

NAIROBI (regional)

COVERING: Djibouti, Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania



ICRC regional delegation + ICRC office △ ICRC regional logistics centre

The ICRC's regional delegation in Nairobi was set up in 1974 and has a dual purpose: first, to promote IHL and carry out operations in the countries covered, namely restoring contact between refugees and their families, protecting and assisting people injured, displaced or otherwise affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence, visiting detainees falling within its mandate, and supporting the development of the National Societies; and second, to provide relief supplies and other support services for ICRC operations in neighbouring countries of the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes regions, as well as further afield.

CONTEXT

In Kenya, the implementation of the new constitution progressed, albeit slowly owing to delays in the passage of some bills through parliament. The International Criminal Court pursued charges against six high-profile suspects relating to the post-election violence of 2007/2008, and the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission held public hearings to investigate former violence in the Mt Elgon district.

With drought and food shortages heightening intercommunal tensions within Kenya, land disputes, incidents of cattle theft and cross-border raids increased. Amid conflict and food shortages in neighbouring Somalia, tens of thousands more Somalis sought refuge in Kenya, exacerbating an already difficult situation inside refugee camps in Dadaab. Furthermore, fighting briefly spilled across the Kenyan border, causing some Kenyans to become temporary IDPs near Mandera.

In October, Kenyan armed forces launched an offensive inside Somalia against the al-Shabaab armed group, believed by the Kenyan government to be responsible for attacks and abductions on Kenyan soil. In December, Kenya's parliament approved the integration of its troops into the African Union Mission in Somalia.

In the United Republic of Tanzania, a review committee began the process of redrafting the constitution, aiming among other things to strengthen the union between the mainland and the islands.

In Djibouti, where anti-government protests led to some violence in February, the April election passed off peacefully, despite being boycotted by most opposition candidates. The incumbent president, Ismael Omar Guelleh, was re-elected.

Refugees fleeing violence elsewhere in Africa continued to arrive in the region, while growing numbers of migrants passed through Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania en route to other destinations.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Most often working with the National Society, the ICRC's Nairobi regional delegation provided emergency and longer-term assistance to people affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence, sometimes aggravated by drought. It also maintained its focus on a range of protection activities and the promotion of IHL and the Fundamental Principles.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,267
Assistance	1,905
Prevention	2,115
Cooperation with National Societies	1,699
General	-

► **6,987**

of which: Overheads 425

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	78%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	29
National staff (daily workers not included)	301

KEY POINTS

In 2011, the ICRC:

- provided water, food and mobile phone services to refugees fleeing conflict and food shortages in Somalia
- helped drought-hit Kenyan pastoralists preserve their livelihoods by buying and culling animals and distributing the meat
- improved access to fresh water for communities in northern Kenya and on Pemba Island, Zanzibar
- briefed more than 5,600 police and military personnel on IHL and international human rights law
- shared findings and recommendations with the authorities after visiting detainees in Djibouti and ICTR-sentenced detainees in the United Republic of Tanzania and elsewhere
- provided National Societies with funds, training and technical back-up to assist communities in need

Main figures and indicators	PROTECTION		Total	
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Red Cross messages (RCMs)				
RCMs collected	23,149	UAMs/SCs*	14	
RCMs distributed	11,294		2	
Phone calls facilitated between family members	37,943			
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	128	Women	23	Minors 59
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	118			
<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	14			
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2011 (people)	226		38	83
UAMs/SCs*, including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	10	Girls	6	Demobilized children
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	1			
UAM/SC cases still being handled by the ICRC/National Society at 31 December 2011	44		16	
Documents				
People to whom travel documents were issued	83			
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines	1			
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹				
ICRC visits				
Detainees visited	916	Women		Minors
Detainees visited and monitored individually	39		1	
Detainees newly registered	4			
Number of visits carried out	5			
Number of places of detention visited	3			
Restoring family links				
RCMs collected	757			
RCMs distributed	456			

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Djibouti, ICTR detainees held in United Republic of Tanzania

