



10CF

EASO then & now: evolution of EASO's activities over the last ten years & future perspectives

10th Consultative Forum virtual Plenary Meeting, 13 & 14 October 2020

Background Note & Draft Agenda

1. Background

EASO is organising the Consultative Forum Plenary as a virtual meeting in the mornings of 13 and 14 October. This year's Plenary marks the 10th edition of the Consultative Forum and the overall theme will focus on the evolution of EASO over the last ten years and perspectives for the future.

The very first edition of the Consultative Forum was organised in 2011 - the year that EASO became fully operational. Although expectations for the Agency were high, its resources were few, reflecting its stage of development as start-up agency. Now ten years on, EASO has developed into a full grown Agency and its role has adapted to the changing EU asylum and migration context and the growing needs of Member States. Over the years, the Agency has grown incrementally in some areas and exponentially in others, and its activities have expanded both in number as well as in scope.

EASO's operational activities have, in particular, evolved progressively and exponentially following the 2015 migration crisis in response to the growing need of Member States for operational support. The Agency has developed real operational capacities on the ground and is supporting frontline Member States with a variety of hands-on activities including, amongst others, assistance with information provision, registration, reception, assistance with backlog reduction and processing (both at first and second instance), as well as support provided to the Dublin Unit and on country of origin information, etc.

The expansion of activities has, however, not been limited exclusively to operations, as also in other areas the Agency has undergone a significant transformation fulfilling its role as main contributor to support the implementation of the CEAS. This includes for example, the development of common tools and guidance including operational standards and indicators, a common extensive Training Curriculum for national asylum and reception officials including the establishment of educational standards, common Country of Origin Information (COI), country guidance, information gathering, research and analytical work, as well as a wide range of asylum support activities through more than 13 networks on a variety of asylum topics.



EASO's activities may, in the near future, experience another transformation as the Commission proposal on a European Union Agency for Asylum remains on the table and as negotiations for the reform of the CEAS are expected to be relaunched with the new Pact on Asylum and Migration scheduled to be presented by the European Commission on 23 September. The finalisation and adoption of this Proposal would further reinforce the Agency's mandate.

On the occasion of its 10th edition, and with discussions on the future of the Agency expected to be resumed soon, it is therefore timely to look back on the development of EASO's activities over the last ten years, as well as to look at what is next, for the CEAS and the Agency's role therein.

2. Main aim of the meeting and focus areas for discussion

The main aim of the 10th Consultative Forum Plenary is to take stock of the evolution in EASO's activities over the last ten years as well as to look into future perspectives for the Agency as part of the evolving CEAS. More specifically, the following thematic EASO activity areas will be focused on in more detail:

- EASO's operational support in Member States
- Training and Professional Development
- Resettlement & complementary pathways
- Vulnerable groups

Draft Agenda

The draft agenda is presented below. The meeting will consist of both plenary discussions (day 1) as well as interactive thematic parallel break-out sessions (day 2). When registering, participants are kindly asked to indicate in which break-out session they prefer to participate. More information about the workshops will be presented to you in the form of Discussion Papers closer to the date of the meeting.



DAY 1: Tuesday 13th October from 09:15-12:30

08:30-09:15	Log-in and technical test (audio and video)
09:15-09:30	Opening Statement by EASO's Executive Director
09:30-11:00	Session 1: Evolution of EASO's activities
	Presentation by EASO on operational support provided to MS under particular pressure, training activities and asylum support activities and their evolution over time
	Commentary by the Odysseus Network on what role EASO has played in the CEAS over the last ten years and how its activities have evolved including its implications
	Q&A
<i>11:00-11:15</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:15-12:15	Session 2: Future perspectives for the CEAS and the EUAA
	Presentation by the Commission on the Pact on Asylum & Migration including the Proposal to transform EASO into the EUAA
	Commentary by ECRE on future perspective for the CEAS and the EUAA's role therein
	Q&A
12:15-12:30	Wrapping up of Day 1 and introduction to proceedings Day 2

DAY 2: Wednesday 14th October from 09:00-12:30

<i>08:45</i>	<i>Logging on</i>
09:00-11:00	Parallel break-out sessions co-led by EASO & CSOs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop 1: Training and Professional Development • Workshops 2: Resettlement & Complementary pathways • Workshop 3: Vulnerable Groups
<i>11:00-11:30</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30-12:30	Reporting on the parallel break-out sessions
	Q&A followed by discussions
12:30	Concluding remarks by EASO's Executive Director



3. Registration

You are kindly asked to register via the following link:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/10CFPlenary2020>

This link may also be forwarded to colleagues and professional contacts who would equally be interested in participating in this event.

This event will take place via the Webex Events platform. Following your registration, **a unique URL will be sent to you closer to the event date to grant you access to the event platform. You may be required to download a plug-in if you do not have Webex Events already installed.**

In case you have any questions or need more information about this online event, please contact consultative-forum@easo.europa.eu