

SOMALIA TASK FORCE ON YEMEN SITUATION

WEEKLY INTER-AGENCY UPDATE #35

25 – 31 August 2015

KEY FIGURES

28,887

Arrivals from Yemen since 27 March at the early onset of the crisis

2,949

Yemeni prima facie refugees registered in Somalia since 27 March

17,493

Arrivals registered at Reception Centers in Berbera, Bossaso and Mogadishu since 27 March

55%

Registered arrivals expressing intention to return to Mogadishu

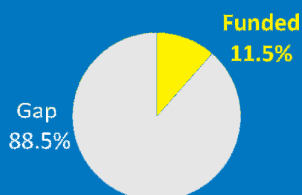
8,873

Somali returnees provided with onward transportation assistance since 27 March

FUNDING

USD 64 million

requested for the **Somalia Response Plan for Yemen Crisis (April-September 2015)**



HIGHLIGHTS

- During the reporting period, a total of three boats carrying 96 individuals arrived in Somalia from Yemen to Berbera, Somaliland (54 persons) and Bossaso, Puntland (42 persons). Out of them, 88 individuals were registered by UNHCR in collaboration with local authorities and partners in Berbera and Bossaso Reception Centers.
- The most recent arrival was on 30 August, a boat named *Asaladin* carrying 23 individuals of 10 families (8 Somalis and 15 Yemenis) in Berbera. Another boat arrived in Berbera on 27 August carrying 31 individuals of 15 families (1 Somali, 27 Yemenis and 3 Ethiopians). The latest arrival in Bossaso was on 28 August, a boat named *Shemis 2* carrying 42 individuals (36 Somalis and 6 Yemenis).
- A total of 69 Somali returnees from Yemen (18 households) have reached South Central regions of Somalia in the reporting period (20 individuals of 4 households to Luuq, Gedo region, and 49 individuals of 14 households to Baidoa, Bay region). Out of them, 27 individuals were supported with return assistance package by UNHCR and partners.



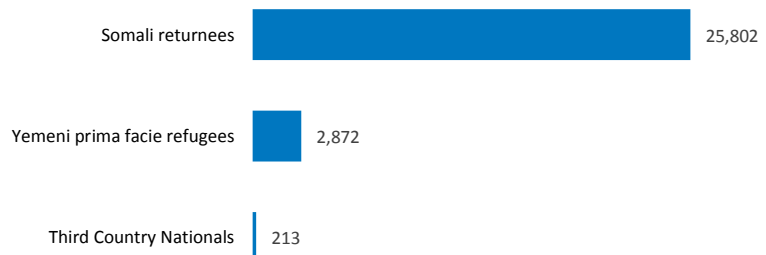
Somali returnees from Yemen being verified at Luuq Way Station in order to receive return assistance package © UNHCR Somalia



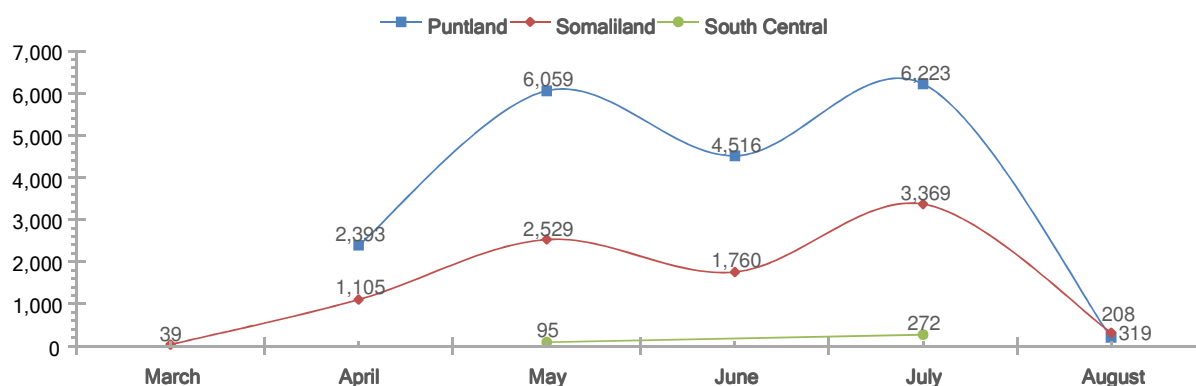
Somali returnees from Yemen receiving return package at Luuq Way Station © UNHCR Somalia

