

# ACTION BY THE OFFICE FOR REFUGEES AND STATELESS PERSONS

Mohammed BENJABER  
Head Consular and Social Cooperation Division  
Consular and Social Affairs Department  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation  
16 June 2015

# FOUNDING TEXT

Decree No. 2-57-1256 of 2 safar 1377  
(29 August 1957) setting terms of  
application of the Convention Relating  
to the Status of Refugees, signed in  
Geneva, 28 July 1951.

# ARTICLE 1

The legal and administrative protection of persons covered by the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 Relating to the Status of Refugees is provided by the Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons, which falls under the authority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

# ARTICLE 2

- The Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons: recognises as refugees all persons who fall within the scope of the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees or who meet the definitions of article one of the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951;
- provides the above-mentioned persons with the documents that they require either to carry out all civil procedures be it by ensuring the implementation of the provisions of internal legislation or international agreements with regard to their protection;
- authenticates official records and documents that it receives.

# ARTICLE 3

- The official records and documents issued by the Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons have the value of authentic official records. Their issuance shall be subject to the payment of consular fees of which the amount is set out in an appendix to this decree. Indigent persons may be granted partial or complete exemption from the payment of these fees;

The consular fees are to be paid by the parties concerned in the form of fiscal stamps affixed by the Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons on the documents and official records it issues.

# ARTICLE 4

A Board of Appeal has been formed,  
comprising of:

- a- the Minister of Justice or its  
representative, Chairman;
- b- the Minister of Foreign Affairs or its  
representative;
- c- the representative of the United  
Nations High Commission for Refugees  
to the Moroccan Government.

# ARTICLE 5

The Board of Appeal is tasked with:

a- ruling on appeals lodged by persons whom the Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons has refused refugee status recognition;

b- formulating an opinion with regard to the application of measures provided under articles 31, 32 and 33 of the Convention of 28 July 1951, either regarding appeals lodged by persons falling within the scope of these measures, or at the request of the competent Moroccan authorities.

These type of appeals suspend enforcement, except in an emergency situation established by the decision that orders the measure.

# ARTICLE 6

Appeals must be lodged within a thirty-day period for cases referred to in paragraph a) of article 5, and in a five-day period for cases referred to in paragraph b) of the same article. The timeframe commences from the day following notification of the contested measure or upon expiry of the six-month period which shall be taken as an implicit decision for rejection.

They may be filed at the Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons or may be sent to it by registered mail with a request for acknowledgement of receipt. The Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons shall act as the Board's secretariat.

The Board's decisions shall be justified. They are final.

Applicants shall be notified of the decisions by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt.



# ARTICLE 7

As a departure from the provisions of the first paragraph of article 6, with regard to appeals submitted against decisions that were notified to the concerned parties prior to this date, the timeframe will only commence from the date that this decree is published in the Official Bulletin.

# THREE HISTORICAL PHASES

• 1957-2004

2004-2013

2013 to present-day

# IMPACT OF THE NEW MIGRATION POLICY

1. Reopening of the BRA (Bureau des Réfugiés et Apatrides - Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons) on 25 September 2013
2. Creation of an ad hoc board to hold hearings
3. Joint circular from the Ministry of the Interior/Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation on the terms and conditions for granting residence permits

# PHASE 1: OPERATION TO REGULARISE 853 REFUGEES RECOGNISED BY UNHCR

NATIONALITE	PERSONNES AUDITIONNEES & LEURS ENFANTS MINEURS				PERSONNES DONT LA REGULARISATION A ETE RECOMMANDEE				VARIATION EN %
	Sous- total	H	F	M	SOUS-TOTAL	HOMMES	FEMMES	MINEURS	
<b>AS AFRICAINS (12)</b>									
Côte d'Ivoirienne	265	116	93	56	263	116	93	54	48,16%
Congo Kinshasa (RDC)	129	54	37	38	129	54	37	38	23,62%
Comorien	7	2	2	3	7	2	2	3	-
Chad	6	1	1	4	6	1	1	4	-
Congo Brazzaville	5	2	2	1	5	2	2	1	-
Gambie Conakry	4	2	1	1	4	2	1	1	-
Guinée Conakry	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	-
Liban	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	-
Libya	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	-
Malawi	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	-
Maroc	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>77,28%</b>
<b>AS ARABES (6)</b>									
Algérie	85	39	19	27	84	39	19	26	15,38%
Liban	35	18	10	7	30	17	8	5	5,49%
Libya	3	3	0	0	3	3	0	0	-
Israël	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	-
Italie	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	-
Jordanie	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>21,97%</b>
<b>AS ISLAMIQUES (2)</b>									
Iran	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	0,36%
Pakistan	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,54%</b>
<b>AS ASIATIQUE (1)</b>									
Chine	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0,18%
<b>TOTAL GENERAL</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>246</b> 45,05%	<b>166</b> 30,40%	<b>134</b> 24,54%	

# PHASE 2: SYRIANS

	Homme	Femme	Enfant	Sous total
Arabe	129	44	74	247
kurde	127	9	18	154
Turkmène	0	1	3	4
Total	256	54	95	405

# PHASE 3: ONGOING MANAGEMENT OF THE TRANSITION PHASE

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION**