

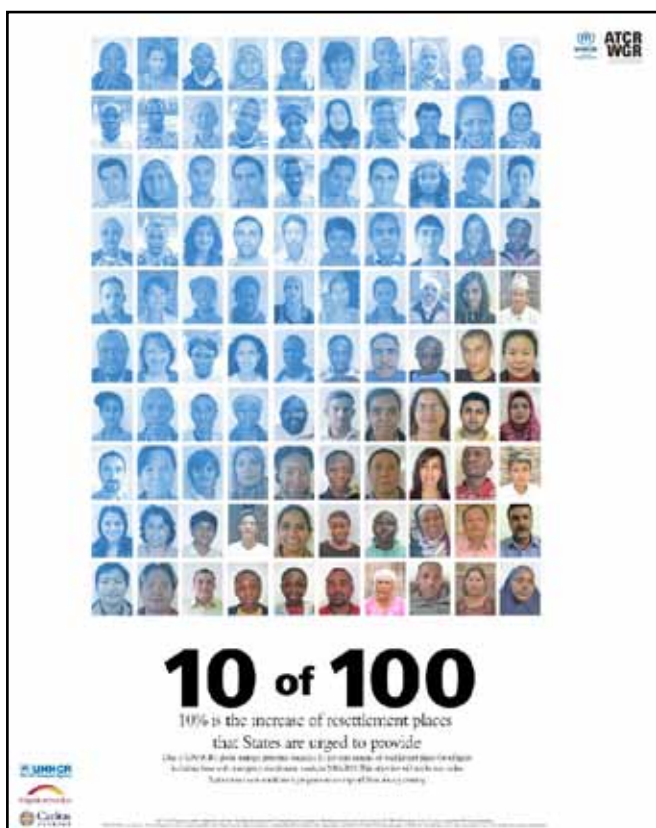
UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS 2011

INCLUDING OVERVIEW OF UNHCR RESETTLEMENT ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2009, OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FOR 2010-2011



UNHCR

16th Annual Tripartite Consultation on Resettlement
Geneva: 6-8 July 2010



10 of 100

Of every 100 refugees in need of resettlement, only 10 are resettled each year

UNHCR estimates the global resettlement needs at about 800,000 persons, including populations where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. In 2010, resettlement countries provide less than 80,000 places for UNHCR resettlement submissions. While the number of refugees in need of resettlement is growing, available resettlement places are not keeping pace.

The "10 of 100" project was jointly coordinated by the Swedish Chair (Migrationsverket) of the 2010 Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement together with Caritas Sweden and the UNHCR Resettlement Service. The project was assisted by NGOs, local municipalities, UNHCR Offices, and more than 100 resettled refugees in various countries around the world. Refugees about to depart for resettlement contributed from Kenya, Nepal and Syria. Appreciation is extended by the Swedish Chair to the organizations and individuals who participated in the project from Australia, Kenya, Nepal, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic and the United Kingdom.

Resettlement Service
 Division of International Protection
 UNHCR Geneva
 June 2010

RESETTLEMENT AT A GLANCE

Resettlement not only provides refugees with protection and a durable solution. It also has strategic value, making it possible to expand protection space and to help to resolve long-standing refugee situations. More generally, resettlement is becoming a key instrument of international cooperation.

*If we cannot bring protection to refugees,
we must bring refugees to protection*

Despite the doubling of the number of countries engaged in resettlement since 2008 (12 new countries have indicated willingness to receive a limited number of resettlement submissions bringing the pool of resettlement countries to about 24 States worldwide)¹, there remains a significant gap between resettlement needs and available places.

*Of every 100 refugees in need of resettlement,
only 10 are resettled each year*

RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

- UNHCR estimates the global resettlement needs at about 805,500 persons, including populations where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. This represents less than 10 per cent of the world's refugee population. For 2011 alone, UNHCR estimates the resettlement needs to be 172,300 persons.
- The provision of resettlement places has not kept pace either with the increased submissions or with resettlement needs. In 2010, resettlement countries provide less than 80,000 places for UNHCR resettlement submissions. This represents only about 46 per cent of the identified resettlement needs in 2011, leaving more than 90,000 vulnerable refugees in need of resettlement without any solution.
- The gap between the resettlement needs in 2011 and UNHCR's capacity to meet them is significant. It is estimated that UNHCR's total resettlement capacity will result in unmet needs for almost 40,000 refugees.

¹ Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Uruguay, United States of America.

MYTH:

Most refugees want to be resettled.

TRUTH:

Most refugees want to return home. They want to live in their country in peace and safety. For those who cannot go home, UNHCR works with States and NGOs to protect them and their families. Resettlement is for refugees who have no other solution.

Resettlement is about needs,
not wants.

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS 2011

Global overview of UNHCR resettlement achievements in 2009, operational challenges and strategic directions for 2010-2011

This document provides an overview of UNHCR's projected global resettlement needs and priorities for the year 2011. Each year, UNHCR prepares global resettlement projections to assist resettlement countries, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other partners involved in resettlement and the UNHCR in planning their respective resettlement activities. In addition to providing an overview of the resettlement needs in different regions of operation and UNHCR's capacity to respond to them, this document shows the likely gaps and challenges in programme delivery, allowing for informed and coordinated planning for resettlement. It also provides a brief overview of UNHCR's resettlement achievements in 2009, challenges and strategic directions for 2010-2011.

It is important to note that the figures herein concerning the number of individuals in need of resettlement in 2011 are estimates and will be subject to changing conditions in countries of asylum and origin which may affect the resettlement needs in 2011. UNHCR's global resettlement statistical report for 2009 is available at the end of this document.

UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS AND DEPARTURES

UNHCR has steadily increased its identification and submissions of persons in need of resettlement over the past few years. In 2009, UNHCR submitted more than 128,000 refugees for resettlement, which is more than double the number in 2005 (46,000 refugees). The progressive increase in submissions by UNHCR for resettlement corresponds with improvements in the identification of people in need of this solution. In total, three nationalities made up 70 per cent of all UNHCR-facilitated

resettlement in 2009: Iraqi (36,067), Myanmar (30,542), and Bhutanese (22,114). The number of countries of asylum from which resettlement took place increased from 80 in 2008 to 94 in 2009, as well as the number of countries of origin from 68 in 2008 to 77 in 2009.

“The provision of resettlement places has not kept pace either with the increased submissions or with resettlement needs.”

In parallel, the number of resettlement departures in 2009 increased by 29 per cent to more than 84,600 refugees, from some 65,800 in 2008¹ and more than double the number in 2005 (38,500 refugees). The largest number of refugees resettled with UNHCR assistance departed from Nepal (17,442) followed by Thailand (16,835), Syrian Arab Republic (10,383), Malaysia (7,509) and Turkey (6,043).

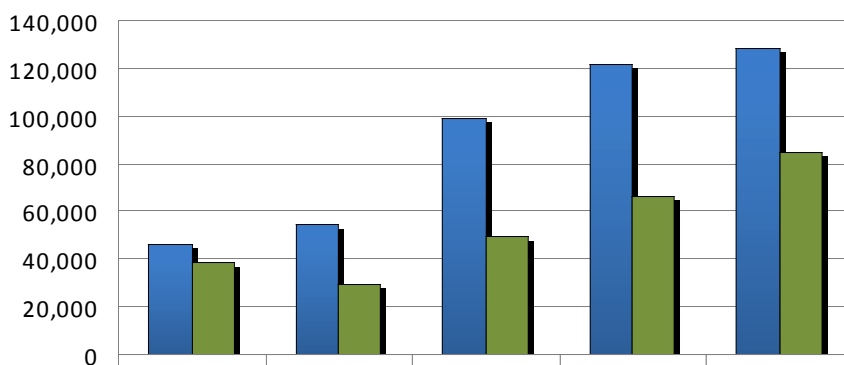
UNHCR estimates the global resettlement needs at about 805,500 persons, including populations where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. This represents a further increase on estimates reported in 2009 (747,000 persons), which is partly explained by UNHCR’s focus on the strengthened role of resettlement in comprehensive solutions strategies including emphasis on the strategic use of resettlement. For 2011 alone, UNHCR estimates the resettlement needs to be about 172,300 persons.

However, the provision of resettlement places has not kept pace either with the increased submissions or with resettlement needs. UNHCR has repeatedly alerted States of the gap between the number of refugees in need of resettlement and the available resettlement places. The available resettlement places in 2009 stood at approximately 80,000, including one-off allocations by some States in response to the resettlement needs of Iraqi refugees. This is a modest increase from the number of places available in 2008, but it is not sufficient to meet the growing resettlement needs. If available resettlement places remain at the same level in 2010-2011, this represents only about **46 per cent** of the identified resettlement needs in 2011², leaving more than 90,000 vulnerable refugees

in need of resettlement without any solution.

One of UNHCR’s Global Strategic Priorities (GSP) endorsed by its Executive Committee in October 2009 foresees an increase by 10 per cent of resettlement places (including emergency / urgent places) in 2010-2011 and 60 per cent of individuals submitted for emergency / urgent resettlement being resettled (GSP 6.3). These objectives will not be met in 2010-2011 unless resettlement

UNHCR resettlement submissions and departures 2005-2009



■ Submissions	46,260	54,182	98,999	121,214	128,558
■ Departures	38,507	29,560	49,868	65,859	84,657

1 These figures are for UNHCR submissions and do not include refugees resettled through private sponsorship or family reunion programmes not always involving UNHCR resettlement submissions / facilitation. Additional resettlement statistics for 2009 are available in the Annex.

2 The number of persons in need of resettlement in 2011 is approximately 172,300, and the number of places provided by resettlement countries for UNHCR submissions in 2010-2011 is about 80,000.

countries offer new opportunities in this respect and all stakeholders make joint efforts to achieve them and to enhance resettlement processing.

Furthermore, the gap between the resettlement needs in 2011 and UNHCR's capacity to meet them remains significant. It is estimated that UNHCR's total resettlement capacity (including UNHCR core staff and affiliate workforce) will result in unmet needs for almost 40,000 refugees. Without affiliate workforce, UNHCR will likely address less than half of the projected resettlement needs in 2011. However, even if this gap was bridged by UNHCR, it does not address the shortfall of resettlement places provided by States. Without a commensurate increase in places offered by States, UNHCR will be required to calibrate its activities to address only those refugees with the most pressing resettlement needs, and avoiding where possible the development of long waiting periods for refugees to have their cases considered by States. This will require joint efforts by UNHCR and its resettlement partners to manage the expectations of refugees in need of resettlement and to ensure the programmes of resettlement States are responsive to those most in need of this solution.

The following table illustrates the gap between resettlement needs and UNHCR's capacity to address them. For the 2011 projections, UNHCR developed and applied a standardised methodology to estimate the capacity of country offices to process cases for resettlement according to identified resettlement needs. A clear distinction of "UNHCR core staff capacity" and "UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)" was made in order to provide more realistic capacity indication. Column A shows the total number of persons deemed by UNHCR to be in need of resettlement, including populations where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. Multi-year planning for resettlement is thus an important additional feature of UNHCR's global projections to be considered in the context of resource allocations and increasingly part of UNHCR's strategy to address the needs. Drawing from this number (805,535 persons / 233,792 cases), column B indicates the number of persons who are deemed to be in need of resettlement in 2011 (172,307 persons / 58,780 cases). Resettlement interventions by UNHCR will be prioritized according to protection needs as well as indications from resettlement States on specific solution strategies. Based on UNHCR's core staff capacity, column

Total global projected resettlement needs and UNHCR capacity for 2011 breakdown by region of countries of asylum

Region of Asylum	(A) Total (multi-year) Resettlement Needs		(B) Resettlement Needs in 2011		(C) UNHCR Core Staff Capacity		(D) UNHCR Total Capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		(E) UNHCR Resettlement Capacity Shortfall	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
Africa	66,109	261,514	15,649	56,928	8,277	31,506	13,194	48,477	2,455	8,451
The Americas	6,901	20,423	1,705	5,060	339	981	732	2,154	973	2,906
Asia and the Pacific	126,067	427,466	20,026	56,136	9,580	23,306	16,075	48,325	3,951	7,811
Europe	9,926	19,480	9,529	18,721	2,243	4,027	4,241	7,791	5,288	10,930
MENA*	24,789	76,652	11,871	35,462	5,302	14,865	9,352	26,163	2,519	9,299
Total	233,792	805,535	58,780	172,307	25,741	74,685	43,594	132,910	15,186	39,397

*Middle East and North Africa

MYTH:

Resettlement leads to a “brain drain”.

TRUTH:

Many resettled refugees contribute their knowledge and skills to improving their home countries after they are resettled. Additionally, skills are wasted for the many thousands of refugees who are unable to work in camps or not allowed to work in urban areas.

Resettlement is about the right to participate in society.

C indicates the number of persons the Office is equipped to process for resettlement in 2011. Column D shows UNHCR total processing capacity, including UNHCR's core staff capacity and affiliate workforce capacity. The difference between columns B and D is indicative of UNHCR's capacity shortfall for 2011 (see column E).



The challenges faced by States and UNHCR to BRIDGE THE GAPS in resettlement delivery continue to be formidable, especially given the current global economic situation; in particular, (i) ENSURING ADEQUATE RESOURCES are available and (ii) ensuring that there are SUFFICIENT RESETTLEMENT PLACES available for those refugees most in need.

ADDRESSING THE GAP BETWEEN PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS AND STATE / UNHCR CAPACITY

The challenges faced by States and UNHCR to bridge the gaps in resettlement delivery continue to be formidable, especially given the current global economic situation; in particular, (i) ensuring adequate resources are available, as resettlement is resource intensive both in terms of staff as well as other operational requirements, and (ii) ensuring that there are sufficient resettlement places available for those refugees most in need.

The Office's response to the disparity between needs and capacity has been threefold: (i) to encourage more countries to establish resettlement programmes or consider UNHCR resettlement submissions; (ii) to work with established resettlement countries to increase their resettlement intakes of UNHCR-identified refugees; and (iii) to prioritize responses to resettlement needs and submissions, in light of the limited resettlement places available.

BROADENING THE BASE OF RESETTLEMENT

Since June 2008, 12 new countries³ have indicated their readiness to receive a limited number of resettlement submissions from UNHCR. This includes seven countries that have formally announced the establishment of resettlement programmes: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Japan, Portugal, Spain and Romania. UNHCR is appreciative of these States for joining the pool of resettlement countries which now comprises 24 States worldwide.⁴ Despite the welcome addition of these new resettlement countries, global expansion of resettlement remains limited. Whereas some States have yet to operationalize their resettlement activities, most established resettlement countries have not made any further significant increases in their annual resettlement targets to meet the global needs.⁵ Also, while the majority of the emerging resettlement countries are in Europe, the number of resettlement places in Europe remains relatively low. UNHCR will continue exploring further opportunities to resettle refugees in other countries, consistent with its Global Strategic Priority 6.3 as well as Goal 5 of the Agenda for Protection.

³ Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Switzerland and the Czech Republic. A number of these countries previously had refugee resettlement programmes in the 1980s and 1990s.

⁴ Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Uruguay, United States of America.

⁵ In 2008, the United Kingdom increased its annual resettlement intake by 250 places to a total of 750 persons. Australia increased its resettlement target for 2008-2009 by 500 places (one-time increase only) for the resettlement of Iraqi refugees.

Refugees facing desperate situations are evacuated to the centre to await resettlement to a third country.
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In 2007, European countries provided only 9 per cent (6,200 places) of the overall global resettlement places. In 2009, this proportion rose to almost 13 per cent (10,100 places), largely owing to the one-time contributions by France and Germany in response to the resettlement needs of Iraqi refugees (1,200 and 2,500 places respectively).⁶ It is hoped that the efforts of the European Commission to establish a Joint European Union (EU) Resettlement Programme will further enhance the capacity of EU States for resettlement. With financial support from the European Commission, UNHCR, in partnership with other stakeholders, has facilitated a number of technical cooperation arrangements between established resettlement countries and potential resettlement countries in Europe. The aim is to help States develop effective resettlement and integration programmes, allowing for greater expansion of resettlement to Europe.

OPERATIONALIZING EVACUATION TRANSIT FACILITIES

In addition to the Evacuation Transit Centre (ETC) in Romania, the Philippines and Slovakia have (in 2009) established, in cooperation with UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), evacuation transit facilities for persons with acute protection needs, pending their onward resettlement elsewhere.

