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**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA**

No. 494/R-ONU- 689

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations Office in Geneva presents its compliments to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to forward herewith the information regarding the Questionnaire on good practices related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation (Reference No. 2010DSLO dated from 5 February 2010).

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations Office in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the assurances of its highest consideration. V. Z.



Geneva, 4 June 2010

*Encl. 2 pages*

**UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**  
*Geneva*

**OHCHR REGISTRY**

**- 7 JUN 2010**

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Anexa nr.1

la scrisoarea MM nr.

01-09/1023 din 01.06.2010

1. Water supply sector in the Republic of Moldova is in crisis. The majority of the institutions in this field have been activating in critical circumstances for several years. The rate does not correspond to the real cost of the services. Debtor and creditor dept of the institution are constantly growing. Only 25-30% of the capacity of water supply and sanitation system is exploited. The services are provided with interruptions according to a schedule approved by the local administration. Network and equipment usage reaches about 50%-100%, which causes big water losses. Due to the lack of finances and investments in this sector in the last 15 years no technical support and inadequate exploitation of water supply and sanitation systems. Local public administration do not have financial contributions and government contribution is not sufficient. it all resulted in non-qualified services.
2. The rate of the population not connected to improved potable water supply systems, represent 1.620,0 thousand or 45%. and connected to improved sanitation systems 1.673,0 thousand or 47%. These parameters characterize the hygienic conditions that make a comfortable environment for infectious diseases. The most deteriorated situation is found in Donduşeni, Şoldăneşti and Soroca districts, where almost no rural area has water and sanitation supply. The quality of potable water is unsatisfactory and damages seriously health conditions of the population, causing death in over 20% cases of diseases.  
1523 aqueducts out of 1534 are supplied with water from underground sources, the other 11 with surface sources.  
World Health Organization declared prevention and reduction of digestive diseases caused by water as being the regional priority for Europe. The main objective in this sense is providing all children with improved water and sanitation services by year 2015. The Republic of Moldova has some difficulties in reaching this goal due to limited financial sources.
3. The process of decision taking was transferred to the lowest level, but the public administration institutions and municipal enterprises for water supply and sanitation are not the owner of the systems only administrators and they are obliged to maintain low tariffs. These may remain unchanged more years due to political reasons, not taking into account the inflation or evident price hike for electricity, materials, etc.
4. 2009 was marked by no correspondence between water quality for supply systems and sources. The most critical situation was noticed in Taraclia, Călăraşi, Glodeni, Basarabeasca, Ceadîr-Lunga, Orhei, Comrat, Ungheni, Hînceşti, Edineţ, Şoldăneşti, Sîngerei, Bălţi. the rate of the chemical under standard characteristics is about 70-100%.  
Unsatisfactory situation of the potable water sector because of the unsatisfactory quality of the water and deplorable aqueduct system is found in Nisporeni, Străşeni, Şoldăneşti, Hînceşti, Făleşti, Donduşeni. The inefficient administration of trash and without real protection of water sources cause the non-corresponding quality of water in wells, the last being used as the unique source of water supply for about 75 % population in rural areas. This situation is the result of the economic crisis in the Republic and of non implication of population. Except the capital of the country, no real monitoring is carried by the institutions responsible for water supply process.
5. According to State Public Health Supervision Service, the majority of rural areas are provided with inadequate sanitation conditions, no or non-functioning sewerage systems and water plant.
6. The major legislation act of the Republic of Moldova recognized on international level in which the human rights are stipulated is the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova. The

citizens of Moldova are guaranteed with their rights for life, information, health care, ecological environment, etc.

The major obligation of the State, stipulated in the Constitution, is to protect the citizens, to assure their equality, to avoid the discrimination on the ground of race, nationality, language, religion, sex, etc.

7. According to National Action Plan in the sector of human rights, which stipulates to hold the days dedicated to promotion of human rights, we find strategic the days of 10-15 June, 2010, for carrying out activities to inform people about their rights and obligations, setting the following plan:

- control of the place of work, work conditions and protection in the institutions working in the water sector;
- instruction of people about work security and hygienic conditions;

8. Legislative reform which is being implemented, contributes to avoid the non-correspondence between national and international legislation regarding the human rights. The Penal Code and the Code of Penal Procedure guarantees the responsibility for the crimes against life and health, liberty, political, social and other constitutional rights, family and minors, justice, etc. other major legislative acts assuring the human rights are the Civil Code, family Code, Work Code, etc.

9. *Water and Sanitation Supply of Moldova by 2015 Program, GD NR. 1406 DATED 30.12.2005 and The Law of Public Services for Rural Administration nr. 1402 dated 24.10.2002* were elaborated to regulate the relation between the public authorities, the water supply service and the client. This law gave the public administration authorities the right to reorganize the services provided to water users, in correspondence to the new principles and conditions stipulated in the new law. The role of the state in this process gains more importance, the growth of the influence assuring the efficient implementation of the sector policy; presuppose the technological modernization and improvement of the water and sanitation system. The main objective is to renovate the existing water supply and sanitation system, to enlarge the water system, and to provide people with qualitative potable water.

10. A series of objectives is set for the water sector. These may be classified for short and long term realization. The sustainability of the practice depends on the quality of the executed works. A good implementation presupposes having as a result an efficient water supply and sanitation system, providing as more as possible people with water supply, providing people with potable water of good quality. In such a way, positive environment for the improvement of society on all levels is assured. An efficiently organized water sector is the base for the development of the economical system, offering possibilities for the activity of enterprises, companies, having industrial or agricultural orientation.