



Regional mixed migration summary for July 2016 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.

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, refugees). If the caseload mentioned refers only to refugees or asylum seekers or trafficked persons it will be clearly stated.

Country	Events /trends /data /analysis
<p>Yemen</p>	<p><i>The conflict in Yemen entered its sixteenth month with escalation of shelling and fighting putting civilians at risk. As previously reported, due to the conflict, monitoring and data collection activities along the Red Sea and Arabian sea coasts continued to be affected, with a majority of monitoring exercises suspended. The data presented in this report on arrivals in Yemen is therefore not conclusive of the actual number of arrivals during this period.</i></p> <p>Internal displacement: There were approximately 2.8 million persons internally displaced within Yemen as of 31st July 2016.</p> <p>Continued arrivals from the Horn of Africa: A total of at least 12,750 migrants and asylum seekers (86% Ethiopians and 14% Somalis) arrived from the Horn of Africa to Yemen via the Red Sea, Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden in July 2016. This is the second highest arrival figure recorded this year and is in keeping with the record figures in June.</p> <p>An estimated 1,122 (1,108 Ethiopians, 12 Somalis and 2 Djiboutians) migrants and asylum seekers arrived on the Red Sea coast of Yemen in July 2016, a 46% decrease on arrivals in June, but back on par with monthly arrival figures along this route so far this year. The migrants arrived aboard 19 boats which departed from Obock, Djibouti landing in various towns in Ta'iz and Lahj governorates. Due to the reduction of monitoring missions along Yemen's coast, it is likely that the actual number of arrivals from the Horn of Africa to Yemen was higher during the period.</p> <p>The majority (96%) of Ethiopian nationals were of Oromo ethnicity, and with the exception of one asylum seeker who cited persecution, all Ethiopians reported drought and a lack of opportunities as they key reasons for leaving their country. They entered Djibouti through Dawalle, and travelled through Dikhil and Tadjoura before arriving in Obock. Ethiopians spent between 3,000-8,000 Ethiopian Birr (approx. USD 135 – 360) for their entire journey to Yemen. The cost of the journey to Yemen appears to have returned to more typical levels, following a spike that was first noted in March 2016. All Ethiopian nationals encountered by monitoring teams in Yemen indicated an intention to find work in opportunities in Aden or Rada, before travelling onwards to Saudi Arabia as their final destination.</p> <p>Somali nationals originated from Hargeysa, Boromo and Kismayo and travelled north and east, crossing into Djibouti via Loya-Ade and travelling to Obock with the facilitation of brokers. All Somali arrivals this month reported a lack of livelihoods as their reasons for migrating, with the intention of finding employment opportunities in Yemen and/or further afield in Saudi Arabia.</p> <p>An additional 11,628 migrants and asylum seekers (85% Ethiopian, 15% Somali) arrived on Arabian Sea coasts of Yemen in July 2016, the second highest figures recorded on this route this year.</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: During transit to Yemen, migrants reported that they heard about a capsized boat carrying approximately 100 migrants in Djiboutian waters shortly after it departed from Obock. The fate of these migrants is unknown. In another report, Djiboutian army and coast guard personnel intercepted a number of boats departing from Obock, carrying around 200 Ethiopian migrants, who were deported to Ethiopia.</p> <p>Upon arrival in Yemen, migrants reported attempts by smugglers and possible trafficking elements to abduct the new arrivals. An unknown number of migrants accepted an offer for transportation to Aden by an anonymous vehicle. It is not clear whether they would be transported to Aden or to another location. During a patrolling</p>

mission, a Danish Refugee Council team encountered the dead body of a young Ethiopian migrant near Ras-Alara.

Protection issues reported by migrants transiting through Djibouti on their way to Yemen are reported in the Djibouti country section below.

