NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR PREVENTION AND COUNTERACTION TO TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AND PROTECTION OF THE VICTIMS FOR 2005

Trafficking in human beings worldwide is a serious violation of human rights. It offends victims' dignity and in some cases upon their right of life.

As a form of organized crime trafficking in human beings undermines the main principles of legal order and democratic standards of the society.

Trans-national character of this phenomenon requires the united efforts of all institutions on national, regional and international level engaged with the problem. The National Program for Prevention and Counteraction to Trafficking in Human Beings and Protection of the Victims for 2005 is adopted as an implementation of the Combating the Trafficking in Human Beings Act and in conformity with the international standards and engagements of Republic of Bulgaria concerning its EU accession.

CHAPTER I "INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES"

Basic objective:

Developing of administrative structures provided by the Law Against Trafficking in Human Beings on national and local level.

Activities:

1. Structuring the administration of the National Commission against Trafficking in Human Beings

Responsible institution: NCTHB

Financing: the NCTHB budget

Deadline: March, 2005

2. Establishing of local commissions for combating the trafficking in human beings in Pazardjik, Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Sliven, Dobrich and Targovishte.

Responsible institution: NCTHB

Financing: the budgets of relevant local authorities; project resources

Deadline: May, 2005

3. Structuring the local commissions.

Responsible institution: municipal mayors in p. 2

Financing: the budgets of relevant local authorities; project resources

Deadline: June, 2005

CHAPTER II "PREVENTION"

Basic objective:

Raising the public awareness on the problem of trafficking in human beings and on the mechanisms for its restriction and developing social intolerance towards that phenomenon.

Activities:

1. Covering the risk groups (children, women and representatives of ethnic minorities):

1.1. Widening the coverage of child rights and human rights education in all types of educational institutions using the possibilities of the educational curriculum and extracurricular activities (schools, kindergartens, Homes for upbringing and education of children deprived of parental care / HUECDPC/, EBS, SPBS and reformatories)

Leading institution: MES

Partners: SACP, CCCABMA, MC, NCTHB, NGO, etc.

Financing: MES, SACP, CCCABMA, MC, NCTHB budgets, NGO, sponsorship, etc.

Deadline: permanent

1.2. Elaboration of modules in the curriculums of all types of educational institutions (schools, kindergartens, HUECDPC, EBS, SPBS and reformatories), including the problems from the area of sexual exploitation, trafficking in human beings, gender education and other types of education.

Leading institution: MES

Partners: MH, MC, SACP, CCCABMA, NCTHB, MI, NGO, IOM, etc.

Financing: MES, MH, MC, SACP, CCCABMA, NCTHB, MI budgets, NGO, IOM and other institutions; sources from

projects and sponsorship

Deadline: permanent

1.3. Enlisting children at risk within existing programs for counteraction to involving them in trafficking.

Leading institution: MES

Partners: MH, MC, SACP, CCCABMA, NCTHB, MI, NGO, (IOM), etc.

Financing: within the framework of approved projects

Deadline: permanent

Distribution of informational materials designed for children, pedagogues and parents in all types of educational institutions (schools, kindergartens, HUECDPC, EBS, SPBS and reformatories

Leading institution: MES

Partners: MH, MC, SACP, CCCABMA, NCTHB, NGO, IOM, etc.

Financing: MES, MH, MC, SACP, CCCABMA, NCTHB budgets, NGO, IOM, etc.

Deadline: permanent

1.5. Including NGOs in explanatory activities among representatives from Roma population.

Leading institution: NCTHB and NGOs

Partners: SACP, IOM, MES, MFA, MI

Financing: SACP, IOM, MES, MFA and MI budgets; sources from sponsorship

Deadline: permanent

1.6. Active use of NGOs opportunities for work with women who are victims of trafficking in human beings.

Leading institution: NCTHB and NGOs

Partners: relevant state institutions

Financing: within NGOs programs

Deadline: permanent

1.7. Explaining the victims of trafficking their rights and the possibilities of providing support.

Responsible institution: MI and MFA

Deadline: permanent

2. Preparation and training of personnel and carrying out research work:

Financing: within the framework of the official duties or campaigns

2.1. Training of social workers from the Child protection departments in the municipalities, where local commissions after the Law against Trafficking in Human Beings will be developed for the purposes of working with victims and cooperation with the institutions.

Leading institution: MLSP - ASA

Partners: SACP, MES, MC, CCCABMA, NCTHB, NGO, UNICEF, etc.

