



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**HELLENIC AID**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE GREEK BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL  
OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND  
ASSISTANCE**

**YEAR 2023**



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**The Annual Report of the Greek Bilateral and Multilateral  
Official Development Cooperation and Assistance  
for the year 2023 was compiled  
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## Contents

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| <b>1. INTERNATIONAL FLOWS OF OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA) .....</b>   | <b>1</b> |
| (a) General Information .....  | 1        |
| (b) Bilateral Donor Performance .....  | 2        |
| <b>2. OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE OF GREECE .....</b>  | <b>2</b> |
| (a) Bilateral Official Development Assistance of Greece .....  | 3        |
| (b) Multilateral Official Development Assistance of Greece .....   | 3        |
| <b>3. ACTIVITIES AND WORK OF THE DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID .....</b>            | <b>3</b> |
| A. Four-Year National Programme of International Development Cooperation.  | 3        |
| B. Humanitarian Action .....   | 4        |
| C. Development Cooperation Actions .....   | 5        |
| Fetal Medicine and Prenatal Screening Programme in collaboration with the “Fetal Medicine Foundation” in London.....       | 5        |
| Hungary-Greece Programme for the Renovation and Equipment of the Nursery and Kindergarten in Karak, Jordan .....           | 8        |
| UNDP Programme for the Salvage of the “Safer” Oil Tanker in Yemen.....   | 8        |
| Port of Benghazi .....   | 9        |
| D. Representation and Policies .....   | 10       |
| European Union.....  | 10       |
| 1. EU Ministerial Councils for Development Cooperation and Meetings of Directors-General for Development Cooperation ..... | 10       |
| 2. Meetings of the Council of the EU, the European Council and other EU Meetings.....                                      | 10       |
| 3. Working Parties of the Council of the EU and Committees Responsible for Budget Allocations .....                        | 11       |
| 4. EU “Global Gateway” Strategy .....  | 15       |
| 5. Ukraine Reconstruction .....  | 16       |
| United Nations .....   | 16       |
| 1. High-Level Meetings .....   | 16       |
| 2. United Nations Bodies, Second Committee (Economic and Financial) and other Committees .....                             | 17       |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)..... | 19        |
| 1. High-Level Meetings .....   | 19        |
| 2. Meetings of the DAC/ OECD.....  | 19        |
| E. Bilateral Meetings and Visits.....  | 20        |
| F. Other Actions .....   | 23        |
| G. Establishment of the Hellenic Aid Agency.....   | 24        |
| H. Legislative Framework .....   | 24        |
| <b>ANNEX .....</b>   | <b>26</b> |

## 1. INTERNATIONAL FLOWS OF OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA)<sup>1</sup>

### (a) General Information

In 2023, the members ("donors") of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC)<sup>2</sup> of the OECD provided Official Development Assistance (ODA) amounting to USD 223.3 billion, which represents an increase of 1.6% in real terms compared to 2022, setting a new record for a fifth consecutive year. Collectively, DAC members' assistance represented 0.37% (up from 0.36% in 2022) of their total Gross National Income (GNI), significantly below the United Nations target of 0.70%.

This increase was primarily due to assistance directed toward Ukraine, as well as an overall rise in humanitarian aid and contributions to international organizations. Assistance to Ukraine increased by 9%, reaching USD 18.2 billion, of which USD 3.2 billion constituted humanitarian aid. Additionally, EU institutions allocated USD 20.5 billion for Ukraine, representing 54.4% of their total aid, mainly in the form of concessional loans to support the country's macroeconomic stability.

Assistance to the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 2023 amounted to USD 1.4 billion, an increase of 12% compared to 2022. Of this amount, USD 758 million was provided as humanitarian aid (an increase of 91%).

Overall humanitarian assistance for 2023 increased by 4.8%, amounting to USD 26.16 billion, while contributions to the core budgets of international organizations increased by 4%, primarily due to contributions to the World Bank.

It is acknowledged that 76% of total assistance was provided by G7 countries, while 42% came from EU member states. The combined assistance of the 21 EU member states that are also DAC members amounted to USD 92.9 billion (0.52% of their combined GNI), marking a 7.7% decrease in real terms compared to 2022.

Spending on in-donor refugee costs decreased by 6.2%, amounting to USD 32.54 billion and accounting for 13.8% of total assistance (down from 14.7% in 2022). For seven out of the thirty-one DAC countries, spending on in-donor refugee costs continued to represent more than one-fourth of their total assistance.

In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which aims to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) globally (Resolution A/RES/70/1/25.9.2015, "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/sub-issues/oda-trends-and-statistics.html>

<sup>2</sup> Members of the DAC/OECD: Australia, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, Greece, Estonia, USA, United Kingdom, Japan, Ireland, Spain, Italy, Iceland, Canada, Korea, Lithuania, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Netherlands, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Slovakia, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Finland, and the EU.

Sustainable Development"<sup>1</sup>), the OECD has adjusted its development programme reporting to better reflect the impact of each action on the SDGs. This includes introducing new variables for tracking contributions toward the 17 Goals and 169 Targets.

## **(b) Bilateral Donor Performance**

The United States of America remained the largest donor of Official Development Assistance (ODA) among DAC members in 2023, providing USD 66.0 billion. It was followed by Germany (USD 36.7 billion), Japan (USD 19.6 billion), the United Kingdom (USD 19.1 billion), and France (USD 15.4 billion). The institutions of the European Union allocated USD 26.9 billion.

Five DAC members exceeded the United Nations target of 0.70% of GNI allocated for development assistance: Norway (1.09%), Luxembourg (0.99%), Sweden (0.91%), Germany (0.79%), and Denmark (0.74%).

Among non-DAC donor countries, none surpassed the 0.70% target. Turkey's development assistance amounted to USD 6.7 billion (0.60%), reflecting a 16.9% decrease in real terms, while the United Arab Emirates allocated USD 1.9 billion (0.37%), marking a 26.9% increase in real terms.

## **2. OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE OF GREECE**

In 2023, Greece's total Official Development Assistance (ODA), both bilateral and multilateral, amounted to USD 334.32 million (0.14% of GNI), reflecting a 16.9% decrease in real terms compared to 2022 (USD 360.44 million, 0.17% of GNI). This significant decline is partly attributed to the nearly 10% increase in the country's GNI (from USD 218.088 billion in 2022 to USD 239.455 billion in 2023).

