

DJIBOUTI

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE FOR THE RESPONSE TO THE YEMEN SITUATION #35

16 February 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- According to the latest available statistics from IOM and the Djibouti government, 33,030 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 16 February 2016 (since 26 March). Of those, 18,685 persons (56 per cent) are Yemeni nationals, 12,391 (38 per cent) are transiting migrants and 1,954 persons (6 per cent) are Djiboutian returnees.
- As of 15 February 2016, UNHCR and ONARS registered 6,697 refugees of which 6,472 are Yemeni nationals; the majority was registered in Obock. There are a total of 3,225 refugees sheltered in Markazi refugee camp. The remaining refugees live in Obock and Djibouti city.
- United States Deputy Secretary of State on official visit to Djibouti led a delegation composed of the U.S. Ambassador to Djibouti and U.S. officials who visited Markazi camp on 09 February to meet with refugees.

Population of concern

A total of **6,697** persons 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	335	351	485	476	419	366	2386	1336	143	175	6,472
Syria	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Palestine	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	5
Somalia	4	9	12	12	5	11	30	65	3	9	160
Eritrea	4	1	2	2	5	3	14	8	0	1	40
Pakistan	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	4
Ethiopia	1	1	2	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	9
Sudan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	344	363	502	490	429	382	2440	1416	146	185	6,697

All figures are provisional and still subject to change.

KEY FIGURES

6,697

Refugees registered since the outbreak of the crisis

2,836

Registered females.

2,510

Registered children and adolescents.

PRIORITIES

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

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context and Migration

Border monitoring trends at the ports of Djibouti, and along its northern coast, have revealed a decrease in new arrivals. During the first two weeks of February, UNHCR noted that most arrivals to Obock were single males originating from Aden and Taiz governorates in Yemen.

United States Deputy Secretary of State, Mr. Antony Blinken, and United States Ambassador to Djibouti, Mr. Tom Kelly, visited Markazi camp on 09 February with their respective delegations. They met with UNHCR staff and ONARS representatives headed by its Executive Secretary and were given an overview of Markazi camp, its facilities and services, and the roles of UNHCR and ONARS in registration, responding to the needs of refugees and coordinating assistance. The delegation had the opportunity to engage in a discussion with the male and female community leaders of the four sectors of Markazi and a youth representative, to listen to their needs and challenges. Deputy Secretary Blinken was especially interested in education, in addition to youth and livelihoods opportunities. The U.S. delegation also visited the IOM Migration Response Centre (MRC) to learn more about the activities and services provided for migrants and proposed intervention plans for 2016.



U.S. Delegation visits Markazi camp and meets with Yemeni refugee leaders.
©US Embassy, February 2016.

Since 26 March, IOM Djibouti has assisted 4,816 migrants with emergency shelter and food, non-food items, medical assistance and Onward Transportation Assistance (OTA). These include 2,257 individuals evacuated on IOM chartered boats from Al Hodeida and 95 individuals evacuated on IOM chartered flights from Sana'a to Mogadishu via Djibouti.

On 10 February, IOM transferred 52 migrants including 24 unaccompanied minors to Djibouti city to be documented at the Ethiopian embassy. The group will then be transferred to the Galafi border post. In Djibouti city, IOM received 13 Ethiopian migrants including 3 unaccompanied minors requesting assisted voluntary return. These too will be documented and transferred to the Galafi border within days. The total number of migrants assisted with OTA to date are 4093. IOM also supports 2 female migrants who were injured in an accident in Dalay. They are currently undergoing treatment at the Obock hospital and are receiving psychosocial support.

IOM Djibouti continues to raise awareness on the dangers related to irregular migration and on the current situation in Yemen. During the reporting period, a total of 125 migrants including 31 women and 37 unaccompanied children from the Oromo, Amara and Tigray ethnic communities were sensitized. A further 62 members of the host community were sensitized on the smuggling and human trafficking.

 Protection

Achievements and Impact

- From 01-15 February, UNHCR and ONARS registered 92 individuals (73 families) in Obock and Djibouti city. The total number of refugees at Markazi camp has now reached 3,225 individuals (1,129 families). Furthermore, as at 15 February, a total of 1,128 urban refugees were registered in Djibouti city.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR distributed 136 refugee identity cards and 66 family attestations to refugees in Obock; additionally, 34 refugee identity cards and 87 family attestations were distributed to refugees in Djibouti City.
- As part of its activities to restore and maintain family links, the Djibouti Red Crescent (CRD) offers phone call services to new arrivals and refugees so that they can call and reassure their families abroad. From 02-14 February, 265 refugees in Markazi camp (152 females, 113 males) benefitted from the service.

