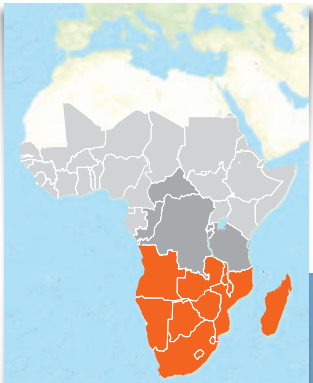


SOUTHERN AFRICA



UNHCR
2012 GLOBAL REPORT

Angola

Botswana

Comoros

Lesotho

Madagascar

Malawi

Mauritius

Mozambique

Namibia

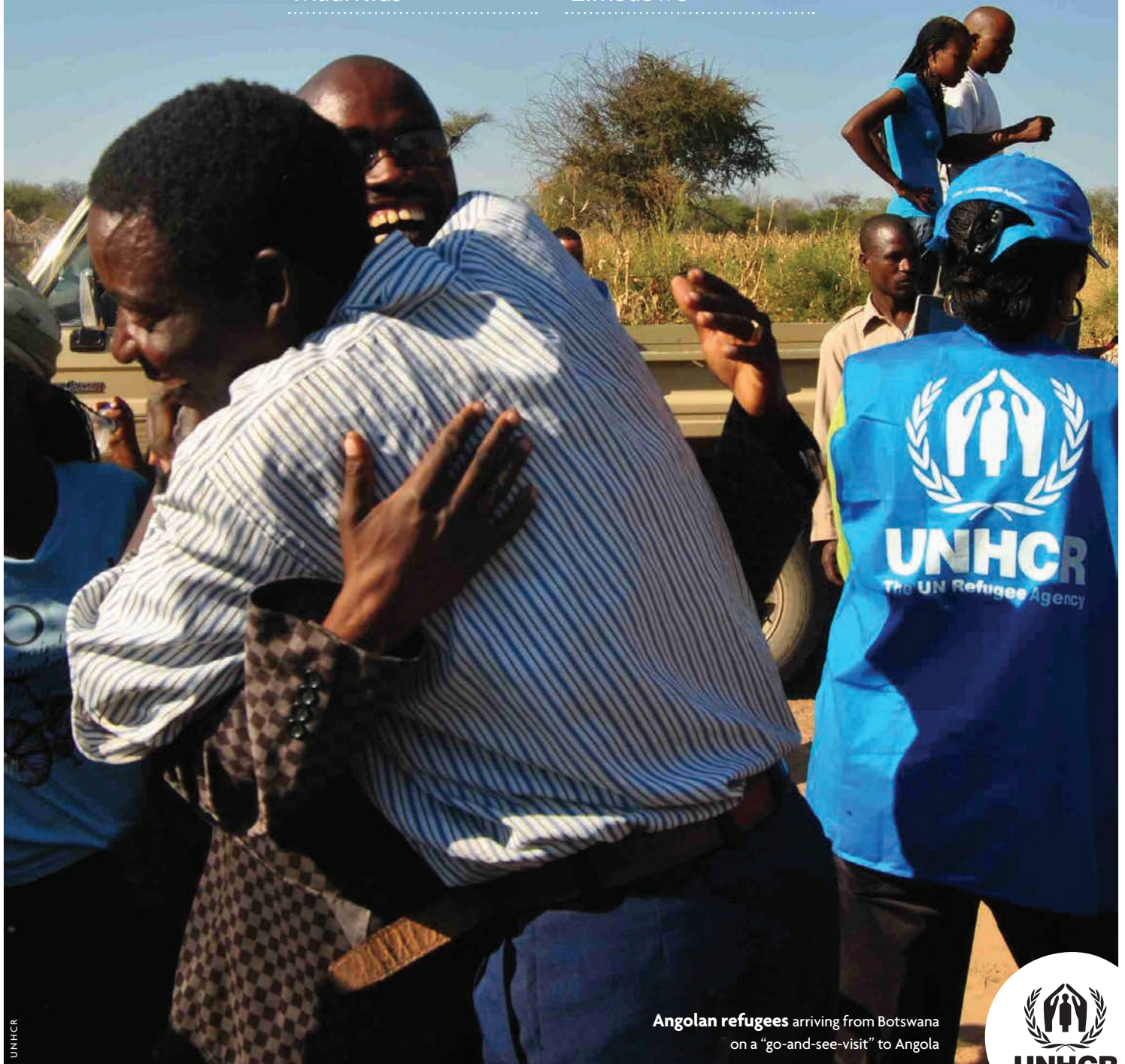
Seychelles

South Africa

Swaziland

Zambia

Zimbabwe



Angolan refugees arriving from Botswana
on a "go-and-see-visit" to Angola

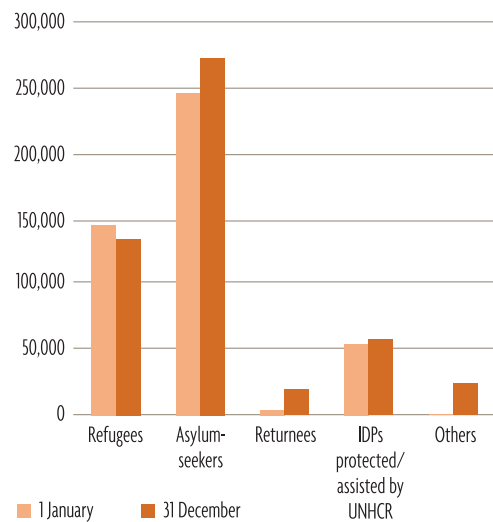
Overview



Highlights

- South Africa hosted a Ministerial Meeting on Comprehensive Solutions for Angolan Refugees in February 2012, attended by representatives of Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Namibia, the Republic of the Congo (Congo) and Zambia. The participants reached an agreement on the steps required to implement the strategy.
- UNHCR assisted some 19,400 Angolans to return home prior to the 30 June deadline for invocation of the cessation clause for Angolans.
- As follow-up to its pledge at the Geneva ministerial meeting in December 2011 to integrate 10,000 Angolan refugees on its soil, the Government of Zambia published the criteria for local integration and began processing residence permits for this group. In Namibia, the Government received assistance from UNHCR to establish a policy on the local integration of Angolans.
- UNHCR trained government officials in Angola, Botswana, Malawi and Zimbabwe to enhance their capacity to adhere to international standards for refugee status determination (RSD).
- The number of resettlement submissions from the subregion in 2012 rose by 19 per cent from the year before, to 3,200.

People of concern to UNHCR in 2012
Southern Africa



- UNHCR assisted 6,000 Zimbabweans to obtain civil status documents. Efforts to prevent and reduce statelessness benefited some 1,000 people in South Africa. There was progress on this front in Angola, Madagascar, Malawi and Mozambique as well.

Working environment

The political environment in Southern Africa remained stable. A change of Government in Malawi slowed progress in asylum policy reform in Malawi. National elections were held mid-year in Angola resulting in President José Eduardo dos Santos being elected for another term.

