



## Annex I – The problem of refugee statistics

The collection of accurate statistical data on refugees and asylum-seekers is one of the most problematic issues confronting UNHCR. Precise refugee statistics are constantly required within the agency for planning, budgeting and fund-raising purposes. Governments and other organizations – the press and media, NGOs and research bodies – also make constant demands on UNHCR for facts and figures, especially when major refugee movements or repatriation operations are taking place. All too often, however, UNHCR finds it difficult to answer such queries with any real degree of accuracy. Moreover, the figures collected by UNHCR frequently diverge from those reported by journalists, voluntary agencies, host governments and donor states.

These problems derive from a number of different factors. The word 'refugee' is itself subject to quite different interpretations. Under international law, the concept has a very specific meaning, and is used to describe people who have left their own country because they have a well-founded fear of persecution, or because their safety is threatened by events seriously disturbing public order. The figures used by UNHCR for public information and fund-raising purposes have traditionally been based on this definition.

Other organizations use a different approach. Some base their refugee statistics on a more restrictive definition. The US Committee for Refugees, for example, which publishes an influential annual refugee survey, lists only those refugees 'in need of protection and/or assistance'. The distinguishing characteristic of such refugees, the survey explains, is 'their inability to repatriate due to continued fear of persecution in their homelands and the absence of permanent settlement opportunities in their countries of asylum or elsewhere'. Under this definition, some sizeable refugee groups which have settled in places such as Western Europe, Canada, the US and Australia are excluded altogether.

Other commentators, especially those in the media, use a much broader approach. Rather than employ a narrow, legalistic definition of the refugee concept, they consider a refugee to be anyone who has been forced to leave their usual place of

residence by circumstances beyond their control. Press reports about countries such as Afghanistan, Angola and Sudan, for example, often refer to the large number of refugees living within those countries. More often than not, the refugees referred to are actually internally displaced people – those who have been uprooted, but who remain within the borders of their own country. In the developed countries, statistics referring to recognized refugees, and those relating to asylum-seekers whose claims to refugee status have not yet been adjudicated, are often confused and combined.

### **Persons of concern**

UNHCR's own approach to refugee statistics has been affected by the growing complexity of humanitarian emergencies. In a number of recent operations UNHCR has been requested to provide assistance to populations composed of refugees, returnees and internally displaced people, as well as the resident population. In such circumstances, it makes sense for UNHCR to collect statistical data on all those persons who benefit from the organization's protection and assistance activities – described in the following tables as 'persons of concern to UNHCR'.

In the main, the information presented in the following tables was provided by governments. The quality of the data varies considerably. While some statistics are based on detailed registration systems, others may be derived from extrapolations of health surveys or even on visual assessments.

Conceptual problems apart, there are many practical obstacles to the collection of accurate refugee statistics. In several recent emergencies, UNHCR field staff have been faced with movements of more than a million people, over extremely large areas and in some of the most remote, weakly administered and hostile territories on earth. The effort required for individual registration or detailed population surveys has far exceeded the skills and resources of either UNHCR or the host government.

As a refugee influx levels off and relief operations become more organized, the scope for accurate enumeration improves. This is particularly the case in emergencies where new arrivals move into established camps or settlements. Once people are concentrated in specific locations and programmes have been set up to provide them with food, water, shelter and medical services, it becomes easier to collect reasonably accurate demographic data.

In many parts of the world, however, refugees do not live in organized camps. Instead, they settle spontaneously, amongst local people with the same ethnic and linguistic background. In situations such as this, it is often difficult to prevent the local population from registering as refugees and to establish how many refugees are actually living in the area.

The difficulties do not end there. As a report by the US government's Bureau for Refugee Programmes states, 'given the fluidity of most refugee situations, counting refugees is at best an approximate science'. Refugees often come and go across international borders as well as within their countries of asylum, according to changing levels of assistance and security. They may move in and out of camps, or migrate between rural and urban areas. Some refugees register more than once in order to gain higher levels of assistance, and deliberately undermine subsequent

efforts to undertake a more accurate census. Some family members remain in the country of asylum and continue to receive relief, while others return to their country of origin in order to tend the family farm or simply to assess the prospects for repatriation. It is very difficult for aid agencies and local authorities to keep track of such movements.

A refugee population, like any other, is a dynamic rather than a static entity. Refugees die, get married and give birth. Refugee families may split up, regroup or change their place of residence. However accurate they may have been at the time of their collection, statistical data about the size and composition of a refugee population can quickly become outdated. Updating this information is not a straightforward exercise either, particularly among refugees who record births, deaths, ages and family relationships in ways that do not correspond with standard western practice.

Even in the industrialized countries, where individual screening procedures are the norm and where data collection presents fewer practical problems, refugee numbers are still fraught with inconsistencies and lack of precision.

Within Western Europe, for example, governments have been making a concerted effort to harmonize their asylum policies and procedures. Even so, they continue to publish their refugee and asylum statistics at different intervals, in different formats, and with varying degrees of detail. Accurate comparisons are therefore difficult to make.

### **Controversial nature**

Much of the confusion surrounding refugee statistics undoubtedly stems from their sensitive and controversial nature. Refugees are in many ways a symbol of failure. No government likes to admit that its citizens have felt obliged to leave their own country. Similarly, returnees are a symbol of success. When people decide to go back to their homeland, the leaders of that country can legitimately claim that its citizens are expressing some kind of confidence in its government. Not surprisingly, therefore, the refugee and returnee figures issued by countries of asylum and countries of origin are rarely consistent.

Economic and political considerations also play a part in the statistical issue. It is no secret that the governments of some host countries have made inflated claims concerning the number of refugees or returnees living on their territory, in the hope that this will attract higher levels of international sympathy and material support.

On occasions, UNHCR has been obliged to compromise with such official claims, agreeing to a 'planning figure' which is known to be higher than the actual number of people receiving assistance from the organization. In other situations, host governments have strenuously denied the arrival of refugees from a friendly neighbouring state.

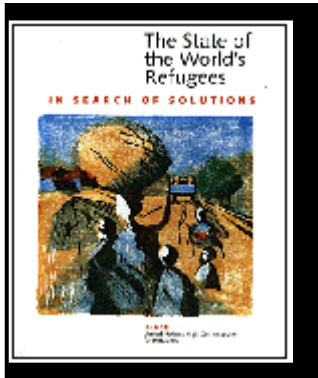
Statistical creativity is not confined to the developing world. In many of the industrialized countries governments and politicians have a tendency to disseminate selective information about refugee numbers. An administration which is seeking to justify the introduction of a more restrictive asylum policy, for example, may issue

statistics which demonstrate a sharp increase in the number of people submitting requests for refugee status. But it may neglect to say what proportion of those asylum-seekers have actually been granted refugee status, and how many have moved on to other countries or returned to their homeland.

Governments and politicians are not the only people to act in this way. Pressure groups, voluntary organizations and journalists have all been known to publish refugee numbers which bear little resemblance to the probable reality – sometimes because they are unaware of the methodological problems associated with the available statistics, and sometimes because they are more concerned with advocacy than with statistical accuracy.

While the barriers to the collection of accurate refugee statistics are formidable, they are not insurmountable. In many refugee situations, reasonably precise enumeration is possible. Given adequate resources, a degree of stability, efficient staff members and, most crucially, support from the host government authorities, it is generally feasible for UNHCR to obtain detailed information on the size, composition and characteristics of a refugee population. Recent shifts in the global balance of power and the increased authority of the United Nations have also enhanced UNHCR's ability to disseminate unbiased refugee and beneficiary statistics.

