Movement within police, military, political, diplomatic and academic circles remained

a key ICRC objective. Following talks with Kenya's new police commissioner, the ICRC was invited to give briefings on humanitarian principles and IHL at the Kenya Police College. Similar sessions were held for officers of Kenya's General Service Unit. Government officials from across the region were sponsored by the ICRC to attend IHL seminars abroad. With ICRC support, lecturers and students at universities were encouraged to engage in research and discussion on IHL issues.

National Societies received ICRC funds, goods, expertise and logistics back-up to help develop, as appropriate, their relief, assistance, family-links and communication programmes.

Meanwhile, ICRC delegations in and beyond the region continued to receive relief and other supplies procured and delivered by the ICRC's Nairobi logistics centre using the most efficient and cost-effective means. Delegations also benefited from courses, advice and field support provided by the Nairobi-based regional training and assistance units.

CIVILIANS

Violence-prone communities discuss humanitarian values

During regular field trips by National Society and ICRC personnel to Kenyan regions prone to outbreaks of violence, local communities, authorities and weapon bearers participated in discussions on humanitarian principles. Dialogue aimed to increase respect for IHL and further understanding of the work and mandate of the Movement. Two districts in the northern part of Eastern Province – Marsabit and Moyale – were the focus of attention, as was, for the first time, Samburu in the Rift Valley, an area subject to increased levels of intercommunal violence. To monitor the situation and further raise awareness of humanitarian issues in Samburu, the National Society opened a branch there.

Drought- and poverty-affected Kenyans and Zanzibaris access clean water

In projects designed to ease communal tensions over scarce water resources, more than 28,600 people in drought-affected areas of northern and central Kenya gained access to regular supplies of fresh water after the Kenyan Red Cross and the ICRC upgraded facilities. In addition to ongoing work in Marsabit and Moyale,

support was extended in 2010 to encompass the central districts of Isiolo and Samburu. Projects included the installation or rehabilitation of rainwater-harvesting systems (including some in primary schools), boreholes (two as part of an emergency drought response), wells, rock catchments, earth dams and sand water filters. With ICRC training, materials and technical support, National Society personnel developed their skills in carrying out such rehabilitation projects.

In an initiative to improve family health, the National Society and the ICRC installed 50 household water filters in homes in northern Kenya and monitored the results with a view to expanding the project in future. In south-eastern Kenya, desalination units on Pate Island, installed in 2007 to provide clean drinking water for the island's 3,600 inhabitants, had to be dismantled in August owing to insurmountable technical difficulties.

On Pemba Island, Zanzibar, 7,971 people received fresh water supplies during ongoing projects conducted by the Tanzanian Red Cross and the ICRC to rehabilitate and construct 13 wells. To ensure sustainability of these wells, plus previously rehabilitated water systems, some 40 people responsible for maintaining and managing the water facilities in 13 villages (including heads of water committees and National Society volunteers) were trained in good management and hygiene practices. In addition, staff from the Zanzibar water board received ICRC technical support to manage water supply networks and water points using Geographic Information Systems technology.

Precarious livelihoods strengthened with ICRC support

More than 13,000 struggling herders and farmers in northern Kenya enjoyed a better prospect of raising healthy livestock after the ICRC and National Society provided them with vouchers to obtain veterinary services and ran refresher courses for community animal-health workers.

To further reinforce livelihoods in northern Kenya and the western region of Mount Elgon, 21,600 people participated in cash-for-work projects. Unemployed people, mostly young people, were paid to rehabilitate disused farmland for productive use, stabilize eroded land and repair roads, improving communications and providing safer routes to markets and schools for women

and children in violence-prone areas. To reduce personal security risks, workers were sometimes paid in vouchers rather than cash. These could be used locally to purchase essential goods and services (and subsequently exchanged for cash by traders), thus stimulating weakened economies. With some cash-for-work projects delayed from 2009 (when funds were diverted to emergency destocking projects in drought-affected areas), more people than budgeted for took part in cash-for-work schemes during 2010.

Given the relative calm in Kenya during 2010, emergency food rations and basic shelter and household items were not required.

Through the Movement's tracing and RCM services, thousands of refugees in the region exchanged news with their families. The quality of the family-links network, run jointly with the National Societies of Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, improved through the ICRC's provision of training, materials and funds. Refugees were informed of the availability of the service through presentations, discussions and promotional materials.