PROMOTING THE STRATEGIC USE OF RESETTLEMENT

With the active involvement of States, refugees and civil society, resettlement can open avenues for international burden and responsibility sharing and, in combination with other measures, can unlock protracted refugee situations. When used strategically, resettlement can bring about positive results that go well beyond those that are usually viewed as a direct resettlement outcome. UNHCR has systematically used resettlement in a strategic manner to enhance protection on a broader scale.⁷

UNHCR continued to mobilize the attention of resettlement countries to the needs in the priority protracted refugee situations, pursuant to Executive Committee Conclusion 109. While efforts have been made to better integrate resettlement in the protection and solutions strategies, UNHCR's resettlement objectives and priorities do not always translate in terms of priority support by States. Greater effort is required by resettlement countries and the broader international community to operationalize Executive Committee Conclusions in this area.

⁶ In addition to France and Germany, Belgium, Luxemburg and Italy also provided special programmes for the resettlement of Iraqi refugees in 2009.

⁷ See also "UNHCR Position Paper on the Strategic Use of Resettlement" issued in June 2010 available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/4c0d10ac2.html>

In 2009, the Swedish Chair of the Working Group on Resettlement (WGR) together with UNHCR initiated a discussion on intensifying the strategic use of resettlement in seven refugee situations in Africa, Asia, Europe, and MENA. These discussions aimed at specifying strategic protection dividends and developing concrete steps and work methods for initiatives in these situations.

UNHCR encourages continued engagement by resettlement countries in these, as well as any new emerging initiatives, to expand the commitment and capacity of global resettlement and to reaffirm its strategic use. In confirming the advantages attained through strategic resettlement, resettlement countries are promoting the efforts carried out by all partners concerned in closing protection gaps. Encouraging solidarity with countries of asylum hosting refugees as well as promoting burden and responsibility sharing is an important aspect of strategic resettlement. It also presents an opportunity to expand the number of resettlement countries and therefore increase global resettlement capacity, which is an important aspect of ensuring that the protection benefits in countries of asylum and regional contexts are achieved.

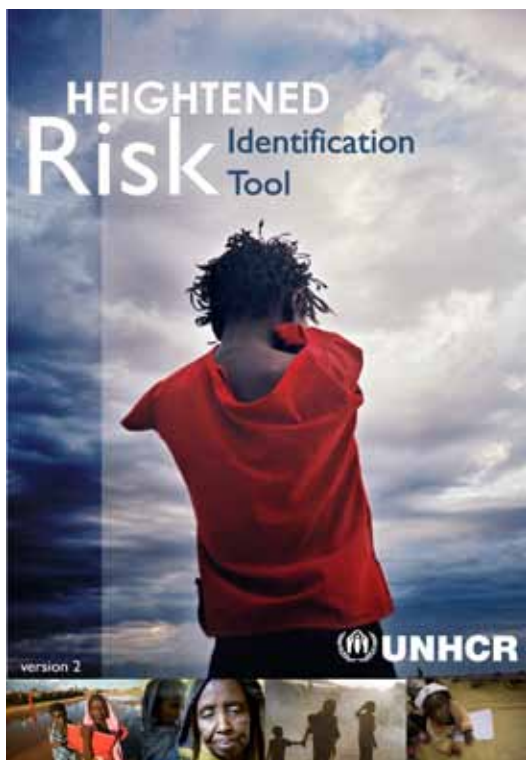
Multi-year resettlement planning, as opposed to annually conceived and implemented initiatives, have greater value and provide predictability which will allow for the sustained and phased implementation of comprehensive strategies. Multi-year resettlement planning is particularly valuable where diplomatic efforts and development assistance are linked to the strategic use of resettlement. UNHCR therefore seeks to forge greater connectivity within governments and between ministries in realizing the value of resettlement, including its role in comprehensive solutions strategies for protracted refugee situations.

MANAGING RESETTLEMENT MORE EFFECTIVELY AND ADDRESSING KEY CHALLENGES

IDENTIFICATION OF REFUGEES IN NEED OF RESETTLEMENT

Given the gap between the resettlement needs and the intake capacity of resettlement countries, UNHCR continues to strengthen its identification methods, as well as the prioritization of the most vulnerable refugees in need of resettlement. Standard methodologies have been further refined to estimate the number of persons in need of resettlement involving participatory assessments, tools to identify refugees at heightened risk such as the Heightened Risk Identification Tool (HRIT), and enhanced use of UNHCR's *proGres* registration database. It is also evident that partnership with NGOs has been pivotal in building effective and systematic identification systems for refugees in need of resettlement.

The HRIT was first issued in June 2008 and has been used in numerous field operations throughout the world. In operations where the HRIT has been used, improved identification of people at risk and in urgent need of resettlement was realised. A special field test of the HRIT involving 20 NGOs from across Africa was undertaken in Nairobi in late 2009 to demonstrate its utility in an urban context. As a result of this field test and feedback from users since 2008, UNHCR will issue the second edition of the HRIT in the course of 2010,



incorporating a number of improvements to enhance its utility and user friendliness. Furthermore, the second edition of the HRIT has linkages with the specific needs codes in UNHCR's *proGres* database to allow for greater connectivity between the HRIT and UNHCR's registration and case management systems.

WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK

UNHCR continued its efforts to ensure that 10 per cent of its overall resettlement submissions are assigned to women and girls at risk, as a way of implementing Executive Committee Conclusion 105 (2006). In 2008, 2,993 out of 38,605 refugee cases submitted for resettlement were women-at-risk, representing 7.8 per cent of the overall resettlement submissions. The number of cases submitted under the same criterion increased by 818 cases, or about 38 per cent from 2,175 cases in 2007. Among the 80 operations where resettlement took place in 2008 and resettlement statistics are available, 34 operations (or 43 per cent) exceeded 10 per cent of resettlement places assigned to women and girls at risk. The figures for 2009 are equally encouraging: 3,329 out of 38,116 refugee cases submitted for resettlement were women-at-risk, representing 8.7 per cent of the overall resettlement submissions. In 2009, 34 operations (39 per cent) exceeded 10 per cent of resettlement submissions assigned to women-at-risk and 26 operations exceeded

15 per cent.⁸ This shows an improvement from previous years and strengthened attention to gender considerations. The Office encourages resettlement countries and partners to also align their policies and practice with Executive Committee Conclusion 105, which calls for "establishing measures to enable the speedier departure of refugee women at risk and their dependants".

INCREASING EFFICIENCY OF EMERGENCY RESETTLEMENT⁹

In 2009, UNHCR made emergency resettlement submissions for a total of 1,022 persons (419 cases). Approximately 653 persons departed for resettlement in 2009. The number of persons submitted for emergency resettlement by UNHCR has remained relatively static since 2007, and while departures have moderately improved, the approval rate by States remains conspicuously low. Indeed, the low approval rate by States and lengthy processing times for decision and departure contributed to the underutilization of the available 700 resettlement places provided by States for emergency resettlement.

The average length of time to process cases for resettlement by States remains long, and is especially serious for persons in need of emergency resettlement. The average length of time between the submission of emergency cases by UNHCR in 2009 and the departure for resettlement was approximately 5 months (140 days).¹⁰ The average length of time between UNHCR resettlement submissions and decisions by resettlement States was almost 7 weeks (46 days). From the time of decision by States to the date of departure for

⁸ *The actual number of women and girls at risk resettled during 2008-2009 is under-reported as vulnerable women and girls are also resettled under other UNHCR resettlement criteria.*

⁹ *See also "UNHCR Note on Note on Emergency Resettlement and ETFs" issued in May 2010 available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/4bf3adfb2.html>*

¹⁰ *Data based on total emergency resettlement submissions by UNHCR Headquarters and Regional Hubs to resettlement States offering places on a dossier basis in 2009.*

resettlement, the average time was about 13 weeks (94 days). These timelines are serious departures from what is expected and required of emergency resettlement and clearly do not adhere to the benchmark of several days, outlined by the UNHCR as a necessary response to the heightened protection needs of refugees submitted on an emergency basis. There is also a lack of predictability in processing times. The Office recognizes that States must undertake various checks on refugees (e.g. health and security requirements) prior to granting resettlement. Extended or unpredictable waiting periods, however, can have an adverse impact on the well-being of refugees who often have to wait in dangerous and difficult situations. In 2010 and 2011, UNHCR will continue to work with resettlement countries to improve the efficiency of emergency resettlement, pursuant to its Global Strategic Priority 6.3.

MITIGATING RISKS IN RESETTLEMENT

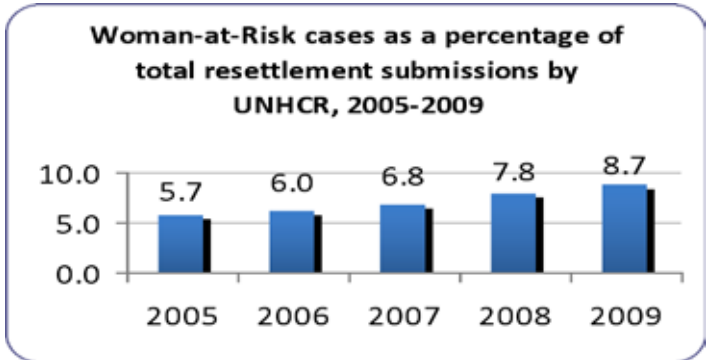
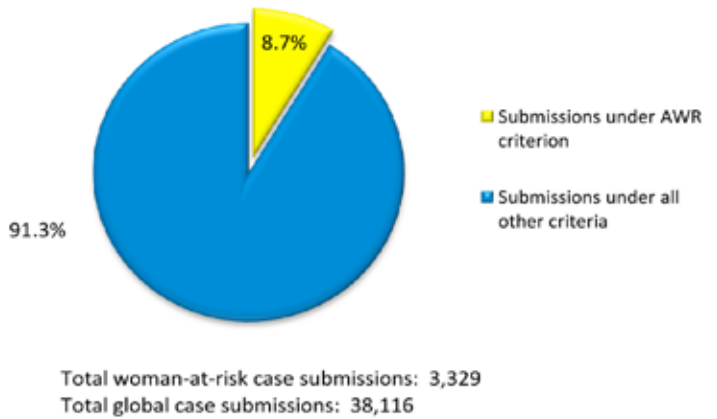
As resettlement activities are expanding globally, UNHCR is conscious of the need to ensure the integrity of its operations and mitigate risks. The UNHCR Anti-Fraud Plan of Action culminated in the establishment of the Expert Group on Resettlement Fraud as well as the development of policy and procedural guidelines on addressing resettlement fraud perpetrated by refugees. A careful balancing of the protection need of the refugee against the seriousness of the fraud committed is sought in the guidelines. In addition to periodic training focused on resettlement fraud, anti-fraud is an integral component of the resettlement training for UNHCR staff and its partners. Anti-fraud approaches have been mainstreamed in the majority of UNHCR operations.

The Resettlement Service and the Regional Offices / Hubs together with Bureaus supported missions to field operations to bolster resettlement capacity and strengthen the integrity of service delivery. Assistance was also provided to the Inspector General’s Office in terms of standard inspections as well as investigations.

RESETTLEMENT WORKFORCE

While a number of resettlement positions have been mainstreamed in 2010, UNHCR continues to be dependent for its resettlement activities on additional workforce. Without the generous support of donor countries, the remarkable achievements in 2009 would not have been possible. The UNHCR-ICMC Resettlement Deployment Scheme continued to be instrumental in supporting global resettlement activities, with 130 deployments taking place in 35 duty stations, the majority of deployments targeting operations in Africa and the Middle East. Deployment schemes were diversified, with the establishment of a sub-agreement with Mapendo International and utilisation of deployments provided by the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Danish Refugee Council and the US Overseas Processing Entity. In 2010, UNHCR foresees some resettlement

Woman-at-risk cases as a percentage of total resettlement submissions by UNHCR in 2009



MYTH:

Resettlement costs too much.

TRUTH:

What is the cost of human life, human dignity and human protection?
What are the human, financial, and security costs to keep refugees in
camps for generations?

Resettlement is about investing in
the future of refugees and their families.

deployments from the International Rescue Committee.

As part of the High Commissioner's commitment to strengthening protection delivery in the field and to enhancing protection capacity, protection staffing benchmarks have been developed by UNHCR Division of International Protection in 2010 to determine UNHCR Offices' protection staffing requirements for the 2011 programming cycle. The Resettlement Service monitors application of these staffing benchmarks and continuous budgetary prioritization of resettlement positions in 2011 field submission including ensuring regional platforms are equipped with adequate capacity.

RESETTLEMENT TRAINING

To enhance processing, UNHCR provided regular training and policy guidance to its resettlement staff and integrated anti-fraud mechanisms into various operations. A pilot Resettlement Learning Programme (RLP) was launched and successfully implemented in 2009-2010, targeting UNHCR operations in the East and Horn and Great Lakes regions of Africa. Based on the feedback received from participants, the RLP will be further enhanced in 2010 as a web-based programme. The second roll-out of the RLP is expected in the latter half of 2010, targeting other regions.

RESETTLEMENT HANDBOOK REVISION

The Resettlement Handbook is the cornerstone of UNHCR's resettlement management and policy guidance, and also serves as a key reference tool for resettlement states and NGOs on global resettlement policy and practice. Since the publication of latest edition of the UNHCR Resettlement Handbook in November 2004, a number of significant developments in resettlement policy and practice, including new methodologies and tools, have been introduced to strengthen organizational efficiency and resettlement performance, management and accountability.

With the support of the Canadian Consultant Management Initiative, UNHCR has contracted a consultant for the revision of the UNHCR Resettlement Handbook. Through the updating of the Handbook in 2010-2011, UNHCR expects several results that will be beneficial to all actors involved in resettlement, from resettlement States to refugees themselves. Those results include strengthened resettlement management and integrity, and strengthened global coherence, quality and efficiency of resettlement delivery.

STRENGTHENING UNHCR'S PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH ALL STAKEHOLDERS, IN PARTICULAR WITH GOVERNMENTS AND NGOS

Through the meetings of the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) and Working Group on Resettlement (WGR), chaired by the United Kingdom in 2008-2009 and by Sweden in 2009-2010, UNHCR and resettlement countries have addressed a number of key policy and operational issues. The Office appreciates the participation and support of States in responding to global resettlement needs and priorities as well as expanding cooperation on anti-fraud and the strategic use of resettlement. An important outcome of the ATCR is the tripartite relationship itself, which promotes global partnerships and cooperation on resettlement.

“ An important outcome of the ATCR is the tripartite relationship itself, which promotes global partnerships and cooperation on resettlement.”

During the ATCR and WGR meetings UNHCR invites States to indicate their resettlement targets and plans for the next calendar year, which assists UNHCR to identify potential gaps and overlaps in programme delivery. UNHCR also encourages resettlement States to hold bilateral discussions with UNHCR on the margins of the ATCR in order to strengthen joint planning efforts. UNHCR can then have more substantive discussions with States regarding operational planning for the following year at the October WGR. This consultative process strengthens the coordination and management of the global resettlement programme and encourages predictability for planning purposes.

UNHCR continued to strengthen partnerships with NGOs globally in the area of refugee resettlement, including sub-agreements with NGOs as well as the deployment of NGO personnel to UNHCR operations in addition to the existing UNHCR-ICMC¹¹ Resettlement Deployment Scheme. In order to enhance partnerships with NGOs in the identification of refugees in need of resettlement in urban areas, UNHCR conducted training for 20 NGOs from across Africa. An outcome of this training is the development of a UNHCR-NGO Toolkit for Practical Cooperation on Resettlement.

In 2010-2011, partnerships in resettlement will be enhanced through working relations with States and NGOs, including through the ATCR, WGR and a range of EU-funded projects with NGOs. UNHCR's Resettlement Service will continue to support the involvement of NGOs in resettlement activities and develop ways to strengthen partnerships to improve protection delivery, including resettlement, more broadly.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS OF THE RESETTLEMENT SERVICE IN UNHCR'S DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

A key function of the Resettlement Service will remain to act as a “capacitator” to provide policy and procedural guidance, monitor field operations, and analyze trends to inform strategic directions. As part of this function, and in accordance with UNHCR's global strategic priorities for 2009-2011, the Resettlement Service will continue to assist Field Offices and Regional Bureaus to expand and diversify resettlement activities in different operational contexts, improve access for refugees as well as improve operational standards and coordination of activities. It will seek to deliver a more coherent and predictable resettlement programme that addresses refugees' needs with diligence, integrity, transparency and accountability.

