



Response

**of the Greek Government
to the report of the European Committee
for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman
or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)
on its ad hoc visit to Greece**

from 22 November 2021 to 1 December 2021

The Government of Greece has requested the publication of this response. The CPT's report on the 2021 ad hoc visit to Greece is set out in document CPT/Inf (2022) 16.

Strasbourg, 2 September 2022



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- 1 -

HELLENIC REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF CITIZEN PROTECTION

SECRETARIAT-GENERAL OF ANTI-CRIME POLICY

GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF PRISON MANAGEMENT & CRISIS
MANAGEMENT

DIRECTORATE OF PRISON MANAGEMENT

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Athens, 14.06.2022

Ref. n^o.: 14735

TO:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

D3 Directorate

Re: Reply to observations of the Report of the Council of Europe Committee on the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)

Reference: Council of Europe Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) document no. CPT/AM/2022/05/10.03.2022

The Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy, in the context of the reorganization of the penitentiary system, with the aim of its better and more efficient

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- 2 -

operation for the benefit of prisoners, officials and society in general, has carried out strategic planning by sector, taking into account human rights, the necessity of the smooth reintegration of prisoners and the prevention of recidivism, the strengthening of prison staff by upgrading their role and the consolidation of justice, transparency and security

in Prisons facilities.

A) Updating information provided in the Agency's reply to the preliminary observations (following our document no.148/07.01.2022 and the observations recorded in the Report)

In the Chios Prison all incidents that occur and fall under disciplinary control are recorded and subsequently the disciplinary procedure provided for by the applicable legislation is followed and all the disciplinary sanctions provided for shall be imposed, of which all the persons involved are informed, in writing, as is apparent from the records kept in the Prison. The Prison has a capacity of eighty-two (82) prisoners and whenever overcrowding occurs to the extent that it may affect the standards of decent living of inmates, appropriate reduction actions are taken through the Central Committee on Transfers. At the time of the CPT's visit to the Prison general repairs were being carried out in all wards. Some of the windows were cracked but upon completion of the repairs, they were replaced. All the wards are heated by means of central heating, which operates on a daily basis during the winter months when the wards are closed, while in the special wards (the disciplinary and quarantine areas) there are electric radiators. Also, the Prison is regularly disinfected by an external crew, which issues a certificate of completion of the relevant work, while with

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- 3 -

regard to the cleaning and disinfection of the wards, it is confirmed that this takes place on a daily basis with the use of detergents and disinfectants provided by the Facility to the prisoners working there. The individual lockers are indeed not sufficient for all detainees, due to the lack of space within the wards, and consideration is to be given to rearranging them in the space as well as the possibility of supplying additional lockers to meet the needs of all prisoners will be examined. With care of the Prison's Management, the operation of a register of the use of the disciplinary cell, in which the movements of incoming and outgoing prisoners are recorded, has been initiated. The payphones have been repaired by a crew of the Hellenic Telecommunications Organisation and operate normally. We would like to inform you that the appropriate technological equipment is available in the Prison and the electronic visiting hours service is provided to all prisoners who present the necessary supporting documents. As regards the distribution of printed material to prisoners, in order to inform them more fully about their obligations, the way the prison operates and their rights during their detention, we inform you that the "Prisoner's Alphabet" has been distributed to all prisoners and, following the visit of the Committee, relevant printed instructions and notices have been distributed on the initiative of the Prison.

In the Nigrita Prison actions have been taken by the Management in cooperation with the competent financial services of the Ministry to improve prison conditions. In particular, a request for the supply of new mattresses for the B2 and C2 wings has been submitted and their supply is expected. Also, an amount of 3.027,15 € has been approved for the replacement of windows, as well as an amount of EUR 21,241.45 for the supply of painting materials for the painting of the public areas of the prison. Disinfections and disinsectations are carried out on a regular basis by a certified

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- 4 -

company with which a contract has been signed. Since the beginning of the covid-19 pandemic, the Prison has been procuring large quantities of detergents and antiseptic materials which were distributed to inmates, but their handling has often been unwise. The quantities of cleaning items procured by the Prison are sufficient and now, their use is handled by the detainees who undertake the cleanliness and there is no wastage or lack. Regarding the coverage of the needs of prisoners in clothing, footwear and sanitary items, the Social Service ensures the distribution of of all the supplies received by the Prison from Church donations and charities. donations from the Church and charitable institutions. The problem of overcrowding in the Prison is addressed by monthly reductions through the Central Transfer Committee. For example, during the quarter of March - May 2022, thirty-five (35) prisoners have been transferred to other prison facilities. The meetings of the Central Transfer Committee continue uninterrupted, with the aim of gradually further decongesting the Prison. The outdoor exercise yard of the disciplinary cells is now operational because cameras were installed and the area is controlled from the control room. The disciplinary cells are located next to wing E' and their control is carried out by the officer assigned to it. The movements of detainees inside and outside the disciplinary cells are not recorded, but there is a relevant table in the Control Room which records which prisoners are in the discipline cells and for what reason. Finally, as regards the two cells in the reception ward, the Management of the Prison has applied to the Ministry for the supply of the necessary materials and is awaiting approval to proceed with their repair. It is noted that these cells do not offer the possibility of one hour of outdoor exercise daily as recommended by the Committee and for this reason, they will be used for detention for a short period of time.

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- 5 -

In Korydallos Prison I, the allocation of prisoners to the wards is made taking into account various factors, including the solemn declarations in which they request to be kept in specific wards and cells in order to live together with their fellow nationals or for reasons of protection of their personal safety. Relationships between different ethno-cultural categories of prisoners are also taken into account in order to minimise the risk of violent group confrontations. The competent department of the detention facility provides sanitary and cleaning products on a regular basis. In addition, the Social Service, in cooperation with external agencies and NGOs, organises provision of clothing, bedding, telecards and personal hygiene items to needy prisoners. New entrants declare their needs at the first contact with the social worker of the ward in which they will be placed. By way of example, in the year 2020, 3,163 bags of essentials and 4,730 items of clothing and footwear were distributed to needy prisoners by the Social Service, not including items distributed by the prison staff and the Management of the Prison. Korydallos Prison I, despite being the central prison of pre-trial detainees, with an ever-changing population, offers many educational opportunities to the detainees concerned. In particular, the Prison operates in fully equipped modern classrooms:

- Greek language learning programme for foreigners and Roma,
- Primary School (formal education) established in 2021,
- Second chance school equivalent to the Third-Grade high school,
- Attendance at the Lyceum, of privately taught students who study individually and are tested at the end of each year;
- Possibility to participate in the Panhellenic Higher Education Entrance Examination held every year in the Prison.
- Public Institute of Vocational Training (D I E K) with three specialisations,

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- 6 -

• Students studying through distance learning or on educational leave in higher educational institutes throughout the country.

PERMANENT FORMAL EDUCATIONAL STRUCTURES	Number of students today	Number at the beginning of the school year
Primary school	25	30
Second chance school	62	91
Home-schooled - Lyceum	16	22
D I E K	60	95
Higher education	15	25

PROGRAMME OF THE A' QUARTER OF YEAR 2022 - KORYDALLOS PRISON I

Programmes/workshops/ training, employment, sport, culture/professional development programmes/activities	Implementing organisation/ Individual trainers	Time and duration			Programme objective	Number of participants	
		Beginning	End	Duration		At Beginning	At End
Cinema - Open Window – Moving Image	AMKE Moving image & Min. of Culture	June 2021	June 2022	Total 288 hours (144 A Cycle & 144 B Cycle)	Courses of Directing, Screenwriting, Photography Sound Recording	Total 50 hours (25 A Cycle & 25 B Cycle)	
Greek Language Learning Programme	Minedu. – Lifelong learning, Korydallos Muni/ty	18.05.22	27.07.2022	125 hours teaching	Basic Knowledge of The Greek Language	18	-