 Health

Achievements and Impact

- From 01-15 February, a total of 595 refugees were treated at the Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) clinic in Markazi Camp, mostly from respiratory infections. Four cases of malaria have so far been detected in Markazi camp, in addition to some cases of Dengue fever. All cases are undergoing treatment.
- House-to-house sensitization on various health-related topics is organized by AHA community health workers (CHW) every week. Sensitization on communicable diseases such as the common cold, diarrhea and measles was held from 31 January to 04 February. There was a breast feeding awareness week 07-11 February; furthermore, on 14 February, an HIV/AIDS and family planning sensitization began. It is expected to conclude on 18 February.
- During the reporting period, 33 children were vaccinated against measles. The parents of 25 children in Sector Four refused to have their children vaccinated. Community leaders have been mobilized to work along CHWs to raise awareness on the importance of vaccination.
- The Mother and Child Health Unit continues to provide family planning services for refugees through the support of UNFPA. During the reporting period, 15 women received family planning and prenatal consultations; seven pregnant women received folic acid refills. There are currently 49 pregnant women in the camp.
- Five clients consulted the Mental Health Unit at the AHA clinic. One, a refugee, was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, and the other is from the local community. Three clients received medical referrals for schizophrenia and depression.
- The surgical unit at the CMH in Obock has started operating, serving both the refugee and the local populations. So far, five caesarean births have been carried out, including a case from Tadjoura who chose to deliver at the unit in Obock rather than go to Djibouti.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Despite the new ambulance received by the *Centre Medical Hospitalier* (CMH) in Obock through a generous donation from UNICEF, refugees still feel there is a need for an ambulance on site at the camp. AHA is negotiating with the CMH to station the ambulance at the camp for periods of time, or certain hours every day in case of emergency.
- There is a need for 536 mosquito nets in Markazi camp as identified by AHA during a vector sensitization campaign. Discussions with UNHCR and WHO are underway to provide these mosquito nets.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- Primary classes for grades 1-7 continue to take place at Al Rahma school on a daily basis. During the first week of February, 221 students out of the total 328 enrolled students attended classes. This is down from 292 students in January. The numbers went up to 241 students during the second week of February, most probably due to an awareness campaign in Sectors One and Two on the importance of schooling.
- The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) have also started a school-feeding programme which provides a basic meal to refugee pupils at Al Rahma. This might also have encouraged refugee parents to keep their children in school.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- WFP continues to provide exceptional food rations to newly registered refugees at Markazi camp until the forthcoming food distribution takes place.
- During the first week of February, 75 children were enrolled in the moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 17 in the severe acute malnutrition (SAM) programmes. Two admissions to MAM were referred by the community, an indication that the programme has been accepted by the population. A 54 year old adult weighting 21kg was also admitted to the nutrition program. During the second week of February, two children who had dropped out of MAM were admitted to SAM as their condition had deteriorated. A total of 17 children have fully recovered and have been discharged. On average 43 children participate in the porridge feeding program that takes place twice a day.
- From 06-09 February, a doctor and two nurses from AHA were trained by the National Nutrition Programme (PNN) through the support of UNICEF on the Management of Malnutrition in the community and Young Infant feeding. Another training for community health workers was organized from 13-15 February. Twelve attended: nine from AHA, two from LWF, and one from the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).
- As part of the Family Planning sensitization, 224 persons, breastfeeding mothers with children from 0-2 years and persons aged 65 and above, received 2500g of milk. All milk was provided following education on proper usage.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- A kitchen for the feeding programme of the malnutrition unit is needed for preparation of porridge for malnourished children. The current conditions of preparation are not ideal.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR WASH specialist, Mr. Jérémie Kouakene, was on mission to Obock and Markazi camp 8-10 February to assess the site especially after the rains at the end of January. Mr. Kouakene provided recommendations for a proper drainage system and garbage disposal to maintain a clean environment and avoid vector breeding.
- The camp supply of water slightly decreased during the reporting period due to a general water shortage in Obock. NRC has provided water through trucking from the nearby village of Oulma, 30 kilometers away from Obock.
- NRC now oversees the cleaning campaigns in Markazi camp. On 11 February, a door-to-door campaign on garbage disposal took place. It engaged with the community, especially the youth, on best practices for garbage disposal and awareness on the hazards of waste exposure. NRC appealed to the sector leaders to engage the youth and organize hygiene promotion days in each sector. Cleaning materials will be distributed in the different sectors.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The municipal garbage collection truck is a cause for concern due to its irregularity. In the meantime, the camp population is managing the garbage waste through different methods.



Campaigns involving the community have resulted in better garbage and waste disposal at Markazi camp. ©NRC, February 2016.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- During the second week of February, UNHCR distributed blankets to 600 households to replace blankets that had been damaged in the rains at the end of January. UNHCR also distributed 20 torn-out tents in the four sectors to reinforce the roofing and walls of existing tents.
- NRC distributed NFI kits, mainly kitchen utensils, to new arrivals and to refugee families in Obock town. Some 90 kits out of a total 130 kits were distributed.
- The demarcation of locations for the showers to be constructed in Markazi camp is in progress. NRC's target is to construct 37 showers by the end of February.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The lack of electricity in Markazi camp, after the previous provider has announced that it will no longer be able to provide the generator with kerosene continues to be a problem both for the refugees and for the partners working in the camp. ONARS is assessing the costs of electricity vs. solar panels which would cover the whole camp.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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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