In coordination with relevant internal and external counterparts, the key objectives of the Resettlement Service remain to:

- strengthen the promotion of resettlement internally and externally and enhance its use as a protection tool, a durable solution and a responsibility and burden sharing mechanism, and increase the strategic use of resettlement;

11 ICMC: the International Catholic Migration Commission

-
- ensure that resettlement is fully considered as part of comprehensive durable solution strategies, with particular emphasis on finding solutions in protracted refugee situations; and,
 - ensure that global resettlement needs and gaps in capacity / service delivery are identified and addressed (e.g. increasing commitment by states to provide resettlement opportunities) and available resettlement places fully utilized through the effective management of the global resettlement programme.

The measure of resettlement as a protection tool and durable solution is based not only on how many refugees have access to this solution and how many countries offer resettlement places but also on the way refugees are selected, received and supported, or in other words, the value of all of its components. To meet future challenges, UNHCR seeks support from resettlement countries and the international community at large with regard to the following:

- initiating or expanding resettlement programmes, including available dossier, emergency and medical places, to meet the needs of vulnerable refugees, as well as ensuring flexible and efficient programme delivery while actively upgrading measures to protect procedural integrity (Global Strategic Priorities 6.3);
- ensuring a more comprehensive and flexible cooperation of host countries to facilitate resettlement activities by UNHCR, its partners and resettlement countries;
- reducing barriers limiting access to resettlement for some refugees most at risk, such as discriminatory selection criteria set by some resettlement countries (e.g. integration potential, family size, age, health status, ethnicity, religion and nationality);
- upholding international standards and mitigating selection processes that have a potentially negative impact on the welfare of refugees, notably with respect to HIV and DNA testing;
- establishing an evacuation transit mechanism to be located in eastern Africa to address existing needs;
- strengthening ways to deliver effective outcomes for resettled refugees, including ways to measure the success of resettlement programmes , such as through the acquisition of citizenship; and
- improving refugee access to migration programmes, such as skilled labour migration, whilst ensuring migration channels are protection-sensitive.

Resettlement Service
Division of International Protection
UNHCR Geneva, June 2010

MYTH:

Only the “best” refugees are resettled.

TRUTH:

UNHCR identifies refugees most in need of the protection and safety provided by resettlement. Each and every resettlement place is essential to protecting the refugees who need it most.

Resettlement **is about**
protection.

AFRICA

OVERVIEW

CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES

Burundi
Cameroon
Central African Republic
Congo
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Gabon
Rwanda
United Republic of Tanzania

EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA

Chad
Djibouti
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Kenya
Somalia
Sudan
Uganda

WEST AFRICA

Benin
Côte d'Ivoire
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Liberia
Mali
Nigeria
Senegal, Burkina Faso, Niger
Sierra Leone
Togo

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Angola
Botswana
Malawi
Mozambique
Namibia
South Africa, Indian Ocean Islands, Lesotho
and Swaziland
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Resettlement submissions from the Africa region continued to increase in 2009. During the year, more than 28,700 refugees were submitted for resettlement consideration to 14 different countries from the region. The refugees submitted for resettlement from the region originated from 29 different countries of origin, with the main three countries of origin being Somalia (63 per cent), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (16 per cent) and Ethiopia (5 per cent). Of the 14 different resettlement countries that received submissions from UNHCR Offices in Africa in 2009, 11 undertook interview missions to the region, while three countries considered cases on a dossier basis.

UNHCR will continue to concentrate its efforts to resolve protracted refugee situations in Africa in 2010 and 2011, by promoting comprehensive strategies that offer refugees the durable solution (voluntary repatriation, local integration or resettlement) that is most appropriate to their situation. These initiatives will focus on the major protracted refugee

populations in Kenya, Chad and Sudan, but also increasingly on refugees residing in urban areas in line with the priorities outlined by the High Commissioner. Continued priority will be given to Somali, Sudanese (Darfuri), and Eritrean refugees identified as having a need for resettlement. Smaller and mixed populations of refugees, both in urban and camp situations also deserve renewed attention, especially in Western and Southern Africa.

In **CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES REGION**, opportunities for return continue to improve for Burundian refugees, and partially also for Congolese refugees. Facilitation of return to more stable parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo will be maintained for the majority of the refugees in the region in 2010 and 2011, but resettlement will be sought for some categories of vulnerable refugees with specific protection and medical needs. UNHCR will be focusing on a more harmonized approach for resettlement of Congolese refugees both within and outside the region.

In the **EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA**, the situation in the main refugee producing countries remains complex and highly volatile. Somalia continues to experience substantial forced displacement, with more than 1.5 million of its citizens uprooted. Although violence in the Darfur region of Sudan has been decreasing, it continues to cause refugee outflows. Voluntary repatriation (in the near future) and effective local integration as durable solution alternatives, especially for Somali refugees from South-Central Somalia and Eritrean refugees, remain largely impossible. Ongoing larger scale resettlement efforts for these refugee populations are set to continue in 2011, particularly from Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Sudan.

In **WEST AFRICA**, comprehensive durable solution strategies continue to be pursued throughout the region to capitalize on options for resolving protracted refugee and displacement situations. Regional frameworks, such as

the ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) *Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment*, have proven to be an important mechanism for achieving solutions through local integration. Resettlement will remain a solution mainly for

refugees originating from outside the region, as well as for particularly vulnerable refugees. Resettlement activities in West Africa will thus remain modest in both 2010 and 2011, with continued support needed from resettlement countries in order to address mixed, small and mainly urban populations.

The situation in **SOUTHERN AFRICA** has remained stable and opportunities for local integration and voluntary repatriation continue to be pursued. Resettlement is being pursued as a tool of protection for vulnerable refugees affected by continued xenophobia-related violence in South Africa as well as a solution for refugees in protracted situations whose ability to attain an acceptable degree of self-sufficiency is undermined by the strictly enforced encampment policies of many countries in the Southern Africa subregion. Resettlement from all countries in the subregion is carefully balanced with other ongoing solutions efforts.



As the Dadaab camps are crowded, some refugees are being moved and relocated to Kakuma camp, further north in Kenya. © UNHCR / Boris Hege

As underlined in previous updates from Africa, the main gaps in the region continue to exist with regard to places available for medical cases and normal dossier submissions. Some resettlement countries have also indicated hesitation in considering certain refugee

Subregion	Total Resettlement needs		Resettlement needs in 2011		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		UNHCR resettlement capacity shortfall	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
East & Horn of Africa	58,772	237,103	11,733	43,425	6,608	25,566	10,147	38,188	1,586	5,237
Central Africa & Great Lakes	3,011	10,025	1,978	6,925	725	2,840	1,751	6,000	227	925
Southern Africa	3,898	12,901	1,586	5,438	719	2,468	1,042	3,544	544	1,894
West Africa	428	1,485	352	1,140	225	632	254	745	98	395
Total	66,109	261,514	15,649	56,928	8,277	31,506	13,194	48,477	2,455	8,451



Processing of refugee's data - personal and family information is checked by UNHCR personnel, fingerprints and photos are taken at Hagadera Camp Verification Centre, Kenya.

© UNHCR / Boris Heger

profiles due to perceived security concerns or due to alleged integration challenges. In addition UNHCR finds it challenging to identify countries that are willing to consider refugees in countries with small and diverse refugee populations and refugees located in very volatile areas. These refugees are particularly disadvantaged in having equal access to resettlement.

Portrait, Hagadera camp, Kenya.

© UNHCR / Boris Heger

In 2011, it is expected that a total of 56,928 refugees will be in need of resettlement in Africa, with more than 80 per cent originating from and/or hosted in the East and Horn of Africa. Current UNHCR core capacity¹ the needs of only some 31,506 (or 55 per cent) refugees to be processed, provided that resettlement countries are willing to respond to the needs identified by UNHCR. The Resettlement Hub in Nairobi and the Regional Offices in Kinshasa, Dakar and Pretoria, will continue to work to support the countries in the regions both in identification, technical support, and resettlement processing in 2011. In the UNHCR 2011 overall planning process (Comprehensive Needs Assessment) the Offices have included adequate staffing and resources to bridge the gap between capacity and needs, however, at this point in time it is not clear if resources will be raised and allocated in order to meet these identified needs.



¹ based on *existing* core staff capacity, not counting deployees, consultants or other temporary staff [due to e.g. additional funding/secondments]

AFTER FLEEING VIOLENCE IN DARFUR, RESETTLED REFUGEE CHERISHES NEW LIFE IN ALASKA

News Stories, 21 December 2009
By Lilli Tnaib in Washington, DC

**AT-TAHIR KARIEF,
THE FIRST REFUGEE
FROM DARFUR
TO BE RESETTLED
IN ALASKA, HAS
FOUND SAFETY AND
FREEDOM IN THE
UNITED STATES.**

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, December 15 (UNHCR) – The first refugee from Darfur to find a home in Anchorage, Alaska, thrives in the cold northern climate, having found a safe haven and freedom far from his native country.

At-Tahir Karief, a farmer from Darfur, arrived in Alaska in February 2008 and now works for a cargo company loading and unloading airplanes at the Anchorage airport. A native Arabic speaker, he began learning English in refugee camps, but takes regular classes to improve his language skills. He and his wife both work, but find daycare for their children to be a challenge, as well as saving money for the future. Still, the family is extremely grateful to have found a new home.

"I love it so much here. I can feel peace. I love freedom. Nobody bothers me. We are very satisfied and happy with what we have," says Karief. Nevertheless, he remains disturbed by the tragic events in his home country and remains hopeful for a peaceful solution to the crisis in Darfur.

Now firmly rooted in Anchorage, Karief mentors newly-arrived refugees by greeting them at the airport and helping them adjust to a new culture. Over the past 18 months, nearly 70 refugees from Darfur have arrived in Alaska.



© Catholic Social Services/Kerina Vue

"The weather is not the biggest challenge refugees face, but it does feed into some of their problems," says Dr. Karen Ferguson of Catholic Social Services in Anchorage. "We have a very low out migration rate. People don't leave us. At the same time, refugees do struggle with earning enough money to pay for bills, finding transportation in a city with an unfriendly bus system and becoming independent."

Anchorage, a city of 300,000, has less diversity than other U.S. cities. Housing is can be expensive and the employment rate is moderate. "People in Alaska are very friendly and refugees seem to get beyond their problems," says Ferguson. In addition to refugees from Darfur, Catholic Social Services has also helped refugees from Bhutan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, the former Soviet Union, Iran and Iraq start new lives in Alaska.

Running a smaller programme compared with many other states, Catholic Social Services is the only resettlement agency in Alaska, providing assistance to more than 300 newly enrolled refugees a year. The agency provides rent, food, clothes and cash assistance and helps refugees find housing and employment upon arrival. Ultimately, the agency works to help refugees live independently.

HAVING FLED THE CONFLICT IN SUDAN IN 2004, KARIEF BEGAN HIS JOURNEY IN A REFUGEE CAMP IN CHAD.

After leaving Chad he and his family traveled by bus across Africa through Cameroon, Nigeria and Benin, and then lived in a refugee camp in Ghana for three years. In Ghana he felt safe, but living conditions in the camp quickly deteriorated. After several months, he found there was little food, water and medication for his family. UNHCR referred Karief to the U.S. resettlement programme. After waiting for several months, Karief was told he would be resettled to the U.S. with his family.

"The Sudanese value education. They hope that by being resettled to the United States they and their children will get an education. But the truth is when you come to the U.S. through the resettlement programme, the plan is work first, not education. The refugees want to take college classes and learn English, yet they have to start by taking entry level jobs," Ferguson says.

Holding on to the hope that his children will be well-educated, Karief expects that his children will learn to read, go to college and find jobs helping fellow refugees. "I wanted a better life for my kids and now I've found it in Alaska."

“I wanted a better life for my kids and now I’ve found it in Alaska.”

Q&A: PLAY RAISES THE CURTAIN ON FORMER CONGOLESE REFUGEE'S LIFE IN ARIZONA

UNHCR NEWS STORIES

WASHINGTON, DC, United States, April 21 (UNHCR) – Shukuru Kalunga is a high school teenager with dreams of becoming a lawyer. What sets Kalunga apart from other students are the obstacles he has overcome both before and after arriving in the United States. Kalunga and his family are refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. They were resettled to Tucson, Arizona in 2008 after having lived in a refugee camp in Uganda for several years. In an effort to spread the word in his community about the way in which refugees live, Kalunga wrote and produced a play titled "The Unexpected." The work is based on his experiences as a newly arrived refugee in Tucson and it has been widely attended.

Kalunga spoke to UNHCR's Public Information Intern Stephany Warner.

country. I was very confused and not sure if I would manage. My English teachers encouraged me and gave me hope to continue when I was thinking of dropping out of school.

TELL US ABOUT THE PLAY AND WHY YOU WROTE IT

The first thing I did was to write an essay about my experiences and this was published in a magazine. I then decided that I needed to do something that would enable people to come and see my experiences live. I felt a play would be very powerful in expressing the feelings of refugees. The play isn't just about my life experiences, but rather the experiences of all refugees, particularly those living

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS AND HOPES FOR THE FUTURE?

I am trying to pursue law as a career because I have always wanted to advocate for people. Every day is a new life for me, and in the years to come I really want to work with refugees. Through my experiences, I have realized that there is a need for more people to help newly-arrived refugees in America and to offer support.

A lot of refugee children have ideas and goals, but they don't have confidence in themselves. Most of them don't feel others would be willing to hear their stories. Some of the actors in my play were refugee children and they were amazed at the amount of people in the community who cared enough to come and see a play about the lives of refugees such as themselves. I hope that this play influences other children to tell their stories and develop confidence in themselves.

Many refugees feel others view them as not knowing anything because they are refugees, when in

fact they know a lot due to their experiences. I have spoken to some refugees studying at the two universities that I am considering for my further education in the Fall, and they are willing to spearhead a refugee youth organization. All I need for the time being is to go there and start planning for this organization.



WHAT WERE YOUR GREATEST CHALLENGES ON ARRIVING IN AMERICA?

Coming to America was very challenging for me and my family because we didn't know anybody and we didn't understand the language. It was very hard to communicate and express everything that I wanted to say. I had a language problem

when I first arrived here because American English is very different to the English we learn in Africa. When people wrote in English, I would understand what they were saying, but when they spoke, I was unable to understand. When I got to school, I found another challenge, because the education system in America is very different from the education system in my

in Tucson. When I first got here, I was surprised at how difficult life in America was. I did the play to show the problems refugees face and to put it into perspective for those residing in Tucson. I felt that if I perform it, then people will get the message and realize the challenges refugees face in America and the things they have been through.

YOUNG SOMALI REFUGEE BORN IN EXILE LOOKS FORWARD TO RESETTLEMENT AFTER A HARD LIFE



Telling the Human Story, 1 October 2009

By Kisut Gebre Egziabher in Kebribeyah Refugee Camp, Ethiopia

KEBRIBEYAH REFUGEE CAMP, Ethiopia, October 1 (UNHCR) – Hodan Mawlid has spent almost all of her life in a baking, dusty refugee camp in Ethiopia, yet the 18-year-old remains remarkably optimistic despite suffering the loss of her parents at an early age and the hardship that followed.

"I have led a very painful life," she told a UNHCR visitor here recently. "But I always find solace in my belief that the best way to prevail over the cruelties and ills of the past is to forget them altogether and start all over again."

Now, things are changing for Hodan: last month she flew to the United States after being accepted for resettlement and her positive attitude should help her face the challenges that will arise in an alien land and culture. "Just how smooth the new beginning is depends so much on the individual and the situation," said UNHCR Senior Resettlement Officer Larry Yungk. "I think there tend to be opportunities out there, but there is no guarantee of success," he adds.

Hodan was among a group of 23 vulnerable Somali refugees, including her uncle and his family, who were accepted by the US under a UNHCR-organized resettlement programme and flown to Denver, Colorado. They cannot return home because they originate from volatile southern or central areas of Somalia, where people continue to flee their homes to escape conflict.

Before leaving Addis Ababa, she said she knew there were tough times ahead, especially to begin with as she struggles to learn English. But she's had a lifetime of preparation. "I've known suffering all my life. Compared to what I've endured, language and cultural barriers will be nothing to worry about."

Hodan was born and brought up in eastern Ethiopia's Kebribeyah Refugee Camp after her parents crossed from neighbouring Somalia in 1991, fleeing the chaos that followed the collapse of the Siad Barre regime. They were among more than 600,000 people who fled to Ethiopia and found safety in eight refugee camps.

