

DJIBOUTI

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE FOR THE RESPONSE TO THE YEMEN SITUATION #34

26 January 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- According to the latest available statistics from IOM and the Djibouti government, 31,779 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 21 January 2016 (since 26 March). Of those, 17,634 persons (55 per cent) are Yemeni nationals, 12,207 (39 per cent) are transiting migrants and 1,938 persons (6 per cent) are Djiboutian returnees.
- As of 24 January 2016, UNHCR and ONARS registered 6,541 refugees of which 6,316 are Yemeni nationals; the majority was registered in Obock. There are a total of 3,106 refugees sheltered in Markazi refugee camp. The remaining refugees live in Obock and Djibouti city.
- UNHCR and ONARS are conducting a head count to verify the numbers of refugees currently residing in the camp.

Population of concern

A total of **6,541** 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	326	339	478	467	411	358	2313	1314	140	170	6,316
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	29	64	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	334	351	495	481	421	374	2367	1394	143	180	6,541

All figures are provisional and still subject to change.

KEY FIGURES

6,541

Refugees registered since the outbreak of the crisis

2,780

Registered females.

2,456

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

Canadian Ambassador to Ethiopia and Djibouti, H.E. Philip Baker visited Markazi camp on 19 January together with delegations from the WFP regional and country offices and the USAID regional office. The delegations met with refugees and community leaders to discuss their conditions in the camp and visited the camp infrastructures including the health and nutrition units, the water taps, latrines, showers, kitchens and the refugee housing units. The delegation also visited the IOM Migrant Response Centre (MRC) where they learnt about the activities and services provided to the migrants and discussed proposed intervention plans for the forthcoming year.



Hamlet contemplates life and death in The Globe's performance to Yemeni refugees at Markazi Camp. ©UNHCR/A.Abdelkhalek, Jan.2016.

Shakespeare's theatre company *The Globe* performed Hamlet at Markazi refugee camp as part of its Globe-to-Globe world tour. The company chose Yemeni refugees in Djibouti since they could not themselves go to Yemen. Children and adults alike were mesmerized by the performance and the chance to meet renowned actors who interchanged various roles in a colourful and musical setting. It was a memorable day for all and a diversion from their day to day routine in the camp.

Border monitoring trends in the past weeks continue to reveal an increase in boats arriving from Aden. The majority of arrivals from Aden have declined from registering as refugees as they prefer to use Djibouti as a transit country before continuing on their respective journeys.

A head count to verify the numbers of refugees residing in the camp is currently being carried out by UNHCR and ONARS staff.

Since 26 March, IOM Djibouti has assisted 4,775 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. Since the last reporting period, the MRC in Obock received 42 migrants including eight unaccompanied children requesting assisted voluntary return. IOM also received a similar request from a citizen of Myanmar who self-evacuated from Yemen. IOM has provided accommodation for him in Djibouti city and is currently coordinating with IOM Myanmar and relevant authorities to facilitate his return.

On 19 January, IOM facilitated the return of the 12 year old Ethiopian girl who had arrived to Djibouti the previous week and the young man who had suffered from an accident in the mountains of Lac Asal. Both vulnerable cases returned to Ethiopia by air.

In cooperation with the Djibouti Red Crescent, IOM distributed 42 hygiene kits to migrants at the MRC and in partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council, IOM are rehabilitating the water points at the MRC.

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 205 migrants including 57 women and 30 unaccompanied children from the Oromo, Amara and Tigray ethnic communities were sensitized. A further 75 members of the host community were sensitized on the smuggling and human trafficking.

A football match between the refugees of Markazi camp and those of Ali Addeh refugee camp took place on Friday 15 January. The match was organized by ONARS and UNHCR to foster relations between all refugee communities in Djibouti and took place at the Obock stadium. IOM assisted in the organization by providing mattresses and non-food items to the refugees. On Saturday 23 January, a volleyball match was organized by IOM between the refugees and the migrants. It took place at the MRC.



Migrants and refugees play volleyball at the Migrant Response Centre during the weekend. ©IOM, Jan.2016.

