

NAIROBI (regional)

COVERING: Djibouti, Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania



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 in the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes regions, as well as further afield.

YEARLY RESULTS

Level of achievement of ICRC yearly objectives/plans of action

MEDIUM

KEY RESULTS/CONSTRAINTS

In 2014:

- ▶ refugees, including a growing number of people who had fled the conflict in South Sudan, kept in touch with relatives via family-links services offered by the region's National Societies and the ICRC
- ▶ dialogue with the Kenyan authorities concerned on possible visits to detainees within the ICRC's purview and, on the need to help families of missing persons ascertain the fate of their relatives, remained stalled
- ▶ officials from Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and other African countries discussed their progress in domestic IHL implementation at regional seminars that aimed to foster long-term respect for IHL
- ▶ members of the Kenyan and Tanzanian security forces, including officers working in violence-prone areas, boosted their knowledge of internationally recognized standards related to their duties
- ▶ the region's National Societies boosted their capacities with ICRC support, which helped the Kenya Red Cross Society deploy some staff to South Sudan to bolster the operations of the South Sudan Red Cross Society

EXPENDITURE (in KCHF)

Protection	1,645
Assistance	125
Prevention	2,224
Cooperation with National Societies	1,761
General	790

6,545

of which: Overheads 399

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	90%
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PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	37
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	309

PROTECTION	Total
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)	
Red Cross messages (RCMs)	
RCMs collected	14,691
RCMs distributed	13,980
Phone calls facilitated between family members	314,047
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	134
People reunited with their families	18
<i>of whom unaccompanied minors/separated children</i>	18
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
ICRC visits	
Detainees visited	920
Detainees visited and monitored individually	59
Number of visits carried out	11
Number of places of detention visited	4
Restoring family links	
RCMs collected	157
RCMs distributed	117

CONTEXT

The three countries covered hosted refugees from neighbouring countries, mainly Somalia; Kenya experienced a spike in the number of people entering the country to flee the conflict in South Sudan.

Djibouti and Kenya participated in the African Union Mission in Somalia's (AMISOM) military operations against the Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujahideen (better known as al-Shabaab), which reportedly conducted retaliatory attacks in those two countries, leading to injuries and deaths.

In Kenya, the authorities launched security operations against people allegedly involved in these incidents, which included attacks and bombings in Mandera and Nairobi, and in coastal areas such as the city of Mombasa. Political tensions and disputes over boundaries and resources led to intercommunal clashes in north-eastern Kenya and elsewhere, displacing thousands.

Following months of protests, which in some cases led to arrests, the Djiboutian government and the opposition reached an agreement on the allocation of parliamentary seats. Relations between Djibouti and Eritrea remained strained over their disputed border area (see *Eritrea*).

In the United Republic of Tanzania (hereafter Tanzania), a constitutional referendum and general elections were scheduled for 2015. Tanzanian forces participated in peacekeeping missions abroad.

The Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (MICT) assumed responsibility for people sentenced by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and held at the UN detention facility in Arusha, Tanzania.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2014, the Nairobi delegation continued to foster the protection of people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence – including people deprived of their freedom – and to promote respect for humanitarian principles and IHL.

Refugees and migrants in the countries covered exchanged news with family members via National Society/ICRC family-links services, particularly mobile phone calls and RCMs. The ICRC maintained its efforts to help people in Djibouti and in Kenya ascertain the fate or whereabouts of relatives missing in connection with past conflict and with violence, respectively, but no progress was made. Mobilizing financial/psychosocial support for Djiboutian families was found to be unnecessary, but they received some material support. To facilitate future identification of human remains, the ICRC trained forensic professionals in Kenya and provided some material support for the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti. It also helped medical staff prepare for violence-related emergencies by conducting training seminars in cooperation with the Kenyan Health Ministry and the Kenya Red Cross Society.

Detainees received visits to monitor their treatment and living conditions, in accordance with standard ICRC procedures; in Djibouti, they included POWs from Eritrea, and in Tanzania, Congolese detainees and people under the MICT's jurisdiction. After their visits, delegates communicated their findings confidentially to the detaining authorities. Inmates kept in touch with relatives through family-links services. In Djibouti, ICRC-donated hygiene kits/cleaning materials improved living conditions for detainees.

In parallel, the ICRC continued seeking access to all detainees within its purview. However, in Kenya, limited dialogue with the authorities concerned did not elicit approval for ICRC visits. In Tanzania, the resumption of such discussions led to permission for a visit to detainees in Zanzibar in 2015.

