

<p>Syrians in Iraq</p> <p>Situation Report</p> <p>June 18-24, 2012</p>	 <p>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés</p>	<p>General Situation and Response</p> <p>Update number 14</p> <p><a href="mailto:irqpi@unhcr.org">irqpi@unhcr.org</a>  <a href="http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=103">http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=103</a>)Iraq page.</p>
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*This update provides a snapshot of the UNHCR response to the influx of Syrians into Iraq. The response is led by UNHCR, and is undertaken in full coordination with the Government of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, UN agencies as well as international and national NGOs.*

### I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- An estimated 25 families and 200 singles continue to enter the Kurdistan Region (KR) and approach DDM and UNHCR for registration on a weekly basis. An increase in the number of Syrian new arrivals compared to last week was witnessed during the reporting period. 25 families comprising 147 individuals and 200 singles are awaiting registration.
- UN agencies are expanding efforts to enhance the conditions in Domiz camp and assess the situation of the Syrian new arrivals. UN agencies, INGOs and NNGOs have completed the preparation for a Joint Assessment Mission to examine the situation of Syrian new arrivals all over the Kurdistan Region, with a focus on Domiz camp in Duhok. The JAM will take place from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of July.
- DDM Duhok continues the screening of Syrian singles. The singles interviewed so far were found to be civilians in need of international protection. Some deserters have relocated from Peshmerga camps in the KR to Domiz camp.
- In terms of border crossing, cases of arrest and imprisonment in Mosul and Rabiaa were reported. Seven singles were released and relocated to Domiz camp while six others remain in detention. UNHCR continues its effort to advocate for the respect of the principle of non refoulement of the Syrian nationals and to represent them at the police stations and courts.

### II. Situation Overview



Domiz Camps

- **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As per information from Iraqi government sources, the on-going unrest in Syria has so far resulted in some 7000 Syrian nationals having crossed into Iraq since February 2012. The total number of Syrians registered with UNHCR and DDM in the KR has reached 5,839. The arrival trend suggests that with sustained unrest in Syria and an open door policy of KRG, UNHCR will continue to register on average of 1,000 Syrian new arrivals per month.

An estimated 25 families and 200 singles enter Duhok Governorate and approach DDM and UNHCR for registration on a weekly basis. In Erbil, some 10 to 20 singles approach UNHCR for registration weekly. As of the 24th of June, 25 singles are awaiting registration in Erbil, while in Duhok, 25 families comprising 147 individuals and 200 singles are awaiting registration. In Sulaimaniya, a number of single Syrians continue to arrive and to seek registration. .

The camp population in Domiz has reached 2,058 individuals, including 270 families, comprising 1,558 persons, and 500 singles. Of the latter, 400 persons have been relocated to small tents in a temporary site pending the construction of tent foundation, latrines, bathrooms and cooking areas. Also 100 singles continue to live nearby the camp in a mosque and big tents.

Following training conducted by UNHCR, DDM is to conducting screening interviews for the single Syrians. So far 200 singles have been interviewed including 26 army deserters. The majority of the singles interviewed were found to be civilians in need of international protection while decisions for others are yet to be made.

- **OVERALL GOAL: Emergency Protection Including Assistance**

- **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

- 1. Fair protection process and documentation**

- 1.1. Administrative institutions and practice: overall practice:**

In line with the Ministerial Note from the Ministry of Interior, the Residency Directorate in Duhok, started the process of granting 6 months temporary residence to the Syrians living in Domiz camp. So far, 224 families comprising 927 individuals have been provided with residency permits. The latter offer their bearers access to free public services.

UNHCR continues to conduct protection monitoring in the camp, raising awareness and conducting group discussions. Many residents of the camp have requested to trace family members in other countries in the region, notably Turkey, while others are seeking reunification with their family members. UNHCR has enhanced its registration capacity by increasing the number of registration personnel and protection monitors.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of June, the Iraqi border security forces arrested seven Syrian singles who that crossed the border illegally in Shehla in Zumar district of Ninawa Governorate; On UNHCR's intervention, the seven singles were released and escorted to Domiz camp where UNHCR Duhok team facilitated their entry and registration. Three other Syrian singles were reported as having been detained in Rabeea. UNHCR is seeking their release and intervening with the GoI to ensure continuous respect to the principle of non refoulement.

