

DJIBOUTI

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE FOR THE RESPONSE TO THE YEMENI SITUATION #15

07 August 2015

KEY FIGURES

2,479

Refugees registered since the outbreak of the crisis

1,037

Registered females.

837

Registered children and adolescents.

PRIORITIES

- Ensure protection of refugees and provide assistance.
- Provide documents to refugees.
- Work with the government to ensure access to the territory and freedom of movement..
- Continue to develop the infrastructure at the Markazi camp.
- Continue border monitoring activities.

HIGHLIGHTS

- According to statistics from IOM and the Djiboutian government, 21,726 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 30 July (since 26 March). Of those 9,953 persons are Yemeni nationals, 9,946 are transiting Third Country Nationals and 1,827 persons are Djiboutian returnees. Yemenis applying for asylum in Djibouti are hosted in the Markazi camp in Obock.
- As of 6 August, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee agency) registered 2,479 refugees, thereof 2,348 Yemeni nationals (since 31 March). According to the provisional statistics, 1,825 refugees are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp (1,776 of those are Yemenis).

Population of concern

A total of **2,479** people of concern

Nationality	0-4 years		5-11 years		12-17 years		18-59 years		60 years+		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Yemen	101	101	146	158	148	137	936	501	51	69	2,348
Syria	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Palestine	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	5
Somalia	1	3	7	9	4	3	15	32	2	5	81
Eritrea	4	0	2	2	5	3	13	7	0	1	37
Pakistan	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	4
Total	106	105	156	169	157	144	970	544	53	75	2,479

All figures are provisional and still subject to change.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

Since the escalation of the Yemen conflict in March 2015, some 1,616,110 persons have been affected. Some 1,267,590 people have been displaced inside Yemen since 27 March. As of 05 August, some 55,283 individuals have left Yemen and sought refuge in Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Oman and Saudi Arabia.

Yemenis applying for asylum in Djibouti are hosted in the Markazi camp in Obock, four kilometers away from Obock city, the capital of the region. All boats carrying people fleeing fighting in Yemen are rerouted to the Port of Obock. Yemeni nationals are requested to stay in Obock, except for persons with a valid visa for third countries, ongoing visa petitions, air tickets or resident permits in Djibouti or other countries.

UNHCR launched an appeal for funds stating that almost 100,000 persons flee Yemen in four months while receiving countries struggle to cope in the face of a funding crisis. The Djibouti Response plan for UNHCR and partners is funded at a mere 7% of its required US\$ 26 million.

Achievements



Protection

Achievements and Impact

- According to statistics from IOM and the Djiboutian government, 21,726 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 30 July (since 26 March). Of those 9,953 persons are Yemeni nationals, 9,946 are transiting Third Country Nationals (TCN) and 1,827 persons are Djiboutian returnees. Yemenis applying for asylum in Djibouti are hosted in the Markazi camp in Obock.
- As of 6 August, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee agency) registered 2,479 refugees, thereof 2,348 Yemeni nationals (since 31 March). According to the provisional statistics, 1,825 refugees are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp (1,776 of those are Yemenis).
- During the period from 30 July to 5 August, UNHCR received a total of 269 new arrivals from six nationalities. 193 Yemeni nationals, 56 Americans, 9 Djiboutians, two Dutch, three British and six Ethiopians.
- All migrants accommodated at the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock are provided with emergency shelter, food, NFIs, and medical assistance by IOM. The MRC Obock continues to assist Ethiopian migrants who have requested assistance for their return to Ethiopia.
- During the week from 1 to 8 August, IOM Djibouti and IOM Yemen organized the evacuation of more than 250 Third Country Nationals from the Hodeida Detention Centre in Yemen. The IOM chartered boat arrived in Obock on 6 August. To date, the total number of persons evacuated by IOM from the Hodeida detention centre is 1,142 persons.
- As of 5 August, the total number of migrants assisted by IOM Djibouti is 2,552 of 28 nationalities. This includes 2,104 TCNs who left Yemen and 448 transiting Ethiopian migrants from Ethiopia to Yemen. Economic migrants continue to travel to Yemen despite the dangers associated with the journey and the destination. IOM and DRC Djibouti are currently conducting joint interviews with migrants on their motivations to migrate to Yemen.
- UNHCR continues to provide assistance on a humanitarian basis to all Yemenis sheltered in Markazi camp, even if they have not registered with UNHCR.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR, Al-Rahma, LWF, UNICEF and UNESCO, members of the Education Working Group, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the implementation of an Education in Emergency (EiE) programme for Yemeni refugees in Obock. The MOU outlines a plan of action for, among other things, catch-up classes before the school year, teacher recruitment and training, provision of school kits, in addition to school enrollment of refugee children for the upcoming school year 2015-2016.
- Upon consultation with the Government of Yemen in exile, the Yemeni Minister of Social Affairs has agreed to provide Yemeni certification to children attending an extra month of schooling in August and September before the scholastic year begins. This is to catch up on the missing month of education when they had to flee Yemen in April.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- An increasing number of Yemeni refugees reported ophthalmological problems. As there is no ophthalmologist based in Obock, an ophthalmology team from Djibouti-city conducted a mission to Obock to assess the situation of the refugee population. A total of 47 patients were consulted and received necessary treatment.
- Treatment for main childhood diseases is being provided by AHA at Markazi refugee camp.



