

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

INITIAL OBJECTIVES

Burundi Refugees

- Provide protection and assistance to 225,000 Burundi refugees in camps in the Kigoma and Kagera Regions.
- Facilitate the repatriation of those refugees who decide, of their own free will, to return to Burundi and, subject to progress in the Arusha peace process, promote voluntary repatriation.

Congolese Refugees

- Provide protection and assistance to 90,000 Congolese (DRC) refugees in camps in the Kigoma Region.
- Facilitate the repatriation of those refugees who decide, of their own free will, to return to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, subject to positive security developments in their country of origin.

Rwandan Refugees

- Provide protection and assistance to 8,500 Rwandan refugees in camps in the Ngara and Kibondo Districts.
- Ensure the admission and eligibility determination of Rwandan asylum-seekers and residual refugees.
- Facilitate the repatriation of those refugees who decide, of their own free will, to return to Rwanda.

Somali Refugees

- Provide protection and basic assistance to 4,200 Somali refugees in Handeni, while continuing to seek a government decision to allocate a site for a local settlement programme.

Urban Refugees

- Give basic assistance to some 350 urban refugees and asylum-seekers in Dar es Salaam.

Protection

- Promote refugee law and help the Tanzanian authorities provide security in the refugee camps, ensuring that the camps retain an exclusively civilian and humanitarian character and that they accommodate only those persons entitled to international

protection.

Rehabilitation of Refugee-Affected Areas

- Strengthen local institutions and infrastructure for the delivery of services to the Tanzanian population in the refugee-affected areas and provide support to government authorities involved in the co-ordination of day-to-day management of refugee matters.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS, PROGRESS ACHIEVED AND CONSTRAINTS

The persisting conflicts in the Great Lakes region continued to cause refugees to flee into the United Republic of Tanzania (Tanzania). In particular, civil and political unrest in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) hindered voluntary repatriation to these countries and caused new influxes of refugees. By the beginning of 2000, 422,200 refugees were receiving assistance, representing a 22 per cent increase over UNHCR's initial planning assumptions. New influxes, particularly from Burundi at the end of 1999 and beginning of 2000, increased this figure to 488,000 by the end of June (354,000 Burundians, 107,000 Congolese, 23,000 Rwandans and 3,500 Somalis). It should be noted that a re-registration exercise undertaken in June is expected to result in an 8.5 per cent decline in the assisted refugee population. Furthermore, Government figures indicate that there are an additional 470,000 Burundi refugees living in settlements and Tanzanian villages. Amongst the Burundi refugee population, there were 12,275 Rwandans who declared themselves as Burundi refugees for fear of being repatriated. They were re-recorded as Rwandans as of the end of December 1999.

Burundi Refugees

Following an attack against humanitarian workers in October 1999 in Burundi and the subsequent country-wide security restrictions imposed by the UN system, repatriation to Burundi was suspended. Influxes of Burundi refugees into Tanzania increased. Between 1 October 1999 and 30 June 2000, a total of 85,000 Burundi refugees arrived in Tanzania, of whom 47,750 arrived between January and June. A new camp (Karago) was opened in December 1999 to accommodate them. The height of the

influx was experienced in January, with the rate of arrivals dropping significantly since February. In late April, relative stability returned to the northern provinces of Burundi.

Given developments in late 1999, a contingency plan was prepared by UNHCR in collaboration with WFP, UNICEF, NGOs, the Government and refugees in view of possible large-scale influxes from Burundi.

Congolese Refugees

Almost 6,700 new Congolese refugees arrived in the first six months of the year and Tanzania continues to receive some 1,000 new arrivals per month. These refugees are accommodated in two camps in the Kigoma region. There has been little progress in the implementation of the peace process for the DRC and no organised repatriation has so far taken place this year.

Rwandan Refugees

The average arrival rate in the first four months of 2000 was 150 per month but, due to increased insecurity in south-eastern Rwanda, 871 and 563 asylum-seekers arrived in May and June respectively. UNHCR continued to provide support to the National Eligibility Committee, which screens Rwandan refugees seeking asylum in Tanzania. Only 166 Rwandans voluntarily repatriated during the first half of the year.

Somali Refugees

As WFP ceased to provide food to the Somali refugees, UNHCR continued to help them to attain self-sufficiency in food production. Following UNHCR's interventions with the authorities, in late 1999, the Government granted a new site at Chogo to accommodate these refugees. UNHCR started preliminary activities, including land surveys, demarcation and road preparation.

