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UNHCR ACTIVITIES FINANCED BY VOLUNTARY FUNDS:
REPORT FOR 1993-1994 AND PROPOSED PROGRAMMES AND
BUDGET FOR 1995

PART V. SOUTH WEST ASIA, NORTH AFRICA
AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Section 12 - Other Countries in North Africa

(submitted by the High Commissioner)

V.12 OTHER COUNTRIES IN NORTH AFRICA

Area Overview

1. This section covers UNHCR's activities in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco and Tunisia, and activities related to the Western Sahara.

Characteristics of the refugee population

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

2. At 31 December 1993, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya hosted a refugee population of 1,136 persons comprising 804 Somalis, 273 Eritreans, 44 Ethiopians and 15 persons of other nationalities. A total of 467 of the refugees were assisted by UNHCR.

Country of Origin	Number 31/12/93	M F C (per cent)	Location	Type of Assistance
Somalia	804	70 16 14	Tripoli	care & maintenance
Eritreans	273	54 14 32	"	care & maintenance
Ethiopians	44*	80 19 1	"	care & maintenance
Others	15	60 40 0	"	care & maintenance
Total	1,136			

* Registered with the Office

Morocco

3. In Morocco, the registered refugee population consisted of some 340 persons of various nationalities, mainly from Africa, of whom 50 were assisted by UNHCR, including ten elderly Europeans who have long been in Morocco and have no other source of income. The remaining refugees are from various countries in Africa and the Middle East and include 65 Palestinians.

Tunisia

4. In Tunisia, there were 103 registered refugees of various origin, of whom 30 were assisted by UNHCR, as well as ten African refugee students who were assisted under the Education Account.

Major developments (1993 and first quarter of 1994)

5. Eighteen Ethiopian refugees voluntarily repatriated from the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in February 1994 with UNHCR assistance. A further group of 97 Ethiopians, the entire Eritrean caseload and 80 Somalis have registered for repatriation, which is expected to take place in late 1994. In Morocco and

Tunisia the arrival of citizens from Bosnia and Herzegovina increased refugee numbers slightly.

Programme objectives and priorities

6. In the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, assistance to some 450 Somali refugees in terms of basic needs, shelter and medical care will continue to be administered. Voluntary repatriation will be encouraged for the Ethiopian and Eritrean caseload and for refugees from North-West Somalia. Assistance in terms of subsistence allowances and the payment of medical fees to the refugees in Morocco and Tunisia will continue as in the past, with a view to helping them to become self-reliant.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

7. In the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, UNHCR activities are implemented through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with the assistance of a UNHCR-funded United Nations Volunteer (UNV) and local staff. Efforts to identify a local implementing partner have not been successful. The Libyan authorities cooperate actively with UNHCR by meeting the basic needs of the refugee population, notably by furnishing UNHCR with a compound to accommodate some 250 Somali refugees, as well providing the refugees with free medical care.

8. In Morocco, UNHCR implements assistance directly to refugees through the UNHCR Honorary Representative.

9. In Tunisia, the programme of assistance is implemented through the UNHCR Honorary Representative in coordination with the Tunisian Red Crescent (CRT), which provides medical services and basic domestic items to needy refugees.

General Programmes

(a) Variations in planned activities in 1993

10. In the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the prevailing situation in Somalia forestalled the voluntary repatriation of the Somali refugees. In Morocco and Tunisia there were no major variations in activities in 1993.

(b) 1994 planned implementation

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

11. Assistance continues to be provided through maintenance of refugee accommodation, subsistence allowances and medical care to the Somali refugees, pending their voluntary repatriation. A UNV coordinates with UNDP on behalf of UNHCR.

12. It is anticipated that the majority of Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees will repatriate before the end of 1994. The logistical means for their repatriation are being identified and additional funds for this operation, if required, will be drawn from the General Allocation for Voluntary Repatriation.

Morocco and Tunisia

13. The implementation of the local settlement programmes in these two countries is being pursued, particularly with a view to improving the conditions of life of the elderly caseload. Care and maintenance is provided to urban refugees of various origins in Morocco at the same level as in 1993, pending their local integration or eventual voluntary repatriation. In Morocco, the Bosnian caseload also benefits from assistance under the care and maintenance programme.

(c) 1995 programme proposals

Care and maintenance

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

14. It is foreseen that the proposed allocation for assistance to refugees will remain stable, as the caseload is not expected to change. Assistance will continue to be provided, mainly for the Somali refugees, in terms of subsistence allowances and medical fees. In the event that the Somalis are able to repatriate in 1994, the 1995 allocation will be revised downwards accordingly.

Morocco and Tunisia

15. UNHCR assistance in the form of subsistence allowances and coverage of medical fees will be maintained as in 1994. The proposed allocation has been estimated at a marginally higher level to take account of the increase in the cost of living in these countries.

Voluntary repatriation

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

16. Voluntary repatriation for the Somali caseload will continue to be an option in 1995, depending on the situation in Somalia. The necessary funds to cover this operation will be requested, if required, from the General Allocation for Voluntary Repatriation.

