

Update no 16 Humanitarian Situation in Libya and the Neighbouring Countries

4 April 2011

Highlights

- The Humanitarian Coordinator for Libya visited Ras Djir at the Tunisian-Libyan border on 2 April. In a meeting with the humanitarian agencies in Choucha camp he raised concerns about several issues, including 1) the lack of reliable information from inside Libya, 2) the disruption of the health care system in Libya due to the massive flight of non-Libyan nurses and medical workers, and 3) the likelihood of a continuous steady flow of mixed migration out of Libya.
- An increased influx of Libyan families crossing into Egypt was observed by UNHCR staff at Saloum border. In the past days, up to 2,500 Libyans per day crossed into Egypt.
- On 31 March, the High Commissioner finalized his mission to Egypt together with UNHCR's Director for the Middle East and North Africa. In his meeting with the Egyptian Prime Minister the HC thanked Egypt for keeping its borders open to all those fleeing Libya at a time when Egypt is dealing with its own complex changes.
- An increasing number of wounded Libyans have been reported at border crossings in addition to several boat loads arriving with family members in Tunisia.



UNHCR staff distributing plastic sheets to new arrivals from Chad. / UNHCR /N.Bose

Population movements

By 3 April, a total of 439,561 persons crossed from Libya to neighbouring countries. There continues to be a steady influx of third country nationals both to Tunisia and Egypt.

Tunisia		Egypt		Niger		Algeria**	Sudan***	Chad	
Tunisians	19,841	Egyptians	81,412	Nigeriens	25,422	not available	not available	not available	
Libyans*	36,605	Libyans*	43,086	Others	1,825				
Others	161,317	Others	49,551						
TOTAL	217,763	TOTAL	174,049	TOTAL	27,247	TOTAL	2,800	TOTAL	4,719

Source: IOM in cooperation with national authorities

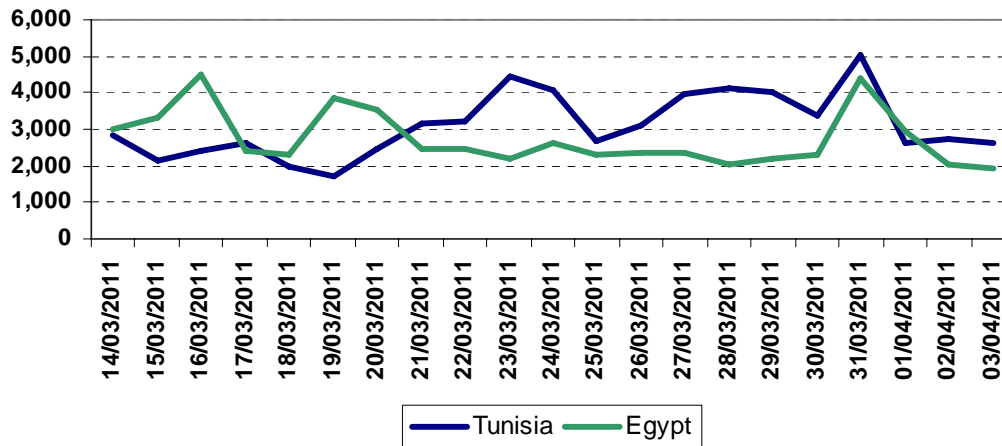
* Includes usual border crossings of commuters, traders etc.

** Source ECHO/** Source OCHA

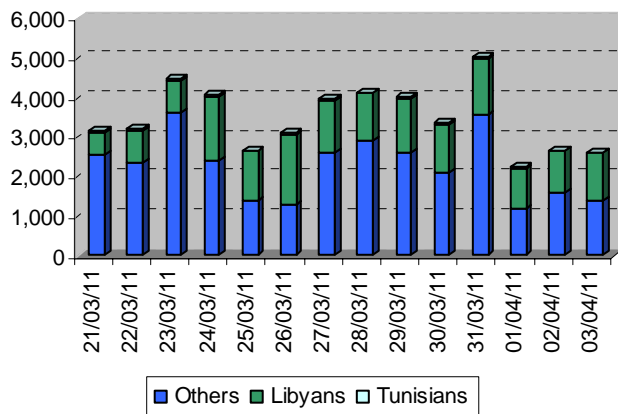
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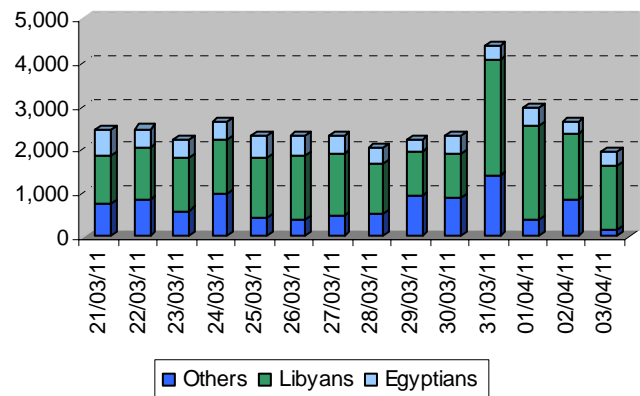
Total border crossings into Egypt and Tunisia



