

SOMALIA TASK FORCE ON YEMEN SITUATION

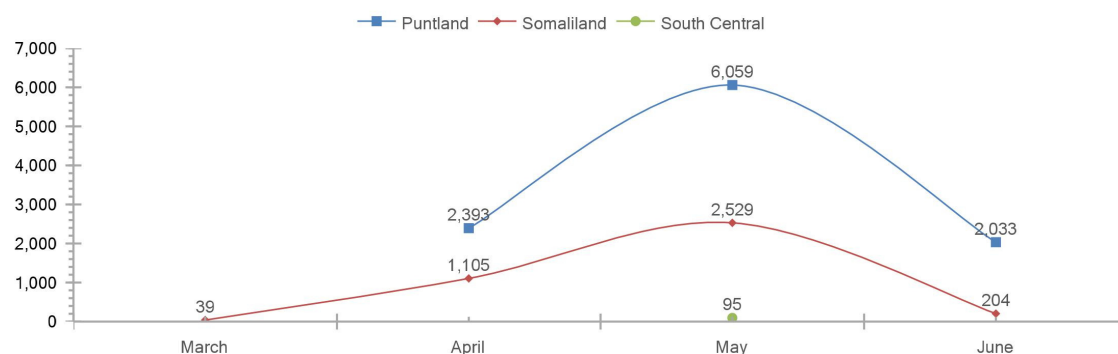
WEEKLY SITREP #23

5 June – 9 June 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- Between 5 and 9 June 2015, two boats arrived in Bossaso, Puntland from Mukalla Port, Yemen. On 4 June, a boat arrived in Bossaso carrying 171 individuals, while a second boat arrived on 6 June, carrying 1,679 individuals. The boat arrived on 6 June was organized by the Federal Government of Somalia to support evacuations from Yemen.
- One boat arrived in Berbera, Somaliland, on 5 June 2015, carrying 163 new arrivals (52 households).
- On 9 June 2015, a delegation from ECHO visited the Reception Center in Berbera.
- The total number of arrivals to date is 14,457 individuals. Out of them, 8,112 individuals were registered at the Reception Centers in Bossaso and Berbera.
- Weekly meeting of the country-level inter-agency Task Force on Yemen situation are taking place on regular basis, as well as field level New Arrivals Task Force meetings in Puntland and Somaliland. A Joint Task Force meeting with the Federal Government of Somalia is planned for next week.

ARRIVALS PER MONTH



ARRIVALS PER NATIONALITY

| Origin | Arrived to | | | Total | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Puntland | Somaliland | South Central | | |
| Djibouti | 6 | | | 6 | 0 % |
| England | 1 | | | 1 | 0 % |
| Ethiopia | 32 | 41 | | 73 | 1 % |
| Kenya | 6 | | | 6 | 0 % |
| Palestine | | 2 | | 2 | 0 % |
| Somalia | 10,057 | 3,147 | 95 | 13,299 | 92 % |
| Syria | | 7 | | 7 | 0 % |
| Tanzania | | 1 | | 1 | 0 % |
| USA | | 2 | | 2 | 0 % |
| Yemen | 383 | 677 | | 1,060 | 7 % |
| Total | 10,485 | 3,877 | 95 | 14,457 | 100 % |
| | 73 % | 27 % | 1 % | | |

ARRIVALS PER GENDER/AGE

| Gender | Arrived to | | | Total | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Puntland | Somaliland | South Central | | |
| Children | 4,278 | 1,588 | 23 | 5,889 | 41 % |
| Females | 3,563 | 1,214 | 23 | 4,800 | 34 % |
| Males | 2,524 | 1,075 | 16 | 3,615 | 25 % |
| Total | 10,365 | 3,877 | 62 | 14,304 | 100 % |
| | 72 % | 27 % | 0 % | | |

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 | A boat named *Shamis 2*, carrying 171 individuals (53 women, 49 men and 69 children), arrived on 4 June 2015 to the Port of Bossaso from Mukalla, Yemen. Among the new arrivals there were 26 Yemeni nationals and 145 Somali nationals.

A boat named *Sultana*, carrying 1,679 individuals (597 women, 439 men and 643 children), arrived on 6 June 2015 to the Port of Bossaso from Mukalla, Yemen. Among the new arrivals there were 63 Yemenis, 1 Ethiopian (recognized refugee in Yemen) and 1,615 Somali nationals.



New arrivals disembark from boat *Sultana*, carrying 1,679 individuals fleeing Yemen, in Bossaso Port, Puntland, on 6 June 2015/UNHCR



Route and travel means | The boats that arrived the morning of 4 and 6 June sailed from Mukalla, Yemen to Bossaso, Somalia. The journey from port to port took approximately 24 hours.

