

options. Operationally, UNHCR has recently sought to improve the security of refugee populations in a number of instances by reinforcing the efforts of local authorities, for example in:

- Kenya and Tanzania:** through the provision of direct material support to local security services, and training from a police officer seconded to UNHCR from a third country;
- Macedonia:** through secondment of Swedish police officers to UNHCR to work in partnership with local police.

**OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP:** Despite these recent efforts, determining exactly what kind of involvement international police should have in these situations remains largely uncertain and raises a number of important questions. These include:

- **Mandate**
  - at whose request, under whose authority and for what purpose?
- What plan would be put in place to ensure police could carry out their duties in the face of cultural and linguistic barriers?
- If international police were given a law and order mandate
  - what laws would be enforced?
  - would they be armed?
  - would they be authorized to arrest combatants?
  - what guidelines for the use of force would be used?
  - what arrangements would be made so that international police could enforce local laws, if required (*e.g. special provisions in the penal code to allow foreign police to give evidence at trials, special provisions to give foreign police the power to arrest suspects and turn them over to local authorities, laws translated into the mission language?*)
  - how would a legal/judicial system be set up in the camps, if required?
  - where would suspects be incarcerated?
  - who would manage/monitor facilities, if they are not part of the local prison system?
  - what impact would an arrest have on the suspect's refugee status?
  - if disarming combatants, what would be done with weapons?
- How can refugee populations be involved in enhancing their own security (e.g. through neighborhood watch programs or anti-crime patrols)?
- How will the particular protection needs of women and children be integrated into approaches adopted?

The objective of the Ottawa workshop is to explore some of these questions, in order to begin to clarify the possible role for international police in enhancing refugee camp security. It is hoped that conclusions drawn from the workshop can contribute to the drafting of the civilian police guidelines currently being prepared by DPKO and to further policy development within UNHCR. It is understood as only a first step in what will need to be continued international engagement on this issue.