Departures from Yemen: The pace of arrivals from Yemen into the Horn of Africa has [decreased significantly](#) from the high numbers witnessed in 2015. As of 31st July 2016, the number of people fleeing Yemen to the Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan) had totalled 88,774 persons (36,162 in Djibouti, 32,857 in Somalia, 13,262 in Ethiopia, and 6,493 in Sudan), a slight 2% climb from numbers in June. Yemenis and Somalis continue to represent the largest proportion of people moving out of Yemen, accounting for 30% and 35% of movements respectively. Djibouti remained as the primary destination for Yemeni nationals, with 75% of those moving opting to travel to Djibouti.

N.B. The figures for Djibouti arrivals between May and July were not received in time to update this report. The figures for Djibouti therefore reflect arrivals at the end of April 2016.

The latest statistics and overview of the displacement situation arising out of the Yemen crisis can be found on the UNHCR data sharing and information [portal](#).

Djibouti	<p>Departures to Yemen: During July 2016, an estimated 1,122 (1,108 Ethiopians, 12 Somalis and 2 Djiboutians) migrants and asylum seekers departed from Obock and arrived in coastal towns in Yemen, representing a 46% decrease on arrivals in June, but back on par with monthly arrival figures along this route so far this year.</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: In July, migrants, asylum seekers and refugees arriving in Yemen on the Red Sea coasts reported witnessing or being victim of numerous violations along their journeys and on arrival in Yemen. Reported cases of death among migrants in Djibouti as a result of hunger and dehydration were particularly prevalent during the month. In one instance, new arrivals reported encountering the bodies of 7 Ethiopian migrants on the road in Laga-Assal who had collapsed from dehydration and hunger, and are believed to have later died. In another case, 20 Ethiopian migrants walking to Obock reportedly died after drinking from an open salty well. Two male Ethiopians who were reported to have died in a hospital in Dikhil believed to have suffered from dehydration. In Obock, two male Ethiopians and one female Ethiopian were also reported to have died due to hunger and dehydration.</p> <p>According to encountered migrants, smugglers in Djibouti have routinely been demanding additional fees from migrants for the boat crossing to Yemen, resulting in a large number of migrants being stranded in Tadjoura or Obock as they wait for their families to send more money. This results in migrants staying in Obock for a longer period of time without adequate access to food or water. Moreover, migrants reported that over the past two months, Djiboutian coast guards and government patrol teams have begun seizing boats departing from Obock and arresting smugglers and deporting Ethiopian migrants to the Ethiopian border. Migrants also reported that Yemeni coalition forces had increased their presence at sea in the Bab El-Mandab area and are controlling the coastline of the Red Sea. Yemeni smugglers, who are wary of coalition forces, have reduced their activities and are relying on Afari smugglers to manage the sea crossing.</p> <p>The majority (93%) of encountered Ethiopian migrants in Yemen this month indicated that they had been waiting in Obock for one month or less. According to new arrivals, there are 4,000-7,000 migrants, mostly Ethiopian, in Obock and nearby locations waiting to cross the Red Sea, although these high numbers have not been verified by observers on the ground in Obock.</p> <p>Other reported violations include robbery, extortion and physical and sexual assault. New arrivals reported the increased presence of Djiboutian border authorities on the Djibouti-Ethiopia border who were deporting irregular migrants back to Ethiopia. A group of migrants reported paying 400 Ethiopian Birr to Ethiopian border guards to cross the Dawalle border point. Migrants particularly cited the rape of three Ethiopian migrants by Afari brokers near Dikhil, who were then reportedly sold on to smugglers in Obock.</p> <p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 30th April 2016, a total of 36,162 persons had arrived in Djibouti from Yemen since the outbreak of the conflict in March 2015. Djibouti is the primary destination for Yemeni nationals who account for 55% of the arrivals so far. Third Country Nationals make up 38% and Djiboutian returnees account for 6%.</p>