UNHCR is planning a training on the Office protection mandate for Governmental structures, officials, including border officials. The training will be used to advocate for the rights of Syrian new arrivals to non refoulement.

- 1.2 Quality of Registration and Profiling**

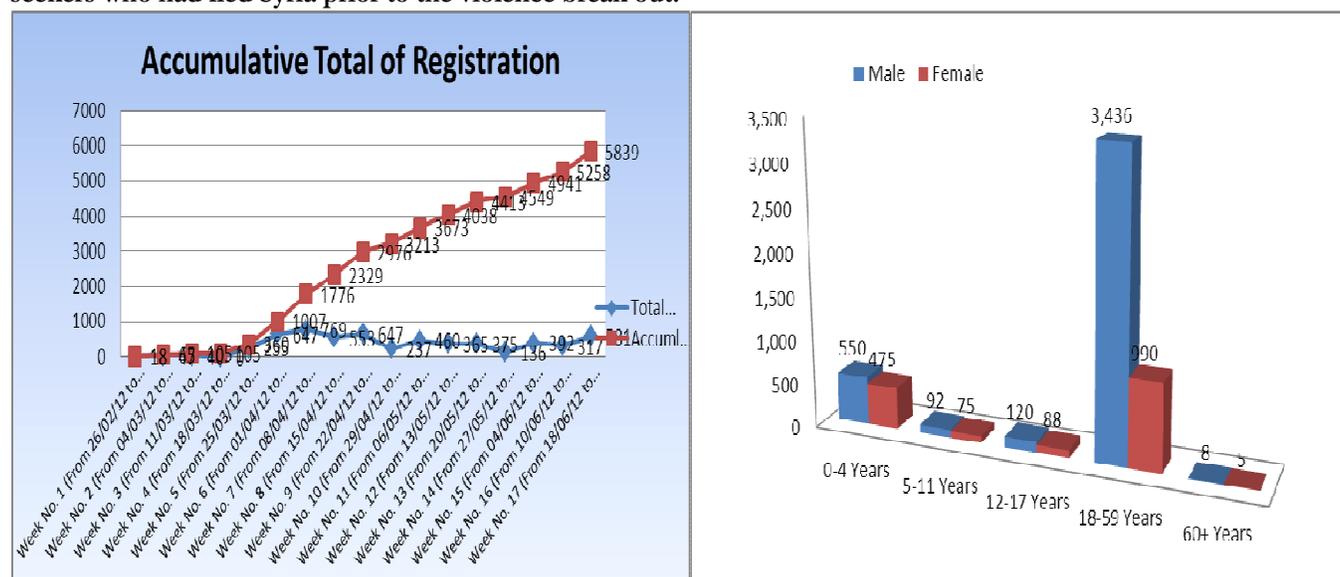
As of the 24th of June, UNHCR in Erbil, and DDM in Duhok have registered 5,839 Syrians of Kurdish origin. Among these are 562 families, comprising 2,278 individuals, and 3,561 singles. In Erbil, 3 families comprising of 9 individuals were registered during the week, bringing the number to 58 families, comprising 227 individuals, while 9 singles were registered bringing the total to 609 singles. In Sulaimaniya, there was no new registration of families and the number continues to be 21 families comprising, 67 individuals, while the number of singles has reached 311 comparing, compared to 272 last week. In Duhok Governorate, 483 families, comprising 1,984 individuals, and 2,641 singles are registered so far. 25 families, comprising 147 individuals, and 200 singles are waiting to be registered in the three governorates.

Among the registered persons all over the Kurdistan region, 31 are unaccompanied minors and separated children under the age of 18, of which 7 are single females living with other families. Duhok remains host to the largest number of Syrian new

arrivals, with 4,625 individuals, followed by Erbil with 836 individuals and then Suleimaniya with 378 individuals as indicated below.

