



**Regional Conference on “Refugee
Protection and International Migration in
the Gulf of Aden,” Sana’a, Yemen, 19 – 20
May 2008**

C O N F E R E N C E A G E N D A

SUNDAY, 18 MAY 2008

20.00 Reception

MONDAY, 19 MAY 2008:

8.00 – 9.00 Registration of Participants

Morning Session: Plenary

Co-Chairs: **George Okoth-Obbo**, Director of the Division of International Protection Services, UNHCR;
H.E. Abdulmawla Saeed, Deputy Chief, Legal Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Yemen;
Peter Klansoe, Danish Refugee Council on behalf of the Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF), Somalia.

Rapporteur: Nabil Othman and Shana Kaninda

9.00 – 9.10 **Welcome by the Chair**

9.10 – 9.20 **Opening addresses**
His Excellency Dr. Abubakar Al Qirbi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Yemen

9.20 – 9.30 *Mr. Michele Cervone D’Urso, Charge d’Affaire of the European Commission in Yemen*

9.30 – 9.45 **Refugee Protection and International Migration in the Gulf of Aden Region – Challenges and Responses**
António Guterres, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

9.45 – 10.15 **Coffee Break**

- 10.15 – 12.00** **MAPPING THE PROBLEM I: Presentation of key challenges of mixed migration across the Gulf of Aden**
- 10.15 – 10.30 “The Martyrs of the Gulf of Aden,” *Daniel Grand Clément* (film)
- 10.30 – 10.45 Migrants, refugees and IDPs in Puntland
Hon. Hassan Moh’d Jibril, Minister for Planning and International Cooperation, Puntland
- 10.45 – 11.00 Migrants and refugees in Somaliland
Mr. Mohamed Omer Arteh, Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Interior, Somaliland
- 11.00 – 11.15 Combatting smuggling and trafficking
Mr. Hassan Omar Mohamed, Secrétaire-Général du Ministère de l’Intérieur et Secrétaire Exécutif de l’ONARS, Djibouti
- 11.15 – 11.30 Protection Gaps
Peter Klansoe, Danish Refugee Council, representing the MMTF Somalia
- 11.30 – 11.45 Protection and Care for all Migrants
Monseigneur Giorgio Bertin, Archbishop of Djibouti
- 12.00 – 13.30** **Lunch break and time for prayers**

Afternoon Session: Closed Working Groups

- 13.30 – 15.00** **SEARCHING FOR SOLUTIONS I: Working Groups**
- Working Group A:** Controlling borders while ensuring protection
Chair: Representative of the Government of Djibouti + Stefan Liller, UNODC
Chairs’ Assistant: Alistair Boulton
Rapporteur: Johannes van Gemund and Nouf Al-Hashimi
- Working Group B:** Addressing human rights abuses during travel and transit
Chair: Honorable Ahmed Hassan Ali, Minister of Justice, Somaliland + Frej Fenniche, UNOHCHR
Chairs’ Assistant: Samer Haddadin
Rapporteur: Christine Chamoun + Aisha Saeed
- Working Group C:** Life essentials for new arrivals
Chair: Representative of the Government of Puntland + Monseigneur Giorgio Bertin, Archbishop of Djibouti
Chairs’ Assistant: Christian Baureder

Rapporteur: Bediako Buahene (OCHA) + Myra Sabongi

Working Group D: Different people different needs: determining profiles and responsibilities (asylum-seekers, victims of trafficking, separated children, people who wish to return).

Chair: Aboudou Karimou Adjibade, UNICEF + Meera Sethi, IOM

Chairs' Assistant: Anja Klug

Rapporteur: Sophie Hofbauer + Firas Kayal

15.00 – 15.30 **Coffee Break and time for prayers**

Afternoon Session: Plenary

Co-Chairs: **George Okoth-Obbo**, Director of the Division of International Protection Services, UNHCR;
 H.E. Abdulmawla Saeed, Deputy Chief, Legal Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Yemen;
 Peter Klansoe, Danish Refugee Council on behalf of the Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF), Somalia.

Rapporteur: Nabil Othman and Shana Kaninda

15.30 – 17.00 **Report from Working Groups A – D and discussion**

17.00 **End of first conference day**

TUESDAY, 20 MAY 2008:

Morning Session: Plenary

Co-Chairs: **George Okoth-Obbo**, Director of the Division of International Protection Services, UNHCR;
 Mr. Hussein Al-Kebssi, Deputy Manager for Refugee Affairs Immigration & Passport Authority, Government of Yemen;
 Peter Klansoe, Danish Refugee Council on behalf of the Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF), Somalia.

Rapporteur: Leila Nassif + Fatima Mohamed

8.00 – 8.10 **Introduction to second day by Chair**

8.15 – 9.15 **MAPPING THE PROBLEM II: Presentation of key challenges of mixed migration across the Gulf of Aden**

8.15 – 8.30 **Labour Migration to the Gulf States**

Mr. Mekonnen Shewarega, Head of Programme Coordination and Implementation, Administration for Refugees and Returnees Affairs (ARRA), Ethiopia

- 8.30 – 8.45 Hosting refugees and addressing the challenges of irregular migration
Colonel Shuga'a Al-Mahddi, General Manager of Operations at Coastal Guards, Government of Yemen
- 8.45 – 9.00 Migration to the Gulf States
Dr. Khaled Louhichi, Director of the Population Policy and Migration Department, League of Arab States
- 9.00 – 9.15 Refugee Protection and Migration – Perspective of the African Union
Mr. Mehari Taddele Maru, Programme Officer
- 9.15 – 9.45 Coffee Break**

Morning Session: Closed Working Groups

9.45 – 10.30 SEARCHING FOR SOLUTIONS II: Working Groups

Working Group E: Ensuring asylum and protection for refugees, including durable solutions

Chair: Major Hussain Al-Kibssi, Representative of the Government of Yemen + Ilunda Ngandu, Representative UNHCR Ethiopia

Chairs' Assistant : Nabil Othman

Rapporteur: Christine Chamoun + Nouf Al-Hashimi

Working Group F: Providing legal migration options

Chair: Meera Sethi, IOM

Chairs' Assistant: Firas Kayal

Rapporteur: Nicolas Brass

Working Group G: Sharing information and improving understanding

Chair: Demeke Atnafu, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Ethiopia + Asraf El Nour Regional Representative, IOM Nairobi

Chairs' Assistant: Abeer Etefa

Rapporteur: Catherine Weibel + Myra Sabongi

Working Group H: Working together and seeking support

Chair: Phillipe Royan, Head of Regional Office, ECHO

Chairs' Assistant : Guillermo Bettocchi

Rapporteur: Johannes van Gemund

10.30 – 10.45 Coffee Break

10.45 – 12.00 **Working Groups continued**

12.00 – 13.30 **Lunch Break**

Afternoon Session: Plenary

Co-Chairs: **George Okoth-Obbo**, Director of the Division of International Protection Services, UNHCR;

Dr. Yahya Yahya Al-Hayfi, General Secretary of Yemen Red Crescent;

Peter Klansoe, Danish Refugee Council on behalf of the Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF), Somalia.

Rapporteur: Sophie Hofbauer + Samer Haddadin

13.30 – 15.00 **Report from Working Groups E – H and discussion**

15.00 – 16.00 **Adoption of recommendations, summary and closing**
Radhouane Nouicer, Director of the Bureau for the Middle East and North Africa, UNHCR + Mengeshe Kebede, Deputy Director, Africa Bureau, UNHCR

16.00 – 16.30 **Coffee Break and time for prayer**

16.30 **Press conference**

17.30 **End of conference**
