

# DJIBOUTI

## INTER-AGENCY UPDATE FOR THE RESPONSE TO THE YEMENI SITUATION #9

27 June 2015

### KEY FIGURES

**2,153**

Refugees registered since the outbreak of the crisis

**732**

Registered children and adolescents.

### PRIORITIES

- Ensure protection of refugees and provide assistance.
- Provide documents to refugees
- Work with the government to ensure registration of newly arrived refugees.
- Continue to develop the infrastructure at the Markazi camp.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- According to the latest available statistics from IOM and the Djibouti government, 19,752 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 20 June (since 26 March). Of those, 9,133 persons are Yemeni nationals, 8,865 are transiting Third Country Nationals and 1,754 persons are Djiboutian returnees.
- As of 22 June, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee entity) registered 2,153 refugees, thereof 2,037 Yemeni nationals (since 31 March). According to the provisional statistics, 1,591 refugees are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp.
- Strong sandstorms continue to hail in Obock. As a result many refugees have temporarily left Obock for Djibouti City where weather conditions are more favourable.

#### Population of concern

A total of **2,153** 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        | 84        | 88        | 134        | 135        | 128         | 117        | 796         | 440        | 49        | 66        | 2,037        |
| 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          | 11          | 25         | 2         | 4         | 69           |
| Eritrea      | 4         | 0         | 2          | 2          | 5           | 3          | 11          | 6          | 0         | 1         | 34           |
| Pakistan     | 0         | 1         | 0          | 0          | 0           | 0          | 1           | 2          | 0         | 0         | 4            |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>89</b> | <b>92</b> | <b>144</b> | <b>146</b> | <b>137</b>  | <b>124</b> | <b>824</b>  | <b>475</b> | <b>51</b> | <b>71</b> | <b>2,153</b> |

All figures are provisional and still subject to change.

## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### Operational Context

Since the escalation of the Yemen conflict in March 2015, 1,976 people were killed and 8,034 injured, including a large number of civilians. 1,019,762 people are displaced inside Yemen as a result of the conflict since 27 March. In addition, about 250,000 refugees from other countries such as Somalia, Eritrea are estimated to be in Yemen. Access to food and water is challenging, especially in the southern Governorates of Yemen. Moreover, the country's health system is at imminent risk of collapse due to shortages of medical supplies and fuel for generators. In this context, those Yemenis, refugees, migrants and TCNs with means to leave Yemen flee the country to the neighboring countries.

According to statistics from IOM and the Djiboutian government, 19,752 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 20 June (since 26 March). Of those, 9,133 persons are Yemeni nationals, 8,865 are transiting Third Country Nationals and 1,754 persons are Djiboutian returnees. Yemenis applying for asylum in Djibouti are hosted in the Markazi camp in Obock, where the Government of Djibouti has designated a new site for refugees, four kilometers away from Obock city, the capital of the region. Recently, the government announced that all boats carrying people fleeing fighting in Yemen are rerouted to the Port of Obock. Upon this decision, Yemeni nationals have to stay in Obock, except persons with valid visa for third countries, ongoing visa petitions, air tickets or resident permits in Djibouti or other countries.

Strong sandstorms continue to hail in Obock. As a result many refugees have temporarily left Markazi Camp in Obock for Obock town and Djibouti City where weather conditions are more favourable. It is suggested that families have left Markazi camp in Obock temporarily given the harsh weather conditions, which include sandstorms and winds of over 60 miles/hour and extreme heat, and because of the fasting season of the Holy month of Ramadan.

World Refugee Day, which falls on 20 June, was commemorated by UNHCR and partners through various events in Djibouti city and Holl Holl refugee camp.



**Harsh living conditions in Markazi Camp. Heavy sandstorms over 60 km/hr and 47°C on a daily basis ©UNHCR**

### Achievements

#### Protection

##### Achievements and Impact

- As of 22 June, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee entity) registered 2,153 refugees, thereof 2,037 Yemeni nationals (since 31 March). According to the provisional statistics, 1,591 refugees are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp.
- Legal counselling is provided to new arrivals and refugees in Markazi camp.
- A report with the results of the Child Protection Rapid Assessment conducted in Obock by UNICEF, UNHCR and DRC has been validated. Findings will be shared promptly.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- A verification exercise was conducted in Obock on 20 June to assess the actual number of refugees present in the camp. 447 individuals (109 families) are currently present in the camp.

