

International Standard for Archival Description

1.1 Reference code	UNHCR 33
1.2 Title	Records of the Office in Portugal
1.3 Dates of creation	1977-1998
1.4 Level	Fonds
1.5 Extent (quantity)	37 m

2.2 Administrative/Biographical history The UNHCR Branch Office in Lisbon opened in November 1977. Prior to this, UNHCR assistance activities were channelled through the volunteer agency, Santa Casa de Misericórdia de Lisboa. The principle recipients of this assistance were Latin American refugees from Chile and Brazil. Following the outbreak of civil war in Angola and independence in the former Portuguese colonies in Africa, from 1975 on large numbers of “returnees”, both Portuguese and non-Portuguese citizens, arrived in Portugal. A small number of these were recognized as refugees under the UNHCR mandate; they were assisted under the same programmes as those destined for the Latin American refugees.

The Branch Office in Lisbon was closed in December 1998.

2.4 Immediate source of acquisition The records were transferred to UNHCR Archives in February 1999. From the total transfer, 18 boxes of books and publications were transferred to UNHCR Center for Documentation and Research (CDR).

3.1 Scope and content The records contain general correspondence as well as programme and protection files from UNHCR Branch Office in Lisbon. The records include individual refugee case files.

4.1 Conditions governing access Records are subject to the General Restriction Policy of the UNHCR Archives

4.2 Conditions governing reproduction Records are subject to the Copyright Policy of UNHCR

7.2 Rules or conventions Internal UNHCR rules

7.3 Date of description 10 February 2006