Main figures and indicators	ASSISTANCE		Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)					
Economic security, water and habitat²					
Food ²	Beneficiaries	6,096	30%	40%	
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	Beneficiaries	6,096		
Essential household items ³	Beneficiaries	220	44%		
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	Beneficiaries	220	44%	
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives ²	Beneficiaries	54,600	30%	40%	
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	Beneficiaries	27,300		
Water and habitat activities ⁴	Beneficiaries	34,331	60%	40%	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)					
Economic security, water and habitat³					
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	1,169			
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	630			

2. Kenya

3. Djibouti

4. Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania

With the Kenya Red Cross Society, and in agreement with other humanitarian organizations, the ICRC coordinated the provision of water supplies and food to people displaced to Mandera. The National Society and the ICRC also helped northern pastoralists survive the effects of drought by buying weakened livestock, culling them and giving the meat to vulnerable families. To reduce community tensions over access to clean water, intensified by drought, new water points were constructed and dilapidated ones made usable again, sometimes through cash-for-work projects, which were adapted to meet emerging needs.

In the United Republic of Tanzania, the ICRC concluded as planned its involvement in projects to improve water sources and sanitation facilities for impoverished communities on Pemba Island, Zanzibar. It provided National Society staff and local communities with the machinery, materials and technical skills to continue such projects.

Refugees and detainees throughout the region contacted relatives using the RCM and tracing network (Somali refugees in Dadaab also used a mobile phone service). Through training,

the ICRC boosted the capacities of National Societies as required to deliver these services. It also helped the Tanzania Red Cross Society expand its family-links services for refugees by funding the newly created position of tracing specialist working from its Dar es Salaam headquarters. In Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania, an assessment took place of the family-links needs of migrants, including any held in detention.

ICRC delegates visited POWs of Eritrean origin and other detainees held in Djibouti, and the authorities were reminded of their IHL obligation to repatriate POWs should they be released, but only if the POWs so wished. During all ICRC visits, detainees' treatment and living conditions were monitored according to ICRC standard procedures, with the findings reported confidentially to the relevant authorities. Representatives of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and the ICRC discussed the findings and recommendations included in confidential reports that followed ICRC visits to the detention centre in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, in June, and previous visits to ICTR-sentenced detainees abroad.

Reinforcing support for IHL in police, military, political and academic circles remained a key ICRC objective. More than 5,600 police and military personnel in the region attended briefings on IHL and international human rights law, while students from the region participated in IHL-themed events organized by the ICRC. Following Kenya's military intervention in Somalia, the ICRC began a dialogue with the Kenya Defence Forces on civilian protection issues.

National Societies in the region received ICRC funds, goods, expertise and logistics back-up to help develop, as appropriate, their drought relief, assistance, family-links and communication programmes.

ICRC delegations in and beyond the region continued to receive relief and other supplies procured and delivered by the ICRC's Nairobi-based logistics centre. Delegations also benefited from courses, advice and field support provided by the regional training and assistance units.

CIVILIANS

In Kenya, local communities, authorities and weapon bearers participated in discussions on humanitarian principles during field trips conducted by National Society and ICRC personnel to violence-prone regions. Such dialogue aimed to increase respect for IHL and deepen understanding of the work and mandate of the Movement.

Following Kenya's military intervention in Somalia (see *Context*), the ICRC began a dialogue with the Kenya Defence Forces on protection-related issues, such as the conduct of hostilities, respect of civilians and detention.

Civilians affected by fighting or natural disasters receive assistance

More than 6,000 Somalis sheltering in a temporary refugee camp near Mandera (see *Context*) survived on emergency food rations supplied by the WFP and distributed by the National Society in a project coordinated by the ICRC, in agreement with other humanitarian partners. On a daily basis, some 14,000 refugees relied on a National Society team to manage the camp and ensure the provision of clean water. Refugees were spared the task of trekking hours to collect water in a dangerous environment after an ICRC engineer rehabilitated a nearby borehole.

