

# REFUGEE ADMISSIONS



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Minnesota Refugee Health Conference  
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# Barbara Day, PRM





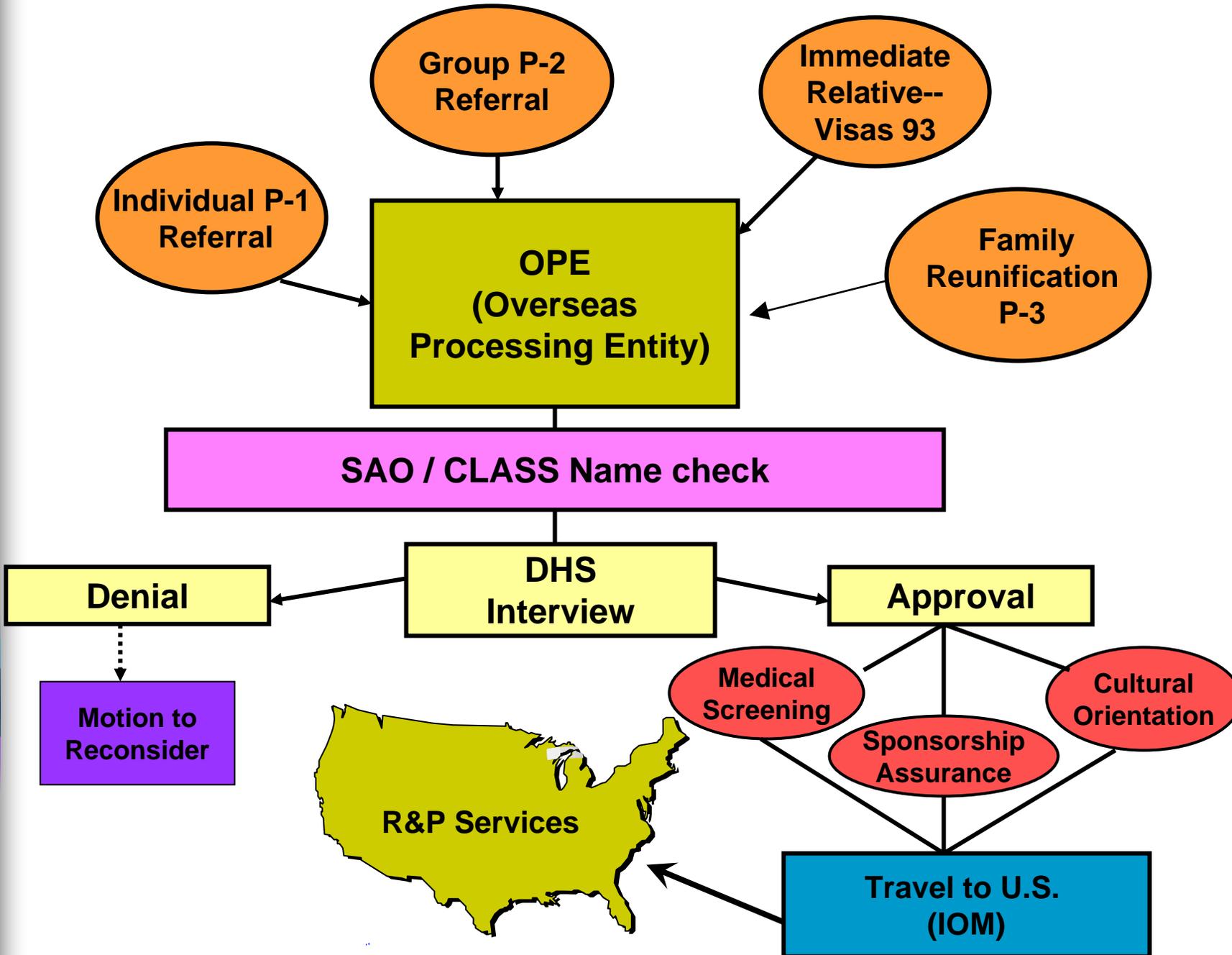
# PRM Responsibilities

- Coordinate USG policy on **population** issues (promote reproductive health, reduce incidence of maternal and child mortality)
- Support the organizations that protect and assist **refugees** and conflict victims
- Promote orderly and humane migration policies globally and support programs to assist and protect vulnerable **migrants**



