

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
GREEK NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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<p>Comments on the Presidential Decree of the Ministry of Public Order titled “Reception of Asylum Seekers, Process of Examination, Conditions of Admission, Revocation of the Status of International Protection and Deportation. Rights-Obligations. Family Reunification of Refugees”</p>

Following the submission of the draft of the abovementioned presidential decree by the Ministry in charge, relating to the incorporation of EC Directives 55/2001, 9/2003, 86/2003, 83/2004 and 85/2005 into Greek legislation, the Commission’s Third Sub-Commission in association with the Greek Ombudsman, the Greek Council for Refugees (both members of the Commission) and UNHCR, taking into consideration the Greek Constitution, the European Convention for Human Rights and the 1951 Geneva Convention, submitted their observations in relation to:

- (a) The presence in person of the asylum seeker to the competent authorities;
- (b) The freedom of movement of persons in need of international protection in the country of reception;
- (c) The fingerprint identification;
- (d) Reception and healthcare facilities;
- (e) Access to reception centres by UNHCR representatives and legal representatives of the asylum-seekers;
- (f) The referral of victims of torture, rape etc. to a “specialised state unit” responsible for certifying and providing the necessary support;
- (g) The delayed submission of the asylum request;
- (h) The detention of asylum-seekers;

- (i) The right of residence of aliens in need of international protection;
- (j) Issues pertaining to legal service or notification of decisions;
- (k) Issues concerning the International Convention for the Rights of the Child;
- (l) Legal aid and representation;
- (m) The concept of “safe third country”;
- (n) The composition of the Appeals Commission;
- (o) The determination of the person entitled to subsidiary protection;
- (p) The period of subsidiary protection;
- (q) “Temporary employment” to provide for basic human needs; and
- (r) Additional elements pertaining to the exclusion clauses.

27 March 2007