Serious statistical problems, however, will almost certainly continue to arise in large, complex and rapidly changing emergencies, particularly when relief supplies are scarce and when the presence of refugees is a matter of political controversy. A life and death struggle for food and influence is hardly ever compatible with accurate enumeration.



## The State of The World's Refugees in search of solutions

Published by Oxford University Press

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### Annex II – Statistical tables

**Table 1: Refugees and other persons of concern to UNHCR, 1995**

| Category                    | Region        | Total<br>'000   |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <b>Refugees</b>             | Africa        | 6,752.2         |
|                             | Asia          | 5,018.3         |
|                             | Europe        | 1,867.4         |
|                             | Latin America | 109.0           |
|                             | North America | 681.4           |
|                             | Oceania       | 51.2            |
|                             | <b>Total</b>  | <b>14,488.7</b> |
| <b>Returnees</b>            | Africa        | 3,084.0         |
|                             | Asia          | 831.8           |
|                             | Europe        | -               |
|                             | Latin America | 67.4            |
|                             | North America | -               |
|                             | Oceania       | -               |
|                             | <b>Total</b>  | <b>3,983.2</b>  |
| <b>Others of concern</b>    | Africa        | 6.7             |
|                             | Asia          | 309.8           |
|                             | Europe        | 2,963.3         |
|                             | Latin America | 0.1             |
|                             | North America | 244.1           |
|                             | Oceania       | -               |
|                             | <b>Total</b>  | <b>3,524.1</b>  |
| <b>Internally displaced</b> | Africa        | 1,973.1         |
|                             | Asia          | 1,761.5         |
|                             | Europe        | 1,680.4         |
|                             | Latin America | 8.0             |
|                             | North America | -               |
|                             | Oceania       | -               |

|              |               |                 |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
|              | <b>Total</b>  | <b>5,423.0</b>  |
| <b>Total</b> | Africa        | 11,816.0        |
|              | Asia          | 7,921.5         |
|              | Europe        | 6,520.1         |
|              | Latin America | 184.6           |
|              | North America | 925.5           |
|              | Oceania       | 51.2            |
|              | <b>Total</b>  | <b>27,418.9</b> |

Notes: Statistics dated 1 January 1995. A dash (-) indicates that the value is zero.  
Totals may not add up due to rounding.

See Annex I for a discussion of the 'persons of concern' concept.

**Table 2: Global refugee population, 1975-1995**

|      | <b>millions</b> |
|------|-----------------|
| 1975 | 2.4             |
| 1976 | *               |
| 1977 | 2.8             |
| 1978 | 3.3             |
| 1979 | 4.6             |
| 1980 | 5.7             |
| 1981 | 8.2             |
| 1982 | 9.8             |
| 1983 | 10.4            |
| 1984 | 10.9            |
| 1985 | 10.5            |
| 1986 | 11.6            |
| 1987 | 12.4            |
| 1988 | 13.3            |
| 1989 | 14.8            |
| 1990 | 14.9            |
| 1991 | 17.2            |
| 1992 | 17.0            |
| 1993 | 18.2            |
| 1994 | 16.4            |
| 1995 | 14.4            |

Notes: Statistics dated 1 January of each year.

Totals do not include other groups of concern to UNHCR and Palestinians assisted by the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

\* No figure available.

**Table 3: Refugee populations by country/territory of asylum and origin, 1995**

| <b>Region</b> | <b>Country/<br/>territory of<br/>asylum</b>      | <b>Principal<br/>places of<br/>origin</b> | <b>Number<br/>'000</b> | <b>Total<br/>'000</b> |
|---------------|--|---|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Africa</b> | Algeria  | Mali                                      | 28.0                   | 219.1                 |
|               |  | Niger                                     | 22.4                   |                       |
|               |  | Palestinians                              | 4.0                    |                       |
|               |  | Western Sahara                            | 165.0                  |                       |
|               | Angola   | Zaire                                     | 10.7                   | 10.7                  |
|               | Benin  | Togo                                      | 70.0                   | 70.4                  |
|               | Burkina Faso                                     | Mali                                      | 49.5                   | 50.0                  |
|               | Burundi  | Rwanda<br>Zaire                           | 278.1                  | 300.3                 |
|               |  |   | 21.9                   |                       |
|               | Cameroon   | Chad                                      | 42.9                   | 44.0                  |
|               | Central African<br>Republic                      | Sudan                                     | Chad                   | 21.5                  |
|               |  |   | 25.9                   | 47.8                  |
|               | Congo  | Angola<br>Chad                            | 12.7                   | 15.5                  |
|               |  |   | 2.1                    |                       |
|               | Côte d'Ivoire                                    | Liberia                                   | 359.4                  | 360.1                 |
|               | Djibouti   | Ethiopia<br>Somalia                       | 12.8                   | 33.4                  |
|               |  |   | 20.4                   |                       |
|               | Egypt  | Somalia                                   | 6.1                    | 7.2                   |
|               | Ethiopia   | Dijbouti<br>Kenya<br>Somalia<br>Sudan     | 18.0                   | 348.1                 |
|               |  |   | 8.2                    |                       |
|               |  |   | 269.7                  |                       |
|               |  |   | 51.8                   |                       |
|               | Gambia   | Senegal                                   | 2.0                    | 2.2                   |
|               | Ghana  | Liberia<br>Togo                           | 15.9                   | 113.7                 |
|               |  |   | 97.7                   |                       |
|               | Guinea   | Liberia<br>Sierra Leone                   | 398.3                  | 553.2                 |
|               |  |   | 154.9                  |                       |
| Guinea-Bissau | Senegal  |   | 23.6                   |                       |
| Kenya         | Ethiopia<br>Rwanda<br>Somalia<br>Sudan<br>Uganda |   | 23.9                   |                       |
|               |  | 10.5                                      |                        |                       |
|               |  | 2.0                                       |                        |                       |
|               |  | 206.3                                     |                        |                       |
|               |  | 27.2                                      |                        |                       |
|               | 2.9  | 252.4                                     |                        |                       |



|                           |               |         |         |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| Liberia                   | Sierra Leone  | 120.0   | 120.0   |
| Libyan Arab<br>Jamahiriya |               |         | 2.0     |
| Malawi                    | Mozambique    | 88.9    | 90.2    |
| Mali                      | Mauritania    | 15.0    | 15.8    |
| Mauritania                | Mali          | 82.2    | 82.2    |
| Namibia                   | Angola        | 1.1     | 1.1     |
| Niger                     | Chad          | 2.0     |         |
|                           | Mali          | 13.0    | 15.1    |
| Nigeria                   | Chad          | 1.3     |         |
|                           | Liberia       | 4.1     | 6.0     |
| Rwanda                    | Burundi       | 6.0     | 6.0     |
| Senegal                   | Guinea-Bissau | 5.0     |         |
|                           | Mauritania    | 67.8    | 73.0    |
| Sierra Leone              | Liberia       | 15.9    | 15.9    |
| South Africa              | Mozambique    | 90.0    | 91.9    |
| Sudan                     | Chad          | 141.4   |         |
|                           | Eritrea       | 419.3   |         |
|                           | Ethiopia      | 160.6   |         |
|                           | Uganda        | 3.8     |         |
|                           | Zaire         | 1.8     | 727.2   |
| Tanzania                  | Burundi       | 202.7   |         |
|                           | Mozambique    | 34.7    |         |
|                           | Rwanda        | 626.2   |         |
|                           | Somalia       | 3.0     |         |
|                           | Zaire         | 15.8    | 883.3   |
| Togo                      | Ghana         | 12.2    | 12.4    |
| Uganda                    | Rwanda        | 97.0    |         |
|                           | Somalia       | 2.3     |         |
|                           | Sudan         | 180.0   |         |
|                           | Zaire         | 4.5     | 286.5   |
| Zaire                     | Angola        | 160.9   |         |
|                           | Burundi       | 180.1   |         |
|                           | Rwanda        | 1,252.8 |         |
|                           | Sudan         | 111.9   |         |
|                           | Uganda        | 18.6    | 1,724.4 |
| Zambia                    | Angola        | 103.7   |         |
|                           | Mozambique    | 19.3    |         |
|                           | Zaire         | 13.5    | 141.1   |

