

**GENERAL SECRETARIAT
TRANSPARENCY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

HELLENIC MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

**HUMAN RIGHTS
NATIONAL ACTION PLAN
2014-2016**

*«All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood»**

* 1st article of the United Nations' Universal Declaration on Human Rights

Preface

Human rights, whether civil, political, social and economic, are a prerequisite for the physical and social existence of man and express his/her will to live as a biological, spiritual and social being.

They derive from the unwritten laws (natural law), the obedience to which is a matter of conscience, and come from the substantive law (written laws) whose application is mandatory.

Human rights are the bedrock upon which humanity attempts to build a peaceful and auspicious future for all people, in every corner of the earth. Acting as international norms or constants, they ensure the protection of all persons, wherever located, from any form of political, legal, social, cultural, economic utilization or abuse and, in parallel, from all forms of discrimination.

These rights concern everyone and have an impact on our daily lives. They belong to everyone and can be a powerful driving force for the humane, decent and fair living in our homes, our workplaces, our schools, our everyday lives, wherever we go. They set the conditions under which each of us can and should be able to live with dignity, without a degrading and discriminatory treatment.

To make this possible, there must be appropriate structures and procedures, the use of which will yield positive results. As such, there should be an appropriate legal framework, institutions and services that will

respect and protect the full range of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

At the same time, there must be a framework of principles and guidelines for nurturing and promoting responsible and free citizens, within which the cultivation of moral conscience, duty, respect for laws and institutions and the definition of ethical rules that determine behaviour to ourselves, as well as to other people, regardless of gender, race, language, religion and ethnicity, must dominate, so that human rights are respected.

It is obvious that all these goals are integrated and promoted within the framework specified by the international and European organizations on human rights, in which Greece participates.

However, we are given the opportunity and obligation to improve the conditions for defending these rights in our country and our co-operation with the international community.

These opinions and estimates lead, de facto, to an obligation to address such a complex issue by means of an organized approach, methodically and efficiently, and this can only be done by preparing a comprehensive National Action Plan for Human Rights, which, unfortunately, so far did not exist in our country.

We hope that, through this plan, which was developed with the assistance of specialized personnel from all relevant Ministries and bodies, whom we sincerely thank, better prospects are opened.

It specifies a binding framework of priorities and actions by each Ministry and an option is given for comments, improvements and criticism from the society, so that to continually improve and meet the requirements of international organizations and safeguard the prestige of our country, which distinguishes itself for its social sensitivity and humanity, that is the faith in the idea and the value of man.

In conclusion, by preparing the National Action Plan for Human Rights:

Greece presents to the International Community and International Organizations a specific schedule of actions and initiatives for the protection of Human Rights.

Competent government officials undertake now specific commitments and priorities for the implementation of the Plan.

It enables citizens to have a full picture of the actions, activities and omissions, so that they may make their own review and express their opinions and suggestions for its improvement.

In case of political changes, or even intra-governmental ones, with leadership changes in the Ministries, this Plan will be a tool for continuity and consistency.

Finally, we reiterate our commitment to a continuous and open dialogue and co-operation on any proposal and view, to implement and improve the project.

GEORGE I. SOURLAS

General Secretary

Transparency and Human Rights

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Part A: Introduction

I. THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

As stated in the first sentence of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, respect for human rights and human dignity «is the cornerstone of freedom, justice and peace in the world».

Fundamental rights are one of the most fundamental elements of modern legal culture. Human rights are basic rights and fundamental freedoms to which all people are entitled, simply because they are human beings. These so-called «Human Rights» are not just privileges, they are situations that allow us to exist, create, develop our human qualities and help us live peacefully.

The Universal Declaration emphasizes the inextricable relationship between the fundamental freedoms with social justice, peace and safety. It does not prioritize rights. It believes in the equality of political, economic, social and cultural rights, as well as in their interdependence.

The **Vienna Declaration and Action Plan**, adopted at the United Nations World Conference on Human Rights, on 25 June 1993, in Vienna, include a specific recommendation to the States to prepare an Action Plan to improve the promotion and protection of human rights. The Conference recognizes that all human rights derive from the dignity and value inherent in the human personality, that the personality of people is the subject of their rights and fundamental freedoms and that they,

therefore, should fully benefit and actively participate in the realization of all these rights. It stresses the obligation of all States to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms to all, without any discrimination based on sex, race, language or religion.

Democracy plays a decisive role in the development and respect for human rights. Democracy is based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their political, economic, social and cultural system and to participate fully in all aspects of social life. In this context, the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, at both national and international levels, should be universal and not subjected to any restriction. International community should support strengthening and promoting democracy, its development and respect throughout the world. International community should promote effective international co-operation for the realization of the right to development and the elimination of the obstacles it meets. To have a continuous progress, an effective developmental policy at national level is required, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment, at the international level.

Fundamental rights, as they appear today, were not evolved together, simultaneously, in the same historical context. Their evolution and safeguard is due to the gradual emergence of the needs of people and society and a result of national and social conflicts, often very violent.

II. MOST IMPORTANT MILESTONES IN THE HISTORY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Cylinder of Cyrus (539 B.C.) is considered the first human rights charter. It has been translated into all six official languages of the United Nations and its provisions appertain to the first four articles of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

The Inscription of Gortyna is the oldest currently known legislation of the European area. It is dated to the first half of the 5th century B.C. and is engraved at the archaeological site of Gortyna, in Crete. The content covers a wide range of criminal, civil and procedural law.

Magna Charta (1215) was an important early influence on the extensive historical process that led to the rule of constitutional law today, in the English-speaking world. It is considered one of the important legal documents in the evolution of modern democracy and became a turning point in the battle for the foundation of freedom.

The next recorded milestone in the expansion of human rights was the **Petition of Right** (1628), drafted by the English Parliament. A few years later, King William III passed, on February 16, 1689, the **Bill of Rights** which, essentially, safeguarded the Parliament from the excesses and arbitrary conduct of the king and led England to the era of constitutional monarchy, in force until today.

On July 4, 1776 the United States Congress approved the **Declaration of Independence**. The Declaration

emphasized on two issues: the rights of individuals and the right to revolution. These ideas, as widely supported by the Americans and spread internationally, have especially influenced the French Revolution.

The **United States Constitution** was written in the summer of 1787, in Philadelphia, and is the fundamental Act of the federal government system of the United States, as well as a historical document for the Western world.

The **Declaration of Human Rights (1789)** was adopted by the National Constituent Assembly, as the first step in drafting the Constitution of the French Republic.

Rigas Velestinlis, with its regime - Constitution -, being the starting point for the Greek constitutionalism, is considered the forerunner of all rights defenders, for both individuals and social groups, regardless of their religious, racial, cultural and linguistic characteristics.

The Universal Declaration on Human Rights (1948) is the Declaration adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Although not a legally binding document, it is the basis for two legally binding treaties, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

III. INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL BODIES FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The protection of human rights is provided at international, European, regional and national levels, by

intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations. Some of the major organizations are listed below:

1. INTERNATIONAL BODIES

A. GLOBAL LEVEL

A.1. UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY - THIRD COMMITTEE (UNGA)

Human rights issues are an integral part of the Agenda of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which is also responsible to adopt international treaties for the protection of human rights. The Third Committee of the UNGA, a body of universal participation of the Member States of the United Nations, discusses, among others, all human rights topics and a wide range of social and humanitarian issues.

A.2. UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (UNHRC)

The United Nations Human Rights Council is an international forum discussing and coordinating the activity of United Nations' bodies on topics of human rights, a subsidiary body of the General Assembly and composes of 47 elected members, divided into five geographical groups.

The role of the United Nations Human Rights Council is, among others, to promote and protect human rights around the world, check for any violations, submit proposals to address them, conduct a Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Member States and submit

recommendations to the General Assembly for further evolution of the international protection of human rights. At the same time, the Council must promote co-operation and dialogue between governments, regional organizations, national committees and civil society, to better protect human rights, prevent their violations and cope with emergencies.

Greece has actively supported the efforts to create an effective United Nations Human Rights Council, with an enhanced status, functionality and substantial structures.

☐ Universal Periodic Review Facility (UPR)

Particular attention is given to the new Universal Periodic Review Facility, which is one of the main activities of the United Nations Human Rights Council for the equitable evaluation of States by other Member States of the United Nations (peer review), in terms of the practices the Member States follow as it concerns the enjoyment/protection of human rights, based on international obligations and commitments.

☐ High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Office of the High Commissioner of the United Nations for Human Rights (OHCHR) supports the works of the United Nations Human Rights Council, provides expertise and support to the bodies and the treaty audit mechanisms, as well as the facility of the Universal Periodic Review and Special Procedures. Additionally, it develops actions in various countries of the world and promotes, at both global and national levels, a

consultative role for the application of the fundamental principles and norms of the international law.

A.3. MONITORING BODIES OF THE CONVENTIONS ON THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Our country has ratified most «basic treaties» on the protection of human rights, within the United Nations and, therefore, is subject to periodic reviews by the respective committees, namely the Committees under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, etc. The main responsibilities of these audit bodies are the oral examination of the periodic reports of the States on the implementation of each of these Conventions and the adoption of the relevant recommendations, the consideration of individual petitions, i.e. virtual individual complaints against the States that have been subjected to the respective procedures and the publication of General Comments, which interpret the provisions of the relevant treaties.

A.4. UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees provides protection and assistance to refugees all over the world and other groups, such as asylum seekers, repatriated refugees, stateless persons and internally

displaced populations, promotes international conventions on refugees, monitors government compliance with the relevant rules of international law and provides material aid, such as food, water, housing and medical care to refugees. An Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees operates in Greece since March 1952.

B. REGIONAL LEVEL

B.1. COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The Council of Europe is the oldest European political organization, based in Strasbourg and founded in 1949. Its main objective is to achieve greater unity among its (47) members, to preserve and promote the common ideals, the principles of democracy and the rule of law and to promote their economic and social progress. A large number of international conventions have been adopted within the Council of Europe, which form the basis of the reform and harmonization of the laws of its Member States, in a number of issues such as human rights, combating torture, combating organized crime, terrorism, human trafficking, violence against women, protection of personal data, cultural co-operation and other areas.

☐ EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS (ECHR)

The European Court of Human Rights is responsible for ensuring compliance with the obligations of Member States deriving from the **European Convention on Human Rights**.

The European Court of Human Rights establishes an original system for the international protection of human rights, which gives people the benefit of judicial review, as to respecting their rights. It includes 59 articles and is supplemented by 16 Protocols.

Through its case-law, the European Court of Human Rights establishes the European Convention the constituent rule of the «European public order» in the field of human rights, adapts the provisions of the Convention to the current, changing conditions and broadens their scope, putting under its audit wide areas of State action. The leading institutional-judicial role of the European Court of Human Rights in Europe will be strengthened by the coming accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights. The case-law of the European Court of Human Rights has had a considerable impact on the Greek legislation, case-law and practice.

□ EUROPEAN SOCIAL CHARTER

The European Social Charter (ESC) is the most important conventional text of the Council of Europe, guaranteeing social and economic rights in areas such as work, health, education and housing. The (independent) European Committee of Social Rights monitors the implementation of the European Social Charter, by reviewing periodic national reports. Our country has ratified the Additional Protocol to the European Social Charter, which provides for collective petitions in case of violation of the Charter.

□ EUROPEAN CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE

The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, a body of the relevant Convention of the European Council, carries out visits to detention facilities of any kind (prisons, police stations, detention centres, psychiatric hospitals, etc.), in order to investigate the conditions prevailing there and make specific recommendations, to which the State concerned responds, in the context of a constructive dialogue. The Commission has repeatedly visited our country and has issued a «public statement» for Greece in 2011.

□ COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

In 1999, the institution of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe was established, being a non-judicial, independent and impartial body. Its responsibilities primarily include the conduct of visits and the dialogue with the national authorities and civil society, the adoption of thematic reports, the advisory activity for the more effective implementation of the Council of Europe «acquis» and raising public awareness. The last visit of the Commissioner in Greece took place in January 2013.

□ EUROPEAN COMMISSION AGAINST RACISM AND INTOLERANCE

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) is composed of independent experts and examines problems of racism, discrimination based on ethnic origin, nationality, colour, religion and language, as well as xenophobia, anti-Semitism and intolerance. It performs periodic visits to the Member States of the Council of Europe and adopts relevant reports, to which the views of the States concerned are attached. The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance has already made four visits to Greece.

B.2. ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE (OSCE)

The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, which covers Europe, North America and Central Asia, from Vancouver to Vladivostok, was founded in 1975, in Helsinki, as a Conference on the Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) and was renamed to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in 1995. The human dimension is one of the three dimensions of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (together with the politico-military and economic-environmental ones). The Office for the Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), based in Warsaw, is the specialized body of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe for elections, human rights and democratization. The annual Meeting for the Implementation of the Human Dimension (with the participation of representatives of States and civil society) is the most important forum to review

compliance, on the part of the participating States, with their commitments.