National Societies received ICRC funds, materials, training and logistical and technical back-up to help them, as appropriate, provide assistance to vulnerable communities. For example, the ICRC provided the Kenyan Red Cross with high-calorie biscuits to distribute in areas affected by drought and food shortages and with trucks for transporting supplies. To assist with the coordination of drought relief efforts in the region, the ICRC monitored the situation and maintained contact with a range of organizations.

Drought-hit rural communities benefit from animal destocking and clean water provision

With drought decimating livestock in Kenya's Upper Eastern region, 6,400 pastoralist households (38,400 people) coped with their predicament after the National Society and the ICRC conducted an emergency destocking operation. This involved buying and culling some 1,600 sheep and goats, which otherwise could not have been sold due to their weakened condition, and distributing the meat to families identified as most in need by local communities. The project thus enabled struggling pastoralists to survive economically, boosted the dietary intake of drought-affected families and increased the chances of survival of smaller herds. To improve the quality of support to pastoralist communities, National Society staff and volunteers, along with personnel from the Ministry of Livestock Development, attended ICRC training sessions on livestock intervention projects.

Cash-for-work projects were tailored to meet the needs of drought-affected communities in the Upper Eastern region. Some 2,700 pastoralist households (16,200 people) improved their access to clean water via projects to de-silt water pans organized jointly by the National Society and the ICRC. The projects also brought much-needed cash income to those carrying out the work. Meanwhile, some 32,000 people benefited from the Kenyan Red Cross/ICRC's rehabilitation or installation of 3 boreholes, 19 rainwater-harvesting systems in schools, 6 shallow wells and 3 spring and rock catchments. Such projects, accompanied by maintenance training for local people, helped ease community tensions over access to an increasingly scarce resource. Local communities in areas prone to water-borne diseases also worked with the ICRC to install 120 household filters, ensuring a pure water supply.

On Pemba Island, Zanzibar, some 2,300 people gained access to a clean water supply following the rehabilitation and construction of four wells by the National Society and the ICRC. Ten new communal latrines reduced health risks. To ensure the sustainability of water systems, 50 local people were trained to manage them and pass on hygiene advice to their communities. Before completing handover of the project to the National Society at the end of March, the ICRC purchased and presented the local branch with a mould for producing concrete rings and with a machine for producing soil blocks, ensuring the continuation of projects.

Welfare of missing persons' families monitored

The 44 wives of Djiboutian soldiers missing as a result of the 2008 conflict with Eritrea were contacted regularly to monitor progress made since 2010, when they received sewing machines from the ICRC to boost meagre incomes. The affected families (220 people) further received 22 water tanks (each containing 1,000 litres) to boost the scarce water supply. In Djibouti and Kenya (the latter in relation to past violence in Mt Elgon),

CIVILIANS		DJIBOUTI	KENYA	UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
Economic security, water and habitat				
Food	Beneficiaries		6,096	
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>		6,096	
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	220		
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries		54,600	
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>		27,300	
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries		32,031	2,300

the ICRC pursued efforts to ensure that the families of people missing were informed of the fate or whereabouts of their relatives. Dialogue with the authorities over these files made limited progress, leading to the cancellation of a planned workshop on the management of human remains.

Refugees keep contact with families

Refugees exchanged news with their families through family-links services run jointly by the National Societies and the ICRC, which also trained National Society personnel in the relevant skills. The family-links needs of unaccompanied or separated children remained a priority. The Tanzania Red Cross Society expanded the scope of its family-links services with the creation of a new tracing position, funded by the ICRC, at its Dar es Salaam headquarters. Among others, refugees in two camps – Chogo and Bagamoyo – stood to benefit from the expansion and promotion of these services.

Refugees returned home or resettled in a third country with ICRC travel documents issued in coordination with relevant embassies and UNHCR.

With the influx of Somali refugees into Dadaab, the Kenyan Red Cross and the ICRC introduced a mobile phone service, allowing thousands of vulnerable refugees to renew contact with relatives promptly (37,943 phone calls made, including 4,749 calls by minors).

