

## SOMALIA TASK FORCE ON YEMEN SITUATION

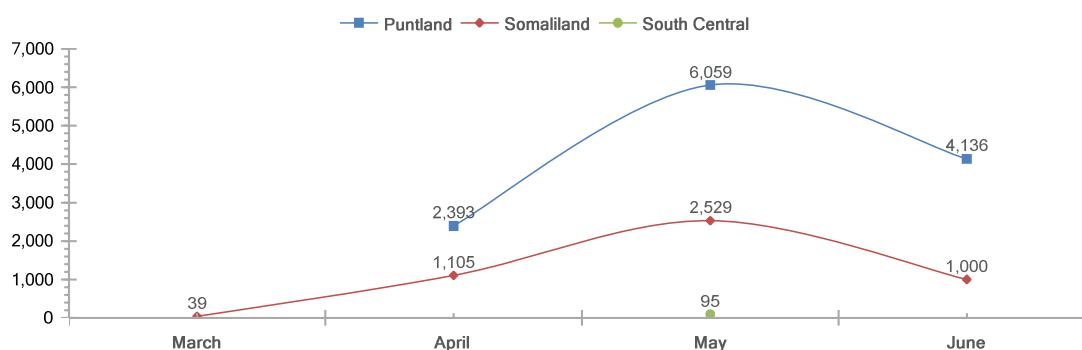
### WEEKLY SITREP #24

10 June – 16 June 2015

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- On 13 June 2015, three boats arrived in Bossaso, Puntland carrying a total of 2,103 passengers.
- Two boats arrived in Berbera, Somaliland, on 14 and 15 June 2015, carrying 286 and 205 new arrivals respectively.
- The total number of arrivals to date is 17,356 individuals. Out of them, 9,884 individuals were registered at the Reception Centers in Bossaso and Berbera and at Mogadishu Airport (IOM evacuation flight on 18 May 2015).
- UNHCR is improving registration capacity through training and increased technical human resources.
- Discussions are ongoing between UNHCR, IOM and the Somali National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI) to strengthen reception capacity at Mogadishu Air and Sea Ports for the protection and assistance of arrivals from Yemen.
- The second Joint Meeting of the Federal Government of Somalia's Emergency Task Force on Yemen and the Inter-agency Task Force on Yemen Situation was held in Mogadishu on 16 June.

#### ARRIVALS PER MONTH



#### ARRIVALS PER NATIONALITY

Origin	Arrived to			Total	
	Puntland	Somaliland	South Central		
Djibouti	6			6	0 %
England	1			1	0 %
Ethiopia	42	56		98	1 %
Kenya	6			6	0 %
Pakistan		1		1	0 %
Palestine		2		2	0 %
Somalia	11,930	3,720	95	15,745	91 %
Syria		8		8	0 %
Tanzania		1		1	0 %
USA		2		2	0 %
Yemen	603	883		1,486	9 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,588</b>	<b>4,673</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>17,356</b>	<b>100 %</b>
	<b>72.53 %</b>	<b>26.92 %</b>	<b>0.55 %</b>		

#### ARRIVALS PER GENDER/AGE

Gender	Arrived to			Total	
	Puntland	Somaliland	South Central		
Children	5,257	1,971	23	7,251	42 %
Females	4,221	1,433	23	5,677	33 %
Males	2,990	1,269	16	4,275	25 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,468</b>	<b>4,673</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>17,203</b>	<b>100 %</b>
	<b>72.48 %</b>	<b>27.16 %</b>	<b>0.36 %</b>		

Note: Not all individuals that arrived remained at the Reception Center to be registered. The figures shown reflect those who have chosen to have their bio data collected.

## Puntland

**New Arrivals** | During the reporting period, three boats arrived in Bossaso, on 13 June. The first boat was named *Faxtul Kheyr* and carried 9 people in total (3 females, 2 males and 4 children). The second boat was named *Shamis* and carried 75 people in total (22 females, 19 males and 34 children). The third boat was named *Nawal* and contained 2,019 people in total (633 females, 445 males and 941 children). Among the new arrivals there were 1,873 Somali nationals, 220 Yemenis and 10 Ethiopians.