Population of concern

A total of **28,887** people of concern



ARRIVALS PER MONTH



ARRIVALS PER NATIONALITY AND GENDER/AGE

Nationality	Arrived to			Total	
	Puntland	Somaliland	South Central		
Djibouti	6	1		7	0 %
Ethiopia	65	107		172	1 %
India	2			2	0 %
Kenya	7			7	0 %
Lebanon		1		1	0 %
Libya		2		2	0 %
Pakistan		1		1	0 %
Palestine		2		2	0 %
Somalia	17,795	7,640	367	25,802	89 %
Sudan	1			1	0 %
Syria		10		10	0 %
Tanzania		1		1	0 %
UK	3			3	0 %
USA	2	2		4	0 %
Yemen	1,518	1,354		2,872	10 %
Total	19,399	9,121	367	28,887	100 %
	67.15 %	31.57 %	1.27 %		

G/A	Arrived to			Total	
	PL	SL	SC		
Children	8,162	4,345	23	12,530	44 %
Females	5,885	2,468	123	8,476	30 %
Males	5,232	2,308	112	7,652	27 %
Total	19,279	9,121	258	28,658	100 %
	67.27 %	31.83 %	0.90 %		

Note: not all individuals that arrived remained to be registered. The figures shown here reflect those who have chosen to have their bio data collected

INTENDED AREAS OF RETURN OF REGISTERED ARRIVALS

Areas of Intended Return	First Point of Entry from Yemen			Total	
	Puntland	Somaliland	South Central		
Mogadishu	4,541	4,996	0	9,537	55 %
Hargeisa	326	1,618	0	1,944	11 %
Bossaso	642	247	0	889	5 %
Kismayo	338	177	0	515	3 %
Baidoa	364	148	0	512	3 %
Afgooye	227	124	0	351	2 %
Other locations	1,926	1,757	62	3,745	21 %
Total Arrivals Registered at Reception Centers	8,364	9,067	62	17,493	100 %

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

A decreasing trend of arrivals in Somalia continues to be noted in the month of August. New arrivals in Somaliland reported that one reason for the decrease is because air strikes have also started in Mokha Port, Yemen, and many people were currently afraid to travel to Mokha, and were waiting to see how the situation further develops before attempting to start their sea journey from Mokha.

Achievements



Protection

PUNTLAND

Achievements and Impact

- The boat that arrived in Bossaso on 28 August departed from Mukalla, Yemen, although most of the people on board came from Al Kharaz, Aden and Sana'a, which means they had traveled far on the road in Yemen to get to the Sea Port. Among the Somalis were 20 children (eight males and 12 females). Out of the 42 people who arrived on 28 August, 34 requested assistance and were transported by IOM to Bossaso Reception Center.
- UNHCR registered 69 Yemenis (23 households) as prima facie refugees in Bossaso during the reporting period. A total of 1,634 Yemeni refugees comprising 603 households were registered by UNHCR in Bossaso since the beginning of the Yemen crisis.
- Save the Children International (SCI) conducted psycho-social sessions for 125 children (73 girls and 52 boys) and Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) provided psycho-social support for eight Somali returnees at Bossaso Reception Center.
- Tadamon Social Society (TASS) reunited three separated children with their extended families and provided psycho-social support to two women and one minor for Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV).
- NRC registered and verified 1,600 Somali returnees who have joined IDP settlements in Bossaso in order to provide them with financial assistance. The distribution of the cash grant will take place in the following week.