Given the increased number of international migrants living in, or passing through, Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania, the National Societies and the ICRC conducted a joint assessment of the family-links needs of migrants, including any held in detention.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Djibouti, detainees received visits from ICRC delegates, conducted according to standard procedures, to monitor their treatment and living conditions. They included 19 POWs of Eritrean origin, and some 850 others falling within the ICRC's purview, mainly held at Gabode civilian prison. The authorities were informed of the findings and provided where necessary with recommendations through confidential reports and face-to-face meetings. They were similarly reminded of their IHL obligation to repatriate the POWs upon their release, but only if the POWs so wished.

Representatives of the Ministry of Justice and Penitentiary Administration also met regularly with the ICRC to discuss the organization's ongoing support for prison reforms and to strengthen delivery of services. With ICRC support, the authorities rehabilitated the kitchen in Gabode prison, with the aim of improving hygiene standards and averting possible epidemics. More than 1,100 detainees also received, according to needs, monthly packs of hygiene materials and other essential items to contribute to their well-being.

ICTR-sentenced detainees held in the UN detention centre in Arusha received ICRC visits in June. Visits were also conducted to ICTR-sentenced detainees in Benin (see *Abidjan*) and Mali (see *Niamey*). The ICRC submitted confidential reports (in the case of Benin and Mali, based on visits to these facilities in late 2010) and discussed findings and recommendations with the relevant authorities. Meetings were also conducted with the outgoing and incoming presidents of the ICTR, during which issues linked to the ICTR's completion strategy were discussed.

The ICRC pursued efforts to collect and follow up with the relevant authorities information regarding allegations of capture, detention or extradition of people held in relation to "terrorism".

CIVILIANS	DJIBOUTI	KENYA ¹	TANZANIA
Red Cross messages (RCMs)			
RCMs collected	983	18,612	3,554
			<i>including from UAMs/SCs*</i> 14
RCMs distributed	689	7,452	3,153
			<i>including from UAMs/SCs*</i> 2
Phone calls facilitated between family members		37,943	
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		115	13
		<i>of whom women</i> 23	
		<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i> 52	7
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	2	113	3
		<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i> 14	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)	18	201	7
		<i>of whom women</i> 38	
		<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i> 80	3
UAMs/SCs*, including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers			
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society			10
			<i>of whom girls</i> 6
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society		1	
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2010		5	39
			<i>of whom girls</i> 16
Documents			
People to whom travel documents were issued		83	
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines		1	

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Kenya and other countries covered by the regional delegation

Following notification by the US government, the ICRC conducted visits to two Kenyan detainees held by the US authorities on a ship in the Gulf of Aden (see *Washington*).

Detainees used the family-links service to correspond with relatives.

WOUNDED AND SICK

To improve their skills in weapon-wounded and trauma patient management, 20 health professionals from the Kenyan Health Ministry and the National Society participated in an emergency room trauma course organized by the ICRC.

Seventy people injured during an oil pipeline explosion in Nairobi and a fuel tanker fire in Busia received medical care using materials distributed by the National Society and supplied by the ICRC.

Plans to establish first-aid posts in violence-prone districts of Nairobi were cancelled amid uncertainty over the long-term sustainability of the project.

AUTHORITIES

Dialogue with local, national and regional authorities, the diplomatic community, international organizations – including the UN – and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, East Africa’s regional development organization, contributed to ongoing efforts to generate support for IHL and the work of the Movement.

The steering committee of Kenya’s national IHL committee, which received input from the ICRC, held a meeting to discuss progress on various pending bills. Talks centred on the ratification of legal instruments such as the Cluster Munitions Convention and Additional Protocol III. In the United Republic of Tanzania, an official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Legal Division met the ICRC to discuss issues surrounding IHL implementation at national level, particularly the setting up of a national IHL committee. Officials from both Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania attended international and regional events to enhance their knowledge of IHL. In April, Djibouti ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

At regional level, contact was established by the ICRC with the East African Court of Justice and the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights, both based in Arusha.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

More than 1,800 police officers, including senior officials from the Kenyan, Djiboutian and Tanzanian police forces, participated in ICRC-run sessions on international human rights law and internationally recognized standards relating to policing. These took place either in training institutions or in the field. Some 2,800 new recruits in Kenya also participated in IHL field training

exercises. Thirty-four instructors from Kenya’s Administration Police (a unit dealing with security matters) learnt techniques for teaching international human rights law to their peers.