Reporting period	Families	Individuals in families	Singles + UAMs	Total Registered	Pending registration	Total arrivals
As of 31st March	21 families	79	281 including 15 UAMs	360	400 individuals	760
As of 8th April	147 Families	604	636 singles including 15 UAMs	1,240	1,000 individuals	2,240
As of 15th April	198 Families	803	973 Singles including 15 UAMs	1,776	600 individuals	2,376
As of 22nd April	240 Families	979	1,350 Singles including 27 UAMs	2,329	800 individuals	3,129
As of 29th April	312 Families	1,269	1,701 Singles including 27 UAMs	2,970	300 individuals	3,270
As of 06th May	330 Families	1,341	1,830 Singles including 27 UAMs	3,171	315 individuals	3,486
As of 13th May	389 Families	1,563	2,110 Singles including 27 UAMs	3,673	270 individuals	3,943
As of the 20th May	427 Families	1,711	2,327 Singles including 30 UAMs	4,038	243 individuals	4,281
As of 30th May	468 Families	1,872	2,541 Singles including 30 UAMs and SCs.	4,413	425 individuals	4,838
As of 3rd June	479 Families	1,912	2,637 Singles including 30 UAMs and SCs.	4,549	450 individuals	4,999
As of 10th June	501 Families	2,044	2,897 Singles including 30 UAMs and SCs.	4,941	465 individuals	5,406
As of 17th June	528 Families	2,141	3,117 Singles including 30 UAMs and SCs.	5,258	460 individuals	5,718
As of 24th June	562 Families	2,278	3,561 Singles including 31 UAMs and SCs.	5,839	347 individuals	6,186

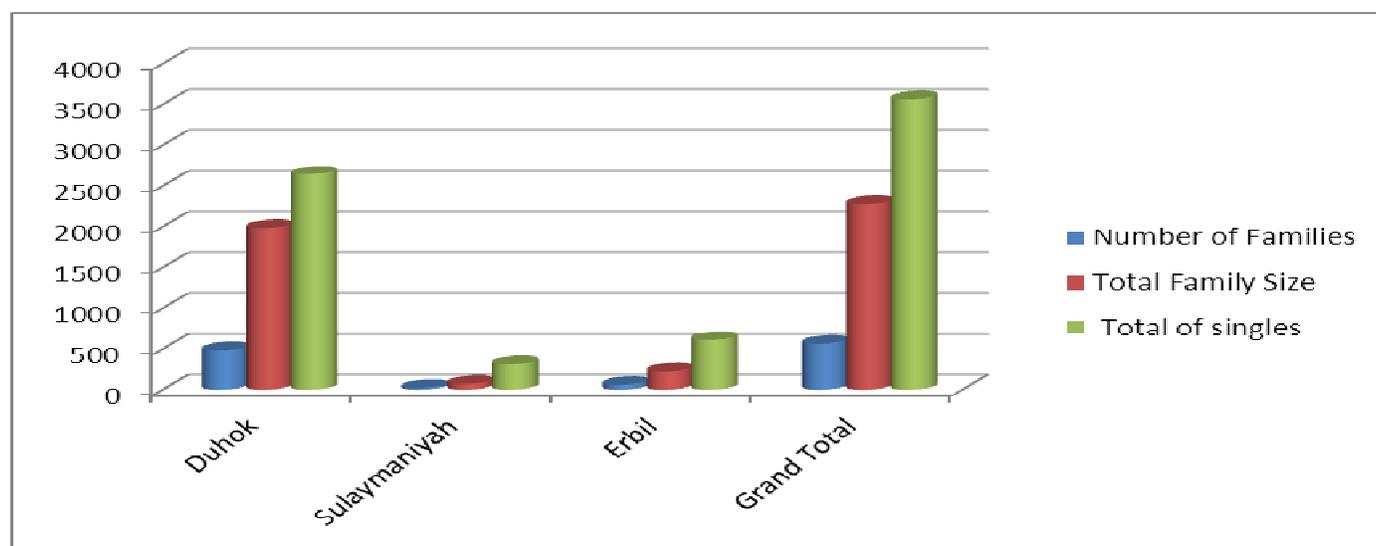
Bellow is a table showing the registration trends per month from 26<sup>th</sup> February to the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2012, and shows the steadily increasing numbers approaching UNHCR to register. Also presented an age//gender breakdown of the registered Syrians. It is to note that the below table does not reflect or takes into consideration the number of asylum seekers who had fled Syria prior to the violence break out.