SOMALILAND

Achievements and Impact

- The boat that arrived in Berbera on 30 August departed from Mokha, Yemen, and the majority of arrivals left originally from Taiz, from where they reached Mokha on 27-29 August. The journey from Mokha Port to Berbera lasted 23 hours, but due to strong off shore winds they could dock only after eight hours. The group did not report any security or protection incident, apart from the difficulty in finding food, water and accommodation in Mokha as hotels have become more expensive. The travel cost from Mokha to Berbera was 100 USD for adults, while children travelled free of charge. They were given water and food on the boat.
- Upon arrival in Berbera Port, Somaliland Immigration authorities asked for visa costs of 50 USD from arrivals identified as business people, but arrivals who did not have proper documentation were not asked for visa payment. At Berbera Reception Center, food, psycho-social and family reunification assistance was provided and most of the new arrivals left the Center in a few hours, except for one large family (one Somali man, Yemeni wife and eight children) that required further assistance.
- The group of 31 people that arrived on 27 August in Berbera departed from Mokha on 25 August and was mostly coming from Sana'a and Taiz. One man of Ethiopian nationality arrived in Somaliland few weeks ago and had returned to Yemen to bring his family (wife and son). The group also reported a difficult situation in Mokha and paid 100 USD for adults for the sea trip, but one old lady and children were allowed to travel free of charge. Three families (15 individuals) mentioned that they had departed previously from Sana'a and arrived in Mokha, but had returned to Sana'a due to air strikes in Mokha on 18 August. They then left again Sana'a and reached Mokha where they could embark for the sea trip. Once reached the Berbera coast in the morning of 27 August, the boat had to wait due to strong winds and could dock only at noon.
- A total of 1,315 Yemeni refugees (689 cases) have been registered by the Somaliland Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (MRRR) in Hargeisa, with the collaboration of UNHCR, from 28 March 2015 to 30 August 2015.
- Approximately 100 identified Yemeni vulnerable individuals are currently being assessed by UNHCR's partner Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Somaliland (CCBRS) to be included in the monthly subsistence allowance programme, while approximately 200 identified Yemeni vulnerable individuals are being assessed by UNHCR's partner Action Africa Help International (AAH-I) to be included in the ongoing livelihoods projects.

- UNHCR, in collaboration with AAH-I, organized a radio awareness campaign on non-return advisory for new arrivals willing to go back to Yemen. UNHCR also clarified to Yemeni refugees in Somaliland that the Reception Center in Berbera is aimed to receive new arrivals from Yemen, not to support Yemeni returning to Yemen as UNHCR currently do not facilitate repatriation to Yemen.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- On 26 August, a group of 47 Yemeni individuals residing in Somaliland planned to go back to Aden, Yemen by commercial boat. UNHCR, through its partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC), in Berbera tried to contact these individuals in order to inform them about the dangers to go to Yemen, including smuggling and ongoing conflict in Aden. The Yemenis stated that they are in communication with their relatives and that they have informed them that the situation in Aden is almost stable and they can return. They refused to stay in Somaliland complaining about lack of support. On 28 August, out of the 47 Yemenis, 43 were able to take a boat from Berbera to Mokha.
- A number of Somalis returnees (with dual nationality) have been registered as Yemeni nationals by the MRRR, therefore they were given prima facie recognition, not in line with the 1951 Convention and its Protocol. UNHCR will conduct a verification exercise and continue close monitoring and information sharing on the definition of refugee recognition.
- Challenges remained in terms of increasing number of identified vulnerable new arrivals, mostly Somalis returnees.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONS

Achievements and Impact

- During the reporting period, UNHCR, through its implementing partners DRC and INTERSOS, verified 69 Somali returnees from Yemen that arrived in Luuq and Baidoa to identify the ones eligible for further assistance based on vulnerability assessment conducted at Reception Centers in Berbera and Bossaso, and supported 20 returnees (four households, 17 females and 3 males) with the return assistance package in Luuq Way Station, and seven returnees from Yemen (two households) in Baidoa Way Station. The package is alike to the one provided to Somali returnees from Kenya and includes Core Relief Item kit, three-month food ratio and reinstallation unconditional cash grant of 100 USD per person, up to 600 USD per family. One more household of three individuals is being verified at the Way Station and is awaiting assistance.
- UNHCR-funded Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), implemented by NRC, has not reported any arrival of Somali returnees from Yemen in Mogadishu during the reporting period; this is due to the fact that returnees are currently in transit to major town connecting Berbera and Bossaso ports of entry with Mogadishu.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is growing need to initiate provision of return assistance package in Mogadishu. Efforts are underway to secure transit/reception facilities in Mogadishu for effective verification and distribution of return assistance package.



