



# nairobi (regional)

The ICRC’s regional delegation in Nairobi was set up in 1974 and has a dual purpose: first, to promote IHL and carry out operations in the three countries covered, namely restoring family links for refugees, protecting and assisting people injured, displaced or otherwise affected by internal armed clashes or unrest, visiting detainees falling within its mandate, and supporting the development of the National Societies; and second, to provide relief supplies and other support services for ICRC operations in neighbouring countries of the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes regions, as well as further afield.

**COVERING**  
Djibouti, Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania

## EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,406
Assistance	2,947
Prevention	2,333
Cooperation with National Societies	1,325
General	-

► **9,011**

of which: *Overheads 550*

## IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	100%
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## PERSONNEL

32 expatriates
330 national staff (daily workers not included)

## KEY POINTS

### In 2007, the ICRC:

- ▶ together with the Kenya Red Cross Society, provided over 24,000 people affected by violence in Kenya’s Mount Elgon district with food, shelter materials and household items, as needed
- ▶ enabled thousands of refugees in the region to stay in touch with relatives through the tracing and RCM services
- ▶ worked with communities in Kenya to ease ethnic tensions by implementing micro-economic, veterinary and water projects
- ▶ assisted Djibouti’s Justice Ministry in drafting a new prison staff training programme
- ▶ promoted IHL in the region by sponsoring government representatives to attend international and regional events, training Tanzanian military IHL instructors and organizing competitions for students
- ▶ delivered relief goods from its Nairobi-based logistics centre to ICRC delegations in conflict-torn countries in East Africa and further afield, including Iraq

## CONTEXT

As stable States in a volatile region, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania together hosted a sizeable refugee population, although the number decreased significantly over 2007 as more Burundians, Congolese and Sudanese returned home. At year-end, a combined total of some 500,000 refugees were living in UNHCR camps in the two countries, while Djibouti was home to a few thousand refugees.

Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania also continued to play an important diplomatic role in the region. They assisted in mediating peace agreements and hosted the headquarters of several international and regional intergovernmental bodies. Kenya’s capital Nairobi remained a regional hub for a large diplomatic and humanitarian community.

On the domestic front, sporadic ethnic and clan clashes in Kenya’s remote rural areas, usually over water, pasture and cattle, continued to claim lives, displace families and disrupt the subsistence economy of the mainly pastoral population. In the Mount Elgon district (Western Province) bordering Uganda, a longstanding land dispute fuelled increasing ethnic violence, sometimes involving government forces, which by year-end had killed several hundred people and displaced up to 60,000.

The end of 2007 also saw an eruption of violence in Kenya triggered by the results of the 27 December general elections. The unrest first broke out when the count for the presidential race was delayed. It escalated when the incumbent, Mwai Kibaki, was officially sworn in as president on 30 December, while his main rival, Raila Odinga, claimed voting fraud.

## MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
<b>PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)<sup>1</sup></b>			<b>CIVILIANS<sup>2</sup></b>			
Detainees visited	515	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	61	Food	Beneficiaries	24,132	19%	70%
<i>of whom females</i>	1	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	6,000	15%	70%
Number of visits carried out	4	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	14,886	23%	54%
Number of places of detention visited	2	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	16,031	25%	52%
<b>RESTORING FAMILY LINKS</b>						
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>						
RCMs collected	22,620					
RCMs distributed	18,705					
People reunited with their families	20					
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>						
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	109					
<i>of whom females</i>	48					
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	52					
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	125					
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	259					
<i>of which for females</i>	126					
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	103					
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>						
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	51					
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	15					
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	195					
<b>DOCUMENTS ISSUED</b>						
People to whom travel documents were issued	41					

1. Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania

2. All figures include Kenya; Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania are included in the water/sanitation/habitat figures

## ICRC ACTION

The regional delegation in Nairobi continued to provide support services to ICRC delegations in Africa and further afield, while carrying out activities in Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Together with the Kenya Red Cross Society, the ICRC provided food, relief goods and medical supplies to meet the needs of the increasing number of people affected by the violence in the Mount Elgon district. At year-end, the delegation initiated a dialogue with the Kenyan authorities on the need to protect civilians from the effects of the clashes.

