## Regional mixed migration summary for August 2014 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea, Sudan/South Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.

RMMS Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat

Terminology: Throughout this report the term migrant/refugee is used to cover all those involved in the mixed migration flows (including asylum seekers, trafficked persons, smuggled economic migrants, and refugees). If the case load mentioned refers only to refugees, asylum seekers or trafficked persons, it will be clearly stated.

Country	Events / trends / data / analysis		
Movement: I	Movement: Migrants/refugees move from the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia and Somalia) to Yemen and Saudi Arabia		
Yemen	<b>New arrivals:</b> In August 2014, 10,483 migrants/refugees crossed into Yemen via the Red Sea (Djibouti) and the Arabian Sea (Somaliland/Puntland), a 60% increase compared with the number of migrants/refugees that reached Yemen in July 2014, and a 253% increase compared to the number of migrants/refugees that arrived in August 2013. Approximately 77% of the migrants who reached Yemen in August were of Ethiopian origin while the rest were Somali, maintaining the arrival ratio between the two groups that has existed for the last 3 years.		
	An estimated 48,454 migrants/refugees have arrived on the shores of Yemen since the beginning of 2014. August recorded the highest number of new arrivals in Yemen since the beginning of the year. According to information from UNHCR, at least 885 (or 8%) of the August arrivals were recent deportees from Saudi Arabia, trying again to transit Yemen to re-obtain work in Saudi Arabia. New arrivals cited the search for economic opportunities, drought in parts of South and Central Somalia, insecurity and harassment from Al Shabab as their motivation for migrating. Laxity in border controls was reported to have encouraged large movements from Ethiopia through Somaliland to the port of Bossaso during the month of Ramadan.		
	<b>Boats &amp; passengers</b> : A total of 169 migrant boat trips arrived on the coast of Yemen in August 2014. The average number of passengers on each boat was 62 per trip (not including smugglers/crew). More boats are reported to have landed on the coast of the Lahj governorate (south of Bab El Mandeb) compared to the coast of the Ta'iz governorate where security operations were reported to have been stepped up in August. The main entry points were Al-Jadid, Uzaf, Al-Ordi, Al-Maqar, Al-Shura, Seikh Saeed, Al-Kadha, Al-Batin Al-Seimal, Al-Huriqia, Wadi Al-Hober.		
	<b>Migrant vulnerability:</b> Kidnapping for ransom and the risk of detention continue to represent the main protection concerns, particularly for Ethiopian migrants/refugees. In August, several clashes between migrants and criminal gangs resulted in casualties, including the death of an Ethiopian who was shot. Legislation addressing trafficking and kidnapping for ransom awaits parliamentary approval. Authorities in Yemen are reported to have increased patrols along the Red Sea coast between Bab El Mandeb and Mokha (Ta'iz governorate) coast to tackle the smuggling of migrants and goods. In addition, raids are reported to have been conducted by the police and military authorities against gangs of smugglers and traffickers operating in the area resulting in seizure and burning of their boats.		
	<b>Destitute Eritrean refugees:</b> The Yemeni times highlighted the plight of a group of 200 Eritrean refugees living on the streets of Sanaa. The refugees spent between 3 and 20 months in detention on arrival in Yemen in the central prison of Hodeida governorate. They were released after obtaining official refugee status.		
	<b>Anti-Trafficking legislation:</b> The International Labour Organization (ILO) co-hosted a three-day workshop from 6-8 September with Yemen's Ministry of Human Rights in Lebanon's capital Beirut, bringing together government entities, international agencies, and non-governmental groups to develop Yemen's anti-trafficking roadmap. Yemen's Ministry of Human Rights (MHR) has reportedly joined forces with the ministries of defence, justice, interior, and planning, among others, to establish a National Dialogue Committee on Combating Trafficking. The committee will work to see the new anti-trafficking bill become law, conduct research on the extent of trafficking in Yemen, and roll out a comprehensive national strategy by 2015.		

