

UNHCR THAILAND

21 June 2014

REFUGEES' FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

When will refugees have to leave the camp and is there a plan for returning to Myanmar?

There is no timeframe for voluntary repatriation. Planning for the return of any refugee that would like to return home to Myanmar is an ongoing process in consultation with them and with concerned actors.

Are all refugees expected to return to Myanmar? What are options for refugees who do not wish to return to Myanmar?

Return home (voluntary repatriation) is an individual, voluntary decision. For those refugees that are unable to return to Myanmar because of legitimate protection reasons, then other options will have to be explored.

RESETTLEMENT

Is there a plan for registering those refugees who are currently unregistered?

Royal Thai Government has no plan to register unregistered refugees.

What about resettlement; will numbers decrease, are unregistered refugees ever going to get the opportunity to be resettled to a third country?

Resettlement is not a right but it may be an option for some refugees that are unable to return home due to legitimate protection reasons.

In the context of Thailand, only refugees that are registered by RTG and UNHCR may be considered for resettlement.

The number of resettlement cases has decreased in the past few years and will continue to decrease.

What are the criteria for accepting and rejecting refugees for resettlement?

Refugees are submitted for resettlement on UNHCR criteria that is based on the grounds of individual protection concerns and specific vulnerabilities. Resettlement countries ultimately decide who they accept for resettlement (according to their respective national legislation).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

What is the result of the Myanmar population census conducted in 2014?

According to public media articles the results of the population census will be published in August 2014. Please keep updated through the articles and reports contained on the Thailand-Myanmar Cross Border Web Portal: www.commonservice.info

Why were the questions for the MFLF survey different for registered and unregistered refugees and when will we get the results from the surveys?

The questions were the same for all refugees, registered or unregistered, there was no distinction in the survey questionnaire. The results for each camp have been shared with the KRC, KnRC and the nine camp committees.

The overall data will be analyzed and a final report will be made available by UNHCR to concerned agencies and organizations - including the Governments of Thailand and Myanmar, the refugee committees, NGOs, CBOs and donors - that are ready and able to assist refugees in securing durable solutions.

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Links:

Thailand-Myanmar Cross Border Web Portal: www.commonservice.info

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