



**AMENDMENT  
OF THE EASO SPECIAL SUPPORT PLAN TO ITALY**

**Ref. 2**

The EASO Special Support Plan to Italy was signed on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2013 by the Executive Director of EASO and the Head of the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration within the Italian Ministry of Interior.

A first amendment to the EASO Special Support Plan to Italy was signed in September 2013, introducing two additional measures.

Given the need for further measures to be included in the scope of the EASO Special Support Plan to Italy, the amendments (marked in *Italics*) are hereby agreed:

- EASO Measure no 2 – Support Italian Country of Origin Information (COI) Capacity is modified, as follows:

<b>EASO Measure 3.2: Support Italian Country of Origin Information (COI) Capacity</b>	
Responsible authority	Ministry of Interior – National Asylum Commission
Objective	Strengthen the research standards regarding Country of Origin Information (COI) to the benefit of asylum decision-makers, both on territorial and on central level.
Deliverable(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 Workshops on relevant Countries of Origin, indicated by IT, will be organized which address the following themes:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Defining high-quality standards (as to methodology, analysis and research of sources) in country of origin information, in order to improve the quality of decisions.</li><li>• Presenting the case law of the EU Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights with regard to countries of origin.</li><li>• Presenting available sources in the field of COI and support the TCs in entering and the use of the COI Net Portal.</li><li>• Analysis of information and capacity building on useful and reliable COI.</li></ul></li><li>• Support the National Asylum Commission (NAC) with drafting a proposal to replace the current system based on paper documents sent by NAC itself to the Territorial Commissions (TCs) by a digitalized system.</li><li>• <i>2-3 Italian English-speaking trainers in NAC are trained in the newly updated EASO COI module. After translation of the module into Italian, these trainers will give face-to-face training to other staff in NAC and TCs (in Italian).</i></li><li>• <i>Support the National Asylum Commission (NAC) with developing and further professionalizing the recently established COI Unit by jointly analyzing the workflow and proposing standard operating procedures to maximize the efficiency of COI research.</i></li><li>• <i>Organise a regional training on the use of EASO COI Portal, with the</i></li></ul>

	<i>participation/involvement of EASO, Italy and another Member State. This hands-on training will focus on the use of the COI Portal (What are the different functionalities of the COI Portal/How to search for COI/How to use the advanced search engine) and provide for exercises on the basis of most relevant countries of origin for MS involved.</i>
Pre-condition(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Appointment of a focal point.</li> <li>– Appointment of staff responsible for subject-related topics.</li> <li>– Appointment of a national representative in the EASO Strategic COI Network.</li> <li>– Appointment of a national representative for the EASO Common Portal Administrators Network.</li> <li>– Case workers (translation will be provided by Italy).</li> <li>– <i>Identification of Italian English-speaking trainers to be trained</i></li> <li>– Ten connections in video-conference for distance training and further development of a national platform, translation</li> <li>– Meeting facilities to host the trainings.</li> </ul>
EASO support	<p>Involvement of EASO specialised staff</p> <p>Preparatory meetings in Malta: participation of IT delegates as A-category in EASO COI-related activities</p> <p><i>Train the trainer sessions (F2F) in Malta: participation of IT delegates as A-category in the train-the trainer sessions of the COI module of the EASO Training Curriculum</i></p> <p><i>4 activities / 2 experts each / 3 calendar days each / 1 travel day each / 2013: Q3</i></p> <p><i>1 activity / 2 experts / 10 calendar days each / 1 travel day each / 2013: Q4</i></p> <p><i>1 module / 3 experts / 4 calendar days each / 1 travel day each / 2014: Q1-Q4</i></p> <p><i>1 activity / translation into Italian of the EASO Training Module “Country of Origin Information” / 2014: Q2.</i></p> <p><i>1 activity / 2 experts / 5 calendar days each / 1 travel day each / 2014: Q2-Q4</i></p> <p><i>1 activity / 5 experts / 2 calendar days each / 1 travel day each / 2014: Q2-Q4</i></p> <p>-----</p> <p><i>8 activities / 20 experts / 96 calendar days, 20 travel days / 2013: Q3, Q4, 2014: Q1-Q4</i></p>

- EASO Measure no 8 – Professional Development Seminar for the Senior Management is modified, as follows:

