

# DJIBOUTI

## INTER-AGENCY UPDATE FOR THE RESPONSE TO THE YEMEN SITUATION #44

21 June – 16 July 2016

### HIGHLIGHTS

- According to the latest available statistics from IOM and the Djibouti government, 35,862 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 16 July 2016 (since 26 March 2015). Of those, 19,936 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 16 July 2016, there are 3,568 refugees currently in Djibouti (pending forthcoming verification exercises in Obock town and Djibouti city). Markazi camp hosts over 1,400 refugees.

### KEY FIGURES

**3,568**

Refugees currently hosted in Djibouti pending further physical verification exercises

**1,616**

Registered females.

**1,283**

Registered children and adolescents.

Currently, a total of **3,568** persons of concern

### 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

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	137	159	264	267	189	172	1174	765	91	95	3,313
Syria				1	1	1	1				4
Somalia	7	10	13	13	6	18	34	83	3	9	196
Eritrea	4	1	3	2	4	3	12	11		1	41
Ethiopia	1	1	2			1	3	2			10
Iraq			1		2			1			4
<b>Total</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>1224</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>3568</b>

All figures are provisional and still subject to change.

## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### Operational Context and Migration

UNHCR carries out regular border monitoring in Djibouti by observing activities at Obock port as well as entry points along the villages north of Obock. UNHCR has observed a decrease in new arrivals compared to previous months; this may be due to the harsh weather conditions in Obock. Meanwhile, UNHCR continues to advise refugees in Markazi camp on the dangers of return to Yemen. The number of Yemeni refugees spontaneously returning to their places of origin, mainly Bab Al Mandab and Aden, has significantly decreased. Based on returned refugee cards and attestations, only 30 refugees returned in June compared to 158 in May, and 846 returns from February to April.

The conditions of return continue to be unsafe. Refugees have realized this and are heading back to Djibouti. In June, 44 refugees returned from Yemen and re-registered with ONARS and UNHCR. Those who returned to Djibouti informed UNHCR that they did so because of the insecurity persisting in their areas of return and the lack of access to basic services.

The Day of the African Child was celebrated across the three refugee camps of Djibouti including Markazi camp on 16 June. The central theme was “Conflict and Crisis in Africa: Protecting all Children’s Rights”. The celebration was organised by the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) with the participation of UNHCR, ONARS and partners operating in the camps. Children from the various refugee communities sang songs, recited poems and performed short skits.

In terms of migration, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) resumed its assisted voluntary return activities at the Migrant Response Centre (MRC) in Obock. From 10 July 2016, the MRC received 22 migrants requesting return to their places of origin including two females and four unaccompanied minors. Furthermore, in coordination with Yemen and Ethiopia, an evacuation mission was organized by IOM Djibouti from Hodeidah port in Yemen to Obock then onwards to Ethiopia. On 14 July, a group of 150 migrants, including 90 women, 54 unaccompanied minors and six migrants requiring medical assistance, were transferred to the Galafi border post where IOM Ethiopia will assist them to reach their final destinations and provide medical assistance to those in need.



Migrants arrive to Djibouti from Yemen by boat through evacuation missions organized by IOM. ©IOM/July 2016.

### Protection

#### Achievements and Impact

- From 21 June to 16 July, UNHCR and ONARS registered 34 Yemeni individuals (14 families) in Obock and Djibouti city, in addition to seven Somalis (two families) and four Iraqi Individuals (one family) in Obock.
- The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) carries out protection case management of individual cases in Markazi camp and counseling services to refugees in Markazi, in collaboration with UNHCR, the *Union Nationale des Femmes Djiboutiennes* (UNFD) and relevant stakeholders. Protection case management includes distribution of non-food items (NFIs) for refugees in need and counseling take place twice a week on Sundays and Wednesdays. So far, no refugees have approached DRC for counseling so DRC plans to raise awareness among the community to inform them of the new service.

- Through its protection activities, and within the framework of a UNHCR-funded project, DRC is tasked with liaising with a newly established sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV, mainly domestic violence) community-based committee which was formed in June 2016. The committee is formed of seven women and six men who were identified with the support of the refugee community, UNFD and UNHCR, as well as through an awareness campaign on gender-based violence and child protection conducted in April through the support of UNICEF.
- On 24 June, DRC provided a training for the SGBV committee members and UNFD staff on the legal framework in Djibouti and the most common forms of SGBV, mainly domestic violence. The training was presented by a lawyer. DRC also gave an interactive presentation on how to refer protection cases within the camp and the role of organisations operating in the camp. A total of 22 participants attended the training which took place in Obock. They were representatives from ONARS, UNFD, LWF and DRC, 12 refugee community members, members of the SGBV community-based committee representing the four sectors of the camp and urban refugees in Obock.
- From 07-14 July, UNHCR, DRC and UNFD handled a case of domestic violence involving a male and female refugee of Sector One of Markazi camp. On 07 July, the woman's statement was taken by UNHCR and an assessment was carried out by UNFD following her request for assistance. Her case was referred to a Muslim cleric who granted her a divorce on 14 July. Since 07 July, the woman who had feared for her security had been hosted by a neighbor in the camp with the protection of the gendarmerie.
- On 11 July in Djibouti city, DRC presented the results of a needs-assessment conducted among urban refugees during the month of June to identify the most pressing concerns among urban refugees in Djibouti city on protection needs, documentation, education, and access to employment, housing and health facilities. A total of 31 persons including representatives of the Government of Djibouti, UN agencies and international NGOs attended the presentation. Through the assessment, and in close collaboration with LWF because of their experience with urban refugees, DRC was able to identify the most urgent needs in terms of NFIs. DRC plans to purchase and distribute required NFIs in the forthcoming weeks.