Local settlement

Morocco and Tunisia

17. As in the past, health care and subsistence allowances will continue to be provided to the elderly refugees in Morocco and Tunisia.

Special Programmes

Education Account

18. The proposed appropriations for 1994/1995 and for 1995/1996 cover complementary assistance in the form of subsistence allowance to 65 refugee students in Morocco and ten in Tunisia. Scholarships at university level are

generally offered by the respective Governments of countries of asylum. These scholarships cover costs for university fees, books and other relevant materials.

Western Saharan repatriation

19. Pending the outcome of the identification and registration of potential voters carried out by the Identification Commission of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), the 1994 planned implementation and 1995 programme proposals cover only minimal programme delivery and administrative support costs. UNHCR stands ready to review its planning and budgeting for a repatriation programme within the framework of the United Nations Peace Plan.

Programme Delivery and Administrative Support Costs

(a) Variations in planned activities in 1993

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

20. Total expenditure in 1993 was higher than expected, as a result of an increase in local salaries for the staff administered by UNDP. The impact of this increase is reflected under the chapter for temporary assistance which covers the expenditure for five local staff members who assist the UNV staff member in the implementation of the voluntary repatriation of Ethiopians and Eritreans.

Morocco

21. Total expenditure was lower than expected, since common staff costs were budgeted at a standard rate whereas actual expenditure was lower.

Western Saharan repatriation

22. The Western Sahara programme covered the costs of a UNHCR Senior Liaison Officer who was deployed on mission to Laayoune, for a period of three months, to liaise on matters related to the referendum in the Western Sahara with the Identification Commission of MINURSO.

(b) 1994 planned implementation

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

23. The total 1994 revised administrative requirements have been maintained at the 1994 initial level. The marginal increase under temporary assistance reflects higher salary costs, to take account of the increasing cost of living in the country, while overtime and local travel have been reduced. Costs under general operating expenses are also lower due to the reduced prospects for voluntary repatriation during 1994. The budget chapter under acquisition of furniture and equipment has been increased to cover the purchase of a photocopy machine. Under joint United Nations activities, the \$ 48,000 provided for in

the initial estimate has been retained, to meet expenditure incurred by UNDP for services provided to UNHCR.

Morocco

24. The 1994 revised administrative requirements have been reduced to reflect actual expenditure trends, mainly under general operating expenses. Some new furniture and equipment will be procured to replace existing items.

Western Saharan repatriation

25. The Western Sahara funds continue to be used for minimal programme delivery and administrative support costs as and when applicable.

(c) **1995 programme proposals**

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

26. The total initial 1995 proposal is estimated to be higher than the revised 1994 requirement, since additional provision has been made under temporary assistance to cover anticipated increases in salary costs of the five local staff members, due to the ever increasing cost of living in Libya. Costs under non-staff costs, general operating expenses and office supplies and materials have increased in anticipation of repatriation activities gaining momentum in 1995. Provision has been made for the purchase of new office furniture. As in previous years, a provision of \$ 48,000 has been made to cover UNDP charges for providing services to UNHCR in Libya.

Morocco

27. The 1995 administrative budget remains relatively stable compared with the 1994 revised budget, as all previously approved time-limited posts have been extended until 31 December 1995. There is a marginal increase in general operating expenses. Costs for office supplies and materials are also estimated to be higher, to cover increased vehicle fuel costs. Provision has been made for one vehicle to be replaced under the chapter for acquisition of furniture, equipment and vehicles.

Western Saharan repatriation

28. At this juncture, no preliminary estimate has been established.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN OTHER COUNTRIES IN NORTH AFRICA

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1993		1994		1995	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED By 1993 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION		SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)					
72.5	75.0	104.2	Morocco	CARE AND MAINTENANCE	126.2
1,035.1	640.6	660.2	Libya		860.1
20.0	39.5	39.5	Libya	VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	63.8
2.0 a/	-	-	Morocco		-
0.9 a/	-	-	Tunisia		-
28.0	26.5	36.6	Morocco	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	48.7
85.8 b/	84.2	79.0	Tunisia		80.0
1.0 a/	-	-	Tunisia	RE-SETTLEMENT	-
-	-	166.0	Libya	PROGRAMME DELIVERY	181.5
1,245.3	865.8	1,285.5		SUB-TOTAL OPERATIONS	1,360.3
1,245.3	865.8	1,285.5		TOTAL (1)	1,360.3
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)					
48.3	48.3	48.3	Morocco	EDUCATION ACCOUNT	65.3
20.0	20.0	20.0	Tunisia	65 university scholarships	20.0
168.7	127.3	-	Morocco	WESTERN SAHARA REPATRIATION	-
-	-	62.7	Morocco	PROGRAMME DELIVERY	67.4
-	-	62.5	Morocco	See Annexes I a and II a	-
-	-	62.5	Morocco	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	62.6
-	-	-	-	See Annexes I b and II b	-
297.0	195.6	193.5		TOTAL (2)	215.3
1,462.3	1,061.4	1,479.0		GRAND TOTAL (1+2)	1,575.6

a/ obligation incurred against Overall Allocation

b/ of which US\$ 3,024 incurred against Overall Allocation