SOMALIA TASK FORCE ON YEMEN SITUATION

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE #2

19 January - 01 February 2016

KEY FIGURES

30,728

Arrivals from Yemen since 27
March at the early onset of the crisis

4,424

Yemeni prima facie refugees registered in Somalia since 27 March (including Somalis with dual Somali-Yemeni citizenship)

19,042

Arrivals registered at Reception Centers in Berbera, Bossaso and Mogadishu since 27 March

53%

Registered arrivals expressing intention to return to Mogadishu

9,881

Somali returnees provided with onward transportation assistance since 27 March

FUNDING

USD 84 million

Requested for the Somalia Response Plan for Yemen Crisis (April-December 2015)

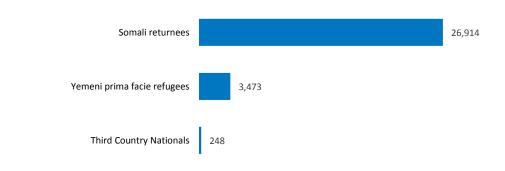


HIGHLIGHTS

During the reporting period, there were a total of 168 new arrivals from Yemen recorded in Somalia: 53 individuals in Berbera, Somaliland, and 115 in Bossaso, Puntland. Out of this total number of new arrivals, 149 were registered by UNHCR in collaboration with local authorities and partners in the Berbera and Bossaso Reception Centers.

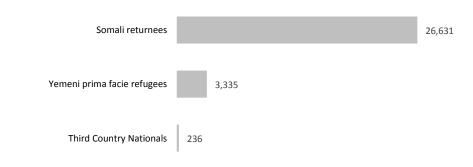
Population of concern

A total of 30,728 people of concern

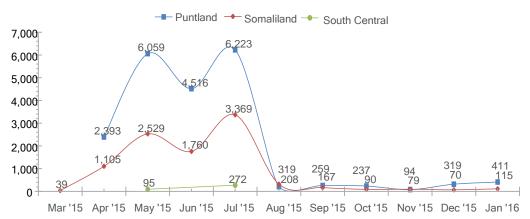


2015 Population of concern

A total of 30,202 people of concern in 2015



ARRIVALS PER MONTH



Month	Total # of Arrivals
Mar 2015	39
Apr 2015	3,498
May 2015	8,683
Jun 2015	6,276
Jul 2015	9,864
Aug 2015	527
Sep 2015	426
Oct 2015	327
Nov 2015	173
Dec 2015	389
Jan 2016	526
Total	30,728

ARRIVALS PER NATIONALITY AND GENDER/AGE

Nationality	Puntland	Somaliland	South Central	Total	
Bahrain	5			5	0 %
Djibouti	7	1		8	0 %
England	3	1		4	0 %
Ethiopia	79	114		193	1 %
India	2			2	0 %
Iraq	1			1	0 %
Kenya	7			7	0 %
Lebanon		1		1	0 %
Libya		2		2	0 %
Pakistan		1		1	0 %
Palestine		2		2	0 %
Somalia	18,836	7,804	367	27,007	88 %
Sudan	3			3	0 %
Syria	2	11		13	0 %
Tanzania		1		1	0 %
Turkey	1			1	0 %
USA	2	2		4	0 %
Yemen	1,756	1,717		3,473	11 %
Total	20,704	9,657	367	30,728	100 %
	67.38 %	31.43 %	1.19 %		

	Arrived to				
G/A	PL	SL	SC	Total	
Children	8,601	4,501	23	13,125	43 %
Females	6,266	2,595	123	8,984	30 %
Males	5,694	2,561	112	8,367	27 %
Total	20,561	9,657	258	30,476	100 %
	67.47 %	31.69 %	0.85 %		

Note: not all individuals that arrived remained to be registered. The figures shown here reflect those who have chosen to have their bio data collected

INTENDED AREAS OF RETURN OF REGISTERED ARRIVALS

	First Po				
Areas of Intended Return	Puntland	Somaliland	South Central	Total	
Mogadishu	5,026	5,071	0	10,097	53 %
Hargeisa	369	1,910	0	2,279	12 %
Bossaso	739	251	0	990	5 %
Baidoa	458	156	0	614	3 %
Kismaayo	403	187	0	590	3 %
Afgooye	271	124	0	395	2 %
Other locations	2,114	1,901	62	4,007	21 %
Total Arrivals Registered at Reception Centers	9,380	9,600	62	19,042	100 %

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

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On 21 January, the 'Fathul Khair' docked at the port of Bossaso with 14 individuals on board, 13 Somali returnees and one Yemeni national. Six people were registered at Reception Center 2 and the remaining eight directly joined the community.

On 25 January, the 'Shamis 3' from Mukala arrived in Bossaso Port, carrying 101 individuals. Their nationality breakdown as follows: 70 Somali returnees, 26 Yemeni refugees and five Bahrainis.