"When I grew old enough to enquire about my parents, I learnt from my uncle, who took care of me while in the camp, that my mother had died as a refugee when I was four years old and that my father returned to Somalia some months later," she recalled.

The news was a devastating blow, especially as Hodan had no siblings who could comfort her. Her uncle and aunt and their children became her surrogate parents and siblings, but she had to drop out of school after Grade Four to supplement the family's monthly food ration by working as a housemaid in a nearby town.

Meanwhile, relative stability in Somaliland and northern Somalia's Puntland led to the repatriation of well over half-a-million Somali refugees from Ethiopia between 1997 and 2005. But Hodan's kin were from southern Somalia where continuing insecurity has prevented their return. Resettlement became an option.

The Somalis still living in camps in eastern Ethiopia, including Hodan and her relatives, were caught in a protracted refugee situation with no end in sight. As part of the efforts to resolve the problem, the US government agreed in 2007 to accept thousands of these Somalis for resettlement. To date, UNHCR has referred the names of some 5,600 for possible resettlement.

"While UNHCR's primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees, our ultimate goal is to help find durable solutions that will allow them to rebuild their lives in dignity and peace," explained Moses Okello, UNHCR's representative in Ethiopia.

The Somali community in the United States is closely-knit, UNHCR's Yungk noted, adding that this could help the young Hodan settle in well. Her biggest hurdle could be education.

"Unfortunately, if one is over 18 and arrives in the US, one is generally not eligible to finish public schooling," Yungk said, while adding that refugees like Hodan were usually steered towards General Equivalency Degree programmes, English-language courses and vocational training. Hodan welcomed the opportunity for a new life with plenty of opportunity. There is no looking back for her. "I do not think I have any incentive to go to Somalia any time in the future," she concluded.

"I've known suffering all my life. Compared to what I've endured, language and cultural barriers will be nothing to worry about."

--SOMALI REFUGEE HODAN MAWLID

THE AMERICAS

OVERVIEW

THE AMERICAS

Caribbean States
 Costa Rica
 Cuba
 Ecuador
 Peru
 Venezuela

The Programme of Solidarity Resettlement is one of the most innovative components of the Mexico Plan of Action (MPA) which was adopted by 20 countries in November 2004. However, resettlement is not a new concept in Latin America. In 1999, Chile and Brazil signed resettlement agreements with UNHCR and have been resettling small contingents of refugees since 2002. Based on the proposal made by the Government of Brazil during the adoption of the Declaration and the MPA, this durable solution received new impetus, and the number of refugees resettled in the mentioned countries grew significantly since then. Furthermore, other countries of the region joined the Programme: Argentina signed a resettlement agreement with UNHCR and

received a first group of refugees at the end of 2005, and Uruguay and Paraguay also formalized their participation in the Programme. Uruguay undertook its first selection mission in early 2009. Resettlement of Colombian refugees in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay has continued during 2009 and into 2010. In addition to the Colombian refugees resettled to the Solidarity resettlement countries in South America, in 2007 and the first quarter of 2008, Palestinian refugees were resettled from border camps in Jordan and Syria to Brazil and Chile. Argentina has recently expressed its wish to broaden its resettlement activities out of the boundaries of Latin America.

The main principles of the Programme are responsibility sharing, international solidarity

Subregion	Total resettlement needs		Resettlement needs in 2011		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		UNHCR Resettlement capacity shortfall	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
The Americas	6,901	20,423	1,705	5,060	339	981	732	2,154	973	2,906
Total	6,901	20,423	1,705	5,060	339	981	732	2,154	973	2,906

and the promotion of the strategic use of resettlement in the region; the latter through *inter alia* maintaining an open space for asylum in the three countries which currently host the greatest number of asylum-seekers and refugees, namely Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Venezuela. The programme of Solidarity Resettlement is the concrete expression of the will of Latin American countries to provide support to the countries hosting large number of refugees in the region.

In Ecuador, the Enhanced Registration exercise launched in April 2009 by the Ecuadorian Government, in cooperation with UNHCR, came to an end by the end of March 2010. This exercise allowed for the recognition of refugee status and documentation of 25,000 Colombians in need of international protection and facilitated the identification of refugees with specific needs, including potential resettlement needs.

The overall UNHCR objective for resettlement in Latin America in 2011 is to consolidate and strengthen the resettlement programmes of the emerging resettlement countries in the region. At the same time, the need to establish pre-departure support for refugees with specific needs pending resettlement and to strengthen integration mechanisms will be addressed through a number of specific activities,

subject to the availability of funds. Despite the existing regional capacity, UNHCR will continue to require resettlement places from other resettlement countries in 2010-2011 to be able to address all the identified needs. In addition, the ability of UNHCR operations in Costa Rica, Ecuador and Venezuela to submit a percentage of their cases on a dossier basis throughout the calendar year is vital in order to allow Offices greater flexibility in their operations and to meet ongoing needs.



Two young refugees girls at the World Refugee Day celebration in Ecuador.

© A. Escalante/UNHCR

Given the current nature of the displacement characterized by refugees fleeing war, civil strife and persecution, there will continue to be a need to resettle refugees from Latin America. A significant increase in resettlement activities is expected in Ecuador where additional resources will be required in order to strengthen UNHCR processing capacity and meet the projected needs. UNHCR is committed to work together with these and other interested governments in the region in establishing and implementing resettlement programmes. To this end, UNHCR welcomes continued financial and technical support from traditional resettlement countries to consolidate the existing programmes and to continue to build the capacity of the new resettlement countries in Latin America, e.g. through twinning arrangements.



Two girls and their mother waiting to be assisted in UNHCR offices, Ecuador.

© A. Escalante/UNHCR

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

OVERVIEW

SOUTH ASIA

Bangladesh
India
Nepal
Sri Lanka

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan

EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Cambodia
China incl. Hong Kong SAR
Indonesia
Malaysia
Mongolia
Papua New Guinea
South Pacific
Thailand

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

The Islamic Republic of Iran
Pakistan

The Asia and the Pacific region in UNHCR's context encompasses countries from Iran to Australia and the Pacific Islands.

UNHCR's priority remains the active promotion of lasting solutions for refugees and persons of concern in this region, which continues to host a number of protracted refugee situations. As voluntary repatriation and local integration remain elusive for many refugees, resettlement remains a significant durable solution and strategic protection tool in Asia and its use has resulted in protection dividends in many situations. With group resettlement taking place from Malaysia, Nepal, and Thailand, and individual submissions also being made in sixteen other countries, 2010 has continued to reflect the high levels of resettlement experienced over the last five years. It is noteworthy that three of the seven priority situations identified at the December 2009 Working Group on resettlement for the strategic use of resettlement are located in Asia – Afghan refugees in Iran, Afghan refugees in Uzbekistan and refugees in need of resettlement in the Pacific Islands. In 2011, UNHCR will continue

to explore the resolution of protracted refugee situations, while pursuing possible self-reliance activities for refugees pending the identification of durable solutions. Meeting the resettlement needs of refugee women and children and the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are primary goals of all country programmes.

The subregion of **SOUTH ASIA** includes Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka. None of these countries are a party to the 1951 Convention or to its 1967 Protocol and there are also no national refugee legislation and/or administrative provisions related to the protection of refugees. Despite the positive example set by India's generous ongoing naturalization of Afghan refugees of Sikh or Hindu ethnic background since 2007, for those countries hosting refugees, local integration continues to remain a very limited option at this time. In Bangladesh, UNHCR will continue to use resettlement strategically to address refugee issues in the camps. In Nepal, UNHCR continues to support the process of group resettlement for Bhutanese

Subregion	Total resettlement needs		Resettlement needs in 2011		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		UNHCR Resettlement capacity shortfall	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
Central Asia	265	865	265	865	74	230	120	370	145	495
East Asia & the Pacific	62,344	109,046	14,284	28,326	6,958	11,096	10,998	23,216	3,286	5,110
South Asia	7,858	39,555	4,097	20,045	2,032	9,499	3,977	19,839	120	206
Southwest Asia	55,600	278,000	1,380	6,900	516	2,481	980	4,900	400	2,000
Total	126,067	427,466	20,026	56,136	9,580	23,306	16,075	48,325	3,951	7,811

refugees located in the camps around Damak in the southeast of the country. This operation, guided by a Core Group of States and UNHCR and involving ongoing discussions with Nepal and Bhutan will, UNHCR hopes, ultimately lead to a complete resolution of the protracted situation.

The **EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC** subregion comprises Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China (including Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR), Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Pacific Island States, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam. While some countries have acceded to the 1951 Convention, the absence of national legal frameworks and procedures as well as limited local integration opportunities, make UNHCR’s work to find a durable solution outside the region particularly relevant. As voluntary repatriation is very limited, in 2011 UNHCR will continue to

promote resettlement as a durable solution for most of the refugee camp population in Nepal and Thailand. Within the context of strategic use of resettlement, special attention is also given to the protracted refugee situations in Malaysia.

In **SOUTH-WEST ASIA**, Iran and Pakistan, the two countries hosting the largest number of refugees world-wide, UNHCR hopes that

in 2011, resettlement countries will provide resettlement places to address the protracted situation of Afghan refugees. In Iran, UNHCR plans to significantly increase the number of refugees submitted for resettlement but this will require a coordinated effort on the part of States. Considerable progress in resettlement of these refugee group populations will contribute to new opportunities for increased asylum space.

*TAJIKISTAN: Afghan refugees accepted for resettlement to Canada / Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
© UNHCR / J. Redden*



In the **CENTRAL ASIAN STATES** of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, resettlement in 2010/2011 will continue to be the primary mechanism to meet the often urgent protection needs of refugees. With an uncertain legal status, prompt resettlement is often required. Similarly, cooperation with resettlement partners will continue to be needed during the remainder of 2010 with regard to remaining Afghans in Uzbekistan. The Afghan refugee

population in Uzbekistan comprises a limited but at-risk group who have lost ties with their country of origin yet have little prospect of local integration. There are also a large number of refugees living in urban centres in many countries of the region who face dire protection challenges and for whom resettlement remains the only viable durable solution. Resettlement is thus an important protection tool for vulnerable individual refugees, both in urban and camp situations. Emergency resettlement is being used to address the situation of refugees in detention, urgent medical cases, or other individual refugees with specific needs especially where there is heightened risk of *refoulement*.

Among noteworthy developments in the region, Japan became the first resettlement country in Asia in 2009. Japan conducted its first selection mission to Thailand in early 2010. Access to protection in the region was improved with the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement between The Government of the Philippines and UNHCR in August 2009 on the establishment of an Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM). Nineteen refugees have subsequently been evacuated to the Philippines from their countries of asylum. This trend is likely to continue in the course of 2010/2011.

The support of resettlement countries is greatly appreciated and will continue to be crucial for the continuance of the exceptionally successful resettlement programmes in the Asia and Pacific region.



Kyrgyzstan/Food Distribution at the Reception Center of the State Committee for Migration and Employment in Bishkek. Afghan refugee family picking up their portion of food. ©UNHCR/S.Plotnikov

NUMBER OF REFUGEES RESETTLED FROM NEPAL PASSES 25,000 MARK

UNHCR NEWS STORIES

KATHMANDU, Nepal, December 9, 2009 (UNHCR) – The number of refugees from Bhutan resettled in the United States and other receiving countries from camps in eastern Nepal has reached the 25,000 mark.

The milestone was reached on Wednesday, with 48-year-old Jagu Maya Khatiwada named as the 25,000th refugee to be resettled. She boarded a flight to the United States with her husband and two sons and will eventually settle in North Carolina.

The United States, with 22,060, has accepted the majority of the refugees originating from Bhutan since the resettlement programme was launched by UNHCR in November 2007 with the cooperation of the government of Nepal and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The other countries to accept refugees are Australia (1,006), Canada (892), Norway (316), Denmark

(305), New Zealand (299) and the Netherlands (122).

"We have been receiving regular feedback from those resettled. They have written to us about their lives; they are learning new languages, their children are in school and they are happy with their new homes. Of course, they miss family and friends; the start of a new life in a new country is never easy," said Diane Goodman, UNHCR's acting representative in Nepal.

Many of the tens of thousands of refugees in seven camps in eastern Nepal have been living in exile for almost 20 years. They arrived in Nepal after fleeing ethnic tensions in Bhutan in the early 1990s.

Recognizing the desperate situation of the refugees, the United States said two years ago that it would consider at least 60,000 refugees for resettlement and Canada indicated it would accept up to 5,000.

But while resettlement offers a way out for refugees who see no future in the camps, UNHCR continues to advocate for voluntary repatriation for those who are willing to wait in the camps. The refugee agency holds regular information sessions and focus group discussions in the camps as well as providing individual counselling.

Special information sessions are organized for the marginalized and vulnerable. Refugees are also being offered English-language classes, though these are not restricted to those who wish to resettle in a third country.

Some 86,739 refugees from Bhutan remain in the eastern Nepal camps. More than 550 of them are expected to be flown to resettlement countries between now and the end of the year.

A BIG WELCOME FROM A TINY VILLAGE

UNHCR NEWS STORIES

Prague, Oseček, 22 June 2009 - Despite of the rainy weather, everyone seemed happy in Oseček, a tiny village in Eastern Bohemia last Friday. Running around the house, four Burmese kids tried to figure out where their intended bedrooms are. While Zeya got busy playing with her new doll, the other kids disappeared into the garden just to discover a huge cherry tree. The question whether they were planning to bottle any of the fruits from the garden caused a burst of laughter „With eight of us, these will be gone in a few days”, commented Tun, one of the younger children, through Sabe Soe, interpreter from the Burmese Centre, a Prague based non-governmental organization (NGO).

On 19 June, this house in Oseček became the new home of a Myanmar refugee family of eight, who belonged to the first group relocated to the Czech Republic in October 2008, from Malaysia through an official resettlement programme. During the same week all five Myanmar families said good-bye to the Straž refugee facility to live in private accommodations offered by different municipalities in the Bohemian and Moravian regions. Under the Czech State Integration Programme, the Ministry of Interior negotiated with local authorities throughout the country to secure rental contracts for refugees in municipal flats. As there are only a small number

of municipal flats and a large number of applicants, finding suitable places for refugees is

By Marta Miklusakova
UNHCR Prague



*Moving into a new home.
Photo UNHCR*

indeed a challenge. “Whereas every refugee dreams of living in Prague, such wishes are simply impossible to meet. Therefore, we try to find housing according to the individual needs of each refugee and their families, with special focus on employment opportunities besides many other factors” said Petr Novak, the head of the Integration Unit of the Department of the Asylum and Migration Politics of the Interior Ministry.

HOT CHICKEN SOUP AND A WARM WELCOME

Besides UNHCR, the welcoming delegation in Oseček included government representatives, the village mayor, the local priest, and also a neighbour who just stopped by to say hello and to deliver a pot of fresh, hot chicken soup she had

just prepared. As the Straž bus arrived, everyone spontaneously volunteered to help the family to unload and carry in the cargo. “The furniture and basic equipment was provided by NGOs with support from the European Refugee Fund (ERF), but many other things were given by the locals,” added Petr Novak, pointing at a bunch of toys awaiting the children and the four bicycles in the shed as cycling is an essential part of every-day life here.

While the four younger children explored the house, the parents and the two oldest sons discussed the most urgent issues with the authorities and Organisation for Aid to Refugees (OPU), an NGO providing assistance for the family for the first six months in their

new environment. "We are ready to come as needed, perhaps a couple of times per week," said Roman Varga covering Oseček under a special programme also supported through the ERF. "The very first thing we need to do is to take the parents around and to introduce them to the authorities in Podebrady, the nearest

Finding the cherry tree in the yard. Photo by UNHCR



“We did not leave for the Czech Republic to get a better life for ourselves but for our children.”

refugees are restricted from legal access to labour and schooling there. The limited education of both underage and adult refugees,

picked up the language much quicker so they will simply join the nearest primary school without any major difficulty," explained OPU.

In spite the general optimism, there are many challenges to be faced yet. "We very much appreciate the assistance provided by the Czech authorities and keep our fingers crossed for the families. At the same time, we are well aware of many things that need to be further negotiated, especially the access to the interpreter - a great challenge in a small country like the Czech Republic -, as well as the long-term individual integration plans that would allow each family to have a perspective for professional development," explained Marcela Skalkova, who is heading the UNHCR Office in the Czech Republic. "Seeing the families moving to a private environment is a relieving experience, which we greatly welcome. At the same time, we all need to understand that this is just the beginning," Skalkova added. For easier communication with relatives and friends back home - one of the greatest concerns to all refugees - UNHCR presented a computer to each family allowing them cheap internet calls.