Djibouti	<ul> <li>Departing from Djibouti: In August 2014, an estimated 4,367 migrants/refugees arrived on Yemen's shores via Djibouti, a 2% increase compared with number of migrants that arrived in July 2014. Red Sea arrivals in August 2014 were 117% higher than those recorded in August 2013. Approximately 41% of the migrants/refugees reaching Yemen in August 2014 utilised the Red Sea crossing from Obock, Djibouti.</li> <li>Boats: A total of 94 vessels left via the Red Sea for Yemen carrying an average of 46 passengers per trip.</li> <li>Migrant vulnerability: Migrants/refugees continue to congregate in Djibouti waiting for an opportunity to make the Red Sea crossing or pursuing opportunities to raise funds to continue with their journey. In August, 3 Somali women reportedly succumbed to starvation in Obock. Members of the Migrant Response Centre (MRC), 6 kilometres south of Obock and confirmed that flows have increased since the beginning of 2014. The visit led to the identification of 50 minors under the age of 15 among the irregular flows. Authorities continue to intercept, arrest and return migrants particularly Ethiopians.</li> </ul>
Puntland	<b>Arabian Sea arrivals in Yemen</b> : In August 2014, 6,116 migrants/refugees crossed the Arabian Sea to Yemen from Bossaso and other coastal areas of Puntland, a 169% increase from the migrants/refugees that made the crossing in July 2014. The August 2014 Arabian Sea arrival figures were 445% higher than those recorded for the crossing in August 2013. According to NGO sources there are regular arrivals of Somalis returning from Yemen (unknown numbers but hundreds per month) but a far larger group of prospective migrants amassing in Bossaso waiting to cross to Yemen.
Somaliland	<b>Emerging Trends</b> : Somaliland youth (often educated) continue to form part of the irregular flows through Ethiopia and Sudan to Libya. An estimated 24 Somaliland youth <i>enroute</i> to Libya were intercepted by Ethiopian authorities and returned to Somaliland in August. Ethiopian migrants/refugees and Somalis from South and Central Somalia congregate in Hargeysa and travel through Burao <i>enroute</i> to Bossaso. Ethiopian migrants usually walk for approximately 2 weeks from the Tog Waajale border crossing to Bossaso in preparation for the sea crossing to Yemen, while Somalis are more likely to travel by road. The months between June and August are the hottest in Somaliland and may witness the death of many Ethiopian migrants walking between Hargeysa and Berbera, or Hargeysa and Bossaso during the day. Somali migrants/refugees during these hot months walk only at night. Smugglers of Yemen in ationality are reportedly targeting a small number of Ethiopian nationals in the Adwal region. A few fishing boats were reported to have departed with a dozen migrants from Zeila, Adwal region to Yemen in August. A new <u>RMMS feature</u> on the phenomenon of migration from Somaliland explores the characteristics of the push and pull drivers causing people to move.
Israel	<b>Pressure on migrants and asylum seekers to leave</b> : A Human Rights Watch (HRW) report <u>'Make Our Lives</u> <u>Miserable'</u> released in September, indicates that between January 2013 and July 2014, 6,750 Eritreans and Sudanese left Israel for their home countries. The vast majority of them were Sudanese, while Israeli authorities confirmed in March 2014 that 367 were Eritreans. HRW watch was unable to establish the fate of the Eritrean returnees but in 2012 documented the torture of Eritrean returnees from other countries, while the torture and intimidation of Sudanese returnees by security forces is detailed in the report. The report also highlights pitfalls in the asylum system and the plight of thousands of migrants held in detention and seeking protection in Israel. No comment on the report had been received from Israeli authorities by mid-September. Israel has an estimtated population of 50,000 (36,000 Eritreans and 14,000 Sudanese) migrants/asylum seekers. Fewer than 200 asylum seekers are reported to have been granted refugee status since 1954 when Israel ratified the Refugee Convention. Asylum seekers from the Central African Republic (CAR), Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) form part of the minority groups seeking protection in Israel. An Egyptian border guard is reported to have been shot in August during a gun battle with human smugglers trying to get migrants/refguees across Egypts border with Israel.