<b>EASO Measure 3.8: Professional Development <i>activities</i> and Study Visits for the Senior Management</b>	
Responsible authority	<p>Ministry of Interior – National Asylum Commission</p> <p>Territorial Commissions for the recognition of the international protection</p> <p>Ministry of Interior – Department of Public Security</p> <p><i>Ministry of Interior – Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration</i></p>
Objective	<p>The Italian authorities underline the importance of updating the legal knowledge of the senior management in the asylum field and they would like to benefit from the experiences in other MS and network with their colleagues in the field. The seminar will strengthen the capacity of senior management with regard to the new Common European Asylum System</p>

	and the cooperation with other MS. The visits will bring a fresh perspective over common topics currently at stake in the Italian asylum and reception reality as well as in other MS.
Deliverable(s)	<p>One Professional Development Seminar is organised on advanced level, in Rome, for the senior management representatives of the Italian asylum-related authorities on the general management of the asylum systems, the best practices and the challenges in implementing the newly adopted instruments in the Common European Asylum System (CEAS).</p> <p>Two study visits are organised in several Member States.</p> <p><i>As a follow-on from the professional development activities described above and to complement the relevant study visits, EASO will offer support by qualified staff to the Italian Ministry of Interior on an adhoc basis as necessary for preparation of the asylum and migration policy plans or initiatives in the context of the upcoming EU Presidency, building on the support measures already undertaken in the areas of training (also for second instance), COI and data collection and information management.</i></p>
Pre-condition(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Appointment of a focal point.</li> <li>– Need assessment on beforehand of the topics to be addressed in the seminar.</li> <li>– Decision on beforehand of the national asylum systems selected for the study visits.</li> <li>– Meeting facilities at disposal in Italy.</li> </ul>
EASO support	<p>Involvement of EASO specialised staff / 2014: Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4</p> <p><i>1 activity in Italy / 3 experts / 2 calendar days each / 1 travel day each / 2014: Q2</i></p> <p><i>2 study visits/ 10 IT participants / 4 calendar days each / 1 travel day each / 2014: Q2, Q3</i></p> <p>-----</p> <p><i>1 activity / 3 experts / 6 calendar days, 3 travel days / 2014: Q2</i></p> <p><i>2 study visits/ 10 IT participants / 80 calendar days, 20 travel days / 2014: Q2, Q3</i></p>

- EASO Measure no 9 – Professional development of the National Asylum Commission is added in the Special Support Plan, as follows:

<b>EASO Measure 3.9: Professional development of the National Asylum Commission</b>	
Responsible authority	<p>Ministry of Interior – National Asylum Commission</p> <p>Territorial Commissions for the recognition of the international protection</p>
Objective	<p><i>Enhance the capacity of staff in support of the enhancement of quality and harmonisation in the area of asylum, ultimately contributing to the implementation of the Common European Asylum System. The core three modules of the EASO Training Curriculum will be made available to the members of the NAC and Territorial Commissions. A number of NAC representatives will be trained in Malta, alternatively in the premises of FRA in Vienna or FRONTEX in Warsaw within the regional training sessions in English language to become national trainers in the core three modules of the EASO Training Curriculum and ensure organization of national training sessions during 2014. The number will be agreed upon with the NAC.</i></p>
Deliverable(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>6 Italian English-speaking trainers in NAC and Territorial Commissions are trained in the following modules: Inclusion, Interview techniques, Evidence Assessment.</i></li> <li>• <i>EASO Training Module “Inclusion” is translated by EASO in Italian language.</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>EASO Training Module “Evidence Assessment” is translated by EASO in Italian language.</i></li> </ul>
<i>Pre-condition(s)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Appointment of a focal point.</i></li> <li>– <i>Identification of Italian English-speaking trainers to be trained</i></li> <li>– <i>Appointment of staff to attend the train-the-trainer training in Malta alternatively in the premises of FRA in Vienna or FRONTEX in Warsaw within the regional training sessions and perform national training sessions during 2014. A national training plan should be made available by the Italian authorities.</i></li> </ul>
<i>EASO support</i>	<p><i>Train the trainer sessions (F2F) in Malta, alternatively in the premises of FRA in Vienna or FRONTEX in Warsaw within the regional training sessions: participation of IT delegates as A-category in the train-the trainer sessions of the core three modules of the EASO Training Curriculum: Inclusion, Interview techniques, Evidence Assessment</i></p> <p><i>3 modules / 9 experts / 4 calendar days each / 1 travel day each / 2014: Q1-Q4</i></p> <p><i>1 activity / translation into Italian of the EASO Training Module “Inclusion” / 2014: Q2</i></p> <p><i>1 activity / translation into Italian of the EASO Training Module “Evidence Assessment” / 2014: Q2</i></p> <p>-----</p> <p><i>5 activities / 9 experts / 36 calendar days, 6 travel days / 2014: Q1-Q4</i></p>

EASO shall send a copy of the amendment to the Members of the Management Board.

Rome and Malta, 29/04/2014  
SIGNED

**Executive Director  
of the European Asylum  
Support Office**

**Dr. Robert K. Visser**

**Acting Head of the Department for Civil Liberties  
and Immigration  
Italian Ministry of Interior**

**Prefect Ricardo Compagnucci**