

## **Meeting Minutes Education Working Group (PWG)**

**Date and time of meeting:** Thursday, April 04<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 10:00hrs-12:00hrs

**Location of meeting:** UNHCR Office, Ioannina, Greece

**Members present:** Ministry of Education, Soup&Socks, Second Tree, University of Ioannina, ARSIS, TDH, Apostoli, UNHCR

**Guests:** -

**Chairperson:** Mohamed Othman

### **Agenda Item #1: Formal education classes resumed in Filipiada, how to assist and facilitate the inclusion**

Discussion: In Filipiada the formal education classes were resumed after a long period of stoppage (due to the late health issue related to cases of hepatitis A), the classes were resumed Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, UNHCR was present and distributed school bags and stationery to the children.

There is an issue with the local community in Filipiada which is not in favour of the inclusion classes, and we either don't engage and leave the MoED to proceed alone or we can mediate with the local community and outreach for them trying to address their concerns and explain the rights of the refugee children in fair access to education as a right.

UNHCR, we should mediate and support the MoED efforts

TdH, some municipality workers are transferring bad images about the refugees to the local community (was reported to the site manager who is supervising them).

.

### **Agenda Item #2: children from the recently evacuated hotels, liaison with the ministry of education to deliver certificates of attendance**

Discussion: UoI is very concerned (as all the partners) about the way that movement was handled and basically for the lack of information and transparency to both partners and refugees, taking the refugees from the area where they developed ties with the city and the locals/actors/volunteers etc. and disrupting their enrolment in the formal and informal education activities (UoI expressed their concerns in a letter that was shared with all the partners in this mailing list)

-UNHCR, hotels are not sustainable and the strategy is to move towards apartments which are more cost effective and at the same time facilitate the integration of refugees with the local community and raise the level of their self-reliance, the movement could have been coordinated better for sure and UNHCR takes full responsibility of the lack

of information and will take measures so it won't happen again, at the same time UNHCR coordinated with ministry of education to obtain certificates of attendance for the period they attended formal school and we'll send it to them in the new accommodation facility.

-UNHCR will share with partners an update about the educational activities held by NOSTOS (UNHCR IP running the new accommodation facilities).

-INTERSOS moved the population from Platiria to apartments in Zitsa MUNICIPALITY close to Ioannina

-there will be another movement of the population of Konitsa mountain hotel this week to apartments in Ioannina (both hotels the children were not enrolled in formal education and had very limited access to informal education previously)

### **Agenda Item #3: activity info platform**

Discussion: on the platform from Epirus only inputs from APOSTOLI/UNICEF and TdH, all the other partners now have their own access to the platform and are urged to upload their inputs.

### **Agenda Item #4: presentation on off-site education in Greece**

An electronic copy from the presentation will be attached to the minutes.

### **AOB:**

-UoI is starting the education classes of Greek language in Filipiada camp for children and adults in the 2 container of Arsis

-Apostoli, maybe will be engaged in open sites at the end of April after the review their plan of action.

-UoI concerns about Katsikas and Agia Eleni, when they will be functioning and what kind of population we expect. Information on the movements to the 2 sites will be distributed once obtained from the MoMP. Agia Eleni all the buildings are ready and we are now finalising the internal sewerage system which will be ready by the end of April, in Katsikas there are a lot of pending works need to be finalised by IOM. Nevertheless the MoMP might decide to send refugees to Katsikas before the works are finalised 100%, we'll share any relevant information promptly with the partners.