Sudan/ South Sudan	<ul> <li>South Sudanese flee for safety: An Implementation Matrix of the Cessation of Hostilities (CoH) Agreement was signed on 25 August 2014 by the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the SPLM/A (In Opposition). The Implemenation Matrix operationalizes the cessation of hostilites agreement of 23rd January 2014. The sitatuon in South Sudan remains volatile. Overrall 1.8 million people have been displaced from the current crisis including over 1.3 million internally displaced persons. Over 451,458 South Sudanese have fled since mid-december 2013 to Uganda (125,541), Sudan (94,196), Kenya (42,846) and Ethiopia (188,875).</li> <li>Human trafficking in Sudan: UNHCR received 3 new reports on trafficking in July but the cases are yet to be verified. Since the beginning of 2014, reports from humanitarian actors indicate a 50% decrease in trafficking cases in Eastern Sudan in the first half of 2014 compared to a similar period in 2013. A reported 6 cases have been verified in Eastern Sudan since the beginning of the year while 40 potential trafficking cases have been reported in Khartoum. According to UNHCR, Sudan recently entered into an agreement with Ethiopia to establish a new joint border task force and has joint border task forces with Libya, Chad and Central African Republic. The Libyan Sudanese joint border force is reported to have prevented the movement of 5,000 individuals to Libya, majority of them Eritreans smuggled across the border. A joint Sudanese-Egyptian border force was scheduled to begin operation in August.</li> <li>Regional Conference on Trafficking and Smuggling: Sudan will host a regional conference on trafficking and smuggling in the Horn of Africa in Khartoum on 13-16 October 2014. The conference will be chaired by the African Union (AU) with support from IOM and UNHCR. The first 3 days will be attended by senior experts while the last day will be for ministerial attendees. The conference is aimed at addressing various issues pertinent to trafficking and smuggling in th</li></ul>
Eritrea	Spike in Eritrean asylum seekers in Europe: Denmark is reported to have received over 500 Eritrean asylum seekers in the last couple of months compared to a monthly average of 10 in the first quarter of 2014. Norway,
	Netherlands and Germany are reportedly also facing a similar increase. Syrians were the largest asylum applicants in Netherlands followed by 3,500 Eritreans in the first half of 2014. Two Eritrean women were arrested in Denmark at the end of August on charges of smuggling. The women were alledgedly in the process of assisting 4 Eritreans to reach Copenhegan and 2 others to cross into Sweden.
	<b>Eritrea: Ending the Exodus (August 2014):</b> The Update Briefing by the International Crisis Group (ICG) provides an overview of the exodus from Eritrea. It makes recommendations aimed at confronting the factors contributing to the mass exodus and highlights regional as well as country specific implications of the movement from Eritrea. Recommendations are addressed to the Eritrean Government, Ethiopian Government and other regional actors under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and international actors including the UN and the European Union (EU). Read the update briefing <u>here</u> .
Ethiopia	<b>New arrivals in Yemen:</b> An estimated 8,150 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in August 2014, - 65% higher than arrivals in July 2014, and a 220% higher than numbers of Ethiopians that arrived in August 2013.
	Ethiopian migrants were predominantly from Oromia, while others travelled from Tigray, Amhara and Harar. Economic considerations, fear of persecution for perceived affiliation to the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) and persecution on religious groups were cited by new arrivals as their motivation for migrating.
	<b>Refugees and asylum seekers:</b> Ethiopia overtook Kenya as the largest refugee host in Africa. Ethiopia was host to over 629,000 refugees by the end of July while Kenya was sheltering over 575,000 according to UNHCR. The
	major contributing factor for the change of circumstances in Ethiopia is the influx of South Sudanese (188,000) since the outbreak of violence in mid-December bringing the South Sudanese total by the end of August 2014 to 254,100. A significant Somali (245,000) and Eritrean (99,000) refugee population is also present. Since the beginning of 2014, nearly 15,000 Eritreans and more than 3,000 Somalis arrived in Ethiopia.
