

First Multi-Sectoral workshop on priorities and 2023 action plan.

First meeting of the Mixed Migration Task force.

Donation of 600 body bags.

Emergency assistance to 392 migrants in the Obock region by the Search and Rescue unit.

Resettlement operations to Canada and Sweden



A group of migrants in the desert of Obock © Photo : IOM Djibouti

HIGHLIGHTS

During the month of January, the first multi-sectoral workshop was organised by the National Coordination Office for Migration. The main objective of this meeting was to identify priority actions for the upcoming year and the role of each institution in the implementation of the action plan of the National Strategy for Migration of the Republic of Djibouti.

The first meeting of the year of the Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF) took place on Thursday 26 January at the IOM Djibouti office. The meeting was co-chaired by IOM and the National Coordination Office for Migration.

In coordination with the Ministry of Health, IOM donated 600 body bags to all regional hospitals in Djibouti. This donation is part of the strengthening of the management of mortal remains along the migration corridor in Djibouti. Migrants who travel the Eastern route face malnourishment, dehydration and extreme temperatures. Shipwrecks and drowning are also unfortunate occurrences along this route.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In January 2023, 24,001 movements were observed by the Movement Tracking Matrix (MTM) at key transit points in Djibouti, representing a daily average of 775 movements. Migration flows increased by 25% compared to December 2022 (19,156 movements). Of these 24,001 movements, 4,523 (19%) were observed in Obock, in the coastal region of Djibouti where migrants cross the Gulf of Aden to the Arabian Peninsula along the eastern route. On this route, spontaneous returns of Ethiopian migrants from Yemen continue to be observed with a total of 587 in January 2023.

During the month of January, a total of 16,693 arrivals were recorded, an increase of 20 per cent compared to December 2022. This trend may be due to the relative security conditions in some parts of Ethiopia limiting migrants' access to the routes to Djibouti.

In addition, some Ethiopian migrants transiting through Djibouti remain stranded, due to lack of resources to continue their journey.

CONTACTS



DIRECT ASSISTANCE FOR MIGRANTS

During the month of January, the mobile unit was able to provide emergency assistance to 392 migrants, including 361 adults (composed of 337 men and 24 women) and 31 unaccompanied minors (including 2 girls and 29 boys). At the Centre d'Orientation et d'Assistance aux Migrants (COAM) in Obock, assistance in food, non-food items (NFI) as well as medical and psychosocial support was provided to 107 vulnerable migrants composed of 66 adults (56 men and 10 women) and 41 minors including 41 unaccompanied children (37 boys, 04 girls).



*IOM mobile team assists a migrant returning from Yemen in the desert of Obock
© Photo : IOM Djibouti. 2022.*

With the financial support of the European Union (EU-IOM Joint Initiative, DG ECHO), IOM continues to meet the basic needs of migrants staying at the centre who wish to return to their country of origin.



RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

During this month, IOM assisted 157 vulnerable migrants, including 25 unaccompanied minors, to return to Ethiopia in a safe, voluntary and informed manner. This movement was organized with the financial support of the European Union under the project "Sustainable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants in Djibouti". Upon their return to Ethiopia, among the 157 migrants, 24 adult migrants (17 men and 7 women) and all the minors (25 minors, including 19 boys and 6 girls) will benefit from adapted assistance that will allow them to reintegrate and rebuild their lives in their communities of origin.



Beneficiaries of the assisted voluntary return program board a bus bound for Djibouti airport © Photo : IOM Djibouti 2022

During the month of January, IOM teams were able to organise the departure of eight people with refugee status to Canada through the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Programme (PPRP) and also one person was taken to Sweden under the Government Assisted Refugee Program (GAR).



PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

During the month of January, IOM continued its collaboration with the Ministry of Health to

strengthen the management of mortal remains along the migration corridor in Djibouti.

In the framework of the EU-funded project "Sustainable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants in Djibouti", IOM has donated 600 body bags to the medical centres in the regions of Obock, Tadjourah, Arta and Dikhil. A donation is also planned for the Ali-Sabieh regional hospital in the coming months. Migrants on the eastern route face a lack of food, water and extreme temperatures. They also face various protection problems. Some are also victims of shipwrecks.



Donation of 600 body bags for hospitals in the interior © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022



MIGRATION GOUVERNANCE

The International Organization for Migration participated in a first two-day workshop organized by the National Coordination Office for Migration, gathering national and international actors working in the migration sector in Djibouti. The main objective of this workshop was to identify the priority actions for the year 2023 and the role of each institution in the implementation of the action plan of the National Strategy for migration of the Republic of Djibouti.

At the end of this workshop, an annual and budgeted roadmap of priority actions from the five-year action plan launched in December 2022, will be developed.



Director of the National Migration Coordination Office at the workshop © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2023

In addition, the first meeting of the year of the Mixed Migration Working Group (MMWG) took place on Thursday 26 January at the IOM Djibouti office.

The Mixed Migration Working Group is a platform that brings together various institutions on the territory of Djibouti working on migration issues. The GTMM is co-chaired by the Ministry of Interior, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Office Nationale d'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Sinistrés (ONARS).

Consultation meetings are organised on a monthly basis and allow for the elaboration of action points and activities to be put in place for a better management of migration in Djibouti. This month's meeting was an opportunity to review the points and recommendations raised during the team's visit to Ali-Sabieh.



January 2023 MMTF meeting © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022 © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2023