

2 August 2006

Original: English

Distribution: General

---

**Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination**

**against Women**

**Pre-session working group for the thirty-sixth session**

7 – 25 August 2006

**Responses to the list of issues and questions for consideration of the**

**Combined second and third periodic report**

**Republic of Moldova**

The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova has examined the additional issues of the Committee for Elimination of the Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) addressed to the Republic of Moldova after the second periodic Report (compiled with the third one) regarding realization of the provisions of the International Convention on elimination of any forms of discriminations against women and presents the information according to the proposed list of questions.

### **General**

1. The second periodic Report (compiled with the third one) regarding realization of the provisions of the International Convention on elimination of any forms of discriminations against women (in continuation Report) has been elaborated by focal teams within the ministries and departments during the workshops organized with the financial support of the project „The Program for Leaders formation”, UNDP Moldova. The definite version of the Report has been presented and discussed during the meeting of the Governmental commission for women problems dated 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 2003. The members of the respective Governmental commission are also the non-governmental organizations activating in the sphere of promoting and observance of the gender equity principle, the academic medium social partners. The draft of the presented Report was approved by the majority of the members and was sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration in order to be further sent to the Committee for Elimination of the Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

2. The information regarding the implementation of the National Plan “Promotion of human gender equity in the society during 2003-2005”:

the major achievements of the National Plan:

1. Adoption of the Law on ensuring equal opportunities for women and men Nr. 5-XVI as of 09.02.2006. National mechanism on gender issues is created.
2. During 2005, in order to improve labor market 4621 of unemployed persons (72 % are women) have been trained at the professional courses.
3. At the Parliamentarian elections in 2005, the number of women in election lists was increased, as result the number of women – Member of Parliament increased from 16 out of 101 (15.8%) in 2001 to 21 (20.8%) in 2005.
4. On July 20 the Draft Law on Domestic Violence has passed the first reading in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.

The constitutional, legislative, institutional and statutory frame work of the Convention

3. International Convention on elimination of any forms of discriminations against women (CEDAW) has as its statute an international treaty and according to art.4 “Rights and freedoms of the human” of the Constitution of the RM: „(2) In case of discrepancies between the agreements and treaties regarding the fundamental rights of the human at which the Republic of Moldova is a member and its internal regulations, priority is on the behalf of the international regulations”.

According to art. 16 section. 2 from the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova “All the citizens of the Republic of Moldova are equal in front of the law and of the public authorities, in spite of race, nationality, ethnic origin, language, religion, sex, opinion, politic affiliation, property or social origin”.

The Constitution of the Republic of Moldova does not reflect art.1 of the Convention regarding direct and indirect discrimination notions. But the recommendation of the Commission on elimination of discriminations against women (CEDAW) to include these notion in the national legislation was reflected in the Law regarding provision of equal opportunities between men and women (no.5-XVI dated 09.02.2006).

4. As we have mentioned above, on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2006 there was adopted the Law regarding provision of equal opportunities between men and women.

The scope of the respective law consists in assurance of equal rights between men and women in politics, economics, social and cultural spheres, guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova as to prevent and eliminate any types of gender discrimination.

In the law are specified the following notions: complex discussion of the gender equity, affirmative actions, sex discrimination, indirect and direct sex discrimination, equal opportunities, equity between men and women, gender, sexual harassment, sex, gender unity.

The Law providing equal opportunities between men and women stipulates an institutional frame work that guarantees equal opportunities for women and men,

the following authorities been empowered with attributions in the respective domain:

- a) The Parliament;
- b) The Government;
- c) The Governmental commission for equity between men and women;
- d) The Ministry of Health and Social Protection (specialized body);
- e) Ministries and central administrative authorities (gender agencies);
- f) Local public administration (gender agencies).

In the draft of the law regarding equal opportunities between men and women there was stipulated as an alternative to the local central and central authorities the institution the Parliamentary advocate on issues regarding gender equity. But the financial possibilities of the state do not permit formation of such a agency and the respective attributions were given to those three parliamentary advocates who activate at the moment.

5. We do not have claims from the part of the women to the courts regarding the subject of gender discrimination.

6. Through the adopted Law regarding provision of equal opportunities for men and women there were stipulated financial sources for creation of the institutional mechanism in the respective sphere.

### **Violence against women**

7. The draft law regarding the prevention and fight against family violence was approved through the Governmental Decision no. 138 dated 06.02.2006 and presented to the Parliament for examination and approval.

The scope of the law – protection and consolidation of the family, observance of the main principles of the legislation referring to the family, as well as guarantee of equal opportunities for men and women in their realization of human rights without violence. The draft of the law stipulated the legal and organizational basis of the activity regarding prevention and elimination of the violation in the family determines the authorities responsible for prevention and elimination of the violation in the family and establishes the procedure for information and solution of the cases.

The project includes a scheme divided on chapters of the spheres of interests for prevention and elimination of the violence in the family; the authorities empowered with prevention and elimination functions of the violation in the family; the mechanism for solving the cases of violation in the family.

8. Through „harm towards the body integrity or of the health” is understood the illegal performance, intentioned or without intention of any action or inaction – mechanical, physical, chemical, biological or psychological – that influences the health conditions of a person, expressed in deficiencies (serious, medium or light) of the anatomic integrity of the organs tissues of the body of the victim, or their functions.

**The special legal object** of the infringements against the health of the person is built by the *social relations regarding the health of the person*.

**The victim** of such infringement may be any person (alive), with the condition that it should be the other person and not the one who committed the infraction. The protection of the penal law is directed towards the relations between

the persons, and not towards those acts that go beyond the sphere on personal, individual life, acts beyond the social relations. The penal law intervenes only when the act of violence goes beyond the individual sphere and is part of the social relations.

The consent of the victim regarding the damage to the integrity of the body or health does not exonerate the perpetrator from the penal punishment.

