

## Note for the File

### Accommodation and Transportation Sector WG meeting 28 March 2022

Chaired by Ms. Felicia Bechtoldt Secretary of State, Ministry Labor and Social Protection

Mr. Heiko Hering, Sector Co-Lead, UNHCR Moldova

## Agenda

Opening remarks from the government

Update on Transit Hotspots

Update on Refugee Accommodation Centres

Update on Host Community

Virtual Stock Management

### Opening remarks from the chair Felicia Bechtoldt, State Secretary MLSP

- The Government is consolidating RACs,
  - Centres with low occupancy or which need to be returned to their original purpose will be closed
  - For all centres with a capacity of 20 persons and more registration is now mandatory
  - Registration is with the National Agency for Social Assistance (ANAS)
  - Centres must comply with national standards
- Weekly assessments of RACs continue to be done by ANAS
- Needs for key items are observed to be decreasing
- Need of refugees in host communities continue to be unaddressed
- The UAhelp platform is live. It enables RAC managers and now also mayors of hosting communities to make requests for material support to the government
- MLSP records incoming humanitarian aid through this platform

### Updates on THC

- Services at Palanca and Causeni have increased
- Hot meals are covered by WFP
- Waste management continue to be an issue where more support for local municipalities is needed

### RACs updates

- The ANAS call centre collects daily basic information on occupancy and needs from the registered RACs. At the moment the occupancy is 44% compared to 47% last week.
  - 72% are long stay centres,
  - 28% short stay centres
- The needs of the RACs are met,
- Until humanitarian partners are integrated to the UAHelp system through a virtual warehouse, please share your stocks and plans for distribution with: [mdachacctr@unhcr.org](mailto:mdachacctr@unhcr.org)
- Needs assessments, including the assessment of the infrastructure of the majority of RACs were conducted by ACTED.
  - The majority of centres are in acceptable conditions, needing minor repairs and some additional support
  - One area of focus will be the adaptation for persons with disabilities
  - ACTED is visiting RACs with field teams on a weekly basis

## Needs of refugees and the host communities

- **more partners are needed with capacity to support the hosting communities.**
- the cash enrolment program has started for the Ukrainian refugees
- In-kind assistance to host families will continue to be needed in addition to cash program
- Thanks to inputs from partners the A&T WG has developed a set of minimum standard content for hygiene kits for adults, children, infants, but also kits for bedding, cooking items, cleaning products for host communities and RACs,  
**The list is shared with the mailing list of the WG**

### **Key findings from the WHO WASH assessment report**

- Adequate WASH facilities are available in most refugee centres.
- UNICEF is asking if a sub WG on WASH should be formed. This was left to a separate discussion

## Virtual stock management

- The Government has built a platform to manage the needs with available stocks in their warehouses.
- The system is currently open to RAC managers but will also be opened to mayors of hosting communities
- Humanitarian partners and volunteer organisations are not part of the system.
- In order to include humanitarian organisations and their stocks, WFP, ACTED and UNHCR have started to develop the concept of Virtual Humanitarian Aid Platform (VHAP) that will link with the government UAHelp platform
- Stock levels of partners will not be visible to requesting entities (RAC managers, mayors)
- Request can be made against a standard list of items
- This is to avoid items being ordered that are not needed, or in inappropriate quantities
- A management and verification system needs to be built in to this platform

## Food sub-working group

- Every Tuesday at 4:00 PM, meeting of the sub WG on court food security
- WFP with support of UNHCR and the government has started registration to support host communities (CBI focus)

## Discussion points

- Need to elaborate medium to long-term sector strategy in order to address:
  - Socio-economic fatigue and
  - Support to hosting families and refugees in private accommodation (link to CBI strategy)
  - Support to host communities (municipalities) and linkage to long-term development project, including infrastructure, social protection, labor market etc (multi-sectoral/humanitarian-development nexus)
  - Food provision in long-stay RACs: transition from hot meals to food rations and self-cooking

- Addressing specific needs
  - UNFPA raised the issue of support for pregnant, nursing and lactating women. MLSP is looking at identifying buildings for this purpose and is planning to develop specific standards in coordination with UNFPA and others
- Partners expressed the need to have more targeted discussions on specific issues
  - There should be targeted meetings in smaller groups with specific partners
  - However, sub-working groups should be avoided at this point.
- Partners expressed concern over not being able to manage distribution of donations
  - MLSP is advocating for financial distributions instead of in-kind donations to their warehouse
  - The government warehouse is full
  - Many items are unsorted, second hand and not appropriate for use
  - Humanitarian aid must meet some standards, strict guidelines, safety standards for the items donated
- A question was raised to the issue of the tented encampment sites near the border points and how those fit within the current no-encampment accommodation approach
  - it was clarified that these existing camps are part of the contingency planning of the government (General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (IGSU), respective national civil protection agency). The IGSU has plans for 11 sites, but does not erect those at the moment. They remain as a last resort for people to rest and wait for onwards transport in case of a large-scale influx. These kinds of camps are not to be used for refugee accommodation.

## Follow up points from IA coordination

- Multisectoral needs assessments
  - Discussions on MSNAs are coordinated at the IM WG. A&T is providing technical inputs and advice to the IM WG and to partners conducting assessments
  - Please refer to the assessment registry to share and access assessment information
  - <https://enketo.unhcr.org/x/xC1FWVFm>
- Partner inputs and updating of the 5W
  - Please ensure that you enter your activities in the [5W matrix](#)
  - The 5W is now also available as Power BI Dashboard <https://bit.ly/3NA7AhQ>