

**Taskforce on refugees with disabilities
Minutes, 28 April 2022**

	Taskforce on refugees with disabilities	Location	Remote – via Zoom
Chair	Ludmila Malcoci, Keystone Moldova	Date and Time	28 April 2022, 10:00 -11:00
Taskforce members participating	Alliance of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities in Moldova (AOPD), Motivatie NGO, HelpAge International, OHCHR, UNHCR, CRAP, Internews, Oxfam, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, State Chancellery, SOS Autism, Low Vision NGO, Law Center of Advocates		
Agenda Items	Main Points Discussed	Actions	Responsible Persons
Updates on the activities/support provided by members of the Disability Taskforce and from other working groups	<p>Keystone Moldova supported 37 families with a family member with a disability. 11 persons received support and counseling through the Hotline Service. 5 families benefited from nutrition packages. through the Mobile team and the Hotline service. 10 persons with disabilities benefited from medications and hygienic packages. 1 person with a disability was ensured with the wheelchair, and two persons with disabilities received blood sugar measurement equipment. Two children with disabilities received psychological counseling. The Mobile Team assessed the needs of 11 persons with disabilities from shelters and is in the process of supporting their needs.</p> <p>The NGO Fiecare Contribuie Pentru Schimbare offered psychological assistance to 4 families with children with autism from the Baltata shelter.</p> <p>The NGO Motivatie supported 24 persons with disabilities, including two children with nutrition and hygienic products. One adult with severe disabilities was ensured with adapted transportation.</p> <p>SOS Autism is housing 18 families with persons with autism, delivering housing, nutrition, and medical services. 16 children with autism are supported with rehabilitation services. Additionally, SOS Autism contributed to employment of family members. Main issues faced by</p>	<p>Accommodation possibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Organization for Migration (IOM) is implementing a project on accommodation of refugees with severe disabilities and their families. In case of needs the organizations can contact: mdaairbnb@iom.int. Global Autism Project can also support the accommodation of refugee families with children/persons with autism. Contact person: Molly Ola Pinney, e-mail: 	

	<p>the organization refer to: the needs for adapted/individualized spaces/accommodation places; the need for heating in the center; non-gluten food; toys and other supplies for activities with children; lack of possibilities and resources to cover all the needs for accommodation.</p> <p>Centrul Pentru Drepturile Persoanelor cu Dizabilitati offered support to 50 persons with disabilities refugees with information and support for obtaining the status of refugee. The NGO monitored the respect of persons with disabilities rights in shelters and finished the report on the evaluation of the accessibility of the Center for elderly persons from Chisinau.</p> <p>Center Speranta offered the house to 3 families with persons with disabilities, evaluated the accessibility of Baltata shelter, and started the fundraising campaign for improving the accessibility of this shelter.</p> <p>The Association of entrepreneurs with disabilities from Moldova in partnership with the Network of Roma women and local mayoralty Greblesti opened a shelter for refugees with disabilities and roma people in Greblesti Straseni with the capacity of 45 places. Starting on April 11 the center delivered services to 62 persons with various types of disabilities and 19 Roma persons.</p> <p>Keystone Moldova and UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) integrated disability indicators in the assessment questionnaire for refugees living in communities.</p> <p>EASPD Secretary General Maya Doneva had a visit to Moldova with the scope of opening the regional office to support persons with disabilities. All in total EASPD will support the establishment of 6 Regional offices in the following countries: Moldova, Poland, Bulgaria, Netherlands, Lviv, Romania which will support the evacuation of persons with severe disabilities from Ukraine.</p> <p>Law Center of Advocates highlighted the issue related to the need for providing assistance and support for asylum seekers (ex. UTA Gagausia).</p>	<p>housing@globalautismproject.org</p>	
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	<p>A joint letter of the members of the Taskforce on the need on ensuring mobile services.</p> <p>Another issue highlighted is related to the lack of accessibility of placement centers.</p> <p>Other updates on opportunities for accommodation of refugees with disabilities :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Organization for Migration (IOM) is implementing a project on accommodation of refugees with severe disabilities and their families. In case of needs the organizations can contact: mdaairbnb@iom.int. • Global Autism Project can also support the accommodation of refugee families with children/persons with autism. Contact person: Molly Ola Pinney, e-mail: housing@globalautismproject.org 		
<p>Access to health and medication for refugees with disabilities</p>	<p>Issue: Persons with disabilities and their families can access healthcare services, including mental health services (mental health community centers). The medicine recommended by the doctor should be procured by the family. As the families of persons with disabilities confront with poor financial situation, solutions for compensating the costs for medicine should be covered.</p> <p>Existent services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons with disabilities among refugees can access medical care service (hospitalization) through 112 serviced. • The mechanism for compensating the costs for medicine is under final development. Transparent mechanisms on usage of the costs should be established. • Medical evacuation is supported by European Union. Romania, through SMURD is supporting the medical evacuation process as well. 		

<p>Information on fundraising efforts of the members of the Disability Taskforce</p>	<p>Swiss Cooperation Office in Moldova (SDC) is supporting the response to the needs of persons with disabilities, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A grant contract will be signed in the near future with the Motivatie Association on procurement of an accessible transport for persons with disabilities. • Additionally, through UNDP the efforts of NGOs on the left bank to respond to the needs of the refugees through EU-CBM Programme. Eu funds and from SDC will be used for procurement of various products to cover primary needs of the refugees. They will be distributed through the Health Cross-River Sectoral Platform. • Organizations who need support can develop a concept note and budget and access the SDC small grants. Grants of up to CHF 50,000 and a duration of 18 months for humanitarian projects for refugees in Ukraine, especially the most vulnerable can be offered by SDC. SDC covers 80 % of the grant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For more details related to SDC small grant, one can contact Natalia Cernat, natalia.cernat@eda.admin.ch, GSM 0689 73 399. 	
<p>Potential subjects for the next meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialization opportunities/activities for children and youth with disabilities during summer period (ie. Summer camp). • Employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and their families. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tatiana Cernomorit, OHCHR to contact ARTICO Center to invite to the meeting of the Taskforce. • Galina Climov, AOPD to invite National Employment Agency to the meeting. 	