



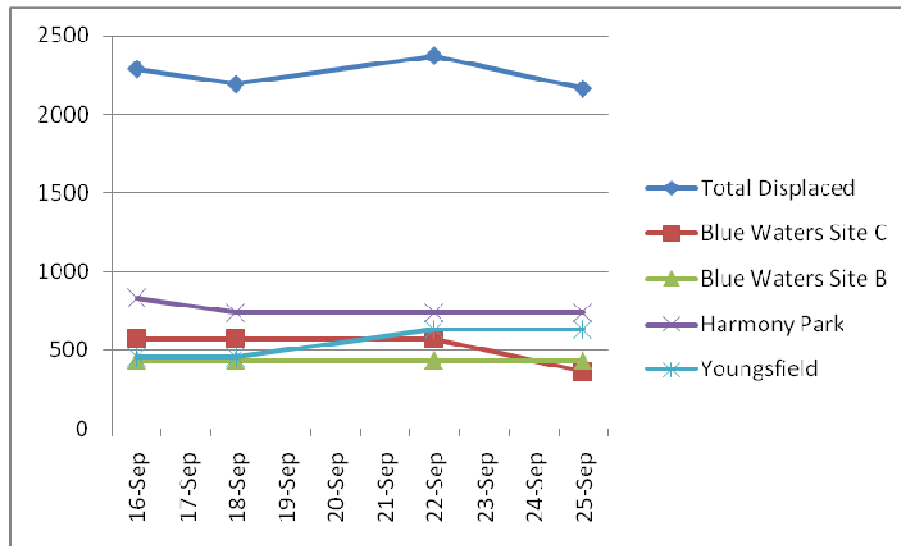
**REPORT: Situational Report**  
**DATE: 26 September 2008**

**Overview**

As of 26 September 2008, the total number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the Western Cape is 2166, having dropped significantly from the approximately 20 000 that were initially displaced. The percentage decrease since May 2008 is 89.17%, and 1.02% over the course of the week. Over the course of the week, the total number of IDPs in fact decrease by 205 IDPs (from 2371) from 22 September 2008, after a marginal increase 176 IDPs between 18 and 22 September 2008.

The largest safety site is Harmony Park (738 IDPs), which has remained constant since 18 September 2008. Youngsfield (630 IDPs), has remained constant over the course of the week, after decreasing by 176 IDP (from 454 IDPs on 18 September 2008). Blue Waters Site B (433 IDPs) has remained constant since 16 September 2008. Lastly Blue Waters Site C (365 IDPs) decreased by 205 (from 570 IDPs since 22 September 2008).

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





## 1. Humanitarian Assistance

It was reported that the condition of the Blue Waters Site B and Site C is currently satisfactory. The situation of the tents is under surveillance on a daily basis, with the service provider visiting the sites on a daily basis to respond to any problems in this regard. Youngsfield and Harmony Park face challenging conditions of water logging and puddles of water at the sites.

The Chair (Dr H. Fast) reported highlighted the concern with electricity shortages and the safety implications involved therein. The Chair called for an investigation to be conducted with regards to providing an additional four (4) or (5) plug banks at the sites to circumvent the current status.

Following an enquiry from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) with regards to security food provisions for vulnerable groups (women, children and the elderly), the JOC confirmed that food provisions for such groups were prioritized, and in fact these individuals received food prior to queues being formed for food distribution for the rest of the IDPs at the sites.

The food assessments which the community development workers (CDWs) is a helpful tool. A suggestion that was made was for the questionnaire that the CDWs utilize when assessing the food, is to include more questions, especially with monitoring and assessing the availability of baby formula. The CDWs are also to monitor the delivery of food on sites. In all of these tasks, the CDW is to consult the site manager.

## 2. Access cards

Harmony Park will be completed on 26 and 27 September 2008, as well as Blue Waters Site C. Lack of access control and security is placing a burden on services. The Chair suggested that the team consult the leadership at the sites, and call for their assistance in terms of controlling access. Members of the JOC commented that although there is value in consulting and engaging with the leadership, they have their own divisions which may be counterproductive towards achieving anything. It was suggested that the lists of the IDPs that reside at the sites should be sourced from the site managers as they have knowledge of those who 'legitimately' reside at the sites. This site is to be matched against the list that the DOHA has in order to work out the discrepancies. The City and UNHCR were assigned the task of sorting through the data.

## 3. Relocation and repatriation processes

### 3.1 Assistance package

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) informed the JOC that the assessment carried out to ascertain the nature of the assistance packages was progressive. The figures are lower than expected, with the total figures



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for IDPs that qualify for both the UNICEF and UNHCR assistance equating to just over 1000. The challenges at this point are as follows: 1) the type of assistance that UNICEF will be provide given that there has been large scale dissatisfaction with the cash payment option (UNHCR will be providing rental payment support/assistance), 2) aligning the roll-out of the assistance package with the final closure of the sites.