|             |                         |                         |         |                |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------|----------------|
|             | Zimbabwe                | Mozambique              | 1.4     |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 2.2            |
|             | Other countries         |                         |         | 3.7            |
|             | <b>Regional total</b>   |                         |         | <b>6,752.2</b> |
| <b>Asia</b> | Afghanistan             | Tajikistan              | 18.8    |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 19.1           |
|             | Armenia                 | Azerbaijan              | 299.0   |                |
|             |                         | Georgia                 | 5.0     |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 304.0          |
|             | Azerbaijan              | Armenia                 | 201.4   |                |
|             |                         | Uzbekistan              | 29.0    |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 231.6          |
|             | Bangladesh              | Myanmar                 | 116.0   |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 116.0          |
|             | China                   | Lao PDR                 | 1.6     |                |
|             |                         | Viet Nam                | 285.5   |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 287.1          |
|             | Hong Kong               | Viet Nam                | 1.7     |                |
|             | India                   | Afghanistan             | 22.4    |                |
|             |                         | Bangladesh              | 53.5    |                |
|             |                         | Sri Lanka               | 73.5    |                |
|             |                         | China (Tibet)           | 108.0   |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 258.3          |
|             | Iran (Islamic Republic) | Afghanistan             | 1,623.3 |                |
|             |                         | Iraq                    | 613.0   |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 2,236.4        |
|             | Iraq                    | Iran (Islamic Republic) |         | 44.3           |
|             |                         | Palestinians            | 62.5    |                |
|             |                         | Turkey                  | 12.2    |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 119.6          |
|             | Japan                   | Cambodia                | 1.2     |                |
|             |                         | Lao (PDR)               | 1.3     |                |
|             |                         | Viet Nam                | 6.5     |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 9.1            |
|             | Kazakhstan              | Afghanistan             | 1.7     |                |
|             |                         | Tajikistan              | 3.0     |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 5.0            |
|             | Kuwait                  | Iraq                    | 20.0    |                |
|             |                         | Somalia                 | 2.0     |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 30.0           |
|             | Kyrgyzstan              | Afghanistan             | 1.2     |                |
|             |                         | Tajikistan              | 20.0    |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 21.2           |
|             | Lebanon                 |                         |         | 1.4            |
|             | Malaysia                | Myanmar                 | 5.1     |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 5.3            |
|             | Nepal                   | Bhutan                  | 103.3   |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 103.3          |
|             | Pakistan                | Afghanistan             | 1,053.0 |                |
|             |                         | Iraq                    | 1.2     |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 1,054.4        |
|             | Saudi Arabia            | Iraq                    | 18.0    |                |
|             |                         |                         |         | 18.0           |
|             | Syria                   | Iraq                    | 36.0    |                |
|             |                         | Somalia                 | 1.9     |                |

|                       |                         |                        |                |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
|                       |                         |                        | 40.3           |
| Thailand              | Lao (PDR)               | 11.9                   |                |
|                       | Myanmar                 | 82.4                   |                |
|                       |                         |                        | 100.8          |
| Turkey                | Bosnia and Herzegovina  | 20.0                   |                |
|                       | Iran (Islamic Republic) | 2.7                    | 2.0            |
|                       | Iraq                    |                        |                |
|                       |                         |                        | 24.9           |
| Uzbekistan            | Afghanistan             | 7.9                    |                |
|                       |                         |                        | 8.0            |
| Viet Nam              |                         |                        | 5.0            |
| Yemen                 | Eritrea                 | 1.5                    |                |
|                       | Somalia                 | 10.6                   |                |
|                       |                         |                        | 13.6           |
| Other countries       |                         |                        | 3.0            |
| <b>Regional total</b> |                         |                        | <b>5,018.3</b> |
| <b>Europe</b>         | Albania                 |                        | 3.0            |
|                       | Austria                 |                        | 18.5           |
|                       | Belarus                 | Afghanistan            | 1.6            |
|                       |                         |                        | 1.8            |
|                       | Belgium                 |                        | 19.5           |
|                       | Bulgaria                |                        | 1.1            |
|                       | Croatia                 | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 183.6          |
|                       |                         |                        | 183.6          |
|                       | Czech Republic          |                        | 1.2            |
|                       | Denmark                 |                        | 27.1           |
|                       | Finland                 |                        | 11.3           |
|                       | France                  |                        | 152.3          |
|                       | FYRM*                   | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 12.8           |
|                       |                         | Croatia                | 2.0            |
|                       |                         |                        | 14.9           |
|                       | Germany                 |                        | 1,004.6        |
|                       | Greece                  |                        | 7.8            |
|                       | Hungary                 |                        | 2.9            |
|                       | Italy                   |                        | 12.5           |
|                       | Netherlands             |                        | 30.8           |
|                       | Norway                  |                        | 9.9            |
|                       | Portugal                |                        | 1.4            |
|                       | Romania                 |                        | 1.2            |
|                       | Russian Federation      | Afghanistan            | 28.3           |
|                       |                         |                        |                |
|                       |                         |                        | 50.2           |
|                       | Slovenia                | Former Yugoslavia      | 29.9           |
|                       |                         |                        | 29.9           |
|                       | Spain                   |                        | 5.1            |
|                       | Sweden                  |                        | 36.9           |
|                       | Switzerland             |                        | 27.2           |
|                       | Ukraine                 |                        | 5.2            |
|                       | United Kingdom          |                        | 20.0           |
|                       | Yugoslavia (FR)         | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 103.6          |
|                       |                         | Croatia                | 76.2           |
|                       |                         | FYRM*                  | 1.0            |
|                       |                         | Slovenia               | 14.7           |

|                      |                       |                |      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|
|                      |                       |                |      | 195.5           |
|                      | Other countries       |                |      | 1.9             |
|                      | <b>Regional total</b> |                |      | <b>1,876.4</b>  |
| <b>Latin America</b> | Argentina             |                |      | 11.9            |
|                      | Belize                | El Salvador    | 6.0  |                 |
|                      |                       | Guatemala      | 2.1  |                 |
|                      | Brazil                |                |      | 2.2             |
|                      | Costa Rica            | El Salvador    | 4.2  |                 |
|                      |                       | Nicaragua      | 19.5 |                 |
|                      | Cuba                  |                |      | 24.6            |
|                      |                       | Western Sahara | 1.5  |                 |
|                      | Guatemala             |                |      | 2.0             |
|                      |                       | El Salvador    | 2.4  |                 |
|                      |                       | Nicaragua      | 2.2  |                 |
|                      | Mexico                |                |      | 4.7             |
|                      |                       | El Salvador    | 3.3  |                 |
|                      |                       | Guatemala      | 42.9 |                 |
|                      | Panama                |                |      | 47.7            |
|                      | Venezuela             | Cuba           | 1.0  | 1.0             |
|                      |                       |                |      | 2.2             |
|                      | Other countries       |                |      | 4.2             |
|                      | <b>Regional total</b> |                |      | <b>104.8</b>    |
| <b>North America</b> | Canada                |                |      | 89.7            |
|                      | USA                   |                |      | 591.7           |
|                      | <b>Regional total</b> |                |      | <b>681.4</b>    |
| <b>Oceania</b>       | Australia             |                |      | 32.4            |
|                      | New Zealand           |                |      | 10.4            |
|                      | Papua New Guinea      | Indonesia      | 8.5  |                 |
|                      |                       |                |      | 8.5             |
|                      | <b>Regional total</b> |                |      | <b>51.2</b>     |
|                      | <b>Global total</b>   |                |      | <b>14,488.7</b> |

