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ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION DECISION

approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Commission, European Asylum Support Office, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, Europol and the Fundamental Rights Agency, of the one part, and the Government of Hellenic Republic, of the other part, on a Joint Pilot for the establishment of a new Multi-Purpose Reception and Identification Centre in Lesvos

Memorandum of Understanding

between

the European Commission,

*the European Asylum Support Office, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency,
Europol and the Fundamental Rights Agency, of the one part,*

and

the Government of the Hellenic Republic, of the other part,

**on a Joint Pilot for the establishment and operation of a new
Multi-Purpose Reception and Identification Centre on Lesbos**

I. Purpose and scope

Further to the events on 8 and 9 September 2020 that destroyed the Reception facility of Moria on the Greek island of Lesbos, the swift creation of **a new Multi-Purpose Reception and Identification Centre (MPRIC) on Lesbos**, in line with relevant standards¹ and Union law and to be set up with the appropriate EU financial and operational support, has been outlined as a key priority by the Greek authorities as well as by the European Commission and EU Member States.

This **Memorandum of Understanding** (MoU) sets out the cooperation framework for the establishment of such a new MPRIC through the implementation of a dedicated **Joint Pilot** between, on the one side, the European Commission and the relevant EU Agencies supporting migration management in Greece, namely the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), the EU Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) and the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), and on the other side the Greek authorities. In full support of the Greek authorities, the Commission will cooperate on a continuous basis with the Greek authorities to ensure jointly adequate monitoring and supervision of the management of the Centre. The Greek authorities and the Commission will work together on all key strategic issues regarding the set-up of the Centre and the implementation of the Joint Pilot.

This Memorandum of Understanding is without prejudice to the **competences** of the Greek authorities e.g. for the site planning, design, construction and management of the new MPRIC, and for taking of decisions in the areas of asylum or return, or any other decisions in relation to reception, public order, public health or national security. Equally unaffected remain the existing division of competences, tasks, and responsibilities under EU law and

¹ European Asylum Support Office (EASO) Guidance on reception conditions: operational standards and indicators – September 2016; and EASO Guidance on reception conditions of unaccompanied children: operational standards and indicators – December 2018.

relevant rules on the **management of EU funds**, which will continue to apply, in line with sound financial management.

The implementation of the Joint Pilot, which is based on existing national and EU law, is setting an example for **solidarity in action**. This principle should be the pillar for a holistic approach to migration, as reflected in the new Pact on Migration and Asylum² ensuring respect of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights obligations as regards European and third-country nationals. The Pilot is linked to the implementation and further development of a strategic approach regarding reception, children and unaccompanied minors in migration, integration, asylum and migration management overall. Progress towards this approach has already been made in 2020 and will continue through a number of tangible measures already underway aiming at achieving an effective migration management system at national level, in full compliance with EU standards and best practices. This process should be the backbone for the successful running of the new Centre combined with an effective contingency planning in order to maintain a sustainable migration management system and avoid overcrowding of the new centre. In this regard, emphasis should be placed on proceeding, where possible with relocation to other Member States or transfers to the mainland for third country nationals for whom the geographical restrictions have been lifted or those with a refugee status, or to countries of origin or to Turkey for those not entitled to international protection and who have received return decisions, including under the EU-Turkey Joint Statement.

The operation of the new MPRIC will be in accordance with applicable EU and national law.

II. Objectives and coordination structure

The **objective** of the Joint Pilot is to channel the necessary support to the Greek authorities for completing and operating, by early September 2021, an up-to-standard fully functioning new MPRIC on Lesbos with a **capacity of 5 000 people**. The obligation for the structures, operations, and procedures of the new MPRIC to comply fully with EU and national law is the guiding principle throughout the implementation of the Joint Pilot. The MPRIC will be a multi-purpose reception structure – that will include reception facilities, safe zones for unaccompanied minors and vulnerable people, first arrival processing facilities and required administrative areas as well as all facilities needed to guarantee access to services in line with the EU acquis– with an entry-exit control system allowing the Greek authorities to adequately monitor the Centre capacity and implement MPRIC Standard Operating Procedures as well as an adjacent, clearly separated closed detention area.

Until the new MPRIC is in operation, adequate reception of migrants and access to asylum procedures in the existing temporary Mavrovouni site, should continue to be ensured

² COM (2020)609 final of 23 September 2020.

including full winterisation of the temporary facility and appropriate sanitary and health conditions, in addition to temporary safe zone(s) and temporary arrival processing facilities. To maintain adequate reception conditions, the Joint Pilot will be implemented in full complementarity to the above mentioned strategy on reception, including as regards transfers to the mainland of third-country nationals for whom the geographical restrictions have been lifted or to other Member States, or swift returns. This will need to take into account decongestion needs, resulting for example from situations of high migratory pressure, taking into account return provisions of the EU-Turkey Joint Statement. Decongestion needs should focus in particular on asylum seekers with vulnerabilities, assisted voluntary returns of third-country nationals or on beneficiaries of international protection who should no longer be accommodated in the MPRIC, which is intended for asylum seekers.

Against this background, and building upon the guidance and best practices developed under the hotspot approach³, this Memorandum of Understanding lays down the concrete communication and coordination structures including the distribution of tasks between the EU and Greek sides for the implementation of the Joint Pilot, as well as the **main areas of cooperation**, outlining for each area objectives, actions, milestones and timelines. It also ensures that communication towards external stakeholders and partners is fully transparent and coherent.

To be able to perform the operational part of the Memorandum of Understanding as effectively as possible, the Commission has created a **dedicated Taskforce**⁴ partnering with Member States and EU Agencies which is the main interlocutor on the EU side for implementing the Joint Pilot with the Greek authorities. The Taskforce is set up within the Commission's Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) and chaired by DG HOME at the level of Deputy Director-General.

On the part of the **Greek government**, the main interlocutor is the Ministry of Migration and Asylum (MoMA) at the level of the Secretary General for Reception of Asylum Seekers. The Ministry ensures the necessary coordination and cooperation by and between all competent Greek authorities, including the Deputy Minister for Coordination, the Ministry of Citizen Protection (MoCP), the Ministry of Health (MoH), the Ministry of Education (MoE), the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy (MoMAIP), the Ministry of Defense (MoD) and the Ministry of Development and Investments (MoDI).

A Steering Committee composed of the Taskforce and the Greek Authorities will oversee the overall implementation of the Joint Pilot.

In parallel, to ensure sustainability and underline the joint character of the pilot efforts in Lesvos, a **coordination group composed of the same actors will be established on Lesvos** to ensure close cooperation on the ground with relevant stakeholders. A **dedicated**

³ SWD(2017)372 final of 15 November 2017.

⁴ Commission press release (IP/20/1728) of 23 September 2020.

Roundtable bringing together the Taskforce, central government, and local authorities, with the participation of the Northern Aegean Regional Government and the Municipalities of Mytilini and West Lesvos, will be set up to discuss all issues relating to the management of migration on the island.

Through the Joint Pilot and by making best use of the appropriate EU support, the **Greek authorities** will ensure in particular, with required support as necessary: (1) the sustainable design, construction and management of the new MPRIC; (2) dignified, up-to-standard reception conditions, including specific reception infrastructures and conditions for vulnerable groups, such as victims of trafficking, people with disabilities, unaccompanied minors, families with children or single women; (3) fast, fair and effective procedures, notably as concerns the identification, registration, security checks, vulnerability assessments, asylum and return processes as applicable in the individual cases; (4) smooth transition mechanisms to the applicable procedures in the individual cases, in particular the integration of those that received the international protection status, the return of those who have received a return decision or the relocation to another Member State; (5) procedural guarantees such as access to legal aid for all persons who request it during their stay in the MPRIC; (6) the necessary capacities, know-how and financial and human resources to manage effectively the MPRIC, notably as concerns the decisive function of the MPRIC manager and with regard to public procurement and tender procedures, and (7) cooperation with the local communities who have faced a lot of pressure in the past years because of migratory flows, including by endeavouring to continue make available to them relevant financial benefits, as appropriate and in line with EU law requirements. The **speed** and **effectiveness** of the actions and procedures **at all stages** will be key to the successful implementation of the Joint Pilot.

The Taskforce will coordinate at EU level the provision of **targeted strategic, operational and financial support** to the Greek authorities, within the available EU budget, in the context of implementation of the Joint Pilot. The Taskforce will in particular provide the **necessary coordination among all actors involved at EU level**, namely Commission services, relevant EU Agencies and other EU Member States, with a focus on the allocation of responsibilities for various tasks. Together, the Taskforce and the Greek authorities will ensure a coordinated approach and coherent communication and allocation of tasks towards key partners such as international organisations and civil society organisations, as appropriate.

Areas of cooperation

To ensure an effective implementation of the Joint Pilot, six main areas of cooperation have been identified. The main actions, actors, milestones and timeframes under each area of cooperation are set out in detailed tables annexed to this Memorandum of Understanding.

(a) Coordination, information exchange, monitoring

Adequate coordination and information exchange are essential to ensure that the Joint Pilot can be implemented successfully. To this end, regular meetings at the appropriate level will be held both in Athens (monthly Steering Committee) as well as on the ground in Lesvos

(weekly coordination). Meetings at the central level in Athens will be coordinated by the Commission through its dedicated Taskforce and co-chaired with the Greek authorities, while meetings in Lesbos will be coordinated by the MoMA Reception and Identification Service representative and co-chaired by a representative of the Taskforce. The Steering Committee will be the primary forum to allow proper monitoring of the state of progress of the Pilot and assess the need for corrective actions, on the basis of a commonly agreed set of indicators aimed at ensuring, among others, that the site capacity is not exceeded, reception conditions remain fully satisfactory for the various categories of persons and procedures are correctly and effectively carried out.

Relevant stakeholders will be involved according to the specific needs and on the basis of a stakeholders' strategy to be developed jointly by the Greek government and the Taskforce by December 2020. The strategy will cover different sectors like education and recreation, protection, non-food items, health, water, sanitation, hygiene, food, shelter and should include partner international organisations, private actors, and key civil society partners. The Greek authorities shall procure for services, as provided by national and European legislation.

(b) Development and construction of the new MPRIC

The new MPRIC will be completed and operating by early September 2021, in line with relevant EU standards as referenced above and for a capacity that takes into account various simulations of flows. The MPRIC will be placed in a location that is safe in terms of health and security risks for the MPRIC's residents and staff, and can support the necessary infrastructure such as water, waste disposal, electricity and internet installations. To achieve this, the Greek authorities, supported by technical expertise made available by the Taskforce will ensure that the location of the site and the design of the facilities of the MPRIC are in accordance with the required EU standards, including as regards weather resistance, safety, sustainability and environmental aspects. Local authorities should be consulted for the approval of the proposed site. However, it remains for the Greek Government to propose the location.

The MPRIC will include facilities that are adequate to the needs of a Centre of such a capacity, such as sufficient sanitary facilities (such as hot and cold water, hygiene, drainage) and healthcare facilities (including testing, quarantine and isolation needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic), specific facilities for vulnerable persons, for families with children as well as unaccompanied minors, and common areas, as well as for carrying out the relevant migration and asylum procedures. In addition, the MPRIC will include a dedicated administrative/processing area for first arrivals to facilitate complete and integrated workflows for an efficient processing, as well as a dedicated area for debriefings with insulated rooms allowing the necessary privacy to carry out interviews. Dedicated facilities (safe zones) for unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable groups will be designed and constructed so that there is safe temporary accommodation for such groups.

(c) Management of arrivals

Those arriving on the island will undergo full reception and identification procedures, including screening upon arrival with health checks and security checks, and will be adequately informed of these procedures, in line with national legislation and the standard

operating procedures developed under the hotspots approach. These procedures will include information on the process (age appropriate in the case of children or in an appropriate form for people with disabilities), identity checks, security checks, finger printing in the Eurodac database, registration, health and vulnerability assessment (including age assessment where necessary), debriefing activities on the basis of well-developed mechanisms, as well as appropriate referral and provision of reception services and access to the asylum procedure (lodging). Second-line security checks will be ensured, as necessary. The management of arrivals will be organised in an efficient, comprehensive and integrated workflow, in which all relevant authorities form part of the chain, each with their own role and responsibilities, allowing for fast and effective processing.

(d) Reception conditions

The conditions for the reception of asylum seekers, including possible detention after individual assessment, will be ensured in line with the EU law and taking into account international standards and best practices⁵, notably ensuring adequate sanitation, catering and/or availability of cooking facilities, information provision and counselling, clothing and non-food items, and common areas. Reception conditions must follow a gender-based and child-rights approach, take into account the needs of families, of children (both accompanied and unaccompanied) and ensure that vulnerabilities are adequately identified and addressed.

Adequate availability of health, including mental health, psycho-social care, care for persons suffering of chronic conditions and preventive care -especially vaccinations-, will be made available, including but not limited, to the needs of the most vulnerable. Unaccompanied minors will be placed in specific facilities (asfe zones) with the necessary support and the timely nomination of a guardian, with quick referral and transfer to specialised, dedicated accommodation. Specific facilities will be available also for families with children as well as other vulnerable groups, such as persons with disabilities or victims of violence or trafficking in human beings. Security and safety within the MPRIC will be ensured at all time by allocating sufficient and well trained staff to assure 24/7 presence, established risk prevention measures, especially for vulnerable groups, which will be reviewed regularly. Particular attention will be paid to prevent, identify and respond to sexual and gender-based violence. Adequate specific infrastructure will be provided for families. Sufficient schooling facilities will be provided for all children in the reception centre, when it is not possible to ensure access to public schools outside the Centre. Sufficient social space areas for community and recreational activities will also be made available. The migrant population in the Centre will be informed on their rights and obligations upon arrival, during and at the end

⁵ See the EASO Guidance on reception conditions: operational standards and indicators -September 2016 and EASO Guidance on reception conditions of unaccompanied children: operational standards and indicators – December 2018, and other guidance and practical tools in the areas of asylum and reception, published at <https://www.easo.europa.eu/practical-tools>.

of their stay in the Centre, by trained staff and in a manner tailored to their needs, including linguistic needs, and age.

(e) Asylum and return procedures and integration measures

Through adequate capacity, training, facilities and equipment, the new MPRIC will provide the structure where asylum and return procedures can be carried out swiftly and fully in line with international, EU and national law and standards and where possible best practices. A closed detention area adjacent to the actual MPRIC will be foreseen, separate from the social and reception areas. In order to further develop effective and sustainable returns, assisted voluntary return and reintegration programmes will be promoted, covering among other technical support, counselling, pre-departure and post-return assistance to irregular migrants, in line with EU standards as reflected in a national strategy.

In order to ensure integration of those recognised in need of international protection, a number of measures including the fast arrangement of relevant administrative requirements (such as social security, tax number and bank account, residence permit), early access to education for all children, language courses, vocational training, the development of employability skills and information on the national labour market is recommended, in line with a national strategy on integration.

(f) Capacity, staff and planning issues

Ensuring adequate level of training, capacity and planning, including a proper risk assessment and contingency planning, is essential to smoothly run a complex facility such as the envisaged MPRIC. In particular, the level and qualification of staff has to be in proportion to the size, dimensions and occupancy rate of the MPRIC as well as the population profiles. A solid management and coordination structure will support the key functions of the MPRIC manager and addressing all relevant national, EU, international and non-governmental actors involved in the Centre and related activities and services. Through its dedicated Taskforce, the Commission will be able to channel adequate support⁶ for the implementation of the Joint Pilot in its different phases, including through the deployment of staff to Greece and other forms of operational support from EU Agencies, as necessary. The Taskforce will also ensure that Member States' bilateral support, such as secondment of experts, takes place in a coherent EU framework in full synergy with the overall support mobilised by the Commission and the EU Agencies.

III. Revision

This Memorandum of Understanding will be reviewed regularly by the two sides and updated, as necessary.

⁶ Including possible technical support under the Technical Support Instrument.

Signed in Brussels and Athens on [] December 2020

For the European Commission

For the Government of the Hellenic Republic

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ANNEX 1 – Actions under each area of cooperation

Leading parties under this MoU are outlined in bold, with main actors being the Taskforce (TF) or the Greek authorities (GA), within their respective competences. Financial support by the Commission (COM) under the Home Affairs Funds⁷ is not singled out under each action but provided as relevant and within the availability of the EU budget, in addition to operational support by the TF (including EU Agencies through their dedicated Operating Plans and programming documents), as detailed below.

a. COORDINATION, INFORMATION EXCHANGE, MONITORING

Action	Actors	Milestones	Time frame
Establishment of Steering Committee on Migration Management (SCMM) overseeing the implementation of the Joint Pilot through coordination and task allocation functions.	TF/GA	List of contact points at adequate level established	Done
SCMM core meetings: to ensure coordination at central level, composed of TF, on all migration management issues (operational and financial).	TF/GA	Meetings ⁸ held in Athens, approved minutes for follow-up	Weekly meetings, as of November 2020, ongoing
SCMM extended meetings: to ensure coordination at central level, co-chaired by TF, with the participation by relevant other stakeholders, including international organisations and, as needed, NGOs (civil society).	TF /GA	Meetings held in Athens, approved minutes for follow-up	Monthly meetings (can be merged with SCMM core meetings)
Lesvos Coordination Group (LCG): ensures coordination at local operational level, co-chaired by MoMA First Reception representative and the COM representative, with the involvement of players on the ground, including regional and local authorities.	GA /TF	Meeting held in Lesvos, with approved operational conclusions feeding into Steering Cttee meetings	Weekly, as of November 2020

⁷ Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and Internal Security Fund (ISF).

⁸ Video-links to ensure relevant participation to all meetings will be provided, as necessary.

Roundtable meetings with regional and local authorities to ensure coordination and adequate involvement in decision making	GA /TF	Meetings held in Lesvos	As of October 2020
Operational stocktaking meetings: regular exchange of information between TF and GA at local level in-between the LCG meetings.	GA /TF		Bi-weekly (or shorter intervals) ⁹ , as of November 2020
Review of state of implementation of Joint Pilot at central level, through SCMM.	TF/GA	Complete overview table with task allocation and set of indicators, kept updated and used to monitor progress of the pilot project	Monthly, as part of SCMM
Development of outreach and communication strategy to ensure planned and coordinated media contacts and involvement of other stakeholders , in particular civil society organisations and International Organisations (UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, ICRC), in the implementation of the pilot on the ground.	TF /GA	Strategy adopted. Clear communication channels and procedures, including functional mailboxes and focal points, established	By mid-January 2021
Creation of a single Project Management Office for the planning, initiation of procurements and monitoring of execution of contracts and introducing the related data to the MIS.	GA, with the TF		By mid-December 2020

⁹ The frequency can be adapted according to the needs and developments.

Design, planning and launch of the procurement procedure for the construction, cleaning, security, internet and other related procurements of the MPRIC and determine assistance needed for urgent procurement procedures.	GA , with the TF	Tender under Article 29, Law 4412/2016 for the construction Framework Agreement under Art. 28, Law 4412/2016 for Services (cleaning, security, maintenance, catering)	By December 2020
Assess the situation from a safety and security perspective	GA with the TF (esp. Europol/Frontex and the EURTF Safety and Security Working Group)	Visit the new MPRIC on recurrent basis	Regular / continuous assessment; Twice a year a structured assessment to take place

b. DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW MPRIC

Action	Actors	Mile stone	Time frame
Determination of the location of the new MPRIC , supported through independent technical expertise and analysis, covering also health and environment aspects made available by the Taskforce	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/EASO/MS)	Written agreement between GA and municipality.	By mid-December 2020
Design and planning services for the new MPRIC and technical teams to support creation according to EU standards and EU best practice model (architects, etc.), including based on lessons learned via the previous Safety and Security Working Group (SSWG)	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/EASO, FRA, Europol, Frontex)	All studies prepared and permissions received by GA	By end December 2020
Provision of experts / engineers to assist with the	GA , with the TF (esp.	Experts/ engineers	As of November 2020

WASH ¹⁰ , electrical installations, waste disposal, water and sanitation facilities and infrastructure (if needed and as jointly assessed between GR and TF).	COM/EASO/MS)	on the place	
Timely submission of Emergency Assistance application for EU funding for the construction of the new MPRIC in Lesvos, to be evaluated by Commission and procurement of construction contract.	GA	Application submitted	End November 2020 Procurement to be finalised by end of January 2021
Ensuring full and appropriate connection to electricity, water and sewage, waste, and internet networks.	GA , with the TF (esp. COM)	Preparatory Study; Completion of works	August 2021
Construction of the MPRIC facilities according to adequate and dignified standards, comprising of a reception facility with adequate accommodation, health care, common areas (including for single women, families, unaccompanied minors and vulnerable groups), safe zones (children, unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable groups) and space for the provision of administration and operational works , included by staff deployed by EU Agencies and Member States, as well as a closed detention centre as described in the MOU.	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/EASO)	Implementation of the related works, supplies and services contracts.	
Provision and installation of appropriate equipment , including ICT	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/Agencies)	Implementation of the signed works, supplies and	

		services contracts.	
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c. MANAGEMENT OF NEW ARRIVALS

Action	Actors	Milestone	Time frame
Designation of a dedicated administrative area , including appropriate waiting areas, for an integrated workflow for fast and effective processing of new arrivals, including information provision, screening, debriefing for new arrivals, finger printing, health and vulnerability assessment (including age assessment where necessary) and access to the asylum procedure (lodging).	GA, with the TF (esp. COM/Frontex/EASO)	Inclusion in the MPRIC design and construction plan	August 2021
Design of a dedicated facility (Safe Zone) for Unaccompanied Minors .	GA, with the TF (esp. COM/EASO/FRA)	Inclusion in the MPRIC design and construction plan	Design of a dedicated facility (Safe Zone) for Unaccompanied Minors
Screening ¹¹ upon arrival with identity and nationality checks, health checks and vulnerability assessment, and security checks .	GA, with the TF (esp. Frontex, Europol, EASO)	Area constructed and capacity for checks and registration in databases in place	During MPRIC operation
Debriefing of migrants upon arrival	TF (esp. Frontex), with involvement of GA	Capacity provided	During MPRIC operation
Secondary security screenings and cross-examination of data in relevant national and	GA, with the TF (esp. Europol)	Review of the National Operational Plan of Europol	During MPRIC operation

¹¹ Including with the support of Advanced Level Document Experts (ALDO), deployed by Frontex and integrated within the screening teams to improve checks of migrants travel documents.

European databases.		and GA from 2016. Procurement for the new MPRIC of data extraction devices and other IT means and specialised staff, including interpreters.	
Disrupting smuggling and related criminal activities on Lesbos and/or linked to arrivals on the island, including fake documents, smuggling of goods, etc. building also on work carried out with Member States and Agencies under the relevant EMPACT ¹² groups.	GA , with the TF (esp. Europol and Frontex)	Update of Operational Plan Secondary Security Checks Arrests	During MPRIC operation
Provision of information to third-country nationals (TCN) upon arrival as regards the relevant procedures, including asylum (<i>rights and obligations including upon obtaining international protection, right to free state legal aid, the possibility for communication with civil society organisations, international organisations and migrants' associations and communities</i>) and return procedures (<i>both forced return and possibilities for assisted voluntary return and reintegration</i>), trafficking in human beings and sexual and gender based violence, including concrete	GA , with the TF (esp. Frontex/EASO/FRA)	Brochures and relevant staff available	During MPRIC operation

¹² <https://www.europol.europa.eu/empact>

information of contact points and hotlines.			
Age assessment and special care for vulnerable persons.	GA , with the TF (esp. EASO, FRA)	Appoint UAM focal point(s) that would be in charge of all UAM-related actions at this stage and ensure adequate training is provided.	Upon arrival and during MPRIC operation
Appointment of guardian to newly arrived UAM, referral and transfer to appropriate shelters in the mainland.	GA with the TF (esp. EASO as regard training for guardians, deployment of reception officers, and FRA)	Appoint UAM focal point(s) that would be in charge of all UAM-related actions at this stage.	Within two weeks from arrival to the MPRIC
Lodging of the asylum application, when requested by the applicant.	GA , with the TF (esp. EASO)	Area constructed and capacity for lodging in place	During the MPRIC operation

d. ASYLUM¹³ AND RETURN PROCEDURES

Action	Actors	Milestone	Time frame
Planning of weekly targets on asylum and return procedures.	GA , with the TF (esp. EASO, Frontex)	Proactive planning in case of bottlenecks, eg. Internet connectivity, IT equipment needed.	End December 2020
Digital migration management system covering all stages of return/asylum cases.	GA , with the TF (esp. COM)	Study on making all available IT systems interoperable. (the use of Frontex RECAMAS is highly recommended).	July 2021
Fast and efficient pro-	GA , with the TF	Monitor the process	According to the

¹³ The word “asylum” refers to the procedures relating to applications for international protection.

<p>cessing of asylum claims in line with EU and national law (interviews, opinions, decisions, notifications, etc).</p>	<p>(esp EASO, FRA)¹⁴</p>	<p>on a weekly basis and prepare proactive guidelines on how to address issues hindering the procedures, eg. COVID-19, internet connectivity, equipment/premises and staffing.</p> <p>Set weekly targets for each step to respect deadlines in the legislation.</p>	<p>deadlines laid down in the Greek legislation</p>
<p>Handling of asylum cases at second instance.</p>	<p>GA, with the TF (esp. EASO including appropriate safeguards regarding conflicts of interest)</p>	<p>Put in place monitoring mechanism that ensures applicants' smooth access to the appeal procedure, as well as their right to an effective remedy enshrined in international and EU law.</p>	<p>According to the national legislation</p>
<p>Distribution of statistical information and analyses on the progress of asylum procedures.</p>	<p>GA, with the TF (esp. EASO)</p>	<p>Progress of pending cases, as well as breakdowns on recognition rates, nationalities of persons granted international protection and those who were rejected, type of protection granted etc.</p>	<p>Ongoing, as of end October 2020</p>
<p>Implementation of ongoing funding support to the asylum</p>	<p>GA with the support of TF (esp. EASO)</p>		<p>During MPRIC operation</p>

¹⁴ An amendment to the current Greek legislation might be necessary to allow non-Greek staff to work in English.

service.			
Return counselling provided as from the negative decision on asylum to all irregular migrants.	GA , with the TF (esp. Frontex)	Establish the necessary capacity by the opening of the MPRIC	During MPRIC operation
Issuance and notification of return decisions.	GA	Together with final negative asylum decision	During MPRIC operation
Detention or alternatives to detention , when needed and in line with EU acquis and safeguards.	GA	Functioning detention area, adjacent to the MPRIC, with appropriate capacity and conditions	As of the launch of MPRIC operation
Monitoring and tracing of the returnees focusing on migrants having received a 2 nd instance asylum rejection.	GA , with the TF	System set up and operational	During MPRIC operation
Organisation and implementation of (voluntary and forced) return operations.	GA , with the TF (esp. Frontex)	By end of 2021 reach a number of returns per month appropriate to the number of 2 nd instance negative asylum decisions issued per month ¹⁵ .	During MPRIC operation
Deployment (for a minimum of 3 months) of return specialists (including cultural mediators, native speakers of the language of migrants) escorts and transportation means	TF (esp. MS/Frontex)	Deployment by the opening of the MPRIC	During MPRIC operation
Implementation of the Assisted Voluntary Re-	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/MS)	Reach-out to 100 voluntary returnees	During MPRIC operation

¹⁵ With the reserve that the achievement of the targets depends on the general situation created by COVID - 19 restrictions and limitations;

turn and Reintegration (AVRR) programme , with ongoing funding support under the AMIF National Programme, including regular reporting on statistics related to AVRRs as well as transfers to the mainland (at minimum the totals by full nationality breakdown).		per month by the end of 2021 ¹⁶	
Contacts with third countries and countries of origin on return operations and identification missions by prioritising the use of EURLO's and ILO's for Lesvos cases	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/Frontex/MS)	Monthly progress reports	During MPRIC operation
Implementation of readmission agreements and arrangements	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/MS/Frontex)	Monthly progress reports	During MPRIC operation
Coordination of support measures by other Member States for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals	TF (esp. COM/Frontex/MS)	Monthly progress reports	During MPRIC operation

e. RECEPTION CONDITIONS¹⁷

Action	Actors	Milestones	Time frame
Maintenance of all accommodation facilities (cleaning, repairs, winter/summer needs, etc.) with funding support under the AMIF National Programme	GA	Monthly monitoring reports	During MPRIC operation
Provision of food and in kind	GA , with the TF	Monthly	During MPRIC

¹⁶ With the reserve that the achievement of the targets depends on the general situation created by COVID - 19 restrictions and limitations;

¹⁷ See in particular the EASO reception standards (September 2016).

assistance (NFIs, hygiene kits etc.) to meet basic reception needs.	(esp. MS, COM, EASO)	monitoring reports	operation
Provision of adequate healthcare (staff, training for staff and facility in all relevant sectors including gynaecological, dental, psychiatric, paediatric and chronic patients care as well as interpreters) including quarantine space and appropriate COVID 19-related needs	GA with the TF	Monthly monitoring reports	During MPRIC operation
Vulnerabilities are assessed and cared for in relation to accommodation, safe areas for vulnerable groups and for single women, healthcare and other services, following a gender-based approach	GA , with the TF (esp. EASO)	Monthly monitoring reports	During MPRIC operation
Coordination of in-kind assistance at EU level	TF (esp. COM/EASO/MS)	Monthly monitoring reports	During MPRIC operation
Children and UAM: sufficient schooling and non-formal education activities, including language classes	GA	All children to attend public school or, where not possible, to be schooled in the MPRIC for mandatory education	During MPRIC operation
Recreational and vocational training activities with ongoing funding support, including language classes	GA , with the TF (esp. EASO)	Monthly monitoring reports	During MPRIC operation
Regular coordination with Hellenic Police and Fire Brigade to ensure safety and security on site	GA , with the TF (esp. Agencies)	Monthly drilling exercise and inspection of camp	During MPRIC operation
Continuous information provision within the camp	GA with the TF (esp. EASO)	Permanently available information booth and information mechanisms	During MPRIC operation
Community services and outreach activities	GA , with the TF	Monthly monitoring	During MPRIC operation

		reports	
Establishment of Reception Quality Monitoring System	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/Agencies)	Implementation of RIS / EASO Reception Quality Monitoring Tool	Upon opening of MPRIC

f. STAFF, CAPACITY AND PLANNING FOR THE NEW MPRIC

Action	Actors	Milestones	Time frame
Development of a national strategic approach to reception, minors, integration and migration management including the creation and maintenance of capacity, transfers, contingency planning, staffing and recruitment needs	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/EASO/FRA)	Formal adoption of national Action Plans on the main strands of the approach, namely reception; minors; integration; asylum processing; returns	By June 2021
Appointment of appropriately trained MPRIC manager and deputy MPRIC manager , GAS manager and HP chief officer	GA , with the TF (esp. EASO)	Ministerial Decision	By March 2021
Development of a national Strategy for management of MPRICs , consulted with all relevant players	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/Agencies)	Formal adoption	By March 2021
Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the functioning of the MPRIC in Lesbos, including a comprehensive plan for staff deployment	GA , with the TF (esp. COM/Agencies)	Formal adoption	By September 2021 (before start of MPRIC operation)
MPRIC manager, GAS Manager and HP Chief officer support staff (assistants, deputies) and financial envelope directly managed by MPRIC manager, GAS manager and	GA	Facility to be provided in the context of the established contracts	During MPRIC operation

HP chief officer for urgent stationary and small size repair needs			
Police staff in the MPRIC on a 24/7 basis proportionate to the size of the MPRIC as well as ensure gender balance to the extent possible, building on positive experience of past involvement of female police officers. Proactive outreach through community policing should be considered.	GA	Weekly deployment plans	During MPRIC operation
Reception and asylum services staff proportionate to the population of the MPRIC, including possible additional recruitments	GA	Final Plan adopted	During MPRIC operation
Doctors, medical staff and interpreters , proportionate to the population of the MPRIC	GA	Final Plan adopted	During MPRIC operation
Cleaning and maintenance staff proportionate to the size of the MPRIC	GA	Final Plan adopted	During MPRIC operation
Contingency planning (e.g. in case of massive arrivals, pandemic, camp evacuation, etc.)	GA with the TF	Final Plan adopted	By November 2020, and to be continuously monitored/adjusted
EU agencies staff proportionate to the population of the MPRIC	TF (esp. Agencies)	Final Plan adopted	During MPRIC operation
Provision of training/guidance on EU asylum and migration law, reception and procurement to GA, according to needs	TF (esp. COM/Agencies)	Final Plan adopted	As of May 2021, and during MPRIC operation
Increase of police, coast guard and medical staff with ongoing funding under EMAS and AMIF National Programme. Additional funding possible, if needed	GA	Final Plan adopted	During MPRIC operation
Support actions for	TF	Monthly	As of November

<p>enhancing the administrative capacity of the local authorities (Regional Authority and two municipalities of Lesvos) to use the Structural Funds allocated for the new programming period 2021-2027.</p> <p>Also ensure complementarities between the different funding sources supporting local development.</p>	(esp. COM)	monitoring report	2020
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ANNEX 2 - Financial Support

- Extensive EU funding support under Home Affairs Funds is provided for projects being implemented on the island of Lesvos. These projects have been assisted either through the National Programmes (NP) or Emergency Assistance (EMAS). Many of these projects are expected to be taken over under the future Greek National Programmes of the Next Multiannual Financial Framework.
- The transition of EU funding support from EMAS (direct or indirect management) to NP (shared management) will be planned well in advance using the informal programming phase for the new MFF.
- ESTIA accommodation and ESTIA Cash Based Intervention schemes are expected to be continued temporarily under EMAS funds until the new MFF is adopted and should be taken over by the future National Programme of Greece. The project of MERIMNA (currently until the end of March 2021), on the operation of the safe zones (areas dedicated to UaMs in the island) is expected to be extended until the finalisation of the works of the new Reception and Identification Centre in Lesvos.

Main ongoing EU Funding to Lesvos for migration				
NATIONAL PROGRAMMES				
	Project	Activities	Beneficiary	Time frame
1	Operation of Reception and Identification Centre in Lesvos	Winterisation, maintenance works, water and hygiene, catering, utilities and asylum procedures	Ministry of Migration & Asylum. Some services currently procured through Ministry of Defence to transition to MoMA by mid 2021 latest	To be continued under the NP in next MFF
2	Assisted Voluntary Returns and Reintegration (AVRR)	Implementation of the AVRR project	International Organisation for Migration	To be continued under the NP in next MFF
3	PHILOS II	Reinforcement of the capacity of the public health system.	National Organisation of Public Health	To be continued under the NP in next MFF
4	Security Services	Deployment of Security Personnel and/or Police Officers in the MPRICs and trainings	Ministry of Migration & Asylum and Hellenic Police	Under EMAS. To be continued under the NP in the next MFF
5	Access to Education (minors up to 15 years old)	Provide access of formal education in Greek Schools	Ministry of Education	To be continued under the NP in next MFF
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE				
1	ESTIA Accommodation	Accommodation to more than 27 000 asylum seekers in apartments	Ministry of Migration & Asylum	To be supported by EMAS in 2021 and to be programmed

				under the next MFF
2	ESTIA CBI	Provision of cash allowances to asylum seekers	Ministry of Migration & Asylum as of 1 st July 2021 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees until 30 th June 2021	To be supported by EMAS in 2021 and to be programmed under the next MFF
3	Kara Tepe	Site Management Support to Kara Tepe Site and continuation of targeted protection activities	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	The camp will close by the end of 2020. Protection activities only to be supported by EMAS in 2021 and to be programmed under the next MFF
4	MERIMNA	Safe zones for UAMs in the islands	International Organisation for Migration	To be supported by EMAS until the launch of operation of the new MPRIC.
5	COVID-19 Emergency Response	Prevention of spreading of the COVID-19 pandemic	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	To be finished by the end of the year. (depending on the situation)
6	Support to the Greek Asylum Service	Interpretation, Deployment of Asylum Service staff and Police Officers	Ministry of Migration and Asylum, NGO Metadrasi, Hellenic Police	To be continued in 2021. Activities to be programmed under the next MFF
7	HELIOS- Integration Project	Integration Activities for Refugees and BIPs, Rental Subsidies, Employability	International Organisation for Migration	To be supported by EMAS until September 2021. To be programmed under the next MFF .
8	Relocation from Greece	Implementation of the relocation exercise from Greece, both in the islands and mainland (asylum	International Organisation for Migration	Covered under ongoing EMAS.

		seekers and BIPs)		
9	Hellenic Coast Guard	Enforcement of the staff of the Hellenic Coast Guard, for the increase of the surveillance of the sea borders	Hellenic Coast Guard	Covered by EMAS until the end of 2020. To be programmed under the next MFF if needed.