This first group of 23 Myanmarians, all belonging to the Chin ethnic group, arrived in the Czech Republic in the fall of 2008, followed by another in February 2009. By this, the Czech state is enlined with the other eight EU countries that annually open their doors to refugees through formal resettlement programs. The Czech pilot programme is aiming to assist vulnerable groups of refugees, such as survivors of trauma and refugees with serious medical problems or protection needs.

district town and have their new residence properly registered," he explained and added, "As a nearby agriculture corporation offered jobs for the parents and the oldest son we also need to get in touch with them as soon as possible to clarify the details."

However, all of this was put off for the following week. On their first day, the family just took a short walk round the village meeting their new neighbours, getting to know where the shop is, learning how to handle their mail and to contact emergency.

LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFUGEES IN MALAYSIA HAVE IMPACT ON FURTHER INTEGRATION

Since Malaysia is not part to the 1951 Geneva Convention, many

represent one of the greatest challenges in their integration in the Czech Republic. Nevertheless, this family seems to perceive the situation in a pragmatic way. "We did not leave for the Czech Republic to get a better life for ourselves but for our children. We prayed they get the opportunity to study here," explained the father, who spent many years in exile in Malaysia hoping for a more durable solution for his family.

Since summer holiday starts within two weeks, the kids will visit the primary school next Wednesday to familiarize with local children and teachers and will only be enrolled from September. "Despite the intensive language training they received in the Straž facility, the adults may need more classes, which will be provided by private tutors. As usual, the children

EUROPE

OVERVIEW

EASTERN EUROPE

Azerbaijan
Georgia
The Russian Federation
Ukraine

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

Malta
Turkey

In 2011, UNHCR foresees needs for resettlement from operations in countries in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, as well as from Malta. In the Eastern and South Eastern European subregions there are both asylum-receiving countries and refugee-producing countries. Resettlement in these operations serves not only as a protection tool for the most vulnerable refugees, such as refugees with legal and physical protection needs, women-at-risk, and those with special medical needs, but is also used as part of the overall strategy of expanding the asylum space. The effectiveness of resettlement as a durable solution is reinforced by building stronger asylum systems and improving reception and integration infrastructure. In addition,

resettlement is also used as an instrument of international solidarity and of burden sharing.

In 2010, the operational resettlement target for the region was 7,201 persons, with an estimated processing capacity of 6,961 persons. The estimated resettlement needs in 2011 are 18,721 with Turkey accounting for 16,930 of the required places. The increase responds mainly to the increase of arrivals registered during 2009 and in the first months of 2010 in Turkey. UNHCR Turkey is making an effort to raise its capacity to reduce pending refugee status determination (RSD) backlogs and increase resettlement submissions (especially of non-Iraqi refugees).

Subregion	Total resettlement needs		Resettlement needs in 2011		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR Total Capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		UNHCR Resettlement Capacity Shortfall	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
Eastern Europe	834	1,850	437	1,091	426	1,046	437	1,091	0	0
Malta	600	700	600	700	600	700	600	700	0	0
Turkey	8,492	16,930	8,492	16,930	1,217	2,281	3,204	6,000	5,288	10,930
Total	9,926	19,480	9,529	18,721	2,243	4,027	4,241	7,791	5,288	10,930

RESETTLEMENT TO WESTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE

EU RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME

UNHCR welcomes a number of resettlement initiatives in Europe, including the establishment of new programmes in four countries, expansion of the existing ad hoc arrangements in a number of countries and the proposal by the European Commission for an EU Resettlement Programme. UNHCR prepared a background paper on the EU Resettlement Programme affirming support for a scheme that aims to support an increase in resettlement to the EU, ensure a high standard of integration support for resettled refugees and facilitate the administration of resettlement by UNHCR and the relevant state authorities. As the key stakeholder having a full overview on the global resettlement operations and needs, UNHCR stressed the importance of acknowledging and formalizing this unique role in the scheme.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN NATIONAL RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMMES

Since 2008, UNHCR has advocated for and supported an expansion of the resettlement base in Europe. UNHCR welcomes the emergence of new resettlement countries in Europe such as the Czech Republic and Romania, and more recently in 2010, Spain and Bulgaria who have announced the establishment of resettlement programmes from 2010 and 2011 respectively. These new resettlement countries join the ten established resettlement countries: Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

In 2009 and 2010, a number of other countries in Europe such as Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg and Switzerland initiated *ad hoc* resettlement programmes. Regrettably, the global financial crisis has negatively affected the resettlement programmes in other countries, particularly Iceland and Ireland, and may also have impacted the potential for new programmes to develop.

EMERGENCY TRANSIT FACILITIES

Another notable development was the establishment of an Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Humenne, Slovakia, adding 100 places to the already existing 200 places at the ETC in Timisoara, Romania. The facility in Humenne has been hosting Palestinian refugees evacuated from Al Waleed Camp in Iraq, while the facility in Romania has already hosted, among others, Ethiopian, Eritrean, Iraqi, Palestinian ex-Iraq and Sri-Lankan refugees.

UNHCR is further promoting EU Member States' use of the ETC in Timisoara. Beyond providing financial support to the facility, EU support from Member States could entail an undertaking to allocate resettlement places for refugees transferred to the ETC. The ETC's geographical position – on EU territory – could streamline resettlement procedures for European countries.

PRACTICAL COOPERATION

In order to strengthen resettlement in the EU, UNHCR has joined forces with IOM and ICMC on an EU funded project on "practical cooperation in EU resettlement". This project promotes a more coordinated practical approach in the resettlement by the 11 EU Member States involved, as well as NGOs and other stakeholders. The project seeks to develop cooperation in all phases of resettlement, from joint pre-departure training and joint health assessments at the ETC, to exchange of best practices in the reception and integration of resettled refugees.

PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS AND CAPACITY FOR 2011

Resettlement activities in 2011 will focus on operations in Turkey, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, and to a lesser extent Azerbaijan.

In Turkey, resettlement continues to be the durable solution to be sought for non-European refugees while the geographical limitation to the 1951 Convention is maintained. Resettlement also has a strategic potential

to broaden the protection space for non-European refugees during this transition period in which the Turkish authorities continue to work in the enactment of legislation and the establishment of an asylum system aligned with the EU *acquis*. Turkey has been identified by the Working Group on Resettlement as one of the priority situations in which the strategic use of resettlement can broaden the protection space.

In view of the particular situation in Malta, UNHCR has acknowledged the responsibility-sharing approach of the EU Member States, and welcomed the concept of “relocation” as opposed to resettlement with respect to movements from Malta to other EU Member States. On the other hand, all movements to countries outside Europe such as the United States, Canada and Australia and others are considered as resettlement. Relocation from Malta is used as a strategic protection tool to provide effective durable solutions to the most vulnerable persons who are unable to locally integrate in Malta. In line with its policy of expanding the asylum space in Europe, UNHCR will continue to urge the Maltese authorities to upgrade protection standards in the RSD procedures, to improve conditions for persons of concern in the detention centers, and also enhance their integration infrastructure.

To ensure the sustainability of resettlement in Europe, UNHCR underlines the need for a clear financial commitment from resettlement countries, over and above its annual programme budgets, so as to adequately respond to additional needs as they arise. This will help to firewall resettlement activities and keep operations going despite budget cuts and exchange rate losses. With the current requirements, UNHCR will continue to rely on additional contributions from an ad hoc workforce through the deployment of Resettlement Consultants and the UNHCR-ICMC Resettlement Deployment Scheme.



A refugee family from Bhutan resettled to the Netherlands arrives in Amsterdam after a long journey. They were welcomed with flowers by family members, the Bhutanese community in the Netherlands and staff from the IOM and Dutch Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum-Seekers.

© Nicolien Rengers

REFUGEES FROM MYANMAR ARRIVE IN BUCHAREST AS ROMANIA JOINS RANKS OF RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES

EUROPE

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By Claudia Liute in Bucharest, Romania, 8 June 2010

BUCHAREST, Romania, June 8 (UNHCR) – Romania has become one of the few countries in the world to accept refugees for resettlement, following the recent arrival in the European country of 38 people originating from Myanmar.

The refugees, including eight children, flew to Bucharest from Malaysia on May 31 and June 1 under legislation adopted by Romania in December 2008. This provides for Romania to accept up to 40 refugees for resettlement each year.

Machiel Salomons, UNHCR's representative in Romania, noting that the refugee agency had been forced to enhance its

resettlement efforts, said "Romania's contribution in this regard is both timely and very much appreciated."

The group of 38 refugees, all ethnic Kachin, are currently staying at the Regional Centre for Accommodation and Asylum Procedures in Galati, a city in eastern Romania. The facility is run by the Romanian Immigration Office (RIO). The resettlement was organized by the RIO in close cooperation with UNHCR and the Romanian Red Cross.

Under Romanian law, the resettled refugees will be entitled to the same rights as Romanian citizens, save for politically related ones. In Galati, they will receive language and cultural orientation courses as well as being informed of their legal rights.

They will also receive support from UNHCR and its partners, including Save the Children Romania and the Jesuit Refugee Service Romania. The refugees will be able to stay in the centre for up to one year as they are helped to become self-sufficient.

Romania also hosts a landmark Emergency Transit Centre, which was opened in the city of Timisoara in late 2008 to provide a temporary haven for refugees in urgent need of evacuation from their first asylum countries due to life-threatening conditions. More than 600 refugees have transited the centre.

Last year, a total of 995 asylum applications were recorded in Romania, slightly down on 2008. During the same year, a total of 94 people were granted some form of protection (refugee status or subsidiary protection).



Some of the Kachin refugees after arrival in Bucharest on June 1, 2010.

© Romanian Red Cross

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

OVERVIEW

MIDDLE EAST

Iraq
Israel
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain
Syrian Arab Republic
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

NORTH AFRICA

Algeria
Egypt
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Mauritania
Morocco
Tunisia

During 2007 and 2008, resettlement emerged as a powerful protection tool for refugees who fled violence. Resettlement numbers from the region soared as UNHCR increased its identification and assessment capacity and resettlement countries responded to the need to accept increasing numbers of Iraqi refugees.

In 2009 and into 2010, resettlement out of MENA continued to be dominated by large-scale submissions of vulnerable Iraqi refugees as both traditional and new resettlement countries continued to offer quotas for Iraqi refugees. Over 90,000 Iraqi refugees have been submitted for resettlement since 2007.

The resettlement needs of Iraqi refugees are projected to remain relatively high in the MENA region.

The reaction by resettlement countries to the Flash Appeal issued by UNHCR in October 2008 for the resettlement of ex-Iraqi Palestinian refugees from the camps in Al-Tanf, Al-Hol and Al-Waleed has yielded positive results which materialized in the closure of Al-Tanf Camp in Syria in February 2010. It is expected that Al-Hol Camp will be closed by the beginning of 2011, with the assistance of continued resettlement efforts. During 2009 and 2010, MENA has made heavy use of the Evacuation Transit Facilities (ETFs) in Romania and Slovakia to

Subregion	Total resettlement needs		Resettlement needs in 2011		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR Total Capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		UNHCR Resettlement Capacity Shortfall	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
The Middle East	23,548	74,460	10,830	33,370	4,424	13,047	8,356	24,231	2,474	9,139
North Africa	1,241	2,192	1,041	2,092	878	1,818	996	1,932	45	160
Total	24,789	76,652	11,871	35,462	5,302	14,865	9,352	26,163	2,519	9,299



Young Palestinian men from Baghdad living in a no mans land between the Iraqi and Syrian border at Al Tanf Refugee Camp.

© UNHCR / J. Wreford

evacuate Palestinian refugees from Al Waleed Camp in Iraq. It is expected that the remaining Palestinians staying in Al Waleed Camp will be resettled during 2010.

Elsewhere in the region, resettlement in 2011 will largely continue to remain a limited but crucial instrument of protection in a region characterized by limited protection space, a largely urban population, mixed asylum and migration flows, and protracted and intractable situations. Resettlement will be used as a protection tool to resolve the situation of refugees in detention as well as to find a solution for those refugees in protracted situations who have protection needs in the country of asylum.

UNHCR APPEALS TO RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES:

- For broad resettlement from the entire region for all refugees identified as being in need of resettlement;
- To continue providing spaces for medical cases given the large number of refugees in need of resettlement in the region who have medical needs;
- To provide additional dossier places, needed in particular for refugees in Iraq and Yemen where States may not conduct selection missions for reasons related to security or other constraints;
- To ensure that resettlement departures keep pace with submissions and acceptances;
- To engage in clear pre-departure cultural orientation sessions including formerly resettled refugees to ensure refugee expectations of life in resettlement countries are realistic.

The MENA Regional Resettlement Hub, based in Beirut, serves as a centre for supporting, coordinating, and monitoring all resettlement activities in the region. The Hub maintains regional resettlement statistics and works towards the consistent application of UNHCR resettlement criteria and policies. In conjunction with the Resettlement Service in Geneva, and the MENA Bureau, the Hub ensures mainstreaming of resettlement into regional protection and solutions strategies.

IRAQI REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

Country of Asylum	2008 Submissions	2009 Submissions	2010 Submissions to 21 May	2011 Resettlement Needs	2011 Resettlement Capacity
Syria	13,554	18,398	5,458	20,000	14,900
Jordan	9,417	8,442	2,851	3,600	3,600
Lebanon	3,709	2,847	1,028	2,200	1,748
Libya	0	109	168	420	420
GCC countries†	132	267	133	310	310
Egypt	555	354	88	300	300
Yemen	200	151	4	0	0
Israel	0	5	0	0	0
MENA TOTAL	27,567	30,573	9,730	26,830	21,278
**Turkey	5,122	5,291	1,124	5,517	2,200
Others	27	205	172	659	439
TOTAL IRAQI	32,716	36,069	11,026	33,006	23,917

†Gulf Cooperation Council, a regional organisation consisting of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Palestinian refugees who have fled Baghdad are stranded at Al Waleed refugee camp close to Iraq's border with Syria. © UNHCR



avoiding creating pull factors and the impression that resettlement might be an alternative migration route. UNHCR's resettlement policy will be based on a regionally balanced approach to avoid secondary movements that might negatively affect efforts to build protection capacities.

At the same time, the strategic use of resettlement can contribute to enlarging the protection space in the region. In 2011 UNHCR plans a modest increase in resettlement activity, where additional resources will be required in order to strengthen UNHCR processing capacity and address identified needs.

RESETTLEMENT OF IRAQI REFUGEES

Submissions of Iraqi refugees increased from 21,312 in 2007 to 32,716 in 2008, and 36,069 in 2009. In 2010, UNHCR expects the pace of submissions to continue, although in less numbers. As of 21 May 2010, 11,026 Iraqi refugees have been submitted for resettlement.

Total regional resettlement needs for Iraqi refugees are estimated at 52,210 (not including Turkey) and needs in 2011 in the MENA region are projected at 26,830 (33,006 including Turkey), with the greatest need located in Syria (20,000). Resettlement capacity for 2011 for Iraqi refugees in the MENA region is estimated at 21,278. UNHCR resettlement capacity remains flexible, however, and productivity can be increased if resources are provided to enhance additional staffing mechanisms such as the ICMC Resettlement Deployment Scheme which has been drawn on heavily in past years.

Resettlement will continue to be part of the **10 POINT PLAN OF ACTION**, intended to help manage asylum and migration issues in the region. Resettlement is to be used as a small but crucial component – as a strategic tool to help demonstrate international burden-sharing and to convince North African countries to also accept a proportion of refugees onto their territories.

NORTH AFRICA (PROJECTED NEEDS: 2,092 PERSONS)

North Africa is characterized by large-scale migration movements from sub-Saharan Africa to Europe, with a proportionately small number of refugees and a very restrictive asylum climate. For UNHCR, the challenge is to ensure access of those in need of protection and resettlement, while at the same time



Palestinian boy from Baghdad living in the no man's land between the Iraqi and Syrian border at Al Tanf Refugee Camp. © UNHCR / J. Wreford

END OF LONG ORDEAL FOR PALESTINIAN REFUGEES AS DESERT CAMP CLOSES

By Dalia Al-Achi in Damascus, Syria

DAMASCUS, Syria, February 1 (UNHCR) – The UN refugee agency closed the Al Tanf refugee camp between the borders of Syria and Iraq on Monday and relocated the last of the Palestinian refugees who had been stranded in the bleak no-man's land for nearly four years.