### ***Official Development Assistance of Greece in 2023***

| <b>Type of Aid</b>        | <b>(USD million)</b> | <b>% of GNI</b> |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Bilateral (ODA)</b>    | 57.28                | 0.02%           |
| <b>Multilateral (ODA)</b> | 277.04               | 0.12%           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | 334.32               | 0.14%           |

*(GNI 2023: USD 234.040 billion)*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n15/291/89/pdf/n1529189.pdf?OpenElement>

### **(a) Bilateral Official Development Assistance of Greece**

In 2023, Greece's bilateral ODA amounted to USD 57.28 million, a sharp decline from USD 99.96 million in 2022.

Bilateral assistance from Greece is provided through various Ministries and primarily includes: (a) Support and protection for refugees (in-donor refugee costs amounting to 50.2 USD million in 2023, compared to USD 73.01 million in 2022, (b) Contributions to specific programmes and funds managed by international organizations (2.98 USD million) and (c) Scholarships for students from developing countries to study at higher education institutions in Greece (USD 1.54 million). Overall, in 2023, a reduction in bilateral aid was observed, mainly due to decreased spending on in-donor refugee costs.

Geographical distribution of bilateral aid (USD million):

Europe: 3.22 million

Asia: 0.68 million

Africa: 0.83 million

Developing countries in general: 52.54 million (including in-donor refugee costs).

### **(b) Multilateral Official Development Assistance of Greece**

Greece's total multilateral ODA in 2023 amounted to USD 277.04 million (compared to USD 260.48 million in 2022).

Multilateral aid is provided through various Ministries, which allocate funds for international development purposes (supporting developing countries, emergency relief, etc.), based on international agreements. Most multilateral aid is channeled through the European Union and the United Nations.

The total funds allocated by Greece to EU institutions for external development assistance amounted to USD 249.36 million, including USD 33.65 million as the country's mandatory contribution to the European Development Fund (EDF) under the intergovernmental Internal Agreement among EU member states (OJ L 210 of 6.8.2013).

Greece also allocated: USD 33.65 million to United Nations agencies, USD 0.34 million to regional development banks, and USD 20.39 million to other international organizations.

## **3. ACTIVITIES AND WORK OF THE DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID**

### **A. Four-Year National Programme of International Development Cooperation**

The Four-Year National Programme of International Development Cooperation (2022–2025) outlines Greece's policy for development cooperation. It includes the

strategic framework for the scholarship programme, bilateral cooperation strategies, implementation methods, and geographical focus areas for the country's development actions.

The Programme plans to launch a new bilateral development aid programmes in a limited number of selected countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, the Balkans, and the Black Sea region. Its geographical strategy prioritizes specific regions and countries based on Greece's comparative advantages and foreign policy objectives.

## **B. Humanitarian Action**

Greece responded to calls for contributions to international organizations and their programmes, as well as to bilateral appeals from countries experiencing humanitarian crises. Notable actions in 2023 include:

The main bulk of Greek humanitarian assistance in kind was directed to Turkey following the earthquakes of February 6, 2023. Rescue teams from the Special Disaster Response Unit (EMAK) were dispatched, and eight chartered AEGEAN flights carried 90 tons of humanitarian aid in kind (including 7,500 blankets, 1,500 beds, and 500 tents, as well as medical supplies). The Attica Region, in collaboration with all municipalities across Greece and private organizations, gathered a significant volume of aid in kind, which was sent to Turkey via ferry. Similarly, on February 15, the commercial ship NEPTUNE OKEANIS departed for İskenderun carrying humanitarian aid. The Hellenic Red Cross also delivered approximately 40 tons of aid in kind to Gaziantep by road.

For the earthquake victims in Syria in May 2023, the commercial ship NEPTUNE ODYSSEY transported 17 tons of humanitarian aid, which arrived via Beirut and was subsequently distributed to recipients through the Syrian Arab Red Crescent.

On September 17, 2023, a medical team from the Ministry of National Defense, along with medical supplies, was dispatched to flood-stricken Eastern Libya (Benghazi-Derna region).

In response to the refugee crisis in Armenia caused by the displacement of 105,000 residents from Nagorno-Karabakh, a humanitarian mission was carried out from November 1 to November 9, 2023, by the International Humanitarian Aid Foundation (IHAF) and IASIS NGO in the greater Yerevan area. The aid included 3,000 hygiene and first aid kits, donated by IHAF, and a psychosocial support team from IASIS.

On November 6, 2023, a military aircraft transported medicines, syringes, and needles to Gaza. The aid was gathered under the coordination of the Ministry of Health, with support from the Hellenic Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (PEF), and transportation costs were covered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On December 28, 2023, a civilian aircraft departed from Ostend, Belgium, through the EU Humanitarian Air Bridge (HAB) managed by the Emergency Response Cooperation Centre (ERCC), carrying aid destined for the Gaza Strip. The shipment



included: (a) a fully equipped portable patient reception and care unit (Rectangular Tent, meeting UNHCR and UNICEF specifications), donated by Doctors of the World; and (b) 3,000 hygiene and first aid kits, donated by the International Humanitarian Aid Foundation (IHAF).

In addition, the following contributions were made:

-EUR 40,000 to UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) to address the humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa, as part of the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Programme for Ethiopia.

-EUR 40,000 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to strengthen its budget, following an appeal by the Commissioner-General, Mr. Philippe Lazzarini, during the Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on June 2, 2023.

-EUR 100,000 to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) for the Syria Cross-Border Humanitarian Fund (SCHF), following an announcement at the 7th Brussels Conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region (June 14–15, 2023).

-EUR 100,000 to the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), following a letter from the UN Secretary-General to the Greek Prime Minister in June 2023.

-EUR 120,000 to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to address the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip (December 2023).

-EUR 40,000 to UNRWA to address the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip (July 2023).

-EUR 70,000 to UNHCR to support Ukrainian refugees in Moldova (December 2023).

### **C. Development Cooperation Actions**

#### **Fetal Medicine and Prenatal Screening Programme in collaboration with the "Fetal Medicine Foundation" in London**

In 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched the implementation of a programme for establishing Fetal Medicine Units and conducting related training in collaboration with the Fetal Medicine Foundation in London. The programme is being implemented in five countries (Ethiopia, Albania, Armenia, North Macedonia, and Moldova) as well as in Kosovo<sup>1</sup>.