To further promote respect for IHL and other relevant law and to safeguard access to humanitarian aid/health care for those in need, the ICRC maintained dialogue with the authorities, weapon bearers and civil society actors. Training courses sought to encourage compliance with international human rights law among members of the Kenyan and Tanzanian security forces, and adherence to IHL among Tanzanian peacekeepers to be sent abroad. Regional seminars aimed to promote long-term respect for IHL by facilitating its implementation. Local and international events – such as a round-table for IHL lecturers from across the region, seminars for journalists, and a forum on sexual violence – helped raise awareness of and support for IHL, the Movement, and humanitarian issues.

The ICRC worked with the region's National Societies to restore family links and promote IHL, while supporting them in boosting their capacities thereon. It also helped them enhance their emergency response capacities: notably, the Kenyan Red Cross deployed some staff to South Sudan to bolster the operations of the South Sudan Red Cross Society.

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

CIVILIANS

In Kenya, refugees fleeing violence in South Sudan contact relatives

Migrants and refugees, among them unaccompanied minors, re-established/maintained contact with their relatives through family-links services provided by the Djiboutian, Kenyan and Tanzanian National Societies together with the ICRC; collectively, they sent 14,691 RCMs and received 13,980. Refugees in six camps in the three countries spoke to relatives in Somalia or elsewhere by making a total of 314,047 calls via a mobile phone service. In May, the Tanzania Red Cross Society ended its family-links services in two out of the three camps it was supporting, as refugees there had already integrated into society.

Fifteen South Sudanese and two Rwandan children were reunited with their families in their countries of origin; one child from South Sudan was reunited with his family in Kenya. Sixteen people who were in Kenya resettled in a third country using ICRC travel documents issued in coordination with the pertinent embassy and UNHCR.

The three National Societies bolstered their RCM-delivery/collection and tracing capacities with ICRC support (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*); regular coordination among the National Societies and ICRC delegations in the wider region further enhanced the provision of family-links services. In Kenya, National Society/ICRC trips to refugee camps enabled follow-up of pending cases and helped tracing volunteers streamline their services.

During meetings, local stakeholders and representatives of international organizations involved in child protection initiatives

in the countries covered furthered their understanding of the services provided by, and the working procedures of, the National Societies/ICRC.

Families in Djibouti and Kenya remain without news of missing relatives

Requests for information submitted to the Eritrean authorities regarding the Djiboutian soldiers reported as missing after the 2008 Djibouti-Eritrea conflict remained unanswered (see *Eritrea*). Plans to mobilize other organizations to provide assistance to the families of the missing – particularly, financial/psychosocial support – were found to be unnecessary, as they had already established their own referral network. Nevertheless, several families received water tanks in view of their difficult conditions.

Despite efforts to follow-up with the authorities concerned, no progress was made on helping families in Kenya ascertain the fate/whereabouts of relatives missing in relation to past violence in the Mt. Elgon region and in relation to the 2007–08 post-election violence.

With a view to facilitating the identification of human remains during future emergencies, staff from the Kenyan Health Ministry's forensic service, as well as the Kenyan Red Cross, enhanced their knowledge of human remains management at ICRC-supported seminars. The Djiboutian Red Crescent received material support in this regard (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees within ICRC purview in Kenya do not receive visits

To ensure that the treatment and living conditions of people held in relation to armed conflict or other situations of violence complied with IHL and other internationally recognized standards, detainees received ICRC visits conducted according to its standard procedures. In Djibouti, they included 19 POWs from Eritrea; in Tanzania, they included detainees under the MICT's jurisdiction, and eight detainees of Congolese origin, who were released by mid-year. Foreign detainees kept in touch with relatives through phone calls or RCMs.

During meetings, the detaining authorities and ICRC delegates confidentially discussed delegates' findings and recommendations, notably, regarding respect for judicial guarantees and the principle of *non-refoulement* for foreign detainees. Dialogue with the MICT tackled the well-being of people under their jurisdiction who were serving their sentences in Benin and Mali, as well as the social reintegration of acquitted or released inmates.

