

1. Rapid Status Determination IDP Updates
 - a. Harmony Park
 - i. Home Affairs came and Wed and wanted to determine people who wanted status; on Sunday they got the results.
 1. Only one person got their status, all others were denied.
 - a. Lady from Zimbabwe; Lesbian.
 2. Approximately 900 people at site, most people went through the process
 - ii. Leadership was not allowed in to the tent
 - b. Youngsfield
 - i. Gave out some rejections already; stated they are to leave the country in 30 days/appeal
 - ii. Somalis do not yet have their results
 - c. Blue Waters B
 - i. Taking advantage of people who do not speak English
 - ii. Provided no translators
 - iii. Today the people from UCT came to assist with the appeals, but what will happen to those who do not have their status info yet.
 1. They would submit a letter on the applicant's behalf for appeal; then DHA would come up with a date for the appeal and UCT would inform them of that date.
 - iv. Home Affairs did not bring the 30 day permits that they promised
 - v. So far everyone was rejected.
 - d. Blue Waters C
 - i. Everyone was apparently rejected
 - ii. Some of the people are still waiting for their results; DHA won't plan ahead so people can schedule to be there for their results.
 - iii. Many still waiting to get their status from the new system. No news about when DHA will come.
 - iv. Repatriation
 1. Still waiting for their results for the repatriation process.
 - v. People who filled out forms for reintegration are still waiting to hear back. Documents were taken away, so how can they reintegrate.
 - vi. No food; smaller portions are given out.
2. HRC/Ghalib Meeting (Thursday)
 - a. What is the province doing in light of DHA process, the reintegration, and repatriation?
 - i. Repatriation
 1. Chrysalis Burundians

- a. 13 went back on Monday; facilitated by IOM
 2. Have ID'd about 30 people who want to be repatriated and who are in the last part of the process
 3. UNCR identified about 115-120 people as well
 - b. Deregistration of the sites
 - i. Meaning: services will stop
 - ii. HP will close on the 10th; Youngsfield on 17th, BW on the 31st
 - iii. Trying to balance the reintegration into communities with the inner processes.
 1. Handing out reintegration forms
 2. People who are waiting in the sites for their process to finish will be moved to Blue Waters
 3. If the process takes longer than the 31st, then a new plan would be implemented closer to the date.
 - iv. Other accommodations will be made for "vulnerable groups" but this is still very vague.
 1. Vulnerable groups mean eg single women with children, orphans, mentally challenged, ill (including HIV and other chronic illnesses, TB, etc)
3. Appeals Process
 - a. 30 days to submit an appeal
 - b. Use UCT as they do it all the time and are very familiar with the process
 - c. Your current status remains until you go to the appeal meeting
 - d. Since there aren't enough people on the appeal board, appointments requested now probably will not occur until March-April at the earliest.
 - e. Keep in touch with UCT. If you move, lose your phone, follow-up with UCT so that they can inform you of your appeal date.
 - f. Two types of rejections, therefore you must be sure what it says on YOUR letter, because it affects the timeline and nature of your appeals process:
 - i. Manifestly unfounded
 1. Two week in which to bring a review application (on paper). The UCT refugee law clinic is trying to extend this 2 week period due to the volume of people; but you need to be in contact with UCT so that they can represent you.
 - ii. Unfounded
 1. Appeal process; oral evidence heard, waiting for refugee appeal board (only 4 judges for whole country, therefore it will be a long time to process all the appeals).
 2. You have until your appeal court date to stay in the country LEGALLY. You can work, study, etc.

3. Cannot be deported until you have your appeal heard
- iii. **UCT is able to represent absolutely everyone**
4. Somalia Repatriation – Reality
 - a. It can't happen, there is no government in Somalia. The SA does not issue travel documents to Somalis.
 - b. Nothing in law that the Dept of HA can be forced to issue documents to Somalis
 - c. UNHCR will not help with repatriation to Somalia
 - d. The SA will not deport you
 - e. You will be left in a twilight zone; extremely vulnerable
 - f. Red Cross Travel Document
 - i. **May be an option → HRC to facilitate meeting between Red Cross, civil society and leaders to see what kind of options there are for this document**
 1. What are the Human Rights of Somalis in this situation? What can be done?
 - g. Why are Somalis being rejected if it is against international law to do so from UN-declared unsafe places?
 - i. This kind of error happens often; it is just amplified in the case of the Rapid Assessment. DHA makes ridiculous mistakes like this ALL THE TIME.
 - h. As soon as you sign up with UCT, your lawyer will guide you through what you have to do for your appeal and to stay in the country legally while waiting appeal.
 - i. What are the Human Rights of Somalis in this situation? What can be done?
5. Reintegration
 - a. Civil society should inform government how unrealistic this time frame is. It will be nearly impossible for people to get a rental unit secured before the camps are closed as there are few places available at the moment.
 - b. Many formal requests made by leadership to be informed about the processes of government going forward.
 - i. Can this be challenged in the constitutional court? Challenge province?

Way Forward:

- There was a lengthy discussion about the way forward and what kind of options are feasible and amenable to all involved.

- Possible Options proposed by IDPs:
 1. Ask the authority to extend the time of the closures so that IDPs would have more time to look for accommodation.
 2. Grounds to challenge the closures all together? (not likely)
 3. Are the government following proper procedure for evictions in the law?

- HRC to set up a meeting with Provincial government, civil society and IDPs to discuss options.
 - **Tuesday 2 pm** at time of usual JRLC/Ghalib meeting
- IDPs will meet in HRC board room with CS to plan for Tuesday
 - **Monday 12 pm**
 - The request for time extension is a double edge sword and we have to be strategic plan
 - Must create a more sophisticated dialogue with the government with Tuesday meeting but must come with a solid, coherent plan of dialogue.
 - Make list of households/individuals in camps who are actively looking for accommodation but need more time – tangible reasons to delay closure.

- Possible important role for FBOs to assist in finding accommodation options for IDPs.
 - Central Methodist Mission having Bishops assist these people by looking for places for people to live.
 - IDPs to give lists and combinations of households to help guide/assist FBO's search