

**Child Protection Sub-Working Group**  
**11.12.2023 Minutes of Meeting**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday, 11 December 2023 at 10.00-11.30 a.m., via Webex</b>	
<b>Participants:</b>	General Secretariat for the Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection (GSVP)/MoMA, EC – DG Home, UNICEF, IOM, METAdrasi, IRC Hellas, Solidarity Now, GCR, TdH Hellas, ARSIS, NCR, Hellenic Red Cross, The Home Project, Faros, Zeuxis	
<b>Chair:</b>	<b>UNHCR: Theodora D. Tsovili (<a href="mailto:tsovili@unhcr.org">tsovili@unhcr.org</a>)</b>	
<b>Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latest developments on the implementation of the <b>National Guardianship System</b>- presentation by General Secretariat for the Protection of Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection (<b>GSVP</b>) – <b>METAdrasi</b></li> <li>• <b>NERM's progress since April 2021</b>, the milestones achieved including the online platform developed within the Mechanism, the component "Protection for All Minors" targeting UAC in precarious conditions who absconded from care arrangements or have been previously assessed by a CP actor and later became untraceable, and the recent collaboration with the social services of various municipalities - presentation by General Secretariat for the Protection of Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection (<b>GSVP</b>)</li> </ul>	
<b>Latest developments on the implementation of the National Guardianship (General Secretariat for the Protection of Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection - METAdrasi)</b>	<p>GSVP presented the latest developments on the implementation of the anticipated National Guardianship System given also that the provisions of the Guardianship Law will come into effect on January 1st, 2024.</p> <p>At the end of October 2023, METAdrasi and Praksis were announced by the Ministry of Migration and Asylum as the finalist candidates entrusted with implementing the National Guardianship program based on a comprehensive comparative assessment of submitted proposals. The project commenced on November 1st, 2023, initiating two months of preparatory actions for its implementation.</p> <p>The project's implementation involves a phased approach to recruit guardianship mandated persons over three stages. <b>Initially 60 guardians</b> will be deployed during the first two months and 10 coordinators – either from Metadrasi or Praksis. In the second phase, and within the next 4 months 120 will be deployed while upon a needs assessment by the sixth month the aim is a total of 180 guardianship mandated persons to be deployed countrywide.</p> <p>As regards the geographical coverage, it will be determined by identifying locations with a consistent presence of unaccompanied children, including the CCACs/RICs, emergency accommodation facilities, shelters, CFTAASs, SILs, etc. The objective is to gradually expand the coverage nationwide, ensuring comprehensive support across stable points where there is presence of UAC and accommodation facilities.</p> <p>The staff to be deployed is currently undergoing trainings, and everything is progressing smoothly, ready for the <b>launch on January 2nd.</b></p>	<b>Action Points:</b> n/a

	<p>The initial <b>prioritization</b> of children’s cases will emphasize on <b>vulnerable cases</b>, particularly focusing on <b>children below 14 years old</b>, both <b>girls</b> and boys, who exhibit additional vulnerability due to medical issues.</p> <p>For more detailed information, please refer to the attached presentation provided by GSVP in Greek.</p>	
<p><b>NERM’s progress since April 2021, the milestones achieved including the online platform developed within the Mechanism, the component "Protection for All Minors" targeting UAC in precarious conditions who absconded from care arrangements or have been previously assessed by a CP actor and later became untraceable, and the recent collaboration with the social services of various municipalities (General Secretariat for the Protection of Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection)</b></p>	<p>Since the beginning of NERM’s operation, on 5 April 5 2021 to 27 November 27 2023, <b>4292</b> unaccompanied children who have been identified and accommodated through NERM.</p> <p>Additionally, NERM has overseen the care of <b>586 unaccompanied/separated children from Ukraine</b> between March 2022 and 27 November 2023.</p> <p><b>Child-friendly registration procedures</b> have been established, ensuring a secure, equitable, and adequate identification process by police authorities, specifically in the <b>Designated Police Departments</b>.</p> <p>On the accusation of Greece's submission of a Pledge to the World Refugee Forum (GRF) organized by UNHCR, for the reinforcement and sustainability of NERM's operation, <b>the NERM's work will be presented at the World Refugee Forum on 14 December 2023, spotlighting it as a best practice in the field of child protection.</b></p> <p>Building upon this expertise and acknowledging the increased need for assistance and information for homeless third-country nationals or stateless individuals facing vulnerabilities, <b>NERM will extend its scope</b> beyond unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and will <b>provide support to vulnerable homeless persons or those at risk.</b></p> <p>In this regard, NERM, via its HELPLINE, will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish referral pathways for immediate registration, identification, and accommodation of vulnerable individuals in Reception and Identification Centers (RICs) on the mainland.</li> <li>• Facilitate access to suitable services for asylum seekers.</li> </ul> <p>For more detailed information about all components of NERM and the relevant statistics, please refer to the attached presentation provided by GSVP in English.</p>	<p><b>Action Points:</b> n/a</p>
<p><b>AOB</b></p>	<p>The next CPsWG will take place in 2024. The date and time will be confirmed.</p>	<p><b>Action Points:</b> n/a</p>