In Kenya, dialogue resumed between the ICRC and the authorities on a limited basis, regarding access to people arrested in relation to security operations (see *Context*). However, approval for ICRC visits was not granted. Nevertheless, the ICRC strove to collect information from and/or follow up – with the authorities, organizations, media, community leaders and families – allegations of capture, detention or extradition of people held in relation to “terrorism”. In Tanzania, the Zanzibari authorities and the ICRC

CIVILIANS	DJIBOUTI	KENYA	UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
Red Cross messages (RCMs)			
RCMs collected	542	13,051	1,098
		<i>including from UAMs/SCs*</i>	8
RCMs distributed	806	11,751	1,423
		<i>including from UAMs/SCs*</i>	5
Phone calls facilitated between family members	22,933	207,593	83,521
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations			
People reunited with their families		18	
		<i>including people registered by another delegation</i>	6
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		492	4
		<i>of whom women</i>	98
		<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance - girls</i>	135
		<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance - boys</i>	51
		<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	56
People located (tracing cases closed positively)		133	1
		<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	37
Tracing cases still being handled at the end of the reporting period (people)	17	622	22
		<i>of whom women</i>	121
		<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance - girls</i>	160
		<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance - boys</i>	43
		<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	113
UAMs/SCs*, including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers			
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society		62	2
		<i>of whom girls</i>	8
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society		18	
		<i>of whom girls</i>	2
		<i>including UAMs/SCs registered by another delegation</i>	6
UAM/SC cases still being handled at the end of the reporting period		55	19
		<i>of whom girls</i>	7
Documents			
People to whom travel documents were issued		16	
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines		1	

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

resumed discussions regarding ICRC visits, which led to approval for a visit in 2015.

POWs in Djibouti receive regular medical visits

In Djibouti, POWs as well as other detainees in Gabode prison maintained sanitary conditions with the help of ICRC-donated hygiene kits and cleaning products; the POWs also received food. The authorities received technical advice and some material assistance, such as drain cleaning rods and ovens, to help them improve detainees' living conditions; support for infrastructural rehabilitation was found to be unnecessary.

The detaining authorities, with encouragement from the ICRC, facilitated medical visits to POWs at least twice a week; one POW had the cost of his medical treatment paid for by the ICRC throughout the year.

WOUNDED AND SICK

In Kenya, training initiatives for medical staff aimed to help them prepare for emergencies. At a Health Emergencies in Large Populations course run by the Kenyan Red Cross/ICRC, 24 representatives of four African countries, including Kenya, refined their abilities to manage medical interventions during armed conflict and other situations of violence. In cooperation with the Kenyan Health Ministry and the National Society, 41 doctors boosted their emergency trauma care skills at courses conducted by Kenyan instructors with ICRC supervision. At another seminar, 31 surgeons learnt more about treating weapon-wounded patients. A formal agreement among the Health Ministry, National Society and the ICRC regarding further training initiatives – including the inclusion of a trauma management course in a medical school's curriculum – was discussed.

ACTORS OF INFLUENCE

Kenyan and Tanzanian security forces better understand internationally recognized policing standards

The authorities and weapon bearers throughout the region participated in activities aimed at building respect for IHL and other relevant law, and at promoting safe access to humanitarian aid/health care for vulnerable populations.

Over 2,200 Kenyan and 200 Tanzanian police officers/recruits, including some assigned to violence-prone areas, added to their knowledge of international human rights law and internationally recognized standards applicable to law enforcement during training sessions, which, in Kenya, were co-organized with the National Society.

At ICRC lectures during courses organized by the International Peace Support Training Centre in Kenya, about 250 people from the armed/security forces, the judiciary, and civil society furthered their understanding of IHL, including provisions on protection for women and children. Kenyan government officials stationed along the border with Uganda familiarized themselves with the activities of the ICRC's logistics centre in Nairobi, which helped facilitate its work.

To support the integration of IHL and other relevant law into the Kenyan Defence Forces' training, 17 instructors and two senior officers trained at an ICRC workshop in Kenya and at a course in San Remo, respectively. The Kenyan National Defence College enriched its library with IHL publications from the ICRC.

Some 800 Tanzanian peacekeepers attended IHL briefings before leaving for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia.

African nations discuss ways to facilitate IHL implementation

Regional events aimed to promote long-term respect for IHL by facilitating its implementation. At a seminar in Kenya, representatives from Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania, and for the first time, Eritrea, discussed their countries' headway and plans in this regard. At a workshop co-organized with the Regional Centre for Small Arms, government officials from Kenya, Tanzania and eight other African countries discussed their progress in signing or ratifying the Arms Trade Treaty and ways to expedite the process.

Tanzanian government ministries and the ICRC continued to discuss the formation of a national IHL committee; however, the country's constitutional review stalled the drafting of a Geneva Conventions Act and the revision of the Red Cross Act.