The assessment of the assistance report is as follows:

The populations at Harmony Park and Youngsfield were assessed through the reintegration assistance process. At Blue Waters, for several reasons, the populations were not assessed. At present the breakdown is as follows:

Site	Repatriation	Reintegration Assistance	
		UNICEF	UNHCR
Blue Waters B	51	28	73
Blue Waters C	4	6	29
Harmony Park	16	67	378
Youngsfield	51	89	261
<b>Totals</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>741</b>

- If everyone who represented themselves for reintegration assistance leaves the site, the number should dwindle to around 1200.
- Three tiers of assistance: single individuals, families with 1 child, families with more than 1 child.
- Tiered assistance: as far as possible no cash handouts. Rental agreements also identify to which areas people will be moving.
- Once assistance is given, there has to be some movement to closure of sites.

Members of the JOC were of the opinion that the roll-out of the assistance package didn't necessarily need to be linked to the closure of the sites, but should rather be aligned to the exit movement of IDPs from the sites, in otherwords, closing of the sites to those specific individuals.

The type or nature of the assistance package from UNICEF was largely debated, with the proposal of either a voucher, but preferably a cheque being the better method. The process is to start at Harmony Park on 9 October 2008, followed by Youngsfield on 16 October 2008, and finally Blue Waters on 30 October. UNICEF and UNHCR will ensure that their processes are uniform. This is the same time that deregistration of the sites will take place. These messages will be communicated to the IDPs as a matter of urgency so that they may be prepared for the processes. Transport arrangements will be finalized by the end of next week which will be communicated to the JOC on Friday 3 October 2008.



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### 3.2 IDPs at TAC offices and Chrysalis.

The 48 IDPs at the Treatment Action Campaigns old offices in Muizenberg have indicated that they wish to be moved to one of the safety sites. This is after having indicated that they wish to remain at the TAC offices. The JOC decided that the PDMC and all organizations that have been involved since the initial displacement, have been offered assistance to those IDPs on many occasions, which those IDPs have rejected. So, no more assistance will be offered to the IDPs.

The IDPs at Chrysalis have indicated that they will be moving on Monday 29 September 2008. They will be reintegrating.

### 4. Status Determination

The Department of Home Affairs (DOHA) reported that the process has been exhausting, with unexpected challenges (technical, logistical and otherwise) arising. Security and access control, or lack thereof, has resulted in an influx of IDPs crossing the fence, who then participated in the DOHA processes, although they do not reside at the safety sites. The space allocated for the DOHA at Youngsfield proved to be inadequate, and hampered some of the processes. The DOHA attempted to make alternate arrangements, but this proved impossible. However, much of the targets that the DOHA set, are near completion, with final processes being completed at Youngsfield today (30 September 2008). During the course of the weekend, the DOHA will be visiting all the safety sites to communicate their plans with regards to how the decisions will be relayed to the IDPs. The DOHA plans to engage with individual IDPs rather than the collectives, as the status determination decisions are personal and hence need to be treated with a degree of sensitivity.

Members of the JOC enquired what the options were for the IDPs based on the status determination decisions. The DOHA confirmed that if the decision was positive, the IDP would be given a recognition certificate which allows for a 14 days period during which the IDP is permitted to apply for an identity document. In the event of a negative decision, the DOHA will carry out more procedures. The Chair appealed for more clarity with regards to the negative decisions, specifically on the detention possibilities. Furthermore, the Chair called for the DOHA to draw up a pamphlet clearly outlining the options and the processes ahead from the DOHA, which would need to be communicated and distributed to the IDPs as a matter of urgency.

### 5. Communication

All decisions and resolutions that were reached today are to be communicated to the facilitation team, and are to be included in the pamphlet that will be distributed to the IDPs.



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The UNHCR will communicate with the site managers with regards to the second round of assessments that will be taking place.

### 6. Legal issues

The City of Cape Town and the Province are currently investigating the eviction processes for Leibrandt van Niekerk and Chrysalis.

### 7. South African Police Services (SAPS)

The SAPS reported that there has been relative calm in the communities. The chair of the Zanokhanyo Retail Association remains in custody. The anonymous pamphlet that was circulated in Mitchells Plain is still under investigation.

### Acronyms

CDW	Community Development Worker
DOHA	Department of Home Affairs
DSD	Department of Social Development
DOE	Department of Education
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
PDMC	Provincial Disaster Management Centre
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees