

# DJIBOUTI

## INTER-AGENCY UPDATE FOR THE RESPONSE TO THE YEMENI SITUATION #28

11 November 2015

### HIGHLIGHTS

- UNHCR has set up 300 new refugee housing units in Markazi Camp to accommodate the new arrivals. Since 29 September and as of 08 November, 2,061 individuals have registered with UNHCR.
- According to the latest available statistics from IOM and the Government of Djibouti, 30,004 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 12 November (since 26 March). Of those, 16,194 persons (54 per cent) are Yemeni nationals, 11,902 (40 per cent) are transiting migrants and 1,908 persons (6 per cent) are Djiboutian returnees.
- As of 10 November, UNHCR and ONARS registered 5,894 refugees of which 5,700 are Yemeni nationals; the majority was registered in Obock. There are a total of 2642 refugees sheltered in Markazi refugee camp. The remaining refugees live in Obock and Djibouti city.

### KEY FIGURES

**5,894**

Refugees registered since the outbreak of the crisis

**2,585**

Registered females.

**2,260**

Registered children and adolescents.

### Population of concern

A total of **5,894** 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	292	315	438	440	367	338	2004	1215	127	164	5,700
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	8	11	11	5	11	23	51	3	9	136
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	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Sudan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>1280</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>5,894</b>

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 activities.

## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### Operational Context and Migration

The pace of arrivals in Obock has decreased compared to the month of October. From 01 November to 10 November, a total of 68 new refugees (38 families) registered with UNHCR. This may be due to the warnings on Cyclone Chapala and Tropical Cyclone Megh. UNHCR has been working with the authorities and with partners to inform the refugees in Markazi camp and the host community in Obock about the cyclone and its possible effect on Djibouti. UNHCR cautioned refugees against movements to and from Obock and refugees informed their relatives in Yemen to refrain from movements in and out of Yemen until the cyclone clears. UNHCR and partners were on standby in preparation for the cyclone in case of need: WFP with dry food rations, UNHCR with non-food items and shelter and ONARS, the government refugee agency, with trucks ready to transport people and aid items, and NRC with non-food items in its stockpile in Dubai. The cyclone has passed without damage to Djibouti; however partners are on standby in case of need.

Sector Four of Markazi camp which hosts the new arrivals from the recent influx of the past month is now equipped with two mobile clinics, donated by the King Salman Centre and managed by Al Rahma. An inaugural ceremony co-chaired by the Ministry of Health of Djibouti and the Executive Director of the King Salman Centre took place on 08 November.

His Excellency Tatsuo ARAI, Ambassador of Japan, visited Markazi camp on 04 November. He was accompanied by UNHCR Representative Mr. Paul Ndaitouroum. The Ambassador met UNHCR staff from Djibouti and the field office. His Excellency was given a tour of the camp to observe the recent developments and an opportunity to meet with the Yemeni refugees. The Ambassador of Japan also visited the IOM Migrant Response Centre (MRC) in Obock.

Since 26 March, IOM Djibouti has assisted 4,533 migrants. This number includes 2,257 persons evacuated on IOM chartered boats from Yemen and 95 persons evacuated on an IOM chartered flight from Yemen to Mogadishu via Djibouti.

From 03 to 10 November, the MRC in Obock received 36 migrants including 11 UAMs requesting assisted voluntary return to Ethiopia. Furthermore, some 50 Ethiopian migrants, including 14 unaccompanied minors (UAMs), who had sought IOM assistance for their voluntary return were taken to Djibouti city from Obock for documentation at the Ethiopian Embassy on 11 November and are to be transferred to Galafi border post on 12 November. IOM also provided support to a Cameroonian migrant to return home on 07 November. He was provided with shelter, medical assistance, documentation, logistics and transportation by air to the Cameroon.

IOM Djibouti continues to raise awareness on the dangers related to irregular migration and on the current situation in Yemen. During the reporting week, a total of 112 migrants including 18 women were sensitized on dangers of illegal migration and the host communities on human trafficking.

A UNFPA representative visited the MRC in Obock on 10 November to discuss ways to increase partnership between IOM and UNFPA with regards to victims of abuse.

### Protection

#### Achievements and Impact

- From 29 September to 10 November, UNHCR Obock registered 2,109 individuals (593 families). This brings the total of refugees at Markazi camp to 2,690 individuals (776 families).
- Refugees who have registered in Djibouti has reached 864 individuals (457 families) as of 10 November.
- 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. During the reporting week, 78 refugees at the port of Djibouti benefitted from the service.

### Achievements and Impact

- The Djiboutian Ministry of Health, the Yemeni Minister of Infrastructure and the Executive Director of the King Salman Centre for Relief and Humanitarian Aid inaugurated two mobile health clinics for Markazi camp in Obock on 08 November. The clinics were set up and equipped in the newly established Sector Four of Markazi camp to benefit the growing refugee population. The two health clinics will be managed by Al Rahma.
- The Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) health centre in Markazi camp treated 149 patients (17 boys and 19 girls under five years; 45 female and 68 male) during the reporting period.
- To enhance community engagement and ownership, AHA held a meeting with community leaders from the four sectors of Markazi camp in an effort to establish a health committee composed of one male and one female representative of each sector. On 08 November, the first meeting of the health committee was held. The committee will meet regularly every month with AHA staff; it will also be responsible for identifying candidates for various voluntary and incentive-based services in Markazi camp.