B.3. EUROPEAN UNION

Respect for human rights and human dignity, as well as for the principles of freedom, democracy, equality and the rule of law are common values of all Member States constituting the European Union (EU). These principles also define actions of the European Union, both within and outside its borders. The European action in this field is based on the Treaty establishing the European Union.

□ **The Charter of Fundamental Rights**, which is annexed to the Conventions, defines, in greater detail, the fundamental rights applicable at European level. In December 2009, the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty made the Charter legally binding, on a par with the Conventions. The Charter brings together, in a single document, rights hitherto scattered in various legislations, such as national legislations and the European Union legislation, as well as the international conventions of the Council of Europe, the United Nations (UN) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

□ **The Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)** of the European Union

The Agency aims at providing institutions and bodies of the Union and its Member States assistance and expertise on the fundamental rights, when implementing European Union legislation. The Agency collects data on

fundamental rights in the areas of competence of the European Union. It publishes an annual report on matters relating to fundamental rights deriving from its action areas, as well as thematic exhibitions.

2. NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

A. OMBUDSMAN

The Ombudsman was established as an independent administrative authority by Act 2477/1997 (as amended by Act 3094/2003) and has the task of mediating between citizens and public services, local authorities, bodies governed by public law and utilities, to protect civil rights, combat maladministration and ensure compliance with due process. It also has the task of defending and promoting the interests of children, promoting the principle of equal treatment of all persons, without discrimination on grounds of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, age, disability or sexual orientation and addressing discrimination because of gender or marital status. The Ombudsman is assisted by six Deputy Ombudsmen, who supervise and manage an equal number of responsibility cycles: Human Rights, Social Protection, Quality of Life, State-Citizen Relationships, Rights of the Child and Gender Equality.

B. NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR) was established by Act 2667/1998 as an advisory body of the State on issues related to the protection and promotion of

human rights.¹ The basic idea that inspired the creation of the National Commission for Human Rights is to provide advisory support to Governments and Administrations to formulate a proper central policy on human rights, to constantly monitor developments related to those in Greece and abroad and to inform the public opinion on the rights and risks related with their violation. The task of the National Commission for Human Rights is to constantly point out, to all State institutions, the need for effective protection of the human rights of all people living in the Greek Territory. The National Commission for Human Rights has been awarded, since 2001, Grade A accreditation (full alignment with the Paris Principles) by the International Coordinating Body of National Institutions. From 2002 to 2008, it was elected member of the four-member European Coordinating Body of National Human Rights Institutions and, thus, a member of the International Coordinating Body of the counterpart institutions. From 2009 to 2011, the National Commission for Human Rights chaired the Task Force of the European National Institutions for Education on Human Rights.

The following Departments operate with the National Commission for Human Rights, according to its Rules of Procedure: a) Civil and Political Rights, b) Social,

¹ 1 The source of inspiration for preparing the Foundation Act of the National Commission for Human Rights was the Paris Principles, as adopted by the United Nations (Resolution of the General Assembly of United Nations A/RES/48/134, 20.12.1993) and later by the Council of Europe.

Economic and Cultural Rights, c) Application of Human Rights to Third-Country Nationals, d) Promotion of Human Rights and e) International Communication and Co-operation.

The National Commission for Human Rights consists of 31 bodies, who nominate their representatives for three years. The composition comprises representatives of bodies, such as higher education institutions, independent authorities, political parties, etc., persons of recognized standing as well as representatives of six non-governmental organizations.

At the initiative of the National Commission for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Greece and with the participation of non-governmental organizations and bodies, the Network Recording Incidents of Racist Violence was created.

The National Commission for Human Rights has been attached an institutional role in staffing and operating the Appeals Committees on asylum issues of the Ministry of Citizen Protection and the Naturalization and Immigration Services Committees of the Ministry of Interior.

3. ADMINISTRATION - AUTHORITIES

A. GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF TRANSPARENCY AND HUMAN RIGHTS/MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, TRANSPARENCY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Presidential Decree 94/2010 established, at the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, the

Secretariat General for Transparency and Human Rights. The tasks assigned to the Secretariat General include, among others, the consolidation and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms, by undertaking all necessary related initiatives, including compliance with the international obligations of the country.

B. COORDINATION FOR THE PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL REPORTS AND THE PREPARATION OF VISITS

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), in almost all human rights issues of concern to the relevant bodies of the United Nations and the relevant regional international organizations, plays a coordinating role to the various (co)responsible Ministries and prepares some drafts of periodic reports. Where appropriate, in the context of the relevant international treaties and the specific recommendations of the United Nation's competent Committees, it recommends taking appropriate measures for improving or enhancing the protection of human rights, at national level.

Moreover, a network of experienced operators has been developed in the competent Ministries, which effectively contributes to drafting national reports, preparing site visits, preparing responses to requests for information sent by international institutions, etc.

C. LEGAL COUNCIL OF STATE

The Legal Council of the State is a single, supreme, authority of the State and undertakes the advisory and

judicial support of the State and the representation of the Hellenic Republic before the European Court of Human Rights and the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The President of the Legal Council of the State is the Agent of the Greek Government at the European Court of Human Rights. The duties of the Agent include co-operation with the competent national departments and services of the Council of Europe to determine the necessary (individual and general) measures to be taken to comply with the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights and to monitor the relevant national proceedings, to inform the Permanent Representatives Commission through its Permanent Greek Delegation (Strasbourg) on the course of taking general and specific measures to comply with the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, to update the national authorities on the important case-law of the European Court of Human Rights for the better implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights at national level, to participate in the national law-making process towards harmonization of the national law with that of the European Convention on Human Rights.

4. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), around the world, have dedicated their efforts to protecting human rights and putting an end to their abuse. With their activities, most of them have made known situations that require intervention and corrective actions, both at national and international levels. Non-governmental

organizations have played a dominant role in focusing the attention of the international community on issues concerning human rights. The support they receive from citizens and governments, while condemning violations, is important for their success.

The Greek State, recognizing and emphasizing the importance of the work and role of civil society, invests in the possibility of consultation in both legislation and action policy projects relating to human rights.

IV. GENERAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN GREECE

The Greek legal order is governed by rules respecting the rule of law. The presence of Greece in international law has an important historical dimension (founding member of the United Nations, former member of the Council of the Nations) and is of particular importance, as a key component of the policy is to respect the international law and human rights, which are the foundations of the international community.

In the field of protection of human rights, Greece takes into account the comments of international organizations and cooperates with them in an effort to improve the rights of the persons living within its territory.

The severe financial crisis our country is experiencing particularly affects the most vulnerable groups of the population. The protection of citizens' rights and the implementation of adaptation measures to the new conditions is an open challenge that our country is called

to face in fulfilment of its obligations under the domestic and international laws.

Despite the extremely adverse economic conditions, the Greek authorities make every possible effort to ensure that the level of protection of fundamental rights is respected by all State bodies and institutions, to guarantee the rules of a free, non-discriminatory, democratic society.

In the hierarchy of rules of law guaranteeing the protection of fundamental rights, the Greek Constitution, as the supreme statutory rule, includes a special chapter on the civil and social rights (Part B' - articles 4-25).

V. WHAT IS THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

A National Action Plan for Human Rights is a «road map» in which emphasis is given on protecting the rights and a clear, coherent and systematic action framework is provided to improve the current situation.

It includes specific, measurable, achievable goals and timed commitments, while determining the direction of safeguarding and promoting human rights from any kind of hazards and violations. Each National Plan is based and takes into account the specific historical, cultural, social and political specificities of the legal system it governs.

The **Greek Action Plan** aims at strengthening, enforcing and protecting fundamental rights in Greece.

It is the first comprehensive effort to date, the first Plan for the protection of fundamental freedoms in Greece. It is proposed to cover the period of three years and, in particular, years **2014-2016**.

It is a multidisciplinary and coordinated effort of the Greek Administration for processing and determining the necessary actions and initiatives to further protect and promote individual human rights, taking into account the recommendations addressed by international organizations, in the context of assessing our country for its actions in this area.

The content of the Action Plan sets the guidelines for administrative, governmental, legislative and judicial structures in matters falling within their competence, while serving as a reference and a «comparable index» for organizations, institutions and international bodies on the implementation and realization, on the part of our country, of the policies and actions involving human rights.

The preparation of this Plan took into account the international standards, after studying the instruments of the United Nations and national practices from similar projects.

The Greek Action Plan was prepared by the Special Working Group set up by Decision of the Minister of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, in which representatives of Ministries, government agencies and independent-advisory to the State institutions for Human Rights (see Annex) participated. This same inter-ministerial team will continue its meetings and its work

as a body for monitoring the implementation and evaluation of the actions included in the Action Plan, with the assistance of the competent authorities and civil society.

After the meetings of the Working Group, which lasted approximately one year, the Action Plan was presented to the public on December 10, 2013 and was put to public consultation until January 20, 2014, for comments and observations, while posting it on the website of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights. A printed version of the draft was also given to all stakeholders, political parties and members of the Greek Parliament for opinions and commentary. This Action Plan was finalized, in its final form, following the public consultation process and after the Working Group had considered and took into account as many comments and additions could realistically be incorporated into the final text. The participation of many bodies, organizations and citizens in the public consultation of the draft, even with the reservations and criticisms of some, is considered a positive fact. Besides, they were all given, for the first time, the opportunity and ability to express themselves on a national plan which was first drawn up and is a responsible basis for a dialogue.

The implementation of the Action Plan will be an ongoing and open process.

The findings and experience to be gained from the practical application of the First Greek Action Plan for Human Rights will be a useful guide for the preparation of the subsequent Greek Action Plans to follow.

VI. METHODOLOGY AND STRUCTURE OF THE ACTION PLAN

The classification of subjects and the allocation of individual rights in the Action Plan start from the logical order, as presented in international documents, with respect to individual and social rights, as well as the special categories of rights that apply to specific groups of the population, such as the children, the elderly or the persons with disabilities.

The individual chapters follow this structure:

- International conventions and national legislation

We mention the main international instruments which are binding on Greece, as well as the basic laws for the protection of human rights in our country, many of which involve a harmonization with these international instruments.

- Current situation on obligations (what has been done so far, the contribution of individual Ministries, Agencies). The absence, so far, of a comprehensive text on human rights in Greece, may justify the more extensive reference to the existing framework and applicable policies, as well as the need to present to both experts and ordinary citizens the current situation in the country.

- Proposed Actions, with schedules for the period 2014-2016.

- Institutional responsibility and commitment to act on the proposed actions and to identify funds, as applicable.

- Implementation - monitoring and evaluation of the Action.

An important role in monitoring the implementation of the proposed actions is undertaken by the aforementioned special Working Group, which must benefit from the support of the competent State agencies and the co-operation of civil society.

The quotation of individual subjects and the priority of actions and policies are determined and adjusted in accordance with the particular circumstances - mainly economic ones - in today's reality that, undoubtedly, affects the situation of human rights in Greece, during 2014-2016. For this purpose, activities that were not considered to require actions during the reporting period have not been reported and included.

Part B: Civil and social rights

PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS

A. In the reporting period 2014 - 2016, highlighting the main issues that require actions and policies, as well as raising the awareness of the Greek society on the protection of human rights, are key priorities for all State entities participating in the elaboration process of the National Action Plan.

In addition to those included as activities in the individual rights that follow, the general approach and attitude to fundamental rights must be continuous and not fragmented, with a constant effort to improve current situation.

In this context, the Secretariat General for Transparency and Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights monitors the developments, elaborates proposals and regularly organizes workshops and discussions, at both national and regional levels, to highlight particular topical issues on human rights.

Indicatively - and during last year - we may mention the workshop on «unaccompanied minors» which was held on the 20th of March 2013, with the participation of juvenile judges and public prosecutors, the Children's Ombudsman, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, representatives of non-governmental organizations and governmental officials responsible for the care and assistance of minors, or the workshop on

«respecting the rights of the elderly», held on the 1st of October 2013 - International Day for the elderly - in the Greek Parliament, jointly organized by the Special Standing Committee on Gender Equality, Youth and Human Rights, with the participation of Members of the Parliament and representatives of non-governmental organizations. The results of these workshops have already been the subject of implementing actions in specific chapters of the Action Plan.

A special committee has also been established and is in operation to assist the Secretariat General of Transparency and Human Rights, consisted of university professors, judges, qualified experts, officials from Ministries and national institutions for the protection of human rights, personalities with scientific background, social sensitivity and knowledge of the subject.

In an effort to intervene in cutting-edge issues, the Secretariat General has issued a series of press releases, with comments and policy guidance on current events that have an impact on citizens' rights.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT

B.1.

