

## **“Afghanistan’s Displaced People: 2014 And Beyond”**

The latest publication of “Forced Migration Review” has included various articles focusing on the Afghan conflict in recognition of 35 years of Afghan war and displacement of Afghan nationals. The following articles may interest sponsoring groups: *“Continuing conflict, continuing displacement in Southern Afghanistan; Stateless in Afghanistan, Reframing solutions for Afghan refugees; Pakistan’s national refugee policy; Violence and vulnerabilities: Afghans in Pakistan; Returning from Iran; Protection for disabled persons in Afghanistan ; Displacement and violence against women in Afghanistan; Sexual violence: unacceptable on all counts; Urban realities for displaced young women and girls ...”*To read the issue, click [here](#).

## **“Refugee Livelihoods in Urban Areas: Identifying Program Opportunities Case Study Egypt”**

A research funded by the US Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees And Migration presents a comprehensive mapping of the living conditions of refugees in Cairo and other urban areas. Some of the topics discussed include *life in Cairo, local integration and relationship with locals, impacts of revolution on refugees, living conditions and coping mechanisms, health, housing, social services and organization supporting refugees*. Thought the document was published in Oct 2012, its content is still helpful to understand the conditions of refugees in Egypt after the revolution. [Here](#) is the link to the paper.

## **“UNHCR’s Position on the Detention of Asylum-seekers in Malta”**

This paper demonstrates UNHCR’s concern about detention practices in Malta, and it has relevance in the assessment of local integration possibilities for refugees applicants residing in Malta. *“UNHCR particularly concerned that the current practice in Malta is not in line with Article 31 of the 1951 Convention, and the fundamental right to liberty and security of person, as enshrined in international and European human rights instruments. ... The Maltese practice of detaining, for the purposes of removal, all asylum-seekers, who arrive on the territory in an irregular manner, is both unlawful as well as arbitrary in terms of well-established international law standards.”* Click [here](#) to access the paper.

## **Available VOR Refugees**

### **VOR 033**

The PA is a 25 year old Eritrean female currently living in Ethiopia. While looking for work in Eritrea, the PA was accosted by soldiers and asked for a movement pass permit, which she did not have. Before being arrested, she was a victim of violence. The PA reported the incident to police, but no action was taken. Upon her release, she suffered stigmatization in her community and was ostracized by her family as a result of the incident. The PA is particularly vulnerable as she is an unwed woman living alone in a refugee camp. She speaks Tigrinya and Saho and can be resettled anywhere in Canada.

### **VOR 037 & 038**

These cross-referenced cases consist of a 24 year old female, her 5 year old son and her 14 year old brother (VOR 038). As a victim of violence, the PA was forced to flee Eritrea in 2009 with her son. The following year, her young brother also fled to Ethiopia to escape eventual forced conscription. Being a single woman, caring for two minors and living without adult male relatives in the camp, the PA is in a particularly vulnerable position. She is a Woman at Risk and both her and her brother’s cases are considered medium urgency. She speaks Tigrinya and has experience baking. This family can be resettled anywhere in Canada.

## INQUIRIES & RESPONSES

### VOR 044

The PA is a 26 year old Somali female currently living in Kenya. The PA fled Somalia when she was a young child after her father was shot by members of a majority clan. The same day that her father was shot, the PA witnessed her mother being kidnapped by gunmen and has not had contact with her mother or siblings since that day. Her status as a single woman with no male relatives in the camp places her in a particularly vulnerable situation; her case is considered high urgency. The PA speaks English, Swahili and Somali and can be resettled anywhere in Canada.

### VOR 046

The PA is a 25 year old Ethiopian male currently living in Kenya. He fled Ethiopia after facing persecution by the government based on his ethnicity. His father was thought to be a supporter of a political group with imputed political opinions and the PA was subsequently imprisoned. The PA was held in very poor conditions and suffered violence at the hands of the guards. He fled shortly after his release. The PA speaks some English, Oromo and Swahili, has experience in retail and restaurant work and can be resettled anywhere in Canada. His case is considered high urgency.

## Upcoming Event

**Workshop:** *Private Sponsorship of Refugees From Syria*

**Where:** Catholic Cross-Cultural Service, 4557 Hurontario Street, Unit B11, Mississauga, ON

**Date:** June 26, 2014 (TBC)

**Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 pm

For more information contact Nadine Nasir: [nmasir@rstp.ca](mailto:nmasir@rstp.ca)

**YOU ASKED ...** We have been approached about submitting a sponsorship for an applicant whose wife and two children under 10 are still in their country of origin. Have you come across a case where the application has been processed with a separated family in country?

**OUR REPLY...** We have seen similar cases. When you submit the application, his wife and children should be listed and can be identified as **non-accompanying family members**. If he is accepted and allowed to come to Canada, he can initiate a family reunification process under One Year Window of Opportunity proceeding within the first year of arrival.

**YOU ASKED ...** I wanted to know, if non accompanying members also need IMMs and photos before the application can be submitted. Am I able to submit the file with just the IMMs and photos of the principal applicant?

**OUR REPLY...** You may be able to submit the application without including the IMM 0008 forms of the family members residing in their country of origin. As repressive regimes often monitor correspondents go in and out of their territories, sometimes family members may not feel safe to send out refugee sponsorship applications form and documents. It is worth explaining why they could not submit the applications forms in a cover letter.

### COMMON ISSUES WITH GROUPS OF FIVE APPLICATIONS

*For those involved or interested in Groups of Five Sponsorship Applications, CPOW has identified the following common issues with Groups of Five applications forms.*

"On the Settlement Plan, under section C (Settlement Needs- details), Sponsors need to provide details in Question 3 & 4. Often there is little or no details provided. An inadequate Settlement Plan could result in the refusal of the application.

On the Settlement Plan and Financial Assessment, section B, the ongoing expenditures (x 12 months) need to be calculated and entered into the annual amount. This is missed 90% of the time.

On the Financial Profile (IMM 5373B), all group members who intend to use their personal income to support the refugee applicants must fill out the form. (CPO-W notices this isn't completed most of the time, and it's a reason for returning the application).

On the Financial Profile (IMM 5373B): Remind sponsors to put the principal applicants name on the form.

On the Financial Profile (IMM 5373B): Question 4 MUST be answered. Not answering this question delays the application process and may result in the application being returned to the Sponsors.

On the Financial Profile (IMM 5373B): Reminder to complete section "G" Box "A" and "B".

On the Undertaking/application to sponsor (IMM5373), we need to remind Sponsors that they must fill out section 'B' and not 'A'."