

## Inter-Agency Coordination

### Moldova

<b>Meeting subject:</b>	Task Force on Trafficking in Persons
<b>Time &amp; location:</b>	14 July 2022, 3-4:30PM, State Chancellery / Zoom
<b>Chaired by:</b>	Diana Doros, Head of the Coordination Directorate for Human Rights and Social Dialogue, State Chancellery. Co-chairs: Anna Ursol, Field Associate, UNHCR, Hanna Antonova, Protection Unit, IOM
<b>Participants:</b>	State Chancellery, Centre for Combatting Trafficking in Persons (CCTiP), Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Centre of Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking, UNHCR, IOM, OSCE, FRONTEX, EUBAM, UNODC, UNFPA, UNDP, IsraAID, La Strada, CNPAC, IRC Moldova, Operation Orphan, People in Need, War Child, Be an Angel, Reach my Street, ADRA Moldova.

### AGENDA

1. Welcome remarks
2. Presentation of the joint initiatives of the Task Force on Trafficking in Persons (TFTP)
  - TFTP Action Plan
  - TFTP Training list
3. Presentation of the awareness raising campaign on trafficking in persons among the refugees. Q&A
4. Update on the recent development and activities on Countering Trafficking in Persons
5. AoB and wrap-up

AGENDA POINT	DISCUSSION
1	<b>Welcome remarks</b>  The Chairperson opened the meeting, provided an update on the results of the first meeting of the TFTP, and introduced the agenda. The co-chairs seconded the welcoming remarks.
2	<b>Presentation of the joint initiatives of the TFTP (TFTP Action Plan; TFTP Training list)</b>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Chairperson introduced the Draft TFTP Action Plan template and stressed that the emphasis is on following up on the international recommendations regarding combatting trafficking in persons in the context of the current crisis with refugees. The format mostly replicates that of the National Action Plan against Trafficking in Persons.</li><li>• IOM provided an overview of the rationale behind the draft template: matching activities of all involved actors planned for the next 6 months to the existing international recommendations that stem from assessments that have already been carried out by reputable international observers, such as OSCE and GRETA.</li><li>• The Chairperson additionally stressed the need to include not just the activities that are funded (ongoing and planned) but also activities that require donors' attention, so that the Plan could be used as a fundraising tool.</li><li>• La Strada and EUBAM welcomed the Action Plan format and commended it as a good tool to identify partnerships and areas in need of support. CCTIP expressed commitment to reviewing the proposed template and contribute to it.</li><li>• Participants also recommended that the National Confederation of Trade Unions and the Bureau for Migration and Asylum should be strongly encouraged to contribute to the Action Plan.</li><li>• Ministry of Labour and Social Protection requested additional time for feedback on the template.</li><li>• The Centre for Assistance and Protection of Victims of Trafficking suggested to extend the duration of the Action Plan for longer term than six months, as according to their information many refugees intended to stay in Moldova for 1-2 years.</li><li>• The State Chancellery concurred that integration was an important aspect that needed to be included in the Action Plan and that extending the plan to one year, from July 2022 till July 2023, could also be considered.</li><li>• The Chairperson proposed that all members of the Task Force review the template and provide their feedback by 20 July.</li><li>• The Chairperson introduced the Training Plan template created to facilitate the coordination of trainings offered to governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The purpose is to ensure that trainings are needs-based, high quality, and do not overwhelm the target audiences.</li><li>• The Chairperson requested that all members of the Task Force introduced their completed, ongoing and planned training activities into the Training Plan template by Friday, 22 July.</li><li>• UNHCR reminded all members of the TFTP that a <a href="#">SharePoint folder</a> containing both documents has been made available to them and that all inputs should be introduced there.</li></ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>Presentation of the awareness raising campaign on trafficking in persons among the refugees</b>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• La Strada presented the awareness raising campaign it will be launching in the near future jointly with governmental partners, IOM, and other development partners. The project is based on consultations/working meetings with CCTiP, the General Prosecutor's Office and the State Labour Inspectorate. One of the greatest challenges is livelihoods and the risks Ukrainian refugees face when looking for employment. Therefore, the purpose of the campaign is about involving the population at risks associated with migration pertaining to trafficking and exploitation. The campaign will disseminate information on how individuals can get legal work in Moldova, and promote the hotline for safe migration and anti-trafficking as well as the thematic website migratiesigura.md. At the moment, the website includes information only for Moldovan citizens, but during the campaign the content will be updated to be relevant for refugees on the territory of Moldova. Additionally, information will be disseminated via a variety of media channels, incl. social and traditional media.</li><li>• The Chairperson suggested that the information materials to be produced by La Strada should be shared with the Task Force. Messages for print and online dissemination can be jointly discussed as part of the Task Force. Members of the Task Force can support in their dissemination. The Chairperson additionally requested that the format of leaflets from EUBAM was shared with La Strada and CCTiP.</li></ul>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Update on the recent development and activities on Countering Trafficking in Persons</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CCTiP conducted monitoring of the dopomoga website focusing on providers of accommodation and transportations. No immediate trafficking risks were identified. One case pertaining to suspected trafficking of minors is under investigation.</li><li>• EUBAM has seconded staff to border crossing points, disseminated leaflets and placed information resources in Balti and Cahul, spread information on trafficking in persons online, and stands ready to support relevant measures as part of the Action Plan. EUBAM invites CCTiP to seek their assistance in case CCTiP are interested in meetings with their Ukrainian counterparts.</li><li>• NGO Be an Angel expressed concerns with the inconsistent registration of refugees and poor response from the BMA and emphasized the need to ensure a more active role of the BMA in the TFTP. Concerns over the lack of information on what awaits the refugees who are moving on to the EU Member States were also expressed.</li><li>• IOM informed of the information materials recently made available by the EU Agency for Asylum. These will be shared with members of the TFTP for further dissemination.</li><li>• UNHCR reiterated the importance of addressing trafficking-related risks at border crossing points. UNHCR additionally raised concerns over Ukrainian men crossing the Moldovan border irregularly and requesting asylum. Clarification on</li></ul>

