



HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Meeting Details		
Date	17 May 2023 – Next meeting June 2023	
Time	14:00-15:30	
Chair	Stela Gheorghita, WHO	
Reporting	Stela Gheorghita, WHO	
Email	gheorghitas@who.int	
Agenda		
<i>meeting agenda</i> <i>Agenda point 1: Welcome words. Presentation of the Agenda items</i> <i>Agenda point 2: Interventions in the Health system response and needs to the Refugee emergency in the Republic of Moldova</i> <i>Agenda point 3: Updates on the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) activities in the context of the Refugee emergency</i> <i>Agenda point 4: Reflection on the Temporary Protection reported activities and interventions</i> <i>Agenda Point 6: Reflection on the reported activities and intervention</i> <i>Agenda point 7: Activity Info platform. Next steps</i> <i>Agenda point 8: Action points. Conclusions and next steps</i>		
Information collection and relevant links		
Moldova operational data portal: https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784 Health and Nutrition https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/333?sv=54&geo=10784 Link to the biweekly update form: https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/ScnOeFN		
Participants		
Stela Gheorghita, WHO	Agron Gashi ECARO, UNICEF	Joanna Filopoulos, REACH
Vadim Aftene, MoH	Ayaka Ishikawa, Peace Winds	Maria Stratulat, JICA
Alexandru Voloc, WHO	Cornelia Vintea-Creciun, UNFPA	Martina Sainaghi, CUAMM
Miljana Grbic, WHO	Eugenia Ciubotaru, IOM	Satoshi Sugimoto, JICA
Daniela Martini, WHO	Gabrielle Bazin, INTERSOS	Mihaela Lavrov, Peace Winds
Alexei Ceban, WHO	Martina Bogdeva, UNHCR	Ramona Engler, Action Against Hunger



Valeriu Sava, MoH	Antonio Zardini, CUAMM	Violina Nazaria, IOM
Daniela Madan, WHO	Maura Reap, WHO	Inga, interpreter
Arina Turcan Dontu	Oleg Colesnicenco, WHO	Bianca Deleu, interpreter
Igor Codreanu, UNICEF	Vitalie Slobozia, UNICEF	

Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
<i>Presenters' name, position, organization, E-mail</i>	<i>Summary of discussion with highlights. Please provide links to documents/sources of information whenever mentioned.</i>	<i>Key agreements and follow-up actions with deadlines and focal points</i>
Agenda point 1 Welcome words. Presentation of the Agenda items	<p>The Nutrition and Health WG chair welcomed participants and thanked them for their presence. Participants were invited to raise questions and express their experiences and concerns. It was highlighted that the meeting's objectives were to discuss updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities and inputs implemented by health partners on the health system response and needs to the Refugee Emergency • Implementation of Temporary Protection Status granted by the Government of the Republic of Moldova <p>The Ministry of Health representative, Mr Vadim Aftene, welcomed participants and briefed health partners that MoH created the Working Group to coordinate the Temporary Protection and Health Services for refugees.</p>	
Agenda Point 2 Interventions in the Health system response and needs to the Refugee emergency in the Republic of Moldova <i>Stela Gheorghita, NPO WHO</i>	The updated info on the health system response and needs to the Refugee emergency was presented. The PPT was developed based on five UN agencies/partners' contributions. The ongoing and planned interventions on health and nutrition were discussed.	<p>The quarterly report will be generated using the material shared by partners on Activity Info platform.</p> <p>Partners to share their activities and projects, for a better coordination and to prevent work duplication</p>



