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IOM trucks loaded with supplies for distribution to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Western and Northern Afghanistan. As of mid-October, IOM had distributed 30,000 pairs of rubber boots, 1,538 quilts, 30,000 winter socks, 5,000 shawls and 10,000 woollen blankets to IDPs as part of the winterization effort.

IOM Winterization effort in Afghanistan

Despite the evacuation of international staff, IOM, with more than 100 local staff, has continued to implement its assistance and winterization programs for Afghanistan with support and coordination from staff in Islamabad, Iran, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan. The program consists of:

- Construction and upgrading of shelter in Maslakh camp, mud brick production involving the beneficiaries (more than 4 million bricks have been made so far), drainage and sanitation work.
- Preparation for the reception of a further 100,000 people in the Herat region and more than 200,000 in the northern region who may be displaced due to the current conflict.

- Provision of non-food items to IDPs in the Herat and Kunduz areas, including winter clothing and boots, blankets, quilts, fuel and heating, procured both inside Afghanistan and from outside.
- Medical advice and services.

IOM staff are now positioned in support bases in neighboring countries to organize convoys of goods into Afghanistan to keep the IDPs supplied with essentials for survival. A convoy carrying 10,000 blankets reached Herat from Mashhad in Iran on 16 October. Further convoys are being planned from all surrounding support bases in coming weeks.

Further preparations

- IOM is preparing a support network to facilitate the safe and orderly movement of Afghans if

conditions make further population movements necessary.

- A database of qualified Afghans in the region is being established to allow for immediate deployment to support current and planned relief operations for the IDPs. This will be expanded to include skilled Afghans in the wider diaspora who could return to support national rehabilitation and reconstruction activities once the situation permits.
- IOM international staff are also prepared to deploy into Afghanistan as soon as possible, to improve the delivery of winterization assistance and explore targeted return and reintegration possibilities.
- Planning is underway, in partnership with other agencies, for health assessment and assistance, and public health management services.

IOM has appealed for \$29.3 million for ongoing and planned activities. This forms part of the Inter-Agency Donor Alert issued in early October.

Before 11 September: IOM has had offices in Afghanistan for many years as part of the infrastructure to support its programs for the voluntary return of Afghans from Iran, implemented in

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IOM is committed to the principle that orderly migration benefits migrants and society. IOM is an intergovernmental organization composed of 86 Member and 41 Observer States.

IOM in Afghanistan

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cooperation with UNHCR. It was this structure which enabled IOM to act quickly to respond to the needs of IDPs when the combination of conflict and drought drove increasing numbers from their home villages to seek assistance in more populated areas in the spring of this year. IOM was designated the focal point by the UN (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) for Maslakh and Shadayee camps in the Herat area, ensuring the provision of shelter, delivery of humanitarian support and assistance with public health management for some 150,000 IDPs. This was subsequently extended to include 30,000 conflict-related IDPs in the Amirabad and Bagh-I Sherkat camps in Kunduz province in the north, and 42,000 highly vulnerable internally stranded persons in Faryab in the northwest. These activities have been financed in part by the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO).

In addition to ongoing assistance and planning for winterization of the displaced population, IOM is in the process of putting in place a transportation and logistical support network.

Migration Dialogue between Haiti & Dominican Republic

IOM organized a forum on Migration Issues between Haiti and the Dominican Republic, with wide participation from high government officials and members of the international community. The forum took place on 10 August 2001.

Speakers were Joseph Antonio, Haitian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marc Bazin, Haitian Minister of Planning, Alberto Despradel, Dominican Ambassador in Haiti, Carol Joseph, Coordinator of the Haitian National Migration Office, Sabine Manigat, historian and civil society representative and Guy Alexandre, former Haitian Ambassador to the Dominican Republic and leading member of Democratic Initiative.

The forum follows the research and publication of an IOM document entitled *"La question migratoire entre Haiti et République Dominicaine"* in May 2001, which was widely disseminated in both countries and was acclaimed by a Haitian journal as "the most comprehensive analysis on the subject published in the last ten years".

The forum was followed by an IOM organized workshop for representatives of public institutions to discuss migration policy matters, especially regarding Haitian migration to the Dominican Republic. This event took place in September as part of IOM technical assistance to the Haiti-Dominican Republic Bilateral Committee on Migration and Border Affairs.

For more information or a copy of the IOM publication "La question migratoire entre Haiti et République Dominicaine" contact: Mireille Smit, IOM Santo Domingo Rafael Augusto Sanchez 45 esq. Agustín Lara Edificio A. Lara of 204 Ens. Naco, Santo Domingo Tel: 809-866-8854 Email: iomsdomingo@codetel.net.do

Repatriation of Haitian Nationals from Cuba

IOM assisted 74 Haitian Nationals requesting help to return home from Cuba on 25 to 27 June 2001. The group had been receiving assistance from the Cuban Red Cross, when IOM Havana was called and was told the group wanted to go home.

REGISTRATION for Out-of-Kosovo Voting

IOM's Out-of-Kosovo-Voting (IOM-OKV) offices have registered approximately 75,000 eligible OKV voters worldwide. IOM Washington participates in the program by working closely together with resettlement agencies in Canada and the United States, diaspora organizations and churches.

In Brief...

Workshop on Trafficking of Women & Children from Dominican Republic On 23 August 2001, IOM and the Inter-Institutional Committee for the Protection of Migrant Women (CIPROM) co-sponsored a training workshop on counter trafficking in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Participants included officials from several public institutions and representatives of (CIPROM) a coalition of 12 NGOs.

