

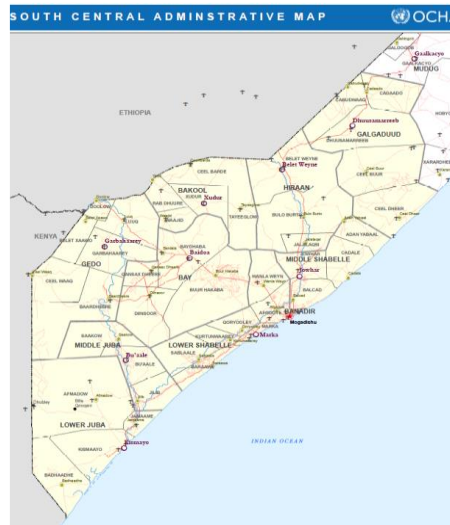
## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### UNHCR Position on Returns to Southern and Central Somalia

On June 17, 2014, UNHCR published a paper stating its position on returns of Somalia nationals, including refugees and asylum seekers, to Southern and Central Somalia. The forced return of Somalis and reported spontaneous returns triggered the refugee agency to express its opinion and provide advice to state parties.

In addition to calling states to halt returning Somalis to this part of the country, the document notes :

*“the security situation in many parts of Southern and Central Somalia continues to be volatile and the capacity of the State and its institutions to protect civilians residing there remains weak, including at local level. Protracted armed conflict has had devastating consequences, including massive displacement, weakened community structures, gross human rights violations and the breakdown of law and order. Large parts of Southern and Central Somalia remain under the effective control of non-state armed groups.”* To read the document, click [here](#).



### Change in Requirement from 6 Photos To 1

CPO-W is no longer shipping the paper application overseas; they are instead scanning and sending them electronically, with the hard copy being retained at CPO-W. As a result of this procedural change, there is no longer a need for the applicant to provide 6 photos, as indicated in the IMM6000 [document checklist](#). CPO-W now requires **only one photograph** to be provided with the application.” Note that CIC will be updating the checklist accordingly and this requirement will only apply for PSR.

**YOU ASKED....** Does the change apply to Groups of Five and One Year Window Opportunity Applications?

**OUR REPLY....** The change applies to Groups of five applications as they are also PSR applications. However, it does not apply to OYW applications because following family members submit their IM0008 form, documents and photos directly to a visa office.

## Upcoming Event

### Webinar: Caps & Allocations for 2014

A webinar presentation with Capper Tracker, Elizabeth Walton of the SAH Secretariat. Join us to learn more about the allocations process for 2014, trading and recording and everything else you need to know about allocations. This will also be a great opportunity to any questions you might have with regards to allocations.

**Date:** August 14, 2014

**Time:** 1:00 - 2:30 PM

To register, go to the [registration link](#).

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### Workshop: Joint Assistance Sponsorship - Post-Arrival Support

**Where:** Catholic Cross-Cultural Service, 55 Town Centre Court, Suite # 401, Scarborough, ON

**Date:** July 30, 2014

**Time:** 10 am - 3 pm

Register **by July 28, 2014** at [sshahsiah@rstp.ca](mailto:sshahsiah@rstp.ca)

### Workshop: Sponsoring Syrian Refugees

**Where:** Catholic Cross-Cultural Service, 55 Town Centre Court, Suite # 401, Scarborough, ON

**Date:** August 06, 2014

**Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Register **by August 06, 2014** at [nnasir@rstp.ca](mailto:nnasir@rstp.ca)

## INQUIRIES & RESPONSES

### AVAILABLE VORs

#### VOR 097

The PA is a 20 year old male Burmese refugee residing *in Malaysia*. Since the age of 12, he has been subjected to forced labour and construction work by Burmese soldiers. After his brother fled Myanmar in 2007, the soldiers came for the PA instead, physically abusing him and issuing threats of forcible military recruitment should he not reveal his brother's whereabouts. Following his parents' advice, the principal applicant escaped Myanmar in 2010 and joined his brother in Malaysia. *Cross-referenced with brother in VOR 098.*

#### VOR 097

This is a Burmese refugee family composed of 30 year old male, 25 year old female, 2 year old daughter, 3 month old son who are *currently living in Malaysia*. Since the age of 13, the PA was conscripted to forced labour on road construction. In this capacity he was often kicked and verbally abused. His family's farm was also subjected to heavy paddy taxes and constant harassment from the military. In 2007, the PA helped a woman from the village escape abduction by Burmese soldiers. He then fled Myanmar when the threat of his arrest became imminent. *Cross-referenced with brother in VOR 097.*

#### VOR 101

Bhutan refugees, 41 year old male, 30 year old female and 3 year old son, in Nepal, are looking for a sponsor. The PA speaks some English and has experience working as a bicycle mechanic, and his wife has experience working as a primary school teacher. They are currently living in a refugee camp in Nepal and would like to resettle in Canada, preferably in the London area. The couple wants to improve their lives and to provide a better life for their son.

**YOU ASKED....** Regarding translations, the IMM6000 says there must be an affidavit from the person who completed the translation and a certified copy of the original document. Does the certified copy requirement apply to everything like, for example, their UNHCR registration? Or just translated documents?

**OUR REPLY....** The requirement to have a certified copy of original documents applies to all translations. According to *Guide 6000 – Convention Refugees Abroad and Humanitarian-Protected Persons Abroad*,

*“Any document that is not in English or French **must be accompanied by:***

- the English or French translation; and*
- an affidavit from the person who completed the translation; and*
- a certified copy of the original document.*

*Note: An affidavit is a document on which the translator has sworn, in the presence of a commissioner authorized to administer oaths in the country in which the translator is living, that the contents of their translation are a true translation and representation of the contents of the original document. **Translators who are certified members in good standing of one of the provincial or territorial organizations of translators and interpreters of Canada do not need to supply an affidavit.**”*

As you can see from the bolded portion above, it is easier to find an interpreter in Canada in order to avoid needing an affidavit.

**YOU ASKED....** A completed generic form was validated, signed, and sent to the sponsors. However, we find errors in the application with the result that after making the changes, the number of pages is reduced. Can the sponsor still use the signed page from the original IMM0008 even though the page number does not correspond with the corrected IMM0008?

**OUR REPLY....** When changes are made to the application form, a new barcode must be generated so that the most current information is reflected when CPOW enters it into their system. Even though during the last conference a staff from CPOW indicated that they did not have the technology required to scan barcodes, and we do not know the current status of the technology, it is preferable to have the refugee sign the most updated version of the form.

However, if it is not possible to include new signatures, you can explain why it is not possible in a cover letter. CPOW will then review the cover letter and make a decision about whether or not to accept the application without the older signatures.