Health

PUNTLAND

Achievements and Impact

- SCI, in coordination with Gardo Hospital, has set up a mobile health clinic providing emergency health support to Yemeni refugees. The clinic consists of four nurses, one doctor and an ambulance.
- In the reporting period, SCI and SRCS provided emergency medical referrals and first aid to eight new arrivals and TASS local NGO provided emergency medical support to two children with respiratory problems at Bossaso Reception Center. TASS also provided medical treatment to three SGBV survivors.
- IOM is conducting a refresher training for the two Puntland Ministry of Health teams in the Bossaso Reception Center on 1-2 September. The teams that are being trained are from both the morning and the afternoon/evening shift, and consist of two doctors, four nurses (vaccinators and midwives), and two hygiene promoters.

SOMALILAND

Achievements and Impact

- From the 27 and 30 August arrivals in Berbera, IOM's medical team examined a total of seven patients, four males and three females. No referrals to hospital were necessary.



Food Security and Nutrition

PUNTLAND

Achievements and Impact

- SCI distributed ready to drink milk and biscuits to children and pregnant women at Bossaso Reception Center.
- WFP continued to provide cooked meals to all arrivals at Bossaso Reception Center, through their implementing partner Puntland Youth and Social Development Association (PSA).
- WFP registered an additional 139 individuals (44 households) in Gardo and continued to provide food assistance to all Yemeni families there, comprising 477 individuals. All registered households are given an e-transfer card to purchase food items from WFP contracted retailers.

SOMALILAND**Achievements and Impact**

- The new arrivals in Berbera Reception Center are now provided with wet food by WFP through DRC. The food ratio is composed of: 375 gr of Corn Soya Blend (CSB), 27 gr of pulse, 30 gr of oil and 40 gr of porridge per day per person.

**Water and Sanitation****PUNTLAND****Achievements and Impact**

- During the reporting period, NRC continued a water, sanitation and hygiene campaign at 1st Reception Center in Bossaso, which includes garbage collection and hygiene awareness, and distributed two skips (containers for waste) to the new Reception Center in Bossaso. SRCS continued to provide five volunteers for hygiene and sanitation improvement in the 1st Reception Center.
- SCI provided supplementary drinking water to Yemeni refugees at Bossaso Reception Center.

**Shelter and NFIs****SOMALILAND****Achievements and Impact**

- Out of the groups that arrived on 27 and 30 August, UNHCR provided five families with Core Relief Item kits. A total of 503 CRI kits were distributed since the beginning of the Yemen situation in Berbera Reception Center (including blanket, jerry can, and sleeping mats).

**Logistics****PUNTLAND****Achievements and Impact**

- Out of the group of 42 people that arrived on 28 August, following registration and vulnerability assessment, UNHCR, through its implementing partner IOM, provided onward transport assistance to 25 individuals who reported that they wanted to travel to Mogadishu (11), Barawe (9), Burhakabe (3), Afgooye (1) and Janaale (1).

SOMALILAND**Achievements and Impact**

- None of the arrivals of 27 August in Berbera requested onward transportation assistance and carried on to their areas of choice / origin using their own means.
- For the boat that arrived on the 30 August, UNHCR, through its partner IOM, is providing onward transportation assistance for two Yemenis and eight Somalis all traveling to Hargeisa.

Working in partnership

- UNHCR Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Yemen Situation, Ms. Claire Bourgeois, is visiting Mogadishu on 2-3 September 2015, in order to meet with representatives of the Federal Government of Somalia, Yemeni refugees and Somali returnees, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Mr. Nicholas Kay, and the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia, Mr. Peter de Clercq.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Somalia Response Plan for Yemen Crisis (April – September 2015) was released on 4 June and shared with donors, governments and partners. 11 UN agencies and NGOs participate in the inter-agency response. The Response Plan can be accessed at <http://goo.gl/pVH7da>. Total funding received to date is USD 7.4 M (approximately 11.5% of total appealed budget of 64 M USD).

Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation: [European Union](#) | [Italy](#) | [Japan](#) | [Sweden](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [United States of America](#)

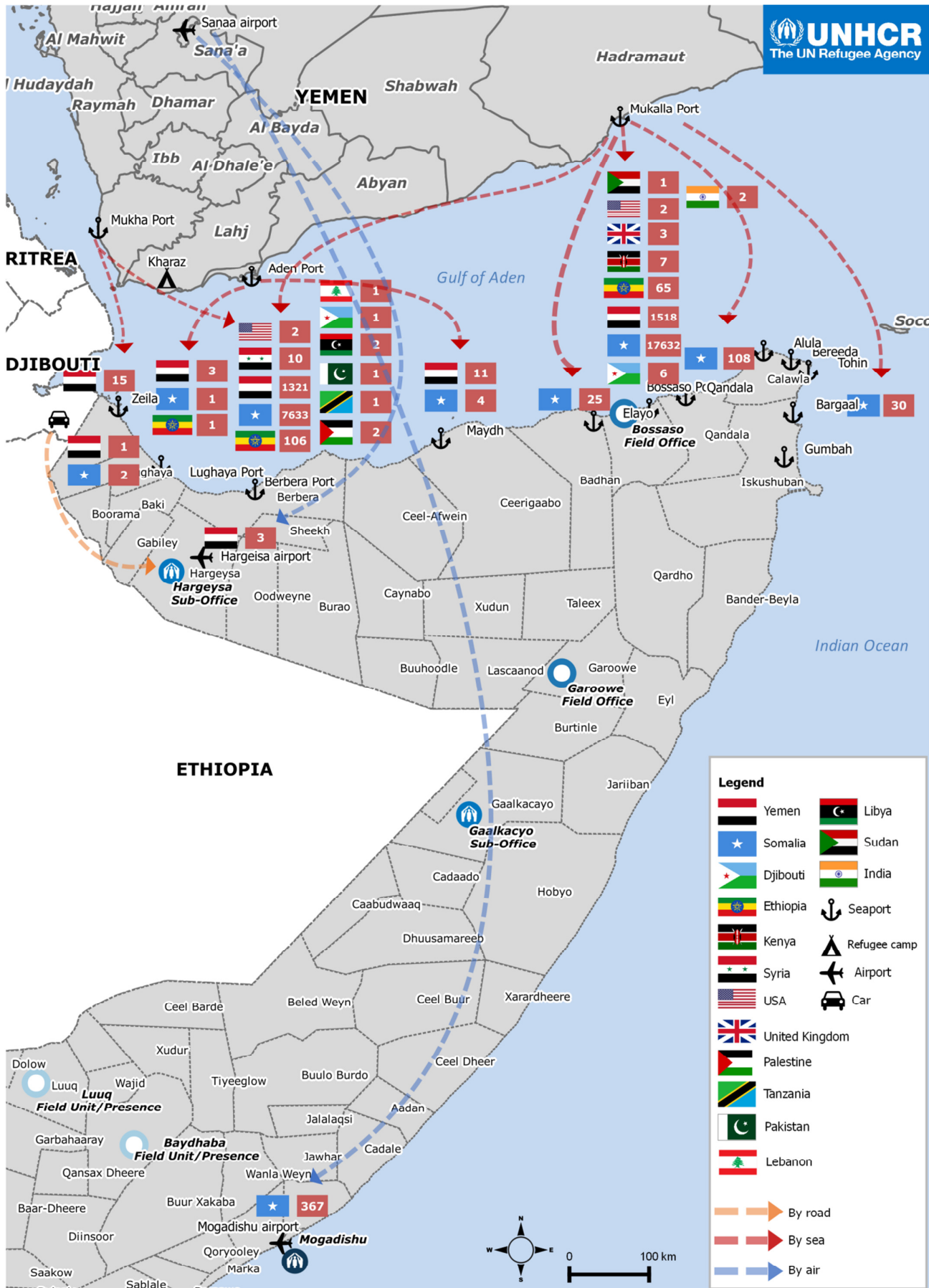
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