UNHCR, working in cooperation with the Syrian authorities, transferred the last 60 camp residents on Monday morning. They will be housed temporarily at another refugee camp, Al Hol, inside Syria.

"I am very happy that this is finally over," said Abu Mohanned, one of the relocated refugees. "We have been waiting for this for such a long time and yet we are anxious about what's next. We have suffered a lot and have been forced to leave with no document in hand after living 60 years in Iraq. We just want a place that welcomes us and recognizes us as human beings."

Al Tanf is a makeshift camp located on a narrow strip in no man's land between the Syrian and Iraqi borders. It was set up in May 2006 for Palestinian refugees fleeing persecution in Iraq as no country in the region would accept them.

Their stay was intended to be temporary but lasted nearly four years, during which the residents had to face harsh desert conditions: extreme temperatures, sandstorms, floods and several risks of fire with difficult access to medical services.

UNHCR and its partners – mainly UNRWA (UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East), UNICEF, the World Food Programme, the Palestinian Red Crescent and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent – had provided assistance to the refugees to alleviate their suffering. Meanwhile, UNHCR has been actively seeking humanitarian solutions for these refugees by requesting states give them a chance to start a new life.

"Today we were able to close this camp and this is a very important step and achievement in responding on a humanitarian basis to the situation of people who were stranded there as a result of fleeing persecution. This is the result of joint efforts with the Syrian authorities and the

resettlement countries," said Philippe Leclerc, UNHCR's deputy representative in Syria.

"However, there are still hundreds of Palestinian refugees from Iraq who are in Al Hol camp in the north-eastern province of Hassake and they also need the same compassion and understanding," he said.

The last moments were filled with emotion and hopes for the future. Families gathered next to the camp's main entrance, taking a last look at the desert site where they had lived. They were relieved to be leaving, but tense about their uncertain future.

Out of the 1,300 Palestinian refugees who had lived at different times in the camp, more than 1,000 were relocated to third countries, including Belgium, Chile, Finland, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Although the living conditions in Syria's Al-Hol camp are slightly better, circumstances are not sustainable and a solution is still needed for more than 600 Palestinians from Iraq currently living there.

The exact number of Palestinian who fled Iraq is unknown. Al Tanf is one of three camps that received Palestinian refugees from Iraq. Currently, there are around 2,000 in Al Hol and in Al Waleed camp, which is on the Iraqi side of the border. UNHCR will continue to advocate for a dignified solution for all those Palestinian refugees stranded in camps in 2010.

Photo © UNHCR/B.Diab



Palestinian refugees head towards the buses that will take them to Syria after years in Al Tanf.

IRAQI ARTIST DEPARTS FOR NEW LIFE IN THE UNITED STATES

UNHCR NEWS STORIES

© UNHCR/B.Diab
A detail from one of Amer's works of art.



MENA

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MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

DAMASCUS, Syria, September 2 (UNHCR) – Amer Ibrahim* always planned to become an artist when he enrolled at Baghdad University's Fine Arts Faculty in the mid-1990s, but he never expected to practise his craft as a refugee.

With the outbreak of sectarian violence in Iraq in 2006, their mixed Sunni-Shia Muslim marriage made Amer and his wife the victims of harassment by local gangs. After months of internal displacement, they decided to leave their homeland and seek shelter in Damascus.

Recently, the family were on the move again after being offered resettlement and the hope of a peaceful new life in the United States.

After arriving in Damascus, the Ibrahims moved into a run-down studio apartment located in a slum on the outskirts of the Syrian capital. Amer recalls how the family of four would huddle up in the tiny room during the winter to sleep amid the stench of wet paint and turpentine.

"We used to sleep here, and I used to paint here. They [the family] were annoyed by the smell, but what could I do? I had to work," he told a U N H C R visitor to the apartment shortly

before leaving for the US in late August.

Selling his paintings through the UN refugee agency and a handful of exhibitions has been his only source of income for the past three years. Iraqis are barred from legal employment in Syria, and those who work on the black market are often exploited.

"There was no other way we could have survived," Amer stressed. "UNHCR provided us with food, school supplies, health care, and even an outlet for my work, but we were still struggling. When I was told we had been accepted for resettlement, I couldn't believe it."

Amer is part of a collective of Iraqi refugee artists supported by UNHCR in Syria since 2007, when a first exhibition was organized at Al-Ruaa Art Gallery in the Jaramana neighbourhood of Damascus.

Since then, a website has been launched (www.iraqiartinexile.com) and numerous exhibitions have been held. The artists

regularly showcase their work at the UNHCR Office in Damascus. On August 25, the Ibrahims flew out of Damascus en route for Richmond, Virginia after being selected for resettlement in the United States. They say they have one acquaintance, the brother of a friend, in the historic city two hours south of Washington DC. They are among almost 9,400 vulnerable Iraqi refugees who have been offered a new start across the Atlantic since February 2007 – less than 1 per cent of the overall Iraqi refugee population registered with UNHCR in Syria.

The Ibrahims speak little English and have never been outside the Middle East, but they are hopeful this will be the start of a new life, an end to three years of living in fear and squalor in a Damascus ghetto.

Before Iraq was torn by violence they led a middle class life in a 350-square-metre duplex apartment in Baghdad, but they are not bitter. "We had some good times. In spite of all the difficulties we went through, we were happy in Syria. Thank God we survived this entire ordeal without losing a family member," said Amer.

"Stability, he replied, when asked what he expected of the United States – and a chance to resume his beloved art in a new environment. "I hope I'll be able to earn a living from my work, but if not, I'll do something else. It doesn't matter, as long as we have a future to look forward to."

* Names have been changed for protection reasons

ANNEX: UNHCR GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT STATISTICAL REPORT 2009

This report summarizes the resettlement activities of UNHCR offices worldwide in 2009. The information for this report is drawn from the UNHCR Resettlement Statistical Reports (RSR), which are reported by UNHCR country offices on a quarterly basis.

Certain information in this report is organized by regions, reflecting the five UNHCR Regional Bureaus: Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and MENA (Middle East and North Africa).

For the purposes of this report, country of asylum refers to the country from which refugees are submitted to and departed for resettlement. Country of resettlement refers to the country to which refugees are submitted for resettlement and to which they arrive on resettlement. Country of origin refers to the country where refugees derive their nationality. The submission figures include those made through UNHCR Resettlement Regional Hubs, Regional Offices as well as Headquarters.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR TRENDS IN 2009

SUBMISSIONS: In 2009, UNHCR made submissions of 128,558 refugees for resettlement, the highest number in 16 years.*

This is a six per cent increase from 121,214 refugees in 2008 and is more than double the number in 2005 (46,260 refugees).

DEPARTURES: In 2009, 84,657 refugees departed to 24 countries of resettlement, the largest number since the early 1990s.

Departures increased 29 per cent, from 65,859 refugees in 2008 and is more than double 2005 (38,507 refugees).

ORIGIN: The largest number of refugees submitted for resettlement were refugees from Iraq (30,067), followed by refugees from Myanmar (30,542) and Bhutan (22,114). In total the three nationalities made up 70 per cent of all submissions.

RESETTLEMENT: The three major countries of resettlement were: the United States of America (62,011), Australia (6,720) and Canada (6,582). Germany (2,064) was the country that received the largest number of resettled refugees in Europe in 2009.

ASYLUM: The largest number of refugees were submitted from Nepal (22,139), followed by Thailand (19,879) and Syrian Arab Republic (18,888).

Nepal was the country from which the most refugees departed (17,442), followed by Thailand (16,835), and the Syrian Arab Republic (10,383).

AT A GLANCE FIGURES

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Submissions	128,558	121,214	98,999	54,182	46,260
Departures	84,657	65,859	49,868	29,560	38,507
Countries of Asylum**	94	80	80	88	73
Countries of Origin**	77	68	65	67	69
Countries of Resettlement***	24	24	25	20	23

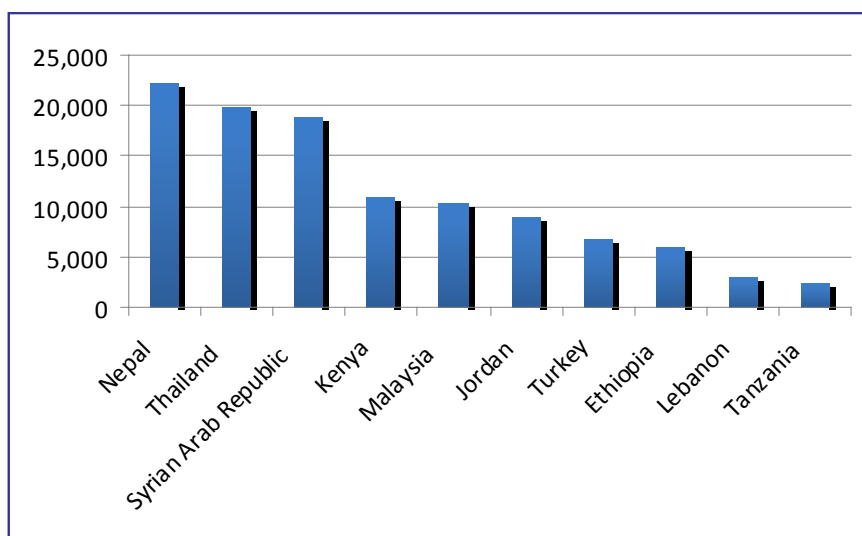
* This figure includes 7,142 individual resubmissions (2,202 cases)

** based on submissions

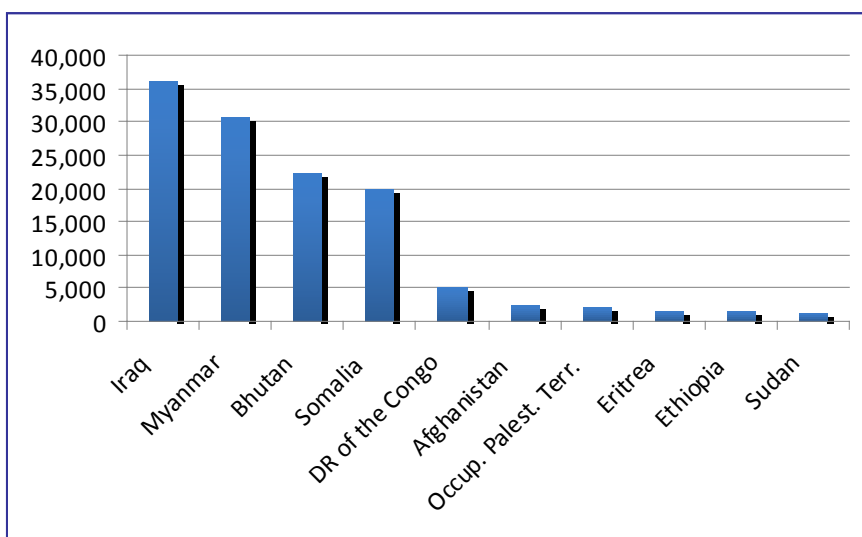
*** based on departures

TOP TEN: UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS IN 2009

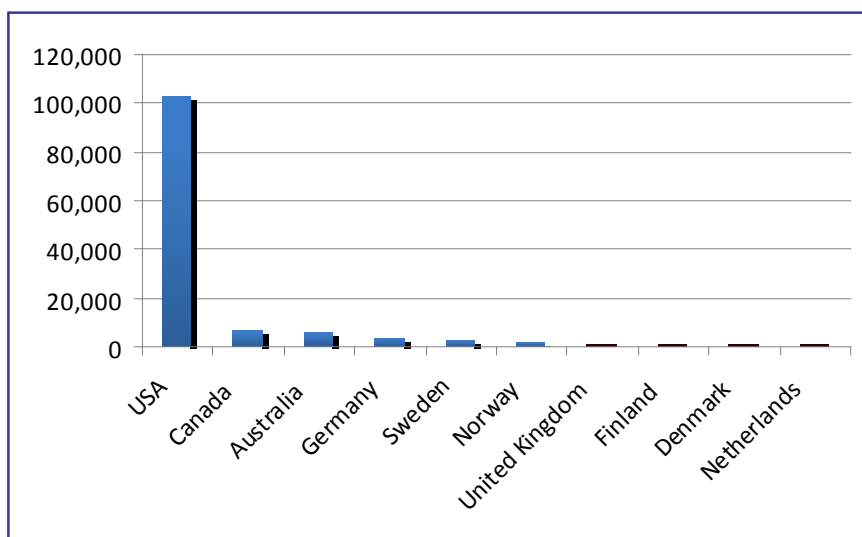
Country of asylum	Submissions (persons)
Nepal	22,139
Thailand	19,879
Syrian Arab Republic	18,888
Kenya	10,904
Malaysia	10,228
Jordan	8,920
Turkey	6,744
Ethiopia	6,014
Lebanon	3,000
Tanzania	2,306
All Others	19,536
TOTAL	128,558



Country of origin	Submissions (persons)
Iraq	36,067
Myanmar	30,542
Bhutan	22,114
Somalia	19,838
DR of the Congo	5,023
Afghanistan	2,440
Occup. Palest. Terr.	1,971
Eritrea	1,554
Ethiopia	1,477
Sudan	1,351
All Others	6,181
TOTAL	128,558



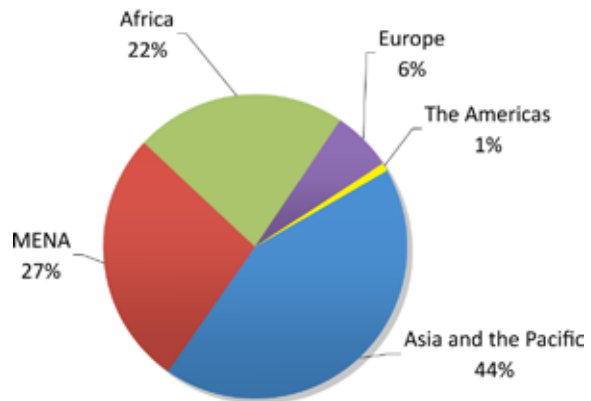
Country of resettlement	Submissions (persons)
USA	102,586
Canada	6,985
Australia	5,638
Germany	3,603
Sweden	2,462
Norway	1,707
United Kingdom	1,166
Finland	993
Denmark	861
Netherlands	838
All Others	1,719
TOTAL	128,558



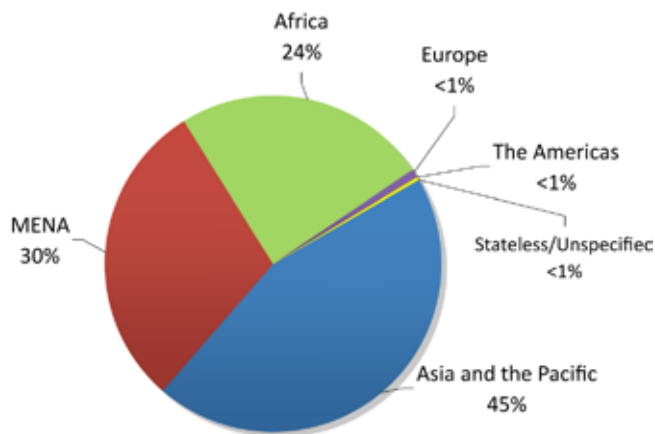
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS IN 2009

Submissions by region of asylum

Submissions by region of asylum	
Asia and the Pacific	55,461
MENA	34,932
Africa	28,741
Europe	8,286
The Americas	1,138
TOTAL	128,558