PURPOSE	To promote public awareness on Human Rights.
ACTIONS	1. Organizing workshops for the emergence of human rights issues. - As such, on the 15 th of March 2014, a two-day International Conference is

	<p>organized in Gortyna, with the assistance of the District of Crete, where - in conjunction with the historical reasons of the ancient inscription of Gortyna - the Final Action Plan for Human Rights will be presented.</p> <p>- On 21 March 2014, World Day Against Racism, an event will be held at the Acropolis, with the participation of many students from intercultural schools and artists, the slogan being «We embrace the Acropolis, we embrace humanity». The widest possible publicity and promotion will be given to the event and its message.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Secretariat General for Transparency and Human Rights/Ministry of Justice
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Conducting - completing the actions

B.2.

PURPOSE	Interventions in cutting-edge issues on Human Rights.
ACTIONS	1. to organize - jointly with other Ministries and public bodies - workshops and subjects to highlight human rights issues, on the occasion of

	<p>the World Days for specific topics.</p> <p>2. Joint press conferences</p> <p>3. Public statements by political figures on the rights and vulnerable social groups</p> <p>4. Co-ordination meetings to immediately respond to and solve problems.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Secretariat General for Transparency and Human Rights/Ministry of Justice and the respective Ministry or public authority.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Conducting - completing a sufficient number of actions

THE RIGHTS

1. PROHIBITION OF TORTURE AND INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT

Our country, taking into account the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights, by which a breach of article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights is established, due to the detention conditions of third-country nationals who had illegally entered and resided in the country, as well as the relevant recommendations of international audit institutions, the points made in the reports of bodies such as the Committee against Torture of the United Nations (CAT), the European Committee

for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) or non-governmental organizations, has adopted a series of measures and initiatives, to reverse the climate and the current situation, based on the respect of human dignity.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. International treaties

- Particularly important is the Treaty Against Torture of the United Nations (Act 1782/1988), article 2, paragraph 1 of which establishes the explicit duty of every Member State to take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures, designed to prevent acts of torture within its territory.
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Act 2462/1997) provides that «no one is subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment» (article 7). An individual's right to freedom and safety of his/her person is guaranteed by article 9 of the Covenant, while under article 10, paragraph 1 «any person deprived of his/her freedom shall be treated with humanity and respect for his/her inherent human dignity».
- Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights and article 4 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union provide that no one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment.
- A special facility to prevent torture and ill-treatment has been established by the European Convention for the

Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of the Council of Europe (Act 1949/1991).

- The same spirit share the (non legally binding) Basic Principles of the United Nations on the Treatment of Prisoners and the Code of Principles for the Protection of all Persons Deprived of their Personal Freedom, which was adopted by the Decision of the United Nations General Assembly no. 43/173 dated 12.09.1988.

A.2. Actions undertaken to improve the current situation
Our country, taking into account the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights, which established a breach of article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights, because of the detention conditions of foreign applicants who had illegally entered and resided in the country, as well as the relevant points raised in reports of international bodies, which identify the pathologies of the system receiving and accommodating immigrants illegally entering the country, has adopted a series of measures and initiatives to reverse the climate and the current situation, having always in mind the respect for human dignity.

- Operation of pre-departure detention centres for third-country nationals and immigration identification centres. The pre-departure Immigration Detention Centres in Amygdaleza and the Municipalities of Komotini, Xanthi, Drama and Corinth have already been completed and put into operation during 2012 while, since 2007, a pre-

departure detention centre operates at the municipality of Orestiada.

- Construction works were concluded at the Immigration Identification Centres in Samos and Chios, which came into operation in April 2013 while, in September 2013, an equivalent Identification Centre operated in Lesbos.

- By decision of the Hellenic Police Chief, the Security Services for Immigration Detention Facilities (Y.F.E.K.A.) were established and tasked with keeping irregular immigrants under a status of legal restriction of their freedom, caring for their detention in the facilities of the Service under conditions that respect their dignity and a special provision for the co-operation with other concerned agencies, authorities and bodies, to provide them with medical examinations, drug coverage and psychosocial diagnosis and support.

- In particular, with regard to the operation of First Reception Centres, the «General Rules of Operation for District First Reception Services» introduce standards on detention conditions in those places, while regulating the co-operation of stakeholders on the basis of operation of the First Reception Centres. All residential areas at the First Reception Centres meet the basic living and hygiene conditions, while medical and other scientific staff is present.

- First Reception Centres and mobile units already provide medical and psychosocial support to illegally entering the country third-country nationals, when subjected to first reception procedures, by specialized groups offering their services in accordance with the

provisions laid down for the organization of the First Reception Centres and being staffed care of the First Reception Service.

- Particular emphasis is given to ensure, on the part of the police staff to detainees, the guarantees originating from both the existing national legislation and by specific orders and instructions issued in compliance of the country with the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights or with the recommendations of international bodies.

A.3. Facilities and actions for the prevention and investigation of abuse phenomena:

To immediately improve the current situation, the following actions and initiatives have been taken:

- Ratification, on the part of the Greek authorities, of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT).

- Establishment, by the Greek Authorities, of an independent and efficient facility to investigate complaints.

- Issuance of specific and clear instructions to police staff, to allow, as much as possible, direct and effective tackling with these phenomena.

- a. Act 4228/2014 ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of the General Assembly of the United Nations. OPCAT provides, among others, for the establishment of an independent national

facility to prevent torture, within the Member State. The Ombudsman is designated as the national preventive facility for Greece. The mission of the national facility includes conducting visits to all places of deprivation of liberty, including prisons, police stations and detention centres, in order to prevent and monitor any insults on human dignity and contribute to the improvement of prison conditions. The completion of the organizational conditions laid down in the third article of the ratifying Act is still pending.

b. Act 3938/2011 provides for the establishment of the Office for Incidents of Arbitrary Conduct, reporting directly to the Minister of Public Order and Citizen Protection, as an independent facility to investigate complaints against officers of the security forces. So far it has not been possible to operate said Office. However, article 10 of the bill tabled with the Parliament titled «Reorganisation of the Hellenic Police etc.» provides for the collaboration of the Ombudsman in the operation of the Office.

c. By a circular order issued by the Hellenic Police Chief, the Internal Affairs Directorate/Hellenic Police Headquarters was ordered to deal, in absolute priority, with complaints about acts of abuse, ill-treatment or infringement of the personality of third-country nationals, coming from police officers, during the exercise of their duties.

d. By order of the Chief of Staff/Hellenic Police Headquarters, a Circular of the Public Prosecutor of the Supreme Court was forwarded to all Hellenic Police

Services, setting out the procedure to be followed in the investigation, from a criminal standpoint, of complaints filed by detainees at police services against police officers and related to their abuse, in the context of police preliminary investigation or arrest, in violation of the duties of police officers.

e. A circular order issued by the Hellenic Police Chief presents clear and detailed instructions to police staff regarding treatment and rights of detainees.

f. The opportunity to file a written complaint on any poor detention conditions, abuse, ill-treatment or other violations of their rights was incorporated in the printed booklets for detainees' rights. These booklets have been translated into 15 languages and were sent to all Hellenic Police Services.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Medical and psychosocial care and detention conditions of third-country nationals at closed accommodation centres

OBJECTIVE	To effectively manage the flow of illegally entering third-country nationals-provide medical and psychosocial care and counselling support to people detained in closed accommodation centres.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> The Security Services for Immigration Detention Facilities (Y.F.E.K.A.) are entrusted, among others, with the responsibility for

	<p>feeding, clothing, conducting medical examinations and transporting third-country nationals to hospitals or health centres, in collaboration with competent authorities, services and bodies, for the purpose of providing medical and psychosocial care and counselling support to people held in detention centres and with the responsibility for interpretation, where required.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> As regards the health care for third-country nationals held in Pre-Departure Detention Centres, it is noted that the Operational Plan of the National Health Operations Centre (E.K.EP.Y.) aims at their integrated health support, on the basis of the following lines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to provide health care to immigrants. - to prevent the spread of various contagious diseases. - to promote an integrated approach to health care in Immigration Detention Centres, both by improving the health of immigrants, and by improving the conditions of their residence/detention. - To implement the above actions, an educational process for doctors, nurses, psychologists, administrative staff and interpreters has been designed.
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COMPETENT BODY	National Health Operations Centre (E.K.EP.Y.), as a coordinating body from the Ministry of Health/in co-operation with the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection and the Hellenic Police.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	<p>A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been prepared by the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection and the Service for the Management of European and Development Projects/Ministry of Health, designed to «provide health support to detainees/persons hosted at Detention Centres and First Reception Centres». This Memorandum appoints the National Centre for Health Operations as an implementing body for the action, while the action is included in the annual plans of the European Return and External Borders Funds for the years 2012 and 2013.</p> <p>Further, for the purpose of timely and effective implementing co-financed actions, provided under the Memorandum of Understanding, a delegation-subsidy agreement was signed on 10-10-2013 between the Office for the Management of European Development Programs (YDEAP) and</p>

	<p>the National Centre for Health Operations, for the provision of medical assistance at Pre-departure Detention Centres, during return procedures. It is clarified that said agreement entered into force for one year, with a possibility to extend its duration upon approval by the Office for the Management of European Development Programs, while the obligations arising from it remain in force until 30-07-2020.</p>
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B.2. Using European Union funds to upgrade Immigration Detention Centres

OBJECTIVE	To address current needs and improve living conditions in Immigration Detention Centres
SCOPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to further utilize resources coming from the European External Borders Fund and intensify financing processes from the European Union, to take additional measures aimed at addressing current needs and improving the living conditions in these Centres. • in the context of continuing the already implemented financial plan for the years 2008 - 2013 by the European External Borders and Returns Funds, a draft of a New Multiannual Financial

	Framework for the years 2014 - 2020 was recently prepared, setting targets that will need to be financed by the newly established Asylum and Migration Fund, so as the efforts to address the migration phenomenon succeed, including, among others, addressing the current needs and improving the living conditions in Immigration Detention Centres
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Long term actions, in particular the second one relates to the 2014 - 2020 seven year period

B.3. Recruiting specialist scientific staff

OBJECTIVE	To provide psychosocial support to detainees
SCOPE	The recruitment procedures for fifty psychologists, fifty social workers and sixty translators - interpreters were completed, with the conclusion of lease project contracts, for the psychosocial support of third-country nationals in return status, and to facilitate their communication with the Greek Authorities.
COMPETENT	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen

BODY	Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The placement of the above specialist scientists is expected to take place, depending on the existing administrative needs (the scientists be placed mainly in Services of the Attica General Police Headquarters, the Evros and North Aegean Sea Districts)

B.4. Distributing information booklets and granting access to representatives of non-governmental organizations

OBJECTIVE	To inform third-country nationals on their rights
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to continue distributing information booklets in a language the detainees understand to systematically inform them about their rights. <input type="checkbox"/> to grant access to representatives of non-governmental organizations into the detention facilities to inform third-country nationals of their rights and to provide, in general, facilities in their communication with the outside world.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Information booklets are already being distributed on a regular basis and, in the centres they are not yet, it is

	expected to immediately issue and distribute them. At the same time, granting access to representatives of non-governmental organizations is a continuous action.
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B.5. Creating Co-operation Networks between the competent Services of the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection and various stakeholders.

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to provide assistance in terms of health services and legal aid (competent Service: Office for the Management of European and Development Programs (Y.D.E.A.P.)). <input type="checkbox"/> to make consultations and mitigate the conflicts and reactions that have been raised in the local communities against the establishment of First Reception Centres.
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to create Co-operation Networks with the competent bodies of the central government and local authorities, representatives of professional organizations and associations (e.g. medical and bar associations), as well as representatives of civil society. <input type="checkbox"/> to co-operate with relevant institutions for the protection of human rights.

COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Action in progress

B.6. Responding to incidents of police arbitrary conduct

OBJECTIVE	To investigate incidents of arbitrary conduct caused by police officers in the performance of their duties or in abuse of their powers
SCOPE	To immediately staff and operate the Office for Incidents of Arbitrary Conduct: in a Bill being advanced by the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection, a provision is included (article 10), which both expands the jurisdiction of the Office for Incidents of Arbitrary Conduct, by adding illegal behaviours where there is evidence that they were racially motivated or pose another discrimination, as well as any other behaviour offensive to the personality against a person living in the Greek territory, and widens the circle of persons who may be appointed members of Three-Member Committee of the Office for Incidents of Arbitrary

	<p>Conduct, so that its staffing with specialized scientific personnel becomes flexible. Please note that the proposed regulation provides for the participation of a representative of the Independent Authority of Ombudsman in the meetings of the above Committee, with the possibility to submit proposals or give an opinion.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to issue circulars to provide specific instructions to the Heads of the Services, in the spirit of the above relevant provisions</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated implementation date: first half of 2014

B.7. Following the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture; operation of the National Preventive Mechanism

OBJECTIVE	To prevent torture and other inhuman and degrading treatment
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> After the vote of the recent Ratifying Law 4228/2014, to put in operation the provided mechanism, to provide adequate resources for the effective fulfilment of its mission and constantly

	<p>care for its seamless operation.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to provide the National Preventive Mechanism with information on any potential bill related to its mandate, and be able to submit proposals for any such existing bill.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to expressly provide the National Preventive Mechanism with a mandate to make recommendations to the Greek authorities, in terms of improving the treatment and detention conditions of persons deprived of their liberty.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Starting operation of the Mechanism, end 2014

2. RIGHT TO PERSONAL FREEDOM AND SAFETY

2.1 CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM - DETENTION CONDITIONS

The organization of the correctional system in Greece is based on the general principles laid down by the Constitution, international treaties, Acts, Presidential Decrees or regulations, the most prominent Act being the Correctional Code.