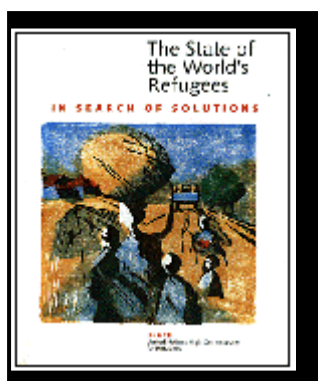
Notes: Statistics dated 1 January 1995.

Refugee populations less than 1,000 are not shown.

Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Statistics do not include Palestinians assisted by UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

\*Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia



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Published by Oxford University Press

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**Table 4: Largest refugee populations by country of origin, 1995**

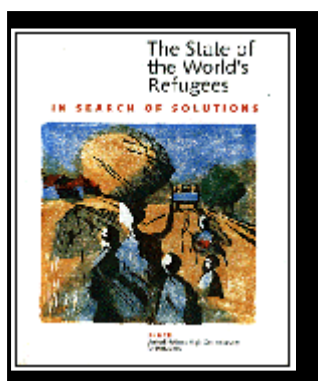
| <b>Country of origin</b> | <b>Number of refugees '000</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Afghanistan              | 2,743.6                        |
| Rwanda                   | 2,257.0                        |
| Liberia                  | 794.2                          |
| Iraq                     | 702.1                          |
| Somalia                  | 535.9                          |
| Eritrea                  | 422.4                          |
| Sudan                    | 398.6                          |
| Burundi                  | 389.2                          |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina     | 321.2                          |
| Viet Nam                 | 307.0                          |
| Azerbaijan               | 299.0                          |
| Angola                   | 283.9                          |
| Sierra Leone             | 275.1                          |
| Mozambique               | 234.5                          |
| Chad                     | 211.9                          |
| Myanmar                  | 203.9                          |
| Armenia                  | 201.5                          |
| Ethiopia                 | 188.0                          |
| Mali                     | 172.7                          |
| Togo                     | 167.7                          |
| Western Sahara           | 166.5                          |
| China (Tibet)            | 109.2                          |
| Bhutan                   | 103.3                          |
| Croatia                  | 78.3                           |

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Sri Lanka               | 77.3 |
| Palestinians            | 75.3 |
| Zaire                   | 71.6 |
| Mauritania              | 68.0 |
| Bangladesh              | 53.9 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic) | 49.9 |
| Guatemala               | 45.1 |
| Tajikistan              | 42.1 |
| Yugoslavia FR           | 38.5 |
| Uzbekistan              | 29.0 |
| Uganda                  | 26.0 |
| Senegal                 | 25.6 |
| Nicaragua               | 22.9 |
| Niger                   | 22.0 |
| Algeria                 | 20.1 |
| Djibouti                | 18.0 |
| Turkey                  | 16.9 |
| El Salvador             | 16.7 |
| Lao (PDR)               | 15.4 |
| Slovenia                | 14.7 |

Notes: Statistics dated 1 January 1995.

Statistics do not include Palestinians assisted by the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

A significant number of refugees residing in the industrialized states are also excluded from these totals.



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**Table 5: Largest refugee populations by country of asylum, 1995**

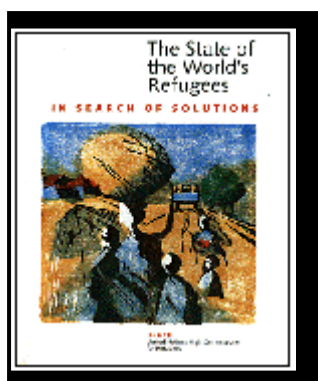
| <b>Country of origin</b> | <b>Number of refugees '000</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Iran (Islamic Republic)  | 2,236.4                        |
| Zaire                    | 1,724.4                        |
| Pakistan                 | 1,055.0                        |
| Germany                  | 1,004.6                        |
| Tanzania                 | 883.3                          |
| Sudan                    | 727.2                          |
| USA                      | 591.7                          |
| Guinea                   | 553.2                          |
| Côte d'Ivoire            | 360.1                          |
| Ethiopia                 | 348.1                          |
| Armenia                  | 304.0                          |
| Burundi                  | 300.3                          |
| China                    | 287.1                          |
| Uganda                   | 286.5                          |
| India                    | 258.3                          |
| Kenya                    | 252.4                          |
| Azerbaijan               | 231.6                          |
| Algeria                  | 219.1                          |
| Yugoslavia (FR)          | 195.5                          |
| Croatia                  | 183.6                          |
| France                   | 152.3                          |
| Zambia                   | 141.1                          |
| Liberia                  | 120.2                          |
| Iraq                     | 119.6                          |

|            |       |
|------------|-------|
| Bangladesh | 116.2 |
| Ghana      | 113.7 |
| Nepal      | 103.3 |
| Thailand   | 100.8 |

Notes : Statistics dated 1 January 1995.

Statistics do not include asylum seekers, former Yugoslav citizens benefiting from temporary protection and Palestinians assisted by the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.





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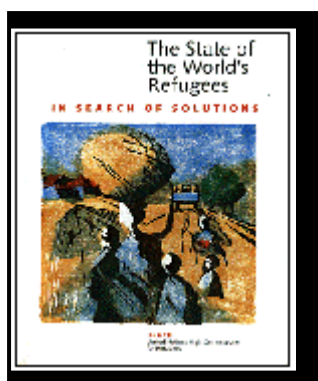
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**Table 6: Demographic characteristics of selected refugee populations, 1995**