The ICRC and the Kenyan Red Cross also worked together to develop small-scale micro-economic, veterinary and water projects aimed at relieving community tensions over scarce resources in the remote northern areas around Turkwel, Marsabit and Moyale and in the southern coastal district of Lamu. Using culturally adapted videos and posters, delegates also stepped up their dialogue with weapon bearers and traditional leaders in northern Kenya, stressing the need to spare civilians during raids. The four-year assistance programme around Turkwel was completed at the end of 2007.

In the wake of the 2005 election-related unrest, the delegation continued to monitor the situation in the Zanzibar archipelago and run its longstanding project with the Tanzania Red Cross Society to improve sanitation in poorer areas prone to outbreaks of disease. In Djibouti, the ICRC and the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti carried out a small-scale sanitation project begun in 2006

in the impoverished Balbela suburb of Djibouti town. The project complemented the International Federation's health programme.

Thousands of refugees in all three countries continued to rely on the tracing and RCM services to communicate with their relatives. The priority remained to reunite children with their families, whenever desired and possible. In Kenya, the services were extended to Somali refugees in the coastal district and Nairobi and to families dispersed by the clashes in the Mount Elgon district.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees held in Gabode prison in Djibouti and, at the Justice Ministry's request, helped draft a new prison staff training programme. It also monitored the individual cases of detainees held in the UN facility in the United Republic of Tanzania in connection with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). In addition, the delegation followed up all information, including tracing requests from families, regarding people allegedly captured and detained in Kenya or extradited in relation to armed conflict in Somalia.

Longstanding programmes to promote IHL remained a cornerstone of the regional delegation's activities, with the focus on the authorities, armed forces, police and institutes of higher education. The ICRC trained Tanzanian armed forces officers as IHL instructors, while government representatives, university lecturers and students in the region took part in international and regional IHL events where they shared their experience and strengthened their expertise.

All three National Societies received a wide range of support to build up their relief, first-aid, tracing and IHL-promotion programmes.

In parallel, the Nairobi-based logistics centre procured and delivered relief goods and other supplies by road, air and sea to ICRC delegations in and beyond the region, using the most efficient and cost-effective means. The bulk of the goods, especially medical supplies, were transported to the Central African Republic, Chad, Iraq and Somalia. At the same time, the regional assistance unit developed and coordinated ICRC strategy and provided delegations with specialist advice, training and field support. In 2007, for example, the unit organized the ICRC's first ever courses for delegates on weapon contamination, covering aspects of security and the effects on ICRC protection and assistance activities. The two five-day events, held in February and October, were hosted by the International Mine Action Training Centre in Nairobi.

## CIVILIANS

### Providing emergency aid

The violence that erupted in late 2006 in Kenya's Mount Elgon district escalated during 2007. In May, the worst-off families received ICRC relief goods to set up makeshift homes, including tarpaulins, blankets, sleeping mats, kitchenware, buckets, jerrycans, soap and clothing. At year-end, the most vulnerable residents and displaced families, many of whom had had to abandon their crops before the harvest, were provided with one-month food rations. The relief operations were coordinated with the Kenyan Red Cross, which also distributed the aid.

- ▶ 6,000 people (1,000 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 24,132 people (4,022 households), including 20,004 IDPs, received one-month food rations

### Easing community tensions in Kenya

Rival communities at the boundary of the Turkana and West Pokot districts (population 20,000) in north-western Kenya continued to work with the ICRC on a small-scale assistance programme initiated in 2004 to ease tensions over scarce resources. To boost income, both communities received training and materials to improve honey production. Beekeepers were, in general, the poorest community members, with 25% of them women. This project was carried out in conjunction with a Swiss-funded programme under the umbrella of the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology. To improve livestock productivity, 250 pastoralist families in each district had their goats treated against parasites, with the ICRC providing the funds. In parallel, traditional leaders and weapon bearers participated in ICRC-led discussions on humanitarian principles and their link to traditional local customs. This was reinforced by the screening of a video depicting two fictional groups who learned to share resources through community mediation, and the distribution of posters with local proverbs advocating the protection of women, children and the elderly during raids.

