



# Refugee Protection at Sea

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# Mixed Movements by Sea 2014

Over 378,000 took to the sea. Over 4,500 dead/missing



## Gulf of Aden

- ✓ Over 91,500 arrivals in Yemen
- ✓ 246 reported deaths

## Europe

- ✓ Over 218,000 arrivals
- ✓ Over 3,500 estimated deaths

## The Caribbean

- ✓ Over 5,200 involved in incidents
- ✓ 73 casualties/missing

## South-East Asia

- ✓ Estimated 63,000 departures
- ✓ Estimated 750 deaths



An issue  
bigger  
than  
UNHCR

½ of those arriving on the  
Central Mediterranean  
Route are Persons of  
Concern to UNHCR

Strengthened traditional  
and non-traditional  
partnerships required

# UNHCR Global Initiative on Protection at Sea

- Catalyse and support action to prevent further loss of life
- Ensure comprehensive and protection-sensitive responses
- Develop consensus on rescue-at-sea issues, safe and predictable disembarkation and responsibility sharing.

## The High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection at Sea

December 2014, Over 450 participants  
(governments, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, academia, shipping industry, other stakeholders)



Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/53abd14d4.html>



# 2015 Follow-up to High Commissioner's Dialogue

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**1. Search & Rescue**

**2. Predictable disembarkation to a place of safety**

**3. Expanded Partnerships**

**4. Improve data on movements**

**5. Improve post-disembarkation reception and treatment**

**6. Strengthened engagement in migration-related initiatives**

**7. Alternative pathways to protection**

**8. Comprehensive Approaches**

**9. Address Root Causes**

**10. Addressing Trafficking in Persons and exploitation by smugglers**



# Key documents

## Selected Reference Materials:

- UNHCR, *Rescue at Sea, Stowaways and Maritime Interception: Selected Reference Materials*, December 2011, 2nd Edition, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4ee087492.html>
- UNHCR, *Refugee Protection and Mixed Migration: The 10-Point Plan in Action*, February 2011, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4d9430ea2.html>
- UNHCR, *Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Distress at Sea – how best to respond? Summary Conclusions* ('Djibouti Conclusions'), 5 December 2011, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4ede0d392.html> [Expert Meeting Conclusions]
- UNHCR, *Co-chairs' Summary: International Workshop on the Protection of Irregular Movements of Persons at Sea Jakarta*, Indonesia, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/53882cb34.html> [International Workshop, 21-22 April 2014]
- UNHCR, *Co-Chairs' Summary: "Mapping Disembarkation Options: Towards Strengthening Cooperation in Managing Irregular Movements by Sea"*, 4 March 2014, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/5343abe64.html> [Regional meeting Thailand, March 2014]
- UNHCR *Central Mediterranean Sea Initiative (CMSI): EU solidarity for rescue-at-sea and protection of refugees and migrants*, 13 May 2014, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/538d73704.html>

## Regional Reports:

- South-East Asia: <http://storybuilder.jumpstart.ge/en/unhcr-imm> and report on irregular movements, November 2014, <http://www.unhcr.org/53f1c5fc9.pdf>
- Europe: *So Close, Yet So far From Safety*, December 2014, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/547c31934.html>