Mixed-migration movements continued to affect nearly all countries in the region in 2012, although strict measures put in place in 2011 significantly reduced the numbers. Nonetheless, UNHCR continued to receive reports of detention and loss of life among asylum-seekers, and noted restrictive trends concerning asylum. Public attitudes towards foreigners, including refugees and asylum-seekers, have hardened in countries such as Angola and Malawi, where senior politicians have stated publicly that refugees should return home.

Most of the refugees in Southern Africa are in protracted situations. Botswana, Malawi and Zimbabwe maintain strict encampment policies. Refugees reside mainly in camps or settlements in Mozambique and Namibia too, but in these countries they are allowed some freedom of movement in order to work. In Zambia, refugees reside in settlements where they are *de facto* locally integrated. In Angola and South Africa, refugees and asylum-seekers enjoy freedom of movement and live amidst the local population.

Achievements and impact

Fair protection processes

- In 2012, UNHCR noted with concern increasingly restrictive trends in granting access to asylum in the region. This was evident in a reduction in the number of people seeking asylum in Southern Africa, as well as in the number of applicants granted refugee status. The feasibility of return to a third country was often not examined before applicants were sent back to countries of origin. As a result, UNHCR frequently had to conduct RSD under its mandate for those in need of international protection who had been denied refugee status. Nonetheless, collaboration between refugee commissioners of the Southern Africa Development Commission and UNHCR improved in the reporting period.
- Efforts to prevent and reduce statelessness continued in Angola, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa. A survey was undertaken in Blantyre, Malawi to assess the risk of statelessness among some 40,000 individuals of Mozambican origin. UNHCR trained government officials in Mozambique to develop awareness of statelessness issues and supported a governmental registration campaign. In Angola, UNHCR lobbied for the Government to adopt the Statelessness Conventions.