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- From 13-26 January, UNHCR and ONARS registered 99 individuals (58 families) in Obock. The total number of refugees at Markazi camp has now reached 3,106 individuals (1049 families). Furthermore, as at 24 January 2016, a total of 1,091 urban refugees were registered in Djibouti city.
- Following the visit by the Ambassador of Canada to Markazi camp and during which the community leaders raised some security issues, UNHCR and ONARS organised a meeting to sensitise the community leaders on peaceful co-existence between them and the local community in addition to maintaining good relations with the police and gendarmerie of Obock. A protection incident information pathway was also discussed with the community leaders.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Through negotiations between UNHCR and the local council in Obock, birth certificates for six new-born refugees were issued during the reporting week. UNHCR is advocating for an additional five to be issued.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- From 12-26 January, a total of 585 refugees were treated at the Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) clinic in Markazi Camp. Six women have been following up at the maternal and child health unit for family planning and eight women visited the unit for prenatal consultations. The unit is supported by UNFPA.
- UNICEF purchased medical equipment and materials for the Centre Medical Hospitalier (CMH) in Obock, especially for the surgical block, in order to ensure that all Yemeni refugees in Djibouti, and particularly children and women, have access to adequate and timely healthcare services. The equipment includes hospital beds and mattresses, an infant incubator, stretchers, wheelchairs and medical devices.
- UNICEF delivered the second ambulance that would serve Obock and Markazi camp to the CMH on 23 January. To receive the medical equipment and the ambulance, a ceremony was hosted by the Minister of Health in cooperation with the Prefet of Obock, health staff working at the CMH and Markazi camp and community leaders. The Minister expressed his gratitude for the support of UNICEF which would improve the quality of care offered by the hospital and save lives especially for pregnant women.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- Primary classes for grades one to seven continue to take place at the Al Rahma school on a daily basis. During the reporting week, 292 students out of the total 328 students attended classes. Additionally, 47 students out of a registered 55 students attend the informal secondary school classes that take place in three temporary refugee housing units in Markazi camp and which are facilitated by Caritas. An additional 15 refugee students are enrolled in the Yemeni School in Djibouti city through the support of UNICEF.
- Mid-year exams were organized from 9 to 13 January. A total of 292 children sat for these exams indicating that the number of refugee children actually attending the Al Rahma school has decreased from the 328 students who were attending in December.
- A ceremony is planned to be organized on 28 January to remit prizes for outstanding students and to initiate the creation of a parents' committee.
- Using resources made available by UNHCR and UNICEF, LWF has recently provided Al Rahma with additional school furniture and educational materials to equip two classrooms and a library.
- Based on the refugees' request, UNHCR installed a fence around the secondary school RHUs in order to provide a better and quieter learning environment for the students. Yemeni secondary school manuals have been downloaded from the Internet, duplicated and provided to students to facilitate their learning.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a need for teachers of various qualifications for the secondary school in Markazi camp.
- The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) has registered 91 children and adolescents on a waiting list; these are mainly children of families who arrived to Markazi over the past 4 to 6 weeks. Among those 13 are above grade seven with little possibility of enrollment in school. Alternatively, they will be able to join the informal secondary education program.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- The monthly distribution of dry rations for January which was scheduled for 21 January took place on 22 and 23 January after heavy rains in Obock damaged 2.1 tons of wheat flour. WFP served 2,823 individuals residing in Markazi camp and Obock town. A distribution committee with representatives from WFP and UNHCR was present during distributions.
- WFP is replenishing its stock of High Energy Biscuits in Obock in order to be able to continue providing immediate assistance to new arrivals at the port.
- There are currently 82 children enrolled in the nutrition program in Markazi camp: 36 children with severe acute malnutrition and 46 with moderate acute malnutrition. These 46 children were provided with some 366 rations of porridge to sustain them.

- A campaign against anaemia was launched on 24 January following a recommendation by UNICEF and UNHCR. All children in the nutritional program receive iron supplement syrup in accordance to their weight as per the WHO's International Nutritional Anemia Consultative Group's (INACG) guide for Iron/Folic Acid distribution.
- On 20 January, AHA distributed 102 packets of mineral water and 60 packets of diapers to families with children under the age of two. The 102 children received formula milk after sensitization on its proper use was conducted. The milk had been provided by ONARS through a donation from the Ministry of Interior.



Ambassador of Canada to Djibouti and WFP regional delegation visit the health and nutrition centres at Markazi camp. ©UNHCR/A.Abdelkhalek, Jan.2016.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is an urgent need to construct a distribution site. During the last distribution, rains damaged a large portion of stock and with the forthcoming rise in temperature, refugees should be in comfortable conditions as they wait for their turn. Furthermore, the introduction of biometric ID checks, which UNHCR and ONARS are working on, will require a proper structure and crowd control systems.
- On 11 January, a meeting was held by the nutrition working group to discuss nutrition items stock out and actions to be taken, norms and procedures on BMS distribution in emergency settings and the nutrition surveys that were conducted in November and December 2015. Based on the meeting, AHA requested three month's need of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUFT) and super cereal to avoid a depletion of stock.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- A total of 188 latrines are functioning in Markazi camp in addition to 12 latrines built in Sector One by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) to replace the ones which were full.
- The NRC conducted a number of sensitization campaigns during the reporting week. The first was a hygiene campaign on 18 January sensitizing the refugee community on hand washing and the washing of vegetables and kitchen utensils. Cleaning of jerry cans and promoting the importance of jerry can cleanliness was also promoted to protect the refugees from water contamination at the household level. The second was for the cleaning and maintenance of latrines, in particular after the heavy rains on 21 and 22 January. Also, further to the distribution of barrels for the disposal of household wastes, a sensitization campaign was organized on 19 January, based on which the community agreed to place the barrels in the middle of the sector boundaries.
- Through the mobilization of the refugee community, NRC facilitated the cleaning of the water distribution point in Sector Three on 20 January. The community was also sensitized on water management.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and ONARS have distributed 240 Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) in Markazi camp to date.
- The NRC completed the construction of 65 kitchens which are ready for use. Four additional kitchens are currently under construction.

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 new 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.



Hamlet's Globe to Globe tour performing to Yemeni refugees and migrants at Markazi camp.
©UNHCR/A.Abdelkhalek, Jan.2016.

Contacts:

Amira Abd El-Khalek, External Relations and Reporting Officer, abdelkha@unhcr.org
Regional portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/yemen/regional.php>

Cell +253 77 22 61 36
Twitter: @UNHCRDjibouti