Population movement into Tunisia



Population movement into Egypt



Country Updates

LIBYA

The UNHCR Libya team in Cairo was able to contact refugees and asylum-seekers in Tripoli and Nalut, as well as the Roman Catholic Church in Tripoli. Representatives of the church reported that many refugees and migrants ask for food and financial assistance to cover their trip to Tunisia and eventually to Italy. The church has provided financial assistance to 200 Eritreans and 150 Ethiopians.

UNHCR is concerned that many refugees and asylum seekers inside Libya do not seem to be aware of the security conditions between Tripoli and the border crossing Ras Djir in Tunisia.

On 31 March, the UNDSS mission arrived in Benghazi in order to assess the security situation on ground and to give clearance, if situation permits, to UN agencies to establish their presence and activities in the eastern part of Libya. Once clearance is granted, an inter-agency needs assessment mission consisting of 11 UN staff

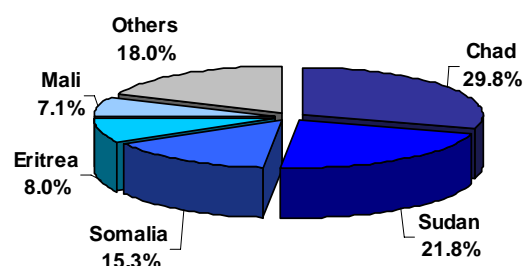
(UNHCR, WFP, OCHA, UNICEF and SC) will travel to eastern Libya.

UNHCR remains alert about the movement of persons of concern inside Libya, including their possible attempts to flee by boat from the Libyan coast. UNHCR is monitoring closely the situation, including through interviews with Somalis who were taken to Choucha camp after their boat was intercepted in deep waters and rescued by the Tunisian authorities.

TUNISIA

Choucha Transit camp/UAE Red Crescent camp: On 3 April, a total of 11,413 people were hosted in the two camps, 9,580 in Choucha camp and 1,850 in the UAE camp.

Camp Population - 3 April 2011



On 2 April, 899 people were evacuated from Tunisia, including 460 to Pakistan, 262 to Chad and 177 to Guinea Bissau.

As of 30 March, a total number of 107 people formerly registered with UNHCR in Tripoli were identified in the camp, who are currently in resettlement processing. A total of 53 cases have been interviewed, out of which 25 have been now referred to the Resettlement Hub in Beirut.

A group of 52 Eritreans were approved for travel on private sponsorship applications to Switzerland; by the end of this week a large number of them will have been issued with a Swiss laissez passer. Since most of the families in Switzerland have confirmed that they will be able to cover the travel costs, it is expected that the first cases will start travelling as of next week.

A total of 73 Eritreans have now been identified who are at some stage of private sponsorship for Canada. Their cases will be followed with the Canadian Embassy in Tunis.

• **Protection**

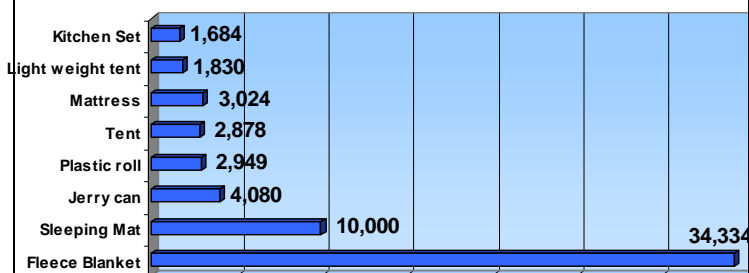
On 3 April, there were 2,708 people of concern to UNHCR in the respective camps, constituting 24% of the population. The vast majority are Somalis (1,751) and Eritreans (812), followed by Iraqis (36), Palestinians (27) and Libyans (9).

On 2 April, 50 Somalis were reported to have returned from Choucha camp to Libya. So far, approximately 250-300 Somalis have reportedly gone back from Choucha camp to Libya.

UNHCR and UNFPA conducted a training on SGBV prevention and response for 20 social workers and medical personnel in Choucha camp. The Ministry of Women Affairs agreed to identify and manage a safe house in Ben Guerdane for victims of SGBV from Choucha camp.