The programme includes the following activities for the period 2022–2025:

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<sup>1</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

1. The establishment and development of a Fetal Medicine Unit within the national healthcare system, to be housed in the obstetrics and gynecology clinic of a public hospital in the capital city, selected by the country's Ministry of Health. As part of this effort, the Fetal Medicine Foundation will provide the necessary equipment for the Fetal Medicine Unit, including ultrasound machines, computers, software, and furniture.

2. The creation of a training programme in fetal medicine, including: (i) Practical training for doctors in the application of new prenatal screening and fetal medicine methods by physicians from the Fetal Medicine Foundation and (ii) the provision of two-year fellowships at the Fetal Medicine Foundation for studies at King's College Hospital in London. Trained doctors will return to their home countries to staff the Fetal Medicine Unit and train other physicians in this field.

The Fetal Medicine Foundation<sup>1</sup> in London is a non-profit organization dedicated to disseminating and applying the innovative research and methods it has developed for diagnosing and managing complications during pregnancy. The programme, which will be implemented in close cooperation with the Ministries of Health of the five beneficiary countries and Kosovo, represents a valuable transfer of expertise. It supports the application of methods that improve maternal and fetal health and reduce mortality while ensuring that trained physicians participate in cutting-edge medical research and technology.

The tripartite Memoranda of Understanding include, among other provisions, the obligation for trained physicians to return to their home countries after completing their education to maximize the developmental impact.

In 2023, the following actions were undertaken:

### **Ethiopia**

On September 16, 2023, the inauguration ceremony of the Fetal Medicine and Prenatal Screening Unit was held at Tikur Anbessa University Hospital in Addis Ababa, followed by the unveiling of a permanent plaque bearing the Greek flag. Between September 16 and 17, 2023, the first seminar on the practical application of new prenatal screening and fetal medicine methods was conducted by physicians from the Fetal Medicine Foundation. The theoretical part of the seminar was attended by 200 gynecologists, while 48 doctors participated in hands-on training. The Fetal Medicine Foundation also donated three specialized ultrasound machines with corresponding software, syringes, and needles, as well as three computers. Additionally, two Ethiopian doctors received two-year fellowships following a request from the Ethiopian Ministry of Health. Furthermore, four doctors were sponsored to fully attend the International Conference on Fetal Medicine in London (December 2–3, 2023), where global experts presented and discussed the latest developments in fetal medicine.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://fetalmedicine.org/>

## **Albania**

From September 30 to October 1, 2023, the first seminar was held at the University Hospital of Obstetrics and Gynecology "Mbretëresha Geraldinë" in Tirana. The seminar focused on the practical application of new prenatal screening and fetal medicine methods by physicians from the Fetal Medicine Foundation and was attended by 150 gynecologists. The Fetal Medicine Foundation also donated four specialized ultrasound machines with corresponding software.

## **Armenia**

On May 20–21, 2023, the first seminar was held at Surb Grigor Lusavorich Medical Center in Yerevan, focusing on the practical application of new prenatal screening and fetal medicine methods by four physicians from the Fetal Medicine Foundation. The theoretical part of the seminar was attended by 200 gynecologists in person, while 50 doctors participated in practical training. The opening of the seminar was attended by the Deputy Minister of Health of Armenia, Mr. Artak Jumayan. The Fetal Medicine Foundation also donated two specialized ultrasound machines with corresponding software.

## **North Macedonia**

On March 11–12, 2023, the first seminar was held at the University Clinic of Gynecology and Obstetrics in Skopje. The seminar demonstrated the practical application of new prenatal screening and fetal medicine methods by four physicians from the Fetal Medicine Foundation. The theoretical part of the seminar was attended by 240 gynecologists in person and 105 participants online, while 46 doctors participated in practical training. Additional training with practical training on the application of new prenatal screening and fetal medicine methods was conducted in Sofia by physicians from the Fetal Medicine Foundation. The Fetal Medicine Foundation also donated two specialized ultrasound machines with corresponding software to the aforementioned University Clinic. The inauguration ceremony was held on September 14, 2023, in the presence of the Prime Minister and Minister of Health of North Macedonia. On December 15–16, 2023, the second seminar was held at the Hilton Skopje Hotel, attended by 200 gynecologists. On the second day, during the practical training of new prenatal screening and fetal medicine methods, 30 doctors were trained at the Mother Teresa University Hospital.

## **Moldova**

On July 7, 2023, the inauguration ceremony for the Fetal Medicine Unit was held at the Mother and Child Health Institute in Chişinău, attended by the Minister of Health of Moldova and the Greek Ambassador to Bucharest, Ms. Sofia Grammata. Renovation costs were fully covered by the Fetal Medicine Foundation. Additionally, on July 7–8, 2023, the first seminar was held, focusing on the practical application of new prenatal screening and fetal medicine methods by four physicians from the Fetal Medicine Foundation. The Fetal Medicine Foundation also donated two specialized ultrasound machines with corresponding software.

## **Kosovo**

On May 27–28, 2023, the first seminar was held at the University Clinical Center of Kosovo Clinic of Gynecology and Obstetrics. The seminar focused on the practical application of new prenatal screening and fetal medicine methods by four physicians from the Fetal Medicine Foundation and was attended by over 75 doctors. The event was opened by Kosovo’s Minister of Health, Mr. Arben Vita. The Fetal Medicine Foundation also donated two specialized ultrasound machines with relevant software.

## **Hungary-Greece Programme for the Renovation and Equipment of the Nursery and Kindergarten in Karak, Jordan**

In collaboration with the Hungarian organization “Hungary Helps,” Greece funded a development project in the Karak area, south of the Jordanian capital Amman. The project was implemented by the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate Schools of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem (Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Amman), with the support of the General Directorate of Patriarchal Schools in Jordan. “Hungary Helps” oversaw the project. The project involved the renovation and upgrading of the nursery and kindergarten, including the installation of photovoltaic systems and the equipping of the library. It was completed in 2023, and the official inauguration, attended by the Archbishop and the Greek Ambassador to Amman, took place on March 17, 2024.

## **UNDP Programme for the Salvage of the “Safer” Oil Tanker in Yemen**

The “Safer” was originally built as a conventional oil tanker in Japan in 1976. In 1987, it was purchased by the Yemeni government and converted into a permanently anchored floating storage and offloading unit (FSO) in 1988. Since then, it has remained anchored off the port of Hodeidah in the Red Sea. From the start of the Yemeni Civil War in 2014, the vessel has been under the control of the De Facto Authorities (Houthi rebels) in Sana’a, without any maintenance being carried out.