Child refugees separated from their parents were a focus of attention. Four children (three of whom had been registered by another delegation) were reunited with their families in 2010. Meanwhile, UNHCR and the ICRC sought lasting solutions for children whose families could not be located. Also, 99 refugees received travel documents to journey home or to a country offering them asylum in operations coordinated by the relevant embassies, UNHCR and the ICRC.

The families of Kenyans held in Uganda in connection with the Kampala bomb attacks (see *Uganda*) maintained contact with their detained relatives using the family-links service.

An association assisting Djiboutian families who had lost relatives as a result of the conflict with Eritrea in 2008 received sewing machines from the ICRC to distribute to families. These allowed families to generate an income again. Other relevant organizations were also encouraged by the ICRC to assist such families. During the year, discussions took place with the relevant authorities regarding the issue of missing persons in Djibouti, and of persons missing in relation to former military operations in Kenya's Mount Elgon district.

CIVILIANS Economic security, water and habitat		KENYA	UNITED Republic of Tanzania
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	34,731	
of whom IDPs	Beneficiaries	12,960	
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	28,681	7,971

CIVILIANS	DJIBOUTI	KENYA*	UNITED Republic of
Red Cross messages			TANZANIA
RCMs collected	850	16,052	3,849
including from UAMs/SCs			7
RCMs distributed	712	9,410	3,486
including from UAMs/SCs			3

Kenya and other countries covered by the regional delegation

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC's Nairobi delegation visited 923 detainees across the region, while pursuing efforts with the authorities to gain access to all detainees falling within the organization's mandate. In particular, dialogue was maintained with authorities with a view to receiving notification of any arrests made in relation to the fight against "terrorism".

Detainees receiving ICRC visits included POWs of Eritrean origin and other detainees held in Djibouti and ICTR detainees held in the UN detention centre in Arusha. To ensure the continued monitoring of the living conditions of ICTR-sentenced detainees transferred to other countries, the ICRC liaised with relevant delegations in Africa. During all visits, conducted according to standard ICRC procedures, delegates monitored detainees' treatment and living conditions and made confidential reports on the findings and, where necessary, recommendations to the authorities concerned.

The Djiboutian authorities and the ICRC discussed IHL provisions applicable to POWs of Eritrean origin held in Djibouti as a consequence of the 2008 armed conflict. Release and voluntary repatriation were among the issues considered. Meanwhile, Eritrea had yet to respond to repeated requests for any information the authorities had about Djiboutian soldiers reported by their government as missing in action after the 2008 hostilities (see *Eritrea*).

Detainees held in Djibouti and those held in the United Republic of Tanzania in connection with the ICTR used the family-links service to exchange news with relatives. To support Djibouti's new prison administration in its plan to improve staff training in prison health care and sanitation, the library of Gabode prison, the country's civilian detention facility, received books and reference materials from the ICRC. Female detainees undergoing vocational training received 20 sewing machines and scissors to improve their skills. More than 1,000 detainees held in detention facilities visited by the ICRC in Djibouti received, according to needs, monthly packs of hygiene materials and other essential items to contribute to their health and well-being.

In the Comoros, the ICRC visited a detention centre to which security detainees had been transferred in August 2009, and was notified of their recent release.

WOUNDED AND SICK

The quality of first aid and emergency treatment available to people in Kenya's violence-prone regions was strengthened after 21 health professionals, including National Society staff, enhanced their skills during a trauma-management course organized by the ICRC. Surgical supplies for medical facilities to treat weaponwounded patients were not required.

AUTHORITIES

In order to enlist support for IHL and the work of the Movement among governments and other influential bodies, the ICRC maintained regular dialogue with local and national authorities, the diplomatic community, international organizations – including the UN – and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, East Africa's regional development organization. In September, 23 senior representatives of international organizations and NGOs took part in the 15th IHL Course for Humanitarian Professionals and Policy-Makers, held in Naivasha, Kenya.

In 2010, the Comoros and Seychelles ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions, which was also signed by Djibouti. The Comoros also passed a decree formally establishing a national IHL committee. Seychelles, meanwhile, signed and ratified the Rome Statute and ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

National authorities drew on ICRC technical expertise to assist them in implementing IHL instruments. During meetings with the ICRC and the National Societies in Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania, the authorities discussed ongoing preparation of national legislation on protection of the Movement's emblems. Members of the Kenyan IHL committee attended a session to discuss repression of international crimes and national legislation relating to the Rome Statute.