Financing: MLSP-ASA, SACP, MES, MC, CCCABMA budgets, NGO, UNICEF, sources from sponsorship

Deadline: one month after building of the local commissions after the Law against Trafficking in Human Beings

2.2. Proceeding with the education of magistrates in the field of prevention and counteracting trafficking in human beings.

Responsible institution: NCTHB, MJ, NIJ

Financing: MJ and NIJ budgets; sources from sponsorship

Deadline: permanent

2.3. Improving the qualification of MI's personnel working on trafficking in human beings and in the Center for Specialized Police Training.

Responsible institution: MI

Financing: MI budget

Deadline: permanent

2.4. Training of the preliminary investigation mechanism by the methods of investigating crimes relevant to trafficking in human beings.

Responsible institution: MI

Financing: MI budget

Deadline: permanent

2.5. Training of consular personnel for trafficking in human beings cases of work (preparation for working abroad, regional seminars, etc.).

Responsible institution: MFA

Financing: MFA budget

Deadline: permanent

2.6. Organization and conducting of seminars for journalists working in the area.

Leading institution: SACP

Partners: CEM, IOM, NGO and NCTHB

Financing: by sources from projects

Deadline: permanent

2.7. Periodical conducting of researches for the risk groups children and families, the character and counteraction to the risk factors, the level of dissemination of the phenomenon, etc.

Leading institution: NCTHB

Partners: all relevant institutions

Financing: the budgets of all relevant institutions and sources from projects

Deadline: permanent

- 3. Preparation and popularization of the informational products (printed materials, Internet products, TV and radio broadcasts) and conducting of informational campaigns:
- 3.1. Popularization of SACP specialized Internet site http://www.stopech.sacp.government.bg/ in all types of schools, kindergartens, HUECDPC, EBS, SPBS and reformatories

Responsible institution: SACP and MES

Financing: SACP and MES budgets; sources from projects

Deadline: September, 2005

3.2. Development of National Child Hotline.

Responsible institution: SACP and NGOs

Financing: SACP and NGO budgets; sources from projects

Deadline: December, 2005

3.3. Distribution of informational materials made by inter-government and non-government organizations with headquarters in the country and abroad.

Responsible institution: relevant state institutions and NGOs

Financing: not needed

Deadline: permanent

3.4. Dissemination of informational materials made by NCTHB at border checkpoints

Responsible institution: NCTHB and MI

Financing: MI budget; sources from projects

Deadline: permanent

3.5. Distribution of informational materials about the rights of victims of trafficking among the concerned organizations and risk groups by Bulgarian diplomatic and consular delegations abroad.

Responsible institution: NCTHB and MFA

Financing: MFA budget; sources from projects

Deadline: permanent

3.6. Raising the public awareness by conducting of informational campaigns.

Leading institution: NCTHB

Partners: SACP, MES, MC, CCCABMA, NGO, UNICEF, etc.

Financing: SACP, MES, MC, CCCABMA, NGO, UNICEF budgets, etc, sources from projects

Deadline: March - December, 2005

3.7. Conducting of joint activities with the media for the purposes of reflection of the trafficking in human beings problems.

Responsible institution: NCTHB and all relevant institutions

Financing: the budgets of relevant institutions

Deadline: permanent

CHAPTER III "PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS"

Main objective:

Providing help and support to victims of trafficking and protection of their rights.

Activities:

1. Finalizing and popularization of the Coordination mechanism for referral management of unaccompanied Bulgarian children, returned from abroad.

Leading institution: SACP and MLSP-ASA

Partners: MFA, MI, IOM and NGO

Financing: SACP, MLSP-ASA, MFA, MI, IOM budgets and NGO; sources from projects

Deadline: December 2005.

2. Finalizing of the Mechanism for consular protection abroad of Bulgarian citizens, victims of traffic.

Responsible institution: MFA

Financing: MFA budget

Deadline: March 2005

3. Distribution of the Handbook for best practices for police officers during proceedings with children, victims of sexual exploitation.

Responsible institution: MI and NIO

Financing: from MI and NIO budgets

Deadline: December 2005

4. Financing the returning of Bulgarian citizens, victims of trafficking.

Responsible institution: NCATP and MFA

Financing: MFA budget

Deadline: permanent

5. Creating shelters for temporary placement of victims of trafficking.

Leading institution: NCATP

Partners: municipalities, NGO, etc.

