

DECREE
OF THE PRESIDENT OF GEORGIA
ABOUT THE MEASURES ON STRENGTHENING THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
OF WOMEN IN GEORGIA

#511

August 28, 1999,

Tbilisi

The protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms is guaranteed by the Constitution of Georgia and is declared the most important priority of the State. A lot of measures have been carried out in this regard in Georgia. Serious steps have been taken for promoting human rights of women. The State Commission on Elaboration of State Policy for the Advancement of Women was established by the Order of the President of Georgia, National Action Plan was approved by the Order of the President of Georgia, National Plans for Health Protection and Employment were developed in which special measures for women's health protection and their employment are provided.

The protection of human rights of women is very urgent problem on international level and in Georgia as well. Georgia ratified the "Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women" in 1994. In 1999 initial report of Georgian Government about implementation of the articles of the Convention was considered by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Government of Georgia for submitting a comprehensive and frank initial report. The committee submitted its recommendations to Georgia for further progress in this area.

In order to implement the Constitution of Georgia, international human rights documents, Beijing Action Platform and the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women:

1. The Parliament of Georgia is called on to consider temporary special measures for improving women's presentation in decision-making processes including quotas in the area of political participation.
2. The Ministry of Justice (J. Khetsuriani)
 - shall carry out gender analysis of Georgian Legislation with help of foreign experts and on the basis of this analysis elaborate legislative proposals on improving legislation in this sphere in order to make it consistent with international legal norms;
 - shall pay special attention to the elimination of direct and indirect discrimination of women while regulating private legal relationships.
3. The commission for Elaboration of State Policy for the Advancement of Women (R. Beridze)
 - shall monitor the implementation of National Action Plan, elaborate the recommendations for state bodies;
 - shall develop the National Plan to combat violence against women including domestic violence, which provides the establishment of crisis centres, the expansion of consultative services so as to render the necessary assistance to women victims, creation of programmes of rehabilitation and reintegration for the victims of sexual exploitation;
4. The Ministry of Internal Affairs (K. Trgamadze) and the Prosecutor's Office of Georgia (J. Babilashvili)
 - shall collect and process the dates on facts of violence against women;
 - shall provide the registration of facts of domestic violence and carry out the special measures for exposing and eliminating such violence.
5. The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Employment (T. Gazdeliani) shall work out the plan of large-scale measures in order to improve economic status of women though training and retraining, encourage women's participation in all sectors of the National economy.
6. The Ministry of Health (A. Jorbenadze)
 - shall analyse the existing occupational health standards in order to repeal the standards which directly or indirectly discriminate against women;

- shall develop and carry out a large-scale system of measures in order to reduce the rate of infant and maternal mortality and the number of abortions, provide necessary medical care to women, popularise and disseminate contraceptives;
 - shall devote special attention to the creation of insurance plans that sufficiently cover women patients in hospitals and in ambulatory medical care.
7. The Ministry of Education (A. Kartosia) shall carry out gender analysis of the textbooks in order to eliminate gender stereotypes in all areas of life ensuring the equality of men and women by it.
 8. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (I. Menagharishvili) shall devote special attention to ensuring women's involvement in the peace negotiation processes.
 9. The Ministry of Refugees and Settlement (V. Vashakidze) shall develop special programme aimed at helping to refugees and internally displaced women.
 10. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food (B. Gulua)
 - shall develop special programmes for women in rural areas;
 - shall devote special attention to the participation of women in current programmes.
 11. The State Department of Social-Economic Information (T. Beridze) shall develop statistical data in gender perspective while working out the annual report of the State Department of Social-Economic Information.
 12. The social Management and Information centre attached to the State Chancellery (Z. Jibladze) shall issue the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and Beijing Action Platform and disseminate them through society and state bodies.
 13. The Ministry of Finances (D. Onoprishvili) shall provide the expenses for publishing human rights documents in the draft Budget for 2000.
 14. The concluding Comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women shall be published as soon as the present Decree is promulgated.
 15. This Decree shall be sent to ministries, state bodies and local authorities for acquaintance.
 16. The Deputy Secretary of the National Security Council on Human Rights Issues (R. Beridze) shall be responsible for the co-ordination and control over the implementation of the present Decree.

E. Shevardnadze