

UDENRIGSMINISTERIET

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AFTALE PÅ PLADS MED KENYA OM NYE NÆROMRÅDEINDSATSER

Der er netop indgået en aftale mellem Danmark og Kenya om nye nærområdeindsatser, som indleder et forstærket samarbejde mellem Danmark og Kenya.

Aftalen er kommet på plads efter drøftelser med kenyanske myndigheder, bl.a. med Kenyas vicepræsident og indenrigsminister, Moody Awori. Aftalen lægger op til, at der skal igangsættes aktiviteter, der sikrer en bedre beskyttelse af flygtningene. Samtidig skal der tages initiativer, der forbedrer levevilkårene både for de mange flygtninge og lokalbefolkningen i de hårdt belastede værtsområder i det nordlige Kenya. Danmark vil også være parat til at hjælpe de somaliske flygtninge, der gerne vil vende hjem til Somalia fra Kenya.

En fælles delegation fra Udenrigsministeriet og Integrationsministeriet har forud for underskrivelsen af aftalen været i Kenya for at sondere mulighederne for aftalen. Delegationen besøgte områder, der huser de store flygtningegrupper, og drøftede med de kenyanske myndigheder, hvordan de kan styrkes i behandlingen af de store flygtningestrømme. Aktiviteterne forventes gennemført sammen med de kenyanske myndigheder, internationale organisationer og danske NGO'er.

Integrations- og udviklingsminister Bertel Haarder hilser aftalen velkommen:

"Det er en god aftale, der er kommet på plads med Kenyas regering. Det er en positiv proces, der hermed er sat i gang. Den nye indsats i Kenya indgår som et centralt element i den danske regerings arbejde med at hjælpe flygtninge og flygtningeværtslande i udviklingslandene. Siden 2003 har regeringen hermed igangsat nærområdeindsatser i fire afrikanske lande. Ud over Kenya drejer det sig om Zambia, Tanzania og Somalia. Kenya er et af verdens fattigste lande og har brug for hjælp til at tage sig af de mange flygtninge fra især Somalia og Sudan. Det er vigtigt at sikre, at flygtninge i nærområdet får en bedre tilværelse indtil den dag, hvor det er muligt for dem at vende hjem".

Støtte til iværksættelse af Kenyas nye flygtningelov

Kenyas parlament behandler for tiden landets første flygtningelovgivning. Aftalen med Danmark betyder også, at Danmark nu vil hjælpe Kenya med at opbygge både den tekniske og uddannelsesmæssige kapacitet i asylsystemet, herunder indførelse af en biometrisk registrering af flygtningene.

Ny præsident for Somalia åbner nye perspektiver for flygtnings hjemvenden

Nairobi har gennem lang tid været vært for fredsforhandlinger mellem de stridende parter i Somalia. Torsdag den 14. oktober indsatte klanledere og krigsherrer fra Somalia den nyvalgte præsident Abdullahi Yussuf. Dette åbner muligheden for en ny politisk dialog i det borgerkrigsramte land og for forberedelser til, at flygtningene kan begynde at vende hjem.

Der er ikke sat endelige beløb på den danske støtte til nærområdeindsatserne i Kenya. Ambassaden i Nairobi udarbejder de kommende måneder i samarbejde med Kenyas regering en handlingsplan for det videre forløb. Regeringen har afsat i alt 200 mio. kr. til nærområdeindsatser for 2004.

Redigeret 18. oktober 2004

<http://www.um.dk/.../spolitik/AftalePaaPladsMedKenyaOmNyeNaeromraadeindsatser.htm>

Memorandum of Understanding

1. Since 1963, Denmark has provided development assistance to Kenya. The Government of Denmark welcomed the changes in Kenya in December 2002 with the democratic elections and the new government under the leadership of President Kibaki. Denmark has responded to the endeavours of Kenya to combat poverty by increasing the country frame from KES 700 million in 2001 to KES 1.5 billion in 2004. Support has been given to new sectors in Kenya, including water and environment sector. Denmark has decided that development assistance can also be given to refugees and refugees' hosting communities in Kenya.
2. For many years, Kenya has been hosting several hundred thousands of refugees, primarily from neighbouring countries, Somalia and Sudan. Kenya has willingly given shelter and protection to the refugees. It is a big challenge for Kenya to deal with the huge influx of refugees.
3. A comprehensive Refugee Bill was introduced in the Kenyan Parliament in 2003 and upon approval will provide the legal basis for dealing with refugees in Kenya. The Bill will strengthen the management of refugees' affairs, including the establishment of systems and procedures for registration and the determination of the status of refugees.
4. Kenya is playing a leading role in the peace processes in Somalia and Sudan. The commitment of the Government of Kenya to bring peace to both war-torn countries is a crucial step towards establishing durable solutions for refugees from Somalia and Sudan.
5. The Government of Denmark has introduced a special programme for assistance to countries hosting large refugee populations. The programme focuses on refugees as well as refugees' hosting communities. Furthermore, the programme includes support to activities that will strengthen efforts to facilitate repatriation of refugees to their countries of origin.
6. The Government of Denmark is prepared to support Kenya with its burden of hosting the large number of refugees. A delegation lead by Mr. Ole Moesby, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Kim Lunding, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Refugees and Integration, Denmark visited Kenya from 6th to 8th October 2004 in order to establish cooperation with respect to refugees' affairs between Denmark and Kenya.
7. It has been agreed between the Governments of Denmark and Kenya to establish cooperation with regard to refugees within the following areas:
 - a. Support to strengthen the capability of the Kenyan Authorities responsible for refugee administration to manage and protect the refugee population in Kenya. This will include capacity building of the Refugee Department in Kenya through training, technical assistance and other assistance needed to implement the Refugee bill, including the introduction of new registration technologies such as biometrics.

- b. Support to refugees and refugees' hosting communities, in Dadaab and Kakuma. In partnership with the Government of Kenya, UNHCR and international NGOs, the Government of Denmark will address issues such as the upgrading of existing facilities in the refugee camps as well as the needs of the local population hosting the refugees.
- c. Support to the repatriation and reintegration of refugees in Somalia and Sudan when this is made possible by the peace processes.

8. The Governments of Denmark and Kenya have agreed that within the above area of cooperation with respect to refugees and refugees' hosting communities, a plan of action with a time schedule will be developed in 2004 for carrying out concrete actions.

Nairobi, October 2004

The Government of Kenya

The Government of Denmark