As aggravated circumstance of the intentioned serious and medium harm to the integrity of the body is performance of the actions stipulated in section (1) of the articles 151 and 152 of the Penal Code, towards the husband (wife) or any close relatives. According to section (4) of the article 134 from the PC of the RM, close relatives are considered the parents, children, tutors, brothers and sisters , grandparents and their grandchildren.

The quality of husband (wife) shall exist at the moment of performance of the action. If this quality was not any more existent at the moment of action performance as a result of a divorce, the action shall not be qualified according to the letter a) section (2) of the article 151 and letter c) section (2) of the article 152 from the PC of the RM. Also, such provisions shall not be applied, if the perpetrator and the victim were connected through a null engagement (bigamy). So, the partners are not husband and wife.

According to the provisions of the section (2) article 151 from the PC of the RM the serious intentioned harm infringement of the integrity of the body or of the health performed against the wife (husband) or any other close relatives is punished with jail, from 6 to 12 years; section (2) article 152 from the PC of the RM

provides a punishment with jail from 3 to 7 years for performance of intentioned medium harm infringement against the integrity of the body or health, against the wife (husband) or any close relatives. The PC of the RM, article 153 provides penal punishment for performance of the intentioned light harm towards the body integrity and health, the penal punishment for such an infringement constitutes a penalty of 200 to 300 conventional units or non-paid work in favor of the community from 180 to 240 hours, or jail up till the year.

The Penal Code of the Republic of Moldova, on the basis of the article 171 provides penal punishment for rape.

The sexual relations had on the basis of physical and psychological obligation or taking advantage of the fact that the respective person is not able to protect herself or to express the violence represents the most serious form of life infringement regarding the sexual life of the person.

In case of rape, it does not matter if the victim was married or divorced, even if the victim had sexual experience before being raped. In the penal code is stated the notion “conjugal rape”, that is why it is not excluded the possibility to be raped by the husband (wife). That is why the rape where the victim is the husband (wife) shall be qualified according to article 171 of the PC of the RM.

In case of a rape, according to section (1) article 171 from the PC of the RM is provided a penal punishment with jail from 3 to 5 years, in case of rape with serious circumstances enumerated in section (2) article 171 is provided the punishment with jail from 5 to 15 years, in case of a rape with serious

circumstances enumerated in section (3) of the article 171 is provided a punishment with jail from 10 to 25 years or life detention.

9. In the draft of the Law regarding prevention and elimination of the violence in the family (approved through the Decision of the Government no. 138 dated 6.02.2006) **in Chapter III** is specified the settlement solution of the violence acts in the family: the right of the victim of the violence to be protected, the process for presentation of the claim and examination of the request, combating actions, sanctions.

10. The official statistic data to the respective subject, as well the monitoring mechanism of the situation within the entire Republic of Moldova is imperfect, because there isn't a relevant monitoring data. The official statistics is done on the basis of the data presented by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and include murders and serious body, officially registered rapes.

### **Trafficking of women for exploitation and**

12. In order to respect the assumed obligations through ratification of the international instruments from the respective field, it was elaborated a national legal framework corresponding to the international requirements:

- National plan of action regarding the human rights, approved through the Decision of the Parliament no. 415-XV dated 24.10.2003, chapter 7, division b) prevention and combating of the human being in trafficking, includes also the measures that contribute to combating of the phenomenon;

- Law no.241-XVI dated 20.10.2005 regarding prevention and combating of the human being in trafficking;

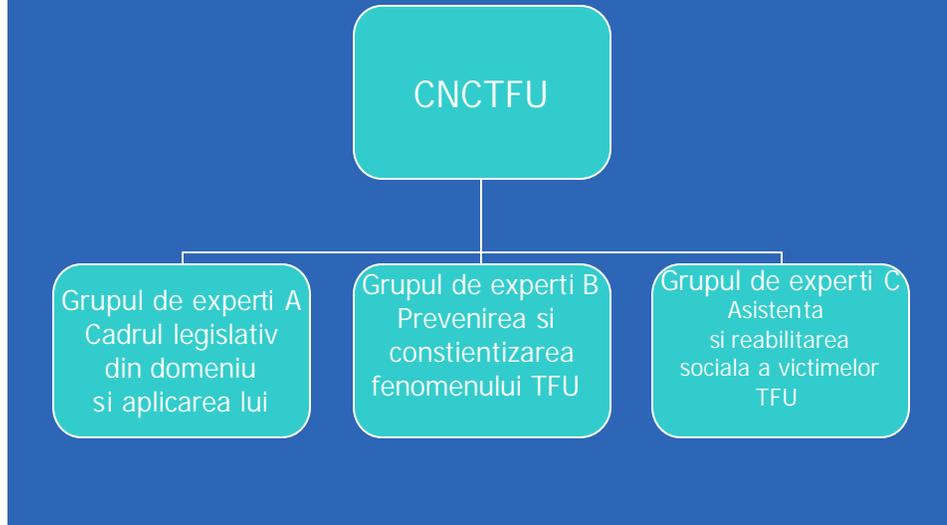
- Decision of the Government of the Republic of Moldova no. 903 dated 25.08.2005 “Regarding approval of the amendments operated in the Decision of the Government no. 1219 dated 09.11.2001”, Annex no.2 – „National plan for prevention and combating of the human being in trafficking”.

The established national system in the domain of prevention and combating of HBT stipulates structures both, on vertical and horizontal level.



At the national level it is presented through the intermediation of the National Committee Combating the Human Being in Trafficking, consisting of 3 working subgroups: group A „Legal frame work from the field and its application”, group B ”Prevention and information about the HBT phenomenon” and group C “Assistance and social rehabilitation to the VoT” ” (please see the above mentioned organigram)

## Comitetul National de Combatere a Traficului de Fiinte Umane



According to the provisions of the legislation in force, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection is responsible for protection and social assistance of the victims of being in human trafficking, also being the work coordinator of group C. The normative acts entered in force in the second semester of 2005, but the Government of the Republic of Moldova does not have the necessary resources for proactive implementation of the legal provisions.