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- 7 -

Visual Arts Workshop Programme Technodromo	Min. of Culture	11.10.22	30.06.22	Total 54 hours	Artistic Expression	13	10
MUSEOTEK Digital Museum Tour Programme	MUSEOTEK – Korydallos P. I- SDE/IEK/ Primary school	17.12.22	30.06.22	7 hours Digital tours in museums	Museum education	120	120
Programme of educational structures LULLABY PROJECT	El Sistema Greece & Educational Institutions Korydallos P. I	3/2022	5/2022	50 hours approximat ely	Strengthening the parental role in vulnerable groups	10	10

At the same time, cultural, recreational and educational programs are offered to interested prisoners. In the near future, the number of programmes and activities (theatrical, musical, handicraft, etc.) for prisoners will increase as it will be easier to carry them out due to the lifting of restrictions and the relaxation of protection measures to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Regarding the reports on the existence of cockroaches and bedbugs in the second wing, the Department of the Prison has carried out intensive disinsectations and rodenticides in the reported areas since 01.12.2021, by specialised contracted crews for microbicides, disinsectations and rodenticides. In the fourth wing, the damaged showers have been repaired and are now all operational. More generally, as far as hydraulic systems are concerned, maintenance and repairs are systematically carried out on all wings. The electrical wiring in the wings, where damaged or deteriorated, is being repaired or part of it is being replaced so that there are no problems with the electricity supply. Maintenance and repairs are also carried out daily on walls, tiles, floors, etc., which have been damaged. In particular, maintenance and repair of damage (scraping mould, laying new tiles, plastering and repairing broken windows, etc.) has been carried out in all wings. In particular, in wing B, new tiles have been laid in the cell toilets and the cell ceilings and walls have been plastered. In wing E, the bathrooms have been completely

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- 8 -

reconstructed (new tiles have been laid on the floors and walls). Regarding the feeding of the prisoners, we report that the weekly ration programme is controlled by both the doctor and the Board of the Prison Council in order to ensure a variety of food and a balanced diet, with the correct proportions of vitamin intake. In addition, forks, spoons and plates are provided to all newly arriving prisoners. Finally, we note that during the quarter March - May 2022, by decisions of the Central Transfer Committee, one hundred and forty-four (144) prisoners have been transferred to another Prison. The meetings of the Central Transfer Committee continue uninterrupted with the aim of gradually further decongesting the Prison.

In Korydallos Prison II, in response to the need to detain transgender female prisoners, under conditions of absolute respect for their right to self-determination, we immediately sought possible places that would ensure their safe and dignified living in the Prison. Despite the lack of space and infrastructure it was decided to allocate the second-class section. The space was renovated and adapted to create five (05) cells, with an area of 12 sq.m., which offer the best possible conditions for the detention of transgender female prisoners. A built-in bed with mattress, table, chair, new tiles and sanitary equipment were installed in the cells, while special care was taken to ensure that each cell has its own toilet, washbasin and shower and hot water supply throughout the year. The personal hygiene area is separated from the rest of the room by a built-in wall. In addition, a new radiator was installed in each cell, there is a window for sufficient external natural lighting and ventilation, in addition to the artificial internal lighting. All of the above was considered absolutely necessary for the dignified detention of transgender women and for providing them with an adequate standard of living. A single transgender woman was placed in each cell. Surveillance

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- 9 -

cameras are available in the hallway and not in each detention area (cell). In accordance with the current provisions of the Penitentiary Code, the Management of the Prison ensured the existence of an outdoor courtyard, which also has the basic infrastructure for basketball for their sports activities.

It is further noted that all the prisoners in the Prison are offered the opportunity to participate in formal education, either in the form of privately taught secondary school and high school students or in the form of distance university education. Following the lifting of the restrictive measures to prevent the spread of covid-19, the prison management will take all the necessary steps to gradually resume all educational and recreational activities and will ensure that prisoners are properly informed in order to increase their participation in these activities, provided that the conditions are met. The intention of the Management and all staff of Korydallos Prison II to support transgender women is also confirmed by the effective cooperation with the association “THETIKI FONI” (POSITIVE VOICE), which offers legal advice and short-term psychological support to transgender female prisoners, as well as information to the staff of the Prison, on issues related to the transgender women community. Finally, both the specialist scientists of the Prison and the medical staff are at their disposal, as well as all prisoners for any request. Regarding the staff of Korydallos Prison II, we mention that they have been staffed by male and female officials who serve with a view to respecting the rights of detainees, without discrimination according to sex, nationality, language, race, colour or other characteristics, qualities, or beliefs.

Finally, we advise that there is no association of transgender female prisoners and cisgender female pre-trial detainees, for the sake of the safe and orderly operation of the Prison, always in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Prison Code.

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- 10 -

The original number the transgender female detainees of Korydallos Prison II were four (04) and after one of them were released there are three (03) (data of 1 June 2022).

In the Corfu Prison, no abusive or offensive behaviour of employees against prisoners has come to the attention of the the Management, nor has any written complaint been made by a prisoner of abuse. In the case of violent conduct by an employee against a prisoner, an investigation shall be carried out and the disciplinary procedure provided for shall be followed. In the context of prisoner hearings conducted by the management of the establishment, prisoners' requests, if reasonable and lawful, are granted in accordance with the legislation in force. In addition, financial assistance is offered by the welfare fund whenever requested by needy prisoners. The Prosecutor Supervisor of the Prison as well as the Deputy Prosecutors shall at regular intervals go to the Prison either for hearings of prisoners, for leave or for the adjudication of disciplinary offences and at no time was any abusive or offensive behaviour reported, or, or that a complaint had been filed, anonymous or surnamed with the Public Prosecutor's Office of the Corfu Court of First Instance. With regard to the Committee's observations on the abandoned wing in the entrance corridor of the Prison, which is referred to in the report as the place for the punishment of prisoners by some prison officials, we advise that it was used in the past as a special detention area (disciplinary cells), but its operation ceased already in 2017, by decision of the Minister of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights. Correctional officers enter the wards quite often during the night, namely: (4) times from 23:00pm to 5:30am, in order to carry out checks on the observance of order and security of the establishment, in addition to the prearranged (4) times they enter to lock and unlock the cells. In addition, they enter in exceptional cases when deemed necessary. The K' wing consists

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- 11 -

of a ground floor and an upper floor building and has (9) cells on the ground floor, which are used to hold vulnerable groups of prisoners (e.g., transgender) and (13) cells on the upper floor, which have been declared “listed” by Archaeological Agency and remain sealed as they were destroyed in the 1996 prisoner uprising. By decision of the competent bodies of the Ministry of Citizen Protection, transgender detainees were immediately transferred to Korydallos Prison II, according to the gender they declared, following the visit of the Committee. In addition, the management of the Prison has converted six (6) of these cells of K' Wing into a special detention area, due to the unsuitability of the formerly operating special detention area (disciplinary cells). As of 6-12-2021, the use of disciplinary cells KI, K2, K3 (with dimensions of 3.25*1.75sqm) has been discontinued and actions have been initiated to carry out renovation, (the approval of the relevant funding by the Ministry of Citizen Protection is expected). The wing I' has been renovated before 2014 and requires maintenance and construction improvements. The wing Θ', after its complete reconstruction, reopened at the end of 2020 as a quarantine space for new entrants, in transit or on leave. It is now used as a permanent prison facility. During the year 2020, significant work was carried out in the Prison, aiming to improve the quality of life of prisoners, such as: repair to the boiler, repair and transfer of osmosis pump, configuration in visit rooms for communication of prisoners via skype (buying microphones and headphones), repair and maintenance of the central heating system circulators, general maintenance and replacement of materials of the fire protection system, maintenance and repair of solar panels and installations for the production of hot water in 8 out of 10 wings, replacement of heat tank resistances, removal of old copper hydraulic pipes and installation of new pipes in 15 bathrooms of wing Θ', coating of a new installation in external ground floor bathrooms of wing Θ', asphalt pavement with asphalt panel for roof insulation of wing

ΜΑΡΙΑ ΚΑΡΑΓΕΩΡΓΟΥ

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 12 -

I, installation of new concrete bench dimensions 1,50mx 0.65 m in wing I, paintings in premises of the Prison where this was deemed necessary, removal of rickety tiles and repositioning of new ones on the floor of the Headquarters, tearing down and replacing 3 toilets (1 female) - (2 men) entirely in the area of the internal watches for the needs of the employees and instructors of the SCS (new drains, installation of plasterboards, new electrical and plumbing installations, installation of new tiles and sanitary ware). Similarly, in the year 2021, large-scale renovation, repair, cleaning and decontamination works were carried out, such as: repair and transfer of the osmosis pump, repair and maintenance of the circulators of the central heating system, general maintenance and replacement of materials of the fire protection system, replacement of expansion tanks for the proper operation of the heating system, building works and painting in the premises of the Prison. There are also systematic insecticides, rodenticides, snake repellents and disinfections.

In the Kos Prison, the capacity is fifty-six (56) inmates. It is noted that the visit of the CPT team took place at the worst possible time for the Institution and that the detention of ninety-seven (97) detainees was purely circumstantial. During this period, the prisoners' beds were arranged in a very dense arrangement, with the result that the space available to each prisoner was very limited. However, it is worth noting that all prisoners had a bed available to them and there were no prisoners sleeping on the floor. This was followed by a gradual decongestion of the Prison by decisions of the Central Transfer Committee and today, the occupancy levels are not high, so the level of decent living of the prisoners is not affected. On the day of the visit, (19) active cases of covid- 19 had been recorded in an equal number of detainees. There are three quarantine rooms in the Facility which can accommodate a maximum of seven

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 13 -

prisoners, therefore it was not feasible with the existing infrastructure and space to isolate all cases in quarantine rooms; therefore, there was no better solution than to isolate the wards separately because the cases were coming from all three wards available in the Facility and all other prisoners who did not become ill were considered close contacts of the cases. This is why the delegation noted that, detainees who were close contacts and active cases were together. This practice ultimately proved effective as the majority of sick prisoners were cured without further spread to the healthy population. With regard to reports of prisoners not having contact with staff, please be advised that this has not been brought to the attention of the Management, nor has a complaint been made. Detainees have daily and continuous contact with the staff manning the shifts as well as with the medical office of the Facility for their health issues and medication. They can also request a daily meeting (hearing) with the Secretariat of the Prison, with the Sergeant and with the Management. All this is recorded and kept in the hearing books and can be verified at any time upon request. In addition, the design of the Prison is such (there are no wings), therefore, the guard at the guardrail, as well as the guard in the outer courtyard, have a direct line of sight to the inner courtyard and wards and the outer area respectively, and are vigilant in the performance of their duties to prevent any incident. Regarding in particular the communication of prisoners via VoiceOver Internet Protocol (VOIP), we advise that since the outbreak of the covid-19 pandemic, a major problem has emerged, that of the possibility of someone being able to visit a prisoner who is located and detained far from a major urban centre and especially on an island, such as Kos where the Prison is located. The problem is magnified when the detainee is a foreigner far from his country and his family. Recognizing the importance of the prisoners' communication with their familiar environment, an immediate solution was provided in cooperation with the

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 14 -

General Secretariat of Anticrime Policy. More specifically, the necessary technical equipment was procured and a special area was set up for the operation of the electronic visiting room via skype. In addition, prisoners who wish to do so can communicate by telephone with their relatives through the seven (7) payphones installed in the Prison. Telephone communication takes place during the hours when the inmates are outdoors and eye contact with the staff is complete. The supply of telecards is done through the agency, in accordance with the Internal Rules of Prisons, while needy prisoners are provided with telecards free of charge by the Facility Management. It is a fact that there are relatively frequent failures of the devices, either due to their age or due to misuse by the prisoners, which are repaired immediately. It should be noted that every new prisoner is informed of the prison's mode of operation in a language he or she understands. Every prisoner has immediate access to the services of the prison after entry and if he/she does not have basic clothing and personal hygiene items, these are provided by the prison. With regard to the distribution of printed material to prisoners, in order to inform them more fully about their obligations, the way the prison operates and their rights during their detention, we would like to inform you that relevant brochures are distributed, which have either been sent by the Ministry or prepared and printed on the initiative of the Prison.

There is neither a social worker nor a psychiatrist on duty at the Prison, so the needs of prisoners for systematic psychiatric and counselling support are not met. This role is often assumed by the management of the Prison and by the staff. Following the relevant decision of the Administration of the 2nd Health Regional Unit of Piraeus and Aegean, to assist the Acceptance and Monitoring Committee of the project entitled: "Expansion of the National Telemedicine Network (EDIT) - Part of the 2nd D.Y.P.E. to islands of the South Aegean Region with emphasis on the lifting of the health

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 15 -

isolation of small islands", a complete telemedicine system has been installed in the Hospital and is operating normally since April 29, 2022. As a result, there is now the possibility of remote medical coverage by qualified doctors of specialties that the island of Kos lacks in its public structures. Characteristically, two teleconferences have already taken place with a physiatrist and a psychiatrist, (remote examination, opinion, etc.) successfully. This is a very important project, which contributes to meeting the health needs of prisoners, given that it is possible in a short period of time, by circumventing unnecessary travel and costs, to achieve the desired result for many of the cases in need of medical care.

B) Update on questions, observations and recommendations of the CPT Report of 04.03.2022

The Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy intends to adopt a revised Strategic Plan including a detailed implementation timetable, with a view to drawing up a more detailed plan for the coming years taking into account the recommendations of the CPT Committee. The revision of the Strategic Plan 2021-2023 is estimated to require six (6) months due to the specific scope and resources that the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy intends to involve with a possible start of the programme in July 2022, in which case the CPT Committee is requested to provide the relevant extension to the requirement for receipt of the revised Strategic Plan.

> Degrading Treatment (a. Violence between prisoners and b. Violence against detainees by officials)

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 16 -

Despite the current shortages of staff in prison facilities, due to the limited budgetary conditions experienced by our country, there is no impossibility for prison officers to control the detention facilities nor delegation of functions to powerful groups of prisoners. Incidents of violence by prisoners against officials or other prisoners are dealt with both disciplinary and criminal matters. In particular:

1) The current legal framework on the conditions for the transfer of prisoners to Rural Prisons and the Central Warehouse of Prison Materials has become stricter in cases involving, in particular, incidents of violence either between prisoners or against prison staff. To this end, by Law no. 4760/2020 and then by Article 29 of Law 4937/2022, prisoners who have committed a disciplinary offence or have criminal proceedings pending against them for a misdemeanour offence involving acts of violence or threats of violence against persons and property were excluded from the beneficial institution of rural prisons.

In addition, the amendments to Law 3090 /2002 upgrade the Body of Prisons Inspection and Control (S.E.E.K.K.), a body of key importance for the proper functioning and effective control of the prison facilities of the country, whose task is to carry out regular and extraordinary checks to verify the conditions of detention, the performance of the duties of prison employees, the exercise and protection of the rights of detainees, the observance of security measures in the prisons, as well as the implementation of the provisions of the Penitentiary Code and the Rules of Operation of Prisons.

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 17 -

2) Separation of prisoners belonging to opposing ethnic or racial groups is provided for in all cases in order to avoid any conflicts that may lead to incidents of scuffles and conflicts in general.

3) The implementation of awareness-raising programmes for both prison officers and prisoners is promoted, with the aim of removing xenophobic attitudes and preventing manifestations of racist violence. On the other hand, specialised training is provided to prison officers, either basic or in the form of training seminars, to enable them to deal more quickly and effectively with conflict phenomena between prisoners.

4) Finally, regular and extraordinary investigations are intensified in cooperation with the Prosecutor of each Prison to prevent such incidents.

The current penitentiary legislation provides adequate and effective protection to detainees against violations of the Penitentiary Code that concern them individually, in application of specific provisions, such as:

- Article 6 of the Penitentiary Code: prisoners may submit written reports to the Prison Council, and in the event of a negative decision or failure to issue a decision, they have the right to appeal to the Court for the Execution of Sentences, as well as to submit a written petition to a public authority (e.g., the Ombudsman) or an international organisation.

