

Aid in Danger

Bi-Weekly News Brief

Safety, security and access incidents affecting aid workers and aid delivery

16-29
December
2020

Africa

Central African Republic

25 December 2020: In Dékoa, Kémo prefecture, and Bakouma, Mbomou prefecture, three UN peacekeepers from Burundi were killed and two others wounded by unidentified armed perpetrators.

Source: [VOA](#)

27 December 2020: In Bouar town, Nana-Mambéré prefecture, armed perpetrators broke into the ICRC's premises during the night, ransacked the buildings and looted equipment and veterinary products intended to support animal health. Three guards were injured. In response, the ICRC was forced to drastically reduce its humanitarian activities in Bouar. Some of the staff will be redeployed elsewhere in the Central African Republic pending the return of a minimum of security in the city.

Source: [ICRC](#)

27 December 2020: In Kaga-Bandoro town, Nana-Grébizi prefecture, an unidentified gunman entered the compound of an ICRC-supported hospital, threatened security personnel, and robbed them of their personal property. **Source:** [ICRC](#)

28 December 2020: In Grimari city, Ouaka prefecture, an off-duty MSF staff member was wounded and several civilians killed and injured when the public transport truck they were travelling in was caught in crossfire by unidentified perpetrator(s). The MSF staff member later died from their injuries.

Source: [MSF](#)

Ethiopia

As reported on 30 December 2020: In Tigray region, a male aid worker from the INGO ZOA was killed while on duty in Hitsats Refugee Camp, becoming the fifth aid worker killed in Ethiopia since conflict began in October between the Ethiopian Federal Government and the regional ruling TPLF.

Source: [ZOA](#)

Sudan

21 December 2020: In El Amiria neighbourhood, Kabkabiya locality, North Darfur state, the headquarters of the NGO SOS Sahel was attacked by six gunmen driving a Land Cruiser. A male doctor and director of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), a male SOS Sahel employee, an engineer and an unspecified number of guards were beaten and an armoured military Buffalo vehicle belonging to the organisation was stolen. **Source:** [Radio Dabanga](#)

Asia

Pakistan

18 December 2020: In Chirikot sector, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, a clearly marked UN vehicle carrying two United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) personnel was shot at from across the Line of Control while en route to Polas village to meet with the victims of Indian ceasefire violations. The UN vehicle was damaged but the staff remained unhurt. **Sources:**

[DW](#) and [Dawn](#)

Europe

Turkey

27 December 2020: Turkey's parliament passed a law that would increase state control over civil society groups, including INGOs and LNGOs, on "counter-terrorism" grounds. The Preventing

Financing of Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Law allows the Interior Minister to replace board members of associations with trustees or suspend their operations if members are being prosecuted on terrorism charges. Rights groups such as Amnesty International have warned that the new law risks limiting the freedoms of civil society organisations. **Sources:** [DW](#) and [Reuters](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Yemen

30 December 2020: At Aden airport, three ICRC staff members were killed and three others were injured following an explosion attributed to Houthi forces. The staff were transiting through the airport with other civilians when the explosion occurred shortly after a plane carrying members of the country's newly formed government arrived from neighbouring Saudi Arabia. One ICRC staff member killed in the blast was a Yemeni citizen who helped coordinate ICRC's air transport activities. The second staff member was a Rwandan national who worked as an ICRC x-ray technician, and the third was a Yemeni health officer in an ICRC-supported hospital who had been pursuing his Ph.D. in the field of medicine. **Source:** [ICRC](#)

This bi-weekly news brief comprises threats and incidents of violence affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. It is part of the Aid in Danger project, by Insecurity Insight. It is prepared from information available in local, national and international news outlets and online databases. The incidents reported are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of aid delivery and have not been independently verified. All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

Each month we release the latest available data on aid workers [killed, kidnapped, or arrested \(KKA\)](#). It is continually updated and includes new and historic reports identified in open-sources and verified security incidents submitted by Aid in Danger partner agencies. Data collection is ongoing, and data may change as more information is made available.

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