

Attica Regional Education Working Group

MEETING MINUTES

01/09/2016 – SAVE THE CHILDREN OFFICES ATHENS, GREECE

AGENDA

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Updates from Partners
- 3) Updates from meetings in the past two weeks
- 4) Updates from MoE (and recent MoE meetings)
- 5) Discussion on Activity Info
- 6) AOB

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS/INSTITUTIONS: Liz Lock, Save the Children, Katia Makrynika, Save the Children. Nikos Fragkos, SOS Children Villages of Greece, erellont@gmail.com. Vasilis Fasoulis, UNICEF, vasilisfasoulis@gmail.com. Judith Wunderlich - Antoniou, Elix, jutdith@elix.org.gr, 6975767802, Marina Drymalitou, IRC, marina.drymalitou@rescue.org, Stella Semina, JRS, stella.semina@gmail.com, Vili Mitraka, Network (Δίκτυο για τα δικαιώματα του παιδιού), villymitrakap@hotmail.com, Giorgos Vourlakis, Apostoli, gvourlakis@mkoapostoli.gr, 2130184422, Vasso Katsomaliari, Solidarity Now, vaso@solidaritynow.org

MINUTES:

Agenda item	Discussion points	Action points (by whom and by when)
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apostoli updated everyone on the education activities of Apostoli: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Agios Antreas Camp</u>: Currently delivering non formal education. They have the permissions to do so from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and from the IEP. They are teaching Greek, English and they are doing recreational activities, since 8/8/16. They have 3 groups of 20 children each (in total 60 children) – ages i. 5-8, ii. 9-12, iii. 13-17. They have 3 educators, a social worker, mediators. The activities take place in the dining room. The cooperation in the camp is of high level. ○ <u>Elefsina Camp</u>: They haven't started yet because of the summer heat and the lack of a cool space. They have asked permission to use the dining room in the morning hours. They may be able to start their activities next week. ○ <u>Elaionas Camp</u>: They are going to start a special programme through which they will transfer children from Elaionas Camp to a Children Recreational Activities Centre, which functions already for other children. They want to rent a bus for the transportation with starting date the 12th of September. 10 boys and girls, aged 6-12, will attend a 15 days' cycle of activities, morning hours – physical education, music, dancing etc. They have the permission for the programme from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and from the IEP. They would like to have a mother from Elaionas camp as a chaperone. ○ They are also going to distribute notebooks, toys, pens, etc (TLM) in Elefsina and Agios Antreas • Network: The Network for Children's Rights is going to continue its activities. They are going to redesign their programme based on the new information from the MoE. 	–

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solidarity Now: Taking into account the integration of POCs in Greece, SN has now started focusing more in creating a permanent educational plan for children who are beneficiaries of their projects in hotels, houses, as well as camps. In view of SN's Hosting Project (UNHCR) some non-formal educational activities are already taking place especially in child-friendly spaces within the hotels in Attica, Porto Heli and Euvoia and other urban areas where POCs are staying at. These include English, Arabic and Greek classes and other recreational activities. What is more, the Blue Dot Project funded by UNICEF which will incorporate the blue-dot rationale will provide safe spaces for children with vital services, play, protection and counselling for women and their families all in a single structure. Child and Family Support Services are already running in Attica in Eleusina camp, whereas the project which will be expanded in Agios Antreas Camp, Epirus and Central Macedonia will include Child friendly spaces and Mother and Baby Corners with recreational activities and other non-formal educational activities for children and youth. • SOS Children Villages: They deliver Greek, English, Arabic lessons in Schisto and Elaionas. They have a contract with the municipality of Athens and a cooperation with a French organization for IT education. They are going to work with unaccompanied children. They are also going to receive 25 beds from UNICEF for the premises of SOS villages. They have 5 idea boxes: library, tv, projector, laptops, tablets, that teachers can take out and use with students • IRC : Activities at Skaramangkas and Elaionas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Skaramagkas:</u> In Skaramagkas IRC has safety challenges, because they set a big tent, which survived only for 2 two days and it was vandalized after that. Now they are going for containers. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Elaionas</u>: the next week container - basic activities, not education exactly, learning sessions with the children. Safe zones in elaionas for unaccompanied children who live inside but also for children who do not live inside, they will offer PSS and other activities. Safe zone is containers within the camp with provision inside and guardians ● Save the Children: In the next weeks education will start in Malakasa and Skaramagkas. Teachers have been hired and they are going to be trained next week. 12-16/9 the teachers are going to be at the sites to register children. In the middle of September, classrooms/containers are going to be established in both camps. English and Greek language lessons are going to be delivered to children aged 6-17, age range will vary site by site depending on other actors present. ● ELIX: Updated on their current activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On 31/8/2016 200 children in Elaionas site, finished their summer programme. They had to make a selection, many children wanted to come. They were transporting the children outside of the camp. Integration was one of the goals. The children during the summer programme developed basic skills, as communicating in a non-violent manner, to hold a pen, the child centered approach and no punishment education. The children have made steps towards a reception class. They are going to communicate with the MoE to support the reception classes. They had their activities in Greek schools buildings. ○ In the middle of September, they are going to cooperate with the municipality of Athens for an integration programme with migrants and some refugee children, 45 children in total. The sessions will be on empowerment and on non-violent communication. 	

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3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Elaionas and Schisto camps, teachers hired by the Municipalities are going to be at the sites from Monday 5/9/2016. • General Secretary of MoE, Mr Pantis: No education should take place in the camps the same hours that the children are going to the Greek schools in the afternoon hours. However, they will allow other activities in other age groups. • Regarding the urban population and the reception classes in typical Greek schools. Not every school will have reception classes. They will wait until they have a certain - big enough - number of children. • All NGOs have to submit their request to IEP and a letter to the ministry in order to have the permission to work in the camps. Even if the NGOs are not going to deliver education, but are working with children, they can request the permission of MoE in order not to have a problem in the future. • By the end of September, afternoon classes for the refugee children are starting in some locations, and by the next month they will keep on. The estimated caseload of MoE is 22,000 children. • Vaccination has to take place before the children are going to school. This will potentially slow things down. The National Working Group is currently discussing the vaccinations with the Health Working Group and the MoE to try to determine what vaccinations are still needed for children and how the process can be completed. 	-

NEXT MEETING: 15/09/16 – Save the Children Office , no. 53, 28 Oktovriou/Patission street at 11 am.

The meeting will be confirmed via email at the beginning of that week.