

Greece National Education Sector Working Group MEETING MINUTES



MONDAY, MAY 15 2018 @ UNHCR, ATHENS, GREECE

MEETING AGENDA

1. Review of action points from the last meeting
2. Updates from MoE
3. Updates on school enrollment from the Accommodation and education partners
4. Presentations by UNHCR on urban school enrolment and by ESWG on the survey on non-enrolment
5. AOB
 - TEAMUP2TEACH
 - SOLIDARITY NOW

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION POINTS (by whom and when)
1. Review of action points from the last meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for school transfers: MOE/UNHCR to draft. This cannot be done by one organization, and needs a collective agreement throughout the procedure. A meeting will be set up shortly. This document will serve as a step-by-step guidance for accommodation partners to enroll newly arrived children; - Data sharing agreement to be signed bilaterally between MoE and UNHCR so the ministry can know where children are residing; - On attendance monitoring indicator, ECHO partners are trying to set a common indicator, as requested by ECHO. The proposed 'regular' attendance is set to be 60%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A meeting to be organized for SOP with UNHCR, MOE and UNICEF - Data sharing agreement to be finalized and signed between MoE and UNHCR - ECHO partners to come back regarding the common attendance indicator
2. Updates from MoE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Primary and kindergarten enrolment is ongoing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report to Tita any difficulties faced by

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The enrolment for Lykeio and EPAL has started yesterday (14 May 2018). There is a change in the registration of children in the secondary education. When parents register their children in lykeio and EPAL, they are asked to do electronically, with their taxisnet code. According to the ministerial decision on enrolment to secondary education of 23rd of January 2018 (120), refugee parents if unable to provide a taxisnet code, as described in Article 14 (6), then the school principal can register the student by using her/his own code, provided that the parents/guardians sign a relevant declaration and undertake to bring along specified documentation. - Refugee.Info in collaboration with MOE and UNICEF will create another web article about the Lyceum EPAL enrolment process. - Refugee.Info kindergarten and primary school Grade I enrolment – Turkish and Kurmanji posts will be ready soon, followed by Sorani translation, with support of METAdrasi. - All other non-registered/newly arrived students should enroll by 15 June – a de facto deadline set by ESWG in order to boost the momentum, as the enrolment this time will determine the number of reception classes in September. - DYEP has opened in Lesvos, and hopefully Chios and Samos will follow. MoE is planning for more DYEP classes in the coming academic year. 	<p>NGOs when trying to enroll children in secondary education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Website articles on lyceum with translations - Website articles on kindergarten and primary for Turkish, Kurmanji and Sorani - Another web article for general school enrolment for new arrivals - In order to ensure the enrolment for UAC, UNICEF to work with EKKA
<p>3. Updates on school enrollment from the Accommodation and education partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arsis has registered in formal kindergarten and primary education all (17) children residing in their accommodations. Arsis raised concerns whether they should register children now, just a month before the end of the school-year because students will de facto lose the year due to absences. Parents don't want their children to "fail the year" because then children will repeat a class that does not correspond to their age-group. <u>MoE:</u> The school system is lenient to children losing one year. Continue to register children in order for the ministry to have an approximate idea of how many children will be enrolled the coming year, to help better planning for the number of reception classes needed. If not registered, inform local RECs or refer children to the local school principals. - Solidarity Now reported problems facing taxis net and official translation documents. For taxis net, as started above, the FEK states that it can be done through school principals' taxis net number. - PRAKSIS, Caritas, ADDMA, E-Trikala, Anka (Karditsa), Greek Refugee Council and Arsis in Thessaloniki all reported that the enrolment is going smoothly. 	<p>Accommodation NGOs to work with RECs to register children for the next school year, and not this year.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF informed that vaccinations necessary for enrollments have arrived in Greece, and KEELPNO will organize urgent vaccinations to the islands and other mainland locations. - MOE-ESWG will soon once again ask for data collection on school enrolment/attendance for children living in urban accommodations, in order to capture the situation at the end of the school year. This data collection exercise is for this school year, and not for the new school year. 	
4. Presentation of the survey on non-enrolment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNHCR presented their survey on attendance and enrollment - UNICEF presented their survey results on non-enrollment <p>Discussion over the action points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very urgent need to advocate to de-congest the accommodations from urban Athens, as the lack of capacity to accept more students is the main reason for non enrollment. 	<p>-Powerpoint presentations to be shared with the ESWG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strong advocacy needed to decongest urban Athens in order to facilitate school enrolment
5. AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>TeamUp2Teach</u> is trying to create a network of teachers that teach refugee children and share teaching material. More info to be found here: https://sites.google.com/view/team-up-2-teach-refugees/home - <u>Solidarity Now</u> shared their concern that when they tried to enroll children in the Athens Municipality's summer camps they were asked to submit a certificate of family status. Judith from Elix answered that this certificate is not in the list of requested documents for the registration of children in the summer camps and therefor should not be requested. - <u>Solidarity Now</u> is launching two new educational programs of lifelong learning under the name Education Matters! Cisco IT Essentials: This program aims to enable participants to obtain the necessary skills to work as computer and network technicians. More info: http://www.solidaritynow.org/en/it-essentials BY(E)PLASTIC: This program aims to enable participants to create projects around the concept of plastic recycling. More info: http://www.solidaritynow.org/en/byeplastic/ 	<p>-Naoko to share teaching material with TeamUp2Teach</p>

The next national ESWG meeting will be held on **Tuesday 29th May.**

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