- Article 86 of the Penitentiary Code: in the event of rejection of their claims, detainees may bring an action before the competent misdemeanour court in order to challenge the decisions rejecting their case.

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 18 -

- Article 31 of the Internal Rules of Prisons: it expressly stipulates the right of prisoners to file a complaint to any public authority, inside or outside the Prison, as well as their legal protection by the courts.

- Article 25 of the Internal Rules of Prisons: sets out the right of prisoners to be heard, as well as the conditions for the protection of this right to be heard by the Prosecutor Supervisor of the Prison.

- Article 572 of the Code Criminal Procedure (CCrP) grants detainees the right to contact the Prosecutor who ensures the execution of their sentence and the application of security measures and, in addition, visits the prison at least once a week.

It should be pointed out that the use of violence against a prisoner constitutes a disciplinary offence (Penitentiary Code Article 68), therefore, disciplinary proceedings as provided for in the legislation in force (Article 71 Penitentiary Code) are initiated in such cases, i.e. a relevant written report is filed immediately after the commission of the offence or once both the act and the person responsible become known, and the Disciplinary Board is convened within 48 hours, otherwise within five days of the submission of the report. The decision of the Disciplinary Board shall be specifically reasoned, shall be issued immediately after the hearing of the case and if a penalty is imposed, it shall be recorded in the registers of the facility and on the prisoner's personal record.

Finally, as regards the proper assessment of the risks and needs of prisoners both during their entry to the establishment and during their detention, it should be noted

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 19 -

that the relevant procedure is regulated specifically by the Internal Rules of Prisons, pursuant to the provisions of article 10, which, inter alia, stipulates:

«6. A prisoner, before being temporarily or permanently placed in a particular section and area of the prison, shall be brought before the sergeant or his deputy and shall be asked to state, in writing and in signature, (a) whether he wishes measures to be taken for his personal security, (b) whether there are any prisoners with whom he has problems, or (c) whether, on the contrary, he is associated with certain prisoners. The prisoner is then instructed as to where he or she will be accommodated, in accordance with specific criteria of discrimination and segregation determined by the Prison Council under Articles 11 & 17 of the Penal Code, taking into account the building infrastructure of the detention facility and its staffing.

7. After the initial selection of a place of accommodation by the warden or his deputy, the hearing by the director, the social worker or other employees of the establishment to whom this task is assigned by daily order of the director and the medical examination, the prisoner shall be placed by the warden or his deputy in a specific section and area of the detention establishment, in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Prison Council.

8. After the placement, as well as in any case of change, the sergeant or his deputy shall inform the Prison Council without delay in order to check the correct implementation of the decisions."

A key priority of the penitentiary policy of the General Secretariat for Anticrime Policy of the Ministry of Citizen Protection is to strengthen the training of prison officers,

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 20 -

especially the guards of detention facilities, and the provision of upgraded training services. The ultimate goal is for them to acquire knowledge and improve their skills in the performance of their duties with regard to the treatment, supervision and appropriate preparation of prisoners for social reintegration. Therefore, the value of targeted and continuous education and training of the Prisons staff is undeniable, in order to foster a holistic approach to the problem of security for both staff and prisoners. The Prison staff is trained and retrained during their working life through the attendance of programmes implemented in cooperation with Greek and European institutions and through the School of Correctional Officers and External Guards. These programmes aim to improve the technical, social and professional knowledge, competences and skills of prison staff. Indicatively, the following educational activities have been and are being carried out.

- KETHEA (Therapy Centre for Dependent Individuals) IN ACTION: During the period of September 2021-May 2022, the trainings were implemented in the Prisons Korydallos I, Women's Prison in Eleonas Thiva, Patras, Thessaloniki and in the Volos Special Juvenile Detention Establishment (Ekkn): "Addiction-Rehabilitation within correctional facilities and management of prisoners undergoing rehabilitation treatment" and "Management of work stress of employees",

- IN. EP. (Training Institute of the National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government): Seminars were held during the period February - July 2020 entitled: "Mental Health and Crisis Response in Prisons" and "The Role of Prison Personnel in the Treatment and Reintegration of Prisoners",

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 21 -

- KEMEA (Centre for Security Studies of the Hellenic Police): The actions were implemented during the period February-December 2020: “Strengthening the Law Enforcement Agencies for Recognising and Combating Radicalisation and Extremism”, “Mentor Model Training and training on the procedures and surveillance systems of the European project INTEGRA”, “VR simulation prison search” carried out in the framework of the European project J-SAFE;

- EUROPEAN CENTRE OF ALBANIA: With the participation of 6 European countries, a webinar was held in November 2021, following the European Research Programme “B-COMPETENT-Improving Penitentiary Staff Competences in Europe”,

- UNION VIA THE STRUCTURAL REFORM SUPPORT SERVICE OF THE COMMISSION: A Conference on Radicalisation and Terrorism of the Technical Support Programme for the Reform of the Greek Judicial System was held in February 2020.

- COUNCIL OF EUROPE: The programme “Strengthening the Health Care of Prisons in Greece” was implemented in cooperation with the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy of the Ministry of Citizen Protection, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health, with the aim of supporting the Greek authorities in developing policies and in taking measures to address the overcrowding and deficiencies identified by the CPT and the European Court of Human Rights regarding the provision of healthcare in Prisons.

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 22 -

In particular, regarding the strengthening of dynamic security in prison facilities, the Ekka School of Correctional Officers and External Guards has included in the Introductory Training Curriculum the teaching of the following modules:

1) TREATMENT OF PRISONERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

In this section the students will be trained in mental health issues, prevention of self-destructive behaviour, characteristics and needs of prisoners with special emphasis on vulnerable groups as well as cultural diversity and intercultural communication.

2) SECURITY ISSUES OF PRISONS

In this section the students will understand the modern trends and techniques regarding security, its types (static, procedural, dynamic) in the Prisons, its meaning and the conditions for its achievement. They will also become familiar with information processing, analysis and management systems and their impact on tackling violence and corruption.

3) CRISIS MANAGEMENT

Trainees will be able to distinguish different types of crises in prisons, assess the signs of an upcoming crisis in order to effectively prevent and deal with workplace crises. They will also develop communication skills as well as mediation and conflict avoidance techniques.

4) INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Learners should understand the importance of information for the proper functioning of Prisons, get acquainted with the systems of analysis, evaluation and classification of

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 23 -

information, understand the process of changing behaviour and radicalisation, and be informed about international risk assessment tools for radicalisation leading to violent extremism and terrorism.

The following teaching modules have been provided for in the Postgraduate Training Programme for Guards and External Guards graduates of Secondary Education:

- 1) Crisis and conflict management and resolution
- 2) Security and Risk Assessment Issues in Prisons
- 3) Legal Framework for the Treatment of Prisoners and Human Rights

The above modules are based on both Greek penitentiary legislation and international penitentiary policy texts, such as the European Penitentiary Rules, the standards of the Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), Committee texts, international academic literature, etc.

> Detention conditions in prisons

I. Overcrowding

In order to halt the phenomenon of overcrowding, the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy examines and utilises all available measures and good practices at European and international level for the most rational distribution of prisoners, with a view to protecting their lives and health and their smooth reintegration. In this context, it has taken the following steps:

1. Article 29 Law 4937/02.06.2022 (Official Journal - OJ, Series A' 106) amended article 41(1) Law 4356/2015 (A' 181), as regards the conditions for transferring sentenced prisoners to the Rural Prisons and the Central Warehouse of Prisons

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 24 -

Material, in order to ensure the possibility of transferring to them more prisoners, mainly minor crimes offenders, and thus to achieve significant decongestion in the closed prisons of the country. It is worth noting that, from the evaluation of the data kept, it is estimated that a number of approximately 600 detainees will transfer from closed Prisons to Rural Prisons, in which case the desired decongestion will be achieved. It is indicatively stated that the Central Committee on Transfers this month will consider about one hundred (100) prisoners who meet the requirements of the above law for transfer to Rural Prisons. It should be noted that agricultural production activities take place in the Rural Prisons and there are also production workshops (such as a machinery, carpentry, electric mill, cheese mill, dairy, bakery) aiming at the sustainability of agricultural production and the transfer of know-how to the detained workers. The employment of detainees in the laboratories and farms of the Rural Prisons is educational/therapeutic/post-correctional as they acquire skills and experience that contribute to their smooth reintegration into society and for these reasons it is a priority of the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy to strengthen the institution.

