



UNHCR Dadaab Update 11/13

Refugee Camps in
Garissa County, Kenya

1 – 15 September 2013

New developments

New refugee leaders installed

In a handover ceremony on 5 September, the new camp leaders elected in the leadership elections 26 – 29 August were formally installed in their positions. All the newly elected camp chairladies and chairmen accompanied by their predecessors attended the ceremony at the UNHCR Dadaab offices. The old leaders were issued with recognition certificates in appreciation of their services to their communities. UNHCR Head of Operations Ahmed Warsame congratulated the new leaders and thanked the outgoing leaders for their good work over the past six years, when the Dadaab camps faced many challenges including a big refugee influx and times of insecurity. He urged the old leaders to give guidance and support to their successors.



Leadership handover ceremony 05/09

Photo: Duke Mwancha

Training in leadership skills for the new refugee leadership is being held 24 – 26 September. The training will primarily target the newly elected camp chairpersons, but also other key refugee leaders from various community structures, such as Food Advisory Committees, Primary and Secondary School Parents Teachers' Associations, Youth Umbrella, Community Policing and Protection Teams, as well as community-based rehabilitation representatives and non-Somali community representatives.

Security

While the security situation in and around the Dadaab camps remained fairly stable, persistent reports indicated continued infiltration of armed men from Somalia, as well as alleged recruitment of young men in the camps.

New food collection procedures

The final stage towards mandatory fingerprint checks at the food distribution points ("No Match No Food") started in the first food distribution cycle in September. All food collectors were directed to pass through the system and those with a "no match" were referred to UNHCR help desks for assistance. The New Food Collection Procedures which have been in a pilot phase since June will go live on 1 October. A WFP/UNHCR technical working group is tasked with ensuring a smooth introduction of the new system.

Inter-Agency Return Forum

The first meeting of the Dadaab Inter-Agency Return Forum was held on 12 September, with the participation of agencies involved in supporting spontaneous and voluntary return of Somali refugees. The terms of reference were confirmed and UNHCR/Department for Refugee Affairs (DRA) co-stewardship agreed upon. The forum discussed the Return Help Desks in the camps and the modalities for the provision of a return support package to spontaneous returnees. This includes a cash assistance amounting to USD 200 per person.

Statistics

Population as of 22 September 2013:

Hagadera	Kambioos	Dagahaley	Ifo	Ifo 2	Total
114,681	19,508	104,596	100,915	65,606	405,306

During the first three weeks of September, the refugee population increased by 2,825 persons. The reason for this is that people who did not show up for the population verification exercise which ended in July are now coming to the UNHCR offices to be re-registered. This trend is expected to continue for some time.

Protection

Registration and documentation

Registration activities remain suspended, with some 6,000 new arrivals still awaiting registration. These have gradually arrived over the last 10 months since registration was suspended.

Profiling of new Somali arrivals continues. During this reporting period almost 400 individuals were documented. Most of the new arrivals are from middle Juba, lower Juba and Gedo in southern Somalia. Reasons given for their flight include insecurity/war, family reunification and need for medical assistance.

A number of South Sudanese asylum seekers registered in Kakuma have made their way to Dadaab claiming they are fleeing ethnic violence in Kakuma between Nuers and Murles, leading to injuries and deaths. The group is being screened and assessed. Reportedly more Southern Sudanese from Kakuma are on their way to Dadaab.

Refugee status determination

The number of pending individual cases in first instance RSD processing was 3,558, down from 4,500 at the beginning of the year. The goal is to have the backlog of pending cases cleared by end 2014.

Access to legal assistance/justice

The Chief Magistrate's Court held mobile sessions in Dadaab in early September, dealing with a total of 76 cases. Of these, two were acquitted (from charges of unlawful presence in Kenya), three had a

case to answer, two were ready for judgement and one had a judgement delivered. The remaining 68 cases were at various prosecution stages with witnesses still giving testimonies.

Relocation

UNHCR and partners were preparing the relocation of 1,000 families from the outskirts of Hagadera to Kambioos. During September, new plots for the families are being demarcated in Kambioos. The relocation of the families from the overcrowded Hagadera camp will start in October.

Resettlement

- *So far this year, 1,319 individuals have been submitted to resettlement countries.*

Resettlement Submissions (1st Jan – 15th Sep 2013)	
Country	Individuals
United States	526
Australia	318
Canada	17
United Kingdom	17
Sweden	211
Netherlands	14
Denmark	17
Norway	183
Others	16
TOTAL	1,319

- 46 individuals departed for onward resettlement to Canada during the reporting period.
- *Total departures since 1 Jan 2013: 876 individuals.*

Resettlement Departures (1st Jan – 15th Sep 2013)	
Country	Individuals
United States	163
Canada	45
Australia	86
Sweden	164
United Kingdom	252
Norway	112
New Zealand	4
Others	6
TOTAL	876

- *In 2012, the number of submitted individual cases was 1,511, while 1,080 departed for onward resettlement to third countries.*

Livelihood

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) finished a draft Livelihood Assessment Report and shared it with UNHCR for final comments. The report will be the basis for a joint livelihood strategy for the Dadaab operation. The report was commissioned after a Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) in 2012 argued for increased support for vocational training and an expansion of existing activities in order to improve self-reliance opportunities for the refugees as well as vulnerable host-community members.

UNHCR presence

On any given working day, some 170 UNHCR staff members are present in the operation, some in the Dadaab Sub-Office, some in the Alinjugur Field Office, and some in the refugee camps. UNHCR continues to have unhindered access to the whole operational area. Security procedures, including police escorts and convoy movements, ensure smooth service delivery to the refugee population even in a volatile security situation.



UNHCR staff with a visiting EU delegation in Kambioos, April 2013

Photo: Mans Nyberg

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[facebook.com/DadaabAlinjugur](https://www.facebook.com/DadaabAlinjugur)

Webportal on Somali Displacement:
<http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/regional.php>