At the moment, in the Republic of Moldova the protection and assistance to the victims of being in human trafficking is offered by the Rehabilitation Center from Chisinau, IOM representation in Moldova which provides the following services: temporary housing, psychological consultation, social services, medical assistance, legal assistance, educational programs, vocational activities, assistance and social reintegration. The Rehabilitation center from Chisinau of the IOM assists the adult persons, teenagers and small children.

As a first initiative for support of the assistance infrastructure of the victims being in human trafficking from Moldova, the MHSP from Moldova has launched the National Reintegration System. So, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2006 the MHSP of the RM in cooperation with the OIM have launched "The reference national system for protection and social assistance of the victims being in human trafficking and potential victims of being in human trafficking". The reference national system has as its main scope rendering of monitoring and coordination of social services at the district level in order to offer direct reintegration assistance at the local level.

13. The minimal salary increased depending on the concrete economical conditions and depending on the average salary in the nation economy, as well depending on the planned level of the inflation rate, legalized through the decision of the Government after having consultations with employers and unions. So, the minimal salary per country, starting with 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2001 was 100 lei, from 01.01.2005 the minimal salary per country constituted minim 200 lei.

In the real sector – units of financial autonomy – the tariff salary for the category of qualification I, indifferent of the type of property and legal organization form was established in a value of 169 lei starting with 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2001; 250 lei – starting with 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2002; 300 lei – starting with 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2003; 340 lei- starting with 1<sup>st</sup> July 2003; 360 lei and 440 lei – starting with 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2004 and starting with 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2005- 360 lei and 550 lei.

During months of January-November 2005 the average months salary of an employee from the national economy constituted 1284,9 lei and it was increased in respect to the similar period of the previous year 20% (the real salary has increased

with 7%). In the budgetary sphere the average salary constituted 986,2 lei, in the real sector of the economy it constituted – 1438,3 lei.

The basic wage principles are the equal salary for equal performed work, with a special practical utility, because it determines the starting point for determination of the salary.

In order to realize the engagement resulting from the Millenium Declaration approved by the Summit of the United Nation Organization, acceleration of the social economical development and implementation of the Development Objectives of the Millenium connected to the issues regarding reduction of the poverty, development of the human resources, guaranteeing a durable environment and evaluation of their implementation process, the Government has approved the Decision no. 288 dated 25.03.2005 the Development Objectives of the Republic of Moldova up till 2015. One of the main objectives is eradication of the extreme poverty and starvation.

Through the Decision of the Government no. 521 dated 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2006 it was approved the Strategy for assistance of the small and medium enterprises development for the period 2006-2008 representing the basic politic framework on long and medium term regarding the durable development of the small and medium enterprises from Moldova. The respective document shall serve as a base for elaboration and implementation of the programs and plans of actions of the ministries, other central administrative authorities, local public administrative authorities, as well as technical assistance projects of the foreign donators directed

for creation of the necessary conditions for development of the small and medium business.

14. In the Code for administrative contravention, Article 171/1, prostitution practicing is stipulated: Prostitution practicing – attracts application of a penalty from fifty to seventy conventional units or an administrative arrest up till twenty days.

The same actions performed for the second time during the same year the application of the administrative sanction - attracts application of a sanction from seventy five to one hundred conventional units or an administrative arrest up till thirty days.

*Note.* The actions of the present article do not extend over the persons, victims of the human being in trafficking specified in article 165 and 206 from the Penal code of the Republic of Moldova.

Also, in the Article 171/2. Prostitution propagation is stipulated the sanctions regarding the persons who propagate the prostitution: propagation of the prostitution through the intermediate of the periodical, TV, or other methods - attracts application of a penalty from one hundred to one hundred and fifty conventional units with confiscation of the propagation means.

At the moment there was elaborated and presented to the Parliament for examination a new draft of the administrative convention Code.

### **Stereotypes and education**

15. During the period of 2004-2005 the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in cooperation with the National Center for Education and Information on Women

Issues with the support of the Soros Foundation has performed the gender expertise of the school subjects. As a result there were made some recommendations addressed to the authors of the manuals, publishers and editors to exclude future gender stereotypes. During spring 2006, there were organized information workshops for the authors of the manuals, publishers and editors.

### **Participation to the public and politic life and representation at the international level**

According to the provisions of Chapter II of the Law regarding provision of the equal opportunities for women and men are strengthened some already existent principles regarding the equal access of the men and women regarding public functions, as well are imposed some obligations for the political parties and other social and political organizations regarding the representation according to the gender component of the men and women in the administrative bodies. Also, an important role in promoting the equal rights between men and women is offered to the mass-media.

Extracted from the mentioned law:

#### **„CHAPTER II**

#### **GUARANTEE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE**

##### **Article 6. Equal access to public functions**

- (1) In case of presentation of the conditions to get a public central or local function, it is necessary to assure equal opportunities for participation to the competition, both for men and women.

- (2) Establishment of any direct or indirect restrictions based on the sex criteria in case of announcement, organization and admission for a public function is forbidden, only taking into consideration the exceptions of the preset law.
- (3) The leaders of the central and local public administration, other officials are obliged to assure equal access to get a public function in accordance with the professional exigencies, without differences based on sex criteria.
- (4) It is not admitted to publish announcements and organize competitions only for persons of a certain sex.

Article 7. Equal opportunities in elections, activity of the political parties and of the other social political organizations.

(1) The Central Election Commission, the local election offices and councils assure observance of the principal of equity between the men and women in respect to elections.

(2) The politic parties and social and political organizations are obliged to contribute to guarantee of equal rights and opportunities to their members, women and men as it follows:

a) guarantee of the representation in the administrative bodies of both, men and women;

b) guarantee in the lists of the candidates of both, men and women without discrimination based on sex criteria.

(3) In case of candidates proposal for replacement of the central and local public functions, it is necessary to guarantee equal participation opportunities of both, men and women.