It is estimated that more than 70,000 Dominican women are involved in the sex industry abroad, a large number of them victims of trafficking. According to IOM research, the main countries of destination are the Dutch Antilles in the Caribbean, the Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Germany and Switzerland, and more recently Argentina.

Counter-Trafficking Discussions with Dominican Republic Government IOM hosted two discussion sessions on trafficking with Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and military officers of the Institute of Advanced Studies for Defense and Security on 22 August 2001. During these sessions, the discussion centered on sensitization and the role of the state and civil society in the battle against trafficking.

Counter-Trafficking Information Campaign for the Dominican Republic IOM is carrying out an information campaign in targeted locations in the Dominican Republic and will compile legal information for the drafting of new legislation. IOM also seeks a close partnership with public and non-governmental institutions in the destination countries to offer protection and assistance to Dominican women abroad. These activities will be carried out in close cooperation with the State Secretariat for Women, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and local NGOs. Funding for this program was made possible thanks to the US Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration.



IOM and Trinity College institutionalizing cooperation through the signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). (From l to r) Ms. Patricia McGuire, President, Trinity College; William Hyde, Former IOM Regional Representative; Lauren Engle, IOM Coordinator for External Relations and Information. Photo credit: T. Burnett/IOM 2001

**IOM & Trinity College
Launch Program on
Women’s and Children’s
Issues in International
Migration**

IOM and Trinity College’s School of Professional Studies, recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the creation of a certificate program on Women’s and Children’s Issues in International Migration. The program has been designed for post-graduate and advanced undergraduate students, as well as working professionals, to help further their career development.

Lauren Engle, IOM Washington’s Coordinator for External Relations and Information, designed the core, required course of the program entitled, “A World in Motion and Its

Impact on Women: The Feminization of International Migration”.

The course focuses on both pre and post Cold War trends in migration, the trafficking of women and children, migrant smuggling, labor migration and the impact of remittances on family structure as well as government response to shifts in these migration trends.

Through the MOU, Ms. Engle acts as an adjunct professor for Trinity. The program is one of four institutional programs IOM currently supports worldwide.

Educational opportunities in the field of migration have always been a main concern of IOM, especially for those areas in which specialized, advanced training is minimal.

As a result, IOM has participated not only in the program above to address women’s issues but in programs co-developed by IOM and the University Medical School of Pécs, Hungary, to offer a Masters of Science degree through unique postgraduate training in the field of migration medicine; the National University of Buenos Aires, to offer a Masters of International Migration Policies and The Interamerican Course on International Migration, which has been organized for the past 22 years, focusing on government officials from the Western Hemisphere. This program differs from the longer degree producing programs in that it runs over a continuous 20-day duration in the city of Mar del Plata.

In addition to these ongoing formal degree programs, IOM Washington is currently developing post graduate programs on migration policies with four Caribbean Universities— the University of Havana, Cuba; the University of the West Indies, Jamaica; the University of Puerto Rico; and the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences in the Dominican Republic.

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NEWS FLASH: New IOM Regional Representative Frances Sullivan comes to IOM Washington from prior postings in New York, Sarajevo and Geneva. Previously IOM's private sector liaison in New York, Mrs. Sullivan will now spearhead IOM efforts throughout North America and the Caribbean. (From: *I to I*) IOM Director General, Brunson McKinley, new incoming Regional Representative, Fran Sullivan and former Regional Representative, William Hyde. Mr. Hyde now assumes a new role at IOM Headquarters as Chief of the Project Tracking Unit. Photo credit: L. Engle/IOM 2001

A Word from the Regional Representative "IOM Fifty Years at the Service of Migrants & Governments"

In December 2001, the International Organization for Migration celebrates its 50th anniversary. With half a century of world-wide migration experience and practical know-how, IOM is recognized as the leading international organization concerned with the myriad aspects of migration. While not formally part of the United Nations system, IOM maintains close working relations with UN bodies and specialized agencies.

Committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society, IOM responds to the operational calls of migration in arranging the movement of migrants, refugees and displaced persons to new homes and providing comprehensive migration assistance to

governments and its other partners in the international community.

Established initially as the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration to help solve the post-war problems of migrants, refugees and displaced persons in Europe and to assist in their orderly trans-Atlantic migration, IOM's focus has expanded to include a wide variety of migration management activities. It adopted its current name in 1989 to reflect its progressively global outreach in terms of geographical coverage as well as program activities.

Since its creation, IOM has assisted some 13 million refugees and migrants to settle in over 125 countries. The growing international concern with migration issues is reflected in IOM's progressively increasing member and observership, numbering today 86 Member States and more than 40 Observer States.

Centuries of international migration have played a crucial role in shaping the world we know today. Globalization has made migration even more complex as a growing number of people are migrating in search of better living conditions, employment, education, freedom, safety from persecution or violence.

At present, there are more migrants in the world than ever before. An estimated 150 million people live outside their countries of birth or citizenship, while many others are not counted as international migrants because they live and work in another country illegally, whether on a permanent or temporary basis.

Properly managed, migration can contribute to prosperity, development and mutual understanding among people. IOM will continue to help international migrants, refugees and displaced persons in need, and to assist governments in managing migration and developing policies and migration practices for the benefit for all.

I look forward to working with all of you in the Washington community to achieve these aims.

Sincerely,
Frances Sullivan

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