As the unmaintained “Safer” contained over 1.3 million barrels of crude oil and was anchored in a sea area with an undetermined number of stray naval mines, the risk of a serious accident posed by the “Safer” had been extremely high for years. An accident involving the “Safer” would have catastrophic consequences for the entire southern Red Sea, as it contained four times the amount of crude oil spilled during the devastating Exxon Valdez disaster in Alaska in 1989. The “Safer” was uninsured, and any potential oil spill would exceed the capacity of the Sana’a authorities to manage the situation.

A large oil spill from the “Safer” would result in an incalculable ecological disaster across the southern and central Red Sea, with severe economic repercussions for the coastal countries in the region, including some of the poorest in the world

(Eritrea, Djibouti, Yemen, Somalia) and Saudi Arabia. Such an accident would also severely impact humanitarian access to Yemen by disrupting the ports of Hodeidah and Saleef. Additionally, a large-scale spill would completely halt commercial shipping through the Red Sea for a period of time, with devastating consequences for international maritime navigation and, by extension, the global economy.

On May 11, 2022, a Donor Conference was held in New York to expedite the “Safer Salvage Operation Project” (SSOP), a UNDP plan for salvaging the vessel. The project was executed by the Dutch salvage company SMIT Salvage. During a side event at the 77th UN General Assembly in September 2022, organized by the Netherlands, the then Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nikos Dendias, committed Greece to contributing EUR 200,000. The contribution process included the signing of a bilateral Financing Agreement between Greece and UNDP, which was signed on March 7, 2023.

A significant development was the identification, with the assistance of the brokerage company Clarksons, of an old oil tanker to transport the “Safer’s” crude oil. The vessel, originally named Nautica, was renamed MOST Yemen. The operation to transfer the oil from the “Safer” to the “Yemen” began on July 25, 2023, and was successfully completed on August 11, 2023. The UN-led operation averted what could have been a colossal environmental and humanitarian disaster.

The next phase of the operation, the dismantling (scrapping) of the now-empty “Safer,” is not considered urgent. A new Donor Conference was held in New York on December 14, 2023, to address the financial gap primarily related to UNDP’s outstanding financial commitments to contractors and subcontractors involved in the project.

### **Port of Benghazi**

On December 26, 2023, a ceremony was held at the Port of Benghazi to mark the completion of a port restoration project funded by the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs and implemented by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). The Port of Benghazi serves as a critical entry point for food and humanitarian aid to the wider region of North Africa and the Sahel. Greece’s contribution included the renovation of the port’s container warehouse and the construction of a corridor connecting Pier No. 1 to Pier No. 6. The project was handed over to the Port Authority (now called “Juliana Free Zone”) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of National Stability (GNS). A permanent plaque was placed at the entrance of the renovated port warehouse, commemorating Greece’s contribution.

## **D. Representation and Policies**

### **European Union**

#### **1. EU Ministerial Councils for Development Cooperation and Meetings of Directors-General for Development Cooperation**

The Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid (Hellenic Aid) participated in and prepared the necessary briefing files for the representation of Greece in the following Ministerial Councils for Development Cooperation and Meetings of EU Directors-General for Development Cooperation:

- Meeting of EU Directors-General for Humanitarian Cooperation (Brussels, February 17, 2023)
- Informal Meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) for Development Cooperation (Stockholm, March 8-9, 2023)
- Informal Meeting of Directors for Humanitarian Affairs of Ministries of Foreign Affairs (Stockholm, March 9, 2023)
- Meeting of EU Directors-General for Development Cooperation (Stockholm, March 30-31, 2023)
- Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) for Development Cooperation (Brussels, May 4, 2023)
- Informal Meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) for Development Cooperation (Cádiz, September 4-5, 2023)
- Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) for Development Cooperation (Brussels, November 21, 2023)
- Meeting of EU Directors-General for Development Cooperation (Madrid, December 12-13, 2023)

#### **2. Meetings of the Council of the EU, the European Council and other EU Meetings**

The Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid (Hellenic Aid) contributed to the preparation of briefing files for Greece's representation at the following international meetings:

- Foreign Affairs Council (Brussels, January 23, 2023)
- European Council (Brussels, February 9-10, 2023)
- International Donors' Conference for Turkey and Syria (Brussels, March 20, 2023)
- European Humanitarian Forum (Brussels, March 20-21, 2023)
- General Affairs Council (Brussels, March 21, 2023)

- European Council and Euro Summit (Brussels, March 23-24, 2023)
- Informal ECOFIN Council of Finance Ministers (Stockholm, April 28-29, 2023)
- ECOFIN Council of Finance Ministers (Brussels, May 16, 2023)
- European Council (Brussels, June 29-30, 2023)
- EU-CELAC Summit (EU-Latin America and Caribbean Countries Summit) (Brussels, July 17-18, 2023)
- Joint Meeting of EU Member States' Directors for Humanitarian Aid, Development Cooperation, and International Organizations (Madrid, July 25-26, 2023)
- Participation of Greek Members of Parliament in Committee Meetings of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Paris, September 11-13, 2023)
- General Affairs Council (Brussels, September 19, 2023)
- Third High-Level Meeting on the Humanitarian Situation in Ukraine (Oslo, September 26, 2023)
- 27th Meeting of Foreign Ministers of EU Member States and Gulf Cooperation Council Countries (Oman, October 10, 2023)
- General Affairs Council (Luxembourg, October 24, 2023)
- Teleconference of Foreign Ministers (December 6, 2023) following the International Conference on the Humanitarian Situation in Gaza (Paris, November 9, 2023)
- 46th ACP-EU Council of Ministers and Signing Ceremony of the Samoa Agreement (Apia, Samoa, November 15, 2023). The agreement serves as the new legal framework governing EU relations with 79 African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries.
- 1st EUMED-9 Foreign Ministers Meeting (Madrid, November 22, 2023)
- General Affairs Council (Brussels, December 12, 2023)

### **3. Working Parties of the Council of the EU and Committees Responsible for Budget Allocations**

The Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid (Hellenic Aid) actively participated in the following consultations among EU member states (within the framework of the Council's Working Groups and committees responsible for the allocation of EU budget funds) and/or provided relevant positions to the Permanent Representation of Greece to the EU:

➤ *Working Party on Development Cooperation and International Partnerships (CODEV-PI)*

The CODEV-PI Working Party discusses the principles, objectives, and specific actions of EU development cooperation with third countries. It prepares the Foreign Affairs Council (Development) and sets strategic guidelines for the EU's development cooperation policies, including:

- (a) Economic, social, and environmental development aimed at eradicating poverty.
- (b) Coordination of development policies among member states, including potential joint actions.
- (c) Commitments made by the EU and its member states at international conferences.
- (d) Necessary measures for implementing EU development cooperation policies.