## Education

### Achievements and Impact

- A Memorandum of Understanding and joint Action Plan for Education in Emergency (EiE) is being developed between Al-Rhama, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNESCO and Lutheran World Federation (LWF). This agreement allows refugee children from Yemen to use Al-Rhama orphanage school facilities in Obock for primary and informal education, while other parties involved will, among other things, recruit the teachers and provide teaching and learning materials. Classes will be conducted using the Yemeni curriculum, which is recognised by the Djiboutian Ministry of Education. French language classes will also be provided.

## Health

### Achievements and Impact

- UNICEF supplied the Markazi health centre, Obock Regional Medical Centre and Dar El Hanan maternity in Djibouti-city with stocks of essential drugs, malaria rapid tests and other medical supplies to enhance the health response towards the Yemeni population.
- Medical consultations are provided at the camp. During the week preceding 22 June, 116 consultations were made at the camp, 64 patients were transferred to the hospital of Obock and 4 patients were referred to Djibouti.
- Check-up of immunisation status is ongoing for all under-5 refugee children upon arrival, with vaccination being provided as needed.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There are cases of chronic diseases, cancer and cardiac conditions for which treatment is not available in Djibouti.
- The severe weather conditions are affecting the health of refugees in the camp.
- WHO, UNICEF and UNHCR have been meeting regularly during the past week to discuss how to move forward in improving the health facilities in Markazi and to respond to current urgent needs.

## Food Security and Nutrition

### Achievements and Impact

- Malnutrition screening and treatment is ongoing for all under-5 refugee children, pregnant women and lactating mothers. According to the latest malnutrition screening on 21<sup>st</sup> of June, there are currently 10 under-5 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition and 27 affected by moderate acute malnutrition. All of them are receiving adequate treatment and care at Obock Regional Medical Centre.
- In terms of prevention of micronutrient deficiency, all Yemeni refugee children in Markazi aged 6 to 23 months have been provided with sprinkles, and all pregnant women with iron and folic acid. Vitamin A supplementation is ongoing for all new arrivals of children aged 6-59 months.
- The Nutrition Sub-Working Group established in Obock meets every two weeks, and the Markazi's "Nutrition Space" is operational. This space concentrates all nutrition activities including screening, distribution of ready-to-use therapeutic food for cases without complications, etc.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Measures are being taken to track children in the nutrition programme who have left Markazi camp for Djibouti so that they could continue their treatment.
- It has been suggested in the weekly coordination meeting that the health and nutrition groups come together in their sectorial meetings to discuss issues that concern the health of refugees since most are related.

## Water and Sanitation

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### Achievements and Impact

- 70 latrines are currently functional in Markazi camp, covering the needs of up to 280 households as a result of the accelerated draining operation conducted by NRC. Eleven more latrines are currently being drained and soon will be ready to be re-used by 44 additional households.
- Two campaigns on solid waste management were conducted by Red Crescent in the refugee camp to evacuate household waste and maintain a clean the environment in the camp.
- The needs in terms of access to water are ensured for all refugees in Markazi camp. Three water bladders with a capacity of 45,000 litres (30 litres/person/day), installed by Action Contre la Faim (ACF) and UNICEF are functional.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Water treatment is a priority to ensure the quality of water delivered to refugees. The Red Crescent is preparing the process while DRC will cover the short term gaps.
- Access to showers is a priority. NRC is planning the construction. Design and number of showers, along with installation sites will be defined in the upcoming days.
- Plans to engage all members of the community, especially youth, in waste management sensitisation are being discussed with UNHCR and partners.



## Shelter and NFIs

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### Achievements and Impact

- As of 16th June, 325 tents, four hangars (one under revision after damages caused by sandstorms) and 59 latrines are in place at Markazi camp. The construction of 18 additional latrines is ongoing.

## Working in partnership

- On 15th June, UNHCR met with representatives of the Kuwaiti Al Rahma Association. They informed UNHCR about a donation of a generator of 200 KW and a water cooler of 2,000 litres. Both items were brought to Markazi and will be installed shortly.
- On 17 June, representatives from Al Rahma Association did a food distribution along with cash assistance of 10.000 DJF to all Yemeni refugees present in Markazi. Regretfully, neither UNHCR nor ONARS were consulted in advance and the food distribution did not benefit all refugees present in Markazi. It was reported that a large number of the beneficiaries were from the local population in Obock.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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- The Djibouti Response Plan for the Yemen Crisis (April - September 2015) was released on 4 June and shared with donors, governments, partners and agencies. 11 UN agencies and NGOs 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 unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

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**Links:**

Twitter: @UNHCRDjibouti

Regional portal: <http://unhcr-regional.or.ke/country/djibouti>