The year 2016 has begun with the number of people (Somalis in Yemen included) arriving in Puntland from Yemen on the rise compared to the number of arrivals in November and December 2015. Six boats, with a total of 411 individuals (including Yemenis and other Third Country Nationals), have arrived in the first three weeks of January, compared to the 266 total arrivals of the last two months of 2015.

It is still being reported that some Yemenis who have arrived in Bossaso intend to return to Yemen, and particularly Aden, which has been recovered by the coalition forces.

SOMALILAND

This reporting period saw the arrival of three boats in Berbera: on 23 January 2016 (21 individuals), on 28 January (24 new arrivals), and on 30 January (eight individuals).

On 23 January 2016, a boat carrying 21 individuals (19 Households), 20 Yemenis and one Somalia, arrived in Berbera, Somaliland. The new arrivals had departed from Malaa port (Aden) at 6:00 PM on 22 January 2016 on the 'Al-Mubarak' and reached the Somaliland coast at 5:00 PM on 23 January, for a crossing lasting 23 hours. The vessel was able to dock on the same day at 5:30 pm. The new arrivals reported that they left Yemen due to war raging in Aden. No cases of armed, physical violence or GBV were reported. The new arrivals reported that they had paid 100 USD for their journey.

The new arrivals that arrived on 28 January comprised 24 individuals (17 Households), 17 Yemenis, 7 Somalis. They had departed from Malaa port (Aden) at 5:00 pm on 26 January 2016 on the 'Daha' and reached Somaliland coast line at 7:00 pm on 27th January 2016. The vessel was able to dock only the next day at 9:00 am (no port staff working during the night). The new arrivals reported no cases of armed, physical violence or GBV and that that they had paid 100 USD for their journey. After vulnerability assessment was carried out, Onward Transportation Assistance (OTA) was provided to six persons who could manage to travel on their own.

The new arrivals of 30 January comprised eight individuals (eight households), two Yemenis, two Somalis and four Ethiopians. They had departed from Malaa port (Aden) at 4:00 pm on 28 January 2016 on the 'Noba Two' and reached the Somaliland coast line at 9:00 pm on 29th January 2016. The vessel was able to dock only the next day at 9:00 am (no port staff working during the night). The new arrivals reported no cases of armed, physical violence or GBV and that they paid 100 USD for their journey. In all three cases, the new arrivals were provided drinking water and taken to the Reception Center, where UNHCR partner (Danish Refugee Council) DRC provided them with food and water. When the boats arrived, several agencies including DRC, IOM, Somaliland Red Crescent Society (SRCS), government agencies and the immigration office were at the port and received the new arrivals.

Since March 2015, a total of 9,632 new arrivals (3,077 families) have been recorded in Somaliland, including 1,698 Yemenis, 7791 Somalis, 110 Ethiopians, and 22 people of other nationalities. The number of new arrivals in Berbera, Somaliland, remains relatively low.

Registration

Between 11 and 31 Jan 2016, 79 Yemeni refugees (20 cases) and 34 (11 cases) Yemeni asylum seekers (Yemenis who arrived in Somaliland before 28 March 2015) have been registered in Hargeisa by the Ministry of Resettlements, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (MRR&R).

A total of 2,841 Yemeni Prima Facie refugees (1,428 cases) have been registered with UNHCR SO Hargeisa as of 31 January 2016. A total of 34 prima facie refugee certificates have been distributed among Yemenis during the current month, while the Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (MRR&R) has signed 817 outstanding Prima Facie certificates for Yemenis.

Achievements



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UNHCR partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) has started the distribution of subsistence cash allowances targeting 454 Yemeni refugee households in Bossaso, Gardo, Garowe and Badhan. DRC has also been providing emergency refreshment for the new arrivals at the point of entry, while the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) has facilitated new arrivals with free phone calls to enable them communicate with their families back in Yemen or in South/Central and Somaliland.

UNHCR completed registration of 90 individuals from the last boat arrival of 25th January. Out of the 90 new arrivals received at reception center, 64 Somali returnees underwent bio-metric registration and 26 Yemeni refugees were registered in ProGress.

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Reprieve for foreigners facing arrest and deportation

In a letter dated 26 January, the Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (MRR&R) of Somaliland announced that Hargeisa had decided to reconsider its decision on 2 January 2016 regarding expulsions of foreigners living in the country without a legal status. The Government of Somaliland has now extended the deadline by 30 days, to 25 February. By that date, foreigners who wish to stay must either register their businesses or apply for a worker's permit, a student visa, or a temporary resident visa.

The preceding week had seen massive arrests and deportations of Ethiopians (asylum seekers, refugees and economic migrants) throughoutin Somaliland, especially in Hargeisa and Burao. In total, 1,037 people had been arrested. With the support of UNHCR partner Legal Clinic, all Ethiopian asylum seekers and refugees had been released after proving their status to immigration authorities. Also, Somalis from South-Central had been asked by Somaliland Immigration to return to South-Central if they do not have any resident or work permit allowing them to stay. No Yemenis have been arrested.