Positions submitted by Greece under this Working Party include:

- Draft Council Conclusions on the 2023 Annual Report to the European Council on EU Development Aid Targets.
- Draft Council Conclusions on the "Annual Report 2022 on the Implementation of EU External Action Instruments in 2021."
- Draft Council Conclusions on the "EU Global Health Strategy – 'Better Health for All in a Changing World.'"
- Draft Council Conclusions on the "Triple Transition" (Green, Social, and Digital).
- Draft Council Conclusions on "Addressing Inequalities in Partner Countries."
- Informal paper by the European External Action Service (EEAS) on China's Global Development Initiative.
- Food security and school meal programmes.
- Social protection during the triple transition.
- Humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.
- Spring Meetings of the IMF and World Bank, the Paris Conference for a New Global Financial Pact, and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) reform.

➤ *The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI-GE) Committee, in its configurations of "Sub-Saharan Africa," "Asia-Pacific," and "Global Challenges"*

The NDICI-GE (2021–2027) is the European Union's new financial instrument for development cooperation and partnership with the rest of the world. With a total budget of EUR 79.46 billion, it serves as a unified tool for the EU's external presence and collaboration with international partners. This instrument



consolidates and enhances the tools from the previous financial period (2014–2020) and incorporates them into the EU budget. Special emphasis is placed on the developmental dimension, as at least 93% of financing under the NDICI-GE must qualify as Official Development Assistance (ODA).

The NDICI-GE Committee meets in four geographic formations (Neighborhood, Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean) and five thematic formations (Human Rights and Democracy, Civil Society Organizations, Peace-Stability and Conflict Prevention, Global Challenges, Rapid Response and EU Foreign Policy Needs). Representatives from the European Commission and EU member states participate in the NDICI-GE Committee in its various configurations. The committee approves national and regional multiannual indicative programmes as well as related annual action plans. A significant portion of these programmes focuses on the flagship “Team Europe Initiatives” (TEIs), which aim to combine EU funding with contributions and development actions from member states and development banks. This cohesive intervention framework seeks to achieve substantial developmental impact.

As part of monitoring the committee's work, proposals were submitted for the Mid-Term Evaluation of the NDICI-GE.

➤ *Working Party on Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP)*

The Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) Working Party of the Council of the EU is responsible for cooperation with ACP countries, now organized under the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS). This cooperation takes place under the framework of the 20-year Cotonou Agreement (signed in 2000), which was succeeded by the 20-year Samoa Agreement (signed in 2023 but not yet signed by Cuba and Equatorial Guinea nor ratified by the national parliaments of the parties).

Like the Cotonou Agreement, the Samoa Agreement is a partnership agreement covering a wide range of issues. It aims at poverty eradication in ACP countries and provides the legal framework for cooperation between the two parties (ACP-EU) on development, trade, and political matters such as migration, maritime governance, and multilateral cooperation.

Positions submitted during the Working Party’s sessions included:

- The new EU-ACP relationship framework for the post-Cotonou era, specifically the new partnership between the EU and the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (OACPS).
- Cooperation among ACP countries in the fields of the blue economy and biodiversity.
- Collaboration with other stakeholders under the Samoa Agreement framework.

- The existing framework for the closure of the 9th European Development Fund (EDF).
- Development of the private sector.
- The EU-Kenya Economic Partnership Agreement.

➤ *Working Party on Agenda 2030*

The Agenda 2030 Working Party is responsible for the follow-up, monitoring, and review of the EU's internal and external implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development across all policy sectors. Representatives from the European External Action Service (EEAS) also participate in its work.

The Working Group provides a platform for information exchange regarding the implementation of Agenda 2030 at the member state level. It addresses cross-cutting issues and monitors progress on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the EU in a cohesive and integrated manner. According to the Council Conclusions on a Sustainable European Future: The EU's Response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (June 20, 2017), the Working Group ensures systematic, effective, participatory, transparent, and integrated follow-up and review of SDG implementation at the EU level, enabling progress monitoring, achievement evaluation, and accountability. The Working Group also plays a leading role in coordinating and preparing common EU approaches and positions for international dialogues, processes, and forums on sustainable development, particularly within the framework of the United Nations.

Positions submitted during the Working Party's sessions included:

- Draft key political messages for the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF 2023).
- EU participation in upcoming UN meetings on sustainable development (ahead of the SDG Summit).
- EU consultation document on the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit ("Elements paper for the consultations on the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit").
- Draft Council Conclusions on "The EU at the half-time of the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda: Steering Transformative Change and Expediting Progress at all Levels."
- Draft Council Conclusions on "Developing the 2030 Agenda to reach the goals: accelerating the localization of the SDGs."
- Discussion paper by the Presidency of the Council of the EU on key messages for the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

➤ *Council Working Party on Humanitarian and Food Aid (COHAFA)*

The Council Working Party on Humanitarian and Food Aid (COHAFA) is responsible for the EU's humanitarian strategies and policies and its responses to humanitarian crises. COHAFA specifically monitors the humanitarian needs arising from man-made and natural disasters outside the EU, ensures consistency and coordination in the EU's collective response to these crises, and discusses international, horizontal, and sectoral humanitarian policies.

Its work promotes the implementation of the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, adherence to the core humanitarian principles (humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence), and the protection of International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

Positions submitted during COHAFA sessions included:

- Programming the EU's humanitarian fiche for the 78th UN General Assembly.
- Draft Council Conclusions on "Addressing the Humanitarian Funding Gap."

#### **4. EU "Global Gateway" Strategy**

The "Global Gateway" is a European development initiative that aims to align the EU's foreign policy priorities with its financial and development tools under a unified strategy and comprehensive investment package. It seeks to mobilize investments of up to EUR 300 billion for the period 2021–2027, leveraging both EU development mechanisms and private sector participation.