During meetings with representatives of the Kenyan military, the ICRC reiterated its offer to support IHL training. As a result, legal officers from the Kenya Defence Forces participated in a one-day IHL training session. Some 800 officers from the Tanzania People’s Defence Force (TPDF) and 35 from Djibouti’s armed forces received briefings on IHL and the work of the Movement before their deployment on peacekeeping missions. Sixteen TPDF instructors were trained to teach IHL.

More than 100 police, military and civilian staff from across the region associated with the International Peace and Support Training Center, based in Nairobi, also enhanced their knowledge of IHL/international human rights law during three ICRC-organized briefings.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, media representatives received briefings and newsletters on Movement activities, including the new mobile phone service for refugees in Dadaab, from National Society/ICRC representatives. Through two ICRC-run workshops, journalists from both countries deepened their understanding of Movement activities. In Mombasa and Nairobi, more than 50 community radio journalists attended seminars on conflict reporting.

Community leaders in violence-prone areas of Kenya engaged in discussions on IHL and humanitarian issues with visiting ICRC representatives (see *Civilians*).

Academics, including lecturers and students, learnt more about IHL and the value of teaching and researching this subject through ICRC-run briefings, an IHL essay competition, a lecturers’ round-table discussion, a moot court competition (staged in cooperation with the ICTR in Arusha) and participation in a regional IHL course. Researchers interested in learning more about IHL could access detailed information at the ICRC’s IHL documentation centre in Nairobi, where a new system of cataloguing aided research.

In April, Islamic scholars from Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania took part in a seminar exploring common themes between sharia law and IHL, held in Mbale, Uganda (see *Uganda*).

Representatives of human rights organizations engaged in dialogue with the ICRC on a range of humanitarian issues relating to the region. In Kenya, representatives of humanitarian organizations participated in a one-day seminar on IHL and – together with policy-makers – in a week-long IHL training workshop.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	DJIBOUTI	ICTY	TANZANIA
ICRC visits			
Detainees visited	877	39	
Detainees visited and monitored individually	24	15	
		<i>of whom women</i>	1
Detainees newly registered	2	2	
Number of visits carried out	4	1	
Number of places of detention visited	2	1	
Restoring family links			
RCMs collected	287		470
RCMs distributed	136		320

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Societies received ICRC funds, materials, training and logistical and technical back-up to help them, as appropriate, provide assistance to vulnerable communities, offer family-links services and promote IHL (see *Civilians* and *Civil society*).

Some 30 Kenyan Red Cross branch staff enhanced their knowledge of IHL, the Movement and related issues, including emblem protection, in training sessions, while more than 20 representatives of humanitarian organizations attended a second National Society/ICRC course on Health Emergencies in Large Populations, run by the National Society and the ICRC. During a first-aid workshop, 27 National Society personnel learnt to provide life-saving care during situations of violence, while 30 branch coordinators improved their expertise in offering family-links services through a training session. An emblem campaign, launched by the National Society in August with ICRC support, aimed to inform the public about the protected emblem and increase their understanding of its use.

In the United Republic of Tanzania, 15 National Society staff learnt to teach colleagues techniques for responding to humanitarian needs in conflict-prone areas. Thirty middle managers attended an induction course, the first of its kind in the country, and discussed the Fundamental Principles, emblem protection and the Safer Access approach. More than 20 regional disaster managers also attended ICRC briefings on the Safer Access approach.

In Djibouti, some 60 National Society personnel developed their emergency-response skills during ICRC-supported courses. This helped to enhance the National Society's drought response.

Movement partners strengthened coordination through a workshop for financial officers representing five National Societies from countries in the region, including Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, organized jointly by the International Federation, the Norwegian Red Cross and the ICRC. National Society representatives also attended regional and international Movement meetings to strengthen management skills.