	Ministerial meeting on Somalia crisis: A ministerial meeting was convened in Addis Ababa towards the end of August to reaffirm commitment to durable solutions for Somali refugees, and international support to peace and

	progress according to a statement by UNHCR. The Global Initiative on Somali refugees meeting was attended by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, representatives from the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Union(AU), the UN Commission for Africa, and ministers from Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Yemen. Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Yemen jointly host nearly 1 million Somali refugees. Read the communique released at the end of the meeting <u>here</u> .
Kenya	<b>Refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya</b> : Kenya is host to 580,110 refugees and asylum seekers, 50,541 of them in Nairobi (urban refugees). The largest number of refugees and asylum seekers remain Somali nationals (427,194), followed by South Sudanese (86,263), and Ethiopians (30,373). Between July and August the Somali refugee population increased by 710 individuals while the South Sudanese refugee population in Kenya increased by 3,418 individuals. Tens of thousands of undocumented migrants from neighbouring countries and further afield continue to reside in Kenya, predominantly in urban areas.
	<b>Progress on the Tripartite Agreement</b> : The <u>Tripartite Agreement</u> was signed on 10th November 2013. All 12 representatives from Kenya, Somalia and UNHCR were nominated to sit on the Tripartite commission in the first quarter of 2014. The commission is tasked with advancing voluntary and organized repatriation of refugees as well as the reintegration of returnees in Somalia. An official launch of the commission was scheduled for April in Mogadishu but was postponed to May in Nairobi and anticipated to take place in Nairobi during the month of August. The commission once again failed to launch in August. Reports indicate that an estimated 2,500-3,000 Somali refugees living in the Dadaab camp are set to be re-located to various parts of Somalia by the end of October 2014. Returnees constitute two groups, those returning to their homes and those who need to be settled. Somalia's volatile security situation, the huge financial implications of the return exercise and lengthy negotiations among parties to the tripartite agreement have delayed the exercise. A 'go and see' mission recently took place where refugees from various camps in Dadaab visited Kismayo. Following the visit refugees voiced concern over the volatile security situation and the lack of access to basic services.
	<b>Operation</b> <i>Usalama Watch</i> : The operation ended on 12 <sup>th</sup> August with the closure of the Kasarani stadium centre. Over previous months, in 2014, the operation resulted in the arrest of over 4,000 refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, the return of 3,900 refugees and asylum seekers to the Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps, and the deportation of 359 Somalis to Mogadishu including 6 registered refugees. Refugees are still required to return to, and reside in the Kakuma or Daadab refugee camps. A few exemptions have put in place for students, refugees in need of medical attention and holders of work permits. The Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) is responsible for issuing movement passes and letters of exemption for refugees and asylum seekers travelling outside the camp and residing in urban areas. The DRA has also recently taken over the Refugee Status Determination from UNHCR.
	Victim Protection Act passed to stem trafficking: Kenya is reported to have passed a Victim Protection Act in August. The law enhances victim support within the criminal justice system which it has been reported will contribute to strengthening prosecutions against human trafficking and smuggling. It provides for the protection of victims of crime and abuse of power, better access to information and support services for victims of crime, victim compensation and reparation.
Somalia (S-C)	<b>Somali movements to Yemen</b> : An estimated 2,333 Somalis arrived on Yemeni shores in August 2014, a 44% increase from July 2014 arrivals. The August 2014 arrivals were 297% more than the Somali arrival figures for August 2013.
	The majority of Somalis arriving in Yemen are from South Central Somalia. Most of those sailing across the Red Sea to Yemen travel from Somaliland, through Loya ade, Woqoyi Galbeed, Awdal and Togdheeer. The motivations for migrating include the search for economic opportunities, lack of freedom of movement, arbitrary detention and the fear of persecution stemming from perceived affiliation to Al Shabab.
	<b>Refugees and asylum seekers</b> : In August 2014, there were 957,275 Somali refugees in the region hosted mainly in Kenya, Ethiopia, Yemen, Eritrea, Djibouti and Uganda. A total of 23,000 newly arrived Somali refugees have been registered in Yemen, Kenya and Ethiopia since the beginning of 2014.