With ICRC support, senior officials from the region's governments attended various IHL events abroad, including the 10th regional IHL seminar, organized by the ICRC in South Africa (see *Pretoria*).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	COMOROS	DJIBOUTI	ICTR
ICRC visits			
Detainees visited		905	18
Detainees visited and monitored individually		24	18
of whom women			1
Detainees newly registered		3	2
Number of visits carried out	1	8	1
Number of places of detention visited	1	2	1
Restoring family links			
RCMs collected		209	981
RCMs distributed		64	787
People to whom a detention attestation was issued			

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

During 2010, Kenya's new police commissioner invited the ICRC to brief trainee officers at the Kenya Police College on humanitarian principles and IHL. Meanwhile, more than 1,100 officers of Kenya's elite General Service Unit and 80 regular police officers participated in presentations covering the Safer Access approach, the ICRC's mandate and international human rights law. The Kenyan military had not yet responded to ICRC offers to support IHL training.

In a breakthrough, the Tanzanian inspector general of police authorized the ICRC to conduct IHL sessions for senior officers in preparation for the October general election. More than 280 officers from eight regions participated in ICRC-organized presentations on IHL, and a guide on police conduct during armed conflict and other situations of violence was translated into Kiswahili. Some 960 personnel from the Tanzania People's Defence Force learnt more about observing IHL in the context of peacekeeping operations.

In Djibouti, 37 key members of the *gendarmerie* and national police force deepened their understanding of human rights and humanitarian principles applicable to policing at two ICRC workshops, the second featuring contributions from the National Society.

At the request of the Kenya-based International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC), the ICRC provided technical advice and source materials for the development of IHL modules for its Rights in Peace Operations course. More than 154 personnel at the centre attended IHL sessions. Members of the planning unit of the Kenya-based East Africa Standby Brigade also received IHL advice from the ICRC, which briefed brigade personnel on IHL through the IPSTC.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media coverage, and therefore public awareness, of humanitarian issues in Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania were enhanced after senior editors and journalists from newspapers, radio and television attended briefings and seminars and received newsletters and factsheets on the activities of the National Societies and the ICRC.

With ICRC support, designed to encourage research into and discussion of IHL within academic circles, university students from 11 countries took part in the final of the 10th international moot court competition, held in Arusha in November. With the same aim, more than 40 university students from the region entered an annual essay competition, while a Kenyan team took part in the international Jean-Pictet IHL Competition. With ICRC input, lecturers at 8 Kenyan and Tanzanian universities conducted a review of IHL teaching, 18 lecturers participated in a round-table discussion on IHL in Nairobi in June, and 4 others attended IHL courses abroad.

Five third-level establishments in Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania received books on IHL for their libraries, while school-children in Djibouti were set to gain a basic knowledge of IHL following the inclusion of pages on the subject in a new history and geography textbook distributed by the Education Ministry. Earlier in the year, ministry officials, together with their counterparts from Mauritius and Seychelles, were among those who took part in a regional seminar on the Exploring Humanitarian Law school programme.

Meanwhile, the ICRC's IHL documentation centre in Nairobi remained open to public use.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Societies received ICRC funds, materials, training and logistical and technical back-up to help them, as appropriate, provide assistance to vulnerable communities, offer family-links services and promote IHL.

Kenyan Red Cross personnel received training to implement livelihood-support projects (see *Civilians*) and consolidate the tracing and RCM network. It also boosted emergency preparedness in advance of two events: Kenya's constitutional referendum in August, and at year-end (in liaison with the Uganda Red Cross Society), the January 2011 referendum in neighbouring Sudan. Kenya Red Cross personnel also participated in training sessions in the Safer Access approach.

Having taken charge, in October 2009, of the family-links service for refugees in camps in the west of the United Republic of Tanzania, the Tanzanian Red Cross continued to reinforce its network. Plans to implement new tracing guidelines, drawn up jointly by the National Society and the ICRC, were set in motion. The National Society also produced a video on its water supply project on Pemba Island (see *Civilians*), with the aim of raising funds.

To enhance their emergency response skills, 40 personnel from the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti joined in disaster-simulation and first-aid exercises. A magazine and film explaining the National Society's activities were produced.

Political instability in the Comoros, together with internal problems at the Comoros Red Crescent, delayed the implementation of a joint action plan to develop the National Society's tracing activities.

To better coordinate activities in the region among Movement partners, National Societies participated in regional and international Movement meetings, with a focus on governance and management practice.