Assistance provided and identified gaps |

Arrival at the Port and Registration: As with previous arrivals, reception at Bossaso Port was coordinated by Puntland authorities in collaboration with UNHCR and IOM. The WHO-led medical team provided polio vaccinations to all arrivals and measles vaccinations to all children upon arrival. Information concerning available services to returnees was provided by all Puntland New Arrivals Task Force members, while DRC and IOM provided refreshments at the Port (water and biscuits). IOM facilitated the transportation of arrivals from the Port to the Reception Centre. Upon arrival at the Reception Centre, a dedicated team was waiting to provide assistance to the new arrivals. UNHCR, together with the Puntland Ministry of Interior registered all new arrivals at the Centre. UNHCR has continued to give practical training to the Puntland Ministry of Interior registration team.

Health and WASH Services at the Reception Centre: 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).

There are two doctors and nurses working in the Centre to address any medical and health concerns that arise there. Referrals are sent to either Bossaso Public Hospital or to Daryel Private Hospital. Additionally, there are health and sanitation promotion teams working at the Centre. Médecins du Monde (MDM) provides maternal health care for those in need including the transfer of women in labour to delivery centres. They also have one ambulance on call for the referral of sick patients. SRCS has an outpatient medical department (OPD) at the Reception Centre. SCI also provides medical referrals and covers inpatient costs including food and accommodation.

DRC provided sanitary pads to 262 women and girls at the Reception Center. NRC is currently conducting a hygiene awareness campaign aimed to encourage Reception Centre staff and new arrivals to maintain a clean environment in which to operate in. UNHCR is also coordinating with UNICEF to conduct an assessment of the WASH situation at the Reception Center.

Food and Nutrition Assistance provided at the Reception Centre: WFP, through implementing partner Puntland Youth and Social Development Association (PSA), provides meals at the Reception Centre. SCI provides milk and high-nutrition biscuits for all new arrivals to the Centre on the first day of arrival, and in the subsequent days, support is scaled down to only children, pregnant and lactating women and others identified as vulnerable and in need.

Onward transportation assistance: Between 4 and 8 June, UNHCR provided onward travel assistance to 337 Somali returnees (115 households) to enable them to return to their area of origin. In total, UNHCR has to date supported 1,154 individuals with onward transportation assistance. Cumulatively, the Puntland New Arrivals Task Force has assisted approximately 1,749 individuals to return to their areas of origin, primarily located in areas in South Central Somalia regions.



UNHCR, IOM and other humanitarian partners provide water to new arrivals at Bossaso Port, Puntland, on 6 June 2015/UNHCR

The local community, including local businesses, have also have been instrumental and very supportive in terms of providing Somali returnees with assistance to travel back to their areas of origin. A business community leader will from now on join the Puntland Task Force and they will be reporting the figures of those they have assisted.

Yemeni refugee registration: Yemeni nationals wishing to claim asylum in Puntland are registered as refugees on a *prima facie* basis. On 4, 5 and 7 June, UNHCR staff registered 68 individuals (25 households). The total number of Yemenis registered and recognized as refugees on a *prima facie* basis, is currently 235 individuals. UNHCR Bossaso continues to provide information on asylum procedures to all Yemenis and new arrivals at the Port of Bossaso from other nationalities, and will register those wishing to claim asylum.

Second Reception Centre update: UNHCR is working closely with DRC and the Puntland Ministry of Interior (MOI) in the establishment of a second Reception Centre at the allocated site in Bossaso. The Centre design and bill of quantities (BOQ) has been completed. On 31 May, DRC along with the Minister of Interior and MOI staff made a joint visit to the site and reported that the rehabilitation works thus far have been progressing.

Challenges/gaps: The main challenges and gaps in Bossaso are the following:

- Security at the Reception Centre remains a primary concern. Puntland Ministry of Interior, along with the Puntland Task Force members is developing standard operating procedure (SOPs) for security in order to tighten practices already in place. A token system was introduced in order to better monitor those arriving from the Port as well as movements in and out of the Reception Centre and this has proved fruitful.
- Registration of new Yemeni refugees as well as Somali arrivals and third country nationals is currently ongoing, but requires to be strengthened. Efforts to enhance registration capacity are ongoing, including hiring of two new Registration Assistants by UNHCR. A training of trainers for registration/protection UNHCR staff has been scheduled for 16 June 2015 and equipment for biometric registration has been procured and is going to be in place by the end of June in Berbera, Bossaso and Mogadishu.

Coordination | UNHCR has invited the business community to join the Puntland Task Force. The community was receptive to this and has designated an individual to take part in Task Force meetings and provide figures on those they have assisted.

On 10 June, members of the Task Force planned to visit IDP settlements to obtain the number of new arrivals from Yemen who may have settled in IDP settlements, namely in Garowe, where the Ministry of Interior reported that there are around 2,000 stranded persons.

Potential new arrivals | The Puntland Ministry of Interior has reported that a ship carrying around 2,500 people has just sailed from Mukalla Port of Yemen and is expected to arrive on 11 June at the Port of Bossaso.