Submissions by region of origin

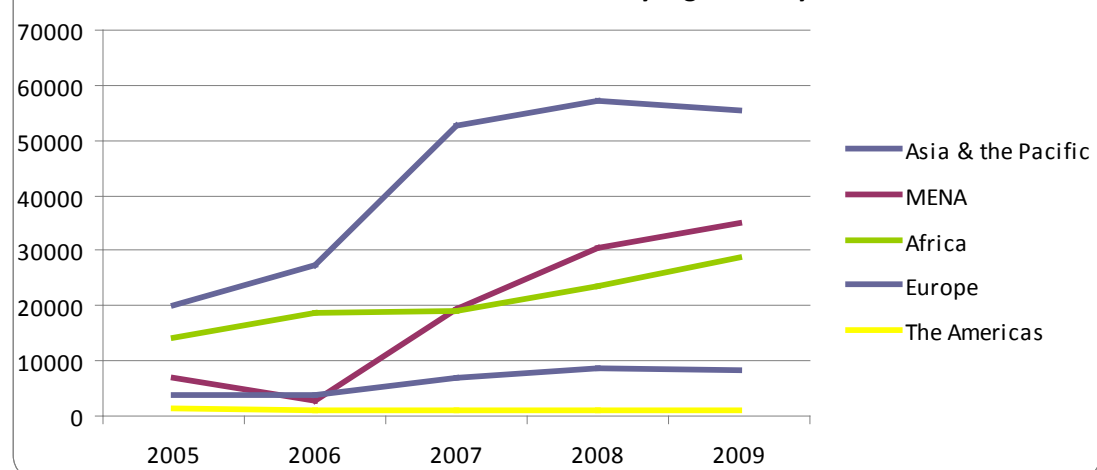


Submissions by region of origin

Asia and the Pacific	57,360
MENA	38,510
Africa	31,217
The Americas	1,134
Europe	245
Stateless*/Unspecified	92
TOTAL	128,558

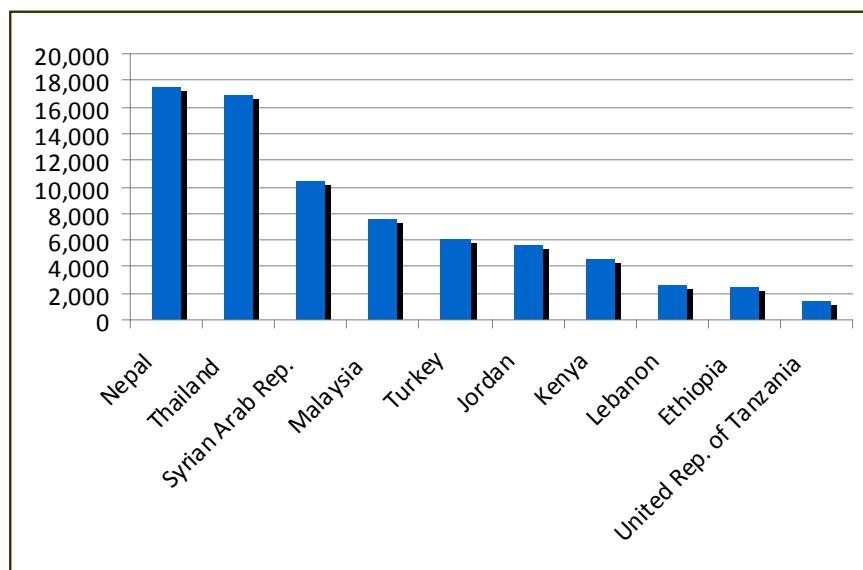
* Stateless refers only to refugees who are not considered nationals by any State under the operation of its law

2005-2009 UNHCR submissions by region of asylum

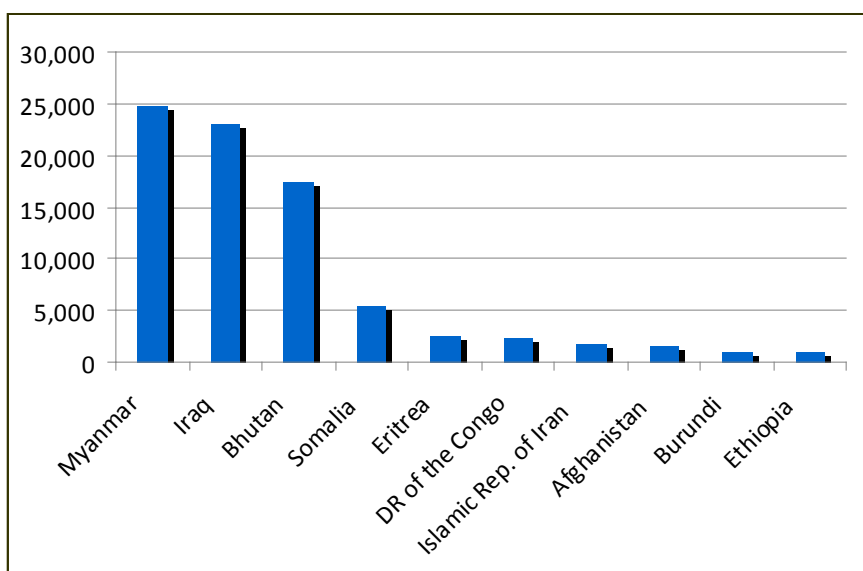


TOP TEN: UNHCR RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES IN 2009

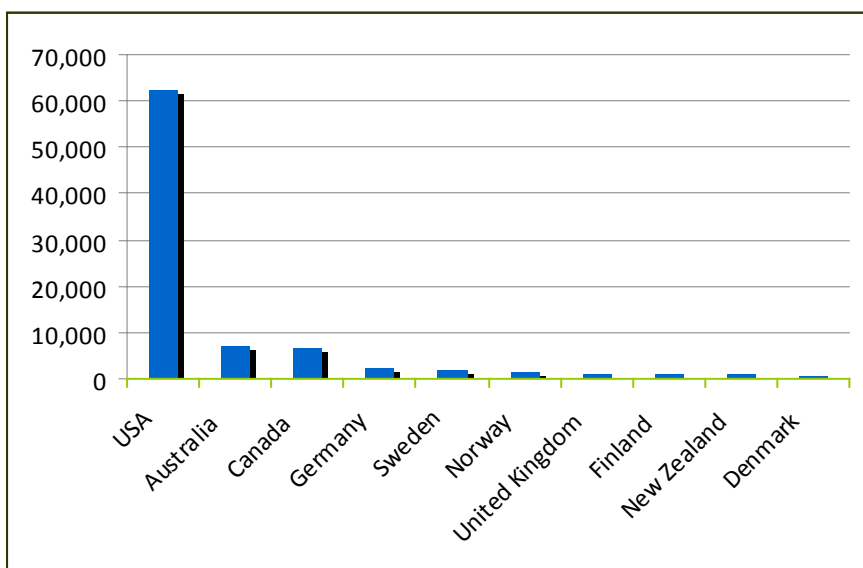
Country of asylum	Departures (persons)
Nepal	17,442
Thailand	16,835
Syrian Arab Rep.	10,383
Malaysia	7,509
Turkey	6,043
Jordan	5,625
Kenya	4,486
Lebanon	2,626
Ethiopia	2,402
United Rep. of Tanzania	1,326
All Others	9,980
TOTAL	84,657



Country of origin	Departures (persons)
Myanmar	24,784
Iraq	23,098
Bhutan	17,428
Somalia	5,354
Eritrea	2,420
DR of the Congo	2,414
Islamic Rep. of Iran	1,710
Afghanistan	1,477
Burundi	1,031
Ethiopia	876
All Others	4,065
TOTAL	84,657



Country of resettlement	Departures (persons)
USA	62,011
Australia	6,720
Canada	6,582
Germany	2,064
Sweden	1,880
Norway	1,367
United Kingdom	969
Finland	710
New Zealand	675
Denmark	488
All Others	1,191
TOTAL	84,657

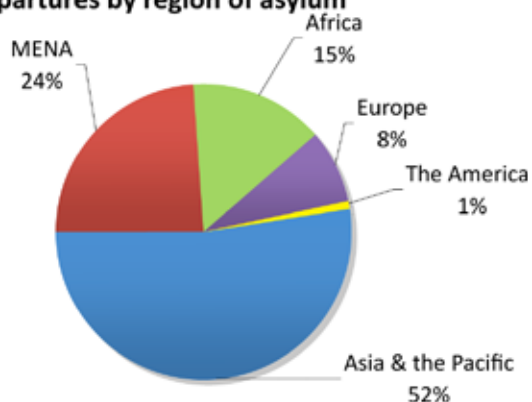


UNHCR RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES IN 2009

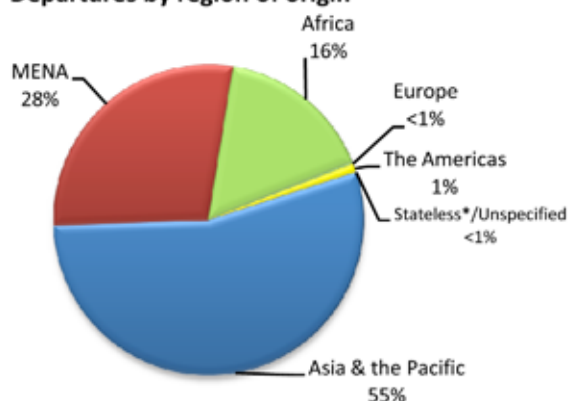
Departures by region of asylum

Asia & the Pacific	44,332
MENA	20,358
Africa	12,380
Europe	6,828
The Americas	759
TOTAL	84,657

Departures by region of asylum



Departures by region of origin

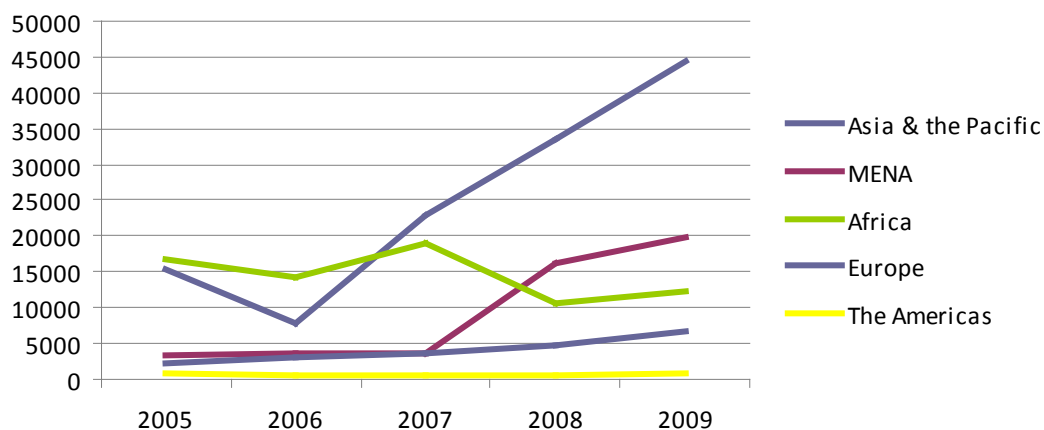


Departures by region of origin

Asia & the Pacific	46,116
MENA	23,789
Africa	13,863
Europe	155
The Americas	724
Stateless*/Unspecified	10
TOTAL	84,657

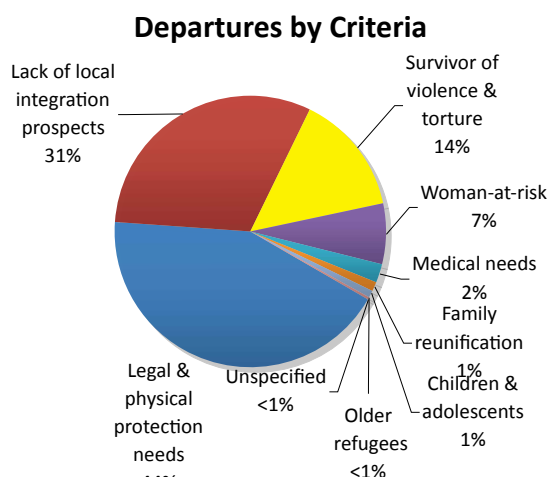
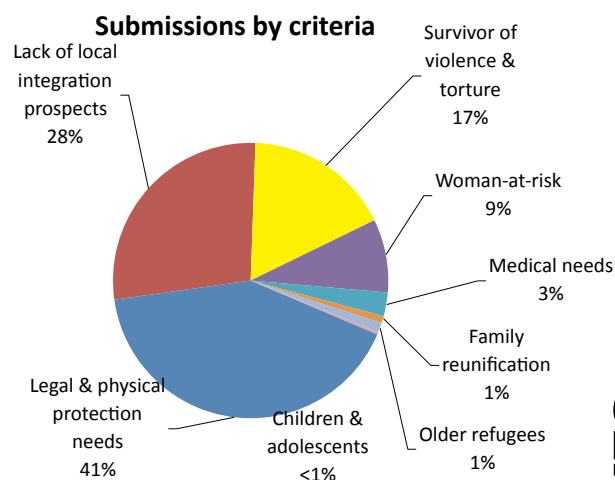
* Stateless refers only to refugees who are not considered nationals by any State under the operation of its law

2005-2009 UNHCR departures by region of asylum



UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS AND DEPARTURES BY CRITERIA IN 2009

Resettlement Criteria	Submissions	
	(cases)	(persons)
Legal & physical protection needs	15,768	49,608
Lack of local integration prospects	10,647	40,694
Survivor of violence & torture	6,514	22,520
Woman-at-risk	3,329	9,809
Medical needs	992	3,896
Family reunification	360	842
Older refugees	352	622
Children & adolescents	154	567
GRAND TOTAL	38,116	128,558

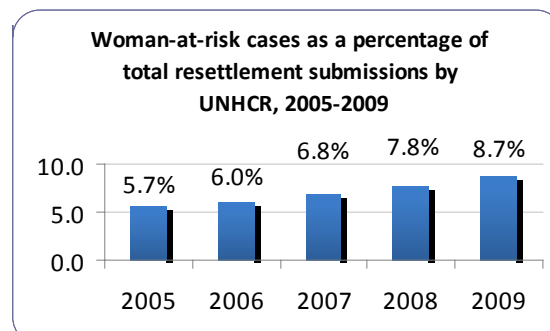
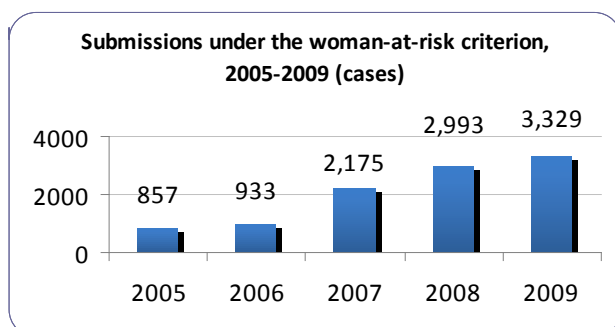


Resettlement Criteria	Departures (persons)
Legal & physical protection needs	36,158
Lack of local integration prospects	26,472
Survivor of violence & torture	12,138
Woman-at-risk	6,122
Medical needs	1,992
Family reunification	935
Children & adolescents	514
Older refugees	310
Unspecified	16
Grand Total	84,657

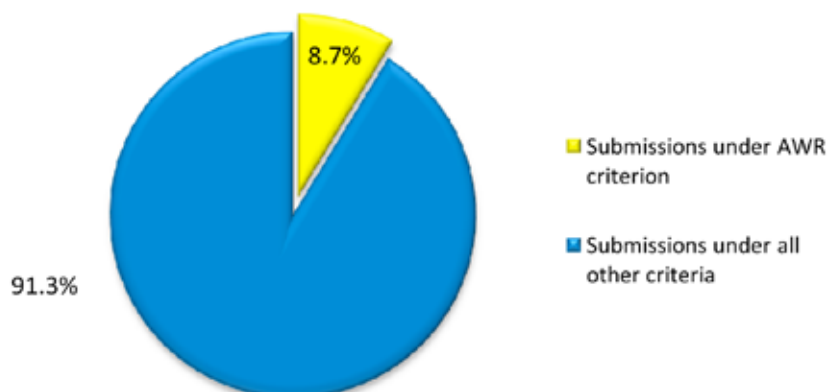
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS AND DEPARTURES UNDER THE WOMAN-AT-RISK (AWR) CRITERION IN 2009

Top ten: submissions under woman-at-risk criterion by country of asylum

Country of asylum	cases	persons	% cases
Syrian Arab Rep.	826	2,184	24.8
Jordan	378	832	11.4
Thailand	266	820	8.0
Kenya	238	942	7.1
Malaysia	225	236	6.8
Nepal	199	699	6.0
Turkey	131	298	3.9
Islamic Rep. of Iran	114	504	3.4
Ecuador	101	314	3.0
South Africa	82	318	2.5
All Others	769	2,662	23.1
TOTAL	3,329	9,809	100



Woman-at-risk cases as a percentage of total resettlement submissions by UNHCR in 2009