2. New Prisons are being created and existing ones are being upgraded to the standards laid down by national and international law, both for the general population of prisoners, as well as for the population of prisoners with disabilities (AmeA/PWD) and drug addicts. In particular, as regards:

- The relocation of the Korydallos Prison Complex and the creation of the new Judicial Penitentiary Complex of Athens-D.S.S. A with a capacity of 2.000 detention places, have already been prepared: the geological study, the environmental impact study and the study of a specific spatial plan. On the basis of these studies, a Presidential Decree

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 25 -

will be issued containing the urban plan implementation. Then, on the basis of this plan, all the necessary studies will be carried out for the construction. All the studies necessary for the construction will then be carried out on the basis of this plan. Afterwards, the compliance of the project with Law 3339/2005 (Government Gazette A'232) will be investigated by submitting a file to the competent Service of the General Secretariat for Private Investments and Public-Private Partnerships (S.D.I.T.) of the Ministry of Development and Investment. It is worth noting that the new Complex will include seven (7) courtrooms, two (2) hospitals, a transfer building, two (2) courtyards with green space. There will also be disciplinary cells, cells for vulnerable groups, cells for persons with disabilities, places of worship, spaces for therapeutic programs, employment spaces, educational spaces, workshops and libraries.

- The new Prison Centre of Drama, with a capacity of six hundred (600) prisoners, has been completed by the company “Building Infrastructures S.A.” The project was delivered on 11 June 2020 and is due to be operational in 2022, with its staffing by prison staff, category Higher - University Education (PE), Technological Education (TE) and Secondary Education (DE) of the issued notice 4K/2021 of Supreme Council for Civil Personnel Selection (ASEP).

- The new Prison (Crete II) in Kourounes area of Lasithi Prefecture, with a capacity of six hundred (600) prisoners, is underway. The financing of the project has been secured by the Public Investment Programme and is estimated to be completed after one year.

- The construction of new prisons in the areas of Ioannina, Chalkida and Megalopolis, with a capacity of six hundred (600) places each, the competent suitability committees for finding suitable land have completed their work in assessing its suitability.

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 26 -

In particular, it should be noted that the exact timetable for the construction and actual operation of the new Prisons will be determined after the preparation of technical, financial and other specialised studies, since the implementation of the specific projects falls within the remit of other Ministries.

3. The strengthening of alternative measures of serving a sentence, especially the institution of electronic surveillance, is promoted by extending its application to more Prisons in the country.

4. A special working group of the Ministry of Justice has been engaged in the modification and improvement of the regulations concerning community service, in order to cover a larger number of prisoners, in accordance with the Council of Europe guidelines.

It is worth noting that, until the completion and full implementation of the above mentioned, in accordance with the provisions of the legislation in force, the Central Transfer Committee meets on a regular basis, at least once a week, and examines, among other things, requests for transfers with the aim of a more rational distribution of prisoners in the country's prisons and gradually decongesting prisons facing a problem of overcrowding.

Legal aid (effective remedy)

The procedure for the adoption of a special legal remedy for the living conditions in prisons has already progressed in order to fill the gap in our national legislation and to carry out a substantial reform towards the protection of the rights of detainees by

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 27 -

adapting it to the case law of the ECtHR and to the recommendations of the Council of Europe. In particular, a special working group set up with the aim of reforming the Penitentiary Code, completed its work and resulted in a specific proposal, which concerns the addition of a new article to the current Penitentiary Code, on the appeal of prisoners the living conditions in prisons and their fair satisfaction, in order to ensure their protection, during their detention, against any violations of the Penitentiary Code as well as of international and European standards of protection, regarding prison conditions. This proposal is being forwarded immediately through the parliamentary procedure for adoption.

2. Facilities and hardware issues

With regard to the material and technical support provided to detainees, it is noted that the Social Service of each Detention Centre ensures the supply of all personal essentials. To this end, in addition to the approval of the relevant funding, partnerships have been developed with charities and businesses (in the context of corporate social responsibility) that assist with donations of basic necessities, as well as financial donations to the Prisons Fund for the Needy, from which all necessary additional commissions are made to meet the needs of prisoners.

With regard to the maintenance of buildings and the supply of equipment, the relevant requests are examined and satisfied as a matter of priority. In each Prison, maintenance, repair and restoration work is carried out at regular intervals to repair damage and deterioration which, in many cases, is caused by the detainees themselves. At the same time, collaborations have been developed with the competent local

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 28 -

authorities in order for small-scale works to proceed with the assistance of the Regions of the country.

> Health services

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and throughout its duration, the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy has been in constant communication and cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the National Public Health Organisation for the prevention of the coronavirus spread in the Prisons, and has sent a series of circulars and instructions for the continuous information of staff and the timely adoption of precautionary measures, which are in line with the current, ongoing, epidemiological data. In addition, it continuously ensures the supply of sanitary material, disinfection and health protection material, such as 3PLY surgical masks, nitrile gloves, antiseptics, protective goggles, face shields, full body protection suits, general purpose chlorine, liquid hand soap, shampoo, shower gel, etc. in sufficient quantity for all Prisons, while in cooperation with the Ministry of Health rapid-tests are distributed every month to all Prisons. Finally, it is worth mentioning that, following the completion of the cooperation of the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy with the Ministry of Health, special arrangements were made so that prisoners (mainly foreigners) who did not have a Social Security Register Number, could obtain a temporary Social Security Register Number and thus participate in the vaccination program that was designed and implemented successfully in the Prisons. It should be noted that the total vaccinations of detainees from the start of the vaccination procedure until 27.05.2022, amounted to 8.790, (82,5 %) and the total vaccinations of detainees' employees in the Prisons at 3.075, (73,5 %).

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- 29 -

Data on the covid-19 pandemic

		TOTAL OF CENTRES
1	Number of active prisoners	10.695
2	Number of elderly (detainees aged 65+)	263
3	Number of active female prisoners	542
4	Number of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases, in isolation or quarantine	48
5	Number of prisoners diagnosed with COVID-19 (from the outbreak of the pandemic to the reference date)	4.601
6	Number of elderly (detainees aged 65+) diagnosed with COVID-19 (from the outbreak of the pandemic to the reference date)	153
7	Number of women prisoners diagnosed with covid-19 (from the outbreak of the pandemic to the reference date)	373
8	Number of prisoners transferred to a hospital or to a COVID-19 care facility for treatment diagnosed with COVID-19 (from the outbreak of the pandemic to the reference date)	207
9	Number of deaths of prisoners due to COVID-19	15
10	Number of officials of all sectors have been diagnosed with COVID19 (from the outbreak of the	2.092

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 30 -

	pandemic to the reference date)	
11	Number of staff deaths from all sectors due to COVID-19	5
12	Number of prisoners fully vaccinated	8790
13	Number of fully vaccinated employees	3075
14	Number of fully vaccinated health workers	106

It is further noted that lists of other non-medical auxiliary staff for staffing the Special District Medical Centres operating in the Prisons have been posted by the local Health Departments of the Ministry of Health and it is expected that candidates will express their preference among the posts in the Health Departments which they have been asked to fill by appointment.

