

## Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate



Lori Scialabba is Associate Director for the Refugee, Asylum and International Operations (RAIO) Directorate. RAIO is responsible for overseeing, planning, and implementing policies and activities related to asylum and refugee issues as well as immigration services overseas. RAIO's primary focus is to ensure that the right benefit is provided to the right applicant while providing protection with refugees, both inside and outside of the U.S., in accordance to USCIS' laws and international obligations.

During the past year, the Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate underwent a significant transformation through consolidating a number of functions under the direction of a newly created Chief of Staff position. This reorganization the established of two new branches under the Chief of Staff, Resource Management and Mission Support Branches, responsible for budget, finance, travel, human capital, strategic planning, business analysis, communications and logistic issues for the entire Directorate. This new and more cohesive approach to managing essential support functions is part of a larger effort to efficiently utilize human resources and employ consistent messaging and standardized procedures throughout the directorate.

Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations (RAIO) has three divisions, International Operations, Asylum and Refugee Affairs with a total of 824 employees. The Asylum division has eight Asylum offices in the U.S. International Operations has three overseas district offices (Mexico, Bangkok and Rome) and 30 field offices overseas. In 2007 the Refugee Corps processed refugees in over 69 different counties. RAIO has expanded to meet its growing workload and during the past year have met and exceeded a number of production goals. RAIO could not have accomplished these milestones without efforts of hardworking employees throughout the world. Their outstanding efforts have strengthened USCIS' ability to uphold its humanitarian mission, ensuring that genuine refugees are accorded protection.

# USCIS Organizational Chart



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