#### Article 8. Equal opportunities in mass-media

(1) Mass-media contributes to promotion of the equity principle between men and women in the society through elaboration of programs and materials eliminating the gender stereotypes.

(2) Any interviews and published articles which represent the image of the women or of the men in a humiliating manner of their dignity are not admissible and are sanctioned according to the present law”.

*Note: In the elaborated and approved by the Government draft of the law, it was proposed as a special and temporary measure, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 1 of CEDAW in order to have a de facto equity between genders: observance from the part of the political parties and other social and political organizations in the part regarding representation according to the gender component of the women and men in the administrative bodies, as well as proposal of candidates guaranteeing representation of both, men and women in proportion of 30% in the election lists. But in the Parliament, the quota of 30% as an instrument of gender equity realization was not favored.*

#### **Work**

17. The legislation in force in the field of labor force engagement does not stipulate discriminatory elements towards women in the filed of employment and guarantees equity between men and women while being employed.

Any person is free to choose the profession and the work place, may benefit of social protection, inclusively in case of unemployment.

The questionnaire of the labor force, performed by the National Statistics Department is the main source and instrument to obtain the information regarding the labor force, employment and unemployment.

According to the respective questionnaire, the economic active population of the Republic of Moldova constituted in 2005 - 1422,3 thousand persons, registering a decrease of 0,7% in respect to the previous year 2004. Important sex disparities among the active population has not been registered: the number of women in comparison with that of the men was a little bigger (732,9 thousand), constituting about 51,5% from the total number of the active population.

#### **Labor force market**

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Economic active population, thousand persons	1655	1617	1615	1474	1432	1422,3
<i>men</i>	828,0	806,6	795,3	731,2	701,6	689,5
<i>women</i>	826,7	810,1	819,7	742,4	730,9	732,9
Employed population, thousand persons	1515	1499	1505	1356	1316	1318,7
<i>men</i>	747,4	736,5	730,9	661,3	631,4	629,7
<i>women</i>	767,1	762,5	774,2	695,2	684,6	689,0
Number of unemployed persons ILO, thousand persons	140	118	110	117	116,5	103,7
Unemployment rate ILO,%	8,5	7,3	6,8	7,9	8,1	7,3
<i>women, %</i>	7,2	5,9	5,5	6,4	6,3	6,0
<i>men, %</i>	9,7	8,7	8,1	9,6	10,0	8,7

**Source: National Statistics Department**

In 2005, the employed population constituted 1318,7 thousand persons, being just at the same level as in the previous year 2004. Delimitation per sex, indicates

that the number of women among the employed population is higher (52,2%) in respect of the men.

The employed population per groups of age indicates that the persons from 25-39 years and 40-49 years detain the higher number of (30,2% and 32,1%) from the total employed population. The persons between 15-24 years constituted 9,4% and those of 65 and older – 4,6%. From the total number of employed persons of 65 and older and from the total number of young persons (15-24 years), respectively, 86,8% and about 32,6% were employed in agriculture.

According to the standards of the International Labor Office in 2005 the number of unemployed persons constituted about 102,7 thousand persons. The unemployment has affected in a more considerable way the urban zones - 69,9%. The unemployment rate at the country level has registered a value equal to 7,35 being in decrease in respect to 2004.

In order to reduce the consequences of the unemployment the National Agency for placement of the labor force promotes an active policy on the labor force market: labor mediation, professional consultation and information, vocational and professional training, stimulation of labor force movement, stimulation of the employers to engage graduated of high institutions, stimulation of unemployed persons to be engaged in different public works, crediting for creation of new work places, creation of the Informational system of the labor market and mass information of the population, etc.

In order to benefit of the rendered services on the labor force market, inclusively assistance while being employed, during 2005, to the territorial

agencies for placement of the labor forces have addressed about 59894 unemployed persons, from which about 25456 women (42,5%). There was given employment assistance to about 24639 unemployed persons, from which 12556 women (51%).

### **Employment of the unemployed persons**

	<b>2004</b>		<b>2005</b>		<b>2006, tr. I.</b>	
	<i>total</i>	<i>women</i>	<i>total</i>	<i>women</i>	<i>total</i>	<i>women</i>
<b>Registered unemployed persons during the year, persons %</b>	59581	25070 42,1%	59894	25454 42,5%	17338	6804 39,3%
<b>Employed, persons %</b>	24668	12161 49,3%	24639	12556 51%	4682	2548 54,5%
<b>Graduates of professional courses, persons %</b>	4628	3501 75,6%	4621	3323 72%	1145	803 70,1%
<b>Beneficiaries of unemployment assistance, persons %</b>	3302	2233 67,6%	2966	1964 66,2%	2227	1494 67,1%

**Source: National agency for placement of the Labor Force**

In order to improve the situation the labor force market, on the basis of the Strategy for placement of the labor force in the Republic of Moldova, every year are elaborated Plans of action regarding placement of the labor force according to the European Placement Strategy. The Plans of action regarding the placement of the labor force per 2006 stipulates implementation of 8 directories from those established in the European Placement Strategy.

The situation on the labor market, the problems and their way of settlement, the perspective development of the respective sphere is in attention of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, social partners and of all participants from the labor market. In the Activity program of the Government for the period 2005-2009 „Modernization of the country – welfare of the nation”, the National Program

„Moldavian village”, the Plan of actions Republic of Moldova – European Union, the Strategy for economic increase and poverty reduction and in other activities, the labor force market is treated as a market in development which promotes active actions towards creation of qualified work places, increase of the employment level of the labor force and decrease of the unemployment among the population.

In the draft of the Law regarding the provision of equal opportunities between men and women, approved by the Government, it has been proposed the institution of Ombudsmanului on issues regarding equity of genders as to monitor implementation of the respective legislation, being able to receive claims. But the Parliament did not accept the option and the respective attributions were delegated to those three parliamentary advocates who activate at the moment.

