

CwC MEETING MINUTES

CwC Meeting	
Meeting Subject	National CwC Working Group Meeting
Date, Time & place of meeting	25/01/2017, UNHCR Athens Office
Meeting Chair	Alexandra Zavvos (Solidarity Now) Rachel Maher (UNHCR)
Minutes/notes prepared by	Rachel Maher
Present organizations	UNHCR, Salvation Army, IFRC, HRC, IRC, Internews, DRC, CRS, Save the Children.

1. Review of previous meetings/matters arising

Point/details	Details/Going forward	Suggested Actions
	The Chair asked the attendees to provide their comments with respect to the minutes of the previous meeting. No comments were made. The minutes were approved.	

2. Registrations – rescheduling of appointments

Asylum Service Rescheduling Registration Appointments	<p>The working group was briefed on the updated schedule on registrations. The rescheduling will reduce the time for full lodging interviews of the Pre-registration caseload significantly. Among the main changes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alexandroupolis will not be doing any full registrations in this period and its appointments have been moved to Thessaloniki. - Caseload will be completed earlier than initially scheduled, expected date of finalizing the pre-registered caseload is beginning of March, 2016. <p>The new schedule for full registration appointments is available on the Asylum Service website (under Full Registration) here; the search tool (in multiple languages) for locating appointments by individual registration number is here.</p> <p>The Asylum Service representative attended to provide answers to specific questions and also informed the WG that the people who had their appointments cancelled due to a bad weather incident in Thessaloniki last week would be rescheduled ASAP. This is unrelated to the mass rescheduling that has been announced this week by the AS.</p> <p>It was noted that there was a need for more French translators on the island of Lesbos. The representative indicated that needs could be communicated directly to the AS and they would try to address the issue. There is no knowledge to date that there is a lack of interpreters in French.</p> <p>WG heard that many Urdu speakers have indicated they cannot get through. Meanwhile, the phone line that was dedicated to Relocation line is now under-utilised due to less people needing to use it. Skype line will be open at more times in order to meet the demand and adjust the schedule. AS website has updates.</p>	
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3. Update on cashed-based assistance program

Cash	<p>The CwC working group was informed that there are cases where people are moving from Urban areas back to sites in order to try to be eligible for cash.</p> <p>There will be messages drafted for people doing this. The situation is that people will be still eligible for sites but they would be receiving cash through another agency. The communications are responsive, as the situation changes every day and we are trying</p> <p>Recognised refugees getting cash: still trying to investigate a written policy developed on this. The protection unit is looking at the bridging support for recognised refugees which may include cash.</p>	
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	<p>Some of those on the islands (or mainland) have received cash cards from partners, SP, IRC, IFRC, Oxfam, SN. Some may not if they are eligible.</p> <p>By the end of February UNHCR will start start distributing the cash cards.</p> <p>The main eligibility criteria for PoCs is their documentation. UNHCR is working to see whether unaccompanied children can get restricted or unrestricted cash assistance. Ministry still considering it and CP working group has translated the recommendations to Greek to advocate this. All cash actors have said to the government that if they will not continue to discuss this examples of vulnerability and eligibility, the discussion needs to go to the protection working group or other working group that can facilitate that discussion.</p>	
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4. Education Working Group Update and CWC support to Education initiatives

	<p>ESWG attended the meeting in order to present and update as well as get advice from the CWC working group on supporting initiatives.</p> <p>Specifically, guidance was sought on how to use and disseminate a video developed by IOM on encountering negative rumors on refugee education (e.g. once a child is in Greek school, s/he cannot be relocated to another country until the school year is over). IRC advised about language and subtitling.</p> <p>How to capture voices of children on education (gathered in a survey by Internews/Save the Children was done but we need something more specifically on education) to use to advocate to MOE on the positive and negative comments? Especially to investigate if the lack of translators/cultural mediators in the MOE's reception classes is impacting children's attendance, especially the older children? Can we draw any analysis on who is not attending the Greek schools, or what education they actually need?)</p> <p>Advocacy for Greek population on refugee children's education UNICEF/British Council may create a short spot for advocacy on refugee education targeting Greek population.</p>	<p>Internews, IFRC, IRC to assist/advise on video production, also on possible survey. Contact to be made directly.</p>
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5. Announcements

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lexicon that was developed by the Swiss Embassy will be dispatched to the open sites this week. More information about it can be found here. 2. Gathering information on Relocation destination countries: Chair requested that any of the partners who produce information on countries where people are relocated share the website links on a spreadsheet, in order to map what has been produced and shared. 	<p>Chair to share googledoc to update info on countries of Relocation (destinations) and seek input from IRC, IFRC, Internews.</p>
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