The efforts to streamline and reform the existing correctional system, in order to meet current

requirements and commitments undertaken by our country, are constant and continuous.

In this context, the revision of the bill for a New Correctional Code is expected to be completed soon, thus introducing a legal set of rules harmonized in the current social and correctional environment. For the first time, the bill provides, among others for: the ability for detainees to express opinion on issues concerning their daily lives, tightening the procedures to determine the exact number of detainees in detention facilities, improving the health care provided to detainees, etc.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

In addition to the conventions referred to in paragraph 1.A.1, we point out the European Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons (Act 1708/87) and the Additional Protocol to the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons (Act 3351/2005), as well as the bilateral conventions signed by our country with several States, for the transfer of sentenced persons.

A.2. LEGISLATION

The legislation regulating the correctional system is included in many provisions, such as:

- Act 2776/1999: Correctional Code (as in force)
- Act 3904/2010: «Streamlining and improving the administration of Criminal Justice and other provisions»
- Act 4043/2012: «Measures to improve conditions in detention facilities and other provisions»

- Act 4111/2013: «Pension arrangements and other provisions»
- Act 4139/2013 «Act on addictive substances and other provisions»
- Act 4198/2013: «Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims... and other provisions»
- Act 4205/2013: «Electronic surveillance of persons in custody, sentenced persons and other detainees on leave... and other provisions»

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Improving detention conditions

OBJECTIVE	To improve detention conditions of detainees and increase the capacity of Detention Centres
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> The capacity of the Correctional Facilities of the country has been increased with the addition of new infrastructure. In November 2013, the Ministerial Decrees for the partial conversion of the Rural Detention Centres of Agia/Chania, Cassandra, Tiryntha and the Special Rural Detention Centre in Kassaveteia to closed Adult Detention Centres were signed. The completion of the conversions will result in approximately 500 new jobs. <input type="checkbox"/> The new Detention Centres Central

	<p>Macedonia III (in Nigrita/Serres for 600 inmates) where three out of the five wings are in operation and Crete I (in Chania for 600 inmates) where two out of the five wings are in operation, will be fully operable after the recruitment of staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The operation of a new Detention Centre at Nikiforos/Drama (for 600 inmates) is planned.</p> <p>Overall, 1.200 detainee positions will be added, thus significantly contributing to relieving the other Centres.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated implementation date: December 2014

B.2. Following the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture - OPCAT, the National Preventive Facility against Torture came into operation (an action referred to above, under right 1, number B.7)

B.3. Alternative measures to serving sentences.

Expansion of the community service institution.

PURPOSE	To increase the number of bodies providing community service to
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	prisoners, both adults and minors
SCOPE	Act 3904/2010 streamlined the institution of community service and strengthened the legal framework. The table of bodies now includes several providing such services, such as Local Authorities and Public Law Legal Entities. On 31/12/2013, a new Joint Ministerial Decree was signed by the Minister of Justice, which has subsequently been sent to the competent ministers to be signed, in order to increase the number of community service bodies.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Signature of the Joint Ministerial Decree - Estimated implementation date: within 2014

B.4. Alternative measures to serving sentences.

House arrest with electronic surveillance of detainees and convicts.

PURPOSE	To implement the measure of electronic surveillance for detainees and convicts.
SCOPE	Act 4205/2013 introduced the institution of house arrest into the Greek legal order, using electronic surveillance of detainees and convicts as a reliable intermediate option to the already

	existing institutions of detention and caveats, conditional release and leave for prisoners. It is estimated that this institution will reduce the time spent in detention centres and will relieve them. To implement the measure, we consider issuing implementing regulatory acts, by drafting a relevant pilot Presidential Decree for an initial period of 12 months.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Initial pilot implementation of the measure within 2014. Issuance of the Presidential Decree within 2014.

B.5. Correction and rehabilitation - Improving prevention policies and addressing victimization and juvenile delinquency

OBJECTIVE	Correction and Rehabilitation «Improving prevention policies and addressing victimization and juvenile delinquency».
SCOPE	To develop operational infrastructure to address juvenile delinquency.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to study the establishment and the organization and operation methodology of the KASSANDRA Addiction

	<p>Treatment Centre for treating addict juvenile offenders</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to develop Policies and Measures for improving the quality of life of juvenile offenders</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to develop and implement the Business Plan of the Central Scientific Council to Address Juvenile Victimization and Delinquency (K.E.S.A.TH.E.A.), as well as those of Y.E.A. and CPC (services for minors)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> National Network for the Prevention and Treatment of Juvenile Victimization and Delinquency</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to reform and streamline the structure and operation of special juvenile detention centres and reform institutions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to provide information and awareness Services.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights

3. RIGHT TO JUDICIAL PROTECTION-FAIR TRIAL

3.1. FAIR TRIAL-RECOURSE TO JUSTICE

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- The right to a «just and fair trial» is enshrined in article 6, paragraph 1 of the European Convention on

Human Rights (ECHR), with reference to the right of each person to be tried within a reasonable time, by an independent and impartial judge. Corresponding to that is article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as articles 47-48 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

This article is complemented and combined with article 13 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which recognizes the right to an effective remedy before the national authorities, namely the right of each person to a real remedy rather than typical procedural capabilities.

The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) has adopted in recent years the process of pilot judgements, in order to highlight the existence of structural/systemic problems causing violations and suggest specific measures or actions that the respondent State must take to remedy this situation.

A.2. CONSTITUTION - LAW

- The procedural right to judicial protection is established by the provisions of article 20, paragraph 1 of the Constitution. This explicit institution includes civil, criminal and administrative proceedings, while surrounding with increased legal safeguards the scope of judicial protection of the citizens and the subject of the administration.

The main objective of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights remains speedy administration of justice. To this end, it recently entered into force:

- Act 4055/2012 for a fair trial and its reasonable duration, explicitly taking into account the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), attempts, by the regulations introduced, to utilize towards the acceleration of administration of justice the entire past experience of similar legislation.
- Act 3994/2011 on «Streamlining and improving the administration of civil justice» makes provisions for the faster, better, simpler and more effective administration of justice.
- Acts 3900/2010, 3904/2010 and 3898/2010 introduced provisions for the acceleration of administrative, criminal and civil proceedings, respectively.
- In the same context, the successful completion of the reformation of the Professional Ethics for Lawyers (Act 4194/2013), last September, is included. The new Professional Ethics is a contemporary and versatile statute that responds to the current needs of the Greek lawyers' community and is fully aligned with the requirements of the European Act for legal practitioners.
- As exposed below, alternative methods of dispute resolution are exploited, such as mass mediation and pre-trial conciliation, which are expected to lead to gradual decongestion of the courts and consolidation of a new legal culture in the Greek society.
- In parallel with the below mentioned Action Plan on e-Justice and Administrative Enhancement, specific actions have already been designed and implemented, which, in their full development, are expected to contribute to a shortened time for the administration of justice and all

three jurisdictions (civil, criminal, administrative, as well as the legal proceedings before the Court of Auditors).

B. ACTIONS

- By initiative of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, Act 4239/2014 on «Just satisfaction as a result of exceeding the reasonable duration of proceedings in civil and criminal courts and the Court of Auditors and other provisions» was advanced and recently passed by the Parliament, for Greece to timely comply with pilot judgements of the European Court of Human Rights, that have been pronounced against our country on the systemic problem of delays before courts. Its provisions introduce a remedy of compensatory character (fair financial recovery) in the event the reasonable duration of the civil, criminal and before the Court of Auditors proceedings is exceeded.

- An important instrument in the reformatory effort of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights is the New Code of Civil Procedure, which comes to reverse the current perverse system civil courts operate. Unnecessary deadlines and paperwork are eliminated, procedures are homogenized, the philosophy of civil proceedings radically changes, a greater degree of discretion is given to judges, the enforcement of judgments is simplified, etc. March 2014 has been set as the latest date for the adoption of the new Code.

- In the area of criminal justice, the new Penal Code is awaiting final consultation, while the new Code of

Criminal Procedure, which is expected to introduce revolutionary ideas and innovative institutions in the Greek judicial system (such as the criminal conciliation facility before the Public Prosecutor - Plea Bargaining etc.) is being drafted.

3.2. ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The consolidation of alternative forms of resolving private disputes in Greece will result in multiple benefits, both in terms of decongesting the courts and in the area of effective, fast, settlement debts at a low cost, in a consensual - negotiable framework.

In this light, the institution of judicial mediation (pre-trial conciliation) has been established and encouraged, as an effective facility to avoid unnecessary litigation, the judge undertaking, for the first time, a mediation mission between the parties and trying to bring them into compromise. The first results of the institution were deemed highly satisfactory and, by implication, the institution was expanded to the Courts of Appeal of the country.

Furthermore, the institution of (classic extrajudicial) mediation in civil and commercial cases has been activated and put into operation (mediation). We have already prepared the first list of certified mediators, which today comprises one hundred and ten (110) certified members and is expected, by the end of the year, this number to reach and exceed four hundred (400), so that citizens may refer to the institution of mediation for the immediate resolution of their private

disputes. At the same time, training bodies have already been established by the Athens, Piraeus and Thessaloniki Bar Associations.

The Ministry of Justice proceeds into specific actions, in co-operation with the European Commission, to promote both mediation and pre-trial conciliation, by conducting a series of informative and educational workshops and seminars, and initiated a comprehensive, communicative information and awareness raising campaign. The same happens in collaboration with the academic and educational community, for the direct introduction of mediation in the schools and universities of the country. Finally, in the same context, the adoption of a compulsory mediation system in the process of settling indebted household cases (Act 3869/2010) and minor disputes is being considered, while the introduction of mediation processes in family disputes is weighed.

3.3. COMPLIANCE OF THE ADMINISTRATION TO COURT JUDGEMENTS

A large number of convicting judgments of the European Court of Human Rights against Greece relates to violations of article 6, paragraph 1 of the European Convention on Human Rights, for the failure of the administration to comply with court judgements. According to the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights, the execution of any court judgment shall be considered an integral part of the «trial», within the meaning of article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Under the provisions of the revised article 95, paragraph 5 of the Constitution, the administration must comply with court judgements vindicating affected citizens. In compliance with the constitutional requirement, a special compliance procedure was instituted, in accordance with the provisions of Act 3068/2002.

Following the amendment of article 2 of Act 3068/2002 and article 56 of Act 3900/2010, administrative courts monitor themselves the compliance of the Administration with their judgements, so that the audit made by the State Council - which was responsible to monitor compliance with the judgements of all administrative courts - is limited to monitoring the execution of its own judgements.

3.4. E-JUSTICE

The introduction of new technologies in the field of justice seeks to upgrade its services to citizens and resolve the long-standing problem of prolonged duration of court proceedings. Meanwhile, the Ministry, through the use of new information systems, aims at improving the administrative and management capacity of the institutions of justice and the correctional system.

To this end, the Ministry of Justice developed an Action Plan on e-Justice and Administrative Enhancement, which includes strategic guidance, administrative interventions and a project plan. This plan is already being implemented in different sectors, while the Action Plan is reviewed at regular intervals (last review: July 2013)

to respond to the changes in the plan of the Ministry and the progress noted in the projects.

In the field of administrative interventions, the institutional framework and the appropriate administrative mechanisms for the implementation of new technologies are being prepared. This context includes the institutional framework and the requirements for the electronic filing of court documents and the payment of revenue stamps and prepayment bills. At the same time, the electronic filing of pleadings and related documents is being prepared, as well as the implementation of video conferencing in civil courts, in the new programming period 2014-2020, issues for which the relevant Presidential Decrees have already been issued. In the same framework, the adoption of the Act on electronic surveillance of detainees, convicts and inmates on leave is included.

In the implementation field, e-Justice projects already launched by Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights are divided into large and small scale - immediate future ones. Large-scale projects form the main body of the e-Justice project of the Ministry, with a turnaround time of two to four years, and are primarily funded by the National Strategic Reference Framework. Their implementation foresees the introduction of radical innovations in the area of their application and the gradual replacement of independent systems of similar bodies by central large-scale infrastructure, which, at the same time, might be interconnected.

On the other hand, small scale - immediate future projects refer to actions covering less geographically dispersed sites and services, and, in general, they are completed in a shorter period of time (a few months to two years), while they are financed by the National Strategic Reference Framework and funds from the Ministry. These projects are targeted to achieve the largest and most immediate benefits, in critical points of Justice, at the lowest possible cost and implementation time. Finally, much of the know-how and functionality of small-scale projects will be incorporated into large-scale ones.

A. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

A.1. Large-scale e-Justice projects

Integrated Management System for Court Cases of Civil and Criminal Justice - Integrated Management System for Court Cases for Administrative Justice (OSDDY-PP and OSDDY-DD).

These two projects are intended to centrally automate judicial bodies, by using integrated systems. They include the full digitization of case flows in their respective fields, as well as individual features, such as electronic filing of court documents, electronic applications for certificates, electronic docket and other services accommodating judges, lawyers and the public.

System for the Digital Recording, Storage and Distribution of Court Hearing Minutes

The project aims at creating core infrastructure for keeping minutes at all levels of civil -and for the first time- criminal Justice. The new electronic infrastructure will allow electronic storage of court records and automation of related services provided to citizens, lawyers and judges.

National Criminal Register

The National Criminal Register will allow electronic keeping of all criminal record cards in the country, and the provision of electronic services to citizens and judicial bodies.

Integrated Information System for Detention Centres

The Integrated Information System for Detention Centres includes the creation of a central IT infrastructure that will support their operation, interconnection of prison structures and flows of reliable statistical and administrative information.

The budget and administrative status of large-scale projects is presented in the table below:

Project	Budget	Status
Integrated Management System for Court Cases of Civil and Criminal Justice	10.973.450,00 EUR	Preparation for the publication of tender documents is at the final stage
Integrated Management System	3.639.900,00 EUR	Audit of draft tender documents

for Court Cases of Administrative Justice		by the Special Management Authority of the Operational Program «Digital Convergence» with a view to publication
Public - Private Partnership for the Digital Recording, Storage and Distribution of Court Hearing Minutes	Equipment: 6.958.172,00 EUR Services: 13.766.000,00 EUR	The first phase for choosing a Private Partnership Body was completed. Draft tender documents for the second phase are being prepared.
National Criminal Register	8.568.342,36 EUR	Implementation
Electronic Services for Detention Centres (Integrated Information System for Detention Centres)	3.571.182,00 EUR	Tender evaluation procedure

A.2. E-Justice short range/immediate future projects

At the same time and in the short term, the Ministry implements and assists in a series of actions with shorter range and for the immediate future, which include:

- The electronic court document filing systems installed at the Athens, Thessaloniki and Piraeus Courts of First Instance, using digital signatures and electronic payments
- The project of the Athens Bar Association titled «Online Pre-Trial Services» which will interoperate with the Integrated Management System for Court Cases of Civil and Criminal Proceedings, in the process of electronic filing of court documents at the courts being automated.
- The project of the Thessaloniki Bar Association titled «Digital support and assistance services to members of the Thessaloniki Bar Association»
- The development of a central IT system for the district courts of the country, which, following Act 4055/2012, have been reduced to units of first instance administration of justice, with increased responsibilities. The system is already operative in a number of district courts and gradually extends to more across the country.
- The electronic messaging system between the criminal registry system of Greece and the corresponding criminal registry systems of the European Union - ECRIS.
- The electronic services for the interconnection of released prisoners with society. The system aims at implementing electronic services so that they are provided to released prisoners, to facilitate re-inclusion process.
- The project upgrading the services of the Court of Auditors, which includes features for the electronic filing and tracking of claims and remedies, the electronic

management of cases, new applications and interoperability with other bodies.

- The project to study the reorganization of the system collecting statistics of Justice, which aims at implementing an electronic registration and collection of statistical data system from all judicial system bodies.
- The planned electronic docket system, which will allow publication over the web and real-time docket update in selected courts.

The situation and the budget of these projects is reflected in the following table:

Project	Budget	Status
Electronic filing of court documents at the Athens Court of First Instance	54.000,00 EUR	Completed - in operation
Electronic filing of court documents at the Piraeus and Thessaloniki Courts of First Instance	72.000,00 EUR	Completed - In operation in Thessaloniki, preparing operation in Piraeus.
Interactive Electronic Pre-Trial Services - On Line Services - Online Services to Lawyers, Judges, Citizens	3.311.503,12 EUR	Implementation

Digital Support and Assistance Services for the Members of the Thessaloniki Bar Association	361.000,00 EUR	Implementation
Automation of voluntary proceedings for the district courts of the country	30.750,00 EUR	Implementation
Electronic services for the interconnection of released prisoners with society	516.555,97 EUR	Implementation
Upgrade Court of Auditors services	921.270,00 EUR	Completion of pre-contractual audit by the EYD of the Operational Program «Digital Convergence», preparing award
Study on the reorganization of the system collecting statistics of the Justice	67.035,00 EUR	Implementation

Equipment and Software for the Electronic Docket	185.900,00 EUR	Preparation of tender documents
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A.3. Projects supporting the e-Justice program

Along with these projects, the Ministry of Justice implements or prepares projects to support the implementation of the program. These projects are:

- Project titled «Optimization of Flows in Civil, Criminal and Administrative Proceedings», which aims at studying the administrative flows, mechanisms and infrastructures of the justice system and preparing proposals for legislative and administrative interventions to improve and speed up its operation. These interventions will include, among others, measures in the field of e-Governance and e-Justice.
- Project titled «Classification and mapping of national offenses, penalties and measures in accordance with decision 2009/316/JHA of the Council of the European Union», which aims at supporting electronic communication on criminal records issues, by matching transmitted data (national legislation) with the commonly agreed European standard.
- Project titled «Technical and Scientific Support Consultancy Services», which aims at supporting, both technically and scientifically, the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights for the implementation of all Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights projects in the Operational Program «Digital Convergence». These include all large-scale projects, as

well as a number of small-scale ones (e.g. Court of Auditors Services, Services for the Interconnection of Released Prisoners with Society etc.).

- Project «Technical Support Consultancy Services for the Actions of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights co-financed under the Administrative Reform Operational Program of the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013, invitation 45». This project will support, among others, e-Justice projects under the Operational Program «Administrative Reform», such as the Electronic Docket project and the project for the reorganization of the system collecting statistics of Justice

Project	Budget	Status
Optimizing the Flows of Criminal, Civil and Administrative Proceedings	757.000,00 EUR	Bid Evaluation
Classification and mapping of national offences, penalties and measures, in accordance with the Decision 2009/316/JHA of the Council of the European Union	456.100,00 EUR	Preparing tender
«Technical and Scientific Support Consultancy Services» (Technical Support Consultancy	662.936,79 EUR	Award phase

Project for the maturity and implementation of digital convergence projects of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights)		
Technical Support Consultant for the Actions of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights co-financed under the Operational Program «Administrative Reform» of the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013, invitation 45.	45.410.000,00 EUR	Bid Evaluation.

4. RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

A. CONSTITUTION - LEGISLATION

Article 13 of the Constitution:

«1. Freedom of religious conscience is inviolable. The enjoyment of civil rights and liberties does not depend on the individual's religious beliefs.

2. All known religions shall be free and their rites of worship shall be performed unhindered and under the protection of the law. The practice of rites of worship is not allowed to offend public order or the good usages. Proselytism is prohibited.

3. The ministers of all known religions shall be subject to the same supervision by the State and to the same obligations toward it as those of the prevailing religion.
4. No person shall be exempt from discharging his/her obligations to the State or may refuse to comply with the laws by reason of his/her religious convictions.
5. No oath shall be imposed or administered except as specified by law and in the form determined by law».

Article 3 of the Constitution:

«1. The prevailing religion in Greece is that of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ. The Orthodox Church of Greece, acknowledging our Lord Jesus Christ as its head, is inseparably united in doctrine with the Great Church of Christ in Constantinople and with every other Church of Christ of the same doctrine, observing unwaveringly, as they do, the holy apostolic and synodal canons and sacred traditions. It is autocephalous and is administered by the Holy Synod of serving Bishops and the Permanent Holy Synod originating thereof and assembled as specified by the Statutory Charter of the Church in compliance with the provisions of the Patriarchal Tome of June 29, 1850 and the Synodal Act of September 4, 1928».

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT

B.1. Education of clergymen

PURPOSE	To upgrade the religious education of clergymen and Muslim mullahs
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ACTIONS	<p>1. Lifelong Education and Training Programs for theologists and Muslim mullahs in Thrace, in religious, religious diversity and intercultural religious education matters. Budget: 195.000 EUR</p> <p>2. a. Upgrading Seminaries-Curricula-Textbooks b. Pedagogical support in teaching the Quran to students-members of the Muslim minority in Thrace attending public schools in Thrace-Curricula-Textbooks». Budget: 1.500.000 EUR</p>
COMPETENT BODY	<p>For the first action, implementing agency is the Secretariat General for Religious Affairs and the Department of Theology of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.</p> <p>For the second action, implementing agency is the Secretariat General for Religious Affairs and the Educational Policy Institute</p>
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Implementation of the above actions is provided within the current programming period of the National Strategic Reference Framework

B.2. Actions against religious intolerance

PURPOSE	To train teachers and raise awareness of
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	students on issues of religious violence, xenophobia and racism
ACTIONS	Training seminars for teachers on teaching the Holocaust in various cities. Collaboration with museums and organizations abroad for the development of teacher training programs and seminars
COMPETENT BODY	Secretariat General for Religious Affairs and cooperating agencies
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Conducting seminars

5. EQUAL TREATMENT - NON-DISCRIMINATION

The intensity of discrimination in Europe shows particularly upward trends, because of the bad economic crisis.

According to the results of the Eurobarometer for the year 2012, 80% of Greek citizens - the second highest rate in the European Union, compared with 64% of the European Union average - believes that the economic downturn will lead to more discrimination in the labour market.

Educational ground constitutes a privileged area for intervention to eliminate stereotypes and prejudices, as student population is the primary cell in shaping

attitudes and perceptions which will be based on tolerance and respect for diversity.

Continuous confrontation of social exclusion of groups with particular racial and cultural characteristics, as well as their social inclusion and equal treatment, is a key priority of the Greek State.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- The principles of equality and non-discrimination are recognized in all international instruments for the protection of human rights, such as article 14 of the European Convention on Human Rights, article 26 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 2, paragraph 2 of the International Covenant of the United Nations on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Act 1532/1985) etc.
- The Convention of the International Labour Organisation prohibits discrimination in employment and occupation.
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) establishes the obligation to submit, every four years, a National Report to the relevant United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

- Non-discrimination is a fundamental principle of the European Union. Article 19 of the Treaty on the

Functioning of the European Union imposes combating discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. The principle of equality before the law and non-discrimination is enshrined in articles 20-21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

- Under article 13 of the Treaty Establishing the European Community, the Council adopted Directive 2000/43/EC on «implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons, irrespective of racial or ethnic origin», and Directive 2000/78/EC on «equal treatment between persons irrespective of their religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, in the field of employment and occupation».

A.3. CONSTITUTION - LAW

- Enactment of Act 3304/2005, titled «Application of the principle of equal treatment irrespective of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation» transposed the two Directives of the European Communities, 2000/43/EC and 2000/78/EC, into national law.

- According to Act 3996/2011 on «Reshaping the Labour Inspectorate, regulating social security issues and other provisions» (article 2), Labour Inspectorate «Monitors the implementation of the principle of equal treatment, irrespective of racial or ethnic origin, religious or other belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, taking into account the cases of multiple discrimination».

- In addition, Labour Inspectorate monitors compliance of equal treatment in relation to persons with disabilities, including seropositives.

5.1. GENDER EQUALITY

Integration of gender equality into all public policies consists a continuous fundamental pursuit and comprehensive strategy of the Greek State, so that both sexes equally benefit from all policies and actions, at all levels and stages of economic, political and social life.

In Greece, a number of legislative actions, at many levels, have already established an institutional framework for the de jure principle of equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex, in all aspects of the social life of citizens.

The scope of the legislation was broadened in recent years, so as to meet the new needs arising from developments in the labour market, the family and the society in general, given that strengthening the legal framework of gender equality is an important policy tool for defending women's rights.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- Gender equality is enshrined in the main international treaties protecting human rights. The most important international instrument, at international level, is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW - Act 1342/1983).

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

- Article 157, paragraph 3 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides the Community legislature with a specific legal basis for taking measures to ensure the application of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and professional activity.
- Gender equality is enshrined in article 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and a large number of Directives has been adopted, covering a wide range of the economic and social life.