18. According to the legislation in force the old persons (both, men and women) who do not meet the conditions to obtain the right to have a state social pension and are not entirely assisted by the state, have a state allowance (about 62,89 lei).

The social state allowances are indexed every year, starting with the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2005, the indexation rate results from the yearly increase of the consume price for the previous year.

### **Repartizarea barbatilor si femeilor pe grupe de vîrstă si niveluri de bunăstare**

#### ***Distribution of men and women by age groups and welfare levels***

În procente

*In percentage*

Total <i>Total</i>	Decile / <i>Deciles</i>									
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X

**2003**

<b>Bărbăți</b>												<b>Men</b>
16-29 ani	100 ,0	13, 6	11, 0	10, 6	11, 0	8, 9	9, 3	9, 5	8, 3	8, 8	8, 9	16-29 years
30-61 ani	100 ,0	9, 1	9, 2	9, 8	9, 2	10, 3	10, 9	10, 2	10, 2	10, 2	10, 9	30-61 years
62 ani și peste	100 ,0	5, 1	7, 5	8, 9	12, 1	12, 6	12, 5	12, 1	13, 1	9, 5	6, 6	62 years and over
<b>Femei</b>												

**2004**

<b>Bărbăți</b>												<b>Men</b>
16-29 ani	100 ,0	12, 4	11, 4	9, 5	9, 4	9, 1	8, 7	7, 8	10, 0	10, 0	11, 8	16-29 years

**Health**

19. The issue regarding the women health remains still on of the most actual. In 2005 has been elaborated and approved the Decision of the Government no.913 dated 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2005 The national strategy for the health reproduction. The

main objective of the Strategy is guarantee of the citizens' rights in realization of their sexual and reproduction function. At the moment is founded a working multi-departmental group in order to elaborate the Implementation Program of the respective strategy.

One of the main premises is the investment regarding settlement of the issues connected to mothers and children.

Also it develops its activity the Program "Promotion of quality parental services in the Republic of Moldova" for years 2003 – 2007", approved through the Order of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection no.185 dated 18.06.2003. the main objectives of the program is the continual training of the medical staff from the primary medical assistance and maternity hospitals of the Republic of Moldova with the scope to implement qualitative technologies for parental assistance based on scientific proofs and recommended by the International Health Organization evaluating the quality of the modern technologies application for parental assistance in some of the maternal hospitals from the Republic and functioning of the reorganized system of parental medical assistance.

In order to continue the modernization process of the maternity hospitals are required investments as to create acceptable conditions for mother and for the new born, especially provision with continuous cold water, warm water, heating, reparation of the networks and premises, assurance with consumables (pampers, lingerie, etc.). Creation of optimal conditions during the birth shall have a positive impact for a healthy start in the life of the children and improvement of the women health, shall contribute to decrease of maternal and infant morbidity in the republic.

In this context, during 31<sup>st</sup> of March –11<sup>th</sup> of April this year, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection has evaluated within a commission with on site travelling the real necessities in every maternal hospital and has elaborated a Plan for creation of the respective sanitary and hygienic conditions corresponding to the normative requirements of the field, with separation of the reconstruction works during 2006 – 2008, based on the existent situation, on the priorities and necessities to create and ameliorate the conditions, which was presented to the Government for examination.

In June 2006 was launched the National Communication Campaign „For a Nice and Healthy NewBorn”. The preliminary collected results from the districts of the country indicate that during the first half of the year the number of the pregnant women registered up before the 12<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy has increased with 81%, in comparison with 69% in the same period of year 2005; 88% from the pregnant women to take medicines containing Ferro, in comparison with 62% in year 2005; 76% from the pregnant women take the folic acid, in comparison with 32% in year 2005; 91% from the pregnant women do know the dangerous signals during the pregnancy, in comparison with 59% in year2005.

In order to reduce the maternal morbidity, the Ministry of Health and Social protection develops a new initiative of the International Health Organization – Confidential audit of any case of maternal death. In this context, during 2005 it was organized the National Conference “Beyond the numbers” within the initiative of the Global Pregnancy without risk, focusing on improvement of the quality of the analyzed maternal death cases and death proximity through implementation of the

Confidential Questionnaire according to the principles promoted by the International Health Organization in the book “Beyond the numbers”, applying the procedures to the local circumstances and approved through the order of the Ministry no.330 dated 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2005.

In order to guarantee a qualitative pre birth care, assuring identification and proper solution of any problem connected to the pregnancy as well as assuring of a complex monitoring of the child development there were elaborated Supervision Standards of the pregnant women in the ambulatory conditions and the Supervision Standards of the children in the ambulatory conditions.

In order to improve the preventive activity of the HIV transmission from mother to the new born and realization of the specific anti retroviral treatment, for the infested pregnant women were hospitalized in 2 special maternal hospitals, organized by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, assuring conditions and technologies required for minimization of HIV transmission from mother to the new born. It was elaborated the booklet “HOV infection with transmission mother-new born”. On the basis of these materials, with the support of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection there were trained 15 national animators, 600 medical staff (family doctors, gynecologists, neonatologists, infectiologists, midwives, medical assistants) from all the territorial administrative units from Moldova. About 450 medical personnel were trained with the financial support of the FIS - ului and World Bank.

The materials for the courses were integrated in the university, post university curriculum of the Medical Colleges.

It was elaborated the form of the epidemiological supervision of the transmission of the HIV infection vertically (F32-b every year). It was elaborated, edited and printed the booklet “Mother, make the test for HIV”.

**Starting with 2003 all the pregnant women are HIV tested at the indication of the family doctor.**

Friendly Health Services for Youth (FHSY) represents an important element for the integral discussion of the health and teenagers development, being recognized, both at the international and national level as a protection factor in prevention of HIV transmission, as well an important element in promotion of a healthy life and prevention of the major risks for their health.