A health worker at the Markazi Health Centre consults a boy who came to the clinic complaining of fever. ©UNHCR/A.Abdelkhalek, Aug 2015.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- During the malnutrition screening campaign conducted in Obock-city and Markazi camp, Johanniter found four cases of Yemeni children requiring care and treatment: one seven-month girl affected by moderate acute malnutrition, a 12 month girl suffering from severe acute malnutrition and two boys (10 and 16 months old) at risk of malnutrition. All have been referred to CMH Obock and are receiving treatment.
- Al-Rahma Association has agreed to provide an extra meal a day for refugees for another month. Yemeni refugees in Markazi camp now receive three meals a day. UNHCR supports with in-kind donations, transport and distribution of meals.

Shelter and NFIs

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Refugees at Markazi camp have expressed gratitude for and satisfaction with the desert Sahara tents donated by the Bahrain Royal Charity Association through ONARS. Refugees find them to be spacious, sturdy and with good ventilation. Tents received from the Bahrain Royal Charity Association have also been set up for the medical centre in Markazi and for the newly established reception area for UNHCR and ONARS at Obock Port.

- Al-Rahma Association has begun closure of Markazi camp based on the request of refugees. Closure is to protect the refugees from animals that roam the area and provide general safety and security.



Yemeni refugees from Markazi camp pleased with the tents provided by Bahrain Royal Charity Association through ONARS. Tents were set up following the severe storm on 17 July, which caused several UNHCR tents to collapse. ©UNHCR/A.Abdelkhalek, Aug. 2015.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- Volunteer community health workers trained by AHA have provided sensitization to the refugee population in Markazi camp on the benefits of aqua tabs, the water purification tablets, and their safety and necessity. The population were sceptic of the ‘chlorine tablets’ as they called them and refused to add them to their water.

Working in partnership

- From 2-4 August 2015, the Representative of UNHCR conducted a mission to the camps of Markazi in Obock, and Ali Addeh and Holl Holl in Ali Sabieh. The Representative met with refugees who voiced their welcome and the challenges they face. He also met with UNHCR staff in the field and discussed the current situation, the condition of refugees, challenges and future plans given an estimated influx of new arrivals from Yemen and the possible closure of Holl Holl camp.

- H.E. Mr. Thomas Kelly, United States Ambassador to Djibouti, visited Markazi Camp in Obock, on 3 August to better understand the condition of Yemeni refugees. The Ambassador and UNHCR Representative visited the camp facilities and saw the new developments on the ground. He met with ONARS and partners and discussed the latest situation regarding Yemeni refugees with UNHCR staff. He also enquired about the response of donors to the appeal launched on 21 July. Furthermore, the Ambassador expressed in writing his heartfelt appreciation to UNHCR staff for the support provided to Americans transiting through the port of Obock.
- A bicycle race was held for children of Markazi camp on 02 August 2015. Some 20 bicycles were donated to UNHCR by the American Bar Association and private donations for the children of Markazi. Winners of the race won footballs, table football sets and dolls.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- The Djibouti Response Plan for the Yemen Crisis (April - September 2015) was released on 4 June and launched in Djibouti on 21 July. It has been shared with donors, governments, partners and agencies. Eleven UN agencies and NGOs have submitted their inputs. The Djibouti Response Plan can be accessed via <http://www.unhcr.org/557066809.html>
- Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with non-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

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