

DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

UNHCR DADAAB BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

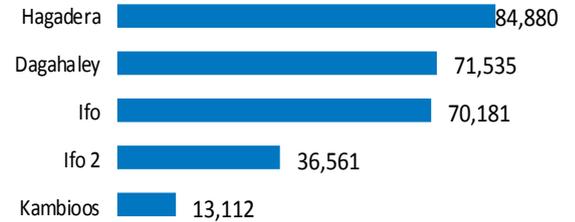
16 - 31 December 2016

UPDATES

Population as of 31st December 2016: **275,529**

Refugees: 272,957

Asylum seekers: 2,572



HIGHLIGHTS

Voluntary repatriation

- In total, as of 31st December, 39,316 Somali refugees had returned home since 8th December 2014, when UNHCR started supporting voluntary return of Somali refugees in Kenya, out of which 33,725 were supported in 2016 alone. The number of flights has been significantly increased as it remains the only mean of transportation to Somalia. Returns movements by air are organised to Mogadishu, Kismayu and Baidoa.
- UNHCR Dadaab will resume road movements to Somalia on 16th January 2017 and the plan is to organize four convoys a week (each convoy will carry 350 – 500 refugees).
- Verification, assessment and screening is ongoing for the registered refugees who have protection, health concerns and People with Specific Needs. These cases will be verified before being processed at the voluntary repatriation desk.



Six-year-old Sidahmed was happy as his parents check in for the flight that took them home to Mogadishu, Somalia under UNHCR voluntary repatriation program.

Relocation to Kakuma

- UNHCR Dadaab had a meeting with the Gambella community in Ifo camp on 17th December in order to update them and clarify their concerns relating to the relocation process. They had some concerns with the postponement of their relocation which should have started on 16th December 2016, as they were the next group scheduled for relocation.
- The relocation flights for the non-Somali refugees will most likely resume in the second week of January 2017. Dadaab office is working on the preparation of manifests and sharing information with the community leaders in coordination with Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) and other partners involved. The relocation will start with 1,401 refugees of the Gambella community from Ethiopia who are ready to be relocated.

UPDATES

Protection

- **Registration:** The Civil Registrar's office was on mission from 4th to 16th December for notification and issuance of civil documents in the camps. During the mission, a total of 2,009 birth certificates (1,565 Current/444 Late) were processed, while 124 home births were notified. No death certificates were processed, but this will be done during the next mission, which is scheduled for the end of January 2017.

As of the end of December 2016, a total of 12,475 birth certificates had been processed (representing 96% progress towards the annual target of 13,000 certificates).

- **Continuous Registration:** During the reporting period, a total of 208 individuals had their records activated in UNHCR database. These cases had been identified as vulnerable and had been inactive within one year as of 10th August 2016, when the Population Fixing exercise came to a close.

A total of 248 babies were registered during this period, 32 of whom were assigned in situ birth status.

- **New Arrivals Registration:** Four new arrivals from Somalia were registered in the UNHCR database after acquiring referral slips from the Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS). The individuals were persons with serious medical concerns and their registration was advocated for by UNHCR.
- **Double Registration:** On 16th December, a Public Announcement was circulated by Cabinet Secretary for Interior and Coordination of National Government Maj. Gen. Joseph Nkaisserry on Double Registration to clear the double registered persons from the refugees' database.

Following the announcement, a vetting committee has been constituted on 17th December 2016 by Deputy County Commissioner in Dadaab to address and deal with issue of double registration. The membership of the Vetting Committee are the following government personnel institution: Deputy County Commissioner, Security Intelligence member, Registrar of Persons on Birth & Death, Civil Registrar and Migration Officer.

The exercise of registering the Kenyans who registered as refugees has started in Dadaab on 19th December and for refugees registered as Kenyans it started on 28th December.

As per the directive from Cabinet Secretary for Interior, the exercise was concluded on 31st December. 111 refugees registered as Kenyans were vetted of which 49 individuals surrendered their Kenyan IDs while the remaining majority claimed that they surrendered their IDs to the Department of Refugees Affairs in 2015. 4,039 Kenyan registered as refugees were vetted during the exercise in Dadaab. In addition a total of 2,117 individual were registered in Garissa, Ijara, Wajir South, Wajir West, Wajir East, Habaswein and Lagdera.

It was reported that more people are still approaching to the Deputy County Commissioner's office but they were informed that the exercise is over. According to the government authorities in Dadaab there is hope that another window will be opened very soon to register the remaining double registered persons.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- During the reporting period, four new SGBV cases were reported at the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) SGBV center in Ifo 2 camp. The breakdown of the cases are as follows: two psychological/emotional abuse, one physical assault, and one attempted rape. All of the new cases underwent psychological counselling.

Child Protection

- During a mini Best Interest Determination (BID) Panel meeting on 22nd December, 15 BIDs relating to 28 separated children were reviewed. All 15 BIDs were referred to explore the possibility of voluntary repatriation as a durable solution, of which 14 were approved, with the remaining BID deferred pending further assessment.



Refugee children in Dagahaley camp of Dadaab.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

Education

- During the reporting period, the 2016 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) results were released by the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Education. There were no cases of examination irregularities noted as compared to 2015, where results for over 300 students were cancelled by the examination council. A comprehensive analysis of the said results is being carried out and a report on the same will be provided in January 2017.
- The December session for the In-service teachers training was concluded by 20th December. A total of 110 teachers who had gone to Garissa for the training returned back to the camps as schools were scheduled to open on 4th January 2017.



Refugee students in their classroom at Central Primary School, Hagadera camp of Dadaab.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- **Meat and livestock by-products value chain development:** Following the training in clean milk and meat production, material support was provided to the 23 meat and livestock groups (500 refugees) to upgrade production equipment thereby reducing contamination of milk and meat products.
In addition, 30 refugees received training on value-added processing of livestock bones to make various accessories. The group will use the skills learnt to add value to raw bones which will be sold to identify buyers in Nairobi.
- **Skills training:** 62 tailoring students undertook the NITA trade test for grade 3 in December. Those who have successfully passed will move to grade 2 in 2017.
- **Artists for Refugees:** Following the launch of the “Refugenius” music album, six of the artists whose music were featured in the album travelled to Nairobi on 16th December for video shooting and VCD production. 200 VCDs were produced for initial selling. The music and visual artists will be linked to other opportunities to market their music and artwork.

Durable Solutions

Resettlement

- During the second half of December, one cases comprising of two individuals underwent resettlement case composition interviews. The case was finalized and submitted to Canada for consideration for resettlement under the family reunification category.
- During the reporting period, 28 cases comprising of 102 individuals were submitted to UNHCR Branch Office Nairobi for onward submission to the United States of America (USA).
- A total of 289 cases comprising 1880 individuals active in the USA resettlement pipeline received counselling and feedback letters on the status of their resettlement cases.

Contacts:

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Web portal on Somali Displacement:

<http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/regional.php>

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