The strategy focuses on developing global infrastructure in key sectors such as digital, energy, transportation, health, and education, while addressing global challenges such as climate change, human rights, global health, and robust supply chains. It ensures fair and favorable conditions for aid recipients. Unlike previous EU development initiatives, "Global Gateway" has a broader scope, identifying Africa as a primary beneficiary but also encompassing the Western Balkans, the EU's Eastern Neighborhood, the Asia-Pacific region, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Projects under the "Global Gateway" are designed and implemented through the flagship "Team Europe Initiatives" (TEIs), aiming to establish a strong and recognizable EU brand in partner countries.

As part of this initiative, the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with relevant EU Commission officials and specialized staff, organized an informational event on November 30, 2023. The event focused on the EU "Global Gateway" strategy for investments in critical infrastructure in third countries. A significant number of Greek businesses and public sector entities participated, either in person or via teleconference.

Additionally, Greece co-authored an informal document with Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Denmark, Ireland, Spain, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Romania, and

the Czech Republic regarding joint member state visits to countries for Team Europe initiatives.

## **5. Ukraine Reconstruction**

Greece has committed to contributing to Ukraine's future reconstruction through public-private partnerships, focusing on construction, healthcare, and cultural heritage protection, particularly in the Odessa region. Within this framework, the Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid (Hellenic Aid) actively participated in the following actions:

- ✚ Participation in an interministerial meeting on Ukraine's reconstruction (January 30, 2023).
- ✚ Organization of a meeting with business entities (SEV, ACCI, and the Hellenic Export Credit Company) to discuss Ukraine reconstruction (March 24, 2023).
- ✚ Conducting a survey among EU member states regarding public sector and business participation in Ukraine's reconstruction. The survey mapped activities, including funding levels, priority sectors, major development actions, and the presence of domestic risk insurance organizations. Proposals for Greek actions and initiatives were submitted.
- ✚ Meeting with the NGO "Doctors of the World" to receive updates on its activities in Ukraine (April 4, 2023).
- ✚ Reviewing action proposals from Greek ministries within the framework of Ukraine's reconstruction.
- ✚ Informing members of SEV's Extroversion Committee about business opportunities in Ukraine's reconstruction (June 1, 2023).
- ✚ Participation in the Ukraine Recovery Conference in London (June 21–22, 2023), preparing a national statement and promoting participation by a Greek company.
- ✚ Participation in the second online meeting of senior EU officials on Ukraine's recovery and reconstruction (August 30, 2023).
- ✚ Coordinating a meeting on Ukraine's reconstruction efforts (October 13, 2023).
- ✚ Meeting with representatives of the Ukrainian Embassy to discuss organizing a conference on Ukraine's reconstruction (December 12, 2023).

## **United Nations**

### **1. High-Level Meetings**

The Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid (Hellenic Aid) represented Greece or prepared interventions for the following High-Level Meetings of the United Nations:

- ✚ 61st Session of the Commission for Social Development (New York, February 6–15, 2023).
- ✚ Preparation of positions on the draft agenda of the ECOSOC Forum for the next steps in Financing for Development (New York, April 17–20, 2023).
- ✚ Proposed intervention draft for the ECOSOC High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), July 9–10, 2023.
- ✚ UN High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF) under the auspices of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) – SDG Summit (New York, September 18–19, 2023). Preparation of positions on the draft intervention and positions on the draft Political Declaration of the SDG Summit (September 18–19, 2023).
- ✚ Economic and Social Council/ECOSOC: (a) Annual Meeting on the Transition from Relief to Development (Geneva, June 20, 2023), and (b) Humanitarian Segment of the ECOSOC Session (Geneva, June 21–23, 2023).
- ✚ High-Level Week of the 78th UN General Assembly (UNGA) (New York, September 16–22, 2023).
- ✚ Parallel High-Level Event during the High-Level Week of the 78th UNGA on the Humanitarian Situation in Sudan (New York, September 20, 2023).
- ✚ Participation of the Deputy Minister in a High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development (New York, September 20, 2023).
- ✚ Preparation of positions on the draft text of the “Pact for the Future”, December 2023

## **2. United Nations Bodies, Second Committee (Economic and Financial) and other Committees**

As part of its participation and representation in United Nations bodies, the Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid (Hellenic Aid):

- Prepared positions on the draft resolution of the 52nd Session of the Human Rights Council (Geneva, February 27–April 4, 2023).
- Drafted an intervention for the ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development (FFD) follow-up (New York, April 17–20, 2023).
- Developed an intervention draft for a joint UNGA-ECOSOC meeting on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs).
- Submitted comments on the EU draft statement for the UN Security Council (UNSC) Open Debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, focusing on food security and basic services (May 23, 2023).
- Drafted an intervention for the UNSC High-Level Debate on “Peace and Security in Africa: The Impact of Development Policies on the Implementation of the ‘Silencing the Guns’ Initiative” (New York, March 30, 2023).
- Prepared comments on the 2023 Annual Report of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDSN).

In addition, Hellenic Aid formulated and submitted positions in anticipation of the adoption of the following UN General Assembly (UNGA) draft resolutions (indicative list):

➤ UNGA Plenary:

Draft Resolutions on "Implementation of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025)", "Designation of an International Day to Combat Sand and Dust Storms", "Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries", "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)", "Impact of rapid technological change on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)", "Promotion of the social and solidarity economy for sustainable development", "Advancement of the creative economy for sustainable development", "Building global resilience through regional and interregional infrastructure connectivity".

➤ Second Committee (78th UNGA):

Draft Resolutions on "Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America and the Dominican Republic", "Follow-up to the Fifth UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries", "Follow-up to the Second UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries", "Science, technology, and innovation for sustainable development", "Unilateral economic measures as tools of political and economic coercion against developing countries", "Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows, enhance best practices, and recover assets to achieve sustainable development", "Culture and sustainable development", "Financial inclusion for sustainable development", "Development cooperation with middle-income countries", "The international financial system and development", "Promotion of investments for sustainable development", "External debt sustainability and development", "Reliable and resilient energy connectivity and its critical role in sustainable development", "Development of agriculture, food security, and nutrition", "Implementation of the Third UN Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)", "Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls for sustainable development", "Implementation of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, particularly in Africa", "Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development", "Operational activities for the development of the UN system", "Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all", "Education for sustainable development within the context of Agenda 2030", "South-South Cooperation", "Fifth UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries", "Leveraging opportunities provided by safe and reliable artificial intelligence systems for sustainable development", "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)".