With regard to the recommendation of your Committee for the medical screening of prisoners upon their admission to the Detention Centre, we report that under the auspices of Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy of the Ministry of Citizen Protection in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health, the Council of Europe programme “Strengthening prison health care in Greece” was implemented. The programme started on 1 June 2019 and ended on 15 December 2021. Its aim was to support the Greek authorities in developing policies and taking measures to address the overcrowding and deficiencies identified by the CPT and the European Court of Human Rights regarding the provision of healthcare in Prisons. In this context, a set of rules, procedures and protocols for the medical examination of new entrants in Prisons were drawn up by the relevant expert group. At this time, the Agency, in cooperation with the Korydallos Prison and the Korydallos Special Health Centre for Prisoners (EKYKK), shall examine the necessary conditions regarding the

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 31 -

possibility of adopting and uniformly implementing the relevant Plan in all Prisons in order to be subsequently communicated to all the competent Managements responsible for the implementation of the project.

In the context of the national strategy for the treatment of drug-dependent prisoners, a memorandum of cooperation has been signed between the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy and the KETHEA (Therapy Centre for Dependent Individuals) with the aim of expanding the operation of Prisoners' Advisory Support Units of KETHEA's Therapeutic Programs to all Prisons in Greece. The aim of the project is to inform prisoners about addiction and its therapeutic treatment, to reduce the harm associated with substance abuse and to prepare them for integration into Treatment Communities operating either inside or outside the Prisons. In addition, we consider the possibility of signing a memorandum with the Organisation against Drugs OKANA, which with its services aims to holistically address the phenomenon of dependence, focusing on the pillars of prevention, reduction of harm, treatment and social reintegration, while at the same time, it takes action to raise public awareness and destigmatise addicts. The Network of Structures and Services of the Organisation consists of 67 Rehabilitation Units, 9 "Dry" Programmes, 4 Direct Access Units, 2 Prison Rehabilitation Units.

Korydallos Special Health Centre for Prisoners (EKYKK)

Regarding the capacity of the patients' rooms, we inform you that the surplus beds have been removed after the painting works carried out in the wards of the Centre. In addition, there has been a general renovation of toilets and bathrooms has been carried out and toilets, bathrooms, tiles, mirrors, taps, sinks and glazing have been replaced.

With regard to your Committee's observations on medical and nursing staff, the following are also discussed:

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 32 -

The Head of the Medical Service has the role of "liaison" between specialists and treating doctors for the exchange of information concerning sick prisoners.

Regarding the filling of positions for nursing and specialist staff in the EKYKK the final results of the call for applications 6K/2020 have already been issued. Specifically, on March 11, 2022, the final results for the filling of two (2) posts in the category of P.E. (Higher Education Graduates) NURSING staff and one (1) post in the category of P.E. PHARMACISTS were issued and on April 12, 2022, the final results for the filling of : (a) six (6) posts in the category of NURSING staff, (b) three (3) posts in the category of MEDICAL LABORATORY staff, (c) three (3) posts in the category of MEDICAL RADIOLOGY staff, and are awaiting promulgation at the relevant Official Journal and the announcement of their appointment by the Ministry of Health for their placement in the Special Health Centre for Prisoners of Korydallos.

With regard to the system of distribution and administration of medicines, it is clarified that no medicine reaches the clinic without its normal packaging. However, even when the medicines come out of their packaging, the tabs in which they are packaged show their name and their content (mg). The nursing staff, once (1) per 24 hours, prepares the distribution of the medicines per patient, according to the medical instructions, and places them in a paper package on which the name of each detainee is written. Finally, as regards the date on which a treatment is started, this is always recorded in the first column of each prisoner's medication card, which is completed in accordance with the doctors' opinions. With regard to the discontinuation of a medication, if it is administered for a specific period, the date of discontinuation shall be entered in the tab and in the corresponding column. If the medication is given for an indefinite period, nothing is entered in the 'discontinuation' column until the treating physicians have issued a discontinuation instruction.

ΜΑΡΙΑ ΚΑΡΑΓΕΩΡΓΟΥ

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 33 -

With regard to the observations concerning the prisoner-patient (HA) whom the delegation met, it is noted that he is monitored on a regular basis by an orthopaedist, a general practitioner and an ophthalmologist and has direct access to medical assistance from other specialists if necessary. He also has direct access to medical and nursing care around the clock from the medical and nursing staff of the Special Health Centre for Prisoners in Korydallos.

As far as his daily practical needs are concerned, during his detention he is assisted by a working prisoner. In fact, initially, the working prisoner who looked after him, apart from Mr (HA), was also responsible for looking after two other sick prisoners. Subsequently, and in particular from 02/12/2021, since the prisoner expressed complaints about unsatisfactory service from the prisoner carer, another prisoner was appointed by the Labour Council, who takes care, around the clock, solely and exclusively of prisoner (HA) with regard to his feeding, clothing, personal cleaning and hygiene and anything else he needs in his daily life. It is clarified that the working prisoners are remunerated with a beneficial calculation of daily wages by the Labour Council and no other kind of remuneration by the prisoners as making transactions between them is a disciplinary offence. Also, the prisoners do not carry any money on them during their detention. With regard to the supply of the new prosthetic limbs, which is being carried out in cooperation with the 2nd Health Regional Unit of Piraeus and Aegean, we inform you that the bidding process has been completed and the most advantageous one that meets the required specifications has been selected. Furthermore, according to document n^o. 29090/23.05.2022 of the 2nd DYPE, following a question from the regarding the progress of the procurement of the prosthetic limbs of the above prisoner, it has been informed that the procedure has been initiated by the Procurement Department and the foreseen budget modification actions have been taken

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 34 -

by the Finance Department, so that its implementation can be completed within the next few days.

Korydallos Prisoners' Mental Hospital

At this time, the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy is investigating the possibility of concluding a memorandum of extended cooperation with another Mental Hospital of the prefecture of Attica (in addition to the already existing Memorandum of Cooperation with the Department of Psychiatry of the General University Hospital “ATTIKON”, which has been in force since 2010) in order to respond to the new needs for psychiatric care for prisoners in the Korydallos Mental Hospital.

At the same time, at regular intervals, requests from the Management of Korydallos Prisoner’s Mental Hospital are sent to the Hellenic Psychiatric Association and the Medical Associations of Athens and Piraeus seeking on visit doctors of various specialties in order to meet the needs of the Prison. We note that unfortunately there is a decrease in interest and a decreasing number of doctors are responding to these requests.

As regards the cell visited by your committee representatives, it is stated that it is a cell located on the ground floor (an area of increased patient care). This is where, on medical orders, prisoners are placed for systematic monitoring, because they are suicidal or other patients in a relapse phase. They are usually new arrivals who stay for a short period of time and until the medication has taken effect. Then, with a new medical order, they are placed with the rest of the population on a floor of the Prison. According to medical instructions, these cells-wards must not have items that can be used to injure the prisoner (such as sheets, chairs, bedside tables, TV, etc.) and cords, belts, lighters, etc must be removed. This space is air-conditioned on a regular basis It

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 35 -

is worth noting that prisoners often cause damage to the walls, toilets, washbasins, the replacement of which is taken care of immediately. The area is cleaned daily by the cleaners, was recently painted and has since been maintained whenever necessary. Disinfections are also carried out on a regular basis, both in this area and throughout the Prison. Recent deaths in the Mental Hospital were mostly due to pathological causes. The majority were chronic severe psychiatric cases with underlying illnesses. Following the care and interdisciplinary cooperation of the staff of the Korydallos Prisoner Mental Hospital, the number of suicides has decreased significantly in recent years.

In the framework of the implementation of the Council of Europe programme “Strengthening prison health care in Greece” (1 June 2019 to 15 December 2021), trainings on diagnosis of mental illnesses and self-harm and suicide prevention of prisoners were conducted. The training was based on a manual covering a wide range of topics related to mental health, which was printed and intended to be used for the training of prison staff. As a result of the reported trainings, tools - guides on “Self-destructive Behaviour in Prisons”, “Health Care in Prisons and Medical Ethics” have been completed, among others, which have been printed by the Council of Europe and sent to the Prisons of Greece and the School of Education of Penitentiary Officers and External Guards.