Financing: municipal, NGO budgets etc., project resources

Deadline: permanent

6. Creating centers for protection and support of victims of trafficking.

Leading institution: NCATP

Partners: NGO

Financing: NGO budgets; project resources

Deadline: permanent

7. Maintaining work contacts with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the country and abroad, working in the area of prevention of trafficking in Human Beings.

Responsible institution: all relevant institutions

Financing: budgets of all relevant institutions

Deadline: permanent

8. Development of measures for limiting the Internet usage for recruiting of potential victims of trafficking.

Responsible institution: MLSP and SACP

Partners: NCATP

Financing: MLSP and SACP budgets

Deadline: October 2005

Chapter IV "REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION OF VICTIMS"

Main objective:

Overcoming of consequences of trafficking in Human Beings and reintegration of victims in the society.

Activities:

1. Providing qualified personnel for medical and psychological support in the shelters and centers under the LTHB.

Responsible institution: all relevant institutions

Financing: budgets of all relevant institutions

Deadline: permanent

2. Cooperation between the responsible institutions for the inclusion of traffic victims in relevant forms of education.

Responsible institution: all relevant institutions

Financing: budgets of all relevant institutions

Deadline: permanent

3. Participation of municipal administrations, the subordinate local commissions in the labor integration of traffic victims.

Responsible institution: NCATP, the local commissions, municipal administrations

Financing: municipal budgets

Deadline: permanent

4. Providing participation in projects, programs and measures under the Law for Encouragement of Employment.

Responsible Institution: MLSP-EA

Financing: MLSP-EA budgets; projects and programs resources

Deadline: permanent

CHAPTER V "INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION"

Main objective:

Improvement of international cooperation and exchange of best practices in the area of combating trafficking in Human Beings.

Activities:

1. Presentation of Bulgarian legislation and practice in combating trafficking in Human Beings in the context of bilateral relations and in multi-country cooperation.

Responsible institutions: MFA and all relevant institutions

Financing: MFA and all relevant institutions budgets

Deadline: permanent

2. Collection, analysis and distribution of information about foreign legislation and good practices against trafficking.

Responsible institution: NCATP

Financing: NCATP budget

Deadline: permanent

3. Creation of a partners' network on international level for cooperation and interaction.

Responsible institution: NCATP

Financing: NCATP budget and the budgets of all relevant institutions

Deadline: permanent

4. Conducting a research about the possibilities of bilateral relations and in multi-country cooperation for financing of programs and projects against trafficking in Human Beings.

Responsible institution: NCATP

Financing: NCATP budget and the budgets of all relevant institutions

Deadline: permanent

5. Development and support of a specialized thematic website.

Responsible institution: NCATP

Financing: NCATP budget

Deadline: permanent

CHAPTER VI "LEGISLATIVE AND ORGATISATIONAL MEASURES"

Activities:

1. Adoption of Regulation on the Law of Protection of Human Beings, Threatened in Connection with the Criminal Procedure.

Responsible institution: MJ

Financing: MJ and the relevant institutions budgets

Deadline: September 2005.

2. Development of National plan for the implementation of the Framework decision of EU Concerning the Legal Status of the Threatened in Connection with the Criminal Procedure.

Responsible institution: MJ

Financing: MJ and the relevant institutions budgets

Deadline: December 2005.

3. Elaboration of a mechanism for researching, analysis and compatibility of the statistical information about trafficking in Human Beings.

Responsible institution: NCATP

Financing: NCATP budget

Deadline: September 2005.

4. Development of a manual with general information about the responsibilities and functional competence of all institutions in Bulgaria, working in the area of combating trafficking in Human Beings.

Responsible institution: NCATP

Financing: NCATP budget

Deadline: December 2005

List of Abbreviations

EA – Employment Agency

ASA - Agency for Social Assistance

EBS – Educational Boarding School

BC – Border Checkpoint

SACP – State Agency for Child Protection

HUECDPC– Homes for Upbringing and Education of Children Deprived of Parental Care

LTHB - Law against Trafficking in Human Beings

MFA – Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MI – Ministry of Interior

MH - Ministry of Health

MC - Ministry of Culture

IOM – International Organization for Migration

MES - Ministry of Education and Science

MJ – Ministry of Justice

MLSP – Ministry of Labor and Social Policy

NIJ - National Institute of Justice

NCATP – National Commission against Trafficking in Human Beings

NGO – Non-Governmental Organization

NIO - National Investigation Office

CEM – Council for Electronic Media

SPBS – Socio-Pedagogical Boarding School

UNICEF – United Nations Children Fund

CCCABMA – Central Commission for Combating Antisocial Behavior of Minors and Adolescents