## **Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**

As part of Greece's participation in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD, the Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid (Hellenic Aid) carried out the following actions:

### **1. High-Level Meetings**

The Directorate-General prepared interventions for or represented Greece at the following high-level meetings:

- High-Level Food Crisis Roundtable of the DAC/OECD (Paris, February 14, 2023).
- Global Meeting of Development Cooperation Providers of the DAC/OECD (Paris, February 15, 2024).
- Annual Ministerial Tidewater Meeting (Bratislava, June 28–29, 2023). The Tidewater Meeting<sup>1</sup>, held annually under Chatham House rules, focuses on pressing and significant issues in development cooperation. It gathers Development Ministers, heads of aid agencies, and other senior representatives of DAC members. The main topics of the meeting included: "The UN SDG Summit: Tackling Global Challenges", "Reforming the International Financial Architecture: Securing Funding for the Poorest and Most Vulnerable" and "The Impact of Russia's Aggression in Ukraine on Development Assistance". Discussions also addressed China's Development Assistance strategies.
- High-Level Meeting (HLM) of the DAC/OECD (November 14–15, 2023).
- High-Level Event for Humanitarian Assistance Mobilization for the Horn of Africa (New York, May 24, 2023).
- Donors' Conference for the Humanitarian Crisis in Sudan (Geneva, June 19, 2023).

### **2. Meetings of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD**

The Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid represented Greece or submitted positions for the following DAC/OECD meetings:

- (a) Monthly (regular) DAC meetings.
- (b) Working Party on Statistics (WP-STAT).

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<sup>1</sup> The name originates from the Tidewater Inn (Easton, Maryland), where the first meeting was held in 1968.

- (c) ENVIRONET Network (Environment).
- (d) GOVNET Network (Governance).
- (e) GENDERNET Network (Gender Equality).

Key contributions and activities included:

-Submission of positions regarding the implementation of the DAC/OECD Recommendation on the Elimination of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (SEAH) in Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid.

-Participation in a survey by the International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF) regarding development assistance for refugee situations in low- and middle-income countries.

-Participation in the DAC/OECD questionnaire on the relationship between development cooperation and biodiversity.

-Development of positions on the 2023 Development Cooperation Report: Dialogue on the Development Assistance System.

-Commentary on the OECD Report on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD).

-Completion of a DAC/OECD questionnaire on member methodologies for calculating in-country costs for Ukrainian refugees.

-Completion of a DAC/OECD questionnaire regarding the Recommendation on SEAH in Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid.

-Payment of a voluntary contribution of EUR 30,000 to the DAC/OECD.

-Indicative topics addressed during monthly DAC/OECD Meetings include the following: OECD-Africa relations, global partnerships and strategic directions, The DAC Recommendation for Strengthening Civil Society in Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, Policy coherence between responsible business conduct and development cooperation for a greater impact on sustainable development., Expansion of DAC membership and accession processes, Discussions within the International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF), Preparations for the DAC High-Level Meeting agenda, Development policy and cooperation system analysis of China, The role of DAC in efforts to reform the financial architecture for development, DAC deliverables related to the Climate Declaration, Graduation of small states like Montserrat and Nauru from the Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipient list, Forced displacement and dialogue frameworks between DAC and civil society organizations.

## **E. Bilateral Meetings and Visits**

The Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid contributed to the preparation of briefing files for the following bilateral meetings:



- Visit by the Minister to Ghana and Gabon (January 11–13, 2023).
- Visit by the Minister to San Marino (January 16, 2023).
- Political consultations by the Secretary-General with Palestinian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Ms. A. Jadou in Ramallah (January 24, 2023).
- Visit by the Minister to South Africa and Mozambique (January 24–25, 2023).
- Official visit by Chinese Vice Premier and State Councilor Ms. Sun Chunlan to Greece (February 19–21, 2023).
- Participation by the Minister in the 11th Session of the UN General Assembly, the Ministerial-level Working Dinner with EU member states, Ukraine, and the G7 in New York (February 23, 2023).
- Participation by the Minister in a High-Level Donors' Event for Yemen in New York (February 27, 2023).
- Visit by the President of the Republic to Moldova (February 28–March 2, 2023).
- Visit by Kosovo Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Kreshnik Ahmeti to Athens (March 23, 2023).
- Visit by German MP Mr. Alexander Dobrindt, Chairman of the CSU Parliamentary Group and Vice-President of CDU/CSU in the Bundestag, to Athens (March 8–10, 2023).
- Exploration of bilateral cooperation programmes with the Deputy Head of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China.
- Trilateral Meeting of Foreign Ministers of Greece-Cyprus-Israel in Nicosia (March 31, 2023).
- Meeting by the Minister with the UN Special Envoy for Syria, Mr. Geir Pedersen.
- Organization of the "Athens Retreat on Syria" (April 21–23, 2023).
- Convening of the 4th Session of the Greece-Moldova Joint Interministerial Committee for Economic, Technological, and Scientific Cooperation in Chisinau (May 11–12, 2023).
- Meeting by the President of the Republic with the President of Slovenia, on the sidelines of the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government in Reykjavik (May 16–17, 2023).
- Meeting by the President of the Republic with the President of the Czech Republic, on the sidelines of the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government in Reykjavik (May 16–17, 2023).

- Meeting by the President of the Republic with the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, on the sidelines of the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government in Reykjavik (May 16–17, 2023).
- Meeting by the President of the Republic with the President of Finland, on the sidelines of the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government in Reykjavik (May 16–17, 2023).
- Visit by the President of Malta to Athens and meeting with the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister (July 5, 2023).
- Visit by the Prime Minister to Latvia (July 10, 2023).
- Meeting by the Prime Minister with the President of Ukraine, on the sidelines of the NATO Summit in Vilnius (July 11–12, 2023).
- Meeting by the Minister with the Moldovan counterpart, on the sidelines of the NATO Summit in Vilnius (July 11–12, 2023).
- Meeting by the Minister with the Estonian counterpart, on the sidelines of the NATO Summit in Vilnius (July 11–12, 2023).
- Meeting by the Minister with the Czech counterpart, on the sidelines of the NATO Summit in Vilnius (July 11–12, 2023).
- Meeting by the Minister with the Spanish counterpart, on the sidelines of the NATO Summit in Vilnius (July 11–12, 2023).
- Visit by German Foreign Minister Ms. Annalena Baerbock to Athens (July 29, 2023).
- Meeting by the President of the Republic with the President of Moldova, on the sidelines of the Bled Strategic Forum (August 28–29, 2023).
- Meeting by the Minister with European Commissioner Ms. Jutta Urpilainen in Athens (September 28, 2023).
- Meeting by the Prime Minister with European Commissioner for International Partnerships Ms. Jutta Urpilainen in Athens (September 28, 2023).
- Participation by the Prime Minister in the 10th EUMED-9 Summit in Valletta (September 29, 2023).
- Participation by the President of the Republic in the 18th Informal Meeting of the Arraiolos Group in Porto (October 6–7, 2023).
- Meeting by the Secretary-General of the New Democracy Parliamentary Group with the Armenian Ambassador in Athens (November 13, 2023).
- Participation by the Prime Minister in the Trilateral Summit of Greece-Cyprus-Jordan in Amman (November 30, 2023).
- Participation by a parliamentary delegation in the 23rd Annual NATO Transatlantic Parliamentary Forum in Washington (December 4–6, 2023).