Assistance projects were initiated in the northern Kenyan districts of Moyale and Marsabit, where clan violence over resources also frequently claimed lives and disrupted livelihoods. Communities faced fewer health risks after the ICRC and the Kenyan Red Cross rehabilitated vital water points, mainly rainwater catchments in schools. Some 1,400 pastoralist families also each received an ICRC voucher to have 50 of their goats treated against parasites. In Moyale district, struggling farmers were paid in return for their labour on three projects to reduce soil erosion in their fields. The communities benefited from a short-term cash injection and the prospect of higher crop yields over the long term.

In Kenya's southern coastal district of Lamu, the high saline content of groundwater and irregular rainfall meant clean drinking water was scarce, creating tensions with the Swahili community. By year-end, some 3,600 people had, for the first time, year-round access to a regular flow of clean water thanks to innovative, reverse-osmosis desalination units built by the ICRC. The wind- and solar-powered units in Kizingtini and Mtangawanda delivered up to 230 litres of fresh water an hour, and the manual unit in Faza produced 70 litres an hour.

- ▶ 7,350 people benefited from water projects
- ▶ 14,886 people (2,481 households) benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic projects, including:
  - 11,820 from the provision of veterinary vouchers to treat goats against parasites
  - 2,106 from cash-for-work projects to improve agricultural production

### Improving public health

Following a cholera outbreak in 1999, communities in Zanzibar (Pemba and Unguja islands) began working with the ICRC and the Tanzanian Red Cross to improve water and sanitation facilities, primarily in schools and remote villages. By the end of 2007, some 76,000 people had benefited from the programme.

- ▶ 7,380 people benefited from the construction of 4 blocks of latrines in schools and a rainwater catchment and the installation of hand pumps for 9 wells

In Djibouti, impoverished families in the overcrowded Balbela district on the outskirts of Djibouti town faced fewer health risks after the ICRC rehabilitated and cleaned 158 household latrines. Local women's associations and Djibouti Red Crescent volunteers helped the ICRC identify the most needy families. Since the start of the project in 2006, 256 latrines had been improved. The initiative complemented the International Federation's health programme in Balbela.

- ▶ 1,301 people benefited from improved latrines

### Restoring family links

Thousands of refugees in Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania located and communicated with relatives through the tracing and RCM services. The ICRC ran the network in Djibouti and in UNHCR refugee camps along Tanzania's western border, while the Kenyan Red Cross, with ICRC support, offered the services in the Kakuma and Dadaab camps in Kenya. During 2007, the services were extended to refugees in Djibouti town and in Kenya to Somali refugees in Nairobi and the southern coastal district and to families dispersed by the violence in the Mount Elgon district.

The priority was to restore contact between children and their parents through RCMs and reunite the families, taking into account the security situation in the home country and the child's best interests. As repatriation processes were ongoing for Burundian, Congolese, Rwandan and Sudanese refugees, UNHCR, the ICRC and NGOs worked together closely, sharing information about such children and adhering to agreed guidelines on their registration and follow-up.

- ▶ 501 RCMs collected from and 738 RCMs distributed to civilians in Djibouti, 9,096 RCMs collected and 3,728 RCMs distributed in Kenya, including 27 from and 56 to unaccompanied/separated children, and 12,320 RCMs collected and 13,525 RCMs distributed in the United Republic of Tanzania, including 209 from and 204 to unaccompanied/separated children

- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 109 people (including 48 females and 52 minors at the time of disappearance), of whom 94 in Kenya and 15 in the United Republic of Tanzania; 125 people located; 259 people (including 126 females and 103 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 20 people (including 15 unaccompanied/separated children), all in the United Republic of Tanzania, reunited with their families
- ▶ 51 unaccompanied/separated children registered, all in the United Republic of Tanzania; 18 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled in Kenya and 177 in the United Republic of Tanzania
- ▶ 41 refugees in Kenya issued with an ICRC travel document

## PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

### Visiting detainees

The ICRC followed up all information, including tracing requests from families, regarding people allegedly captured and detained in Kenya or extradited in relation to armed conflict in Somalia.