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	<p>Refugee arrivals from Yemen: As of 31st July, there were 3,585 refugees from Yemen registered in Djibouti, including 3,326 Yemeni nationals. Markazi camp hosts over 1,400 refugees. These figures are subject to a forthcoming verification exercise by UNHCR.</p> <p>Deportation of Ethiopian nationals: Anecdotal and unconfirmed evidence received by RMMS suggests that at the beginning of July about 500 Oromo Ethiopians were apprehended and detained in Nagad detention centre, where it is believed four teenagers died of exhaustion. The Ethiopians are believed to have been fleeing political unrest in the Oromia region of Ethiopia, where Human Rights Watch reports that more than 400 protestors were killed by government forces. Reportedly, the majority of those detained were deported without access to asylum procedures, with smaller numbers having been sent back on a daily basis.</p>
<p>Somaliland</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 31st July 2016, a total of 10,305 migrants/refugees/returnees (77% Somali, 21% Yemeni) had arrived in Somaliland since the outbreak of conflict in Yemen in March 2015. New arrivals docked in the towns of Berbera, Hargeisa, Lughaya, Maydh and Zeila. 54 persons arrived during July, reflecting the general declining trend of arrivals from Yemen in the Horn of Africa.</p> <p>Returning refugees and asylum seekers in Somaliland: Of the 7,983 Somalis that have arrived in Somaliland since the beginning of the conflict 43% (3,426) had previously acquired refugee status or sought asylum in Yemen.</p>
<p>Puntland</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 31st July 2016, a total of 22,185 migrants/refugees/returnees (90% Somali, 9% Yemeni) had arrived in Puntland since the beginning of the Yemen conflict. Arrivals have been recorded in the towns of Alula, Bargal, Bosasso, Elayo and Qandala. 179 persons arrived June, consistent with the decreased pace of arrivals from Yemen in the Horn of Africa.</p> <p>Returning refugees and asylum seekers in Puntland: Of the 19,989 Somalis that have returned from Yemen to Puntland since the conflict, 6,691 (33%) people had previously acquired refugee status or sought asylum in Yemen.</p> <p>Departures from Puntland to Yemen: An estimated 11,628 migrants and asylum seekers (85% Ethiopian and 15% Somali) departed from coastal towns near Bossaso via the Arabian Sea towards Yemen in July 2016. This is the second-highest monthly departure figure this year and is on par with the record figures in June.</p>
<p>Somalia (South Central)</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: No new arrivals from Yemen were registered in South Central Somalia in the reporting period. The number of persons having fled from Yemen directly to South Central Somalia remains at 367. However, consistent with data from previous months, a significant number (52%) of those arriving in Somaliland and Puntland indicate an intention to return to Mogadishu specifically.</p> <p>Internal Displacement: According to UNHCR, there are approximately 1.1 million internally displaced persons across the whole of Somalia (Somaliland, Puntland and South Central Somalia).</p> <p>Refugees in the neighbouring countries: As of 31st July 2016, UNHCR figures show that there are currently 972,215 registered Somali refugees and asylum seekers displaced in neighbouring countries in the region. The majority of the refugees are hosted in Kenya (42%), Ethiopia (26%) and Yemen (26%).</p> <p>Somali arrivals in Europe: As of 31st July 2016, Somali nationals made up 5% of arrivals along the Central Mediterranean route to Europe in 2016. 5,079 Somalis have arrived in Europe using this route since the beginning of 2016, 976 of whom arrived in July, a 49% increase on arrivals recorded in June.</p>
<p>South Sudan</p>	<p>Regional displacement: Since fighting erupted in Juba in mid-July, tens of thousands of people have fled South Sudan to neighbouring states. According to UNOCHA, as of 8th August 2016, more than 69,000 arrivals were reported in Uganda since 7th July. Kenya has reported the arrival of 1,000 refugees and 7,000 more have fled to Sudan. As of 1st August 2016 a total of 740,752 South Sudanese asylum seekers and refugees had sought refuge</p>