In terms of demographics, out of the 5,839 registered individuals, 27,97% are females and 72,03% are males. Of the latter, 59,22% are single males, with the remaining made up mostly of head of families. Underlining the vulnerability of the Syrians, 0,04% are single female head of households, and 0,61% are unaccompanied minors and separated children, among them 0,06% are girls under the age of 18 who are accompanied by families of men they are engaged to, while 0,55% are men under the age of 18 who participated in demonstrations and fled along with friends or other family members. With regards to the reason of flight of the Syrian new arrivals, 49% have fled following participation in demonstrations and being wanted by the Syrian authorities, 31% draft evaders.

72% of Syrians registered with UNHCR are coming from Hasaka, 7% arriving from Damascus and 7% from Aleppo. 79,21% of them are settling in Duhok, in several districts of Zakho and Semel, 14,32% are settled in Erbil, while 6,47 to Suleimaniya. However following the recent instruction of the Ministry of Interior that all Syrian nationals are to relocate to Duhok Governorate to be granted residency, it is expected that th number of Syrians will see an increase trend in Duhok with less arrivals to other location.

The table bellow illustrates the rate of arrivals to the different Governorates in the KR (Erbil- Suleimaniya and Duhok). The KR's borders remain open to Syrian nationals fleeing unrest in Syria.



## 2-Basic needs and essential services (Duhok)

### 2.1 Shelter and Infrastructure

As of the 24<sup>th</sup> of June, 270 families, comprising 1,558 persons, are residing in Domiz camp in the family's section and 500 singles are residing in the singles's section. A total of 324 tents have been erected. Some 34 families living in several districts in Duhok governorate have relocated to the camp; UNHCR, through its partner Qandil, has started the construction of additional 70 tent foundations for the families as well as bathrooms, latrines and cooking areas under phase 2 of the camp expansion. So far some 36 tent walls of 60 cm height have been completed. Meanwhile, 136 individual cooking areas have been completed under phase one.

In addition, a total of 100 tents in the singles' section have been erected and are accommodating 400 singles. 100 singles continue to live nearby in the mosque and big tents. However, this represents less than 16% of the total number of the singles registered in KR, which has reached 2,641 persons. While the family tents have been provided with electricity and planned to be provided with individual family latrines, the tents for the singles are still lacking these facilities. UNHCR has engaged with the Department of Electricity to address the needs and to speed up the process of electricity installation.

The installation process of the Rub-Hall (10X24 meters) is ongoing; the latter will be used as a warehouse for NFIs pending the identification of a warehouse in Duhok city. During the reporting period, UNHCR has distributed 30 NFIs packages to 30 families and 98 NFIs packages to 392 singles; moreover, some 92 light weight tents have been distributed to 368 singles and 44 canvas tents were distributed to 39 families who have recently relocated to the camp. These transit tents are meant to provide temporary shelter and protection on arrival. However based on the above trends, increasingly clear that transit tents will be nearing full capacity occupancy soon.

Some 7 rechargeable fans were distributed to 7 vulnerable families identified by UNHCR Community Service team. Two big tents have been installed in the Administration part of the camp and used as a waiting area for persons pending registration. The two tents were provided with 40 plastic chairs, 12 pieces of plastic mat and one air cooler. Tendering for the construction of 48 plots in phase 2 A, 48 plots in phase 2 B and 48 plots in phase 2 C for the families sector was completed. Similarly, for the construction of 44 plots for the singles' site in phase 2 and additional services in phase 1 that includes cooking areas, baths and latrines as well as closed sanitation.



Laying the foundation of new tents

## 2.2 Health Status

The medical unit established in the camp by DoH continues to provide daily health services to an average 40 -50 cases per day. No major health concerns were reported during the reporting week.