Arrival of *Nawal* cargo ship, carrying 2,019 people fleeing Yemen, at Bossaso Port on 13 June 2015/UNHCR

**Route and Travel Means** | The three boats departed from Mukalla Port, Yemen. The two smaller boats arrived after 24 hours at sea, while the larger vessel took over 33 hours to arrive to Bossaso. All three boats arrived at night and due to Government regulations no passengers were allowed to disembark due to security reasons until 5 am on 13 June.

**Protection Information and Special Needs** | The larger vessel is a cargo ship and not intended for passenger transport. Conditions were not ideal for the amount of people the vessel was carrying. It was reported that one person died on the journey on the larger vessel and six children were born.

**Assistance Provided** | Reception at the Port: Upon disembarkation from the three boats, DRC and IOM provided water and biscuits to all new arrivals at the Port of Bossaso. Cumulatively, since the beginning of the crisis, IOM provided arrival refreshments to 12,588 in Bossaso. Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) provided a vehicle that was used by WHO to give vaccinations. SRCS provided first aid assistance to 15 individuals at the Port. IOM also provided transport from the Port to the Reception Centre for 976 arrivals in need of assistance. Cumulatively, IOM has supported 5,354 arrivals with the transport assistance to the Center.

Registration and Protection: During the reporting period, UNHCR, in collaboration with IOM and the Puntland Ministry of Interior, registered 976 individuals at the Reception Center. Vulnerable families were assessed and CARE International provided 120 USD assistance allowance to 27 households. NRC is engaging in an information awareness campaign highlighting available services, rights and entitlements and the provision of legal counseling related to specific needs.

Yemeni refugee registration and assistance: During the reporting period, UNHCR registered 95 Yemeni *prima facie* refugees (35 households). 170 Non Food Item (NFI) kits were distributed to Yemeni refugees by UNHCR. Subsistence allowances (60 USD for the primary applicant, 20 USD for each adult family member and 10 USD for each child member) were distributed to 41 households comprising 104 individuals, for a total of 3,210 USD.

Health: The health team working at the Reception Centre, led by WHO, is comprised of the following organizations: UNFPA, IOM, UNICEF, Save the Children International (SCI), Médecins du Monde (MDM) and the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS). IOM continued to provide financial contribution to the Puntland Ministry of Health towards providing medicines, medical checks, referrals and fitness to travel assessment.

Food and Nutrition: WFP, through implementing partner Puntland Youth and Social Development Association (PSA), continued to provide wet feeding in the form of three meals per day to all Yemeni refugees, Somali returnees and Third Country Nationals at the Reception Center. WFP provided PlumpyDoz to all children under the age of five (145 individuals). DRC provided water and biscuits to 977 people at the Reception Center as they awaited registration.



**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** NRC began a garbage collection campaign at the reception center on 1 June to continue for one month. NRC provided 500 targeted households with comprehensive hygiene kits and conducted a hygiene awareness campaign at the Reception Center and sensitization training to those hired to administer the awareness campaign. DRC distributed 314 sanitary pads for 157 vulnerable women and girls (2 packs containing 10 sanitary pads per individual).

**Shelter and Non Food Items (NFI):** NRC provided 358 NFI kits to the new arrivals on 14 June. UNHCR provided 10 tarpaulins for the Reception Center.

**Logistics:** UNHCR and IOM jointly provided onward transportation assistance to 523 Somali arrivals who expressed intention to return to Mogadishu and were not able to sustain their travel. In total, since the beginning of the Yemen crisis, UNHCR supported 1,154 individuals to travel from Bossaso to areas in South Central regions. IOM supported 1,484 individuals, including UNHCR funded onward transportation assistance implemented by IOM.

DRC supported 200 individuals. Save the Children International (SCI) provided onward transportation to 93 persons. Cumulatively, the Puntland New Arrivals Task Force members supported 2,931 individuals with onward transportation. IOM has also supported 32 Third Country Nationals (TCNs) with arrangement of travel documents and onward transport.



Save the Children and Somali Red Crescent Society providing cold milk and medical care to new arrivals in Bossaso Reception Center on 13 June 2015/UNHCR

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps |** The Second Reception Center, located in eastern Bossaso near Bariga-Bossaso IDP settlements, is yet to be functional. With large numbers of persons arriving at one time, the current capacity of the Reception Center is too limited.