	<p>in neighbouring countries in the region since the start of the conflict in December 2013. The majority of those displaced are hosted in Sudan (244,779), followed by Ethiopia (225,485), Uganda (219,785), and Kenya (50,703). An additional 114,414 who were displaced before the December 2013 conflict are also hosted in the region.</p> <p>In July President Salva Kiir replaced Vice-President Riek Machar and appointed Taban Deng Gai to the post through a decree. Machar, who fled the violence in Juba a few days after the conflict began has termed the appointment as illegal and not approved by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement in opposition (SPLM-IO) leadership. Clashes continue to be reported across the Greater Equatoria region, in violation of the peace agreement, and prompting more movement among the South Sudanese population.</p> <p>Internal displacement: According to UNHCR there were 1,610,000 internally displaced persons in South Sudan as of 31st July 2016.</p> <p>Refugees in South Sudan: As of 31st July 2016, there were 259,796 refugees being hosted in South Sudan. The majority (92%) of refugees are from neighbouring Sudan. 82% of the entire refugee population are women and children.</p>
<p>Sudan</p>	<p>Internal Displacement: UNHCR figures estimate that there are 3.2 million internally displaced persons in the country at the end of July.</p> <p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 31st July, a total of 6,493 persons had arrived into Sudan from Yemen since the outbreak of conflict in March 2015. Figures show a decreased pace of arrivals, in keeping with the general decline of arrivals into the Horn of Africa from Yemen since 2015. The largest number of arrivals are returning Sudanese nationals (3,800). Yemeni arrivals number 1,275 persons.</p> <p>Sudan arrests 600 Ethiopian migrants near borders with Libya and Egypt: Sudan's pro-government militia Rapid Support Force (RSF) reportedly arrested around 600 Ethiopian irregular migrants, near Sudan's border with Libya and Egypt. The migrants were arrested in the Al-Nakheel area in the Sahara desert and handed over to Sudanese authorities before being repatriated to Ethiopia. In June 2016, similar reports covered the arrest over 300 irregular migrants in the remote desert near Sudan's border with Libya. Sudan is a popular transit country for migrants and refugees from the Horn of Africa who are attempting to reach Europe through Libya or Egypt.</p> <p>Sudan and Italy sign accord to stem irregular migration: The Sudanese and Italian governments have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on combating crime, irregular migration and border issues. The details of the agreement are currently unclear, but a statement by the Italian Ambassador to Sudan laid out that the MoU includes "a series of articles related to the repatriation of citizens who remain irregularly in the respective countries", and that it makes a "clear differentiation between the citizens of the two countries, who [Sudan and Italy] mutually consider welcome guests in [Sudan and Italy], and those citizens who have no right to remain in the territories of the two states". Moreover, the Sudanese authorities will reportedly share a list of priority projects and issues on which they wish to work on together with Italy in a bid to realise short and long term goals for both countries. The MoU falls within the broader framework of cooperation between Sudan and the EU on migration issues, and in particular, the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, under which Sudan received a development aid package of EUR 155 million to tackle irregular migration and improve migration management.</p> <p>Sudan and the EU have recently come under heavy criticism from rights campaigners and European politicians, who determined that alleged plans by the EU to work closely with the Sudanese government to stem migration flows to Europe, including possible plans to provide border infrastructure and surveillance materials, would make the EU complicit with a regime responsible for the denial of fundamental rights. Read more about the outsourcing of EU's migration management in this RMMS article.</p> <p>Sudanese arrivals in Europe: As of 31st July 2016, a total of 6,480 Sudanese nationals had arrived in Italy along the Central Mediterranean route, accounting for 7% of all arrivals. 1,495 migrants and asylum seekers arrived in July, a 36% decline on arrivals recorded in June.</p>
<p>Eritrea</p>	<p>Eritrean arrivals in Europe: As of 31st July 2016, a total of 11,564 Eritrean nationals had arrived in Europe using the Central Mediterranean route into Europe since the beginning of 2016. 2,749 Eritreans arrived in July, on par</p>