King Salman Centre for Relief inaugurate the mobile health clinics that they established in Markazi camp ©UNHCR/A. Mnawar, Nov. 2015

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Transport of patients to and from Markazi camp remains a challenge. Patients and staff walk long distances in difficult weather conditions, or use unreliable private services for transportation to reach the health facilities in Obock city. The daily transport of patients to and from the camp for lab tests and to facilitate referral cases from Obock to Djibouti city, requires the approval of local authorities and Obock Hospital. At least one vehicle or an ambulance is needed for the health and nutrition programmes to take place on a regular and uninterrupted basis.



## Food Security and Nutrition

### Achievements and Impact

- On 03 November, WFP provided food assistance to 42 newly registered refugees (12 families) who had not yet arrived when the previous dry food ration distribution had taken place on 18 October. The new arrivals to the camp were given enough rations to last them until the forthcoming distribution, which is scheduled towards 18 November.
- Based on the nutritional needs of refugees, especially children, UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP, AHA and the National Nutrition Programme (PNN) have established a new nutrition unit at Markazi camp. The unit will be launched on 15 November. AHA, through the financial and technical support of UNHCR and UNICEF will run the unit until 31 December 2015. UNICEF and UNHCR will continue to mobilise funds to ensure that the unit remains functional after December 2015.
- The new nutrition unit will be used as a basis for all preventive and curative nutrition activities. This includes the management of acute malnutrition cases, promotion of adequate infant and young child feeding practices, and prevention of malnutrition through supplementary feeding. Children suffering from severe acute malnutrition with medical complications such as pneumonia and diarrhea will however continue to be referred to, and hospitalized at, CMH Obock. UNICEF has deployed an international health specialist to Obock to support the unit.
- Through the support of UNHCR and UNICEF, a nutritional screening of 281 children under five in Markazi camp took place from 02-04 November. A total of 15 children were found with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 40 with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). All children affected by Severe Acute Malnutrition are receiving the necessary care and treatment at the *Centre Medical Hospitalier* (CMH) Obock through the support of UNICEF.
- Following the screening, on 08 November, UNHCR and AHA led a coordination meeting with UNICEF, WFP and PNN to develop a strategic common response and action plan to the malnutrition situation in Markazi camp.
- On 09 November, AHA, through the support of UNICEF, PNN and UNHCR kicked off a two-day training programme for 25 community health promoters from different partners intervening in Markazi to tackle the issue of malnutrition management in the community.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The nutrition unit requires necessary equipment and supplies to respond to the needs of the refugee population, particularly children and mothers who are among the most vulnerable. UNICEF will ensure the provision of supplies such as PlumpyNut for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition; screening tools; furniture; and will cover the cost of training sessions. WFP will provide this unit with all necessary supplies for the management of moderate acute malnutrition such as supercereal and supercereal plus.




## Education

### Achievements and Impact

- The number of Yemeni refugee children attending the Al Rahma school in Obock has increased to 185 students enrolled from first to seventh grade. The majority of students are female (61 per cent). Al Rahma and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) with UNICEF have begun furnishing six additional classrooms so as to move to a single morning shift for pupils. Refugee children currently go to school in the afternoons after the children of Obock have had their morning classes. UNHCR and Al Rahma buses transport the children to the school.

### Identified needs and remaining Gaps

- There is a demand from the refugee community to establish eighth and ninth grades for refugee children. The Al-Rahma school administration with the educational working group is working on responding to this need.



## Water and Sanitation

### Achievements and Impact

- Several hygiene kit distributions were carried out by the Djibouti Red Crescent (CRD), the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) during the reporting week: DRC conducted a tent-by-tent distribution of basic hygiene kits to families in Markazi camp on 02 November. A total of 469 kits were distributed. On 03 and 04 November, NRC distributed 150 hygiene kits to newly arrived refugees with the support of UNHCR and ONARS. The kits mainly target women and contain basic hygiene and sanitary items together with a basin and a jar. On 08 November, CRD distributed standard hygiene kits to 18 persons (nine men and nine women with four babies) at the port of Djibouti. The kits which consist of soap, towels and baby diapers among other items are distributed to new arrivals.
- CRD continues to conduct hygiene promotion sessions at the Migrant Response Centre (MRC) in Obock and at Markazi camp. These sessions include handwashing, latrine use and environment management.
- Following its five-day children's personal cleanliness campaign in Markazi camp from 27 October, DRC held a hygiene promotion for adults from 01 to 07 November. The campaign promotes handwashing, personal hygiene and cleanliness.
- The third weekly camp clean-up day took place on 04 November through the lead of DRC and in collaboration with NRC, UNHCR and ONARS and refugees. The day is to promote the benefits of garbage collection and environment management of the camp.
- NRC has completed digging 47 pits out of 60 family shared pit latrines planned for the month of November. These are sited in Sector Four where most new arrivals are accommodated. The latrines are excavated and built with the participation of the community.
- NRC is currently recruiting hygiene promoters in Markazi camp in order to improve water management in the camp. The promoters will also sensitize the camp community on the risks of water borne diseases.



## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and ONARS in collaboration with NRC and implementing partners in Markazi camp have erected 300 Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) which were received as a donation from the Qatari Red Crescent. The set-up of RHUs was completed on 04 November 2015. A quality check is currently being done before allocating them to the refugee population.

## 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.

#### Contacts:

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

Cell +253 77 22 61 36  
Twitter: @UNHCRDjibouti