CICR
AFRICA

Mali: The humanitarian emergency is worsening in highly unstable northern Mali. Access to those in need remains the major challenge for humanitarian organizations, including for the ICRC and the Malian Red Cross. Despite major security constraints, the ICRC and the Mali Red Cross continue to provide aid. Refugees in neighbouring countries, such as Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger, are also receiving assistance. Read more on the website's country page, http://www.icrc.org/eng/where-we-work/africa/niger/index.jsp . For further information, please contact Steven Anderson, ICRC Geneva, at sanderson@icrc.org or on +41 79 536 92 50.

Nigeria: Outbursts of violence, which occur regularly in northern and central Nigeria, cause sudden influxes of casualties in hospitals. Hospital staff in violence-prone areas are set to receive support from the ICRC to help them cope with the situation. More details on this project, on the humanitarian situation and on the ICRC's activities since the beginning of the year will be available in an operational update in mid-May. For further information, please contact Steven Anderson, ICRC Geneva, at sanderson@icrc.org or on +41 79 536 92 50.

Libya: Several months after the end of the conflict, the ICRC continues to support the authorities in their efforts to clarify what happened to people who went missing. It also continues to visit detainees in order to check on their treatment and detention conditions, and to provide assistance as needed, notably for displaced people. Feature stories highlighting these issues will be published on the ICRC's website in the course of the month. For further information, please contact Steven Anderson, ICRC Geneva, at sanderson@icrc.org or on +41 79 536 92 50.

Somalia: Keysaney Hospital, in the north of Mogadishu, has a new operating theatre. Over the past 20 years, more than 216,000 people, including 30,000 with weapon-related injuries, have been treated at the ICRC-supported hospital. In mid-May, a news release, a photo gallery and

a video interview with the director of the hospital explaining the challenges of working in a violent environment will be published on our website. For further information, please contact Jean-Yves Clémenzo, ICRC Geneva, at jclemenzo@icrc.org or on +41 22 730 22 71 or +41 79 217 32 17.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Syria: As violence continues in parts of the country, the population is severely affected. Needs are still considerable, especially for those who had to flee their homes for safe areas where they could stay with their families. The ICRC is stepping up its activities in the country in order to reach more people and provide more support for the Syrian Arab Red Crescent. Check the Syria web page, http://www.icrc.org/eng/where-we-work/middle-east/syria/index.jsp , during the first week of May for updated information. For further information, please contact Hicham Hassan, ICRC Geneva, at hihassan@icrc.org or on +41 79 536 92 57.

Gulf countries: ICRC activities in these countries include visits to detainees in Bahrain and Kuwait and training courses on international humanitarian law. The organization also helps Red Crescent societies to prepare for any crisis or disaster situations that may arise. More on this in an operational update to be issued in the second week of May. For further information, please contact Hicham Hassan, ICRC Geneva, at hihassan@icrc.org or on +41 79 536 92 57.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Nepal: From 6 to 8 May, 20 surgeons and other medical personnel will attend a training course on the management of trauma cases. The course, which is co-organized by Dhulikhel Hospital of Kathmandu University and the ICRC, will take place in Kavre. Since 2001, the ICRC has been providing training and support for medical personnel in Nepal treating people wounded in connection with the conflict and other violence. A news release will be available on our website. For further information, please contact Christian Cardon, ICRC Geneva, at ccardon@icrc.org , or on +41 79 251 93 02 or +41 22 730 36 26.

Malaysia: The 26th Asia Pacific Roundtable on Asian Security Governance and Order will take place from 28 to 30 May. Academics, think-tank staff and senior government officials will discuss major security challenges. The ICRC will participate in the panel on Managing Illicit Transnational Migration in Asia. For further information and interview requests, please contact Jacqueline Fernandez, ICRC Kuala Lumpur, at jfernandez@icrc.org or on +60 12 3342635 or Philippe Stoll, ICRC Geneva, at pstoll@icrc.org or on +41 22 730 31 40 or +41 79 536 92 49.

Japan: From 22 to 25 May, the president of the ICRC will be on an official visit in Tokyo. For further information, please contact Philippe Stoll, ICRC Geneva, at pstoll@icrc.org or on +41 22 730 31 40 or +41 79 536 92 49.

OTHER TOPICS

World Press Freedom Day, 3 May: Since the beginning of 2011, over 60 media professionals working in violence-affected areas have requested ICRC assistance. The hotline for journalists on dangerous assignments can help when safety is at stake. Read more in an interview available at http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/interview/2012/protection-journalists-interview-2012-05-02.htm. For further information, please contact Dorothea Krimitsas, ICRC Geneva, at dkrimitsas@icrc.org or on +41 22 730 25 90.

World Red Cross / Red Crescent Day, 8 May: "Youth on the move. Doing more. Doing better. Reaching further": a joint statement by Tadateru Konoé, the president of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and Jakob Kellenberger, the president of the ICRC, will be issued to mark the day. It will be accompanied by a photo gallery on the ICRC website.

International Nurses Day, 12 May: Maïté Pahud recounts her trials and tribulations working as an ICRC wartime nurse. She emphasizes that when violence prevents the delivery of health-related services, it infringes upon the basic right of individuals to health care and to dignity. The problem affects millions, she says. Her account will be published on icrc.org/eng/life-death
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