| Country of asylum       | Females (x 1,000) |       |       |       | Males (x 1,000) |       |       |       | % of total population |     |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------------|-----|
|                         | 0-4               | 5-17  | 18+   | Total | 0-4             | 5-17  | 18+   | Total | Females               | 0-4 |
| Algeria                 | 11.4              | 24.5  | 44.9  | 80.8  | 9.7             | 23.2  | 15.4  | 48.3  | 63                    | 16  |
| Benin                   | 4.1               | 15.6  | 19.3  | 39.0  | 3.9             | 14.8  | 12.7  | 31.4  | 55                    | 11  |
| Burundi                 | 16.0              | 41.0  | 50.7  | 107.7 | 15.2            | 39.7  | 44.3  | 99.2  | 52                    | 15  |
| Cameroon                | 4.5               | 4.4   | 11.1  | 20.0  | 4.5             | 4.4   | 15.2  | 24.1  | 45                    | 20  |
| Central African Rep.    | 3.9               | 7.3   | 9.4   | 20.6  | 3.8             | 6.3   | 8.2   | 18.2  | 53                    | 20  |
| Côte d'Ivoire           | 43.1              | 86.2  | 61.2  | 190.4 | 39.5            | 82.7  | 46.7  | 168.9 | 53                    | 23  |
| Djibouti                | 2.7               | 6.8   | 8.1   | 17.6  | 2.6             | 6.9   | 6.3   | 15.8  | 53                    | 16  |
| Ghana                   | 9.5               | 23.4  | 29.2  | 62.0  | 10.3            | 22.4  | 16.9  | 49.6  | 56                    | 18  |
| Kenya                   | 26.5              | 51.6  | 55.9  | 134.0 | 17.6            | 42.6  | 38.2  | 98.4  | 58                    | 19  |
| Mauritania              | 8.5               | 17.0  | 17.8  | 43.2  | 7.7             | 16.2  | 10.0  | 34.0  | 56                    | 21  |
| Bangladesh              | 13.5              | 20.6  | 24.7  | 58.9  | 13.2            | 20.1  | 24.1  | 57.3  | 51                    | 23  |
| Iran (Islamic Republic) | 173.7             | 309.5 | 307.6 | 790.9 | 183.8           | 342.1 | 424.0 | 950.0 | 45                    | 21  |
| Iraq                    | 4.8               | 6.1   | 7.4   | 18.3  | 5.3             | 5.9   | 9.6   | 20.7  | 47                    | 26  |
| Nepal                   | 5.9               | 16.0  | 20.3  | 42.2  | 6.0             | 16.6  | 21.3  | 43.9  | 49                    | 14  |
| Pakistan                | 136.7             | 137.2 | 285.1 | 559.0 | 121.5           | 121.7 | 253.2 | 496.4 | 53                    | 24  |
| Mexico                  | 3.5               | 6.9   | 7.3   | 17.6  | 3.6             | 7.1   | 7.9   | 18.6  | 49                    | 19  |

Notes: Statistics dated 1 January 1995. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Countries selected on the basis of a minimum sample of 30,000 refugees.



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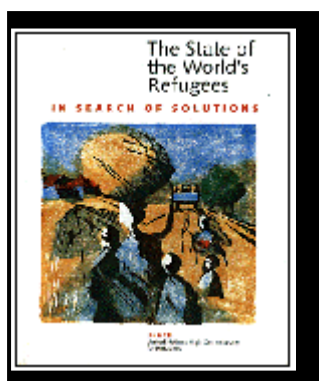
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**Table 7: Major increases in refugee populations during 1994 by country of origin and asylum**

| <b>Country of origin</b> | <b>Country of asylum</b> | <b>Increase</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Rwanda                   | Zaire                    | 1,119,300       |
| Rwanda                   | Tanzania                 | 673,500         |
| Rwanda                   | Burundi                  | 260,000         |
| Liberia                  | Côte d'Ivoire            | 127,200         |
| Burundi                  | Zaire                    | 90,000          |
| Somalia                  | Ethiopia                 | 50,000          |
| Mali                     | Burkina Faso             | 43,500          |
| Mali                     | Mauritania               | 30,500          |
| Burundi                  | Tanzania                 | 29,000          |
| Afghanistan              | Pakistan                 | 25,300          |
| Turkey                   | Iraq                     | 10,800          |
| Sudan                    | Kenya                    | 9,800           |
| Ghana                    | Togo                     | 9,100           |
| Sudan                    | Ethiopia                 | 7,000           |
| Togo                     | Benin                    | 6,800           |
| Iraq                     | Iran (Islamic Republic)  | 3,900           |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina   | Turkey                   | 3,700           |
| Afghanistan              | Russian Federation       | 3,400           |
| Senegal                  | Guinea-Bissau            | 3,000           |
| Angola                   | Congo                    | 2,500           |

Notes: Includes only increases recorded by UNHCR.



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**Table 8: Major voluntary repatriation movements during 1994 by country/territory of asylum and origin**

| Region        | From: Country/<br>territory of<br>asylum | To:<br>Country<br>of origin | Orga-<br>nized | Sponta-<br>neous /<br>non-<br>assisted | Total<br>'000 |
|---------------|--|-----------------------------|----------------|--|---------------|
| <b>Africa</b> | Benin                                    | Togo                        | 0.1            | 92.6                                   | 92.7          |
|               | Burundi                                  | Rwanda                      | 2.2            | 78.8                                   | 81.0          |
|               | Côte d'Ivoire                            | Liberia                     | -              | 3.0                                    | 3.0           |
|               | Djibouti                                 | Ethiopia                    | 8.9            | 0.6                                    | 9.5           |
|               | Ghana                                    | Liberia                     | -              | 1.1                                    | 1.1           |
|               | Ghana                                    | Togo                        | -              | 33.6                                   | 33.6          |
|               | Kenya                                    | Ethiopia                    | 13.1           | 3.2                                    | 16.2          |
|               | Kenya                                    | Somalia                     | 59.4           | -                                      | 59.4          |
|               | Malawi                                   | Mozambique                  | 127.5          | 497.0                                  | 624.5         |
|               | South Africa                             | Mozambique                  | 21.3           | -                                      | 21.3          |
|               | Sudan                                    | Eritrea                     | 8.7            | -                                      | 8.7           |
|               | Sudan                                    | Ethiopia                    | 12.6           | -                                      | 12.6          |
|               | Swaziland                                | Mozambique                  | 10.9           | -                                      | 10.9          |
|               | Tanzania                                 | Mozambique                  | 11.4           | 2.6                                    | 13.9          |
|               | Tanzania                                 | Burundi                     | -              | 271.1                                  | 271.1         |
|               | Zaire                                    | Rwanda                      | 0.8            | 153.0                                  | 153.8         |
|               | Zaire                                    | Uganda                      | 3.0            | 0.5                                    | 3.4           |
|               | Zaire                                    | Zambia                      | 1.6            | -                                      | 1.6           |
|               | Zimbabwe                                 | Mozambique                  | 82.8           | 20.0                                   | 102.8         |

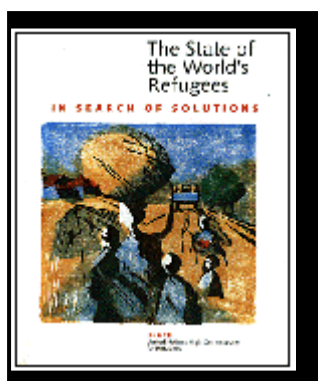
|                      |                         |             |       |       |       |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Asia</b>          | Afghanistan             | Tajikstan   | 10.9  | 8.0   | 18.9  |
|                      | Armenia                 | Azerbaijan  | -     | 29.0  | 29.0  |
|                      | Armenia                 | Georgia     | -     | 1.0   | 1.0   |
|                      | Bangladesh              | Myanmar     | 82.8  | 2.6   | 85.3  |
|                      | Hong Kong               | Viet Nam    | 5.6   | -     | 5.6   |
|                      | India                   | Sri Lanka   | -     | 8.1   | 8.1   |
|                      | Indonesia               | Viet Nam    | 2.0   | -     | 2.0   |
|                      | Iran (Islamic Republic) | Iraq        | 2.3   | -     | 2.3   |
|                      | Iran (Islamic Republic) | Afghanistan | 121.4 | 105.3 | 226.7 |
|                      | Malaysia                | Viet Nam    | 1.3   | -     | 1.3   |
|                      | Pakistan                | Afghanistan | 32.0  | 70.6  | 102.7 |
|                      | Thailand                | Viet Nam    | 2.3   | -     | 2.3   |
|                      | Thailand                | Lao (PDR)   | 5.2   | -     | 5.2   |
|                      | Turkey                  | Iraq        | 1.3   | -     | 1.3   |
| <b>Latin America</b> | Argentina               | Chile       | 1.0   | -     | 1.0   |
|                      | Mexico                  | Guatemala   | 6.0   | 0.1   | 6.1   |

Notes: A dash (-) indicates that the value is zero or rounded to zero.

Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Organized repatriations involve those in which refugees have been provided with transport by UNHCR.

Spontaneous repatriations include only those which have come to the attention of UNHCR.



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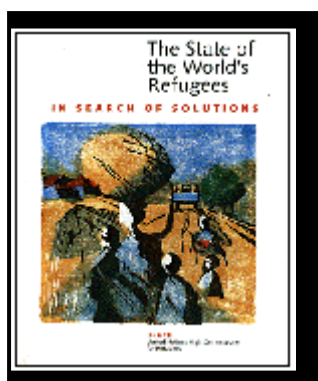
**Table 9: Asylum applications in the industrialized regions, 1984-1994**

|              | <b>Australia</b> | <b>Canada</b>  | <b>USA</b>     | <b>Western<br/>Europe</b> | <b>Total</b>     |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| <b>1983</b>  | -                | 5,000          | 20,000         | 65,400                    | 90,400           |
| <b>1984</b>  | -                | 7,100          | 24,300         | 98,600                    | 130,000          |
| <b>1985</b>  | -                | 8,400          | 20,000         | 165,100                   | 193,500          |
| <b>1986</b>  | -                | 23,000         | 18,900         | 195,100                   | 237,000          |
| <b>1987</b>  | -                | 35,000         | 26,100         | 172,950                   | 234,050          |
| <b>1988</b>  | -                | 45,000         | 57,000         | 221,050                   | 323,050          |
| <b>1989</b>  | 500              | 19,934         | 100,000        | 313,700                   | 434,134          |
| <b>1990</b>  | 3,800            | 36,735         | 73,600         | 434,300                   | 548,435          |
| <b>1991</b>  | 17,000           | 32,347         | 70,000         | 560,000                   | 679,347          |
| <b>1992</b>  | 4,114            | 37,748         | 94,097         | 692,686                   | 828,645          |
| <b>1993</b>  | 4,576            | 21,066         | 129,594        | 549,407                   | 704,643          |
| <b>1994</b>  | 3,980            | 21,710         | 153,333        | 318,887                   | 497,910          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>33,970</b>    | <b>293,040</b> | <b>786,924</b> | <b>3,787,180</b>          | <b>4,901,114</b> |

Notes: Data provided by Intergovernmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Polices in Europe, North America and Australia.

Statistics for Australia and USA refer to principal applicants and do not include dependents.

Some figures have been rounded to nearest hundred or thousand.



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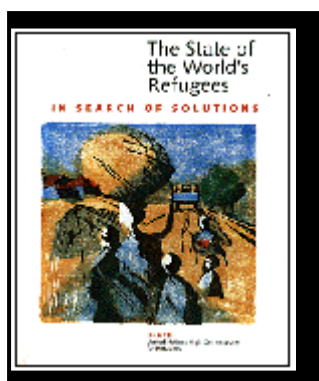
**Table 9: Asylum applications in the industrialized regions, 1984-1994**

|              | <b>Australia</b> | <b>Canada</b>  | <b>USA</b>     | <b>Western<br/>Europe</b> | <b>Total</b>     |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| <b>1983</b>  | -                | 5,000          | 20,000         | 65,400                    | 90,400           |
| <b>1984</b>  | -                | 7,100          | 24,300         | 98,600                    | 130,000          |
| <b>1985</b>  | -                | 8,400          | 20,000         | 165,100                   | 193,500          |
| <b>1986</b>  | -                | 23,000         | 18,900         | 195,100                   | 237,000          |
| <b>1987</b>  | -                | 35,000         | 26,100         | 172,950                   | 234,050          |
| <b>1988</b>  | -                | 45,000         | 57,000         | 221,050                   | 323,050          |
| <b>1989</b>  | 500              | 19,934         | 100,000        | 313,700                   | 434,134          |
| <b>1990</b>  | 3,800            | 36,735         | 73,600         | 434,300                   | 548,435          |
| <b>1991</b>  | 17,000           | 32,347         | 70,000         | 560,000                   | 679,347          |
| <b>1992</b>  | 4,114            | 37,748         | 94,097         | 692,686                   | 828,645          |
| <b>1993</b>  | 4,576            | 21,066         | 129,594        | 549,407                   | 704,643          |
| <b>1994</b>  | 3,980            | 21,710         | 153,333        | 318,887                   | 497,910          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>33,970</b>    | <b>293,040</b> | <b>786,924</b> | <b>3,787,180</b>          | <b>4,901,114</b> |

Notes: Data provided by Intergovernmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Polices in Europe, North America and Australia.

Statistics for Australia and USA refer to principal applicants and do not include dependents.

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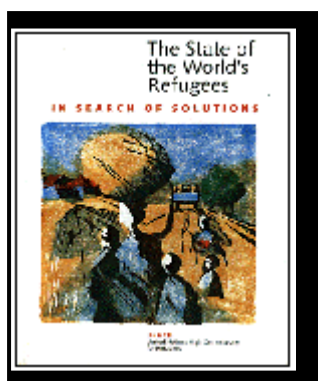
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**Table 10: Asylum applications in the industrialized states by region of origin, 1993-1994**

| Region of origin | 1993           |              | 1994           |              |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                  | Number         | Percentage   | Number         | Percentage   |
| Africa           | 102,710        | 14.4         | 88,160         | 18           |
| Asia             | 171,620        | 24.0         | 149,230        | 30.5         |
| Europe           | 332,960        | 46.8         | 133,090        | 27.2         |
| Latin America    | 93,500         | 13.1         | 106,370        | 21.7         |
| Others           | 14,160         | 1.9          | 11,960         | 2.4          |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>712,390</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>488,800</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

Notes: Based on asylum statistics submitted to UNHCR by Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Germany, United Kingdom, Canada, Canada and USA.

Totals may not add up due to rounding. Totals differ from statistics presented in Table 9 due to data collection techniques.



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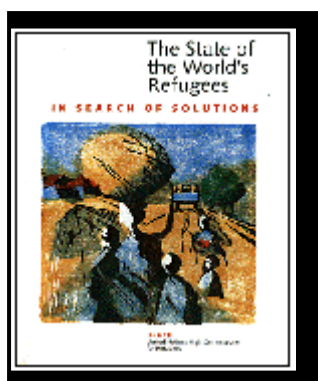
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**Table 11: Asylum applications in the countries of Western Europe, 1990-1994**

|                | <b>1990</b> | <b>1991</b> | <b>1992</b> | <b>1993</b> | <b>1994</b> | <b>Total</b>     |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| Austria        | 22,800      | 27,300      | 16,200      | 4,700       | 5,080       | <b>76,080</b>    |
| Belgium        | 13,000      | 15,200      | 17,700      | 26,900      | 14,350      | <b>87,150</b>    |
| Denmark        | 5,300       | 4,600       | 13,900      | 14,400      | 6,650       | <b>44,850</b>    |
| France         | 54,800      | 46,700      | 26,800      | 27,600      | 26,040      | <b>181,940</b>   |
| Germany        | 193,100     | 256,100     | 438,200     | 322,800     | 127,210     | <b>1,337,410</b> |
| Greece         | 6,200       | 2,700       | 2,000       | 800         | 1,300       | <b>19,210</b>    |
| Italy          | 4,800       | 23,300      | 2,500       | 1,500       | 1,430       | <b>33,530</b>    |
| Netherlands    | 21,200      | 21,600      | 17,500      | 35,400      | 52,570      | <b>148,270</b>   |
| Norway         | 4,000       | 4,600       | 5,300       | 12,900      | 3,380       | <b>30,180</b>    |
| Portugal       | 100         | 300         | 700         | 2,100       | 730         | <b>3,930</b>     |
| Spain          | 6,900       | 7,300       | 12,700      | 12,900      | 12,000      | <b>51,800</b>    |
| Sweden         | 29,400      | 27,400      | 84,000      | 37,600      | 18,640      | <b>197,040</b>   |
| Switzerland    | 35,800      | 41,600      | 18,000      | 24,700      | 16,130      | <b>136,230</b>   |
| United Kingdom | 26,200      | 44,800      | 24,600      | 22,400      | 32,830      | <b>150,830</b>   |

Notes: Figures are rounded to nearest 100. Statistics for Spain and the UK do not include dependents. Statistics for France include resettled Indo-Chinese refugees.





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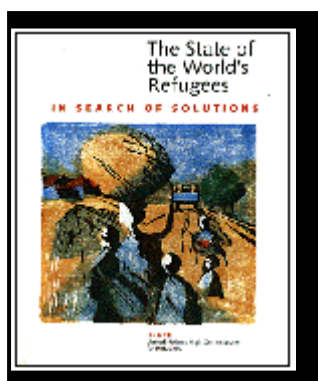
**Table 12: Asylum applications in the industrialized states, 1993-1994:  
principal countries of origin**

|                         | Country of origin      | Number |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| <b>1993</b>             | Yugoslavia (FR)        | 99,950 |
|                         | Romania                | 89,150 |
|                         | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 75,970 |
|                         | Guatemala              | 34,570 |
|                         | Turkey                 | 25,870 |
|                         | Bulgaria               | 25,770 |
|                         | China                  | 22,430 |
|                         | India                  | 15,950 |
|                         | Sri Lanka              | 15,840 |
|                         | Somalia                | 15,820 |
|                         | El Salvador            | 14,980 |
|                         | Algeria                | 14,160 |
|                         | Viet Nam               | 12,420 |
|                         | Zaire                  | 12,110 |
|                         | Russian Federation     | 12,020 |
|                         | Pakistan               | 11,740 |
|                         | Haiti                  | 11,590 |
| Iraq                    | 10,190                 |        |
| Iran (Islamic Republic) | 8,670                  |        |
| Afghanistan             | 8,260                  |        |
| <b>1994</b>             | Yugoslavia (FR)        | 54,910 |
|                         | Guatemala              | 35,120 |

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Turkey                  | 26,600 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina  | 24,340 |
| Romania                 | 23,070 |
| El Salvador             | 19,010 |
| China                   | 16,020 |
| Sri Lanka               | 15,560 |
| Somalia                 | 14,400 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic) | 14,020 |
| India                   | 11,710 |
| Haiti                   | 10,220 |
| Iraq                    | 10,190 |
| Mexico                  | 10,050 |
| Pakistan                | 10,040 |
| Afghanistan             | 9,780  |
| Zaire                   | 9,190  |
| Algeria                 | 8,350  |
| Nigeria                 | 8,100  |
| Russian Federation      | 7,150  |

Notes: Based on asylum statistics for Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Canada and USA.

List includes top 20 countries of origin for each year. Statistics for Yugoslavia (FR) include some people who were citizens of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia prior to 1992, and who may subsequently have had a claim to citizenship in another of the successor states.



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**Table 13: Internally displaced populations of concern to UNHCR, 1995**

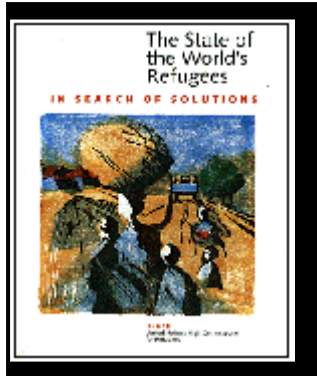
| Region        | Country                | Total '000     |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Africa</b> | Angola                 | 303.8          |
|               | Burundi                | 89.9           |
|               | Ghana                  | 174.4          |
|               | Liberia                | 320.0          |
|               | Mali                   | 3.0            |
|               | Rwanda                 | 300.0          |
|               | Sierra Leone           | 782.0          |
|               | <b>Total</b>           | <b>1,973.1</b> |
| <b>Asia</b>   | Afghanistan            | 332.2          |
|               | Armenia                | 72.0           |
|               | Azerbaijan             | 663.1          |
|               | Cambodia               | 124.1          |
|               | Cyprus                 | 265.0          |
|               | Georgia                | 280.0          |
|               | Sri Lanka              | 9.1            |
|               | Tajikistan             | 16.0           |
|               | <b>Total</b>           | <b>1,761.5</b> |
| <b>Europe</b> | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 1,282.6        |
|               | Croatia                | 307.0          |
|               | Russian Federation     | 90.8           |
|               | <b>Total</b>           | <b>1,680.4</b> |

|                      |              |                |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b>Latin America</b> | Guatemala    | 8.0            |
|                      | <b>Total</b> | <b>8.0</b>     |
| <hr/>                |              |                |
| <b>Total</b>         |              | <b>5,423.0</b> |

Notes: Statistics dated 1 January 1995.

Totals may not add up due to rounding.

'Internally displaced persons' refers to people displaced in circumstances similar to refugees - by armed conflict or violence - but who remain within their own country.



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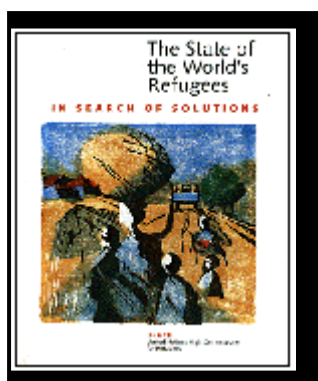
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**Table 14: Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA\*, 1995**

| <b>Location</b> | <b>Number<br/>in camps</b> | <b>Number not<br/>in camps</b> | <b>Total</b>     |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Jordan          | 240,742                    | 832,089                        | 1,072,561        |
| West Bank       | 125,752                    | 3533,271                       | 479,023          |
| Gaza            | 332,397                    | 272,983                        | 603,380          |
| Lebanon         | 170,850                    | 603,380                        | 328,176          |
| Syria           | 89,636                     | 224,403                        | 314,039          |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>957,107</b>             | <b>1,840,072</b>               | <b>2,797,179</b> |

Notes: Statistics dated March 1995.

\* United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.