	<p>with arrivals in June, but a marked 61% decrease on arrivals in July 2015. Earlier reports on the deportation of more than 400 Eritrean nationals from Sudan, and the deployment of Sudanese forces to desert areas to deter irregular migration movements may be having a continued impact on the number of Eritreans using this route this month. Eritreans currently make up 12% of arrivals along the route, second to Nigerian nationals whose numbers continued to peak in July.</p> <p>Italy confirms it has arrested the right people smuggler: Palermo magistrates have confirmed that a suspected people smuggler who alleged he had been mistakenly arrested and extradited to Italy is the right man. The man, believed to be Mered Medhanie, also known as “The General”, was arrested in Sudan and flown to Italy in June 2016. Intelligence operative believe that Mr. Medhanie arranged the transit of a boat that sank near Lampedusa, Italy in October 2013, claiming more than 350 lives.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 31st July 2016, there were a total of 13,262 arrivals into Ethiopia from Yemen since the outbreak of violence in March 2015. The majority (69%) of those arriving continue to be Ethiopian nationals, with Yemeni nationals accounting for 10% of arrivals. Numbers show a decreased pace of arrivals, in keeping with the general decline of arrivals into the Horn of Africa from Yemen since 2015. Ethiopia grants prima facie refugee status to Yemenis and also recognises Somali refugees who received refugee recognition in Yemen as prima facie refugees in Ethiopia. Other nationalities undergo individual Refugee Status Determination.</p> <p>Refugees in Ethiopia: As of 30th June 2016, there were 743,190 refugees and asylum seekers registered in Ethiopia. The majority of refugees are from South Sudan (285,809) Somalia (251,987) and Eritrea (159,842). Refugees and asylum seekers are generally expected to reside in camps, although a number are permitted to reside in urban areas for medical, security or humanitarian reasons. Eritrean refugees who are able to show that they can sustain themselves are allowed to reside out of the camps in an “out-of-camp” policy.</p> <p>Ethiopia’s earnings from remittances on the rise: Ethiopia’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that the country had received USD 4 billion in remittances in the first ten months of the year (based on the Ethiopian calendar), surpassing the USD 3.7 billion received in 2015. Ethiopia projects that the country’s remittances will increase by 50% over the next three years.</p> <p>Governments seek funds to repatriate Ethiopian migrants: According to the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ethiopian government is working to secure the release of 483 Ethiopian migrants jailed in Zambia and Zimbabwe. The migrants were reportedly arrested while trying to enter South Africa. In another report, the Tanzanian government is reportedly seeking for funds from the European Union to repatriate 500 irregular migrants from Ethiopia who are stranded in the country by the end of the year. Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe are popular transit countries for migrants from the Horn of Africa attempting to reach South Africa.</p> <p>Ethiopian arrivals in Europe: As of 31st July 2016, a total of 2,538 Ethiopians had arrived in Italy along the Central Mediterranean route, making up 3% of all arrivals in 2016. 893 new arrivals were recorded in July, a 41% increase on arrival figures in June, and reflecting a month on month increase of Ethiopian arrivals since May 2016.</p> <p>A recent report by Human Rights Watch indicates the use of excessive and lethal force by state security forces against Ethiopian protestors in the Oromia region of the country. According to the report, more than 400 protestors have been killed, with thousands more injured, and tens of thousands arrested, and hundreds suspected to have been victims of enforced disappearances. This situation in the country may be prompting more Ethiopians to migrate out of the country.</p>
<p>Kenya</p>	<p>Refugees in Kenya: As of 31st July 2016, there were 560,134 registered refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya, including refugees from Somalia (393,277), South Sudan (87,924) and Ethiopia (28,756). Dadaab refugee complex hosts 338,043 refugees and Kakuma camp hosts 158,253 refugees. An additional 63,338 refugees reside in the capital city of Nairobi. In a continuing trend, registration of Somali refugees across the country remained low. A total of 29 Somali asylum seekers were registered in July, down from 70 registered in June. No registrations were made in Dadaab.</p> <p>Voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees: The pace of voluntary return movements remained high in July. As of 31st July 2016, a total of 13,070 Somali refugees had been supported to return to Somalia since the beginning of</p>

the year, 2,517 of whom returned in July and on par with returns in June. According to UNHCR, the majority (78%) of persons that have returned to Somalia since the beginning of the year arrived in Kenya in 2011 or later. In order to achieve the [repatriation target](#) of 150,000 persons by the end of 2016, an average of 27,000 persons would have to be returning to Somalia every month between August and December.