# Key Components of PRM'S Refugee Admissions Program

- **Identification** of refugees eligible to be processed for consideration of admission
- **Overseas processing**, including DHS adjudication, medical screening, security background checks, and sponsorship assurances
- **Transportation** to the U.S.
- **Initial reception and placement** in the U.S.





# PRIORITY ONE (P-1)

Individual refugee cases referred to the U.S. Refugee Program by:

- UNHCR
- U.S. Embassy
- NGO

*With few exceptions, all nationalities can be accepted directly as P-1 referrals without Department approval.*



# PRIORITY TWO (P-2)

## Persons or groups of special concern:

- Specific groups of individuals identified by UNHCR or others
- Groups defined by eligibility criteria – self-identified cases

## In-country processing as authorized by President in:

- Vietnam
- Cuba
- Former Soviet Union (FSU)
- Iraq
- Other locations on an exceptional basis



# PRIORITY THREE (P-3)

Refugees of certain nationalities who are:

- spouses
- unmarried children under age 21
- parents

*of persons admitted to the U.S. as refugees or granted asylum*

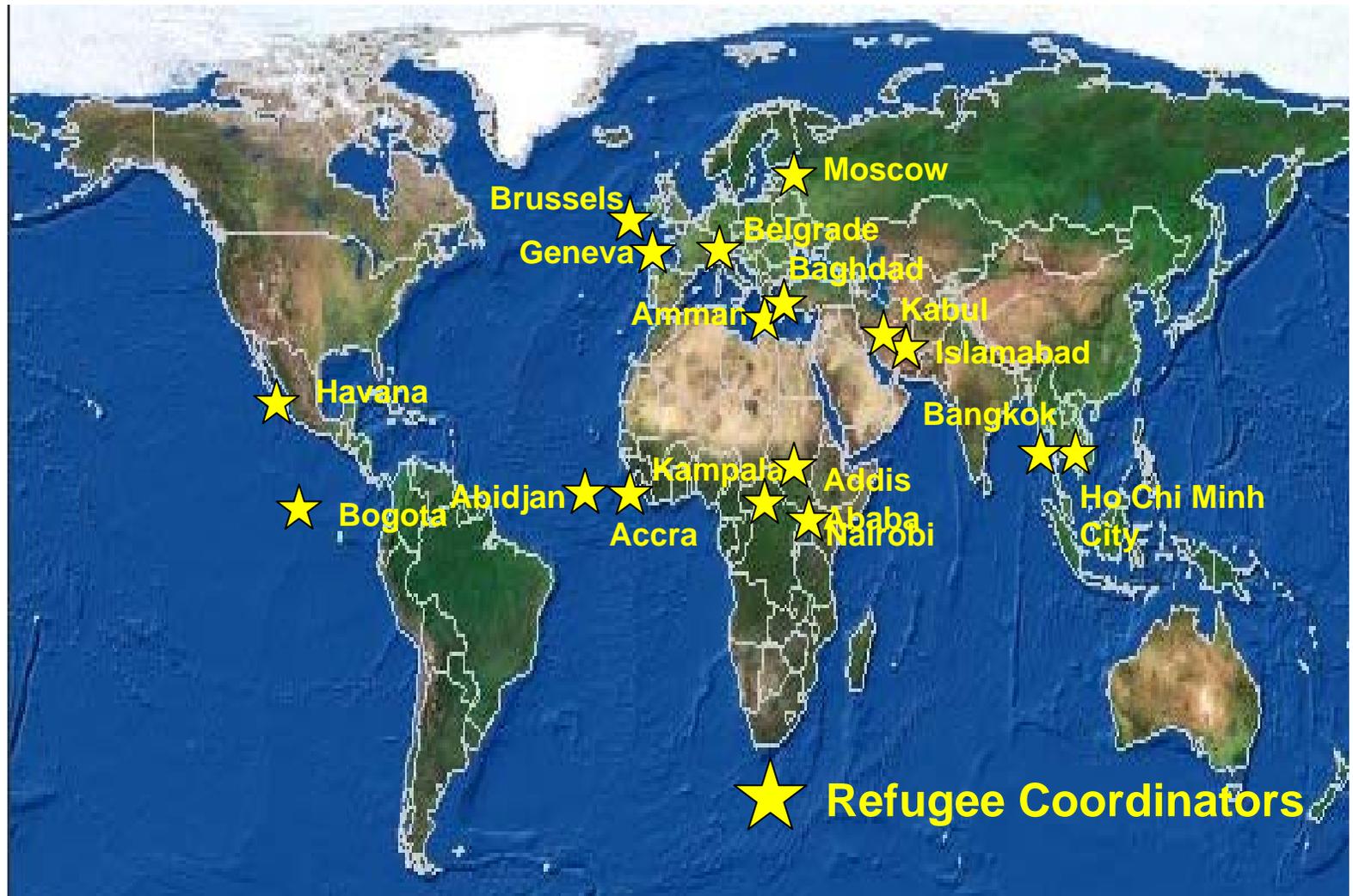
Nationalities Eligible in FY 2009: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Burma, Burundi, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo (DRC), Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan, Zimbabwe