At the moment in Moldova activate about 12 Youth Health Centers: in mun. Chisinau “Juventa” and “Neovita”, in district Stefan Voda „Iunona”, in districts Edinet, Soroca, Calarasi, Hincesti, Cimislia, Criuleni, Leova, Anenii Noi and mun. Balti, which are for the teenagers and young people. In the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 2006 was opened FHSY in village Costesti.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 2006 there was published the National Concept of the Friendly Health Services for Youths. Also continues elaboration of the qualitative standards of the Friendly Health Services for Youths and of the Activity Regulation Friendly Health Centers for Youth.

At the moment, are at the elaboration stage the methods and monitoring instruments of the Friendly Health Services for Youths. There was organized a workshop for elaboration of the methods and of the evaluation and of the Friendly Health Services for Youths.

Now, is at the elaboration phase the Regulation of the office for health reproduction and of the Health centers for women, where is planned a section sexual-reproduction health for teenagers and young people.

### Înteruperi de sarcină pe grupe de vîrstă

#### *Pregnancy interruptions, by age groups*

	200	200	200	200	200	
Numărul de avorturi la femei în vîrstă, ani:  pînă la 15	3 3  270	3 0  166	3 3  171	1 6  185	1 0  160	<i>Number of abortions of aged women, years: up to 15</i>

**20. The activities included in this section presuppose a large mobility of the population in respect to realization of the promotion health and education actions, active involvement of the community in the respective actions, in such a way contributing essentially to improvement of the level of knowledge and sanitary culture of the citizens.**

In this context, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection continues during 2006, too, to develop the National Education Health Program for population promoting a healthy way of life, approved through the Decision of the Government no.1000 dated 28.09.98 and to monitor the already performed activities.

The comparative statistic data of the health educational activities and promotion of the healthy way of life developed by the medical services during the recent years after approving the Program, confirms the activation and diversification of the health educational measures for the population and promotion of the health way of life, a more intensive involvement of the community in their development.

In 2005, in the Republic of Moldova were organized and developed health educational measures for the population and promotion of the healthy way of life within the International Days according to the estimates of the International Health Organization, inclusively the International Day against tuberculoses (24th of March), International Health Day (7th of April), the International Day without smoking (31<sup>st</sup> of May), International Day of the Children (1<sup>st</sup> of June), the International Day against drugs (26<sup>th</sup> of June), International day for HIV prevention and combating (1<sup>st</sup> of December).

Also, there were organized and developed the promotion month of the medical and hygienic knowledge regarding prevention of the serious diarrheic diseases, food intoxication and cholera (1st-31<sup>st</sup> of May), the week „Anticancer” (30<sup>th</sup> of May – 5<sup>th</sup> of June) and fight against HIV infection, STD, alcoholism and drugs (1<sup>st</sup> –30<sup>th</sup> of November).

It was elaborated and sent in the address of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration a set of necessary materials for ratification of the Frame Convention of the International Health Organization regarding the tobacco control.

21. In order to fight the drugs and drugs business, through the Decision of the Government no.166 date 15.02.2005 it was approved „Actions fighting against drugs and drugs business for 2005-2006”.

In this context, there was performed a considerable volume of activities regarding the analyses and management of the situation, evaluation of the activity priorities in this sense, promotion of the healthy way of life, among the population, dissemination in the mass media of some relevant information regarding the consequences of the respective phenomenon through credible messages in order to diminish the motivation to start using the drugs and other psychotropic substances among the young people, motivation of the young people for health and giving up the drugs usage and other psychotropic substances and not in the least case extension of the health services based on proofs for the persons with serious risk for the health, in time discovery of the persons involved in drug consume, their involvement in treatment programs, prevention, correction and psychological rehabilitation.

During the recent years, together with the medical treatment, there were successfully implemented the treatment methods as laser puncture, physiotherapeutic procedures, individual and group psycho correction, etc. all the patients are clinically and polyclinic examined in accordance with the medical and economical standards approved by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection.

In 2004 there was elaborated and implemented the treatment criteria of the patients with opiate drugs, therapy substituted with Methadone, applied with

success in the detoxification and assistance of the persons, dependent of intravenous drugs.

22. The HIV infection is a priority issue for the public health in the Republic of Moldova. During 1987-2005 there were discovered about 2169 HIV infested persons. The epidemic process has comprised all the administrative territories. It continues the tendency of HIV transmission through sexual relations (60,6%), respectively increases the number of the women involved in the epidemic process (42,9% in 2005), inclusively among the pregnant women (40 women –2005, 37 women – 6 months 2006).

In order to improve the situation in this sphere, through the Decision of the Government no.948 dated 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2005 there was approved the National prophylactic and control program of the HIV infection and of the sexual transmitted diseases for 2006-2010.

In order to realize the Program, there was elaborated the Plan of Actions for prophylaxis and control of the HIV infection and of the sexual transmitted diseases for 2006-2010, approved through the Order of the Ministry no. 480 dated 23.12.2005.

Also, with success are developed the grants of the International Fund and World Bank „Support for the National prophylactic and control program of the HIV infection and of the sexual transmitted diseases and for the National program against the tuberculosis”. The financial sources within the grant were planned and are used to improve the diagnoses laboratories for HIV and STD, acquisition of the tests for performance of the epidemiological supervision, testing of the pregnant

women and of the persons from high risk groups, guarantee of haemo-transfusion security, acquisition of medicines, initiation of the specific treatment, treatment of the opportunist diseases of the HIV infested persons.

There are developed different special prophylactic and educational programs among the drug addicted, prostitutes, sexual minorities, teenagers, young persons, soldiers, carabinieri, frontier guards.

In February 2006 there was elaborated and presented to the United Nations Organization the report of the country regarding realization of the Declaration regarding HIV, adopted during the Special Session of the General assembly of the United Nations in June 2001.

