



Regional mixed migration summary for May 2012 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea/Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.

Country (alphabetically)	Events /trends/ data / analysis
<p>Djibouti</p>	<p>New information:</p> <p>In May 2012 of an estimated total of 8,040 people arriving on Yemen's shore an estimated 6,435 people left from Djibouti. The departure point is Obock and different coastal departure points 30-40 km west of Obock. Approximately 215 people per day, therefore, crossed from Obock, a 6% decrease of the total percentage of (daily) new arrivals from last month, but 15% higher than the May 2011 figures. Consistent with last month, 85% were non Somalis (mostly Ethiopians).</p> <p>Ethiopian new arrivals in stated that they paid smugglers \$ 170 - \$250 for the boat crossing from Djibouti to Yemen via the Red Sea. Somali new arrivals reported that they paid a lesser amount of \$150 - \$200 for the same crossing.</p> <p>14 Eritrean families consisting of 57 individuals were registered for asylum in Obock during the reporting period by ONARS (the National Eligibility Office). These individuals had fled to Djibouti some one to two years ago.</p> <p>Authorities in Djibouti carried out two rounds ups in Obock during which they reportedly arrested approximately 100 migrants on each occasion during May. UNHCR negotiated with the authorities asking for 72 hrs grace period to allow those in need of international protection to seek asylum before the migrants were transported to the borders of their respective countries. These raids may be causing migrants to avoid Obock city and go directly to departure points like Ras Birh, Godoria, Ras Hayan and Kor Hangar.</p> <p>Some Somali new arrivals still report of being arrested in Djibouti by the authorities and only released upon payment of a bribe of approximately \$50. Both non-Somali and Somali new arrivals in Yemen stated that they had been robbed by Affar smugglers during their journey to Obock.</p> <p>IOM medically assisted 6 migrants who were injured when a bus carrying 33 migrants travelling from Tadjoura to Obock veered off the side of the road and went down an embankment. IOM is in the process of assisting voluntary return of the 6 to Ethiopia.</p> <p>Previously Reported:</p> <p>A <u>report</u> commissioned and funded by the Oromia Support Group and Oromo Relief Association documents the alleged human rights abuses, <i>refoulement</i> and insecurity faced by Ethiopian migrants/ and refugees mostly of Oromo ethnicity as they seek asylum in Djibouti. The report allegedly argues that a majority of Ethiopians of Oromo ethnicity flee out of a genuine fear of persecution by the Ethiopian Government (EPRDF) which has branded the Oromo Liberation Front a 'terrorist' organization.</p>
<p>Eritrea/ Sudan/ South Sudan</p>	<p>New information:</p> <p>Four Eritreans and one Darfurian landed on the Red Sea coast of Yemen with the intention to seek asylum in May. All Eritreans cited a fear of persecution on grounds of their imputed opinions.</p> <p>In May, Jordanian authorities announced that it was to deport nine Eritreans to Yemen. They were arrested while on their way from Yemen through Jordan to an unknown destination. UNHCR confirmed that they had in the past recognised the nine as refugees. According to Human Rights Watch, the Yemeni government has a poor record in protecting Eritrean migrants.</p> <p>According to IOM at least 1,890 Southern Sudanese, who were initially stranded in Kosti, located 300km south of</p>

