

Health Coordination Call: Meeting Minutes

7 March 2022

Brief Summary Analysis

Participants were welcomed to the first health sector coordination meeting and thanked warmly for their support in the current refugee crisis on behalf of WHO and MOH of Poland.

A short **overview of the current situation and an update of WHO action** :

1. UNHCR Informed that 1.067 million refugees, including elderly, women, children, were registered on the 7th of March 2022.
2. Municipal structures and partners in health, including NGOs and governmental organizations, are doing all they can to provide refugees with support. Many volunteers provide first help to the arriving refugees, and their work is enormously appreciated.
3. WHO is consistently in touch with the Ukrainian Health Cluster and other neighboring countries hosting Ukrainian refugees, including Romania, Moldova, Slovakia, Hungary, and Czechia.
4. Most of the refugees are women, children, and elderly, arriving by cars, busses, or trains. Most of them continue their travel to reunite with family or friends in Poland or abroad. Some seek shelter in one of the reception centers.
5. A registration system of refugees arriving from Ukraine is in place, but registration is limited. Collecting information on vaccination status and medical needs would strengthen the registration and support MOH decision-making for health.
6. WHO has developed a quick form (paper and electronic) and shared with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders the following:
 - a. a short medical questionnaire in the form of an application for refugees, which will help gather the information regarding their health, medical history, vaccination status, medication needs, etc.
 - b. A leaflet on medical emergency numbers and services in Poland.
7. Health concerns are polio, and TB, given the epidemiological relevance in Ukraine.
8. WHO is planning and or has been setting up the following working groups:
 - a) Assessment for the deployment of Emergency Medical Teams.
 - b) Working group on Child Nutrition, coordinated by WHO EURO
 - c) Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) working group.
 - d) Working group on Medicines, and Commodities Procurement and Supplies
9. WHO is supporting the leadership of Poland and is in close contact with the Ministry of Health and relevant government and non-governmental structures to assess needs, gaps, and possible support by the humanitarian community.
10. WHO is exploring with the governmental structures on licensing of foreign NGO personnel and medical professionals and incorporation of Ukrainian refugees of medical professions into healthcare service systems.
11. WHO is working with governmental structures and NGOs on assuring the continuity of medical care for refugees with chronic and rare diseases.

WHO will regularly update health partners on progress.

There were around 30 entities participating in the meeting. Participants presented themselves and the area(s) of interest. Due to time constraints, there was not time to go in-depth on activities and areas of operation. However, this was an initial start meeting and the coordination will continue in the following meetings.

Next steps:

- The next meeting is scheduled for Monday the 14th of March.

We greatly appreciate your input and expertise and looking forward to efficient cooperation.