

CWC MEETING MINUTES

CwC Meeting	
Meeting Subject	National CwC Working Group Meeting
Date, Time & place of meeting	23/11/2016, UNHCR Athens Office
Meeting Chair	Alexandra Zavvos (Solidarity Now) Apology: Rachel Maher (UNHCR)
Minutes/notes prepared by	Emmanouela Kokkini
Present (organizations)	UNHCR, DRC, Internews, Oxfam, IRC, Refucomm, SC, CRS, METADRASI

1. Review of previous meetings/matters arising

Point/details	Details/Going forward	Suggested Actions
	<p>The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved. The Chair asked the attendees to provide any significant update and informed the WG members that regarding cash:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Migration and the cash WG will sign off on a number of messages however, still many unresolved issues are pending, for example, the WG suggestions regarding unaccompanied minors. 	<p>Develop specific messages for POC's in urban areas; Develop info mechanisms for illiterate women (audio); Try to integrate in the messaging a reference on who receives the money</p>

2. Main issues discussed during the meeting

Access to Labour Market	<p>The group was briefed by UNHCR representative on the progress being made regarding the access of POC's to labor market with emphasis being put on the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing discussion and exchange of ideas with Field Office Attica Several working groups e.g PWG, Education WG, also discuss this issue and there are many questions from field officers who are in urgent need of guidance. Consequently a decision has been made that a detailed guidance note in English covering a wide range of important issues such as legal framework, safety policy, details about the issuance of the AMKA number as well as tips and solutions about the procedures in tax offices will be provided to officers and partners on a site level The main problem is that often the exact address is not written on the asylum seeker's card and there is no common practice around this UNHCR is currently in talks with the Asylum Service to produce a solution and ensure that the exact 	
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<p>Guidelines for essential protection on open sites</p>	<p>address of the POC seeking international protection is written on the card</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNHCR will hold conversations with the Ministry of Finance to ensure better co-operation near the sites • The Ministry has underlined the existence of guidelines for POC's and the AMKA number <p>Effort for awareness-raising and information provision to the POCs who currently have no access to labor market</p> <p>The Chair briefly commented on the need to change several CwC indicators and informed the WG members that in 4-6 sites POC's shall be trained as interpreters to facilitate the access of other POC's to the labor market. METADRASI representative underlined at this point that two people have already been trained by the aforementioned NGO and are currently working as interpreters.</p> <p>In addition, the issue of proof of professional qualifications was put on the table and the difficulty surrounding this matter was underlined as it is extremely difficult to prove professional qualifications without the required official documents.</p> <p>Q: What social benefits are POC's eligible to claim?</p> <p>A: They are eligible after several months (around 6 months) having first acquired refugee status or subsidiary status (initially they only get documents) and in general they do not receive the same benefits as beneficiaries who fall into the national greek context of social benefits.</p> <p>A draft copy of several documents regarding child-led information was distributed to the WG members and the attendees were provided with a brief analysis on a Save the Children initiative to train small groups of refugee children in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide information on the needs of refugee children in general • facilitate the development of communication channels and the exchange of required information between refugee children and NGO's • ensure better mapping of strategy regarding info provision to children <p>The general concept, initially developed in the context of a small workshop that took place in August 2016, revolves around the idea that refugee children can be trained by teams to follow a specific procedure and spread the child-led info provision methodology on a site level.</p>	
<p>Multilingual Lexicon for POC's</p>	<p>The Chair informed the WG members on the recently produced multilingual dictionary that has been developed to facilitate communication between POC's, partners and local authorities and communities mainly via distribution on a site-level. The new dictionary, produced in collaboration with the Swiss embassy is based on two previous such dictionaries that included medical terminology and education terminology. METADRASI representative handed the attendees a copy of the previous leaflets to provide a cleared idea on the concept and did a brief presentation of the new lexicon, underlining its vital importance as a tool for basic communication, as it includes multiple languages such as Arabic, Farsi, Urdu, French, Sorani (also mentioning the fact</p>	

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Suggestions Regarding The Lexicon's Distribution/ General Suggestions	<p>that currently there is no clear knowledge on how it will work among refugee populations).</p> <p>Furthermore, the WG members were asked by the Chair to share some ideas regarding the distribution of the new dictionary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distribution in the shelters of unaccompanied minors• Distribution via Refucomm to the single men squats who can contribute to spread the word about the dictionary among many other POC groups• Work with other partners and working groups starting with the Salvation Army WG• Use of a less "clinical" translation• Add elements concerning education	
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