There is a need to register Yemeni refugees at a faster pace. They currently wait for full registration by UNHCR to receive assistance. This gap will be filled when the recruitment of two new UNHCR Registration Assistants is completed.

**Coordination |** The latest Puntland New Arrivals Task Force meeting was held on 10 June 2015. Coordination is being strengthened, particularly with members of the local business community who are providing onward transportation support to some returnees now joining the field-level Task Force.

**Potential New Arrivals |** No information is available on date and number of potential new arrivals.

## Somaliland

**New Arrivals |** The latest arrivals in Berbera, Somaliland, were the following:

- On 14 June 2015, a boat carrying 286 new arrivals (79 households) arrived in Berbera. Among this group there were 98 Yemeni nationals and 188 Somali nationals;
- On 15 June 2015, a boat carrying 205 new arrivals reached Berbera. The groups comprised of 30 Yemenis, 169 Somalis, 5 Ethiopians and 1 Syrian national.

**Route and Travel Means |** The new arrivals of 14 June left from their homes located in different towns in Yemen and moved toward Mokha Port to find any mean of sea transportation. During their inland travel, they reported the presence of many check points on the main streets leading to Mokha, run by militias groups. The militia groups had asked questions, checked every car and searched luggage. The arrivals had departed from Mokha Port on 12 June 2015 with a vessel named *Al-Nobah 2* for which they paid between 80 USD to 100 USD per person, except the children. They were accommodated in an open space planned for livestock and provided with meals and water. The trip took around 32 hours and the vessel docked at Berbera Port at 10:00 am on 14 June.

The new arrivals of 15 June traveled with a boat owned by Dahabshiil Money Transfer Agent and they did not pay any ticket, as the owner was transporting them free of charge. They have not reported any security incident during the trip. They have reported the continuous difficulty in reaching Mokha Port, Yemen, which is the only point of departure as other ports like Aden reportedly remain closed for the time being. The arrivals reported that they had paid additional money to the brokers of the boat to be able to travel, as there were many persons on the waiting list for departure.

**Protection Information and Special Needs of New Arrivals |** For the group that arrived on 14 June, no protection incidents were reported during journey in Yemen. However, during the latest hours of the travel by boat, one of the arrivals, named Anab Ahmed Carte, aged 60, passed away while her and her family of 6 were still at sea. She was pronounced dead by the doctors after the boat docked in Berbera. Reportedly, she was diabetic and hypertensive and her death might be due to diabetic coma. Her family was assisted with transportation to Hargeisa and the body was also taken by an ambulance. She was buried in Hargeisa.

No protection incident were reported nor persons with special needs were reported in the group arrived on 15 June.

**Assistance Provided | Reception at the Port:** The new arrivals of 14 and 15 June were received at Berbera Port by the Port Authorities, Immigration officers and humanitarian agencies. Arrivals undertook immigration procedures and were provided with bottled water and orientation on services available at the Reception Centers in Berbera and in Hargeisa. Somaliland Red Crescent Society first aid volunteers were deployed to the Port to stabilize any person needing medical help. The ones that were in need of assistance were then transported by DRC to the First Reception Centre.

**Registration and Protection:** The new arrivals that opted to proceed to the Reception Center were registered, in collaboration with UNHCR, IOM and DRC, by the Migrant Resource Centre staff under the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Reconstruction (MRRR), financially supported by IOM. A new UNHCR Associate Database Administrator is currently looking at the registration arrangements at Berbera and Hargeisa level. Some of the arrivals stayed for a few hours at the Reception Centre, while 286 individuals (79 families) stayed in the Center for two days. Many arrivals departed the Reception Center by themselves towards Hargeisa and other locations in Somaliland and informed the Reception Centre staff that they will contact the respective agencies' offices in Hargeisa if they need assistance, particularly Somali returnees with intention to return to Mogadishu. Some arrivals required further assistance at the Reception Center to proceed to their final destinations.

Vulnerability assessments were conducted by IOM, NRC and Comprehensive Community-Based Rehabilitation Somaliland (CCBRs), in line with the vulnerability assessment tool review done together with UNHCR to ensure that all cases in need of assistance are included. In addition to the usual vulnerable categories – women, children, female-headed households, disabled, etc. – agencies agreed to support also youth/casual labor that are unable to sustain their travel to their areas of origin and would otherwise remain in the Reception Center for longer time, creating potential congestion in case of new arrivals. At the Second Reception Center, there are around 101 individuals waiting for onward transportation assistance, which should be provided in the next few days.