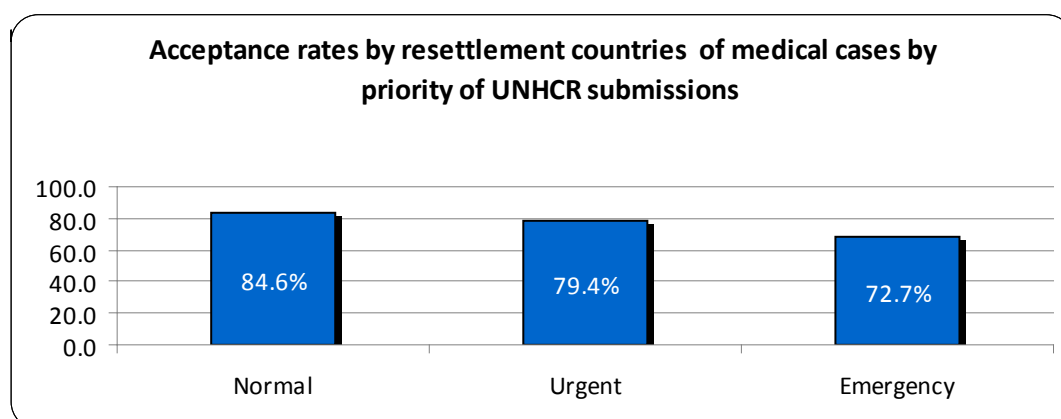
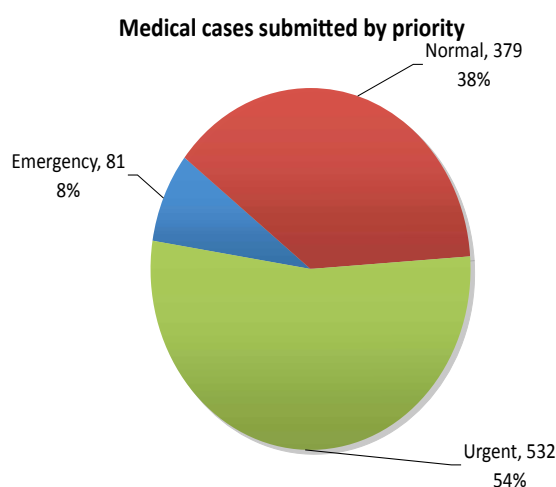


Total woman-at-risk case submissions: 3,329
 Total global case submissions: 38,116

UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS AND DEPARTURES UNDER THE MEDICAL NEEDS CRITERION IN 2009

Top ten: submissions under medical needs criterion by country of origin			
Country of origin	cases	persons	% cases
Iraq	287	933	28.9
Somalia	169	750	17.0
Myanmar	147	343	14.8
Bhutan	110	698	11.1
DR of the Congo	60	322	6.0
Occupied Palestinian Terr.	32	144	3.2
Liberia	27	79	2.7
Sudan	27	119	2.7
Afghanistan	23	94	2.3
Islamic Rep. of Iran	21	95	2.1
All others	89	319	9.2
TOTAL	992	3,896	100

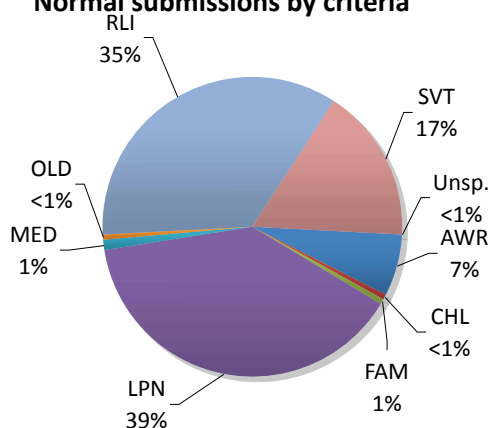
Top ten: submissions under medical needs criterion by country of asylum			
Country of asylum	cases	persons	% cases
Turkey	236	689	23.8
Nepal	115	716	11.6
Malaysia	109	164	11.0
Kenya	73	374	7.4
Ethiopia	63	256	6.4
Syrian Arab Rep.	51	226	5.1
Iraq	41	200	4.1
Thailand	39	170	3.9
Egypt	32	79	3.2
Uganda	29	126	2.9
All others	204	896	20.6
TOTAL	992	3,896	100



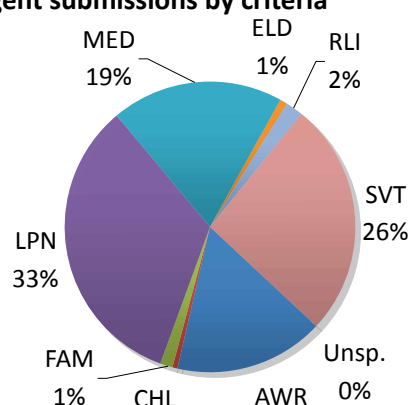
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS AND DEPARTURES BY PRIORITY AND CRITERIA IN 2009

Priority	Submissions			Departures	
	cases	persons	% persons	persons	% persons
Normal	33,850	115,668	90.0	77,144	91.1
Urgent	3,847	11,868	9.2	6,860	8.1
Emergency	419	1,022	0.8	653	0.8
TOTAL	38,116	128,558	100.0	84,657	100.0

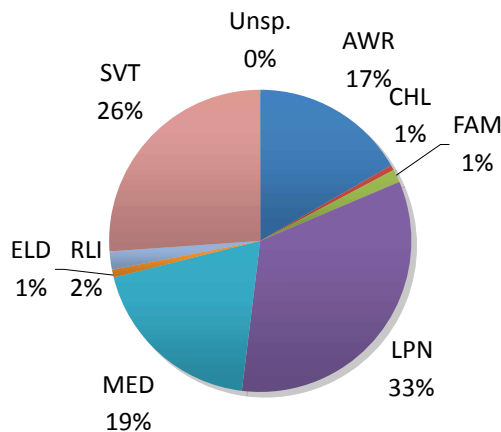
Normal submissions by criteria



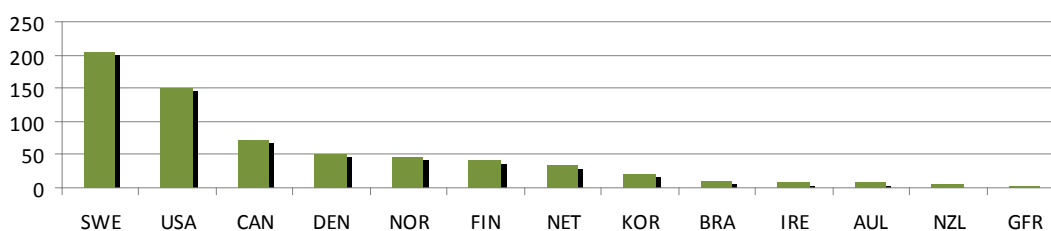
Urgent submissions by criteria



Emergency submissions by criteria



Emergency departures by country of resettlement*

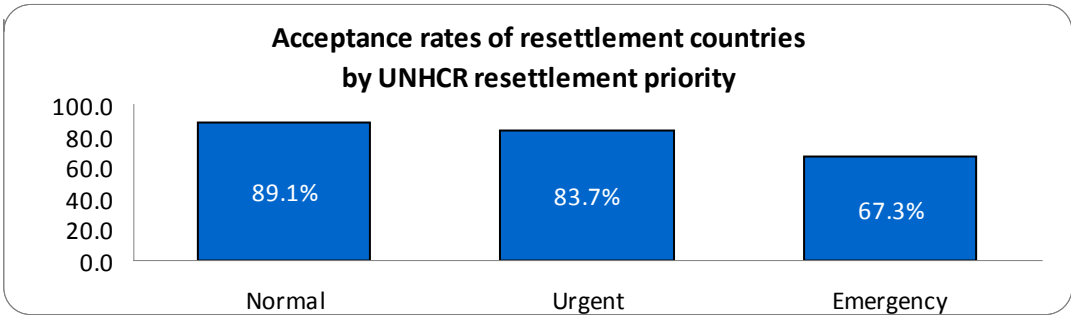


* Refer to the Country Codes list in Annex 2

ACCEPTANCE RATES OF UNHCR SUBMISSIONS BY RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES IN 2009

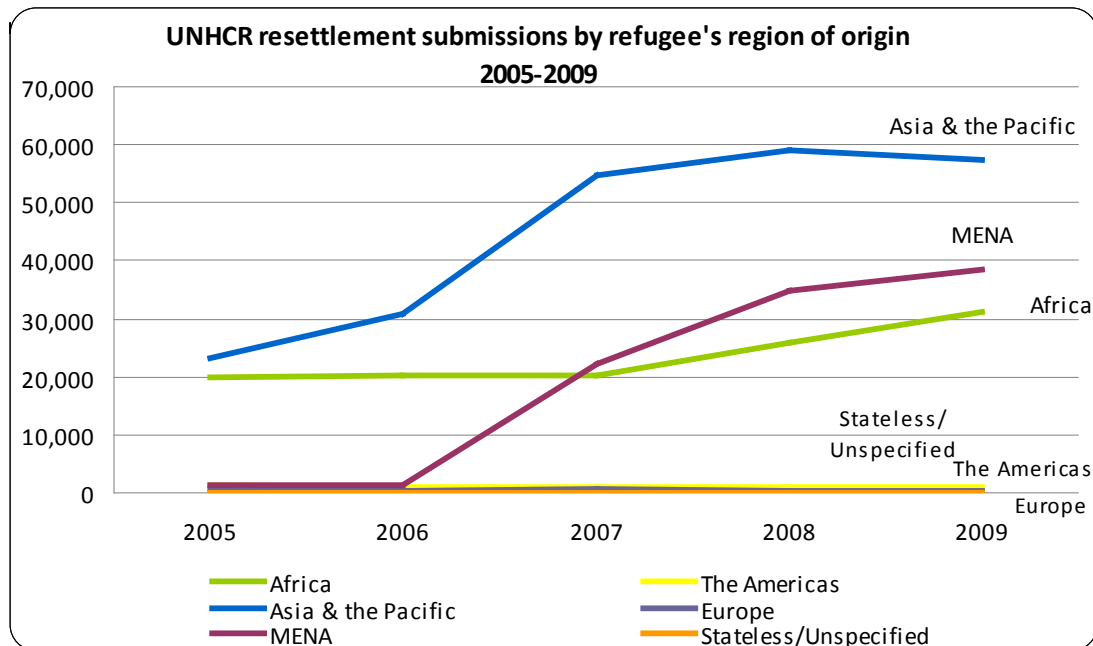
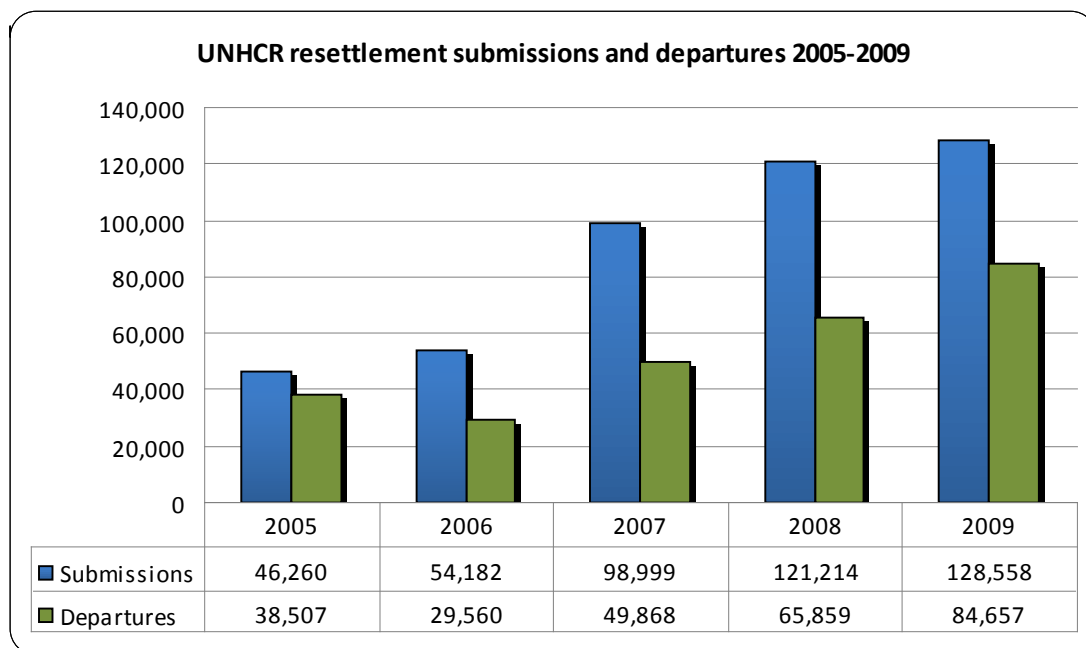
Global average acceptance rate¹: 88.3%

Acceptance rates of resettlement countries by top ten country of origin			Acceptance rates of resettlement countries by UNHCR resettlement criteria	
Country of origin	submissions	% accept.	Resettlement criteria	% accept.
Bhutan	22,114	99.6	Lack of local integration prospects	95.3
Myanmar	30,542	95.9	Children and adolescents	94.0
Eritrea	1,554	91.9	Legal & physical protection needs	89.3
Occup. Palest. Terr.	1,971	88.1	Family reunification	85.6
DR of the Congo	5,023	86.9	Woman-at-risk	84.9
Sudan	1,351	84.8	Older refugees	83.4
Ethiopia	1,477	82.0	Medical needs	79.5
Iraq	36,067	78.0	Survivor of violence and torture	76.6
Afghanistan	2,440	76.2	Global average acceptance rate	88.3
Somalia	19,838	67.6		



¹ Acceptance rates are based on resettlement decisions reported by resettlement States to UNHCR field offices. A decline decision by resettlement country does not necessarily mean the case is ineligible for resettlement submission according to UNHCR policy. UNHCR may resubmit the case to another resettlement country.

UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS AND DEPARTURES 2005 – 2009



UNHCR RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES 2005- 2009

Country of resettlement	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Argentina	31	19	32	78	8
Australia	5,117	4,647	6,056	5,171	6,720
Austria		1	1		
Belgium	23	14	17	6	54
Brazil	76	50	163	19	30
Canada	5,811	5,218	5,998	5,663	6,582
Chile	52	42	32	45	66
Czech Republic	15		8	46	17
Denmark	454	750	480	403	488
Finland	584	548	714	675	710
France	2	1	5	276	179
Germany	14	10	3		2,064
Greece				2	
Iceland	31		30	29	
Ireland	116	119	107	89	194
Israel			1		
Italy	2	6	40	30	191
Luxembourg					28
Netherlands	479	327	425	580	347
New Zealand	307	622	629	894	675
Norway	636	871	978	722	1,367
Poland	1				
Portugal			12	5	26
Republic of Korea				23	20
Spain	8		3	8	
Sweden	1,190	1,571	1,772	1,558	1,880
Switzerland	27	13	7	12	17
United Kingdom	242	349	348	697	969
Uruguay					14
USA	23,289	14,382	32,007	48,828	62,011
GRAND TOTAL	38,507	29,560	49,868	65,859	84,657

PROTRACTED REFUGEE SITUATIONS WHERE RESETTLEMENT TAKES PLACE

COMPARISON OF UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS AND DEPARTURES 2007 - 2009

Country of Origin	Country of Asylum	Total Population†	Submissions			Departures		
			2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Afghanistan	Pakistan*	764,935	288	217	414	51	59	109
Afghanistan	Islamic Rep. of Iran	935,595	570	467	577	737	470	588
Burundi	United Rep. of Tanzania	240,480	5,589	526	243	5,865	2,953	795
Sudan	Uganda	56,883	234	18	73	157	100	52
Somalia	Kenya	259,121	4,554	6,193	9,552	4,798	2,417	3,606
Eritrea	Sudan	57,999	551	215	545	375	271	283
Myanmar	Thailand	111,555	29,693	20,363	19,490	14,335	16,607	16,518

† Population of UNHCR assisted, as at End-Year 2008

* UNHCR figures for Pakistan only include Afghans living in camps who are assisted by UNHCR. According to a 2005 Government census of Afghans in Pakistan and subsequent voluntary repatriation during the year, there are an additional 1.3 million Afghans living outside camps, some of whom may be refugees. Those Afghans living outside camps receive no UNHCR assistance except facilitated voluntary repatriation.



ATCR
WGR

10 of 100

10% is the increase of reskilling places
that States are urged to provide

See a 2024 report from the Center for Economic Policy Research, 'Reskilling the Workforce: A Path to Economic Resilience and Growth' for more information on the importance of reskilling the workforce.