A.3. CONSTITUTION-LAW

- Equality between men and women is a fundamental principle of the Constitution. In particular, article 4, paragraph 2 of the Constitution states that Greek men and women have equal rights and obligations, while article 5 establishes the principle of non-discrimination of all persons being in the Greek territory.
- The provision of article 116, paragraph 2 of the Constitution abolished any deviations from the principle of gender equality and established the responsibility of the State to take specific positive actions to eliminate discrimination against women.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Encouraging and supporting women's participation in politically responsible positions and representation at both regional and local levels

OBJECTIVE	To strengthen women's participation in Decision-Making Centres (elections for local and district authorities)
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to establish Networking - Promotion of Gender Equality Offices, which will undertake horizontal support actions to strengthen women's participation in the decision-making centres of local and district authorities. <input type="checkbox"/> to design and create a database and a portal for the Project <input type="checkbox"/> to support seminars and conferences <input type="checkbox"/> to supply equipment and configure both installation sites and the Networking Offices
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - Information - Training - Local Development (PETA) SA, Union of Greek Districts (ENPE) and Central Union of Greek Municipalities (KEDE) for implementation
IMPLEMENTA	Budget 1.500.000 EUR - Estimated

TION INDICATORS	completion date: 31/12/2015.
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B.2. Supporting women's participation in politically responsible positions and representation, at both national and European levels

OBJECTIVE	To promote women's participation in public life and increase their participation in the political, social and economic decision-making centres
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to conduct research and studies on women's participation in decision-making centres <input type="checkbox"/> to conduct training seminars for women candidates in elections <input type="checkbox"/> to create a dedicated website <input type="checkbox"/> to produce and issue relevant printed material
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - Research Centre for Gender Equality Issues (KETHI) to implement
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 1.100.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.3. Raising awareness raising campaign for the balanced women's participation in decision-making centres, at both national and European levels

OBJECTIVE	To promote the balanced representation of women in the political field
SCOPE	The «target groups» of the awareness raising campaigns are voters and political formations representing citizens. The project includes a public awareness raising campaign on the balanced women's participation in political decision-making centres, at both national and European levels
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 355.000 EUR - Action in progress - in view of the European elections of 2014.

B.4. Actions promoting and supporting women in the senior trade union levels of the Supreme Administration of Public Servants Unions (ADEDY) and its members

OBJECTIVE	To increase women's participation at
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	responsible positions of social partner organisations, at national level
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> Creating gender equality structure at the ADEDY headquarters, help-line, database <input type="checkbox"/> Networking and transnational co-operation activities <input type="checkbox"/> Holding public awareness workshops <input type="checkbox"/> Training and empowerment activities, promotion and publicity
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality- Supreme Administration of Public Servants Unions to implement
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget 600.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.5. Strengthening and supporting women's participation in commercial entrepreneurship and commercial unionism (National Confederation of Hellenic Commerce - ESEE)

OBJECTIVE	To increase women's participation at responsible positions of social partner organisations (both secondary and tertiary ones), at national level
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ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to organize and operate a gender equality structure at the beneficiary's headquarters and operate a help line (support and information) <input type="checkbox"/> to create support tools: website and database <input type="checkbox"/> networking and transnational co-operation actions (conferences, meetings, events, contacts) <input type="checkbox"/> publicity actions
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - National Confederation of Hellenic Commerce to implement
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 300.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.6. Enhancing and strengthening women's participation in rural trade unions and other collective bodies representing rural areas (General Confederation of Agricultural Societies of Greece-(GESASE))

OBJECTIVE	To increase women's participation at responsible positions of social partner organisations, at national level
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ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to prepare a study mapping-recording the profile of women trade unionists in rural areas <input type="checkbox"/> empowerment and training actions for women in rural areas <input type="checkbox"/> to create a gender equality structure, operate a help-line, networking activities and coordinate awareness-raising and publicity actions
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - General Confederation of Agricultural Societies of Greece for implementation
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 300.000 EUR - Estimated Completion Date: 31/12/2015

B.7. Promoting and strengthening women's participation in the representative bodies of workers' trade unions (General Confederation of Greek Workers-(GSEE))

OBJECTIVE	To increase women's participation at responsible positions of social partner organisations (both secondary and tertiary ones), at national level
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> To prepare a study reflecting the

	<p>current situation, conclusions and proposals</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education and empowerment activities for working women. Creation of a centralized structure at the headquarters of the General Confederation of Greek Workers to support the Women's Secretariat of GSEE</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> To create structures in secondary unions, group counselling workshops, awareness raising workshops, interstate visits.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - General Confederation of Greek Workers for the implementation
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 1.200.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.8. Action plan to promote women in decision-making centres of the collective bodies of the Hellenic Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen & Merchants (GSEVEE)

OBJECTIVE	To increase women's participation at responsible positions of social partner organisations (both secondary and tertiary ones), at national level
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to map the current situation and prepare a comprehensive action plan <input type="checkbox"/> to operate a Gender Equality Office at the Hellenic Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen & Merchants <input type="checkbox"/> targeted actions to empower women <input type="checkbox"/> networking and transnational exchanges and collaborations
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - Hellenic Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen & Merchants to implement
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 300.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.9. Strengthening women's participation at responsible positions in business and business representative bodies (Hellenic Industry Centre of the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV))

OBJECTIVE	To increase women's participation at
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	responsible positions of social partner organisations (both secondary and tertiary ones) at national level
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to create a gender equality structure, study mapping the current situation <input type="checkbox"/> to operate a help-line for support and information <input type="checkbox"/> networking, publicity and transnational co-operation activities
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - Hellenic Federation of Enterprises to implement
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 300.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.10. Supporting non-governmental organizations (women's organizations) active in gender equality and/or the protection of women's rights

OBJECTIVE	To support the administrative and operational capacity of non-governmental organizations (women's organizations) active in gender equality and/or the protection of women's rights
SCOPE	A National Strategic Reference

	<p>Framework project was designed and is being implemented in two cycles, which includes the financing of biennial Action Plans of women and non-governmental organizations in at least one of the following areas:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women, and assist victims of violence</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to support women of socially vulnerable groups, such as immigrants, refugees, detainees, released prisoners, Roma women, women with disabilities, etc.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to combat gender stereotypes and gendered social roles, as highlighted by the mass media.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The evaluation process of submitted action plans for the 2 nd cycle is in progress - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.11. Creating integration, monitoring and auditing methodologies and tools with regard to the dimension of

gender equality in Municipalities, Districts and the Central Administration

OBJECTIVE	Effective integration of gender equality in the policies of the Central Government, District and Local Governments
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> version 3 of the Guide for the Implementation of Gender Mainstreaming in National Policies (SEIF) in the policies of Municipalities, Districts and the Central Government <input type="checkbox"/> to specify the System for Mainstreaming Gender Equality (SEIF) standard per policy body and develop and implement, on a pilot basis, Local (in 15 Municipalities) and District (in 11 Districts) Gender Equality Programs <input type="checkbox"/> to specify the System for Mainstreaming Gender Equality (SEIF) standard per policy body and develop and implement, on a pilot basis, Gender Equality Programs in Central Administration (15 Ministries) <input type="checkbox"/> on-going evaluation of the project <input type="checkbox"/> publicity and information activities
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) -

	Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 6.000.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: no later than 2015.

B.12. Creating a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the gender equality policies being implemented

OBJECTIVE	To integrate gender equality in public policies, monitoring and evaluation
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to develop an Integrated Information System and a National System of Gender Indicators (Observatory) through the required infrastructure, to supply computer equipment and develop and operate the required systems/tools. <input type="checkbox"/> to create tools for monitoring, evaluating and planning actions for equality in policy areas, through the development of specialized research and studies in selected policy areas, the preparation of annual reports on the progress of implementation of gender equality actions, as well as National Reports to the European Union and the United Nations, as well as networking and developing partnerships, publishing results and information-awareness
COMPETENT	Special Service for the Coordination,

BODY	Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 6.000.000 EUR - Estimated time for completion in 2015.

B.13. Supporting the actions of the Ombudsman

SUB-PROJECT 1	To investigate the perception of Public Services as to the role of the Ombudsman with regard to gender equality issues and to prepare a study for the implementation of relevant legislation
OBJECTIVES	<input type="checkbox"/> to improve the quality and effectiveness of co-operation of the Ombudsman with the Greek public services and agencies involved in the implementation of legislation on gender equality. <input type="checkbox"/> to improve the quality and efficiency of the output of the Department of Gender Equality by preparing a study to collect and organize information relating to the use of the relevant legislation and case-law, as produced by the national courts and the European

	Court of Justice.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to conduct research to capture the perception of public services relating to the role of the Ombudsman in gender equality issues. <input type="checkbox"/> to prepare a study on the collection and organization of information relevant to the use of legislation and case-law produced by the national courts and the European Court of Justice in the field of equal treatment of men and women. <input type="checkbox"/> to produce a manual, which will gather and concisely present the key findings of the above two actions.
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - Service for the Implementation of the European Programs of the Parliament - Independent Authority «Ombudsman» for the implementation
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 221.400,00 EUR

SUB-PROJECT 2	Publicity actions related to the role of the Ombudsman as an institution promoting the principle of equal treatment between women and men
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to establish a network of information and co-operation between the Ombudsman, lawyers and non-governmental organisations, for the effective implementation of non-discrimination legislation. <input type="checkbox"/> information booklet on the rights of pregnant women, mothers and parents <input type="checkbox"/> radio spots promoting the principle of equal treatment and the corresponding action of the Ombudsman.
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - Service for the Implementation of the European Programs of the Parliament - Independent Authority «Ombudsman» for the implementation
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 39.360,00 EUR

SUB-PROJECT 3	Research on the utilization of legitimate goods, with regard to the exercise of legal rights and benefits on the part of women with low income
OBJECTIVE	□ to explore the relationship between the personal income of the citizens, with emphasis on the female population and the assertion of their rights, through the use of legal channels (courts, police, Independent Authorities etc.)
SCOPE	To map and approach categories of the female population of the country, belonging to financially weak and socially excluded groups who, presumably, have the greatest need
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - Service for the Implementation of the European Programs of the Parliament - Independent Authority «Ombudsman» for the implementation
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 61.500,00 EUR

B.14. Addressing the lack of awareness on the principle of equal treatment and non-discrimination

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to inform the general or targeted public on the specific jurisdiction of the Ombudsman. <input type="checkbox"/> to update bodies of the local communities and train local government officials concerning the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman, as well as focused direct communication actions. <input type="checkbox"/> to update Administration officials on the rights of population groups which may be discriminated against, and provide a framework of obligations of the Administration, as evidenced by the legislation in force.
SCOPE	<p>To fight discrimination in practice. Field actions, raising awareness, recording and mediation.</p> <input type="checkbox"/> publication of information booklets <input type="checkbox"/> regional information actions <input type="checkbox"/> publication and distribution of an information manual for Administration officials on issues of discrimination. <input type="checkbox"/> main event on the empowerment of Roma <input type="checkbox"/> conducting autopsies in Roma settlements <input type="checkbox"/> updating the Ombudsman's websites on Roma issues

COMPETENT BODY	Ombudsman, under the partnership led by the National Social Research Centre, with the partnership of the Manpower Employment Organisation (OAED), the Ombudsman and the Patras Development Company (ADEP SA), and support from the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 42.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: March 2014.

B.15. Investigating the phenomenon of multiple discrimination and updating on its impact

OBJECTIVE	To record the existing reality, current perceptions and attitudes regarding the position of women and young Roma and Muslim immigrants in the labour market and formulate conclusions to facilitate their access to it
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> literature review: policies and good practices <input type="checkbox"/> discrimination on vulnerable social groups: field studies <input type="checkbox"/> actions to reform Vocational Training programs of the Schools of the Manpower Employment Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> disclosure actions - holding a conference - publication of a relevant

	book on discrimination issues
COMPETENT BODY	National Social Research Centre and Development Company and Patras Municipal Development Company (ADEP) SA, under a partnership led by the National Social Research Centre. Partners: Manpower Employment Organisation (OAED) - Ombudsman - Patras Municipal Development Company, with the support of the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 107.750 EUR - Estimated implementation date: March 2014

5.2. EQUALITY IN EMPLOYMENT

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. EUROPEAN LAW

- The provisions of Act 4075/2012 adjusted our national legislation with the provisions of Directive 2010/18/EU dated 8 March 2012, «on implementing the revised Framework Agreement on parental leave [...]».
- Act 4097/2012 on the «Implementation of the principle of equal treatment between men and women in the exercise of a self-employed activity» is intended to harmonize the national legislation with Directive 2010/41/EC of the European Parliament and the Council dated 7 July 2010, in order to ensure the application of the principle of equal treatment between self-employed

men and women or contribute to the pursuit of such an activity.

- Act 3769/2009 transposed into Greek law Directive 2004/113/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between men and women with regard to the access to goods and services - in the public, wider public and private sectors.

A.2. CONSTITUTION-LAW

- Act 3896/2010 on the «Implementation of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and occupation - Harmonization of the legislation in force with Directive 2006/54/EC of the European Parliament and the Council dated 5 July 2006 and other relevant provisions» amends and replaces the hitherto existing Act 3488/2006, regulating matters relating to equal pay, equal treatment in occupational social security, equal treatment as regards access to employment etc.

- A provision was added to Act 3094/2003 on the «Ombudsman and other provisions» which appointed the Ombudsman as the body monitoring implementation, in the private and public sectors, of the principle of equal treatment between men and women, as regards the access to employment, vocational training and promotion and working conditions.

