

**HCT Protection Strategy Working
Group (PSWG)
Work Plan 2021**

Humanitarian Country Team Meeting
1 April 2021

HCT PSWG Work Plan 2021

Thematic areas prioritized:



Freedom of Movement



Internally Displaced Persons' (IDP) Inclusion and Durable Solutions,



Payment of Pensions to Conflict-Affected Population, including IDPs



Birth registration for residents of NGCA

Structure and Membership

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Co-Chairs | UNHCR, OHCHR, R2P, Protection Cluster |
| Additional Participants | UNICEF, OCHA, NRC, DRC, Save the Children |

Crosscutting activities:



Maintain an **updated set of key messages** on the four priority areas



Continuously **engage with the Member States and key stakeholders** (briefings, meetings, etc.)

Work Plan 2021



FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

Prioritized activities

- Provide analytical material to the roundtable on EECPs at the Human Rights Committee in Parliament
- Regular briefings to stakeholders on new developments

Advocacy Goals

Opening of new EECPs (in Schastia and Zolote) and re-opening of all existing EECPs on both directions;

Priority in crossings given to persons with specific needs

State allocates sufficient funding to maintain services in EECPs

Crossing points have measures to prevent COVID19 transmission and availability of free express tests for COVID-19

Fines no longer imposed when NGCA residents enter GCA via the international border

Work Plan 2021



IDP INCLUSION AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Prioritized activities

- Briefing note on Durable Solutions
- Advocacy for the adoption of a National Strategy on Durable Solutions
- Advocacy messages to support IDP communities in their own advocacy with local authorities
- Propose media stories to HCT/OCHA comms team
- Brief donors and development actors on existing gaps and recommendations for their support and prioritization of livelihoods and housing programmes
- Engage in the review of the State Budget for 2021 and 2022, to secure sufficient funding for durable solutions

Advocacy Goals

MinTOT adopts a new national strategy and elaborates a new action plan

IDPs benefit from equal access to rights and social services irrespective of their IDP status or registration

State allocates funding to implement the IDP strategy and to solutions

Fundraising to increase housing opportunities

Work Plan 2021



PAYMENT OF PENSIONS TO CONFLICT-AFFECTED POPULATION, INCLUDING IDPS

Prioritized activities

- Meetings with stakeholders regarding ongoing payments of pensions to bank accounts of NGCA residents – support government to find options until COVID19 restrictions are lifted
- Advocacy for amendments to the pension legislation
- UN Policy Paper on Social Protection – raise issue of coverage of NGCA residents
- Support Ministries to find digital solutions for remote verification of pensioners in NGCA
- Disseminate the Analytical Overview on Pensions for IDPs and NGCA residents

Advocacy Goals

IDPs benefit from equal access to pensions irrespective of place of residence or registration (de-linking access to pension from IDP registration requirement)

State allocates funds to ensure regular payment of pensions.

Pensioners in NGCA do not lose access to their pensions because of the prolonged COVID-related restrictions on movement across the EECs

Alternative means of verification are adopted

Work Plan 2021



BIRTH REGISTRATION FOR RESIDENTS OF NGCA

Prioritized activities

- Advocacy with line Ministries to review the existing electronic system of birth registration to allow inclusion of court decisions
- Provide technical expertise to Ministries and Commissions to develop legislative amendments for exemptions of court fees to register births/deaths in NGCA
- Update Briefing Note on Birth Registration to release on 1st June (International Day of the Child)

Advocacy Goals

Development of a procedure for birth certification responsive to the needs and challenges faced by families residing in NGCA and in Crimea

Court fee exemption for birth and death registration cases that happened in NGCA or in Crimea