	<p>Khartoum, have been successfully airlifted to South Sudan. IOM and UNHCR are providing assistance to these returnees at their transit centres upon arrival in Juba.</p> <p>The Israeli governments <u>announcement</u> that all Southern Sudanese asylum seekers had to repatriate and its decision to construct a '<u>holding complex</u>' for asylum seekers and migrants was followed by protests and attacks by 'nationalist' citizens who were demanding the <u>expulsion of all African migrants</u> from Israel. This holding complex is located near the Israel-Egypt border through which mainly Southern Sudanese, Eritrean and Somali migrants cross over into Israel and its aim is to deter economic migration. Of the 13,683 people who entered Israel illegally in 2010, 62% were Eritreans and 33% were Sudanese.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>An estimated 6,551 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in May 2012. This is an 11% increase in those who made the crossing in May 2011. Although this is lowest figure in 2012 so far, it is the highest for the month of May since 2006, indicative of the trend over the years that the number of Ethiopians migrating to Yemen is on the increase.</p> <p>Origination of new arrivals: Although there was a minimal drop of 2% in the Oromo new arrivals as compared to last month, they continued to form the majority of Ethiopian new arrivals in May.</p> <p>Dollo Ado: During the reporting period, some 3,391 Somalis sought refuge in Ethiopia. This brings the total of Somali refugees in Ethiopia to 197,988, accounting for approximately 61% of the total refugee population hosted in the country. The daily average (113) of Somalis that crossed into Ethiopia in May seeking asylum was therefore higher than the foreseen estimate of 80 given by the Ethiopian refugee authorities (ARRA) and UNHCR last month. Some 154,297 of these Somali refugees are hosted at the Dollo Ado camps and transit centre, accounting for 78% of all Somalis in Ethiopia, which is consistent with the previous two months.</p> <p>At the end of the reporting period, Ethiopia also hosted some 64,636 Sudanese and 60,052 Eritrean refugees which form the second and third largest refugee population in Ethiopia respectively.</p>
<p>Kenya</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>According to UNHCR, as of end May there were an estimated 525,893 Somali registered refugees hosted in Kenya with an addition of over 23,000 Ethiopian. There was an increase of 2,037 Somali refugees from April 2012.</p> <p>Kakuma: Some 1,505 individuals arrived in Kakuma in May. This brings the total camp population to 96,353 as at the end of the reporting period. South Sudanese and Sudanese continue to comprise one third and Somalis half the total population.</p> <p>Dadaab: UNHCR opened a new sub-office in Alinjigur to ease the burden from the Dadaab sub-office with the increasing number of asylum seekers and refugees. Hagadera and Kambioos refugee camps will be administered by the new sub-office. At the end of the reporting period the combined population of the two camps was 152,073 of which 98% were Somali.</p> <p>On 28th May there was an explosion in the Nairobi city centre which killed 1 and injured 33. Although the exact cause is not known, the use of an IED is suspected and the Al-Shabaab are popularly regarded as being behind the attack. As previously reported, registration in Dadaab was ceased in October last year following increased security threats and attacks reportedly by the Al-Shabaab in north-eastern Kenya. As of at the end of May, registration is still on hold. Reports of newly arrived Somalis who are being sustained by the already existing registered Somali refugee population in Dadaab continued during the reporting period.</p> <p>Displacement due to heavy flooding: In May approximately 100,000 people were displaced in Kenya as a result of flooding due heavy rains according to the Kenya Red Cross. The worst affected areas are Nyanza Province, parts of Rift Valley Province, parts of the greater Nairobi metropolitan area, and parts of Coast Province.</p> <p>The Kenyan troops in S-C Somalia continued to engage the Al-Shabaab and captured the town of Afmadow in May.</p>

<p>Puntland</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>Arabian Sea arrivals in Yemen: In the reporting period, an estimated 1,605 crossed the Arabian Sea to Yemen. 68% were non-Somalis while in the same month last year they consisted of 49% of the total arrivals on the Arabia Sea coast. Approximately 35 % of all Somali new arrivals in May crossed into Yemen from Puntland.</p> <p>There was a decrease in reports from Somali new arrivals in Yemen of the Puntland authority detaining and interrogating migrants from S-C Somalia on suspicion of Al-Shabaab links in May.</p> <p>As a country of origin: Migrants originating from Puntland continued to form the minority of Somali new arrivals, keeping steady in the 3-4% range. The new arrivals reported that they were from Nuugul, Mudug and Bari.</p> <p>IDPs: There are 142,600 IDPs in Puntland according to UNHCR.</p>
<p>Somalia (S-C)</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>In May 2012, 1,489 Somali migrants arrived on Yemen's shores. They represented 19% of the total new arrivals in the reporting period (8,040). As compared to the same month in 2010, this is a 13% decrease in those who made the crossing. 77% of Somali new arrivals in Yemen in May were from S-C Somalia with the majority originating from Banadir and Lower Shabelle regions.</p> <p>There was an increase of 6% in those citing insecurity and forced recruitment by the Al-Shabaab as their reason for flight as compared to last month. Reports of forced marriage by the Al-Shabaab continued in May. Notably, there was a 29% increase in those citing economic reasons as compared to April 2012 with continued reports of tight checkpoints maintained by both the government and Al-Shabaab resulting in restricted movement which impacted on livelihoods.</p> <p>Many from S-C Somalia, in particular the youth, continued to report that they were still stopped and interrogated at checkpoints mounted in Mogadishu, Afgoye, Middle Shabelle and Hiraan on suspicion of having Al-Shabaab links. Other travelling through Al-shabaab held territory had to provide justifications for their travel. Failure to do so resulted in detention.</p> <p>IDPs: There are an estimated 1,129,000 IDPs in S-C Somalia according to UNHCR. Between 23rd and 25th May, 11,000 people were displaced as a result of the TGF/AMISOM military offensive in the Afgooye corridor. The majority of these IDPs went to Mogadishu while the remainder went to the Lower Shabelle region. A total of 39,000 people were displaced in May which is an 18% increase from April 2012. 27,000 of the IDPs cited insecurity as the cause of their displacement.</p> <p><i>This document does not seek to extensively detail conditions and event in Somalia (including displacements) as the subject is dealt with in great detail by various dedicated agencies.</i></p>
<p>Somaliland</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>New Arrivals in Yemen from Somaliland: New arrivals in Yemen from Somaliland constituted 20% of all Somali new arrivals in April. This represents a 9% rise as compared to April 2012, consistent with the increase between the previous two months indicating an upward trend of those fleeing Somaliland. Some of new arrivals (in Yemen) originated from Burco, Borama and Hargeisa regions of Somaliland.</p> <p>Consistent with the previous month, new arrivals from Somaliland mainly cited lack of livelihood opportunities as their reason for flight to Yemen as opposed to insecurity which more frequently cited in March and April of the same year.</p> <p>Trafficking: Investigations are still on-going regarding the suspected case of trafficking of 9 Ethiopian minors (aged between 1 -6 yrs) by 2 Ethiopian adults. The adults and minors were apprehended by the Somaliland authorities in Berbera in April. Initial questioning revealed that the names of the children and adults had been misrepresented and the adults confessed to not being the biological parents of the children in contradiction to the earlier statements. In May, a Somali man came forward and claimed that these are his children. There were also</p>