**Yemeni refugee registration and assistance:** The Yemeni nationals, recognized as *prima facie* refugees, were immediately referred to the MRRR in Hargeisa to be registered, in collaboration with UNHCR. Around 150 Yemeni refugees were registered since the beginning of the crisis. Many Yemeni arrivals reported that they are not interested in being registered as they would like to return to Yemen as soon as conditions allow. UNHCR has been conducting trainings for the Yemeni Community to raise awareness among the Yemenis on the importance of registration to have access to services available for refugees, including monthly subsistence allowance for the most vulnerable cases and Non Food Item kits (on ad hoc basis). 5,000 brochures on available services are being printed in Arabic for distribution to the Yemeni refugees.

All Yemeni arrivals are currently hosted by the local Yemeni Community in urban centers in Somaliland, primarily Hargeisa. The Yemeni Community has been providing cash assistance for accommodation, meals and transport. UNHCR has also decided to include the 100 most vulnerable Yemeni refugees within the livelihood projects already ongoing in Somaliland for the Ethiopian refugee caseload, while taking into consideration the different background of the two groups (mainly urban for Yemenis and mainly rural for Ethiopians). Yemeni refugees have also access to the Peaceful Co-existence Center build by UNHCR under the "Seeds for Solutions" initiative, where literacy initiatives in Arabic language have been included.

**Health:** Out of the group that arrived on 14 June, 30 persons (25 over 5 years old and five children under 5 years old) were medicated by IOM clinic at the Reception Center. Two of the patients were pregnant, 6 were provided intravenous fluids. Two serious cases were referred to the Berbera Hospital. IOM continues to provide financial contribution to the Somaliland Ministry of Health for medicines, medical checks, referrals and fitness to travel assessments. Between 10 to 16 June, 201 arrivals received medical checks/treatment including two referrals made to the Berbera Hospital for hypertension and uncontrollable blood sugar (diabetics). Cumulatively, since the beginning of the Yemen crisis, 1,072 arrivals have been assisted with health services in Berbera, including 20 referrals.

**Food and Nutrition:** Three meals as well as water four times per day were provided to the new arrivals by DRC at the Reception Center.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** In both the First Reception Center and Second Reception Center the new arrivals have access to two water tanks and toilets (separate for male and female).

**Shelter and Non Food Items (NFI):** NFIs have been distributed at the Reception Center to the vulnerable families identified by the case management panel comprising all members of the Somaliland New Arrivals Task Force at Berbera level.

At the Second Reception Center, set-up in a former school building about 15 minutes from the First Reception Center, electricity installation around the toilets is ongoing and two rub halls by UNHCR are being established to sustain large arrivals. Small stones and gravel will be placed around the rub halls to avoid the sand wind disturbing the new arrivals staying under the rub halls during the windy season in Berbera. The total capacity of the Reception Centers, including the rub halls, is around 500 persons.

**Logistics:** Following the vulnerability assessment, Somali returnees who are identified as in need of onward transportation assistance to return to their areas of origin sign a consent letter to UNHCR and are provided transport grant by IOM (for returnees to South Central regions) and NRC (for returnees to Somaliland and Puntland regions). Out of the group that arrived on 14 June, 47 families were



supported with onward transportation assistance to return to South Central regions and 82 families within Somaliland. During the reporting period, 273 arrivals have been supported with onward transportation assistance. Cumulatively, since the beginning of the Yemen crisis, IOM provided 1,114 arrivals with onward transportation assistance, including 1,085 to South Central, 8 to Puntland, 5 to Somaliland and 16 Third Country Nationals (TCNs).

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps** | Vulnerability assessments are regularly conducted by IOM, NRC and CCBRS and the main needs identified were financial assistance and reintegration support. Majority of the new arrivals have neither income, nor any financial support since the last months before departure from Yemen. Since the beginning of the Yemen conflict, as reported by the arrivals, it became impossible to work due to lack of electricity, petrol, water and due to security issues.

