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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	EB-01	EUR-01	OIGO-01	FDRE-01	HA-09	H-01	INM-02
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	RP-10
	SIL-00	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-16	TRSE-00
	T-00	USIE-00	RPE-01	CORE-00	/073W		

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P 041546Z NOV 93  
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4988  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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STATE FOR RP, AF/C, AMD AF/RA  
AID FOR AF/EA AND OFDA  
GENEVA FOR RMA AND AID  
ADDIS ABABA FOR OFDA/FARNSWORTH  
ROME FOR WFP  
YAOUNDE AND BUJUMBURA FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PREF, PHUM, PREL, RW, BY, TZ, CG  
SUBJECT: BURUWDI REFUGEES: NUMBERS UP, COORDINATION

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS  
DATE/CASE ID: 19 NOV 2002 200003723

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COMING TOGETHER

REF: (A) GENEVA 10107, (B) KIGALI 3935

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS EARLY, SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR'S URGENT ADVANCE APPEAL (REF A). UNHCR'S NEW PLANNING FIGURE FOR BURUNDI REFUGEES IN RWANDA IS 375,000. UNHCR HAS 15 ADDITIONAL STAFF ON THE GROUND, IS DEPLOYED IN THE FIELD AND SECTOR ASSESSMENTS ARE UNDERWAY. ASSISTANCE COORDINATION IS COMING TOGETHER VIA REGULAR SECTORAL AND REGIONAL COORDINATION MEETINGS. UNHCR DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA, ANDREW SOKIRI, WHO IS PURSUING POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH RWANDAN AND BURUNDIAM OFFICIALS, LEFT FOR BUJUMBURA 11/4. DONOR MEETING TO BE CALLED FOR EARLY NEXT WEEK. END SUMMARY.

2. ADVANCE APPEAL. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS USG RESPOND QUICKLY WITH A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR'S URGENT ADVANCE APPEAL FOR USD 17 MILLION FOR THE BURUNDI REFUGEE EMERGENCY. SO FAR THE EMBASSY HAS

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 ANNOUNCED ITS EMERGENCY DECLARATION AMOUNT OF USD 25,000. FRANCE, BELGIUM, CANADA, AND SWITZERLAND HAVE ALREADY ANNOUNCED SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN CASH AND KIND, MUCH OF WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN AIRLIFTED INTO THE COUNTRY. NOTE: UNHCR'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA, ANDREW SOKIRI, WHO HAS JUST COMPLETED A 2-DAY VISIT, TOLD DCM THAT UNHCR ESTIMATED IT WOULD NEED USD 17-20 MILLION FOR THREE MONTHS, ALTHOUGH THIS TIME-FRAME IS NOT MENTIONED IN THE UNHCR SOLICITATION. END NOTE.

3. NUMBERS. UNHCR HAS INCREASED ITS PLANNING FIGURE FOR BURUNDI REFUGEES IN RWANDA TO 375,000. GOVERNMENT ESTIMATES ALREADY EXCEED 400,000. EMERGENCY PLANNING SPECIALIST TOLD DCM, THAT CONTRARY TO HIS EARLIER IMPRESSIONS, HE BELIEVES GOVERNMENT ESTIMATES REFLECT REALITY.

4. HCR STAFF ARRIVES. UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ TOLD DCM THAT 15 STAFF PERSONS ARRIVED TO HELP WITH THE REFUGEE EMERGENCY. TWO HAVE ALREADY

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ESTABLISHED A SUB-OFFICE IN BUTARE TO COVER THE PREFECTURES OF BUTARE, GIKONGORO, AND CYANGUGU; TWO ARE COVERING BUGESERA (SOUTH OF KIGALI) AND KIBUNGO FROM KIGALI; TWO WILL GO TO ZAIRE; AND TWO ARE PROTECTION OFFICERS. FOUR ARE TSS SECTOR SPECIALISTS WHO ARE CURRENTLY CONDUCTING SECTOR ASSESSMENTS.