# VISAs 93 (V-93)

- Individual “following to join” an immediate relative who entered U.S. as a refugee
- Need not be a refugee
- Must establish relationship existed before family member entered U.S. as a refugee
- Processed by consular section when DHS is not present
- OPE *may* assist with processing and resettlement
- USG assistance with processing costs/travel
- Arrivals count toward refugee ceilings

# PRM Refugee Coordinators





# Overseas Processing Entities

- Accra, Ghana - CWS
- Bangkok, Thailand - IRC
  - Cairo, Egypt - IOM
  - Havana, Cuba - DOS
- Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam - DOS
  - Istanbul, Turkey - ICMC
- Kathmandu, Nepal – IOM
- Moscow, Russia - IOM
- Nairobi, Kenya - CWS
- Vienna, Austria - HIAS



# Role of OPEs

- Accept referrals on behalf of USRAP
- Conduct pre-screening interviews
- Request CLASS and SAO checks
- Establish USCIS circuit ride schedule
- Prepare USCIS case files
- Enter USCIS decision into WRAPS
- Schedule approved cases for medical exam and cultural orientation
- Request assurances
- Create travel packets and forward to IOM



# Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System (WRAPS)

- A global, standardized refugee case management system maintained at the Refugee Processing Center in Roslyn, Virginia
- Links refugee processing posts overseas to domestic resettlement agencies and other partners, including states and other federal agencies
- Provides web access to processing information



# Reception & Placement Program Agencies

- Church World Service
  - Episcopal Migration Ministries
  - Ethiopian Community Development Council
  - Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
  - International Rescue Committee
  - Iowa State Bureau of Refugee Programs
  - Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
  - United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
  - U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
  - World Relief
- 
- 340 local affiliates; 20 URM sites



# R&P Cooperative Agreement

- Provide financial support to partially cover the recipient's expenses for initial reception and placement of refugees.
- Provide refugees with basic necessities and core services during their initial resettlement period of 90 days.
- Assist refugees in achieving economic self-sufficiency as soon as possible after arrival in coordination with publicly supported refugee service and assistance programs.



