

Update N° 15

Final update on the implementation of solutions for residents of Hurriya Temporary Transit Location (TTL)

- The relocation of all residents of Hurriya Temporary Transit Location (TTL) was completed on September 9, 2016. The conclusion of this exercise marks the successful humanitarian transfer of this group.
- From April to mid-September 2016, UNHCR in cooperation with partners, successfully transferred the remaining 1,900 residents of the TTL to Albania, thus bringing the relocation to completion.
- UNHCR and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) have been working since 2011 to find relocation opportunities outside Iraq for residents of Hurriya Temporary Transit Location (TTL). This work is pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the United Nations and the Government of Iraq on 25 December 2011.
- These individuals formerly resided at Camp Ashraf (also known as Camp New Iraq). In 2012, 3,160 residents were registered by UNHCR. Since then, UNHCR, on a good offices basis, has been working with States and its partners to support the relocation of TTL residents.
- UNHCR deeply appreciates the measures taken by some countries to relocate residents to situations of safety and security.
- Albania's exceptional contribution to this humanitarian endeavour merits special note, as Albania has received over 90% of the residents who have been relocated.
- Likewise, the United States has been actively supporting the relocations in a number of ways, and without those sustained and concerted efforts, the achievement reported here would not have been possible.
- In this regard, UNHCR also appreciates the efforts and cooperation of the Government of Iraq, for hosting the residents of the TTL and for being a key partner in the relocation efforts enabling the safe transfer of all residents out of Iraq.
- The successful implementation of this initiative has also been assisted by the residents' commitment, despite difficulties, to meeting the bulk of the associated costs, particularly for long term support of all residents relocated out of Iraq who have no access to state-sponsored assistance.
- Now that the goal of relocating the TTL residents has been reached, UNHCR is pleased to share that all its responsibilities under the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations and the Government of Iraq are met.

- UNHCR recalls the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Iraq and the United Nations explicitly recognizes that residents benefit from the principle of non-refoulement.