• **Humanitarian assistance**

Distribution of non-food items by UNHCR in Choucha camp as of 3 April



EGYPT

Egyptian border with Libya (Saloum border crossing): On 2 April, a total of 2,637 people entered into Egypt through Saloum, including 263 Egyptians, 1,501 Libyans (928 Libyans returned to Libya on the same day).

There are currently approximately 2,800 people in the transit area.

As of 30 March, some 250 injured people have crossed the Libyan-Egyptian border, including 163 Libyans, 65 Egyptians and 30 other nationalities.

• **Humanitarian assistance**

To date, 1,820 mats, 2,316 blankets, 151 plastic sheeting and 285 mattresses were distributed at Saloum border crossing.

• **Protection**

There are 323 people of concern to UNHCR currently in the transit area, 35 of whom were already registered with UNHCR Libya prior to their arrival in Egypt.

UNHCR held a meeting with the Sudanese consulate to inquire about admission formalities of Sudanese nationals into Egypt, bearing in mind the privileges that Sudanese nationals enjoy under the Four Freedom Agreement (FFA), which was signed between Egypt and Sudan in 2004. This agreement gives Sudanese nationals more rights, including flexible admission procedures to Egypt. Upon inquiry, the Sudanese consulate informed UNHCR that Sudanese nationals arriving from Libya are not allowed permission into Egypt unless they intend to return to Sudan. For those who cross the borders to return to Sudan, they will be escorted by the Egyptian authorities until the border points to Sudan or Cairo International Airport.

UNHCR carried out consultations with members of the Sudanese (Darfur) community of concern to UNHCR, regarding a possible influx of Darfurians from Libya (Benghazi) into Egypt. According to rough estimates, up to 5,000 Darfurians are in eastern Libya and could seek asylum in Egypt.

Four UNHCR staff continued to conduct Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews; 76 RSD interviews were conducted up to 3 April.

EUROPE

Arrivals to Lampedusa: The total of new arrivals since mid-January increased to 21,301 people, 19,806 of them are of Tunisian nationality. Currently there are 3,100 people in reception facilities in Lampedusa, all of them Tunisian.

UNHCR has not received any news on the missing boats, one that reportedly departed on 22 March with 335 people on board and a rubber dinghy carrying 68 people which had left Tripoli on 25 March. One more

boat which was reported to have left Libya towards Lampedusa with unknown nationalities and numbers on board was spotted 50nm south of Lampedusa.

Arrivals to Malta: On 28 March, a total of 816 people arrived to Malta from Libya.

Resource Mobilization

UNHCR revised its Supplementary Budget for the Libya Situation, which now has a total need of USD 65,700,000. So far, UNHCR has received contributions in the amount of USD 36,887,706; hence it is 56% funded. UNHCR continues to appeal to donors for urgent cash contributions towards the UNHCR supplementary budget.

The Regional Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for the Libyan Crisis was revised on 1 April, requesting total of USD 310.8 million for March-June. With access to much of Libya limited, a full revision of the Regional Flash Appeal, initially planned for the second week after the Appeal's launch, is thus not currently possible. Assessments, planning and operations can be carried out at the borders, but not within Libya beyond some eastern parts of the country. In line with revised planning and the most likely scenario, it is now estimated that up to 1,507,830 people may be affected by the conflict and require some form of humanitarian aid. Currently the appeal is 36% funded.



UNHCR staff talks to a Palestinian family stranded at the Egyptian-Libyan border. /UNHCR/ P.Moore

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Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and neighbouring countries

As of April 2011



FIGSS
Field Information and
Coordination Support Section

Sources:
UNHCR, Global Insight digital mapping
© 1998 Europa Technologies Ltd.
Population figures:
IOM / UNHCR Humanitarian
Evacuation Cell

The boundaries and names shown
and the designations used on this
map do not imply official endorsement
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- Capital
 - UNHCR Regional Office
 - UNHCR Country Office / National Office / Liaison Office
 - UNHCR Field Unit
 - Refugee camp
 - Asylum-seeker centre
 - Urban refugee location
 - Main town or village
 - Secondary town or village
 - Crossing point
 - International boundary
 - Main road
 - Secondary road
 - Railway
- Elevation
(Above mean sea level)
- 3,250 to 4,000 metres
 - 2,500 to 3,250 metres
 - 1,750 to 2,500 metres
 - 1,000 to 1,750 metres
 - 750 to 1,000 metres
 - 500 to 750 metres
 - 250 to 500 metres
 - 0 to 250 metres
 - Below mean sea level