	Update on evictions: Reports indicate that nearly 3,000 households consisting of over 18,000 individuals have received eviction notices in Mogadishu since the beginning of the year. Over 14,000 consisting mainly of IDPs, with

	10% from the host community have been evicted. Evictions were effected mainly in Daynile on the northern outskirts of Mogadishu that had earlier experienced an influx of IDPs evicted from Mogadishu in 2013 and early 2014. Further evictions verified by UNCHR include 4,296 persons, mainly IDPs, at the end of August, and another 4,758 persons at the beginning of September from Hodan district in Mogadishu. Authorities have been faulted for providing inadequate notice prior to the evictions from public land some of which is now claimed by individuals. The forced evictions of IDPs from both private and government owned land and buildings is estimated to have uprooted almost 33,000 people. Over 130,000 Somalis have been displaced from their homes since the beginning of 2014.
Other Regional news	<b>Movement across the Mediterranean</b> : Over 100,000 migrants/refugees have arrived on the shores of Italy or been 'rescued' and transported to Italy as aprt of the <i>Mare Nostrum</i> operation by the Italian Navy, since January 2014. The prospect of rescue at sea as well as a deterioriating security situation in Libya , hardship in countries of origin, and increasingly reckless smuggling networks facilitating the movement may be fueling the surge in arrivals. In early August, Spain is also reported to have intercepted over 1,000 migrants/refugees attempting to cross the Straight of Gibraltar. Another 1,500 are reported to have attempted to storm the Melilla (Spanish enclave on north African coast) border fence. Less than 1% of the migrants attempting to storm the fences to the Spanish enclaves of Melilla and Ceuta are successful. As a result more migrants/refugees are trying to reach Spain by boat from Morocco. Moraccan authorities are reported to have raided and destroyed a camp inhabitated by migrants bidding their time for an opportunity to scale the Melila fence. The raided camps were located approximately 10 miles from the Melilla fence. Italy continues to reiterate that rescue at sea efforts should be a Europe wide burden. Many of the migrants seeking entry into Europe are from Syria (over 16,000 since January), Eritrea (over 25,000 since January) and Somalia. The EU commissioner for home affairs is reported to have voiced concern over the detention of irregular migrants in Malta.
	<b>Concern mounts for migrants in Libya</b> : IOM reported monitoring the situation of nearly 200,000 migrants living and working in Tripoli, Benghazi, and Misrata. Numerous flights between Egypt and Tunisia were reported assisting Egyptians who had fled escalating violence in Libya to return home. An estimated 12,000 migrants were assisted to return from Tunisa to Egypt at the begining of August 2014. An estimated 7,000 refugees and migrants mainly from sub-saharan africa and the Middle East are detained in Libya, with some centres in the north reported to have closed and released migrants due to acute food shortages, while some migrants were being moved to centres further south. IOM continues to field telephone calls from individual migrants wanting to return to their countries of origin and foreign embassies seeking help to evacuate their citizens. IOM has repatriated 125 migrants from Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Ethiopia and Côte d'Ivoire via Tunisia since the begining of the current crisis in mid-july.
	<b>Dead at sea:</b> The end of August witnessed the death of an estimated 300 migrants attempting to cross the Mediteranean in 3 separate boat tradgedies. On 10th September, a boat tragedy reportedly perpetrated by smugglers on a vessel that left Egypt for Malta in early September was feared to have resulted in the death of nearly 500 migrants/refugees, including 100 children. The incident is reportedly under investigation. An estimated 2500- 3,000 migrants/refugees have died attempting the mediteranean crossing in 2014, over 2,200 of them since the begining of June. Between 650-850 were feared dead in the first half of September. IOM has commended rescue at sea efforts but recommended action with regard to increasing safe and legal passage avenues to Europe. Reports indicate that the European commission will lauch Frontex plus in November to support Italys rescue at sea operation <i>Mare Nostrum</i> . Frontex plus will be a merger of Italys operation <i>Mare Nostrum</i> and the EU border patrol agency Frontex efforts, with more specific details of the operation still under delibaration. Humanitarian actors have warned that deaths on the Mediteranean will increase if the capacity of Frontex Plus is unable to match the capabilities of the <i>Mare Nostrum</i> operation.
