

DJIBOUTI

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE FOR THE RESPONSE TO THE YEMEN SITUATION #43

01 – 20 June 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- According to the latest available statistics from IOM and the Djibouti government, 35,562 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 23 April 2016 (since 26 March 2015). Of those, 19,636 persons (56 per cent) are Yemeni nationals, 13,962 (38 per cent) are transiting migrants and 1,964 persons (6 per cent) are Djiboutian returnees.
- As at 20 June 2016, there are 3,523 refugees currently in Djibouti (pending forthcoming verification exercises in Obock town and Djibouti city). Markazi camp hosts approximately 1,365 refugees.

KEY FIGURES

3,523

Refugees currently hosted in Djibouti pending further physical verification exercises

1,600

Registered females.

1,256

Registered children and adolescents.

Currently, a total of **3,523** 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	135	156	259	264	186	170	1162	761	91	95	3,279
Syria				1	1	1	1				4
Somalia	4	9	13	12	5	18	34	82	3	9	189
Eritrea	4	1	3	2	4	3	12	10		1	40
Ethiopia	1	1	2			1	3	3			11
Total	144	167	277	279	196	193	1212	856	94	105	3523

All figures are provisional and still subject to change.

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

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context and Migration

World Refugee Day is celebrated each year on 20 June to commemorate the strength, courage and resilience of millions of refugees around the world. With 65.3 million people forced to flee globally, that means one human in every 113 is displaced by conflict or persecution. UNHCR sees 2016 as a year to take collective responsibility and action to end the conflicts which force people to flee their homes and countries and also to help the millions of people whose lives have been destroyed by this violence. UNHCR has urged people around the world to stand #WithRefugees and to sign a petition which will be delivered to UN Headquarters in New York ahead of the UN General Assembly meeting on September 19. The petition asks governments to: Ensure every child gets an education; Ensure every refugee family has somewhere safe to live; Ensure every refugee can work or learn new skills to make a positive contribution to their community. The Government of Djibouti has generously opened its doors to people fleeing their homes to escape violence, conflict and drought. Today Djibouti hosts over 19,000 refugees, the majority of whom are Somali refugees. This year, the Government of Djibouti will be celebrating World Refugee Day after the holy month of Ramadan and though celebrations will cover all refugees country-wide, an official ceremony will take place in Obock where Yemeni refugees are hosted.

Meanwhile, UNHCR continues to advise refugees in Markazi camp on the dangers of return to Yemen. The numbers of returns have significantly decreased. In February, March and April there were 846 returns, in May 158 returns and in June so far 30 returns.

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- From 01-20 June, UNHCR and ONARS registered 40 Yemeni individuals (27 families) in Obock and Djibouti city; three Somalis (two families) and one Eritrean.
- On 15 June, UNHCR's Senior Protection Officer undertook a mission to Obock to sensitize refugees on the risks and dangers of illegal migration and deter them from clandestine migratory routes. Fruitful and open discussions were held where refugees explained their reasons for migration such as harsh living conditions in the camp, and the need for further education opportunities and employment. UNHCR took these discussions into consideration and will discuss potential solutions with partners at the following mixed migration task force meeting.
- As part of its activities to 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 01-15 June, a total of 171 refugees in Markazi camp (105 women and 66 men and 10 minors) benefitted from the service.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- From 01-19 June, 500 refugees were treated at the Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) outpatient clinic in Markazi camp mostly suffering from respiratory tract infections, diarrhea and skin infections. These included 38 boys and 34 girls under five years and 254 males and 174 females over five years of age. Furthermore, as a result of some complaints in May, a deworming campaign was conducted and reached 352 children under 15 years.
- Some 13 refugees consulted the mental health clinic during the reporting period. Additionally, three babies were born, one of them through a caesarian section at the *Centre Medical Hospitalier* (CMH) in Obock. Regretfully, a young refugee girl of 17 years passed away on 14 June at the CMH. She was born with a severe mental retardation and had been bed-ridden since her birth.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- On 01 June, the NGOs Saba and the Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) distributed food items to 450 families in coordination with ONARS. The afore mentioned NGOs also distributed medicines to persons with specific needs; however no consultations were done with health partner AHA or with UNHCR community services, which raised some protection concerns.
- From 1-19 June, there were six cases of severe acute malnutrition (four boys and two girls) and 20 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (seven boys and 13 girls) receiving treatment in the nutrition unit in Markazi camp.
- From 05-10 June, ONARS received a generous donation from an Emirati private donor. The donation consisted of rice, flour, pasta, sugar, canned tomatoes, beans and oil to cover over 630 families. Under UNHCR's coordination and the kind assistance of partners and refugees, the donation was distributed to 362 families in Markazi camp and Obock town (1,248 individuals). The remaining items have been put in storage to be distributed at a later date during the month of Ramadan.
- Qatar Charity distributed food items to 1,038 urban Yemeni refugees (173 families) living in Boucoul yard in Djibouti city. The distribution was conducted on 05 June, just before the beginning of Ramadan, with the cooperation of ONARS and the Djiboutian Ministry of Social Affairs.

Food items distributed to urban refugees from Yemen living in Djibouti City on 05 June. ©Qatar Charity/June2016



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- Based on the aerial views of Markazi camp taken by the Pompiers de l'Urgence Internationale (PUI) in May 2016, UNHCR is currently constructing a map of the camp which would give an identification of the occupancy of refugee housing units (RHUs), the size of the households and spaces for setting up new RHUs if needed.
- On 01 June, the Danish Refugee Council distributed coolers to 33 persons with specific needs, in particular persons over 65 years of age.
- UNHCR's Regional Senior Technical Coordinator for site planning and shelter, Mr. Olivier Siegenthaler, undertook a mission to Obock to explore ways to improve the ventilation of RHUs to improve the general condition of refugees living in Markazi camp. Together with UNHCR's shelter officer based in Obock, simple creative solutions were devised to allow for ventilation within the RHU. Adjustments were also made to the RHUs as mitigating measures against the predicted Khamaseen winds. Recommendations will be shared when finalized.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- UNHCR is currently exploring the availability of a secure space for stocking NFIs to ensure they are safe and protected from weather conditions and potential theft or damage.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- The refugee population in Markazi camp is currently guaranteed 20 litres of water per person per day through water trucking conducted by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). Despite frequent water cuts, NRC trucks water from the nearby village of Oulma, mostly in the evenings, to ensure the water bladders are constantly filled.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- NRC has been working on the construction of a water reservoir for Markazi camp which will feed the tanks available throughout the camp. The reservoir is expected to be installed in July-August of this year. NRC also plans to construct 100 new showers in Markazi camp. Construction is expected to start in the last week of June. Additionally, nine new family latrines are being currently constructed.
- Solid waste is removed from the camp every five days and NRC continues to mobilise the refugee population to take part in cleaning campaigns even though the participants have decreased given the harsh weather conditions.
- During the month of Ramadan, NRC Hygiene promoters carry out their hygiene promotion activities in the evenings. These include cleaning of jerry cans and sensitizing the community on water management. Refugees also fill their jerry cans with water during the evenings.

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.

The web portal for the Yemen Crisis is available on <http://data.unhcr.org/yemen>. This portal, co-lead by IOM and UNHCR, provides a regional overview as well as specific information on conditions and activities regarding the Yemen situation at the country level. Countries include Ethiopia, Djibouti, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Somalia and Sudan. The site enables sharing of data on population and movements, maps, recent assessments, agency/NGO specific reports, the latest funding information and quick links to a variety of partner websites.



Refugees in Obock are sensitized on dangers of migration. ©UNHCR/N.Lashermes, June2015.

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