SUPPORT IS OUR MISSION



Press Release

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EASO participates in the relocation process from Greece

EASO is contributing to the relocation process from Greece. In this context, several EASO experts have been deployed to Greece to support the relocation process. The first group of people is being relocated today to Luxembourg (see press release from the European <u>Commission</u>). EASO will continue to support the relocation process in both Italy and Greece.

Since mid-October 2015, EASO experts have been deployed in Lesvos and Athens to support the Greek authorities with the relocation process. EASO's role can be summarised in 3 points:

- **Provision of information** on the asylum procedure and on the relocation procedure to the persons disembarking, in order to inform applicants on the relocation scheme (in the hotspots) and on the asylum procedure in Greece. Operations started in Lesvos and will be gradually expanded.
- Supporting the matching of applicants with the most appropriate Member State of Relocation and preparing the transfer to the Member State of Relocation. EASO experts assist the units processing such files as well as with regular Dublin cases.
- Detecting fraudulent documents during the registration process of applicants for international protection. The activity aims to give advice on existing practices, tools and techniques.

The first group of 30 Syrians and Iraqis (mainly families) will be relocated to Luxembourg.

EASO is expected to continue and increase its support to Greece and Italy, on relocation and other asylum issues, in the coming months.

See also announcement from the Greek Authorities: <u>http://asylo.gov.gr/en/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/first_relocation_en.pdf</u>

Any further information may be obtained from the European Asylum Support Office by contacting Mr Jean-Pierre Schembri on the following e-mail address: <u>jean-pierre.schembri@easo.europa.eu</u>