

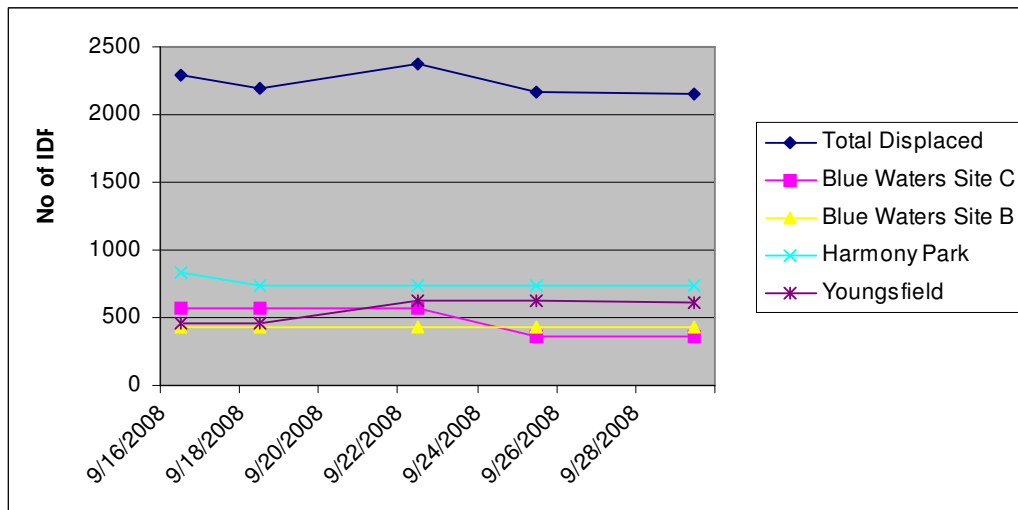


REPORT: Situational Report

DATE: 30 September 2008

As of 29 September 2008, the total number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the Western Cape Province is **2146**, having dropped significantly from approximately 20,000 that were initially displaced. The percentage decrease since May is **89.27%**, and **1%** (**20 IDPs**) over the course of the weekend. The largest safety site continues to be Harmony Park (**738 IDPs**-see turquoise trend line), followed by Youngsfield (**610 IDPs**-see-purple trend line), Blue Waters Site B (**433 IDPs**-see yellow trend line) and lastly Blue Waters Site C (**365 IDPs**-see pink trend line).

The graph below illustrates the trend in the total number of IDPs during the consolidation phase.



The figures for the time period 16-29 September 2008 are as follows:

	16-Sept	18-Sept	22-Sept	25-Sept	29-Sept
Total displaced	2290	2195	2371	2166	2146
Blue Waters Site C	570	570	570	365	365
Blue Waters Site B	433	433	433	433	433
Harmony Park	833	738	738	738	738
Youngsfield	454	454	630	630	610



1. Humanitarian assistance

It was brought to the attention of the JOC meeting that additional ablution facilities are being erected at Blue Waters Site B. The problems with the kitchens at the same site are currently posing great challenges, but are being attended to. Cleaners continue to clean the sites on a daily basis. The Somalian IDPs continue to cut off electricity supplies for other IDPs at the sites. This too is being attended to. The acknowledgement of privacy in the tents has been addressed, with the allocation of partitions which will be utilized in the United Nations (UN) tents. Overall, the condition of the site is satisfactory.

Security remains a concern at all the safety sites. Specific reference was made to Youngsfield where there have been reports of non-residents jumping over fences and entering the sites without access cards.

2. Access cards

Access card processes will be finalized today (30 September 2008)

3. Relocation process

According to the community development workers (CDW's), and the facilitation team, the update of the registration kicked off slowly due to hesitation from the IDPS, largely due to the fact that some site managers had not alerted the IDPs of the processes that were to take place. However, the notification of the impending closure of the sites galvanized large numbers of IDPs to participate in the registration processes. A total of 350 IDPs were registered at Harmony Park, 240 at Youngsfield, and 27 at Blue Waters Site B. The team will revisit all the sites for final registration. The decisions issued from the Department of Home Affairs (DOHA), more specifically the negative outcomes, resulted in disincentives and levels of negativity among the IDPs which in some way affected the processes.