- The provisions of Presidential Decrees 176/1997 and 41/2003 transposed Directive 92/85/EEC «on the introduction of measures aiming at improving safety and health at work for pregnant workers and workers who

have recently given birth or are breastfeeding” in the Greek legal order.

- The provisions of Act 4075/2012 adjusted our national legislation to the provisions of Directive 2010/18/EU of 8 March 2012, «on implementing the revised Framework Agreement on parental leave [...]».

- The provisions of Act 3996/2011 increased the period of protection against dismissal of women workers due to maternity, extending the protection in force from the beginning of pregnancy to eighteen months after the birth or even longer, if there is a problem due to childbirth.

- By Act 4097/2012 on the «Implementation of the principle of equal treatment between men and women in the exercise of a self-employed activity», our national legislation was harmonised with Directive 2010/41/EC of the European Parliament.

- Act 3769/2009 transposed into Greek law Directive 2004/113/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between men and women in the access to goods and services - in the public, wider public and private sectors.

Actions undertaken to improve the current situation

The local Inspectorates of Labour Inspectorate (S.E.P.E.) handle complaints relating to violations of the principle of equal treatment between women and men in employment and occupation, or violations of workers' rights in a maternity protection period and immediately inform the Ombudsman.

-The Ombudsman works with the Secretariat General for Gender Equality, the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare and the Training Institute of the National Centre of Public Administration, while participating in Equinet (European Network of Equality Bodies) as the national body for gender equality issues.

-Further, the Department for Gender Equality works with the Legislative Group on Equal Treatment of DG Justice of the European Commission (European Commission DG Justice - Equal Treatment Legislation D.1).

Under the European Program Progress - financing tool for the preparation and coordination of European Union policies in the fields of Gender Equality and Non-Discrimination - the Ombudsman participates in training programs for specialists of the Department for Gender Equality at the Academy of European Law (ERA).

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Upgrading the Professional Status of Working Self-Employed Women

OBJECTIVE	To upgrade/maintain the employment status of working, self-employed, women and strengthen their development prospects
SCOPE	The project is addressed to bodies or associations or partnerships of the public sector or private non-profit bodies, which according to their articles of association aim at designing and/or organizing and/or implementing

	counselling, mentoring, training, education and training actions for workers and freelancers, and have the capability of implementing these projects by their own means, to submit project proposals (for actions).
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget: 9.780.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.2. Protection of Maternity

OBJECTIVE	Special Allowance for the Protection Maternity
SCOPE	Special allowance policies and leave regime
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> Special maternity protection leave for six (6) months and a monthly payment of an amount equal to the minimum wage <input type="checkbox"/> The Manpower Employment Organisation pays additional maternity benefits to female workers, employed under private law contracts, who are

	<p>insured for health with the Social Insurance Foundation (IKA).</p> <p>* In the year 2012, 24.973 beneficiaries received the special maternity protection allowance while, for the same allowance, the amount of 34.947.144,80 EUR was paid</p>
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B.3. Harmonizing work and family life

OBJECTIVE	To increase employment and retain women in jobs on equal conditions
SCOPE	To strengthen women by providing care and accommodation for infants, toddlers, children and adolescents, as well as persons with disabilities. Direct beneficiaries of this action are working women having increased family responsibilities and wishing to develop their career and maintain their employability.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Interior
BUDGET	The sixth round of this action, for the years 2013-2014, is in progress, with a budget of 180.000.000 EUR. More than 56.000 mothers benefit on an annual basis.

5.3. DISCRIMINATION ON THE GROUNDS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- In international legal instruments protecting individuals or groups against discrimination, even when a criterion of sexual orientation is not explicitly mentioned, the protection is guaranteed by the general principle of non-discrimination, the right to freedom and dignity and the principles of fair and equal treatment ensured by these instruments.

The main general instruments referring to non-discrimination and equal treatment have already been quoted (see above chapter 5).

- The main specific international instruments on the protection of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals are:

- Recommendation CM/Rec (2010) 5 of the Committee of Ministers to the Member States of the Council of Europe, on the measures to be taken to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, which was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 31 March 2010.

This instrument recalls that human rights are universal, apply to all persons and guarantee equal dignity of all people in the enjoyment of their rights and freedoms, without discrimination on grounds such as sex, race, colour, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, in accordance with the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Protocols.

Regarding gender identity, we note the document prepared by Mr. Thomas Hammarberg, former Human Rights Commissioner of the Council of Europe on Human Rights and Gender Identity.²

- Decision of 19 dated 17 June 2011 of the United Nations - Human Rights Council - which was unanimously supported by the Member States of the European Union, concerning actions to be taken for the recognition and protection of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals worldwide.

A.2. CONSTITUTION-LAW

In the Greek Constitution, non-discrimination and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is enshrined, in particular, in articles 2, paragraph 1 (respect for and protection of human dignity), 4, paragraph 1 (equality before the law), 5, paragraph 2 (protection of life, honour and freedom), 20, paragraph 1 (right to judicial protection), 25, paragraph 1 (unrestricted exercise of individual and social rights with regard to the State and relations between individuals).

Further, the current legislative framework in Greece follows the obligations and is adapted to the legal commitments of international - mainly European - bodies (Act 3304/2005: Implementation of the principle of equal treatment, irrespective of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation). The Act's purpose is to establish the general regulatory

² 2 <https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1476365>

framework to combat discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin and discrimination on grounds of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation as regards employment and occupation, in accordance with Council Directives 2000/43/EC dated 29 June 2000 and 2000/78/EC dated 27 November 2000, to ensure the application of the principle of equal treatment.

Article 16 of this Act provides:

Criminal penalties: *«1. Whoever violates this Act on non-discrimination on grounds of racial or ethnic origin or religious or other beliefs, disability, age or sexual orientation in the transactional provision of goods or service offering to the public, shall be punished with imprisonment from six (6) months to three (3) years and a fine of one thousand (1.000) to five thousand (5.000) EUR».*

- The concept of gender identity in the Greek legal system is already reflected in a legal instrument and, in particular, the Penal Code. Specifically, Act 4139/2013 (article 66) amended paragraph 3, article 79 of the Penal Code on the «judicial calculation of sentences», which states that:

«The commission of an act out of hatred caused because of the race, colour, religion, descent, national or ethnic origin or sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim constitutes an aggravating circumstance and the sentence is not suspended».

It is worth mentioning Act 3896/2010 as well, which transposed into Greek law the European Directive 2006/64/EU. The Act expressly states that discrimination

based on gender reassignment falls within gender discrimination and is protected by the same provisions. The competent authority to combat discrimination based on gender identity is the Ombudsman, under his/her special competence on gender equality.

□ EXISTING SITUATION

In Greece, although there is no specific legislation on issues related to the status of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals, administrative practice and case-law recognize certain specific rights.

So, for example, individuals who have reassigned their sex are entitled to seek correction of their birth certificate, as to gender and main name, by applying to the competent First Instance Court, an application which is heard in accordance with the voluntary jurisdiction proceedings of the Code of Civil Procedure (articles 739 et seq and 782, paragraph 3). According to the settled case-law of national courts, these applications are accepted in substance. In general, judgments correcting particulars of the birth certificate, are, according to the case-law of the State Council, binding on the Administration.

- In Greece, several lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organizations and unions are operating. Public gatherings and events are not prohibited, while recent annual gay pride events in Athens and Thessaloniki were organized with the participation of local communities.

- In December 2004, the National Commission for Human Rights published a decision - opinion, in plenary session, on issues related to discrimination against sexual minorities in Greece (at the request of the Greek section of Amnesty International), which contains specific recommendations :

The National Commission for Human Rights supports legal recognition of a true symbiotic relationship between persons of the same sex, so as to remove discrimination against them at hereditary, tax, insurance, health, pension, welfare and working levels.

- It should be noted that the European Court of Human Rights has repeatedly ruled that cases of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals in social life violate the corresponding articles of the European Convention on Human Rights.

6. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION - RIGHT TO INFORMATION

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

-Freedom of expression and exchange information or ideas is guaranteed, in particular, in article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights and article 19 of the United Nations' International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Act 2462/1997).

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, enshrines, among others, freedom of expression and information (article 11), and a significant number of relevant Directives has been issued.

A.3. CONSTITUTION-LAW

-The right to information falls within the scope of protection of the provisions of article 5, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to free development of personality (in conjunction with article 2, paragraph 1), and participation in the social, economic and political life of the country, the provisions of article 14, paragraph 1, which guarantee freedom of expression, and the provisions of article 5A, which recognize the right to information.

-The right to information is now explicitly recognized in the provisions of the new article, 5A paragraph 1, of the Constitution as an individual right, subject to the law, which may impose restrictions. Paragraph 2, article 5A of the Constitution establishes the right to «participate in the Information Society» and the State's obligation to facilitate access to electronically handled information and its production, exchange and dissemination.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Developing an Integrated Content Management System for Websites and WebTV Providers and Interactive User Services

OBJECTIVE	To collect, map and utilize information relating to the range of uninterrupted
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	information provided to Greek citizens, by ensuring pluralism and free flow of information.
SCOPE	<p><input type="checkbox"/> electronic recording and multichannel availability of multimedia content and advanced services, related to the areas of responsibility and activity of the Secretariat General of the Media - Secretariat General of Information and Communication.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to develop an appropriately structured and organized single website (GP) for each Press and Communications Office Abroad (GTEE), as well as an integrated system of content production, processing and display, so that the services offered and the multimedia content dynamically adapt to the demands of new technologies, for thirty-four (34) Press and Communication Offices Abroad.</p> <p>* The project is divided into three functional modules. The three (3) functional modules aim at facilitating and supporting better description and allocation of the necessary measures and actions required to successfully implement and manage it.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Secretariat General of the Media - Secretariat General of Information and

	Communication
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated implementation date: end 2014 - Budget 649,940.00 EUR.

7. RIGHT TO HEALTH

7.1. PHYSICAL HEALTH

According to the definition given in the Preamble of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, «Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity». This definition recognizes two parameters which define health: the parameter of the absence of disease and the wellness parameter.

The Promotion of Health, under the Ottawa Declaration of the World Health Organization (1986), is the process through which individuals become able to develop control over their health and improve it.

Health should be considered a factor of everyday life and not an end in itself. It is, therefore, a positive concept, emphasizing social and personal opportunities. That is, the concept of positive health reflects the condition called «empowerment».

The concept of positive health refers to the notion of mental and social well-being since, without a mental balance and an appropriate supportive social environment, empowerment cannot be realised. However, social welfare is not only guaranteed by the individual's ability to meet the challenges of his/her social

environment, as well as by the existing social structures, the role they play in supporting and protecting the individual, and the possibilities offered for his/her personal fulfilment and happiness.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

In international law, the protection of the right to health is enshrined in particular in the «International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights» (article 12), ratified by our country by Act 1532/1985, which recognises, among others, the right of every person to enjoy the best possible physical and mental health and the measures to be taken by the States Parties to fully exercise the right. We also note articles 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, article 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and article 25 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, where, in particular, the right to physical and mental health for the persons protected by these conventions is enshrined.

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

At Community level, article 35 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union provides for the right of every person to access quality health services, while, at the same time, it establishes the duty of every State to protect this right.

A.3. CONSTITUTION-LAW

Constitution, in article 5, paragraph 5 guarantees the individual right to health: «Everyone has the right to the protection of his/her health and his/her genetic identity», while article 21, paragraph 3 establishes the social right to health, as it provides for an obligation of the State to care for the health of citizens and take specific measures to protect youth, the elderly, persons with disability and care for the needy.

The legislative framework for the protection and enjoyment of the right to health is complemented by the basic laws of the National Health System, indicatively described as follows:

- Act 1397/83 (Official Gazette issue no. 3 A) on the «National Health System and other provisions», article 1 of which enshrines the principles of equality and universality in citizens' access to healthcare.
- Act 1383/83 (Official Gazette issue no. A 106) on the «Removal and transplantation of human tissues and cells».
- Act 1729/83 (Official Gazette issue no. 44 A) on «Combating the spread of drugs, protecting youth and other provisions», Act 3459/2006 (Official Gazette issue no. A 103) on the «Code of Laws on Drugs» and Act 4139/2013 (Official Gazette issue no. 74 A) on the «Code on Drugs».
- Act 1820-1888 (Official Gazette issue no. 261A) «On blood donation» and Act 3402/2005 (Official Gazette issue no. A 258) on the «Reorganization of the blood donation system and other provisions».