Kenya unveils National Migration Coordination Mechanism: In July 2016, the Kenyan government launched a National Migration Coordination Mechanism (NCM). The NCM is a government led inter-agency coordination platform that will be responsible for national migration management. It will provide a common platform for government ministries, departments and non-state actors to share information on migration issues at a national level. "The inception of NCM comes at the right time, when Kenya and countries in the region are grappling with similar migration challenges," Maj. General (Rtd) Dr. Gordon Kihalangwa, Director of Immigration Services was [reported](#) as saying.

Other regional news and news from other regions

African Union launches a continental passport: In July 2016, the African Union (AU) launched the AU electronic passport (e-passport), an initiative of the Union's [Agenda 2063](#), which envisions "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena". In line with Aspiration 2 and 7 of the Agenda, it is expected that the e-passport will facilitate the free movement of people, goods and services, and spur intra-Africa trade, integration and socio-economic development. The passport is currently only available to AU heads of state and government, ministers of foreign affairs, and permanent representatives of AU member states, but the Agenda envisions that visa requirements for all African citizens shall be abolished by 2018. According to the [Africa Visa Openness Report 2016](#), Africans need visas to travel to 55% of other African countries.

Egyptian security forces military intercept 255 migrants heading to Europe: According to a [local media report](#), security forces in Alexandria foiled an attempt by three brokers and 225 irregular migrants of various nationalities to migrate across the Mediterranean to Italy. Among those arrested were 81 Sudanese, 69 Eritreans, 50 Egyptians, 25 Somalis, 11 Ethiopians, four Comorians, four Cameroonians, four Guineans, three Syrians, three Yemenis and one Palestinian. The Egyptian smugglers were reportedly charging a fee of USD 2,000 for each foreigner and 25,000 Egyptian Pounds (approx. USD 2,800) from each Egyptian national.

In two further reports, Egyptian authorities reportedly arrested [51 irregular migrants](#) (9 Sudanese nationals, but other nationalities unknown) as they attempted to enter Libya from Egypt via the desert in Al-Saloum, and a further [179 persons](#) (including Egyptians, Sudanese, Eritreans, Guineans, Ghanaians and Comorians) as they attempted to cross to Europe via the Mediterranean. These arrests form part of a recent pattern to apprehend irregular migrants attempting to cross from Egypt to Italy. A recent article by [RMMS](#) examines the increasing numbers of migrants transiting through Egypt to Europe and protection concerns facing those on the move along this route.

UN agrees on draft outcome document ahead of High Level Meeting to address large movements of refugees and migrants: The United Nations General Assembly agreed on a [draft political declaration](#) that will pave the way for global compacts on refugees and on migrants in 2018. The draft will serve as the basis for a [high-level UN summit](#) on 19th September 2016 that will aim to address large movements of refugees and migrants, with the aim of bringing countries together behind a more humane and coordinated approach to migration.

The draft outcome includes reaffirmations of the basic principles of international human rights and international refugee law, and acknowledges a shared responsibility for the management of refugees and migrants. While the outcome was [welcomed by UNHCR](#), it was described by Amnesty International as an '[object failure](#)' due to nations' inability to agree on a promise to move one in 10 refugees to developed nations, leaving only a principle on shared responsibility.

Proposals for an EU-wide asylum policy: In July, the European Commission proposed an [EU-wide common asylum policy](#) that it hopes will prevent asylum seekers waiting for status determination from moving around the bloc and disrupting its passport-free Schengen zone. "The changes will create a [genuine common asylum procedure](#)," said the EU's Migration Commissioner. "At the same time, we set clear obligations and duties for asylum seekers to prevent secondary movements and abuse of procedures". The system will be generous to the "most vulnerable, but strict to those who abuse it", he added.

