



## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Asylum** - A form of protection that allows refugees to remain in a host country because they fear persecution in their home country because of their race, religion, nationality, or membership in a particular social or political group.

**Borehole** - A hole drilled in the earth for the purpose of releasing water, gas, oil, etc.

**Cholera** – An infectious disease caused by bacteria found in fecal-contaminated food and water. Cholera is spread by eating food or drinking water contaminated with the bacteria.

**Human Rights** - A set of rights that every individual holds that offers protection from persecution, discrimination and other forms of abuse.

**Evacuee** – An individual who has been evacuated from a dangerous environment, such as a natural disaster, to someplace safe.

**Internally Displaced Person (IDP)** – An individual who has been forced to abandon their home due to war, violence or persecution, and who has remained within their country borders. IDPs often have very limited legal or physical protection.

**Local Integration** – When refugees are not able to return home safely, a host government will allow refugees to live and work in the country.

**Malaria** - An infectious parasitic disease commonly transmitted by mosquitoes and characterized by attacks of chills, fever, and sweating. Each year, more than 500 million people become severely ill with malaria, killing between one to three million people. A majority of cases and deaths are in sub-Saharan Africa.

**Malnutrition** – A condition that occurs when a person's body is not getting enough nutrients and proper nutrition. Chronic malnutrition will affect a child's ability to grow and function both physically and developmentally.

**Measles** - A highly contagious infectious disease occurring mostly in children and characterized by respiratory inflammation, fever, and rash of small red spots. Measles remain a leading cause of death among young children. Vaccination is the most effective treatment to prevent infection.

**Mid-Upper-Arm Cuff (MUAC)** - Known as the bracelet of life, the MUAC is an effective tool for aid workers to assess the nutritional health and diagnose the severity of malnutrition in children.



**Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)** - A legally constituted non-profit organization created by private persons or organizations on a local, national or international level with no participation or representation of a government.

**Ration** - A fixed portion of food or other provision used to control the distribution of resources and goods during a shortage or an emergency situation.

**Refugee** - An individual who is forced to flee his or her own country under a threat of violence or persecution. Once classified as *refugees*, they are protected by international law and given food, shelter, and protection in the host country.

**Repatriation or Voluntary Repatriation** - Considered the best permanent solution to the plight of refugees. When conditions in the home country have improved and refugees no longer fear for their safety, they may decide to return home voluntarily.

**Resettlement** – Occurs when some refugees are not able to safely return to their home country and are not allowed to remain in their host country. In these cases, a third country must be found to accept the refugees. This solution is available to only 1% of the refugee population.

**Returnee** - A former refugee or internally displaced person who has returned to their country or community of origin.

**UNHCR** - Established in 1950, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is mandated to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee crises worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the human rights and well-being of refugees.

**Vaccine** - A substance that is introduced into the body to prevent infection or to control diseases.

**World Food Programme (WFP)** - Launched in 1962, WFP serves as the food aid agency of the United Nations collecting, coordinating, and delivering food to save the lives of victims of war, civil conflict and natural disasters.

