

## MEETING MINUTES

<b>Sector Working Group NORTH:</b>	Site Management Support (SMS)
<b>Date:</b>	09/09/2016
<b>Venue:</b>	Ministry of Macedonia and Thrace
<b>Chair:</b>	NRC – Stiofainin Caitriona Nic Iomhaird
<b>Participants:</b>	
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### Agenda:

1. Review of action points from last WG
2. SWG activity check list
3. Data collection
4. Updates from the site
5. AOB

### 1. Review of action points from previous meeting

- a. The final list of long-term sites will be circulated by MoMP on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September (pending).
- b. WG members to add at the end of their SMS weekly report what type of committees they have so far formed in their respective sites (pending for some)
- c. Dennis to share UNHCR press review with summary of the HC's visit (done)
- d. NRC to share list of sites and related cash actors with WG members (done)
- e. NRC to call for an ad-hoc meeting on data collection at Central Macedonia level in order to discuss harmonization of population data in view of CBI roll-out (done)

### 2. Update from UNHCR regarding transportation provision

- Two types of transportation available from UNHCR in all sites: 1. Anything related to asylum services/procedures. 2. Transportation support for non-emergency medical appointments.
- Cannot meet the demands of all refugees to reach asylum services due to time and funding. Need to use SMS structure to get feedback, the transportation takes place at hours that are inconvenient. Automated system efforts to not miss asylum appointments or else they are postponed in March.

- UNHCR receives lists from the asylum service, UNHCR field staff contacts the refugees who have a meeting and arranges when to be picked up/dropped off. Refugees that are receiving transportation can be escorted/accompanied (mobility issues, children).
- Transportation to the hospital for non-emergencies is available by UNHCR (without an interpreter).
- Medical appointments are not UNHCR's mandate. UNHCR has a separate contract to provide transportation and will take place on a weekly basis. There is a weekly plan compiled Wednesday and Thursday. This service is available in all sites. Medical actors give the lists to UNHCR. Option of a bus ticket is not realistic due to some types of emergency. Red cross and MdM are still giving bus tickets to Diavata and Lagadikia.
- UNHCR capacity is limited for ad hoc events, must meet needs with other partners. Key gap on a daily basis. Estimated capacity 2500ppl per month, asylum service partnered with other partner to enhance capacity/increase number of vehicles. Not aware of other organizations doing this (IFRC?) transportation vouchers to support UNHCR initiative, from Attica region to Athens they provide a ticket.
- UNHCR discussed protection/security concerns of unauthorized/irregular movement. UNHCR to better coordinate who is getting in a bus/ individual cases ex. group of 20 refugees moved to Athens. UNHCR cannot encourage unauthorized transportation.
- Refugees were sent to Serres, which is now at capacity. Afghans were sent to Malakasa. Rest (120) were sent to Drama, already agreed to have 600ppl max.
- Winterization/construction work in progress.

➔ *Action Point: Coordination between MoMP and UNHCR regarding movement of population. MoMP to share information re. refugees being transferred so there is a proper protection follow up. Proposal: UNHCR data collection officer to provide a monitoring tool.*

### 3. Asylum Services

- Asylum interviews began 1<sup>st</sup> Sept and will continue until 31 March 2017, possible extension due to 5 sites: Athens (3), Thessaloniki (1), Alexandroupoli (1). Six months of appointments will be posted online. The lists are the final reference not the text messages.
- Instead of a full month schedule it will be done weekly.
- More clarity on how to accommodate camps that are further away from urban centers, hospitals, etc. Identify actor to liaise with Thessaloniki public transportation
- Prioritization based on vulnerability: UAMs. No distinction between UAMs and SC. Birth date taken into account so that they are interviewed while still minor. U15s must be accompanied by legal guardian who must participate in interview. Over 15s can be unaccompanied, but prosecutor's office must give order to authorise the interview.
- Refugees must present their asylum card. Including damaged/remnants. Those holding no card at all will be rescheduled at the end of the queue. Photo of the reported stolen card can also be presented, but not guaranteed. Police report of stolen/lost card insufficient, as there is no record. Escalation desk will be established to cross-check in case of reportedly stolen cards.
- All agencies agreed that referral system for individual cases needs to be reviewed.

### 4. Updates from NGO WG members, including Activity Checklist presentation

- ➔ UNHCR presented SMS agency activity checklist and key activities of SMS agencies which is divided 4 (in some cases 5) pillars.
- ➔ Data collection
- ➔ CASH distribution is planned, still under discussion, preliminary talks  
Thessaloniki CASH agencies: UNHCR, IRC, IFRC, end October/beginning of November. 2 databases ProGres 4, Project X. Main coordination being led from Athens.

- ➔ *Action Point: MoMP to request cash working group to come to the north and do an info session/ presentation*
- ➔ *Action Point: SMS WG to share list of SMS agencies and 3W per site to MoMP (focal point Nicholas Connolly-Rangos)*
- ➔ *Action Point: Iosif Alexandridis, MoMP, will call a meeting to present schedule/decisions regarding infrastructure for Tuesday morning 13 September.*

#### **5. Main Updates from MoMP regarding camps**

- Refer to as 'long term' and not permanent sites.
- Draft plan for winterization: recommends that there is no site that shouldn't be winterized as even short term sites will remain occupied for as long as it takes to prepare alternate locations.
- Dormant stage of evacuated camps to be able to respond to the increasing number of arrivals in the islands. Dublin cases returns from Germany. No official info from European countries but high concern.
- Mr. Connolly-Rangos, MoMP will communicate between the WG members and Mr. Alexandridis. UNHCR offered to provide additional information regarding SMS work to Mr. Alexandridis.
- SMS agencies will incorporate all site management for permanent sites. Which camps have gaps. All SMS agencies will send 3W to MoMP to identify gaps in each camp.
- Closure/emergency evacuation of Giannitsa due to flooding: transportation of population from one camp to the other was arranged at last minute, and sometimes advance communication with Municipalities was not possible.
- SMS actors to share info on NFIs needed to MoMP.