The proposal would standardise refugee reception facilities and unify the level of support available to asylum seekers, as well as setting common regulations on residence permits, travel papers and access to social and

welfare benefits. It would grant asylum seekers swifter access to the right to work, but also put more obligations on them, risking their applications if they do not cooperate. [UNHCR has raised concerns](#) about the new rules, stressing that they should not lower standards of protection and asylum, also adding that people should be dissuaded from secondary movements, not punished.

The proposals also include an EU-wide [Resettlement Framework](#) that would establish a common European policy on resettlement 'to ensure orderly and safe pathways to Europe for persons in need of international protection'. The EU Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship has termed the Framework as "a genuine legal window in [the EU's] efforts to close the irregular backdoor". To encourage Member States' resettlement efforts, the Commission will provide EUR 10,000 from the EU budget for each person resettled. Previous attempts to garner support behind resettlement schemes have been wanting. Under the plan, asylum seekers will only be formally resettled in Europe from third countries that agree to readmit migrants who arrived in Europe by irregular means. Additionally, the Commission plans to draw up a list of "safe countries" to which the EU could expel refugees from Europe.

The Framework has received [criticism](#) from Amnesty International. "What the Commission is really trying to do with these proposals is resettle some refugees, so they can return more...the net impact of these proposals for refugee protection globally is likely to be very negative," said the Head of Amnesty's European Institutions Office.

Turkey threatens to pull out of EU migrant and refugee deal by October: Turkey has threatened to back out of an [agreement](#) reached with the European Union to stem the flow of migrants and refugees into Greece if Turkish nationals are not granted visa-free travel to the bloc by October. In April, Turkey's president Erdogan [warned](#) that Turkey would not uphold its part of the deal to accept Syrian refugees who entered Greece after 20th March 2016 back into Turkey, but this is the first time they have set a deadline.

The EU had also pledged to pay Turkey EUR 3 billion, of which Turkey [claims it has only received EUR 2 billion](#), and restart accession talks for Turkey to join the Union. The EU remains adamant that [Turkey must change its anti-terror laws](#) to meet the requirements for visa liberalisation, which it claims are being used to prosecute intellectuals, Kurdish sympathisers and critics of the government, including journalists and academics.

This has become of particular concern for European officials since the arrest of more than 15,000 people in connection with a recent coup attempt, and the suspension or termination of at least 60,000 civil servants, teachers, journalists, police officers and soldiers from various state-run institutions, and plans to reinstate the death penalty. In the midst of this, Greek officials have [raised alarm over a rise in refugee numbers](#) since the Turkey coup attempt. One European Commissioner has [predicted that Turkey will not get visa-free travel before the end of the year](#).



Mediterranean Sea arrivals: As of 31st July 2016, 255,641 refugees and migrants had arrived in Europe by sea since the beginning of the year, a 13% increase on arrivals recorded for the same period in 2015. 25,224 people arrived in July 2016, a 68% reduction on arrivals in July 2015, but a slight 5% increase on arrivals compared to June 2016.

Source: UNHCR

Turkey to Greece remained at low levels when compared to 2015. 1,885 people arrived in Greece in July 2016, representing a 97% decline from arrivals in 2015. However, arrivals reflected a 21% increase when compared with arrivals in June, coinciding with the political unrest in Turkey, encouraging more people to cross into Greece during the month.

Along the Central Mediterranean route to Italy, 23,552 people were reported to have arrived in July 2016, a slight 5% increase on arrivals in June. 6,113 arrivals were recorded from the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan), a slight 4% dip on arrivals in June, but a more significant 43% drop on figures in July 2015. Overall, arrivals from the Horn account for 27% of arrivals in Italy this year.

In a continuing trend, overall arrival figures along the Eastern Mediterranean route from

Deaths at sea: According to [IOM's Missing Migrants Project](#), 4,160 persons have lost their lives globally while migrating by sea between January and July 2016. This is an 84% percent increase on movements in the same period in 2015. 2,692 of these deaths, equivalent to 65%, were recorded along the Central Mediterranean route, which is frequented by migrants and refugees from sub-Saharan Africa. 208 of these deaths were recorded in July.