While the Somalis returnees have some family linkages in Somalia, the Yemeni refugees have been relying on the Yemeni Community in Somaliland. However, the community's absorption capacity is saturating and there have been some internal tensions between the Yemeni Community leadership and the Yemeni businessmen. The MRRR and UNHCR are going to provide training in Arabic language on peaceful resolution of disputes to the Yemeni Committee.

Other main gaps/challenges include:

- Reception capacity. In view of coming boats with large number of new arrivals, an urgent Third Reception Center needs to be identified. Discussion is ongoing between UNHCR and the local authorities.
- Food quality and cold water. The food quality in terms of diversity needs to be urgently improved. New arrivals from the last boats complained that they have been given pasta three times per day. Owing to the hot weather in Berbera, a cold place to keep the water needs to be identified at the Second Reception Center.
- Hygiene. It was noticed that during large influx (more than 200 new arrivals) the toilets hygiene is decreasing dramatically, and more cleaning resources should be allocated on full time basis.
- Access to the Port by UN/NGOs. Agencies members of the New Arrivals Task Force have to request for passes every day from the Port Manager under the President's Office. Discussions/negotiations need to continue with the Port authorities to ensure continued access for all humanitarian staff.
- Toilets and shade at the Port. There is not enough shade/roofing at the Port where the arrivals are kept waiting under the sun without toilets when the Government collects information from them for security purposes, which could take as long as 3-4 hours. UNHCR proposed the installation of emergency temporary toilet but no agreement was reached yet with the authorities.
- Passport and luggage retained. The port authorities are still retaining the passport and luggage of new arrivals more than 24 hours which delay the departure of some of the new arrivals who are ready to leave directly from the Port to their designated area.

**Coordination** | UNHCR Hargeisa has maintained a constant presence of international staff in Berbera for the last week, and many coordination meetings with partners and the authorities have taken place. Somaliland New Arrivals Task Force meetings take place daily in Berbera and bi-weekly in Hargeisa, co-chaired by MRRR and UNHCR/IOM.

**Potential New Arrivals** | The Deputy Governor of Berbera informed about the expected arrival of approximately 4,000 individuals within the end of the week.

## South Central Regions

**New Arrivals** | A group of Somali refugee returnees from Yemen consisting of 6 families of 25 individuals, mainly women and children, arrived in Kismayo on 9 June and approached UNHCR for assistance. Five of the families came from Sana'a and one from Aden. 4 families arrived through the Port of Bossaso by boat and then travelled by road during 8 days, passing through Galkayo and Mogadishu before reaching Kismayo. They stated that they received initial support from their relatives in Bossaso. Two families came to Berbera by boat and travelled by road during 9 days before reaching Kismayo through Hargeisa, Galkayo and Mogadishu.

**Route and Travel Means** | The group travelled by boat from Yemen and by road from Berbera / Bossaso via Galkayo and Mogadishu to Kismayo.

**Protection Information and Special Needs** | The group reported no protection incidents. Most of the families are women and children, with mainly men (and some children) having remained in Yemen. Due to financial problems, families decided to split – with one part remaining in Yemen while most family members returned to Somalia. Efforts towards family reunification are being explored by UNHCR.

**Assistance Provided** | Reception at the Port: Following discussions with the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI) to establish a reception facility at the Mogadishu Sea Port, two possible sites are being considered although NCRI is still in the process of obtaining the necessary clearances. Discussions are ongoing and NCRI will get back to UNHCR with confirmation as soon as possible.

Registration and Protection: In order to strengthen registration capacity in South and Central regions of Somalia, five UNHCR staff (2 from Mogadishu; 1 from Baidoa; 1 from Luuq and 1 from Dhobley) are attending a registration training in Nairobi on 16-18 June 2015. The training, which will take the form of a Trainer of Trainers (TOT), will build the capacity of the staff who will then be responsible for

organizing field level trainings for UNHCR, IOM and Government staff starting in the week of 22-27 June. UNHCR is in the process of recruiting four registration staff in Mogadishu who will be supported by two UNHCR Field Liaison Assistants from the UNHCR office in Mogadishu to work side by side with a four-person registration team currently being recruited by IOM.

Partners including UNICEF, Intersos, NRC, Somali Women Development Centre (SWDC) providing protection related services such as Housing Land and Property (HLP), GBV, Legal aid, Child Protection, Tracing and Identification, Mine Risk Awareness are on stand-by to provide assistance to new arrivals from Yemen.