	<p>reports of some Ethiopians in Yemen who are claiming that they are the biological parents of the minors.</p> <p>Ministry of Interior and UNHCR verification/registration: The registration of migrants wanting to claim asylum is on-going in Hargesia.</p> <p>Previously reported/context:</p> <p>In early September 2011 <u>the government of Somaliland announced that the '80,000' unregistered foreigners in Somaliland had one month to leave.</u> In October a further statement was made by a government minister increasing the hostile and unwelcome environment for Ethiopians in Somaliland. Aid agencies estimate the real number affected may be closer to 20,000.</p>
<p>Yemen</p> <p>New data from the Yemen MMTF</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>New arrivals: The total number of new arrivals recorded by the <u>MMTF Yemen</u> in May was 8,040 individuals representing an 18% decrease from 9,767 arrivals in April 2012. 6,435 of May's total arrived crossing the Red Sea (from Djibouti) while 1,605 crossed the Arabian Sea (from Somaliland / Puntland). Since March 2012 the number of new arrivals has been falling but the totals remain high when compared to 2011. In May 2011, 7524 new arrivals were recorded.</p> <p>Proportions: In May 74% of the new arrivals were non-Somalis and 26% were Somalis. In the same reporting month in 2011 the proportion of Somalis was 22% .</p> <p>Red Sea Arrivals: 80% of May's total arrived crossing the Red Sea (from Djibouti) while 20% crossed the Arabian Sea (from Somaliland / Puntland). As compared to the same period in 2010, 74% of all new arrivals crossed the Red Sea while 26% crossed the Arabian Sea. This is in line with the trend over the years of a shift towards the Red Sea route and away from the Arabian Sea route.</p> <p>Registration: Of the total arrivals in the month of May 2012, 94% of Somali new arrivals and 23% of non-Somalis registered as refugees or asylum seekers. This a drop of 4% and 3% respectively as compared to last month and an overall drop of 7% in new arrival registrations.</p> <p>Main Drivers/push factors: Lack of economic opportunities continues to be sighted as the one of the main reason for flight by Somali new arrivals, rising by 29% as compared to last month. Those citing insecurity rose by 6% as their main reason for movement. The majority of those citing insecurity were fleeing from S-C Somalia. Non-Somalis (mostly Ethiopians) citing lack of economic opportunities rose from 63% (April 2012) to 75% in the reporting period. Insecurity rose 2% within the same group as compared to last month and were mainly of Oromo and Ogadeni ethnicity. Those stating that they had been offered a job/recruited almost doubled in May as compared to April 2012</p> <p>Origination: In a break from the trend in the first quarter of 2012, the percentage of new arrivals who registered (and therefore interviewed) who were Tigray dropped by 8% from last month. The Oromos continued to form the majority of Ethiopian new arrivals. The Amhara constituted 27%, forming the second largest majority as compared to last month when the Tigray were the second largest majority.</p> <p>Boats & passengers: Over the reporting period the total number of boats arriving on the coast with migrants was 117 vessels; 22 crossing the Arabian sea and 95 crossing the Red Sea. This is a slight drop from the previous four months. The average number of passengers on each boat was 69 people per trip (not including smugglers/crew).</p> <p>Protection risks faced by new arrivals over the reporting period: Reports of <u>hostage taking and forced smuggling/trafficking, kidnapping and extortion continued,</u> particularly of Ethiopians new arrivals. They report of the increasing sever physical abuse they are subjected to. Some new arrivals stated that they were released after paying a ransom of \$60 – \$ 250. In May, Somali new arrivals reported that although they are not held captive, there have been cases where their wives were taken hostage upon arrival. The husbands believe that their wives will be freed once a ransom is paid. Some reported that they were robbed by Affar smugglers in Djibouti and by the Djiboutian authorities after arresting them.</p> <p>Reports indicate that those Somalis travelling through Somaliland were detained and integrated at the Las Anod checkpoints on suspicion of affiliation to Al-Shabaab. They were robbed before being released and in some case</p>

