

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



December 11, 2002

REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 02-28

TO: County Refugee Coordinators

This letter is to inform all County Refugee Coordinators of a quarterly magazine publication by the United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR), titled "Refugees". The Refugees magazine documents all aspects of the refugee experience around the globe. The latest edition of the Refugee magazine is devoted exclusively to the Somali Bantu refugees. Approximately, 12,000 Somali Bantu are currently being processed for resettlement in the United States and are scheduled to arrive in early 2003.

The UNHCR hopes that the background information will be helpful in orienting the refugee resettlement community in the United States to the history, culture and society of the Somali Bantu.

The link to the Refugees magazine is now available on the Refugee Programs Branch website at <www.dss.cahwnet.gov/refugeeprogram> under the "What's New" page. If you have further questions, please contact Mr. Diamond Longjel at (916) 654-5594 or e-mail him at Diamond.Longjel@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document signed by Thuan Nguyen
On December 11, 2002

THUAN NGUYEN, Chief
Refugee Programs Branch

Enclosure