Academics enhance their knowledge of IHL at regional events

ICRC-organized events helped generate awareness of and support for IHL, the Movement and humanitarian issues among the general public.

Students demonstrated their IHL knowledge at a regional essay-writing contest, and at national and regional moot court competitions in Kenya and Tanzania. Lecturers from across the region participated in a round-table in Nairobi, where they discussed the latest IHL-related developments and challenges; seminars in Kenyan and Tanzanian universities presented further opportunities for students/instructors to learn more about the topic.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	DJIBOUTI	ICTR/MICT	UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
ICRC visits			
Detainees visited	899	13	8
	<i>of whom women</i>	1	
	<i>of whom minors</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	38	13	8
	<i>of whom women</i>	1	
Detainees newly registered	17		
	<i>of whom women</i>		
Number of visits carried out	9	1	1
Number of places of detention visited	2	1	1
Restoring family links			
RCMs collected	4		153
RCMs distributed	7		110

Some 130 Kenyan and Tanzanian journalists bolstered their ability to relay key humanitarian messages, through seminars on conflict reporting and the Movement co-organized by the respective National Societies/ICRC. Likewise, journalism lecturers in Nairobi increased their understanding of IHL in relation to “terrorism” and of the role of media in covering such situations.

At a forum organized jointly with a Kenyan media association to mark International Women’s Day, women from violence-prone areas discussed ways to address/prevent sexual violence, for instance, with the help of existing legislation. Humanitarian workers from various countries attended an IHL training course in Kenya. Community leaders in Tanzania learnt more about the Movement at a Tanzanian Red Cross/ICRC seminar. Some contact was maintained with members of religious circles, including participants of a 2013 seminar on IHL and Islam.

The ICRC’s documentation centre in Nairobi continued to provide reference materials on IHL for public use.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Independently or alongside the ICRC, the region’s National Societies responded to emergencies, helped restore family links (see *Civilians*) and promoted understanding of and support for IHL and the Movement and its Fundamental Principles (see *Actors of influence*), while strengthening their capabilities to do so with financial, material and technical support from the ICRC. The Kenyan and Tanzanian National Societies received particular

backing for policy development and volunteer training, respectively, on the Safer Access Framework.

The Kenyan Red Cross supports the South Sudan Red Cross’s emergency operations in South Sudan

With ICRC support, the Kenyan Red Cross deployed four staff members to South Sudan for nine months to boost the South Sudan Red Cross’s emergency operations in terms of disaster management, psychosocial support and logistics. Red Crescent Society of Djibouti volunteers assisted disaster victims, and, with some ICRC material support, helped in the management of some migrants’ remains after a boat accident. The Tanzanian Red Cross provided first-aid and family-links services to flood-affected people.

National Societies within the wider region enhanced their disaster preparedness at a workshop organized by the Kenyan Red Cross. The Djiboutian and Tanzanian National Societies reinforced their contingency plans with support from Movement partners.

To improve their management capacities and strengthen Movement coordination, National Society staff from the wider region attended a governance/leadership course conducted by the Kenyan Red Cross with ICRC support. Key personnel attended meetings abroad; for instance, legal advisers of the three National Societies participated in an annual meeting, and a Kenyan representative participated in a session on the Health Care in Danger project. Movement components regularly discussed their activities at local and regional levels.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS: PROTECTION		Total			
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)					
Red Cross messages (RCMs)			UAMs/SCs*		
RCMs collected		14,691	9		
RCMs distributed		13,980	5		
Phone calls facilitated between family members		314,047			
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations					
People reunited with their families		18			
	<i>including people registered by another delegation</i>	6			
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			Women	Girls	Boys
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		496	98	136	51
	<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	56			
People located (tracing cases closed positively)		134			
	<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	37			
Tracing cases still being handled at the end of the reporting period (people)		661	122	164	48
	<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	113			
UAMs/SCs*, including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers			Girls		Demobilized children
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society		64	10		
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society		18	2		
	<i>including UAMs/SCs registered by another delegation</i>	6			
UAM/SC cases still being handled by the ICRC/National Society at the end of the reporting period		74	17		
Documents					
People to whom travel documents were issued		16			
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines		1			
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)					
ICRC visits			Women	Minors	
Detainees visited		920	31	24	
			Women	Girls	Boys
Detainees visited and monitored individually		59	4		
Detainees newly registered		17	3		
Number of visits carried out		11			
Number of places of detention visited		4			
Restoring family links					
RCMs collected		157			
RCMs distributed		117			

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children