

ANNEX A - THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY FOR THE MIXED MOVEMENTS ASSESSMENT IN SOMALILAND

Background

Somaliland has traditionally been a place of origin, transit, and destination for mixed flows of people, including asylum seekers, refugees, internally displaced people, and migrants. At the same time, the region has also been a critical source of migrants from Somaliland. The region's strategic location, with its proximity to the Gulf of Aden and Yemen, makes it a critical point for people on the move seeking to reach the Gulf countries, Europe, or other destinations. Motivations for movement can be complex and may include the search for economic opportunities, flight from conflict and insecurity in countries of origin, or a combination of factors.

Somaliland experiences a bidirectional flow of persons moving to and from the Horn of Africa and Yemen. As of 31 March, there were 19,329 registered refugees and asylum seekers in Somaliland. Most refugees and asylum seekers are in Hargeisa, Borama, and Berbera. Since 2015, thousands of Somalis, including spontaneous and assisted spontaneous returns (ASR) and humanitarian evacuees, have returned from Yemen through the port of Berbera.

These mixed movement flows present opportunities and challenges for Somaliland authorities and humanitarian actors: People in these flows have different protection concerns and need humanitarian assistance and longer-term self-reliance opportunities. In a recent 2024 study, respondents who traveled through Hargeisa noted significant protection risks, which included robbery (64%), physical violence (61%), and detention (38%). The main perpetrators were identified as criminal gangs and smugglers.

The Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF) in Somaliland is a humanitarian body, led by the Government, with a protection-oriented focus in coordinating and responding to the needs of persons on the move. The purpose of the MMTF is to serve as the main platform for addressing mixed movements of migrants and forcibly displaced persons in Somaliland, ensuring a coordinated, comprehensive, and protection-centered approach that addresses the rights and humanitarian needs, including assistance and solutions where possible, of people on the move and the populations affected by these movements.

However, due to budget constraints, no assessment on mixed movements in Somaliland has been conducted over the past two years. Given the significance of such an assessment for effective planning and as a vital source of information for future responses to mixed movements, it is imperative that this assessment be carried out. UNHCR is therefore seeking a consultancy firm to conduct this assessment in Somaliland, with the assessment commencing by October 1st and the final report to be completed by December 10th, 2024.

The objective of the Assessment:

- The selected local consultancy firm will conduct a comprehensive assessment of mix movements flows in and out of Somaliland to determine the direction and trends of mix flows in the region, while adopting a routes-based approach to understanding and addressing the complex dynamics

of migration with the ultimate intention of informing a Mixed Movement programming in the country.

The specific objectives of the assessment are the following:

- To obtain a contextual understanding of migration patterns and trends, including origins and transit points and entry points, historical and political contexts of regions involved and other geopolitical factors influencing movements routes which may include conflicts in neighboring countries and impact of climate shocks. The assessment will cover but not limited to, major border towns like Wajaale, Borama, Lowyado, and Zeila.
- To provide legal and policy frameworks governing migration, asylum, and refugee protection along the routes, including enforcement of border management policies, detention practices, humanitarian access, and aid policies and implications for people on the move.
- Identify specific vulnerabilities of people on the move along the route, including mapping of profiles to capture minimum set of data on nationality, age, gender, and reasons for movement.
- Explore the route dynamics, identifying key transit points, bottlenecks modes of transport and associated risks, costs and accessibility. The most critical hotspots for movement will be identified and prioritized for immediate mixed movement responses while assessing the capacity of local authorities in deal with the phenomena of mixed flows. To assess the protection needs, and risks, faced by people on the move, including vulnerabilities to trafficking, exploitation, and abuse. To assess and identify available protection or other services for people on the move at all points along the routes, including safe migration options and integrated support systems, partners or institutions that offer such services, reviewing existing gaps while making recommendations to address these gaps.
- To understand the intentions and aspirations of people on the move, including their preferred destinations and the factors influencing their decisions. To identify key stakeholders involved along routes, existing coordination mechanisms and role of local communities along the routes supporting or hindering migration, and their attitudes towards migrants and impact on future programming.
- To provide evidence-based recommendations for humanitarian programming, policy development, and advocacy efforts related to mixed movements in Somaliland.

Scope of Work:

- The assessment will focus on the following key areas:
- **Data Collection and Analysis:**
 - Conduct surveys and interviews with migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and IDPs in Somaliland to gather quantitative and qualitative data on mixed migration flows.
 - Collect data on the demographic profiles of people on the move, including age, gender, nationality, and reasons for movement.
 - Analyze the routes used by migrants, the modes of transport, and the duration of their journeys.
- **Protection Needs Assessment:**
 - Identify protection risks faced by people on the move, such as exposure to violence,

- trafficking, exploitation, and abuse.
- Assess access to essential services, including healthcare, legal aid, and shelter.
- Identify vulnerable groups within the migrant population, such as unaccompanied minors, women, and people with disabilities.
- **Intentions and Aspirations:**
 - Explore the intentions and aspirations of people on the move, including their desired destinations and the factors influencing their decisions.
 - Assess the level of awareness among migrants about the risks associated with their journeys and their understanding of legal migration options.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:**
 - Engage with local authorities, humanitarian organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to understand their perspectives on mixed migration in Somaliland.
 - Identify existing protection mechanisms and assess their effectiveness in addressing the needs of people on the move.
- **Recommendations:**
 - Provide actionable recommendations to improve protection mechanisms and address the identified gaps.
 - Suggest policy changes or advocacy strategies to support the rights and protection of people in mixed migration and other vulnerable groups.

Deliverables

- The key deliverables of the assessment are:
 - **Inception Report:** Outlining the detailed methodology, work plan, and timeline for the assessment.
 - **Data Collection Tools:** Finalized survey instruments, interview guides, and FGD guides.
 - **Draft Assessment Report:** Presenting preliminary findings, analysis, and initial recommendations.
 - **Final Assessment Report:** Comprehensive report including all findings, analysis, and actionable recommendations.
 - **Presentation of Findings:** PowerPoint presentation summarizing the key findings and recommendations for dissemination to stakeholders.

Budget

- A detailed budget should be prepared, covering all costs associated with the assessment, including personnel, travel, data collection, and report production.

Ethical Considerations

- The assessment must adhere to ethical guidelines, including:
- Ensuring informed consent from all participants.
- Protecting the confidentiality and privacy of participants.
- Being sensitive to the cultural and social context of the assessment area.
- Avoiding any harm to participants and ensuring their safety during the data collection process.

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