Somaliland

New Arrivals | The latest arrival in Somaliland was a boat carrying 163 individuals (52 households) which landed in Berbera Port on 5 June 2015. Among this group there were 69 Yemeni nationals, 91 Somali nationals as well as 3 new arrivals of other nationalities (1 Tanzanian and 2 Syrians). 20 individuals out of the 163 new arrivals have dual nationality (10 individuals Somali and Yemeni, and 10 individuals Yemeni and USA citizens).

Route and travel means of new arrivals | The boat *Asadaldin* that arrived on 5 June 2015 carrying 163 passengers departed from Mokha, Yemen, at 06:00 pm on 3 June 2015 and arrived in Berbera at 11:30 pm on 4 June 2015. New arrivals on this boat advised that they had travelled from their homes in Taiz, Hudayda and Sana'a to Mokha Port using various routes and means, and passing through check-points controlled by different militias groups. They paid 100 USD for their boat journeys, although younger children were allowed to travel for free. They reported that they were accommodated in narrow spaces between the boat's cargo of vegetables and in other crowded spaces on the upper deck of the boat. During their journey, they were given water and some food.

Protection information and special needs of new arrivals | The boat called *Asadaldin*, carrying 163 passengers, arrived in Berbera at 11:30 pm on 4 June 2015. Berbera Port Authority did not allow docking during the night and the boat waited nearby the Port until 8:30 am on the next day, when new arrivals were allowed to disembark. Arrivals advised that their passports/national ID cards were taken from them at the Port of Mokha, Yemen and given to the boat crew, who subsequently provided the passports to the Authorities in Berbera upon arrival. However, one arrival reported that his national ID card was left behind by the crew in Mokha. No other protection or security incidents prior to or during the journey were reported. Many new arrivals on the boat needed assistance because of the additional time spent at sea. Many reported symptoms of dehydration and sea-sickness, one pregnant woman was sick and provided with medical treatments at the Reception Center, and two elderly women were having regular blood pressure and medical screening.

Assistance provided and identified gaps of new arrivals | Arrival at the Port and Assistance at Reception Center: As per standard processes, new arrivals were provided with food and assistance as required upon arrival at the Reception Center in Berbera. Although many new arrivals departed on their journeys to their final destinations as soon as they were able to, some required further assistance. Vulnerability assessments were conducted, and IOM transportation assistance was made available to those in need. So far, 185 new arrivals with special needs were supported through Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Somaliland (CCBR) so far at Berbera/Hargeisa level. Several partners conducted training on special needs and child protection. By 9 June 2015, all but one family of new arrivals had vacated the Reception Centers in Berbera. The second Reception Center is now fully functional.

Onward transportation assistance: So far, 693 individuals were supported with onward transportation assistance to South Central regions, as well as 431 within Somaliland. From the last boat arrival on 5 June, 73 new arrivals were supported with onward transportation assistance to South Central regions and 20 within Somaliland.

Yemeni refugee registration: Up to date, 100 Yemeni new arrivals were registered by the Somaliland Ministry of Resettlement Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (MRR&R) through the registration center in Hargeisa, with the support of UNHCR. Documents/Certificates are being distributed.

Challenges/gaps: The main challenges and gaps in Berbera are the following:

- UNHCR is still following up with Berbera authorities to facilitate access to Berbera Port as well as to identify a third Reception Center site. The Deputy Governor of Berbera complained about the food quality in the Reception Centre, stating that nutritional value and variety in dishes provided to families are not adequate.
- Registration needs to be further strengthened. A new UNHCR Associate Database Administrator is currently looking at the registration arrangements at Berbera and Hargeisa level.

Coordination | UNHCR Hargeisa has maintained presence of international staff in Berbera for the last week, and many coordination meetings with partners and authorities have taken place.

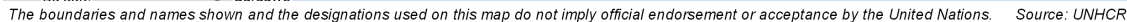
On 9 June, a Somaliland New Arrivals Task Force was held at Hargeisa in order to share information on developments since 26 May, to discuss action plan updates, roles/responsibilities as well as registration and special needs arrangements.

UNHCR has also been in contact with the Yemeni Community Committee in Hargeisa in order to clarify arrangements in place for reception and accommodation in host community of Yemeni new arrivals and discuss referral mechanisms for those with special needs.

South Central Regions

Coordination | On 7 June, UNHCR had a meeting in Mogadishu with the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs, established under the Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs of the Federal Government of Somalia, and developed draft Terms of Reference (TORs) for the Joint Technical Task Force comprising technical focal points of the Federal Government of Somalia's Emergency Task Force and the UN/NGO inter-agency Task Force on Yemen situation. The draft TORs will be reviewed by the Joint Task Force on Yemen situation, in a meeting scheduled for next week.

UNHCR and IOM are coordinating on how to expand the reception capacity for arrivals from Yemen in Mogadishu, where there is currently an IOM-manned Reception Center. UNHCR and IOM plan to undertake a joint mission to assess the current facility and advocate with the Federal Government of Somalia to allocate land for the establishment of a larger facility.



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