

REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

DECISION

No. 855, dated 29.12.2021

**ON DETERMINING MINIMUM LIVING AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS FOR
INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION APPLICANTS**

Pursuant to article 100 of the Constitution and article 56, paragraph 2 of law No. 10/2021 “On asylum in the Republic of Albania” and upon the proposal of the minister of Interior, the Council of Ministers

HAS DECIDED:

1. International protection applicants, accommodated in the Reception Center for Asylum shall be guaranteed service provision based on recognized social care principles, including respecting and ensuring individual values and personality, transparency and impartiality, nondiscrimination, independence, social integration and participation in community life, confidentiality and personal data protection.

2. Social care service standards based on the general service standards package, pursuant to the applicable legislation, shall be implemented for international protection applicants at the Reception Center for Asylum.

3. International protection applicants shall respect living rules of the shelter facilities, in line with their internal regulations.

4. International protection applicants shall be provided with pre-social services as follows:

a) information and counseling, which shall be services aimed at improving the applicant situation, providing guidance around the most appropriate opportunities in the social care services system, for their needs;

b) psycho-social support provided individually or in group and aimed at encouraging, rehabilitating, and developing cognitive, functional, communication or social skills of applicants.

5. Every international protection applicant shall be subject to a health needs assessment upon admission in the shelter facility.

6. Children shall be provided with a healthy, nutritious and balanced diet, based on their growth and cultural and religious development needs. Healthy juices shall be available at all times and offered at the request of the child. Counseling with a physician should be ensured in any case.

7. The shelter facility should meet the fundamental needs for accommodation, based on age groups, while prioritizing children, unaccompanied children, vulnerable groups with special treatment needs.

8. The Reception Center for Asylum shall cooperate with the ministry responsible for education, and pre-university education institutions, implementing an education policy that shall promote and support the pre-university education of children while they reside in these facilities, providing them with the required textbooks, and ensuring equal conditions for education.

9. The financial quota for international protection applicant daily expenses shall be defined by an instruction of the minister responsible for social affairs, the minister responsible for finances, and the minister responsible for asylum and refugees. These financial effects shall be borne by the ministry responsible for asylum and refugees.

10. In cases of higher influx and lack of accommodation capacities, the ministry responsible for asylum and refugees shall accommodate international protection applicants in public residential centers on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with a joint agreement with the ministry responsible for social affairs.

11. The ministry responsible for asylum and refugees, the ministry responsible for finances, the ministry responsible for social affairs, the ministry responsible for education, and the pre-university

education institutions shall be charged with the implementation of this decision.

This decision shall enter into effect following its publication in the Official Gazette.

THE PRIME MINISTER
Edi Rama