At the moment functions the following networks; „The social network” with the sub-network „HIV network” and „The communication in the health sphere”. There took place the 2<sup>nd</sup> implementation stage of the National Communication Campaign in the sphere of HIV infection among the young persons between 25-28 years. Within the Campaign there were elaborated and broadcasted 2 TV spots and 2 audio spots, 50copies of CD with sports for representatives of the mass media and partner organizations, there were edited 190 thousand booklets, 100 pocket calendars, 2000 placards for the transport means, 5000 posters, installed 10 panels. Within the Campaign there were organized social events (press conferences, festivals, concerts, parties, campaigns). In February there was launched the competition on Internet with the „206 prizes in order to be protected in 2006.”

There was elaborated the draft of the law regarding HIV prophylaxis, being discussed with the representatives of the civil society, approved by the respective Ministries and approved at the session of the Government in May 2006.

**The woman and the poverty**

23.

**Structura veniturilor disponibile în dependentă de sexul capului  
gospodăriei**

*Structure of the household's incomes, by sex of the head of the household*

	2003		2004		
	Total <i>Total</i>	Capul gospodăriei <i>Head of the</i>	Total <i>Total</i>	Capul gospodărie <i>i Head of</i>	
		bărbat <i>man</i>		femeie <i>woman</i>	

<b>Venit disponibil</b> (medii lunare pe un membru al gospodăriei), lei	<b>422,4</b>	<b>412,5</b>	<b>442,9</b>	<b>491,4</b>	<b>471,1</b>	<b>530,5</b>	<b>Income</b> (monthly average, per one house-hold's member), lei
inclusiv pe surse de formare, în % :	37,3	37,6	36,7	40,5	41,0	39,5	of which, by sources, in %:
venit din activitatea salariată	28,9	33,1	21,0	23,1	26,9	16,4	salary incomes
venit din activitatea agricolă	3,9	4,1	3,5	3,6	4,3	2,3	agricultural incomes
venit din activitatea individuală	0,6	0,3	1,1	0,6	0,4	0,9	individual activity
	12,1	11,2	12,0	12,4	12,0	14,2	

### Repartizarea bărbaților și femeilor pe grupe de vârstă și niveluri de bunăstare

#### *Distribution of men and women by age groups and welfare levels*

În procente

*In percentage*

	Total										
		I	I	I	IV	V	VI	VI	VI	IX	X

2003

<b>Bărbăți</b>												<b>Men</b>
16–29 ani	100,0	13,6	11,0	10,6	11,0	8,9	9,3	9,5	8,3	8,8	8,9	16-29 years
30–61 ani	100,0	9,1	9,2	9,8	9,2	10,3	10,9	10,2	10,2	10,2	10,9	30-61 years
62 ani și peste	100,0	5,1	7,5	8,9	12,1	12,6	12,5	12,1	13,1	9,5	6,6	62 years and over
<b>Femei</b>												

### 2004

<b>Bărbăți</b>												<b>Men</b>
16–29 ani	100,0	12,4	11,4	9,5	9,4	9,1	8,7	7,8	10,0	10,0	11,8	16-29 years
30–61 ani	100,0	10,0	10,6	10,8	9,8	9,6	10,0	10,1	9,5	10,6	9,0	30-61 years
62 ani și peste	100,0	5,2	8,1	9,8	12,2	11,6	13,5	11,6	12,4	9,5	6,0	62 years and over
<b>Femei</b>												

In the Decision of the Government no. 288 dated 25.03.2005 Development Objectives of the Millennium in the Republic of Moldova up till 2015 connected to eradication of the extreme poverty and starvation, the Republic of Moldova proposes the following tasks for 2005 – 2015:

**A half reduction during 1997-2015, of the number of the population with an income under 2,15 USD per day (la PPC).**

Realization of such a task shall be separated in time as it follows:

Reduction of the number of the population with income 2,15 USD per day (la PPC) from 39,8% in 2002 to 28% in 2006, to 23% in 2010 and to 18% in 2015;

**A half reduction during 1998-2015, of the number of the population which finds itself in poverty.**

The target values for 2006, 2010 and 2015 of the respective indices shall be established in the elaboration process of the calculation methodology of the number of the population that is under the minimal level of food consumption, expressed in calories (2282 Kcal/per day).

**Obstacles**

The main obstacles in realization of these planned tasks are:

Instability of the macroeconomic context, a fact that intimidates the potential investors and stops initiation and development of any business;

Fragile positive economic results obtained as a result of the structural and institutional reforms implementation from the previous years;

Incoherence and inconsistency of the reforms, tendencies to reevaluate the economical practices based on the administrative methods of the economy management;

Vulnerability of the national economy in respect to the natural calamities, caused by the agricultural character;

Regional discrepancies as a result of controversial restructures of many enterprises and tergiversation of the reforms in the agrarian sector;

Unemployment and migration of the labor force, a fact that diminish the number of the economic active population and has serious impact on the human potential in the top spheres of the national economy;

Imperfection of the social protection system that is not always oriented towards the needs of those poor.

Lack of methodologies and institutional capacities for collection of the statistical data, evaluation and forecasting of the indices "Number of population under the minimal level food consumption, in energetic value (2282 Kcal/zi)".

### **Main actions for realization of the planned tasks**

Starting from the fact that eradication of the poverty represents one of the basic task of the Government, the Republic of Moldova shall maintain further on the social character of the economic policies, orienting them towards increase of the quality of the populations life, improvement of the social protection of the most poor categories of the population through a better and precise orientation of the social assistance services, facilitation of the access of those poor to social services, development of the system for social assuring and creation of new work places, especially for those poor.

24. Initially, in the Strategy for economic increase and poverty reduction there was not introduced the respective domain. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection has proposed to include the gender aspect in the mentioned program for the future period 2007-2009.

### **Women from the rural zones and the ethnical minorities**

25. The Decision of the Government no. 242 dated 01.03.2005 regarding the approval of the National Program "Moldavian Village" (2005-2015) comprises the section *Equal opportunities between men and women*" and develops its policies through the following tasks:

- Integration of the equity principles between men and women in all the policies and programs at the local and district level;

- Equal opportunities for men and women regarding realization of the human rights without violence.