Yemeni refugee registration and assistance: According to NCRI, there are 48 Yemenis (new arrivals) in Mogadishu, the majority of whom arrived in Somalia through the Port of Bossaso. Three Yemenis approached the UNHCR office in Mogadishu for assistance. UNHCR is currently conducting an assessment to identify the number, needs and risks of Yemenis in Mogadishu. Those wishing to claim asylum will be registered and supported as appropriate.

The Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) has not yet issued a statement granting refugee status on a *prima facie* basis to Yemeni nationals fleeing that conflict. Yemenis now in Mogadishu who arrived through the Port of Bossaso and registered as asylum seekers continue to hold asylum seeker certificates issued by authorities in Puntland. UNHCR continues to discuss this matter with the NCRI to advocate at Ministerial level for a pronouncement from the FGS on the status of Yemenis.

Health: Through IOM and the FGS Ministry of Health, health screening capacity and medical assistance is in place at the Mogadishu International Airport and the IOM Reception Center at KM4, Mogadishu.

Food and Nutrition: Three meals a day are provided at the IOM Reception Center in KM4. Additionally, 3 months Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) cash grants can be provided by IOM to those who wish to return to their place of origin. Returnees who approach the UNHCR Way Stations already operational in Baidoa, Luuq and Kismayo, to support the voluntary return of refugees from Kenya, can benefit from reintegration assistance, including food. This will be progressively expanded to 6 additional areas where UNHCR and partners can support return and reintegration activities (Wanla Weyne, Afgoye, Balcad, Jowhar, Belet Weyne and Mogadishu). Following discussions with WFP, returnees can also be referred to any of their feeding centers in Mogadishu and in the regions.

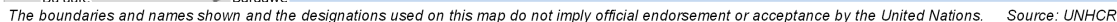
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: NTR

Shelter and Non Food Items (NFIs): The IOM run Reception Center in KM 4 in Mogadishu is operational and has the capacity to accommodate 200 persons. With the expected increase in arrivals including those coming to Mogadishu from Puntland and Somaliland, the need to increase holding capacity in Mogadishu has been discussed between UNHCR, IOM and the NCRI. The NCRI is liaising with federal and regional authorities in Mogadishu to identify a piece land where a larger reception facility (Way Station) can be established. UNHCR and IOM are discussing partnership arrangements for its set up and operation. For now, the existing IOM facility will receive and support new arrivals from Yemen. In case of large influx, temporary hosting arrangements will be made with local hotels in Mogadishu.

Logistics: A partnership agreement has been signed by UNHCR and IOM to support onward transportation of 5,000 persons (arrivals from Yemen) from ports of arrival in Somaliland and Puntland to South Central regions by road. The modality of implementation is being revisited to ensure that returnees are not exposed to protection risks en route. Following a request by the FGS, there are ongoing discussions about a possible airlift from Puntland and Somaliland to Mogadishu. Discussions on the most appropriate method of movement, considering available resources and protection of returnees, will be discussed at the Technical Task Force as well as at the Joint meeting of the Government Emergency Task Force on Yemen and the Inter-agency country level Task Force on Yemen Situation.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps |** An assessment to identify arrivals from Yemen (Yemenis and Somali returnees) with the view to map their current location, identify needs and risks is ongoing. Preliminary findings of this assessment will be available on Tuesday 23 June.

**Coordination |** The second Joint meeting of the Government Emergency Task Force on Yemen and the Inter-agency country level Task Force on Yemen Situation was held in Mogadishu, on 17 June. The meeting endorsed the TORs for the Technical Task Force developed by the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI) and UNHCR, with minor modifications in providing more clarity on coordination with the New Arrivals Task Forces in Berbera and Bossaso. With ongoing peace talks in Geneva, there is likely to be a “humanitarian pause” in the conflict in Yemen. This is expected to provide an opportunity for more people to safely flee the country. In this regard, the numbers of arrivals to Somalia are expected to increase rapidly requiring a more concerted response in line with existing strategy. The Technical Task Force is tasked to develop a comprehensive response plan for presentation at the next Joint meeting to be held in Bossaso – date to be confirmed. The first formal Technical Task Force meeting is scheduled in Mogadishu on Sunday 21 June.



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