<p><i>Agenda Point 3</i> Updates on MHPSS activities in the context of the Refugee emergency</p> <p><i>Maura Reap, MHPSS coordinator, WHO</i></p>	<p>The progress on MHPSS was presented. Partners were briefed about previous and upcoming workshops on MHPSS capacity-building initiatives and informed that a situational analysis and needs assessment to better understand the MHPSS services in the country are under development. Next MTRG-MHPSS meeting will take place on June 13 at 14.00-16.00.</p>	<p>Partners were invited to attend MHPSS workshops</p>
<p><i>Agenda Point 4</i> Reflection on the Temporary Protection reported activities and interventions</p> <p><i>Alexandru Voloc, WHO</i></p> <p><i>Arina Turcan-Dontu, WHO</i></p>	<p>WHO representative Alexandru VOLOC briefed partners on Temporary protection Status updates and initiatives.</p> <p>Following the Ministry of Health Order nr. 398 from 03.05.2023, a working group was formed on the coordination of access to health services for beneficiaries of temporary protection. The first meeting took place on May 11. Colleagues from the Ministry of Health, NHIC, WHO, UNICEF, UNHCR, and IOM actively participated during the meeting. The main conclusion of the meeting was that for the upcoming period, no amendments would be made to the Governmental Decision and that health partners should gather forces to find mechanisms to motivate and encourage refugees to apply for TPS.</p> <p>The most important raised actions during the working meeting points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To Explore and identify actions needed to ensure that Ukrainian refugees, regardless of their status, benefit from vaccination, and TB/HIV/AIDS care.• To Review the documents stating up to which level of the health system medicines for refugees are free of charge.• To Develop an information campaign and materials with common messages to inform and raise awareness about the importance of the state of TPS. <p>WHO representative Arina Turcan-Dontu, highlighted that among priorities regarding TPS should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To ensure the functionality of mobile teams: It is important to ensure that the mobile teams are operational and capable of responding to the requests of potential beneficiaries. According to the decision with TPS, refugees can request assistance at the Bureau of Migration and Asylum and by having the mobile team	<p>Together with MoH to plan the next meeting on TPS and health services</p>



	<p>visit their homes in case of certain health problems, whether emergency, primary or disability-related.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To secure that the state has indicators based on which eligible individuals for the mobile teams are selected and that adequate accommodation is provided for all refugees with disabilities. <p>In addition, it was underlined that TPS is an essential mechanism for beneficiaries to obtain more rights. Health partners' role is to convince and provide information to help them understand that TPS is a mechanism that aims to assist refugees, the government, and partners in mobilizing resources and financial sources to provide a prompt and better response.</p>	
<p>Agenda Point 5 Reflection on the reported activities and intervention</p>	<p>Q1. REACH representative Joanna Filopoulos asked which vaccinations were most important to have information on through any research conducted by partners.</p> <p>WHO representative answered that the national immunization program in the Republic of Moldova includes vaccination against 13 infectious diseases. National and refugees are eligible to get vaccinated at any cost in public health facilities. Vaccination has been one of the most important public health measures offered to refugees. Since the beginning of the war, refugees have been eligible for vaccination and have been receiving it without hesitation.</p> <p>WHO coordinator officer on immunization and immunization activities highlighted that since the 24th of April in Moldova, there had been a high risk of spreading measles and a medium risk for polio transmission. According to a risk assessment, there are two priorities in immunization: inactivated polio vaccines and MMR vaccines. Refugees vaccinated for flu and Covid-19 can be tracked using the national information immunization system.</p> <p>Q2. INTERSOS representative, Gabrielle Bazin, asked if vaccination remains available for refugees without TPS. In addition, it highlighted that health colleagues working closely with refugees observed challenges for refugees without TPS in accessing health services. Asked if UNICEF or UNFPA considered developing agreements with NHIC to cover health services for refugees without TPS, at least during the transition period.</p>	<p>Partners to gather and document the prevalent issues and barriers that lead refugees to decline applying for Temporary Protection Status (TPS). They are encouraged to report on these findings for further analysis and action</p>



	<p>WHO representative,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- underlined the need to encourage refugees to apply for TPS, the low interest to apply for TPS was not expected.- during the TPS meeting, NHIC highlighted that there could not be two mechanisms to cover the health services offered to refugees. Still, the possibility of directly financing medical institutions could be explored.- mentioned that any refugee who registers with a primary health physician is entitled to receive compensated medicine like the nationals.- encouraged health partners to collect systematic issues faced by refugees in accessing health services.	
<p><i>Agenda point 6</i> <i>Activity Info platform. Next steps,</i></p> <p><i>Daniela Madan, WHO</i></p>	<p>Partners were informed to update the Activity Info database with their organization's respective activities aligned with RRP 2023, which were accomplished in April. At a minimum, partners were required to complete activities for April. For coordination purposes, it was recommended to introduce ongoing and planned activities.</p>	<p>Partners to share during the period <u>16.05-26.05</u>, their inputs for April in Activity Info platform</p>
<p><i>Agenda point 7</i> <i>Action points. Conclusions and next steps</i></p>	<p>The Ministry of Health representative, Mr Vadim Aftene, thanked participants for the meeting and discussions and for their contribution and support in covering the health needs of refugees. And suggested planning the next meeting on TPS and inviting the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Migration.</p> <p>The Nutrition and Health WG chair expressed gratitude to the participants for their valuable contributions and active engagement during the meeting and discussions and encouraged partners to explain the benefits of applying to TPS to refugees.</p>	<p>WHO to share the meeting minutes and ppt with MoH and health partners.</p>