1. (C) SUMMARY.

2. (U) UNHCR TOLD THE HLWG THAT IT WOULD REPOSITION PART OF ITS EMERGENCY TEAMS TO DEAL WITH THE SUDDEN INFUX OF RWANDAN REFUGEES INTO TANZANIA, WHICH COULD TOTAL UP TO HALF A MILLION PEOPLE IN THE COMING DAYS. ACCORDING TO UNHCR'S FUND RAISING SERVICE, IT URGENTLY NEEDS CONTRIBUTIONS GIVEN huge, IMMEDIATE PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: EDWARD W. HOLMES  
DATE/CASE ID: 1 FEB 900 10293048
3. (U) DHA URGED DONOR GOVERNMENTS AT THE HLWG TO EARMARK CONTRIBUTIONS AS LIGHTLY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT AGENCIES CAN COPE WITH THE FAST-CHANGING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS IN RWANDA, BURUNDI AND SURROUNDING COUNTRIES. DHA ALSO TOLD US SEPARATELY THAT THEY MAY BE APPROACHING THE USG FOR HELP IN REPLACING THE CANADIAN HERCULES AIRCRAFT FLYING INTO KIGALI. END SUMMARY.


6. (C) THE AMBASSADOR, AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES WHO FOLLOWED, PRaised THE COURAGEOUS EFFORTS OF ICRC AND OTHER RELIEF AGENCIES TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN THIS TRAGIC SITUATION. HE POINTED OUT EFFORTS BY THE USG TO USE OUR MORAL AUTHORITY IN CALLING FOR A STOP TO THE KILLINGS, MOST RECENTLY IN OUR 4/28 PUBLIC STATEMENT. HE THEN ASKED GROSSRIEDER FOR SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT MORE COULD BE DONE, GIVEN THE ABSENCE OF A GOVERNMENTAL FRAMEWORK IN RWANDA TO PROVIDE A MODICUM OF SECURITY. GROSSRIEDER
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12. (U) GROSSRIEDER, AND LATER UNHCR'S DESK OFFICER AKOBJENOU, TOLD THE HLWG ABOUT THE 100,000 RWANDANS WHO HAD CROSSED THE BORDER INTO TANZANIA FROM THURSDAY TO FRIDAY (BY NOW WIDELY REPORTED). GROSSRIEDER SAID THAT ICRC DELEGATES IN THE AREA RELIEVE THE TOTAL COULD REACH HALF A MILLION PEOPLE IN THE COMING DAYS. AKOBJENOU, WHO ARRIVED LATE AT THE HLWG MEETING BECAUSE HE WAS IN AN EMERGENCY MEETING CHAIRMED BY DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER GERALD WALZER, SAID UNHCR WOULD REPOSITION A LARGE PART OF ITS EMERGENCY TEAM FROM GOMA, ZAIRE TO TANZANIA.
13. (U) DEBORAH SAIDY, AN AFRICA OFFICER AT THE UN DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS/GENEVA, TOLD THE HLW THAT SYG BOUTROS-GLALI HAD INSTRUCTED U/SYG PETER HANSEN TO USE ALL OF HIS ENERGY TO DEAL WITH THE RWANDA CRISIS. SHE DESCRIBED DHA AND UN AGENCY ACTIONS INSIDE RWANDA. THE ADVANCE HUMANITARIAN TEAM HAS BEEN ROTATING SEVEN PEOPLE IN AND OUT OF KIGALI. WFP, UNHCR AND UNICEF HAVE BEEN PRESENT IN MULINDI (RPF HEADQUARTERS IN THE NORTH) SINCE 4/26, BUT SHE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF BALANCING ASSISTANCE WITH THE MORE URGENT NEEDS IN THE SOUTH. HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR ARTURO HEIN WAS TO BE BACK IN NAIROBI TO CONFERENCE WITH HANSEN ON FRIDAY 4/29.

14. (U) IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION, SAIDY ALERTED US TO A LIKELY REQUEST FROM U/SYG HANSEN FOR U.S. AIRCRAFT SUPPORT TO REPLACE THE TWO CANADIAN HERCULES (WHICH MAKE ABOUT FOUR FLIGHTS PER DAY INTO KIGALI) THAT ARE SCHEDULED TO END SUCH OPERATIONS ON 4/30 (REFTEL B).

15. (U) ON FUNDING NEEDS, SAIDY URGED HLW TO EARMARK FUNDS FOR THE LEAST DESECRR POSSIBLE FOR THE REGIONAL CRISIS. SHE SAID ALL UN ORGANIZATIONS WOULD APPRECIATE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT WERE NOT TIED TO SPECIFIC CATEGORIES WHICH WOULD PREVENT FLEXIBILITY IN THE FAST-MOVING SITUATION. AKODJENGOU REPORTED THAT UNHCR WOULD BE APPROACHING SOME OF ITS DONORS TO REQUEST THAT FUNDS CONTRIBUTED IN RESPONSE TO THE BURUNDI REFUGEE CRISIS LAST OCTOBER-NOVEMBER BE PERMITTED TO BE USED IN THE RWANDA CRISIS. HE ALSO SAID UNHCR WOULD ASSIST THE BURUNDI REFUGEES (NUMERATING ABOUT 80,000 TO 90,000) WHO HAVE RETURNED TO BURUNDI. HE ADDED THAT IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHERE THE BURUNDI REFUGEES WHO HAD BEEN IN BUTARE HAVE GONE TO.

16. (U) UNHCR'S FUND RAISING SERVICE TOLD US LATE ON 4/29 THAT THEY WERE DESPERATE FOR FUNDS DUE TO THE HUGE PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS IN THE COMING WEEK FOR ASSISTANCE TO THE RWANDAN REFUGEES ENTERING TANZANIA. AS OF APRIL 26, UNHCR HAD RECEIVED ONLY USD 15.3 MILLION OF THE USD 50.3 MILLION THAT IT NEEDS FOR THE BURUNDI/RWANDA REGIONAL EMERGENCY.

17. (U) MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

SPIEGEL

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