11th EASO Consultative Forum Annual Plenary Meeting

Discussion Paper for workshop on Asylum Processes

1. Background and aim of the workshop

The EUAA will be equipped with an enhanced mandate to support a coherent and well-functioning common European asylum system. This mandate includes practical and technical support to EU Member States in fulfilling their obligations to give protection to people in need and to assure quality in the asylum processes.

Quality assurance aims to ensure that asylum processes are conducted in a fair, efficient and transparent manner in accordance with legal standards laid down in the common European asylum system. Asylum administrations in EU+ countries have put in place various institutional structures and workflows to manage quality during the entire asylum process.

This workshop aims to reflect what is meant by quality assurance in asylum processes, how asylum administrations manage quality assurance and in particular how civil society organisations can support quality assurance. Based on a mapping of the existing cooperation between civil society organisations and asylum authorities, the intention is to formulate conclusions on what could be done better in involving civil society in quality assurance mechanisms.

2. Structure and format of the workshop

- EASO presentation on quality in the context of asylum procedures, including practices on how civil society organisations support quality assurance in EU+ States (20 min)
- Open floor: questions and answers (5–10 min)
- Inter-active discussion in smaller groups on the key questions (1h 15 min)
- Formulating conclusions on key questions in the main breakout room (15 min)

3. Key questions to be discussed

The key questions aim to map existing cooperation between civil society organisations and asylum administration at national level in EU+ countries and to formulate practical recommendations on how this cooperation could be enhanced.

- How do civil society organisations currently contribute to the quality of asylum procedures?
- What are the current challenges in contributing to the quality of asylum procedures?
- How could civil society organisations be more involved in contributing to the quality of asylum procedures? How could the EUAA further support the cooperation between civil society organisations and asylum administrations?