Favourable protection environment

- UNHCR continued to advocate, with limited success, for countries in the region to lift reservations to the 1951 Refugee Convention that restrict freedom of movement and access to education and employment.

- World Refugee Day events highlighted the plight of refugees and their contributions to local communities in order to promote coexistence. Community radio programmes in South Africa addressed contentious issues such as housing and employment.

Basic needs and essential services

- Life-sustaining support was provided to people of concern in all countries in the region. Surveys in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe indicated that the nutritional status and health of the population of concern remained stable; however, the prevalence of anaemia suggested micronutrient deficiencies. Environmental assessments aided efforts to reduce the environmental impact of refugees.
- Southern Africa bears a disproportionately high HIV/AIDS burden, affecting nationals and refugees alike, compelling UNHCR to ensure that equal access to anti-retroviral therapy is provided for refugees. In Botswana, where refugees are excluded from national programmes, UNHCR provided the necessary services. Refugee children generally were able to receive primary and secondary education, while UNHCR supported tertiary education through DAFI scholarships.

Durable solutions

- Implementing the Comprehensive Solutions Strategy for Angolans was a key priority. At the ministerial meeting held in South Africa in February 2012 the Governments of Angola, Botswana, the Congo, the DRC, and Namibia reaffirmed their commitment to invoking the cessation clause and finding durable solutions. Subsequently, nearly 20,000 Angolans were assisted to return home voluntarily in 2012.
- Local-integration activities for Angolans were launched in Namibia and Zambia. The Government of Zambia defined criteria on local integration and disseminated information on the process through publicity campaigns. However, Botswana and South Africa have yet to invoke the cessation clause.
- UNHCR made significant efforts to enhance the role of resettlement in providing durable solutions for refugees in protracted situations. Some 1,800 refugees from the DRC were submitted for resettlement, a 40 per cent increase from the previous year. Overall, with 3,200 submissions, resettlement from the region increased by 19 per cent. Better identification and screening mechanisms in Malawi, Namibia and South Africa helped improve the management of refugees' expectations.

Constraints

- Economic constraints in the region limited the resources available for refugee protection, which had an impact on the quality of RSD decisions.
- Local communities continued to see foreigners as competitors for employment and services.
- The increasing visibility of mixed-migration movements and the blurring of the distinction between refugees and economic migrants hampered UNHCR's efforts to increase self-reliance and promote local integration as a durable solution.

Operations

UNHCR's operation in **South Africa** is described in a separate chapter.

Angola hosts more than 19,000 refugees and asylum-seekers. In 2012, UNHCR helped the Angolan authorities to conduct a registration exercise, the initial results of which point to the presence of a much larger number of people of concern than previously estimated. Of these, some 13,000 who came from Katanga in the DRC have been refugees in Angola for more than 30 years. UNHCR has advocated for the local integration of this group.

The Government of Angola resumed work on the revision of the country's Asylum Law in 2012. Refugees in Angola have freedom of movement and live mainly in urban areas. Most depend on their own means, and many are in a precarious financial situation. To improve self-reliance, UNHCR launched a pilot vocational training project. It also worked with a local partner to provide legal assistance to more than 4,000 people in Luanda, Bengo and Lunda Norte provinces.

In the areas of HIV and AIDS and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), UNHCR conducted training and information sessions that reached some 9,000 people.

More than 19,000 Angolan refugees returned home from Botswana, the DRC, Namibia and Zambia, with UNHCR and IOM providing transportation and ensuring that reception and transit centres were well managed. UNHCR also worked with partners to provide Portuguese-language training to some 9,000 returnees in Moxico province.

Almost 3,500 refugees and asylum-seekers reside in **Botswana**, nearly all of them in the Dukwi refugee camp. The Government enforces a strict encampment policy. Most of the refugees are from Namibia, Zimbabwe, Angola, Somalia and the DRC. The residents of the camp had access to basic services provided by the Government of Botswana, while UNHCR supplied food and domestic items. UNHCR also ensured that refugees affected by HIV and AIDS were able to benefit from anti-retroviral therapy. UNHCR embarked on several initiatives, including art projects, to bring the refugees and host communities together. It also established partnerships with national media to profile positive refugee stories. One result has been that high-achieving refugee students were offered scholarships to the best private schools in the country. UNHCR supported the release of 47 detained asylum-seekers and conducted RSD for 113 refugees not recognized as such by the Government of Botswana. Some 45 cases involving a total of 108 persons were submitted for resettlement consideration. Almost 100 people were repatriated to various countries. UNHCR continued to advocate for the Government to amend Botswana's refugee legislation in order to bring it in line with international standards.

In **Madagascar**, nine refugees received material support. **Lesotho** hosted some 40 refugees from the DRC, Rwanda and other countries, the majority of whom were *de facto* locally integrated and self-reliant.

A verification exercise conducted in 2012 showed that **Malawi** hosts some 17,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, mostly in Dzaleka Camp. The majority, including some 3,000 new arrivals recorded in 2012, were from Burundi, the DRC and Rwanda. UNHCR ensured that the refugees and asylum-seekers had

access to essential services and supported the Government of Malawi with resources and expertise in RSD. Nearly 100 refugees or asylum-seekers repatriated voluntarily during the year, mainly to the DRC, Burundi and Rwanda. Another 300 refugees departed for resettlement in third countries. UNHCR provided support to some 150 refugees and asylum-seekers residing outside the camp who suffered loss of livelihood and property as a result of a xenophobic attack in May. Mixed-migration flows continued through Malawi.

The number of people of concern to UNHCR in **Mozambique** in 2012 stood at almost 12,600, with some 4,400 recognized refugees and 8,200 asylum-seekers. More than 50 per cent reside in Marratane Camp, with others living in urban areas. Most originate from Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda or Somalia. The number of mixed-migration flows, mainly from the Horn of Africa transiting through Mozambique on their way to South Africa, declined drastically in 2012, presumably due to more restrictive border control.

Standard operating procedures to address SGBV in the camp were revised and are being implemented by a task force. A total of some 2,100 refugee and national children were given help to enroll in primary education, while 434 were assisted to enroll in secondary school and 27 to pursue higher education. Health care and HIV and AIDS prevention and response programmes benefited both the camp-based refugee population and the host community.

At the beginning of 2012 **Namibia** hosted nearly 7000 refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly in the Osire settlement. Some 62 per cent of them were from Angola, 29 per cent from the DRC and the remainder from Burundi, Rwanda and other African countries. Through the Angolan solutions strategy, nearly 3,000 Angolans returned home during 2012 with the assistance of UNHCR, the Government of Namibia and partners. UNHCR has been supporting the Government to establish a policy on local integration for the residual Angolan population.

The Government of Namibia continued to provide financial support, mainly in the areas of health and education, and in 2012 took over the costs related to RSD that were previously covered by UNHCR. With the significant reduction in the number of refugees residing in Namibia, UNHCR and the Government reviewed the phase-out strategy that would lead to the latter assuming full responsibility for refugee protection and assistance by 2014.

By the end of 2012 the number of refugees in **Swaziland** stood at some 900, including 81 new arrivals. Some 30 per cent reside in the Malindza reception centre. Refugees in Malindza were provided with access to social services by the Government, while UNHCR supplied domestic items and food through a partner.

Some 50,000 persons of concern live in **Zambia**, most in the refugee settlements of Meheba and Mayukwayuka. They originate mainly from Angola, the DRC, Rwanda and Somalia. Around 70 per cent of those living in the settlements make a living from farming and cattle herding and are not dependent on food aid. Unrest in the DRC in 2012 drove more than 2,500 Congolese to seek refuge in Zambia.

As part of the Comprehensive Solutions Strategy for Angolan refugees, some 980 Angolans were assisted to return home prior to the 30 June 2012 deadline for invocation of the cessation clause for this nationality. UNHCR also helped the Government to

establish local-integration criteria for the remaining Angolans. Information sessions on the application process were held in the settlements, with processing due to begin in early 2013.

In line with the upcoming cessation of refugee status for Rwandan refugees, UNHCR supported the Zambian Government's efforts to put in place exemption procedures. Some 1,150 applications for the exemption of Rwandese were received, of which 950 were considered and decided on. Some 90 per cent of the applications were rejected. Another nearly 800 refugees were submitted for resettlement on the grounds of legal and physical protection needs. Some 240 people departed for resettlement in 2012.

Zimbabwe sheltered nearly 7,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, mostly in Tongogara Camp, along with others in urban areas. The majority originate from Burundi, the DRC and Rwanda. More than 6,000 arrivals in mixed-migratory flows were recorded in 2012, mainly from the DRC, Ethiopia and Somalia.

