

**Taskforce on refugees with disabilities
Minutes of the 1st meeting**

	Taskforce on refugees with disabilities	Location	Remote – via Zoom
Chair	Ludmila Malcoci, Keystone Foundation in Moldova	Date and Time	31 March 2022, 10:00 -11:00
Taskforce members participating	Alliance of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities in Moldova (AOPD), Motivatie NGO, Center for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CDPD), Association of Parents of Persons with Disabilities “Eternity”, Dolna Association, LOW Vision NGO, Association of Deaf Children, Association Autism Hope, HelpAge International, OHCHR, UNHCR, CRAP, Humanity (Handicap) International, Internews, IM Swedish Development Partner, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Oxfam		
Agenda Items	Main Points Discussed	Actions	Responsible Persons
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ludmila Malcoci, chair of the TF presented the main of setting up the TF on refugees with disabilities, including the aspects related to the needs of establishing the main issues, gaps and priorities for supporting refugees with disabilities. 		
Mapping the existing services for persons with disabilities refugees and identification of priority gaps	<p>Each member of the TF participant at the meeting presented the main issues, gaps, plans, and available support /potential interventions to support refugees with disabilities</p> <p>AOPD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented the outcome of the advocacy meeting conducted by AOPD, Keystone Foundation, CDPD and OHCHR with the Ministry of Labor and Social protection: a) the decision to reserve 10 % of the places of CREPOR and Placement Center for Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities (RACs that have the minimum accessibility criteria) to refugees with disabilities; b) 	<p>Main needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification mechanism and mapping of refugees with disabilities and their needs. 	

	<p>questionnaire developed for mapping and conducting the needs assessment, including related to refugees with disabilities; c) 53 % of the RACs are occupied, while in case of need the Ministry will support the opening of new placement centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preoccupation: accessibility of the accommodation locations is one of the highest preoccupations; need for support for refugees with disabilities (their accommodation and transition to other countries, including information on this); the need for supporting NGOs that are providing services and support to refugees with disabilities. • Issues related to supporting refugees with autism: financial coverage of the therapy and rehabilitation, the need for covering the expenses related to the location and accommodation services. <p>Keystone Moldova:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the services delivered up to now to persons with disabilities refugees: a) extended hotline service for persons with disabilities refugees (provide information, reference, psychological support and direct support services), b) mobile team for supporting persons with disabilities refugees in hosting families and shelters (access to nutrition, health care, education) c) service at Palanca border acting 24 hours to support refugees mothers with babies and persons with disabilities. • Preoccupations: mechanism for identification and mapping needs of persons with disabilities refugees, accessible information on support and services for persons with various types of disabilities: sensorial and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a joint advocacy plan based on the presented preoccupations and available support; • The need for increasing the accessibility of two centers/shelters for persons with mobility disabilities • The need for concentration the support on refugees with disabilities who are in hosting families. • The need for ensuring the informational accessibility of the existing informative platforms for persons with sensorial disability and intellectual disabilities . • The need to improve the access of persons with disabilities refugees to health care services, social care services (personal assistance, shared living services, foster care services, 	
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	<p>intellectual, a housing program for persons with various types of disabilities (including with TSA, intellectual and mental health; access of persons with disabilities refugees to health care services, education and social services (for short and long term period); adapted transportation for persons with a mobility disability (in country there are only two vans adapted and they are over demanded); support to persons with disabilities refugees for their transfer from Ukraine to Moldova and other countries.</p> <p>Humanity International (Handicap International):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and possibilities of supporting the response to refugees with disabilities: a) mental health and psychosocial support in RACs and communities; b) rehabilitation, including capacity building through NGOs; c) interested in meeting with local NGOs to understand the needs, but also the available services for persons with disabilities; d) available budget and potential support for accessibility works; e) supporting the inclusive humanitarian response/supporting the humanitarian actors to be more inclusive; f) the need for data collection/existing barriers in disaggregate data collection. <p>Motivatie NGO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NGO provides accessible transportation. Only two accessible means of transportation are available. • The phone number of the Association is provided to the Green line. • The needs highlighted: supporting the host families and covering the needs. <p>HelpAge International:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting older persons and persons with disabilities among the refugees. Concentration on hosting families. 	<p>rehabilitation services etc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to increase access of persons with disabilities refugees to assistive equipment. • The need for development of informative/referral leaflets to direct and guide persons with disabilities and their families (accessible formats), that would also support the process of identification of refugees with disabilities and their families. <p>For better mapping of potential support and interventions of each members of the Taskforce it is proposed to fill in the google doc: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Mr0sWTDSolchODtrt9QH88dMyOt2Be8_Q2v_CQJoEzM/edit?usp=sharing</p>	
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	<p>LOW Vision NGO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports persons with visual impairments. Already has experience of assisting refugees with visual impairment. • Available support: examination, optical correction, glasses, assistive devices, referral to medical institutions at territorial level. • Problem related to identification of refugees with visual impairments and potential financial limitation of the association. <p>Internews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlighted the issue related to accessibility of information, including of the existing platform. <p>IM Swedish Development Partner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide direct support: food, transportation, advocate for ensuring the accessibility of the locations. • Highlighted the need for better coordination the support for refugees with disabilities, including the donor coordination. <p>Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the disability inclusive response. • Can provide financial support on initiatives that would support refugees with disabilities. <p>OHCHR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and promoting the needs for refugee response that is inclusive for persons with disabilities. 		
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<p>Taskforce organizational issues (focal points on disability for other groups, registration of delivered services, periodicity of meetings, agenda for the next meeting, etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings of the taskforce to be conducted on Thursday, from 10.00 to 11.00. • Members of the taskforce to propose the topics of discussions of other meetings. 		<p>UN Human Rights Office Keystone Moldova</p>
<p>Follow-up and next steps.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of the task force to fill in the google doc that would help mapping of the potential/available services and/or support. • Development of a joint advocacy action plan to support persons with disabilities refugees 		<p>UN Human Rights Office AOPD Keystone Moldova</p>