Delegates monitored the treatment and living conditions of detainees held under the authority of the ICTR in the UN detention facility in the Tanzanian town of Arusha and also visited inmates in Gabode prison, Djibouti's only civilian detention facility. After the visits, the authorities were informed confidentially of the ICRC's findings and recommendations for improvements. Those detainees, as well as foreigners held in prisons in the west of the United Republic of Tanzania, were offered the tracing and RCM services to contact their families. To promote the use of the services, some 350 staff in Tanzanian prisons were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and tracing activities.

People in the region also used the RCM network to communicate with family members detained/interned in the Bagram Theater Internment Facility in Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, both US detention facilities.

### Improving detention conditions

The Djiboutian government renovated Gabode prison, improved health care provision in the facility and moved ahead with a judicial reform programme. The Justice Ministry, which was responsible for establishing a new prison administration, worked with the ICRC over six weeks to draft a prison staff training programme. Inmates in Gabode prison also benefited from monthly ICRC distributions of cleaning agents and soap to maintain hygiene standards.

- ▶ 456 detainees visited, of whom 4 monitored individually and 2 newly registered, during 3 visits to 1 place of detention in Djibouti
- ▶ 59 detainees visited, of whom 57 monitored individually (including 1 female) and 1 newly registered, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention in the United Republic of Tanzania
- ▶ 49 RCMs collected from and 59 RCMs distributed to detainees in Djibouti, and 654 RCMs collected from and 655 RCMs distributed to foreign detainees in the United Republic of Tanzania

## WOUNDED AND SICK

Some 50 people wounded in clashes in the Mount Elgon district were treated at the Bungoma District Hospital with the help of ICRC medical and surgical supplies delivered by the Kenyan Red Cross.

A planned war-surgery seminar for hospital staff working in remote regions of Kenya was postponed, as ICRC surgeons were diverted to respond to emergencies in Chad and Somalia.

## AUTHORITIES

Kenya's active national IHL committee had revised the country's Geneva Conventions Act and drafted national legislation implementing various IHL treaties prohibiting or regulating the use of certain weapons. All the draft laws were awaiting parliamentary approval. Meanwhile, the Tanzanian authorities were working towards establishing an IHL committee. To support these initiatives, Kenyan and Tanzanian government representatives participated in three events – the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in March in Geneva, Switzerland, and the annual regional seminar on IHL implementation in June in Pretoria, South Africa, both organized by the ICRC, and the Second Commonwealth Red Cross and Red Crescent IHL Conference in August in Wellington, New Zealand.

With ICRC support, 17 Tanzanian politicians, lawyers and academics also formed a task force to lobby for a national IHL committee and held four consultative meetings with prominent government and civil society representatives. In parallel, a total of 52 members of parliament participated in two day-long sessions on IHL and the ICRC.

Discussions with the Djiboutian government on IHL implementation were set to resume after the country's parliamentary elections in early 2008.

## ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Most military and police training centres in Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania taught, as appropriate, IHL, international human rights law and humanitarian principles. During 2007, the armed forces in all three countries worked with the ICRC to ensure that instruction was of a uniform quality, reached the rank and file and was integrated into doctrine and operations.