were deported back to S-C Somalia.

Somali new arrivals reported that in the first week of May, a Somali **posing as a humanitarian worker** led them to a gang of smugglers at an unknown destination. They were only able to escape after they put up a struggle against the unarmed smugglers.

Female new arrivals (mainly Ethiopians) reported of being sexually harassed and assaulted in Djibouti and on the 4-7 hour boat journey from Obock to Yemen by the smuggling crew and upon arrival by inland smugglers (13 incidents reported including a case of a 14yr old Somali girl).

Two Eritrean new arrivals were arrested by the Yemeni authorities at the Kharaz reception centre. With UNHCR intervention, they were released after 2 days. They did not register and their current whereabouts are unknown.

Deaths at Sea: There were no reported deaths at sea with respect to the sea crossing to Yemen in May.

IDPs: The continued fighting and tension in Yemen during the reporting period resulted in further displacement but at the current time no updated figure is available. As previously reported the joint DRC, UNHCR and WFP exercise to ascertain an accurate number of IDPs is still on-going. However, according to UNHCR, approximately 52,000 people have been displaced between January – March 2012, while 1,800 have been displaced in the first two weeks of March in the Abyan governorate in the south. UNHCR estimated in March 2012 that approximately 500,000 individuals are IDPs in Yemen. The counting of IDPs in Yemen has come under some political pressure due to the associated interests of different groups in presenting high or low numbers.

Ethiopians stranded in North Yemen: IOM received medical supplies for migrants stranded in Haradh located on the Yemen - Saudi Arabia border, donated by the Italian government aid agency. As previously reported there are some thousands of Ethiopian migrants remain stranded in North Yemen around the city of Haradh– close to the border with Saudi Arabia. IOM stated that the number of stranded migrants in dire conditions and in and around the town could be in excess of 12,000. IOM last repatriated approximately 277 in March. However due to funding constraints no further AVR has been conducted

IOM Haradh has also received its first referral of **land mine injuries among migrants**. Three people tried to enter Saudi Arabia through Sa'ada governorate, which is scattered with land mines as a result of fighting between the Houthi clan and government forces. Two of the three were severely injured and all three are currently being treated by MSF.

Insecurity in Yemen: On May 21st a suicide bomb attack took place in Sana'a during the 'Unity-Day' celebration parade killing approximately 102 Yemeni soldiers and wounding almost double that. The suicide bomber was dressed in a Central Security Force soldier's uniform. The AQAP (al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula) and Ansar-al-Shari'a have separately claimed responsibility.

Fighting and insecurity in Yemen continued unabated during May, particularly in Sa'ada between the Al-Houthi and Salafist supporters. In mid-May, armed men blocked roads and entrances linking Sana'a and other main cities. This continued to result in internal displacement (see below), limited humanitarian access and prevented return of IDPs during the reporting period. The implication of the increased insecurity and specific kidnapping and IED threat targeting foreigners is having a direct impact of the activities and movement of those involved in working with migrants. The total number of kidnapped expatriates/internationals still stands at 12 in 2012. However seven foreign representation received treats to Yemen received treats to their missions in May.

Tensions continued between the former regime supporters and the Joint Meeting Parties, a coalition of parties including Al-Islar and Al-Haq.

***Caveat:** Despite the network of local partners collecting data along parts of the Arabian and Red Sea coasts it cannot be assumed that this data captures all new arrivals. Particularly, there may be those that arrive along the northern stretches of the Red Sea coast, beyond the data networks. Consequently the actual numbers of new arrivals in Yemen may be higher. Yemen Red Crescent and the Danish Refugee Council are planning to extend the patrol area further north along the Red Sea coast.*