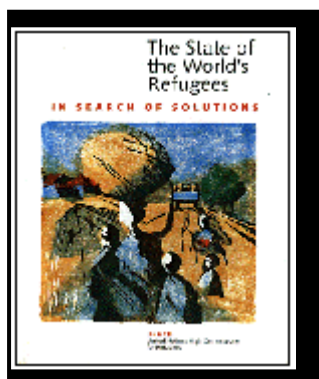
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**Table 15: UNHCR expenditure, 1970-1994**

|      | <b>US\$<br/>million</b> |
|------|-------------------------|
| 1970 | 8.3                     |
| 1971 | 9.4                     |
| 1972 | 24.0                    |
| 1973 | 24.4                    |
| 1974 | 34.8                    |
| 1975 | 69.0                    |
| 1976 | 90.8                    |
| 1977 | 111.4                   |
| 1978 | 134.6                   |
| 1979 | 269.9                   |
| 1980 | 496.9                   |
| 1981 | 474.2                   |
| 1982 | 406.9                   |
| 1983 | 397.6                   |
| 1984 | 444.2                   |
| 1985 | 457.8                   |
| 1986 | 440.7                   |
| 1987 | 460.3                   |
| 1988 | 545.4                   |
| 1989 | 570.3                   |
| 1990 | 544.0                   |
| 1991 | 862.5                   |
| 1992 | 1,071.9                 |
| 1993 | 1,307.0                 |
| 1994 | 1,166.8                 |



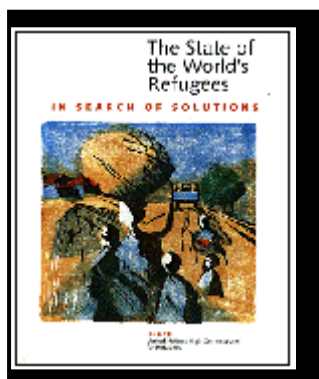
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**Table 16: Major donors to UNHCR, 1994**

|                             | <b>US\$ million</b> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| USA                         | 232                 |
| European Commission         | 225                 |
| Japan                       | 121                 |
| Sweden                      | 81                  |
| United Kingdom              | 68                  |
| Netherlands                 | 60                  |
| Norway                      | 45                  |
| Denmark                     | 38                  |
| Canada                      | 26                  |
| Switzerland                 | 21                  |
| Germany                     | 17                  |
| Italy                       | 15                  |
| France                      | 11                  |
| Australia                   | 11                  |
| Finland                     | 11                  |
| Other governments           | 15                  |
| NGOs, UN and private sector | 38                  |
| <b>Total contributions:</b> | <b>1,065</b>        |



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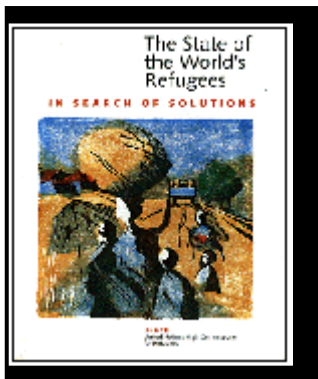
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**Table 17: Per capita contributions to UNHCR by major donors, 1994**

|                     | <b>US\$</b> |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Norway              | 10.49       |
| Sweden              | 9.29        |
| Denmark             | 7.42        |
| Netherlands         | 4.04        |
| Switzerland         | 3.21        |
| Finland             | 2.27        |
| UK                  | 1.22        |
| Luxembourg          | 1.02        |
| USA                 | 0.99        |
| Japan               | 0.98        |
| Canada              | 0.89        |
| Ireland             | 0.87        |
| European Commission | 0.67        |
| Australia           | 0.60        |
| Italy               | 0.27        |
| Belgium             | 0.22        |
| Germany             | 0.21        |
| France              | 0.18        |
| Austria             | 0.12        |
| Spain               | 0.06        |





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### **Annex III - UNHCR in brief**

#### **The creation of UNHCR**

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees - UNHCR - was created by the UN General Assembly and began its work on 1 January 1951. Since that time, the organization has been responsible for protecting refugees and promoting lasting solutions to their plight. Although the organization was initially established as a temporary one, with a lifespan of three years, the General Assembly has renewed UNHCR's mandate for successive five-year periods, the most recent of which expires at the end of 1998.

#### **The High Commissioner**

The High Commissioner for Refugees is elected by the General Assembly, on the nomination of the Secretary-General. There have been eight High Commissioners since the organization was established. The current High Commissioner, Mrs Sadako Ogata of Japan, took up office on 1 January 1991. An Executive Committee, a body composed of 50 governments, oversees UNHCR's budget and advises on refugee protection issues (see Box III.1).

#### **The organization's mandate**

According to its Statute, UNHCR is competent to provide protection and assistance to any person who, 'owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear or for reasons other than personal convenience, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country...'

While this definition still forms the core of UNHCR's mandate, the organization often works on behalf of people who are fleeing from armed conflict and generalized human rights violations. When refugees go home, UNHCR also helps them to reintegrate in their countries of origin. In recent years, the UN Secretary-General, the General Assembly and the member states of the United Nations have

also regularly called upon the organization to extend its services to people who have been displaced within their own country and to war-affected populations.

### **Protection activities**

The protection of refugees remains UNHCR's primary function. Protection lies at the heart of the organization's efforts to find lasting solutions to the plight of refugees, and provides the context in which UNHCR carries out its relief activities.

The key to refugee protection is the 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, which was established in parallel with the creation of UNHCR. The Convention provides a definition of the refugee concept, which is essentially the same as that referred to in the UNHCR Statute, and sets out the rights and obligations of people who fall within this category. Perhaps the most important feature of the 1951 Convention is the principle known as non-refoulement, which states that no person may be returned against his or her will to a country where he or she might be at risk of persecution.

The 1951 Convention was originally confined to people who had become refugees as a result of events that took place before 1951, and gave signatory states the option of limiting its application to refugees from Europe. In 1967, a Protocol was added to the Convention, removing these limitations. By May 1995, 128 states were party to one or both of these instruments (see Box III.2).

### **Assistance programmes**

Most of the world's refugees and displaced people are to be found in the least developed countries and in other states which cannot be expected to bear the cost of large-scale humanitarian relief efforts. In such cases, UNHCR, in consultation with the relevant government authorities, provides assistance to the affected population in the form of food, shelter and health services, as well as education, social welfare and income-generating activities.

Over the years, UNHCR has developed four principal types of assistance programme: emergency relief operations; longer-term 'care and maintenance' programmes for refugees who are awaiting a solution to their plight; local settlement programmes, intended to help refugees become self-sufficient in their country of asylum; as well as repatriation and reintegration operations, established to help refugees who wish to go home and resume a productive life in their own community.

### **Partnerships**

Many of UNHCR's assistance activities are undertaken jointly with other organizations, such as government departments, other UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, and even, in recent years, with military and peacekeeping forces. UNHCR is also committed to the active participation of beneficiaries in its assistance programmes, and therefore encourages the creation of refugee committees and other structures which enable this objective to be achieved.

More than ever before, the prevention and resolution of refugee problems depends upon effective coordination amongst the various organizations concerned. This has sometimes been achieved by designating a 'lead agency', responsible for the coordination of a specific operation - a role which UNHCR has

played, for example, in former Yugoslavia. In 1992, the UN's Department of Humanitarian Affairs was established, with a mandate to coordinate the world body's response to complex emergencies.

## **Funding**

With the exception of a very limited subsidy from the UN Regular Budget, which is used exclusively for administrative expenditures, UNHCR's activities are funded by voluntary contributions from governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals.

The organization's provisional budget for 1995 stands at some US\$ 1.3 billion. This budget is divided into two parts: general programmes, which consist of on-going protection and assistance activities, planned and approved in advance; and special programmes, which consist primarily of refugee emergency operations and voluntary repatriation programmes.

The largest projected general programmes for 1995 are to be found in Africa (US\$146.8 million), South-West Asia, North Africa and the Middle East (US\$57.8 million), and Asia/Oceania (US\$44.1 million). The Rwanda/Burundi emergency operation, at a projected cost of US\$291.8 million, constitutes the biggest special programme for 1995, followed by the relief operation in former Yugoslavia (US\$172.0 million), the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (US\$67.0 million) and the Mozambique repatriation and reintegration programme (US\$56.9 million).

## **UNHCR staff and presence**

In mid-1995, UNHCR employed some 5,315 staff members (including short-term personnel) from over 100 different countries. Of this number, 950 were based at the organization's headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, while the remaining 4,365 were deployed in other parts of the world. At the same date, UNHCR maintained 255 offices in 118 countries.