



Regional Refugee Response
for the Ukraine Situation



Palanca Local Coordination Meeting

Meeting Minutes – 07 February 2024

1. Meeting Details

Date	07 February 2024
Time	12:00 – 13:00
Chair	Volokh Karina, UNHCR Snr. Field Assistant
Reporting	Derli Nicolae, ACTED
Email	volokh@unhcr.org; nicolae.derli@acted.org

2. Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Update on recent developments in Palanca Border Reception Center
3. Activity updates from participants
4. AoB

3. Information collection and relevant links

Moldova operational data portal: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784>

Local Refugee Coordination operational data portal: <https://data.unhcr.org/en/search?>

4. Participants (Name, Position, Organization)

- Karina Volokh, UNHCR
- Igor Calancea, IGSU
- Mihail Macovetchi, CDA
- Nicolae Derli, ACTED
- Eugen Oprea, GSS security
- Olga Costenco, IOM
- Diana Negru, Blue Dot

5. Information collection and relevant links,



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Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/Actions																								
<p>Introduction and Update on recent developments in Palanca Border Reception Center</p> <p>Ms. Karina Volokh, UNHCR Snr. Field Assistant, volokh@unhcr.org</p>	<p>UNHCR shared the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 17 January 2024, the last Local Coordination Meeting was held by UNHCR at Palanca Border Reception Center. At the meeting were present: IGSU, ACTED, CDA, GSS Security, Blue Dot and Concordia (online). Evacuations: UNHCR received a total of 106 evacuees in the following five evacuations operated by the GLORIA organization during the past weeks. The evacuees received services at PBS before being transported to respective locations. <table border="1" data-bbox="558 646 1551 898"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Date</th> <th># of evacuees</th> <th>Transported to</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>18 January 2024</td> <td>5</td> <td>Romania (IOM)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>24 January 2024</td> <td>48</td> <td>Germany (Be An Angel)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>25 January 2024</td> <td>18</td> <td>Romania (IOM)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>1 February 2024</td> <td>15</td> <td>Romania (IOM)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>5 February 2024</td> <td>20</td> <td>Romania (IOM)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 19 January 2024, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi, together with the Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe, Mr. Philippe Leclerc and the UNHCR Representative in the Republic of Moldova, Ms. Francesca Bonelli visited Palanca Border Reception Center and two QUIPs supported by UNHCR. On 23 January 2024, the Mobile Team visited Popeasca RAC. UNHCR and CDA provided useful information on the changes for cash assistance and spoke about the rules of the RACs. The visit was attended by 36 people, including 13 men and 23 women. On 25 January 2024, the Local Refugee Coordination Forum was held by UNHCR in Causeni. At the meeting were present: ACTED, Diaconia, CDA, OHCHR, representatives of Community Service Centre, representatives of Territorial Agency for Social Assistance. The agenda points of the meeting were: Brief refresher on local coordination, Presentation on RRP local consultation report, Presentation on RAC consolidation strategy and General updates from participants. 		Date	# of evacuees	Transported to	1	18 January 2024	5	Romania (IOM)	2	24 January 2024	48	Germany (Be An Angel)	3	25 January 2024	18	Romania (IOM)	4	1 February 2024	15	Romania (IOM)	5	5 February 2024	20	Romania (IOM)	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– On 25 January 2024, UNHCR had a meeting with representatives of Raional Council of Causeni and spoke about the activities and services provided by UNHCR partners in Causeni district.– On 30 January 2024, Mobile Team visited Stefan Voda. UNHCR and CDA provided useful information on the changes for cash assistance and spoke about concerns of refugees. The visit was attended by 16 people, including 3 men and 13 women. The main concerns raised by refugees were: the lack of information on compensatory medicines available for refugees, exceptional criteria for UNHCR cash assistance to people with Moldovan citizenship.– On 1 February 2024, ACR NGO, in partnership with the WFP and the AAH, began distributing hot meals to refugees who are evacuated from Ukraine and received at Palanca Border Reception Center.– On 5 February 2024, WFP visited Palanca Border Reception Center. The purpose of the visit was to see the process of distribution of hot meals to the refugees coming from Ukraine.– On 6 February 2024, Mobile Team visited Palanca village. UNHCR and CDA provided useful information on the changes for cash assistance and spoke about concerns of refugees. The visit was attended by 18 people, including 3 men and 15 women. The main concerns raised by refugees were: the ineligibility of older persons with dual citizenship who had lived in Ukraine for extended period of time to UNHCR cash assistance, and possible exceptional eligibility of UNHCR cash assistance for people with Moldovan citizenship. There are citizens who were born on the territory of Moldova but had always lived in Ukraine before the war.	
Activity updates from participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CDA – They do not have major updates, as mentioned in the report sent to UNHCR, the practice of bringing asylum applicants from the green zone to the border is more complicated, and the border police are seeking solutions to optimize the transportation of beneficiaries with their own transport.• IOM – From the last meeting until today, 77 people have been transported (48 women, 3 men, and 26 children).• Blue Dot – 109 children visited their station, along with 68 adults. The team remains the same, with the addition of a shift supervisor. The mobile team also conducts three	



	<p>sessions in villages on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There are few items left from the kits: jackets, blankets, gloves, and some footwear.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSS Security – has no updates. • ACTED – Since the last meeting, ACTED has transported 36 people from Palanca to refugee centers and Chisinau. Additionally, through the special transportation service, we transported 112 people from centers to legal services nationwide or changed their place of residence. Also, an important information is that soon there won't be a car stationed daily at the border in Palanca, also the bus that is transporting beneficiaries from the Bus Station to their destination. However, this matter is still under discussion, and when an exact response is available, everyone will be informed. Anyway, transportation will still be provided, although not as frequently on-site as usual and probably on demand. • IGSU - has no updates to share. The tents from the refugee tent camp have been dismantled and relocated to the requested locations in Balti and Cahul, where they will be used according to their intended purpose. They have asked the security guards to continue taking care of the temporary station and to be vigilant. The institution is still ready to intervene for any assistance requests. They suggested that the bus from IOM with Romania should only come when it's known that people are coming in groups to avoid unnecessary trips from Romania. 	
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6. Details of the Next Meeting

Date	20 March 2024
Time	12:00 – 13:00
Venue	Palanca Border Reception Center