China Backs the UN Migration Agency's Humanitarian Work in Somalia

William Lacy Swing, Director General of the United Nations Migration Agency (IOM), signed an agreement on 15 May 2017 with China's Ministry of Commerce for USD 1 million of multi-sectoral funding that will support IOM’s efforts to assist internally displaced persons, vulnerable communities and returnees in Somalia. This is China's first contribution to IOM's humanitarian work since it became the 165th member of IOM in June 2016.

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UN Migration Agency meets with Somalia’s Interior Minister Task Force for Migration Management

The United Nations Migration Agency (IOM) this month joined the first meeting of the Interior Minister Task Force for Migration Management under the new Federal Government of Somalia. Established in May 2016 under the Ministry of Internal security, the High Level Task Force is complemented by two Technical Task Forces for Human Trafficking and Smuggling and for Return and Readmission. The Task Forces were established to introduce a Migration Governance system in Somalia, to develop policies and to foster better coordination within the Ministries.

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IOM IN ACTION

• 18 officials from Somalia’s National Commission for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons are better equipped to protect Somalis from trafficking, smuggling and human rights abuses. The officials participated in a training that IOM Somalia organized from 16-17 May 2017, with financial support from the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre.

• Through generous funding from the Government of Japan, over 500 households in Garbahaarey will benefit from four newly constructed classrooms that IOM Somalia handed over to the local community on 17 May 2017.

• In response to the drought, IOM Somalia has scaled up from 10 static clinics and 4 rapid response teams (RRT) in 2016 to 15 static clinics and 33 RRT by early 2017 – a more than threefold expansion in operations.

• So far, 64,761 Somali refugees from Kenya’s Dadaab Refugee Camp have been supported by IOM to voluntarily return to Somalia. The project, which started in December 2014, is funded by UNHCR.

• To combat Gender-Based Violence in Dhoobley, IOM reached 560 people with behavioural change messages over the month of May 2017. Furthermore, 70 dignity kits were distributed to vulnerable women and girls.

• In May 2017, IOM Somalia successfully offered all local and international staff refresher courses on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

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Media Contacts

For interviews and other media requests, please contact us at IOMSomaliaPIUnit@iom.int.