Urban Refugees

UNHCR assisted some 150 urban refugees and asylum-seekers in Dar es Salaam with counselling and some 200 refugee students with post-primary and distance-learning education.

Protection

During the first half of the year, UNHCR held

three refugee law and policy workshops for senior and middle-level government officials in Mwanza, Kigoma and Ngara. Over 100 persons attended. Within the framework of the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence project, particular emphasis was given to refugee rights and legal procedures relating to sexual offences. Two Tanzanian lawyers trained NGOs, health and community services officials, refugee leaders and others on the legal procedures, rights and obligations relating to crimes of sexual and domestic violence. For victims of such crimes, a standard medical protocol was developed for all the camps.

Activities relating to the rights of children were integrated into community services, education and protection programmes. The specific health needs of children continued to be addressed, in particular children's illnesses, anaemia and malnutrition. Community-based programmes aimed at engaging adolescents in meaningful activities also continued as priority activities.

Early in the year, UNHCR printed and distributed 500 copies of the Tanzanian Refugees Act of 1998, which entered into force in June 1999, and is preparing an additional 1,000 copies. UNHCR's discussions with the Government on the Refugees Act did not achieve substantial progress towards making it a practical, principled and operationally feasible framework. UNHCR also prepared 1,000 copies of an abridged version of the *Collection of International Instruments Relating to Refugees* for future training.

In order to maintain the civilian and humanitarian character of the refugee camps, UNHCR continued to provide special assistance and support to the Tanzanian authorities through a range of measures (the "security package"), including the deployment and training of special police contingents and the development of a facility for the separation of combatants from the refugee population. The separation facility was opened in June. In addition, UNHCR held a workshop for police officials on refugee law specifically relating to physical protection principles and standards.

Rehabilitation of Refugee-Affected Areas

In the refugee-affected areas, activities in the sectors of health (construction of a dispensary and provision of ambulances), education (construction of two schools and rehabilitation of two others) and environment (tree planting and training) are being implemented as planned. With regard to the environment, the aim is to prevent the deterioration of wood and water resources and the degradation of land through soil erosion. Environmental education was reinforced, with a particular emphasis on energy conservation.

REVISED OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITY ACTIVITIES FOR JULY – DECEMBER

While large-scale voluntary repatriation will continue to depend on significant political progress being achieved through the various international, regional and national initiatives currently underway, protection and assistance activities will continue throughout 2000. However, whereas protection and assistance to the refugees continue to be provided at the required levels, financial constraints hinder the implementation of a number of planned activities. Of particular concern for the second part of the year is the shortage of food for refugees due to WFP's food pipeline problems. Ration reductions are already being implemented and buffer stocks have been depleted, thereby limiting WFP's ability to respond to new needs.

Burundi Refugees

- UNHCR had originally foreseen that major repatriation movements would occur in the second half of 2000. However, delays in the Arusha peace process mean that assistance activities will have to be continued. While assistance activities can be covered by the existing budget, the activation of any new contingency site and costs for any further arrivals would require additional funding in 2000.

Congolese Refugees

- Current developments in the DRC indicate that substantial numbers of refugees will continue to arrive. The planning figures still stand at 118,000 for the end of 2000 and the initial objectives and activities remain valid. A plan for eventual repatriation to the DRC was prepared in late 1999.

Rwandan Refugees

- A functioning tripartite mechanism is in place and voluntary repatriation will continue to be pursued for the Rwandan refugees in Tanzania. However, given the continuing and increasing influx of Rwandans, large-scale repatriation is not foreseen. UNHCR will thus continue to strive to ensure admission and adequate refugee status determination procedures for Rwandan refugees and asylum-seekers.

Somali Refugees

- Due to UNHCR's overall funding constraints, sufficient funds are not available to cover the costs of initial infrastructural development for the new site. Hence, the transfer of the Somali refugees from Handeni to Chogo will be delayed to next year.

Urban Refugees

- The initial objectives and activities remain unchanged.

Protection and Rehabilitation of Refugee-Affected Areas

- The original objectives and activities remain unchanged. However, due to funding constraints, some of the projects that benefit refugee-affected areas, in particular, several quick-impact projects, will be cancelled or curtailed.

FINANCIAL DATA (USD)

	Initial Budget	Revised Budget	Total Funds Available*	Total Funds Obligated
AB and TF	31,676,352	34,503,372	16,472,409	16,371,800

*Includes income from unrestricted contributions, income from contributions restricted to the region/country, opening balance and adjustments.