5. COORDINATION. REGIONAL PLANNING MEETINGS AND REGULAR SECTORAL MEETINGS IN KIGALI ARE CONTRIBUTING TO IMPROVED COORDINATION AMONG THE VARIOUS NGO'S THAT  
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HAVE BEGUN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO THE REFUGEES. THE SECRETARIAT OF THE GOVERNMENT-NGO-DONOR CRISIS COMMITTEE FOR THE DISPLACED IS CONTINUING TO COMPILE AND DISSEMINATE TO INTERESTED PARTIES DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT WHO IS DOING WHAT, WHERE. UNHCR PROMISED DCM THAT IT WOULD CALL A DONOR BRIEFING FOR EARLY NEXT WEEK.

6. FOOD. DISPLACED IN THE NORTH HAVE BEGUN TO COMPLAIN THAT THEIR FOOD IS BEING DIVERTED TO THE REFUGEE EMERGENCY IN THE SOUTH. WFP ASSURED DONORS AND HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT AN 11/4 MEETING THAT THIS IS NOT/NOT THE CASE AND THAT ENOUGH FOOD IS IN THE PIPELINE TO ASSURE THAT THIS WILL NOT/NOT HAPPEN. COMMENT. EMBASSY/USAID WILL MONITOR THE

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FOOD SITUATION CLOSELY. THE PROBLEM WILL COME IF THE  
FOOD BORROWED FROM STOCKS FOR THE DISPLACED CANNOT BE  
REPLENISHED BY THE TIME THEY ARE NEEDED IN THE  
NORTH. END COMMENT.

7. REFUGEE IMPACT. UNMCR PLANNERS ARE CONSCIOUS OF  
THE NEED TO TAKE THE NEEDS OF THE LOCAL POPULATION  
INTO CONSIDERATION IN IMPLEMENTING ASSISTANCE TO THE  
REFUGEES. WITH THE CURRENT HARVEST SEASON  
JEOPARDIZED BY DELAYED RAINS, WHICH NOW APPEAR TO  
HAVE STARTED IN MOST AREAS, FOOD WILL PRESENT THE  
BIGGEST ISSUE. THIS, UNHCR BELIEVES, SHOULD BE LEFT

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TO WFP AND THE GOVERNMENT TO WORK OUT. MEDICINES AND  
MEDICAL SERVICES ARE LIKELY TO BE ANOTHER CONTENTIOUS  
ISSUE. LOCAL PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO PAY FOR SERVICES  
(BAMAKO PLAN), WHILE THE REFUGEES WOULD BE RECEIVING  
FREE SERVICES. UNHCR IS CONSIDERING A STRATEGY  
WHEREBY REFUGEE MEDICAL SERVICES WOULD BE PROVIDED IN  
THE CAMPS. THIS MAY CONFLICT WITH THE BELGIAM RED  
CROSS WHICH INTENDS TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL CLINICS TO  
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PROVIDE SERVICES TO REFUGEES AND LOCAL PEOPLE.

8. POLITICS. SOKIRI, ALONG WITH UNHCR'S DESK  
OFFICER FOR RWANDA, DANIEL TSHITUNGI, HAVE BEEN  
MEETING OVER THE PAST TWO DAYS WITH RWANDAN OFFICIALS  
AND ASSISTANCE AGENCIES IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN A  
READ-OUT ON RWANDA'S APPRECIATION OF THE SITUATION.  
THEY DEPARTED FOR BURUNDI MORNING 11/4. THE MESSAGE  
THEY ARE GETTING IS THAT, UNLESS SECURITY CAN BE  
ASSURED IN THEIR HOME AREAS, THE REFUGEES ARE  
UNLIKELY TO RETURN HOME ANY TIME SOON. THEY ARE ALSO  
GAINING AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE INTIMATE LINK BETWEEN  
WHAT HAPPENS IN BURUNDI AND THE SECURITY SITUATION IN  
RWANDA.

9. BURUNDI MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.  
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