While arrival figures in Italy between January and June 2016 (93,774) appear to be on par with arrivals in the same period in 2015 (93,540), the proportion of deaths in the same periods appear to have increased (2.87% in 2016 and 2.1% in 2015). According to [Frontex](#), this is because smugglers are putting more people on rubber boats than before. "We have noticed that the rubber boats are more overcrowded than they used to be," said a Frontex spokesperson, adding that smugglers are also using smaller rubber boats. Reportedly, the average number of migrants on each 10-12 metre-long rubber boat rose by more than a quarter. The use of rubber boats may also have something to do with the EU's naval mission Operation Sophia, which has the mandate to seize and destroy boats being used in human smuggling activities, and has since October 2015 seized over 223 boats.

More than 120 bodies of migrants and refugees who lost their lives while trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea to Europe washed up around the Libyan town of Sabratha in July.

Burundi refugees in neighbouring countries: As of 11th August 2016, there were 280,858 Burundian refugees and asylum seekers in countries in the region since the outbreak of political violence in 2015. The majority of refugees are located in Tanzania (146,022) and Rwanda (80,535).

New Research, reports or documents

[RMMS launched new website:](#) RMMS launched a fresh, new-look website in August. The website features a new easy to navigate menu and includes a range of resources about mixed migration in the Horn of Africa and Yemen region including all the mixed migration monthly summaries and maps, feature articles, new RMMS discussion and briefing papers, in-depth research studies, films and documentaries and 4Mi monthly trend analysis papers on migrant deaths, SGBV and the costs of migration. The new website also features updated mixed migration country profiles on all countries in the region. Visit the website [here](#).

[The Least Condemned Crime: Sexual and Gender Based Violence against migrants and asylum seekers on the move in the Horn of Africa:](#) Based on primary data collected by RMMS' 4Mi project between November 2014 and June 2016, this article examines findings on occurrences of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) experienced or witnessed by migrants from the Horn of Africa along both the western route to Europe and the southern route towards South Africa. The data shows that migrants on the move reported 563 incidents of SGBV, including 334 incidents of rape, perpetrated against both male and female migrants. The article also includes information on the perpetrators of the violence, and whether such incidents were reported to the police.

[Migration through Egypt: The safe alternative to Libya?:](#) Recent figures show that Egypt is increasingly becoming the departure point of choice for many migrants and asylum seekers seeking to cross into Europe via the Mediterranean Sea. This article by RMMS examines recent use of this route, possible reasons behind its popularity, and the associated risks facing those on the move.

[Courting Commotion? Changing migration dynamics on the southern route to South Africa:](#) Despite the international attention currently focussed on migratory flows to Europe, migration from the Horn of Africa region to South Africa remains significant and largely irregular. In light of South Africa's proposals to toughen immigration laws and dissuade "opportunistic illegal foreigners" from entering the country, this RMMS article reflects on irregular migration to South Africa and the considers the possible impacts that this new legislation could have on migration from the Horn.

[Engaging Government on Alternatives to Immigration Detention:](#) This working paper by the Global Detention Project highlights advocacy strategies that have proved effective in promoting non-detention models. Focusing on "alternatives to immigration detention" in a range of political and migration contexts, the paper draws from comparative case studies and the experiences, challenges, and successes of the International Detention Coalition (IDC) and its members.

[Annual Report on the Situation of Asylum in the European Union 2015:](#) The European Asylum Support Office (EASO) annual report indicates that a total of 95,985 unaccompanied minors applied for international protection in EU in 2015. According to the report, unaccompanied children accounted for 7% of total number of asylum seekers registered in same period.

A Poor Welcome from the World's Wealthy: According to a report by Oxfam, the UK, United States, France, Germany, China and Japan, which make up 56.6 per cent of global GDP between them, host 2.1 million refugees and asylum seekers, or 8.89 per cent of the world's total. In sharp contrast – Jordan, Turkey, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Pakistan, Lebanon and South Africa – host over half of the world's refugees and asylum seekers, even though they make up less than two percent of the world' economy.

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.