UNHCR SO Hargeisa - with the support of partners DRC, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Somaliland (CCBRS), Africa Action Help International (AAHI), IOM, Migration Resource Centre (MRC) and Legal Clinic - have raised awareness among refugees and asylum seekers on the importance of carrying their original of the refugee/AS document at all times, also advising them to approach immediately the MRR&R for the renewal of the documents in case they have expired or been lost. UNHCR registration staff and MRRR staff are ensuring the renewal of all asylum seeker/refugee certificates (167 refugee cases have been renewed just yesterday). UNHCR had also sent a letter of protest to the Ministers of Interior and MRR&R and the Director of Immigration asking why they initiated the arrests before the 1 February 2016 deadline that had previously been announced by TV, radio and press.



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Health assistance for Somali returnees in transit (specifically children) remains to be a gap since Save the Children International (SCI) has announced that due to budget constraints they could not continue providing such assistance at the reception center.

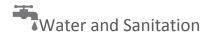
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Among the 28 January new arrivals, three medical cases were referred to IOM for assistance (two persons suffering from gastritis, one from tonsillitis), while eight medical cases were referred to IOM assistance (one person suffering from dermatitis, and seven from other conditions) among the 30- January arrivals.

Food Security and Nutrition

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WFP has resumed its wet feeding programme for the new arrivals at Reception Centre 2 through their partner Puntland Students Association (PSA). Three meals are provided per day for five (5) days starting from the day of arrival.



PUNTLAND

IOM continues to provide drinking water for the new arrivals at the reception center. Starting from February 2016, Mercy USA will be providing drinking water at the Reception Centre for an initial three months. According to the center management there is no water scarcity at the center now.



Shelter and NFIs

SOMALILAND

Mercy USA on 24 January distributed 100 family tents, assorted non-food items (NFIs) and hygiene kits to Yemeni refugee families in Bossaso following a joint selection process conducted by Mercy USA, UNHCR, Ministry of the Interior and Yemeni community leaders. The items provided will enable the Yemeni refugees to benefit from more adequate accommodation and improved protection and dignity.





Distribution of NFIs in Bossaso, photographs courtesy of Mercy USA



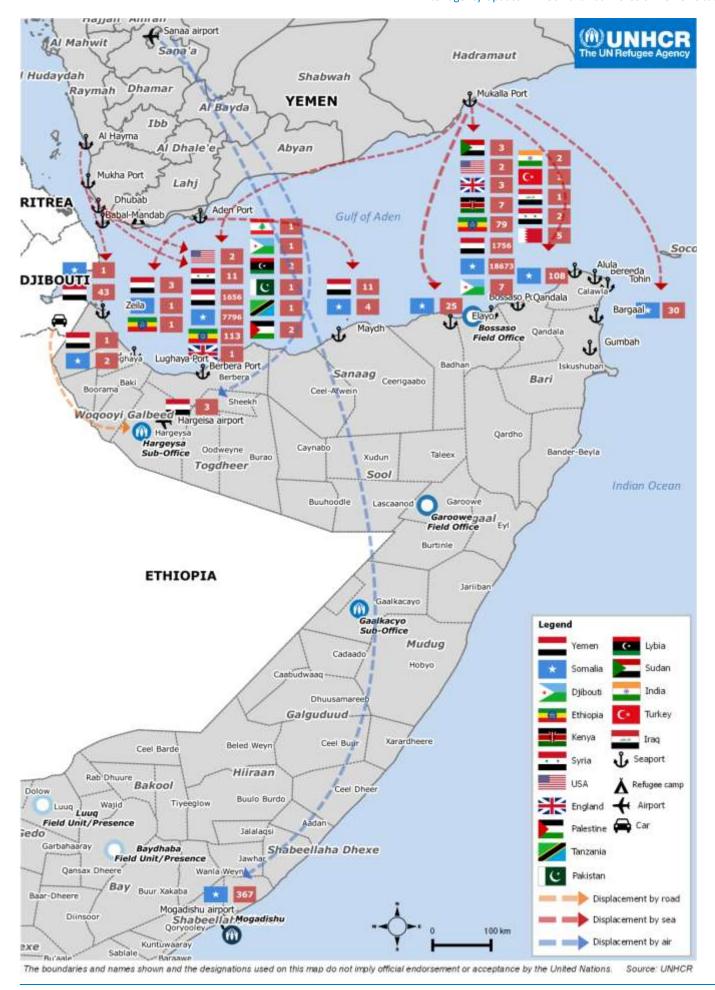
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A total of 65 Somali Returnees have been provided OTA in order to enable them to go back to their area of origin in other locations/States/Regions in Somalia.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Somalia Response Plan for Yemen Crisis (April – December 2015) was released on 4 June and shared with donors, governments and partners. 11 UN agencies and NGOs participate in the inter-agency response. The Response Plan can be accessed at http://goo.gl/pVH7da. Total funding received to date is USD 8.2 M (approximately 10% of total approved budget).

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 situation: European Union | Italy | Japan | Sweden | United Kingdom | United States of America



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