UNICEF is to decide when the roll-out of the assistance will take place. UNICEF has appointed their service provider, as well as the Cape Town Refugee Centre (CTRC), meaning that all payment procedures are in place. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will be providing assistance for refugees who are following processes of appeal.

The Chair (Dr H Fast) called for all decisions, as well as pertinent information to be included in this week's pamphlet, which will be distributed to the IDPs.

4. Status determination process

The DOHA will complete their status determination processes by Friday 3 October 2008. The DOHA will provide statistics and report back to the JOC on Friday 3 October 2008.



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The JOC engaged the possible avenues of appeal processes that IDPs could utilize should they wish to. The DOHA reported that at this point, a political decision from National is expected in this regard, with specifics being divulged especially with regards to the context of the 6 months exemption. The Chair appealed for all queries involving status determination processes to be forwarded to the DOHA as it is their mandate which they have sole jurisdiction over.

The UNHCR forwarded an enquiry regarding the 10 tents that they had provided for status determination processes to take place. The DOHA confirmed that they are aware of the tents. Further information regarding the tents will be provided.

5. Repatriation process

It was reported that repatriation processes will be completed today (30 September 2008). The statistics indicate that a large number of the cases involved Somalian IDPs who wish to utilize the repatriation option, which is a complex state of affairs, given the political climate in Somalia. Fifteen (15) Burundians have been repatriated over the course of the past few days, with an additional thirty (30) awaiting responses in the form of documentation from the Burundian embassy. There have been reports of some IDPs changing their minds and opting out of repatriation even though their airline tickets have already been purchased. Furthermore, some IDPs have been taking excessive luggage (for example large televisions) to the airports and have as in the cited incident, been forced to leave the items behind due to lack of finances. The Chair welcome the report back in terms of the repatriation processes that have unfolded thus far, and requested a thorough break down of all cases of repatriation to date.

6. Communication plan

During the course of the past weekend, there has been significant media coverage-largely negative, which although is not directed to the government and the relief agencies, has implications on the work done thus far. Specifically, the articles in the Mail and Gaurdian, as well as the Cape Argus. The contents of the former are largely sensationalized and indicate a level of ignorance of the actual conditions of the site, and hence makes unfounded allegations. The facilitation team has been tasked to contact the Mail and Gaurdian to seek space in the next edition to respond to the article. Furthermore, a response needs to be drafted for local as well as other national newspapers. The Head of the Provincial Disaster Management Centre (PDMC) is to draft the article.

Members of the JOC reiterated the need to highlight the positive achievements made thus far, as well as outline the upcoming processes. Particular request was made for government officials to abstain from briefing the media on government undertakings, as only the Head of the PDMC has the authority to do so. The City of Cape Town is currently managing the situation of the official involved in the article in the Mail and Gaurdian publication.



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7. Movement and transport plan

Week 29 September – 5 October 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
	BW: Old TAC offices, MB (31) BW: Chrysalis (14) DoCS: JRLC meeting (BW) 3pax from HP 3pax from YF			DoCS: Transport to ProvJOC for 2xJRLC leaders		

Week: 6 – 12 October 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	DoCS: JRLC meeting (HP) 4pax from BW 3pax from YF	HP: reintegration	HP: reintegration	HP → BW (repatriation) HP deregistered as a safety site. All services to be withdrawn.	BW: reintegration	
				DoCS: Transport to ProvJOC for 2xJRLC leaders		



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The provision of food to the safety sites will be arranged accordingly, and in response to the closure of the sites.

Acronyms

DOHA	Department of Home Affairs
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
PDMC	Provincial Disaster Management Centre
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund