



UNHCR Inter-Office Memorandum No. 025/2005
UNHCR Field Office Memorandum No. 025/2005

To / à: All Staff Members at Headquarters and in the Field

From / de: Kamel Morjane, Assistant High Commissioner

Category / catégorie: OPS 06.03

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Date / date: 29 March 2005

Subject / objet: **Procurement and use of material containing asbestos for UNHCR-funded projects**

1. As you maybe aware, there has been considerable controversy over the use of asbestos cement products in construction work and for other related uses. Some countries have banned the use of the product completely where as some are still debating its ban, because of economic or other considerations.
2. In light of these observations, UNHCR requested WHO's advice since the use of material containing asbestos, especially for roofing. WHO, in its reply to UNHCR has stated that "the World Health Organization does not recommend the use of asbestos cement for roofing"
3. In view of WHO comment, we wish to advise our Offices in the field that material containing asbestos should not be procured or used in UNHCR funded projects.
4. Thank you for your compliance with this technical advice.