The program has been elaborated in order to put into life the Decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova no. 2044-III dated 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2004 "Regarding declaration of 2005 the Year of the Local communities from the Republic of Moldova", and is oriented towards social and economical development of the rural zones, intensification of the community activities of the population and settlement of the issues of a great importance at the local level.

The Republic of Moldova has ratified the frame Convention – for protection of the national minorities on 20.11.1996 entered in force on 01.02.1998. According to the recommendations of the Consultancy Committee from the first Edition regarding the articles of the frame Convention, the Republic of Moldova took important efforts to assure that the Organic Law regarding the rights of the persons of different national minorities and the legal statute of the their organizations, approved in August 2001, to be effectively approved in practice. Actions regarding the protection of the national minorities in the legal and other spheres are also stipulated in the National plan of actions in the sphere of human rights for 2004-2008, approved by the Parliament in October 2003.

**26. According to the census from 1989, the number of the Romany is about 11.571 persons. So, only 0,3% from the population of the Republic of Moldova are identified as being Romany. In opinion of the leaders of the civil community organizations of the Romany these data do not correspond to the real situation, this minority being much more numerous. The Department of Inter ethnical Relations**

**has some statistical data, based on the information presented by the public administration of ex-counties (2002). From these data, the total number of the Romany on the territory of the Republic of Moldova is about 19.000 persons, inclusively: in the county of Soroca – 4286 persons, in the county of Orhei – 1789 persons, in the county of Tighina – 575 persons, in the county of Taraclia – 532 persons, in the county of Edinet – 4293 persons, in the county of Balti – 2055 persons, in the county of Ungheni – 2265 persons, in the county of Lapusna – 1080 persons, in the county of Cahul – 526 persons, in the county of Chisinau – 1105 persons, in the Autonomy of Gagauzery – 1550 persons. The exact number of the Romany in the Republic of Moldova shall be determined after the next census of the population planned for 2004.**

**Romany do benefit of assistance from the part of the local and central public administration. In order to assist the Romany as an ethnic minority on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February 2001 was adopted the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Moldova no.131 „Regarding some measures to assist the Romany from the Republic of Moldova” and the main directions to support the Romany from the Republic of Moldova. The above mentioned decision stipulates concrete measures for improvement of the social and economical life of the Romany from the Republic of Moldova. To the realization of the Decision participates the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, Ministry of Health, Department of Inter Ethnical Relations, Science Academy of the Republic of Moldova, as well as local public administrations. The local public administrations have elaborated and approved plans of action in order to put into life the main**

**directions to support the Romany from the Republic of Moldova for the period 2001-2010. The activity of the ministries and above mentioned institutions in this domain can be appreciated from the bellow mentioned data.**

**The Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova has approved on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 2001 the Plan of action for investigation of the issues regarding the employment of the Romany, decrease of the unemployment among the Romany, provision of social services for the gipsy women the Ministry has performed a sociologic investigation regarding the Romany situation. Its results were taken into consideration while elaborating the territorial programs for placement of the labor force for years 2003-2005. A special attention was paid to Romany who have addressed to the local agencies for placement of the labor forces. The interests of the social vulnerable Romany families are protected by the legislation in force: Decision of the Government of the Republic of Moldova no. 456 dated 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1997 „Regarding the additional measures for social protection of the families with children”, Law no. 933-XIV dated 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2000 „Regarding the special social protection of certain categories of population”, Decision of the Government of the Republic of Moldova no.51 dated 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2002 „Regarding the approval of the National Concept for protection of the child and family”.**

**In Moldova, while elaborating the state assistance system for the Romany, it was taken into consideration the specific particularities of the respective minority: low level of knowledge, poor living conditions, migration in search of a work place, etc. Unfortunately, the positive tendencies stipulated in the attitude of the state**

towards the respective minority did not settled definitively all the existing problems. This is demonstrated also through the performed investigations financially supported by the international organizations, civil community organization of the gipsy women „Juvlia Romani” and of the Helsinki Committee for the human rights in the Republic of Moldova.

The civil community organization „Juvlia Romani” within the project CORDAID, in 2001, has performed a study „Romany situation in the Republic of Moldova” (Situation of Romany in the Republic of Moldova.-Chisinau, 2001.-32p.). The study was performed in 9 counties of Moldova (exception county of Taraclia and mun. Chisinau) and the Autonomy Gagauziery. The main scope of the respective study was investigation of the Romany situa tion according to the following three aspects:

- determination of the total number;
- employment of the Romany;
- the level of knowledge of the adult population.

The culture and history of the Romany as part of the multy-ethnic population of the Republic of Moldova becomes an issue of study. The Institute of inter ethnic studies (up till 1999– the Institute of national minorities) of the Academy of Science of Moldova has elaborated the „the history and culture of the Romany” approved by the Superior Council for science and technical development in 2003, offering the possibility, starting with 2004, to start investigation of the subject “Roma from the Republic of Moldova” and to create a special direction of history, language and culture.

**Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Consultancy Committee regarding improvement of the Romany situation is to be mentioned the following: it is impossible to appreciate the Romany situation from the Republic of Moldova apart from the social and economical situation of the total population of Moldova. During the transition period, all the citizens of the Republic of Moldova, indifferent of their ethnic origin, do have such difficulties as: unemployment, small salaries, increase of prices, problems regarding formation of the market economy, deficiencies in the social sphere, etc. Overcome of the economic crisis shall contribute to improvement of the life level of the population, inclusively of the Romany.**

#### **Marriage and family relations**

27. Yes, there were performed measures to increase the marriage age of the girls to that of the boys, through legislative initiatives and which is to be discussed further on.

#### **The optional Protocol**

28. There was adopted the Law no.318-XVI dated 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2005 regarding adherence of the Republic of Moldova to the optional Protocol to the Convention regarding the elimination of any types of discrimination against women, approved in New York on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October 1999.