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	<p>the procedures pertaining to the withholding of their documents by the Moldovan authorities, onward travel, and family reunification are required from the BMA. Update on this is to be provided at the next meeting of the TFTP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• UNODC informed of the workshop for criminal justice chain practitioners (seven judges, seven prosecutors, and seven representatives of the General Police Inspectorate) that was organized in cooperation with the State Chancellery and the National Institute of Justice between 30 June and 1 July. It was first of a series of several workshops planned, focusing on the victim-centred approach in the prosecution of TiP. UNODC invited members of the TFTP to partner on the activities involving law enforcement agencies in Moldova.</li><li>• Ministry of Labour and Social Protection provided an update on the employment of Ukrainian refugees by the National Employment Agency: 645 Ukrainian nationals employed, incl. 488 women; the majority found jobs in Chisinau. One hundred thirty-nine (139) employers have expressed willingness to hire Ukrainians, and 2,000 vacancies for Ukrainians have been made available. In terms of assistance available to trafficked persons: in Moldova, there are seven specialized centers that provide assistance. Since the start of the year, 38 victims have been assisted, incl. 30 adults and eight minors.</li><li>• IOM reported on the trainings on the detection and referral of potential cases of trafficking organized for the directors and staff of the Refugee Accommodation Centres (RAC) in cooperation with the National Agency for Social Assistance and the Chisinau Centre for Protection and Assistance. RACs were previously identified among the frontline institutions that can come into contact with victims of trafficking. Several participants brought up potential TiP cases, and IOM is following up with them on these disclosures. Also, thanks to the proactive efforts of the Co-Chair of the Roma Rights Task Force, Roma rights perspective was included in the trainings, which was extremely interesting and very well received. It will be made a regular part of the CT trainings offered by IOM. Requests for training on anti-trafficking were received from some humanitarian partners, these will be arranged in the next few weeks. All members of the TFTP are welcome to reach out to IOM for capacity building support. IOM additionally reported on the placement of the anti-trafficking information materials at the waiting area of the Ukrainian Consulate in Chisinau as one of the places where (potential) victims of trafficking can be encountered. Finally, IOM continues to support the work of six implementing partners on both sides of the Nistru River to conduct outreach and provide assistance to individuals at risk among refugees and host communities.</li></ul>
5	<p><b>AoB and wrap-up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• UNHCR encouraged all members of the TFTP to bring up specific TiP concerns and response issues they observe in the field.</li><li>• The Chairperson requested <del>that</del> next meeting <del>to be</del> held in-person to facilitate better communication/ discussion. She thanked all members of the Task Force for their participation and contributions.</li></ul>

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	For more information on the coordination and establishment of the Task Force, please reach to Hanna Ursol <a href="mailto:ursol@unhcr.org">ursol@unhcr.org</a>
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ACTION POINTS SUMMARY				
No.	Action	Responsible	Deadline	Status
1.	To provide feedback to the <a href="#">Action Plan template</a>	All members of the TFTP	20 July	
2.	To populate the <a href="#">Training Plan form</a>	All members of the TFTP	22 July	
3.	To share information materials developed for the campaign in Moldova with the TFTP	La Strada	ASAP	
4.	To circulate the information resources shared by the EU Agency for Asylum	IOM	Together with the Minutes	
5.	To follow up <del>with BMA</del> on the procedures regarding Ukrainian men crossing the border into Moldova irregularly	<a href="#">BMAUNHCR</a>	By next TFTP meeting	