

The 2004 Global Report

UNHCR's seventh Global Report should be read against the 2004 Global Appeal (published in December 2003) which described the main operations, planned activities and financial requirements for the year, and the 2004 Mid-Year Financial Report which presented financial data on UNHCR's operations up to June 2004. In this report, special efforts have been made to highlight UNHCR's work in partnership with other agencies and, for the first time, there is a chapter on collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP). Another new feature is the inclusion of the Standards and Indicators table at the back of the book. To give visibility to our generous financial supporters, the donor profiles include a detailed breakdown of donors' contributions at regional, subregional, country and sectoral levels.

In addition to regular reports to the Office's Executive Committee (ExCom) on the use of funds put at UNHCR's disposal, the Global Report attempts to meet the reporting requirements of as many donors as possible, with the aim of avoiding the need for additional tailor-made reports. The Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative has confirmed that it satisfies most of the major donors' reporting requirements. However, the report also targets a growing range of academics, non-governmental organizations, universities, libraries and private interest groups. In recent years, donors have increasingly expressed satisfaction with the Global Report as the main accountability mechanism to donors. For additional information on UNHCR, readers may wish to visit the website (<http://www.unhcr.org>).

While UNHCR has received many encouraging comments on the Global Report, indicating that it responds to the needs and interests of a growing number of partners as well as the wider public, improving the quality of information, both factual and evaluative, is an ongoing exercise. The Office therefore warmly welcomes suggestions for further improvements.

The structure

The structure of this Global Report is basically the same as the 2003 version in that the section entitled UNHCR – *An Overview* contains six introductory

chapters. Populations of concern provides statistics on refugees and other persons of concern to the Office. The chapter on *Funding UNHCR's programmes* reviews the funding situation during the year including income from the private sector, and contributions of refugee-hosting countries. The *Donor profiles* give a detailed breakdown of contributions of USD 100,000 and above from 34 governmental donors, the European



Commission, and 23 inter-governmental, non-governmental and private donors, and donors from United Nations agencies, by programme, region, sub-region, country, sector/theme, activity and item. This year, the profiles also give an indication of the extent to which donors have responded to UNHCR's requests to limit earmarking.

Activities under the Global programmes and Headquarters chapters are treated in different chapters because they have separate budgets under the Annual Programme Budget (AB). The link with

information on expenditure, which is one of the prime purposes of the Global Report, is thus maintained. The Global programmes and Headquarters chapters also contain information on policy priorities and the global objectives and indicators of progress published in the Global Appeal 2004.

Cooperation with Others summarizes UNHCR's collaboration with a growing number of partners. *Providing international protection* focuses on the ongoing protection challenges being faced by the Office in its operations.



Chad: Sudanese refugee women waiting for the distribution of food and non-food items in Bahai on 20 March 2004. It was the first distribution organized by UNHCR and its partners in the region of Bahai. Some 800 families were given sorghum and oil (provided by WFP) as well as blankets, jerry cans, buckets and soap (provided by UNICEF). UNHCR/H. Caux

The main body of the report describes UNHCR's operations. These are based on the programmes approved by ExCom that are included in the Annual programme budget – one component of the unified budget structure. After the preparation of the Annual programme budget for adoption by UNHCR's Executive Committee in October 2003, a number of Supplementary programme budgets (SB) were approved by the High Commissioner: Repatriation and Reintegration of Liberian Refugees; Emergency Assistance for Eastern Chad and Darfur; Support to the Commission for Human Security, Enhancing Oversight and Accountability in UNHCR; Return and Reintegration of Sudanese refugees to Southern Sudan; Administrative Budget – Afghan Comprehensive Solutions Unit; Iraq Operation; and Return and Reintegration of Burundian Refugees. These SBs form the second component of the unified budget structure and are generally reported on in the relevant regional overview(s) and country chapter(s).

UNHCR's *operations* describes UNHCR's activities in 19 subregions, each introduced in a regional overview, followed by 31 country chapters for those countries with budgets in excess of USD 5 million.

The **regional overviews** summarize developments affecting refugees and other persons of concern to the Office, and highlight challenges as well as progress made in finding solutions to their plight. The overviews also contain a short account of operations by country, especially for those countries not covered in separate country chapters. The regional overviews end with a table presenting all contributions received and earmarked for the subregion, and the countries in that subregion. A second table shows the budget and expenditure table of all country programmes in the subregion.

The **country chapters** cover activities carried out in a country (both under the AB and SB), with the aim of giving a complete picture of operations in that country. The country chapters end with a consolidated financial report under the AB and SB.