- ▶ 65 Tanzanian armed forces officers trained as IHL instructors
- ▶ 21 Tanzanian military instructors and commanding officers participated in a one-day IHL course at the military academy in Monduli
- ▶ 525 Tanzanian peacekeepers attended pre-deployment briefings on IHL and the ICRC
- ▶ some 1,300 Kenyan and 300 Djiboutian military personnel attended IHL presentations in their own countries
- ▶ some 440 armed forces officers from various countries attended IHL lectures at Kenyan and Tanzanian regional military training establishments
- ▶ 75 Kenyan police inspectors and over 650 Tanzanian police personnel took part in presentations on international human rights law, humanitarian principles and the ICRC in their own countries
- ▶ 125 Tanzanian police officers in the Kigoma region attended presentations on IHL and the Movement's activities in refugee camps

## CIVIL SOCIETY

The media and academics had a strong influence on public opinion in the region and so were important relays for the ICRC to generate wider support for IHL and the protection it afforded people affected by armed conflict.

- ▶ national and international media updated on IHL and ICRC activities through press releases, newsletters and human interest stories
- ▶ 49 media representatives attended one-day IHL sessions in the United Republic of Tanzania
- ▶ 21 lecturers from 7 Kenyan, Tanzanian and Ugandan universities participated in a four-day round-table and conference in Nairobi on IHL instruction and research
- ▶ an interactive IHL website set up for academic institutions in East Africa
- ▶ 60 students from 5 Kenyan universities participated in 2 national IHL debating competitions
- ▶ 36 university students from 10 African countries competed in the annual eight-day international IHL team event in the Tanzanian town of Arusha, won by the University of Zimbabwe
- ▶ 3 University of Nairobi students participated in the Jean Pictet IHL competition in El Escorial, Spain
- ▶ students in Djibouti entered an IHL poster and poetry competition to complement the introduction of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools

Representatives of UN agencies and NGOs active in the region also attended various ICRC events to explore the relevance of IHL in their work.

- ▶ UN and NGO representatives participated in 3 courses on IHL and protection issues, organized with the support of Amnesty International, the ICTR, the Kenyan armed forces, Tanzanian academics and UNHCR
- ▶ 40 members of Kenya's National Commission on Human Rights and 32 new board members of the Tanganyika Law Society attended IHL presentations in their own countries
- ▶ to mark International Women's Day (8 March), female members of the diplomatic corps in Nairobi participated in a presentation on IHL and the plight of women affected by armed conflict

## RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies in the region received ICRC funds, materials, training, logistics back-up and technical advice to strengthen their emergency response and tracing skills and programmes to promote the Movement and its Fundamental Principles.

As the country's national disaster response coordinator, the Kenyan Red Cross mounted effective relief operations in 2007 for victims of floods and internal violence. With ICRC support, the National Society:

- ▶ provided food, relief goods and tracing and RCM services to people affected by violence in the Mount Elgon district
- ▶ trained 30 first-aid instructors
- ▶ boosted branch capacities in the Rift Valley Province, the Lake Victoria and Mount Elgon regions and in Isiolo (Central Province) and Marsabit and Moyale (Eastern Province), training over 300 volunteers in first aid, tracing, the Safer Access approach and dissemination techniques
- ▶ extended its RCM and tracing network
- ▶ covered the salaries of headquarters tracing, communication and branch coordination staff
- ▶ distributed promotional materials to stakeholders and the general public

The Tanzanian Red Cross and the ICRC agreed on working methods to improve cooperation to strengthen the National Society's emergency response activities, especially in the Zanzibar archipelago and Lake Victoria regions, and dissemination programme.

With ICRC support, the Tanzanian Red Cross:

- ▶ covered the salaries of the Zanzibar branch head and mainland dissemination officer
- ▶ conducted emergency response training for volunteers in the Lake Victoria and Zanzibar branches
- ▶ held dissemination sessions for media and civil society representatives

The Djibouti Red Crescent, with Movement support, continued to rebuild its infrastructure and activities in its six branches.

With ICRC support, the Djibouti Red Crescent:

- ▶ covered the salaries of disaster management, dissemination and finance officers
- ▶ trained 60 volunteers in the Safer Access approach and dissemination techniques
- ▶ conducted dissemination sessions for local authorities, women and youth and distributed a newsletter to stakeholders