- Bilateral meetings by the Prime Minister with six counterparts from the Western Balkans, on the sidelines of the EU-Western Balkans Summit in Brussels (December 13, 2023).
- Visit by the Minister to Skopje (December 14, 2023).

## **F. Other Actions**

The Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid also undertook the following actions:

- ❖ Contribution to the implementation of a training programme at the University of Ioannina Medical School for doctors of various specialties holding Albanian citizenship.
- ❖ Exploration of the possibility of providing technical assistance to economies in Southeast Europe within the framework of the SEE 2030 Strategy.
- ❖ Participation in the 3rd Monitoring Committee Meeting of the Southeast Europe Strategy (SEE 2030) under the Southeast Europe Cooperation Process (SEECF) (Istanbul, March 7, 2023).
- ❖ Participation in the 4th Monitoring Committee Meeting of the SEE 2030 Strategy (Podgorica, June 26, 2023).
- ❖ Contribution to the 2023 Annual Action Report of the SEE 2030 Strategy.
- ❖ Participation in the 5th Monitoring Committee Meeting of the SEE 2030 Strategy (Athens, November 28–29, 2023).
- ❖ Meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Energy to explore cooperation on a renewable energy technology development programme for Mombasa Technical University in Kenya (April 6, 2023).
- ❖ Representation at an UN-Adriatic and Ionian Initiative meeting for the interim evaluation of sustainable development goals in Adriatic-Ionian countries (Banja Luka, May 4–5, 2023).
- ❖ Videoconference with the Ethiopian Embassy in Rome (January 10, 2023) to explore possibilities for humanitarian and development assistance.
- ❖ Formulation of Greek positions on the reform of the World Bank and other international financial institutions.
- ❖ Provision of data for the National Terrorism Financing Risk Assessment Report (January 2023).
- ❖ Drafting of the 2023 National Strategic Plan for Extroversion.
- ❖ Update of the Four-Year National International Development Cooperation Programme (2024–2027).
- ❖ Establishment and operation of the Interministerial Coordination Committee for International Development Policy (ΔΕΣΔΑΠ).

- ❖ Completion and continuous updating of the Hellenic Aid website (<https://hellenicaid.mfa.gr>).
- ❖ Preparation of an intervention for UNESCO actions in Afghanistan (Paris, April 2023).
- ❖ Publication of the 2022 Annual Report in Greek and English.
- ❖ Exploration, in collaboration with the MASHAV Israel Development Cooperation Agency, of potential joint development programmes in Armenia in the agricultural sector.
- ❖ Preparation of briefing notes on:
  - Preliminary Official Development Assistance (ODA) figures for DAC members (2022).
  - Turkey's development assistance in 2022 and 2023.
  - U.S. development assistance.
  - Expanding BRICS partnerships for sustainable development.
- ❖ Proposal for the establishment of "Hellenic Aid Agency".

## **G. Establishment of the Hellenic Aid Agency**

A report by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) titled "Technical Support for the Reform of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs—Deliverable 2.3: Hellenic Aid Organizational and Operational Design Support" was received. The report was commissioned by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG Reform) to provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The report provides an overview of the current operational status of the Directorate-General for Development Assistance (Hellenic Aid) and includes recommendations for a new organizational and operational framework, encompassing roles, structures, and required procedures.

The report confirms the 2021 proposal by Hellenic Aid for the establishment of a Hellenic Aid Agency, to function as an executive branch of Greece's bilateral development cooperation programme. The agency is proposed to operate as either a corporation (S.A.) or a private law entity (N.P.I.D.) under the supervision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Also, the report outlines the recommended structure for the Hellenic Aid Agency, incorporating best practices from similar agencies in other EU member states, based on PwC's research.

## **H. Legislative Framework**

1. Presidential Decree 4/2023 was published in Government Gazette A' 6 on January 17, 2023. According to this decree, and in line with the enabling Law

4781/2021, the registration of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and private sector entities/businesses in the Special Registry of the Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid constitutes a mandatory prerequisite for the submission of proposals related to the funding of actions/projects. This requirement applies to proposals submitted not only to the Directorate-General but also to other General Government entities active in the fields of international development cooperation and/or humanitarian aid. Furthermore, registration is a necessary condition for the implementing organization to be exempted from the obligation to pay taxes and duties in the context of implementing the aforementioned actions/projects.

2. Presidential Decree 51/2023 was published in Government Gazette A' 105 on April 25, 2023. Its provisions regulate the functioning of the Directorate-General for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and clarify the responsibilities of its Departments and Office. The goal is to ensure the design, management, and execution of an effective and coherent policy in the field of development cooperation. This policy emphasizes transparency, the control of partner countries over their development priorities, the establishment of partnerships, and the achievement of development goals. These objectives align with the international commitments undertaken by Greece and adhere to internationally accepted principles.

## ANNEX



Dispatch of humanitarian aid to Turkey (February 15, 2023)



Dispatch of humanitarian aid to Syria (May 17, 2023)



Workshop on the EU's "Global Gateway" Strategy (November 30, 2023)



Seminar by the Fetal Medicine Foundation in Armenia (May 20-21, 2023)



Fetal Medicine Foundation Seminar in Kosovo (May 27-28, 2023)



Inauguration of the Fetal Medicine Unit in Ethiopia (September 16, 2023)



Inauguration of the Fetal Medicine Unit in Moldova (July 7, 2023)



Inauguration of Fetal Medicine Unit in Albania (September 30, 2023)