When a Supplementary programme has activities in more than one country for a particular population of concern to the Office (for instance, the Supplementary Programme for Return and Reintegration of Sudanese refugees to Southern Sudan covers needs in Sudan as well as in other countries in the subregion), reporting on the SB, including the financial

details, will be found in the relevant country chapters.

Definitions and terminology

Income and expenditure tables

- **Revised budget:** this is the budget adopted by the 55th Session of the Executive Committee in September-October 2004, adjusted with allocations from the Operational Reserve or transfers between appropriations.
- **Income from contributions:** represents the value of contributions made to UNHCR during the financial year and recorded in accordance with UNHCR's Financial Rules.
- **Other funds available:** includes beginning fund balance (carry-over from the previous year), miscellaneous income, currency exchange adjustments, cancellation of prior years' obligations, adjustments and other transfers.
- **Total funds available:** include income from contributions plus other funds available.
- **Total expenditure:** corresponds to the sum of disbursements plus commitments (unliquidated obligations) as at 31 December 2004.

Financial reports

The following terminology is used:

- **Current year's projects:** contains details of expenditures which were incurred during 2004 under AB and SB.
- **Prior years' projects:** this column contains details of disbursements made against obligations raised during previous financial years (2001-2003); negative amounts are offset by positive entries under one or more line items in this column.
- **Expenditure:** represents disbursements and commitments (unliquidated obligations) made against authorized appropriations/allocations during the financial period, as at 31 December 2004.
- **Unliquidated obligations:** are commitments representing amounts of orders placed, contracts awarded, services rendered and other transactions which involve a charge against the

resources of the current financial period and which will require payment during the same or a future period.

- **Transit account:** is a temporary account from which entries are cleared to their final destination. This account will be brought to zero before the project(s) concerned is (are) closed.
- **Instalments with implementing partners:** represents payments made to partners (allocated to a general sector) for which reports on the use of such funds have not been received as of the end of the financial year. These amounts will be cleared upon receipt of financial reports from the partners, which indicate to which specific sector the amounts should be allocated.
- **Protection, monitoring and co-ordination:** represent the cost of UNHCR's presence at operating locations (i.e. the direct cost of providing international protection to refugee populations). This differs from the sector Legal Assistance, which refers to the cost of specific projects and/or materials.
- **Combined projects:** some projects may be financed from several sources of funds. Funding for a particular project may be increased in a subsequent financial year from either the same or a different funding source. In either of these scenarios, a "combination" of two or more projects is created. Disbursements are recorded under the original project (under which the budget is also held).
- **Programme support:** corresponds to the costs of organizational units whose primary functions are the formulation, development, delivery and evaluation of UNHCR programmes, including those that provide backstopping of programmes on a technical, thematic, geographic, logistical or administrative basis.

Unless otherwise stated, all figures are as at 31 December 2004.

Statistics

The statistical tables and graphs in this Global Report are provisional and subject to change. They can, to a large extent, be cross-referenced with UNHCR's 2004 Population Statistics. However, for a better understanding of the context in which UNHCR operates in a country or region, more detailed statistics are sometimes included in footnotes. For the purpose of this Report, the term "of

whom UNHCR assisted" is used for persons having benefited directly from UNHCR's protection and assistance, unless stated otherwise. The statistical data used in this Global Report is that officially communicated to Headquarters by field offices during the annual exercise leading to the annual publication of UNHCR's statistical yearbook. This ensures maximum and consistent use of one set of data centrally maintained by UNHCR's Population Data Unit.

The following definitions are used:

Refugees: persons recognized as refugees under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and/or the 1969 Organization of African Unity (OAU) Convention, in accordance with the UNHCR Statute, as well as persons granted humanitarian status or temporary protection.

Asylum-seekers: persons whose application for refugee status is being processed according to the asylum procedure or who are otherwise registered as asylum-seekers.

Returnees: refugees who have returned to their place of origin and who remain of concern to UNHCR (up to a maximum period of two years from their date of return).

Internally displaced persons (IDPs): persons who are displaced within their country and to whom UNHCR may extend protection and/or assistance pursuant to a special request by a competent organ of the United Nations.

Other persons of concern: certain specific groups of persons not falling within the ordinary mandate of UNHCR, stateless persons, including IDPs, or IDPs who have returned to their place of origin.

A dash (-) in tables means that the figure is either zero or not available.

For all population statistics:

- Refugees and returnees are only listed for populations of 500 or more individuals;
- Others of concern are included if the population is 500 or more;
- Asylum-seekers are included if population is 100 or more;
- If not stated, statistics are as at 31 December 2004.