Most of the Ethiopians and Somalis left the camp of their own accord after a short stay. UNHCR provided food and material assistance to all the residents of the camp. UNHCR's advocacy was successful, with the Government of Zimbabwe agreeing to recommence the issuance of birth certificates to refugee children in September, albeit at a cost of USD 10 each. Nearly 80 cases involving almost 300 persons were submitted for resettlement consideration in 2012. UNHCR also assisted 6,000 vulnerable Zimbabweans to obtain civil status documents.

UNHCR led the protection cluster and collaborated with the SGBV and Child Protection sub-clusters to design an emergency response plan and recovery activities. It also organized discussions with members of the Human Rights and Peace and Security committees in Parliament aimed at facilitating the ratification of the Kampala Convention.

| Financial information |

Although the funds available in 2012 were adequate to cover life-sustaining activities, they did not allow for improvements in the quality of life of people of concern, making it extremely difficult to absorb new arrivals in the refugee camps in Botswana, Malawi and Mozambique. Following xenophobic attacks in Malawi, UNHCR was unable to support an information campaign on refugees, to extend income generating activities or to provide NFIs to host populations. Some 100 mandate RSD

cases in South Africa and Botswana could not be adjudicated in 2012 due to the lack of adequate human resources.

Expenditure in the subregion has remained consistent over the past five years despite increasing needs. In 2012, expenditure, which rose slightly to support the voluntary repatriation of Angolans, was USD 45 million against a budget of USD 90.5 million.

Budget and expenditure in Southern Africa | USD

Operation		PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
Angola	Budget	9,845,001	0	0	9,845,001
	Expenditure	6,149,390	0	0	6,149,390
Botswana	Budget	5,550,260	0	0	5,550,260
	Expenditure	2,739,505	0	0	2,739,505
Malawi	Budget	3,475,659	0	0	3,475,659
	Expenditure	2,474,963	0	0	2,474,963
Mozambique	Budget	4,761,927	308,784	0	5,070,711
	Expenditure	3,850,132	186,862	0	4,036,994
Namibia	Budget	5,701,887	0	0	5,701,887
	Expenditure	3,717,110	0	0	3,717,110
South Africa Regional Office¹	Budget	33,075,048	2,148,596	0	35,223,644
	Expenditure	11,528,103	256,359	0	11,784,462
Zambia	Budget	17,910,542	0	0	17,910,542
	Expenditure	8,627,232	0	0	8,627,232
Zimbabwe	Budget	5,262,723	507,917	1,986,354	7,756,994
	Expenditure	4,023,664	154,613	1,302,192	5,480,469
Total budget		85,583,047	2,965,297	1,986,354	90,534,698
Total expenditure		43,110,099	597,834	1,302,192	45,010,125

¹ Includes regional activities in Southern Africa.

Voluntary contributions to Southern Africa | USD

Earmarking / Donor	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
SOUTHERN AFRICA SUBREGION					
Canada				501,504	501,504
Southern Africa subtotal	0	0	0	501,505	501,505
ANGOLA					
Banco Espirito Santo Angola	190,000				190,000
Angola subtotal	190,000	0	0	0	190,000
BOTSWANA					
Botswana	13,288				13,288
Botswana subtotal	13,288	0	0	0	13,288
MOZAMBIQUE					
United Nations Delivering as One	82,800				82,800
United Nations World Food Programme	505,179				505,179
Mozambique subtotal	587,979	0	0	0	587,979
NAMIBIA					
Brazil	92,360				92,360
Germany	3,849				3,849
International Olympic Committee	50,000				50,000
Namibia	88,399				88,399
Namibia subtotal	234,608	0	0	0	234,608
SOUTH AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE					
International Olympic Committee	12,750				12,750
South Africa	26,145				26,145
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS	190,314				190,314
South Africa Regional Office subtotal	229,209	0	0	0	229,209
ZAMBIA					
African Union	100,000				100,000
Brazil	154,526				154,526
International Olympic Committee	51,000				51,000
United States of America	150,000				150,000
Zambia subtotal	455,526	0	0	0	455,526
ZIMBABWE					
Brazil				50,000	50,000
International Olympic Committee	5,000				5,000
Japan			1,000,000		1,000,000
Switzerland	326,442	54,407	163,221		544,070
Zimbabwe subtotal	331,442	54,407	1,163,221	50,000	1,599,070
Total	2,042,052	54,407	1,163,221	551,505	3,811,184

Note: Includes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions to Pillars 3 and 4, supplementary budgets and the "New or additional activities – mandate-related" (NAM) Reserve.