## Health

### Achievements and Impact

- During the past month, from 16 June to 15 July, 704 refugees were treated at the Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) outpatient clinic in Markazi camp mostly suffering from respiratory tract infections and skin infections. These comprised 428 males and 276 females. Eleven refugees were transferred to Djibouti for tertiary care and seven newly arrived children were vaccinated, amongst them three against measles.
- Some 11 refugees consulted the mental health clinic during the reporting period. Additionally, nine women consulted the family planning unit and five women had prenatal consultations. Three babies were born and sadly a two-month old child passed away as she was being transferred by emergency speed boat to a hospital in Djibouti.

## Education

### Achievements and Impact

- Pupils and students of Markazi camp are currently on summer vacation until the beginning of the new academic year in September 2016. Refugee education is managed by UNHCR partner LWF and children attend primary school classes at Al-Rahma School close to the camp. An informal secondary school set up in Markazi camp was managed by CARITAS. On 17 June, CARITAS handed over the management of secondary school education activities in Markazi camp to LWF.
- On 03 July, the Australian Lutheran World Service, a delegation of donors from the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), visited UNHCR and Markazi camp in order to learn more about, and to fundraise for, the Yemen situation. The delegation composed of 10 persons amongst whom were eight teachers from Australia, met with refugee leaders in

the camp. The Australian Lutheran World Service were in Djibouti from 28 June to 07 July where they visited the three refugee camps and met with urban refugees in Djibouti city.

## Food Security and Nutrition

### Achievements and Impact

- From 16-30 June, there were eight cases of severe acute malnutrition (six boys and two girls) and 18 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (six boys and 12 girls) receiving treatment at the nutrition unit in Markazi camp with 140 children under five years and 34 pregnant and lactating women benefitting from the blanket supplementary feeding programme. From 01-15 July, a total of 130 children under five years and 42 pregnant and lactating women were supported through the blanket feeding programme. Children receive three kilograms of super cereal every two weeks and women receive one and a half kilograms of super cereal every week. The blanket feeding programme is made possible through the collaboration of nutrition partners WFP, UNICEF, AHA and UNHCR.
- On 21 June, ONARS received a generous food donation from Al Rahma NGO. The donation covered 300 households and contained an equal amount of rations for all families regardless of the size of the household. The donation consisted of 25 kilograms of sugar, 25 kilograms of wheat flour, 25 kilograms of rice, six litres of vegetable oil and two kilograms of dates.
- On 22 June the Saudi NGO, World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY), distributed rations to 500 families; and on 25 June, the Yemeni NGO, the Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) distributed food items to 150-200 families of urban refugees. The distributions were done in coordination with ONARS.
- In view of all the food donations distributed during the holy month of Ramadan, WFP, in collaboration with ONARS, postponed its monthly distribution.

## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

- Based on a protection assessment, UNHCR partner DRC distributes non-food items on a case-by-case basis. From 01-15 July, DRC distributed five water coolers to five elderly persons in Markazi camp.
- On 01 July, a private donor distributed clothes for women and children, soft drinks and cash (2,000 Djiboutian francs per household/approximately 12 dollars) to 250 families in Markazi camp. The donor distributed the same items to refugees living in Obock.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In early July, very strong winds hit Markazi camp causing limited damage to privacy fences constructed around the tents and the refugee housing units (RHUs). During the night of 01 July, the RHU used by the Gendarmerie in the camp was blown away by strong winds and dragged for over 40 meters. The RHU had been moved and incorrectly reinstalled without the consent of UNHCR. Furthermore, a tent in the camp also collapsed because of the wind causing minor injuries on its occupant.
- UNHCR is currently setting up technical solutions for heat mitigation, pursuing the work initiated by UNHCR's Regional Site Planner during his visit to Markazi camp in June.



Strong Khamaseen winds hit Markazi camp in July. ©UNHCR/N. Lashermes, July 2016.

## Water and Sanitation

### Achievements and Impact

- The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) continues to provide water to refugees of Markazi camp through water trucking and chlorination ensuring the population has 20 litres of potable water per person per day. Sensitization campaigns on water hygiene and usage are done on a regular basis every week with the dissemination of key messages to ensure refugees maintain clean utensils, wash their hands regularly and do not waste water. Weekly hygiene campaigns, especially cleaning of jerry cans, also take place every week.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR partner NRC, finalized the maintenance of latrines damaged by strong winds hitting Markazi camp, and constructed roofs for 40 latrines funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). NRC also began the pit excavation of 30 new latrines funded by UNHCR.
- NRC manages solid waste in Markazi camp. Solid waste management is carried out every five days in Markazi camp. NRC has distributed dumpsters across the camp for garbage collection and a general cleaning campaign takes place regularly in the camp, especially around the water points, with the participation of the refugee community.

## 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.



A delegation of teachers and staff from the Australian Lutheran World Service talk to refugees and partners at Markazi camp to learn more about the Yemen situation with the aim of advocacy and fundraising in Australia. ©UNHCR/N. Lashermes, July 2016.

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