	<b>Migrants congregate in Calais</b> : An estimated 1,300 migrants/refugees from Africa, Asia and the Middle East are reported to be living under harsh conditions in Calais, northern France hoping for an opportunity to cross into the United Kingdom (UK). The migrants/refugees have set up a camp near the ferry terminal linking Calais to Dover, while others squat in unoccupied buildings in the city centre. The summer months reportedly witnessed the increased arrival of Eritreans in Calais hoping to cross the channel to the UK. New arrivals were also recorded from Somalia, Sudan and Syria. Thousands of migrants alledgedly stormed a ferry bound for Dover in early September resulting in increased tension among migrants and French police. Attempts to enter the UK by concealing themselves in trucks crossing the channel have also been reported. The migrants/refugees have staged a protest demanding better protection while a section of the authorities are of the opinion that migrants/refugees should be made aware of the right to seek asylum.

	<b>Costa Rica:</b> In early September, unverified reports emerged that a handful of Somalis and Eritreans travelling toward the Peñas Blancas border crossing with Nicaragua had been intercepted in the northwestern province of Guanacaste, Costa Rica, and detained by authorities. Costa Rican authorities believe that migrants moving irregularly within the region are seeking to reach the United States and pay up to USD 7,000 to smugglers to faciliate their movmement.
New Research, reports or documents	<ul> <li>Poverty, Youth and Rural Migration in Ethiopia (July 2014): The Research Programme Consortium working paper 17 explores the relationship between rural-urban migration from Woreda (district) in northern Ethiopia, to the city of Bahir Dar and the capital, Addis Ababa. Poverty, non economic considerations and long term strategies are some of the factors that drive the movement. Read the working paper <u>here</u>.</li> <li>Make their lives Miserable: Israel's Coercion of Eritrean and Sudanese Asylum seekers to Leave Israel (September 2014): The Human Rights Watch (HRW) report documents the creation of a parallel legal regime by Israel aimed at denying asylum claims and protection that may be due to Eritrean and Sudanese asylum seekers under International and Israeli law. The report highlights the use of detention in a precarious legal environment for asylum seekers and migrants to force them out. Sudanese face a 10 year jail term for visiting Israel while the punishment for Eritreans disserting military service has been noted to be severe and disproportionate. Read the</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>full report <u>here</u>.</li> <li>Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Somali Refugees in Kenya (September 2014): The Refugees International field report chronicles the abuse the Somali refugee population in Kenya has endured in recent years in light of government efforts to enforce a refugee encampment policy, and sustained pressure for Somali refugee returns influenced by security imperatives. It offers recommendations directed to the Kenyan government, the international community, the United Nations refugee agency and civil society organizations. Read the field report <u>here</u>.</li> <li>Global Refugee Work Rights Report: Taking the Movement from Theory to Practice (September 2014): The report by Asylum Access and the Refugee Work Rights coalition examines 30% of the global refugee population in 15 countries. It investigates barriers to access to refugee employment and opportunities for refugee advocates to expand employment opportunities. It breaks down the legal framework in support of the refugee's right to work as well as possible economic benefits to the host county. Read the report <u>here</u>.</li> </ul>

This information sheet is distributed to over 1,200 agencies, academic institutions, donors, embassies, journalists, government officials / departments, international and multi-national organisations and related non-government organisations.

Sources: Data is sourced from a wide variety of collaborators, partners, international and local organisations, media outlets and individuals in the region. The key refugee agency – UNHCR – and migration agency – IOM- are frequently the origin of specific refugee or migrant return-related data. RMMS is a unit/project within the Danish Refugee Council and also uses data and information generated by DRC activities. RMMS makes its own independent editorial decisions as to what sections and what data is included in this monthly update. A media press listing of mixed migration events for this month can be accessed on RMMS's website <u>here</u>