The additionally required cabinet for the medical unit was delivered by Qandil NGO on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June. This cabinet will be used for the upcoming nutrition survey among children in the camp and later to cover preventive services, and in particular maternal and child care. The cabin is at the final stage of installation. it will be equipped with air conditioning. However lack of some medicines remain a concern in the camp and MSF is conducting an assessment on available medications.

## 2.3 Supply of potable water

Fayda Water Department continues the provision of potable water by tankers with a capacity of 150,000 litres per day. In addition, DoH continues the distribution of chloride tablets for family's water storage tanks every three days. The quantity of water has been increased during the reporting period due to the expansion of the camp.

UNHCR through Qandil provided 48 water tanks of 1000 liters capacity each to 48 families. In line with the expansion of the camp, a more sustainable water project with water network and required storage capacity is required. UNHCR is currently discussing with the Duhok department for sustainable water supply project to the current phase one of the camp as well as phase two. The extension of the water supply network for phase three and four is as well in planning. All this, is to replace the currently ongoing water tankering done by the authorities.

## 2.4 Nutrition

DDM continues the provision of three hot meals a day to the single males, while providing dry food rations to the families who have kitchen facilities. DDM has agreed to cover additional dry food shares for families for the second half of June. WFP is looking at providing food rations to the population in Domiz as of July, while assessing the situation of the Syrians and planning to distribute food vouchers at a later stage.

DDM continues the provision of three hot meals a day to the single males, while providing dry food rations to the families who have kitchen facilities. WFP is looking at providing food rations to the population in Domiz early August and planning to distribute food vouchers and eventually electronic vouchers at a later stage. UNHCR has coordinated with DDM and agreed to extend the provision of the dry food for families for another month and will continue the provision of three hot meals a day to the singles until WFP program starts running. DDM hired a supplier for the provision of fresh bread three times a day. DoH started initial preparations for conducting a nutrition survey, and provided the required training,, the survey is planned to start on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> of June and will last for 5 days.

### **2.5 Sanitation and Hygiene**

In addition to the regular garbage collection in Domiz camp by Fayda Municipality, UNHCR through Qandil hired one tractor and 8 workers among the Syrian new arrivals to remove solid items and garbage in internal roads, open spaces and the surrounding areas of Domiz camp.



Garbage collection in the camp

### **2.6 Services for persons with specific needs**

UNHCR continues its daily field visits to the Syrian families and singles in order to assess the needs and identify possible gaps. Reported case of domestic violence was followed by UNHCR community services, as well as the cases of the unaccompanied children and separated children that were interviewed. It was recommended to conduct an awareness session on SGBV in the camp. On another aspect the team identified a case of a single with mental disorder that was subjected to sexual harassment, the case was taken care of and will be provided with a tent close to the administration unit to ensure his protection.

Focus groups discussions that included Syrian males and females, and youths were held as part of the UNHCR engagement with displaced refugee boys and girls.

The team had organized the World Refugee Day in Domiz camp, the event was attended by DDM Director, Fayda Municipality Representative and several NGOs and partners. The event was an opportunity to address the population and to share key message regarding their new life in the camp, and was also an opportunity for the residents of the camp to organize and participate in musical and painting activities.



Celebrating the World Refugee Day

### **2.7 Access to Education**

Several steps have been taken to secure education for school age children during summer time. Arrangements are in place to launch the summer education plan for 175 children; UNICEF is deploying efforts to secure the text books and the curriculum from Syria, however these efforts did not materialize and the curriculum was not obtained and is not available in Syria. UNHCR is organizing a coordination meeting with UNICEF and DoE to discuss the way forward.

### **3. Security**

The Asaayish security staff are available in the camp around the clock to ensure the security of the camp and the surrounding area.

### **4. Coordination and Partnership**

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of June, a UN mission comprising of the SRSG in Iraq, UNHCR, UNAMI and IOM paid a visit to the Governor Office and met with the Head of Dohuk Provincial Council, then visited Domiz camp where the delegation met with residents of the camp and discussed the concerns of women and youth.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of June, UNHCR organized two coordination meetings with the Electricity and Water Departments of Duhok, both meetings aimed to agree on final proposals for the installation of electricity in the camp by the Government and UNHCR` support for sustainable water project for phases 1 and 2 of the camp` expansion.

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