Prisons Staff

With regard to your committee’s comments on the Prisons staff, we would like to inform you of the following:

A) ANNOUNCEMENT 6K/2018

ΜΑΡΙΑ ΚΑΡΑΓΕΩΡΓΟΥ

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 36 -

The following staff has been appointed:

- Categories of PE (Higher Education Graduates) and TE (Technological Education Graduates): 12 employees
- Category DE (Secondary Education Graduates) Guards: (418) employees (until May)
- Category DE External Guards: (43) employees (until May)

In more detail:

In the years 2020-2021, the following staff has been appointed at various Prisons:

PE Correctional staff for adults: 5 employees

PE Social Work: 1 employee

PE Psychologists: 1 employee

TE Health and Welfare, Specialty Nursing: 4 employees

TE Health and Welfare, Specialty Social workers: 1 employee

• Category DE

DE Guards: 418 employees

DE External Guards: 43 employees

A request has been sent to the Supreme Council for Civil Personnel Selection to replace (41) candidates for guards and external guards who did not accept the appointment. A request (no. 8598/2022) has been sent to the External Guards School for the attendance of the basic training programme by (39) DE candidates for external guards.

B) ANNOUNCEMENT 4K/2021 - Drama Prison (part of the positions provided - administrative, technical, scientific staff)

- PE, TE and DE Categories: In total (52) posts have been announced under the Announcement n^o. 4K/2021 of ASEP (OJ 20 Series ASEP).

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 37 -

- DE Category: The procedures for appointing candidates from the DE branch have started: 14 appointees of which 12 have submitted supporting documents. One did not accept and replacement has been requested.
- TE and PE Categories: The final results of the TE and PE categories have been published on the website of the Supreme Council for Civil Personnel Selection and issue of a relevant OJ is expected followed by the official update of our Agency in order to proceed with their appointment.

C) Announcement 9K/2021 (Includes the remaining categories of DE Guards and External Guards of the Drama Prison and the branches of Guards and External Guards from the commitment for recruitment of 381 staff members which were launched under Announcement n°. 9K/2021 of ASEP (OJ 58 Series ASEP).

DE Category:

There have been announced in total: (416) seats: (97) in the branch of DE Guards and (91) in the branch of External Guards for the Drama Prison and in addition (121) posts in the branch of DE Guards and (107) in the branch of External Guards for the rest of the Prisons.

In more detail:

Provisional results have been issued on ASEP's website, and the procedure is in the stage of examination of objections before issuing Final Results. It is estimated that the provisional results will be posted between June and September 2022, depending on the number of objections.

The selection procedures provided for in article 11 of Law 4760/2020 (A' 247) - health examinations and the sports and psychotechnical tests - to which candidates are submitted for the filling of posts for the positions of DE Guards and External Guards,

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 38 -

which are carried out by Committees of the Ministry of Citizen Protection, shall follow.

D) Announcement “381 employees” (publication of the notice by ASEP is expected)

A notice is expected to be issued for the remaining (126) posts in the different categories and sectors from the commitment to recruit (381) staff (33/06 PYS) of categories PE, TE and DE

In more detail:

- 21 posts for PE Physicians
- 2 posts for PE Guards for Adults
- 5 posts of PE Criminologists
- 4 posts of PE Social Work
- 2 posts of PE Psychologists
- 2 posts of PE Sociologists
- 4 posts TE Administrative-Accounting staff
- 14 posts TE Health and Welfare, specialty Social Work
- 29 posts TE Health and Welfare, specialty Nursing
- 3 posts of TE Engineers
- 10 posts TE IT
- 1 post TE Infant Nursing
- 24 posts DE Administrative-Accounting staff
- 4 posts DE Nursing
- 1 post DE Bakery worker

ΜΑΡΙΑ ΚΑΡΑΓΕΩΡΓΟΥ

ΝΟΜΙΚΟΣ / ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΜΕΝΗ ΜΕΤΑΦΡΑΣΤΡΙΑ ΥΠ.ΕΞ.

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 39 -

E) The recruitment of (275) employees of various branches (PE, TE and DE) in the Prisons of the Country has been approved (PYS 50/2021)

In more detail:

By the n°. 50/04.11.2021 of the Council of Ministers (DIPAAD/F.EGR. /oik.21609/ 17 November 2021 document of the Ministry of the Interior) the recruitment of 275 posts of various branches in the Prisons of the Country has been approved.

- 6 posts DE Nursing
- 1 post DE Driver
- 79 posts DE External Guards
- 177 posts DE Guards
- 2 posts PE Agronomists
- 1 post Sociologists
- 1 post PE Nursing
- 1 post PE Pharmacists
- 2 posts TE Occupational therapists
- 3 posts TE Engineers
- 2 posts Social Workers

It should be noted that the ongoing plan of the new by-laws of the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy, if approved, foresees the increase of the permanent positions of the Prisons and Volos Facility (Volos Educational Facility for Male Minors) to (7.274) according to the following breakdown:

ΜΑΡΙΑ ΚΑΡΑΓΕΩΡΓΟΥ

ΝΟΜΙΚΟΣ / ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΜΕΝΗ ΜΕΤΑΦΡΑΣΤΡΙΑ ΥΠ.ΕΞ.

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 42 -

- > Volos Special Juvenile Detention Establishment (Ekkn) (Primary School, High School Branch)
- > Kassavetia Rural Penitentiary Establishment for Minors (Aska) (Primary School, High School classes)
- > Corinth Prison (Primary School, High School classes - Lyceum School classes)
- > at the Volos Educational Facility for Male Minors (Special Primary School/High School Branch)
- > in the Prisons of Komotini, Grevena, Nafplio and Women's Prison in Eleonas Thiva (Primary School)
- > Korydallos Prison I (Primary School, as part of the implementation of Law 4763/2020)

(2) Second Chance Schools (SCS), for adult prisoners with a view to completing compulsory education, are recorded in 13 Prisons and in particular in Korydallos Prison I, Special Health Centre of Korydallos for Prisoners (Branch away from the SCS of Korydallos Prison I), Domokos, Women's Prison in Eleonas Thiva, Larissa, Trikala, Patras, Thessaloniki, Nigrita, Grevena, Corfu, Chania and Malandrino.

(3) Public Institutes of Vocational Training (D.I.E.K.), with a view to providing detainees with vocational training and social reintegration, can be found in three (3) Prisons and in particular in the Cassandra Rural Prison, Korydallos I Prison and Avlona Special Juvenile Detention Establishment Malandain (Ekkn).

In addition, a significant number of “privately taught” (home-schooled) prisoners are recorded in prisons that do not offer secondary education as well as student-prisoners, who are granted access to higher education in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

ΜΑΡΙΑ ΚΑΡΑΓΕΩΡΓΟΥ

ΝΟΜΙΚΟΣ / ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΜΕΝΗ ΜΕΤΑΦΡΑΣΤΡΙΑ ΥΠ.Ε.Ε.

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 43 -

- Education of prisoners and COVID-19: It is noted that during the periods of suspension of the in-person operation of educational facilities during 2020 and 2021, in the context of the restrictive measures taken in response to the covid-19 pandemic following Joint Ministerial Decisions and circulars of the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy, the continuation of the educational process, where possible, in educational structures in prisons (distance learning, study of educational material/completion of worksheets, access to educational TV and tele-education) was ensured as far as possible. In addition, the learning effort of privately taught prisoners continued, while student-prisoners were able to continue their studies remotely (Asynchronous and Synchronous Learning), in accordance with the provided legal framework. We underline the smooth completion of the previous school/academic years 2019-20 and 2020-21, with the participation of student-prisoners in final and national examinations and the distance learning of prisoners at university institutions.
- Cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs: It should be noted that the Ministry of Citizen Protection, continuing its cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, is proceeding to carry out actions for the implementation of the provisions of the new legislative framework for the establishment of schools, Law 4763/21.12.2020 on the National Vocational Education, Training and Lifelong Learning System (OJ A' 254/21.12.2020), which repealed and replaced the previous legislation of article 31 of Law 4521/2018 (OJ A' 38), taking into account both the creation of new educational structures and the continuation of operation of the existing structures, the necessary upgrading of the educational level of prisoners, combined with ensuring the smooth and uncomplicated operation of each Prison.