# Responsibilities of Recipient

- Basic Needs Support
- Casefile Preparation and Maintenance
- Reception Services
- Community and Other Orientation
- Health Orientation and Referrals
- Resettlement Plan Development and Implementation
- Employment Orientation and Referrals
- Communication with State and Local Authorities
- Assistance to Refugee Children-Foster Care
- Coordination and Consultation With Public Agencies
- Monitoring
- Loan Collections



# Housing

- Safe, sanitary, in good repair
- Free of visible health and safety hazards
- Affordable
- Minimum habitable space
- Working fixtures, appliances
- Disability accommodation, as needed



# Furnishings

- Furniture
- Kitchen items
- Linens and household supplies
- Cleaning supplies
- Toiletries



# Food

- Culturally appropriate, ready-to-eat food available on arrival; plus one day's supply, including baby food as necessary
- Food or food allowance at least equivalent to food stamp amount until receipt of food stamps or the family can provide food for itself



# Pocket Money

- Each adult should have an appropriate amount of pocket money throughout the first 30 days from any source
- Pocket money is discretionary money, to be spent at the refugee's discretion



# Clothing

- Appropriate seasonal clothing required for work, school, and everyday as required for each family member
- Diapers as necessary



# Transportation

- Must be in compliance with local motor safety laws
  - seat belts
  - child seats
  - number of occupants per vehicle



# Reception, Intake, and Orientation

- Free cases: visit within 24 hrs of arrival
- Intake interview within 5 working days
- Housing and personal safety orientation within 5 working days of arrival
- Orientation within 30 days of arrival
- Home visit within 30 days of arrival



# Referrals

- Social Security within 10 working days
- Cash and medical assistance within 7 working days
- Food stamps, if necessary, within 7 working days
- School enrollment and registration within 30 days



# Resettlement Plan

- Provide employment orientation
- Refer employable refugees to job counseling, placement, training
- Develop and implement resettlement plan during first 30 days; principle objective being employment of eligible adults
- Monitor resettlement plan for 90-180 days



# Health

- Ensure that each refugee has a health assessment within 30 days of arrival.
- Ensure that refugees with acute health care requirements receive appropriate and timely medical attention.



# Cultural Orientation Technical Assistance

- Strengthen linkages between CO programs and R&P activities
- Provide materials and information to overseas CO programs and R&P affiliates
- Provide support and TA to overseas CO programs
- Provide feedback from R&P agencies to CO programs in cooperation with PRM
- [www.culturalorientation.net](http://www.culturalorientation.net) and [www.cal.org](http://www.cal.org)



# U.S. REFUGEE ADMISSIONS

## FY 2003 to FY 2007

<b>Region of Origin</b>	<b>FY 2003</b>	<b>FY 2004</b>	<b>FY 2005</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>
<b>Africa</b>	10,717	29,125	20,749	18,182	17,482
<b>East Asia</b>	1,724	8,079	12,071	5,659	15,643
<b>Europe</b>	11,269	9,254	11,316	10,455	4,561
<b>L. America/ Caribbean</b>	452	3,556	6,700	3,256	2,976
<b>Near East/ South Asia</b>	4,260	2,854	2,977	3,725	7,619
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,422</b>	<b>52,868</b>	<b>53,813</b>	<b>41,277</b>	<b>48,281</b>



# U.S. REFUGEE ADMISSIONS FY 2009 Program

<b>Region</b>	<b>FY 2008 Ceiling</b>	<b>FY 2008 Arrivals</b>	<b>FY 2009 Ceiling</b>
<b>Africa</b>	16,000	8,935	12,000
<b>East Asia</b>	20,000	19,489	19,000
<b>Europe, Central Asia</b>	3,000	2,343	2,500
<b>Latin America, Caribbean</b>	3,000	4,277	4,500
<b>Near East, South Asia</b>	28,000	25,148	37,000
<b>Unallocated Reserve</b>	10,000	8,000	5,000
<b>Total</b>	80,000	60,192	80,000



# Special Immigrant Visa Program

- Cardin Amendment – 500 Afghan and Iraqi translators/interpreters for FY 2008; reverts to 50 in FY 2009 plus dependents
- Kennedy Bill – 5000 Iraqis plus dependents
- Additional legislation pending



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