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 44 -

Already, in the framework of the implementation of Law 4763/2020 (Article 75), a one-seat primary school was established in September 2021 at Korydallos I Prison (Joint Ministerial Decisions (JMD) F.10/KG/10899/D1/07.09.2021 Minister for Finance, Education and Religious Affairs and Citizen Protection (OJ B' 4265/15.09.2021).

Furthermore, pursuant to article 75(4) of Law 4763/21.12.2020, by decision of the Secretariat-General of Vocational Education, Training, Lifelong Learning and Youth of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, a committee was established and formed, in which representatives of the relevant Ministries participate, to investigate basic issues concerning the conditions and need for the operation of education structures in detention facilities and to submit a relevant recommendation to the competent Ministries. In particular, the task of the Committee is to coordinate and accelerate the procedures for the establishment and operation of training structures in the prisons and the Volos Educational Facility for Male Minors.

- The programmes: As regards the programmes carried out in the Prisons, with the aim of making creative use of prisoners' time, reducing the adverse effects of incarceration and assisting their social reintegration, the implementation of relevant activities continued, , in cooperation with public or private agencies (Ministry of Education, National Theatre, National Opera, Universities, EPANODOS, Hellenic Manpower Employment Organization (OAED), etc.) and volunteer teachers or within the framework of European programmes. However, it was occasionally not possible to conduct/complete these in person due to the covid-19 prevention and spread control measures in 2020 and 2021. In some cases, activities were carried out online. In particular, these generally relate to programmes in the field of culture (art, theatre, music, dance, etc.), creative activities (visual arts, crafts, etc.), sports, tutoring

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 45 -

(learning Greek language, creative writing, computer learning, skills development, etc.) and training (such as pottery, ceramics, painting, plastering, plaster boarding, aluminium construction, face and body care for women prisoners, cutting and sewing, pastry and bakery, etc.). At this point, it is worth noting the implementation of the NESTOR programme, a three-year programme (starting in December 2020), which is part of the European ERASMUS programme, created on the initiative of the Deputy Minister of Citizen Protection and with the assistance of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, which concerns the creation of a network of parenting schools in the Prisons with the aim of strengthening the paternal role of detainees and parents and their effective reintegration into society. Four countries participate in the project, with Greece playing the role of coordinator of the project. The implementing body-coordinator is the Centre for Security Studies (KEMEA) of the Ministry of Citizen Protection.

- We highlight the submission of a proposal in 2022 by the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime to the Special Secretariat for NSRF and the approval of the action "Education and Certification of Prisoners" in order to implement a comprehensive plan to enhance the future reintegration of released prisoners into society and the labour market.
- With the aim of extracting and diffusing geotechnical knowledge to the Agency and the Rural Prisons (AKK), as well as the training of prisoners and geotechnical staff, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed (since 23.09.2020) with the organisation ELGO Dimitra, while the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Rural University of Athens is expected.

Finally, with regard to the Committee's observations on prisoners' work and the lack of organised recreational, sport/gymnastics or professional activities, the competent service is planning the following:

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 46 -

- Preparation of a model for the professional orientation of prisoners, through the development of a standard reflecting the previous work profile and the present choices in relation to the work for each prisoner and the exploitation of the resulting data. The aim is to exploit the detention period and promote the professional rehabilitation of prisoners.
- Preparation of a model for mapping the prisoners' needs, informing them of the training, sports, cultural, employment and vocational training programmes on offer, while recording their previous participation in similar activities and their knowledge and skills, in order to select suitable, targeted programmes for them, if they so wish.

Other issues

1. Prisoners in protective status

The placement of prisoners in cells under protection is carried out in accordance with the legislation in force (Art. 6 and 9 of the Internal Rules of Prisons), in order to safeguard the life, honour and dignity of detainees from potential danger. It is stressed that the decision to place prisoners in an individual cell for protection purposes is a temporary measure only until the alleged reasons for the danger have been investigated. In the event that they are either not confirmed or cease to apply, the decision will be revoked. When deemed appropriate for security reasons or at the request of the detainee himself, a request shall be made for transfer to another Prison where there will be no grounds for protection.

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 47 -

2. Disciplinary measures for prisoners

The Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy has sent a circular to the Prisons of Greece (no. 43335/03.06.2019) for the express and strict application of the provisions of the Penitentiary Code and the Internal Rules of Prisons, with regard to disciplinary sanctions and the placement of a prisoner in a disciplinary cell and to the Inspection and Control Body of Prisons for carrying out relevant checks/inspections at the Prisons.

In the Prisons of the country, persons of one hundred and two (102) different nationalities are detained. General communication with prisoners is facilitated through: a) the Greek language learning courses, b) the assistance of fellow compatriots who know the Greek language in interpreting and sometimes c) with the support of translators mainly from the competent Consular Authorities. In any case, the Prosecutor Supervisor of the Prison, as Chairman of the Disciplinary Board, shall notify the prisoner in writing of the misconduct and the details of the case for which there is a report against him and shall invite him to defend himself. If the prisoner does not know the Greek language, an interpreter shall be appointed in accordance with the provision of article 71(2) of the Penitentiary Code.

3. Communicating with the outside world

According to article 52 of the Penitentiary Code, any prisoner may receive visits from relatives up to the fourth degree but also from persons outside the family environment or associations whom the Prison Council considers positive, upon request or consent of

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CERTIFIED OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

- 48 -

the prisoner. There is no question of restricting visitation only by relatives, unless the friendly or familiar persons that the prisoner will request to visit him, according to the recommendation of the Social Service, are judged as persons who may have an adverse effect on him.

The duration of the visit is determined by the Prison Council, in accordance with article 21(1) of the Internal Rules of Prisons, which states that its duration is at least half an hour. It may also extend the duration of visits to detainees, especially where the positive recommendation of the Social Service invokes, among other things, the distance of residence of the persons concerned and the limited frequency of visits. It is stressed that the visits to the prisoners, in addition to all the positive effects they have on a family, social and individual level for the prisoner, contribute decisively to his peace of mind. The positive psychology of prisoners is an essential element for their smooth coexistence, their cooperation with the staff and ultimately the maintenance of order and the proper functioning of the Prison.

The online visitation aims to make it easier for detainees to maintain relations with their family members. The connection of imprisoned men and women with their lives outside prison is a strengthening factor for the smooth path towards reintegration. For this purpose, following the evaluation of the pilot application of the institution of the electronic visit, special spaces were created which were equipped with the appropriate technological equipment and now the electronic visit is applied to all Prisons in Greece.

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- 49 -

4. Information on rights and complaint procedures

Upon entry of newly arriving prisoners into the Prisons, extensive information is provided on the rights and obligations of the prisoner and on the operation of the prison by the Management, the Warden and the Social Service. The information received orally includes the information reflected in the booklet "Prisoner's Alphabet" which has been published in Greek, English and Albanian and is available in the libraries of all Prisons. It is a guide that aims to inform prisoners in a simple and understandable way about the rules of safe living and what they are entitled and obliged to do in prison. It contains information concerning, for example, the right to leave, education, permitted and prohibited items and objects, temporary release, treatment (rehabilitation), etc., as well as the basic obligations of prisoners. In addition, the management of each Prison shall ensure that more specific instructions and announcements are drawn up on specific operational issues that may arise.

With regard to the Committee's recommendation to put in place an appropriate internal complaint system, we advise that proposal to place a closed complaint box with forms which will be freely available and the recording of complaints centrally in each Prison will be considered immediately before they are made available to the competent authorities for investigation.

Finally, please note that the Prisons in question have taken note of the recommendations of your committee as well as clear instructions from the Secretariat-General of Anti-Crime Policy, in order to promptly proceed with appropriate actions in compliance with them.

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- 50 -

THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF ANTI-CRIME POLICY

KONSTANTINOS PAPAΘANASIOU

Seal and signature

True certified copy

The Head of Department

Eleni Chalkia

Seal and signature

True and accurate translation from Greek of the attached document.

Maria Karageorgou, MFA Certified Translator

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Athens, 15/07/2022

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