- Act 2071/1992 (Official Gazette issue no. A 261) on «Streamlining and Organizing the Health System», article 47 which enshrines the rights of hospital patients.
- Act 2716/1999 (Official Gazette issue no. A 96) on «Developing and streamlining mental health services»
- Act 2889/2001 (Official Gazette issue no. 37A) on «Improving and streamlining the National Health System».
- Act 3235/2004 (Official Gazette issue no. 17A) on the «Application of Assisted Reproduction».
- Act 3305/2005 (Official Gazette issue no. 53A) on «Primary Health Care», which established the system of primary health care.
- Act 3329/2005 (Official Gazette issue no. 53A) on the «National Health and Social Solidarity System and other provisions», which reorganized the structure of the National Health and Social Solidarity System.
- Act 3418/2005 (Official Gazette issue no. A 287) on the «Code of Medical Ethics».
- Act 3730/2008 (Official Gazette issue no. A 262) on the «Protection of Minors from tobacco and alcoholic beverages and other provisions».
- Act 3868/2010 (Official Gazette issue no. A 129) on the «Upgrade of the National Health System and other provisions of competence to the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity».
- Act 4052/2012 (Official Gazette issue no. 41A) on the «Regional establishment of the National Health and Social Solidarity System».

B. SET OF ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED OR TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Reforming the Primary Health Care System - establishment of a Primary National Health Network (PNHN).

OBJECTIVE	To reorganize Primary Health Care and integrate health services aiming at putting the citizen and his/her health needs at the centre of health care.
ACTION/ SCOPE	<p>A bill entitled «Primary National Health Network (RPHL), change of purpose of the National Organization for the Provision of Health Services (EOPYY) and other provisions» was passed by the Greek Parliament. This bill is aimed at reconstituting Primary Health Care services in order to ensure continuity of care for citizens, through the creation of a universal, comprehensive, quality and efficient system, based on the principle of equal access to health services and social justice.</p> <p>The basic pillars of the bill, which is expected to establish primary health care as the centre of the health system, with supplementary and supportive action from the secondary and tertiary health care, are:</p> <p>i) to convert the National Organization</p>

	<p>for the Provision of Health Services exclusively to a purchaser of health services, while improving its administrative and contractual capacity, with emphasis on cost and the quality of health services provided to insured individuals</p> <p>ii) to organizationally rearrange Health Centres and their remote units (Polyvalent District Clinics and District Clinics), which fall under the organizational structure of Health Districts and match to the new architecture of the country's local government</p> <p>iii) to introduce the institution of family doctor, who undertakes an active role in the holistic treatment of the patient at the early diagnosis and treatment levels, as well as that of prevention and management of chronic diseases, rehabilitation and homecare</p> <p>iv) to provide primary health care services through a single, universal and decentralized Primary National Health Network, equally to every citizen, regardless of his/her economic, social, professional and insurance status.</p> <p>Articles 27 and 28 of the bill provide for the operation of Mobile Primary</p>
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	Health Care Units to serve the health needs in areas with particular problems of access to primary health care services.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health, National Organization for the Provision of Health Services and Health Districts (Y.PE.)
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATOR	Promulgation of Act and implementation of planned reforms

B.2. Accessibility of vulnerable groups to Primary Health Care Services

OBJECTIVE	Accessibility of vulnerable social groups to Primary Health Care Services
SCOPE/ ACTION I	<p>Program: Free Access Voucher to Primary Health Care Services (Health Voucher)</p> <p>The purpose of the program is to ensure free access of citizens who have lost their insurance capacity, as well as the dependent members of their families, to primary health care and prevention services.</p> <p>Beneficiaries of the program are citizens who were members of health sectors placed under the National Organization for the Provision of</p>

	Health Services, have lost their insurance capacity and meet certain income criteria. Registration in the program is supported by the website www.healthvoucher.gr or through the Citizen Service Centres (KEP).
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The Health Voucher program, which is funded by the National Strategic Reference Framework, is to cover at least 200.000 uninsured citizens for the years 2013-2014, while its total budget will amount to 46 million EUR.
SCOPE/ ACTION II	Program: Health at Home Divided into the following actions: Homecare and Rehabilitation at Home. It refers to the provision of nursing and rehabilitation services to people who have lost their insurance capacity, unemployed or persons living below the poverty line and suffering from chronic illnesses, strokes or heart diseases.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The program Health at Home has a total budget of 4.500.000 EUR and is expected to be launched immediately.

B.3. Covering medical expenses of uninsured and financially weak citizens

OBJECTIVE	Accessibility to the health and nursing care system of the country for uninsured and financially weak citizens.
SCOPE/ ACTION	<p>The Joint Ministerial Decree no. 139491/2006 (Official Gazette issue no. 1747/issue B'/30-11-2006) on the «Definition of conditions, criteria and procedures for access of uninsured and financially weak citizens to the nursing and medical care system», issued on the basis of the Legislative Decree 57/1973 (Official Gazette issue no. 149/A/19-7-1973) specifies the terms, conditions and all categories of beneficiaries falling under the free hospital and health care scheme in public hospitals. The beneficiaries include both Greek citizens and third-country nationals with a residence permit for reasons of health, recognized political refugees, asylum seekers, beneficiaries of additional protection and persons placed under a protection scheme for humanitarian reasons.</p> <p>With respect to third-country nationals who do not possess legal documents, the circular of the Ministry of Health</p>

	<p>under protocol no. Y4a/oik. 45610/2-5-2012 (ADA: B49KTH-55P) clarifies that free and unhindered access to health services are entitled:</p> <p>a) unaccompanied minors or not, for every case of hospitalization (emergency or not)</p> <p>b) cases arriving as emergencies, concern life-threatening situations and are admitted through the Emergency Department of each hospital, as well as people infected with HIV or other infectious diseases and needing treatment. The categories of incidents relevant to the second case are covered only until the health of patients is stabilized.</p> <p>The Ministry of Health is considering the possibility to review the said Joint Ministerial Decree in the direction of widening the beneficiaries, covering cases of insured individuals who have not filled their insurance obligations and including preventive medicine services in the services provided.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health and supervised hospitals

B.4. Accessibility of citizens to healthcare services in the context of cross-border care

OBJECTIVE	Free movement of patients within the European Union and facilitation of access to safe and high-quality cross-border healthcare
SCOPE	<p>To harmonize the national law with Directive 2011/24/EU of the European Parliament and the Council dated 9 March 2011 «On the application of patients' rights in the context of cross-border healthcare» (Act 88/45/4-4-2011).</p> <p>Its scope extends to the provision of any kind of health care and safeguards patient's rights in the context of cross-border care.</p>
ACTION	<p>Following elaboration of the Directive by the competent Committee of the Ministry of Health, the bill transposing the Directive into our national law was passed by the Parliament, along with the following lines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to create National Standards for the provision of healthcare and the criteria for meeting them • guidelines and relevant training to meet the criteria set • to create a facility for monitoring, compliance and evaluation of health service providers, as well as a public information system

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national strategy for the gradual adaptation of bodies.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Implementation of the recently voted Act 4213/2013 on the «Adaptation of the national legislation to the provisions of Directive 2011/24/EU of the European Parliament and the Council dated 9 March 2011 on the implementation of patients' rights in the context of cross-border healthcare (Act 88/45/4.4.2011) and other provisions»

B.5. Promoting health and preventing chronic diseases

B.5.1. Implementing a National Action Plan on Cancer (2011-2015)

OBJECTIVE	To effectively prevent and early detect cancer, improve the treatment of undiagnosed cancer, as well as ensuring the best possible response on the part of the State in administering the disease and its consequences.
SCOPE AND ACTION LINES	<p>The main objectives of the National Action Plan for Cancer are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to enhance the value of prevention and early diagnosis for the treatment of the disease • to develop and introduce into clinical

	<p>practice diagnostic and treatment protocols and guidelines, to ensure uniform provision of health care to citizens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to certify structures and services • to ensure the conditions for reducing morbidity and mortality due to cancer • to create a national cancer registry for the systematic recording and study of cancer. <p>The national plan includes individual targets developed around five fields of intervention in cancer care:</p> <p>1st Pillar: prevention and early detection of cancer</p> <p>2nd Pillar: improving treatment of diagnosed cancer</p> <p>3rd Pillar: post treatment handling, rehabilitation and re-inclusion</p> <p>4th Pillar: research</p> <p>5th Pillar: education</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Implementation framework for planned actions: 2011-2015

B.5.2. Treating Rare Diseases

OBJECTIVE	To create a National Strategy for the
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	holistic treatment of rare diseases, through the design and implementation of specific actions
SCOPE AND ACTION LINES	<p>A Committee for Rare Diseases was established and works at the Ministry of Health [decree number DY1d/G.P.100802/11/11-4-2012, modified by decree DY1d/G.P.114364/5-11-2012 (ADA: B45NTH-4T1)], aiming at formulating a final proposal regarding the National Action Plan for Rare Diseases and advancing the necessary legislation.</p> <p>The design of the main pillars of the National Action Plan takes into account the content of the Recommendation on Actions in the field of Rare Diseases of the Council of the European Union, which provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - adopting and implementing plans or strategies for rare diseases - adequately defining, codifying and recording rare diseases - research for rare diseases - centres of expertise and European reference networks for rare diseases - concentrating expertise for rare diseases at European level - strengthening the role of patient organizations

	<p>- ensuring, through appropriate financing and co-operation mechanisms, sustainability of infrastructures developed in the fields of information, research and healthcare for rare diseases.</p> <p>This Committee has also been tasked with coordinating and monitoring the implementation of actions to be proposed and their evaluation.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Under formulation

B.5.3. Establishing information procedures on the exchange of human bodies intended for transplantation, between our country and the Member States of the European Union

OBJECTIVE	To transpose the European Directive 2012/25/EU on transplants
SCOPE AND LINES OF ACTION	On 9 October 2012, the European Commission adopted executive Directive 2012/25/EU, which established information procedures on the exchanges of human bodies between the Member States, intended for transplantation.

	<p>The purpose of the Directive is to ensure a high level of public health and reduce the risks arising from the illegal exchange of organs. The adoption of uniform procedural rules between the coordinating bodies for transplants of the Member States will facilitate the exchange of grafts between European Union Member States, as well as the transmission of information on the characterization of organs and donors, the traceability of organs and the reporting of serious adverse events and reactions.</p> <p>The Directive will be incorporated into the legislation of the Member States until April 2014.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Implementation by: April 2014

7.2. MENTAL HEALTH

SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED 1. Defending the rights of mental patients

OBJECTIVE	To defend the rights of mental patients through the completion of the Psychiatric Reform
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ACTIONS	<p>The Andor-Lykourentzos Covenant, which updated the Spidla-Avramopoulos Covenant, aims at enhancing Psychiatric Reform so that the mental health system in Greece becomes functional, sustainable and effective, with specifications and performance standards that will focus on the personalized support of beneficiaries, and emphasis on their real needs.</p> <p>In particular, the following are provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to completely remove the remaining purely psychiatric hospitals and promote de-institutionalization. • to continue financing the new mental health units and staff them using the personnel of the decommissioned psychiatric hospitals. • to regularly and adequate finance non-profit private law entities, which have been assigned the operation of mental health units. • to establish, until 30/06/2015, a sustainable national financing system for mental health structures. • to establish a system for the provision of mental health services which will be based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the cost of services provided, per
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	<p>beneficiary and unit type.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the provision of mental health services from certified and licensed units - private law entities - the development and enhancement of the smooth operation of the Limited Liability Social Cooperatives (KoiSPE). - the establishment of a dynamic system for monitoring the implementation of mental health reform within the Ministry of Health. - the assignment of the evaluation of the entire course of the psychiatric reform to an Independent Assessor. • to link the progress of the reforms, as outlined in the Memorandum and analysed in the accompanying Action Plan, with the financial aid from the European Social Fund (ESF), by the end of 2015. • legislative initiative of the Ministry of Health to increase self-representation of the mentally ill and their families in the Sectoral Mental Health Committees
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Implemented by financial aid from the European Social Fund (ESF), with a schedule until the end of 2015.

7.3. HIV CARRIERS

SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

1. Limiting the spread of AIDS disease among Injecting Drug Users

OBJECTIVE	<p>To address the prevalence of HIV virus and hepatitis B and C among injecting drug addicts (IDUs).</p> <p>To avoid high-risk behaviour from drug addicts and raise their awareness so that they address themselves to addiction therapeutic programs.</p>
SCOPE	<p>To combat the HIV/AIDS stigma and prevent the spread of the disease, we aim at immediately implementing information campaigns and distributing material (such as condoms and syringes) to intravenous drug addicts.</p>
ACTION I	<p>The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with all stakeholders (Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention (HCDCP), Organisation Against Drugs (O.KA.NA.), Therapy Centre for Drug Addicts (KETHEA 18 ANO), Program for Alternative Addiction Treatment (ARGO), Prevention Centres of the Municipality of Athens, etc.) and non-governmental organizations (ACTUP HELLAS, HelMSIC, Hellenic Association for the Study and Control</p>

	<p>of AIDS (EEMAA), POSITIVE VOICE, LIFE CENTRE, PRAXIS, ASSOCIATION OF OKANA CURED ADDICTS) has completed and published, in June 2013, an Action Plan to Combat the HIV/AIDS Epidemic among Intravenous Drug Users in the centre of Athens and throughout Greece, which has been posted on the DIAVGEIA website under ADA (BEZZTH-L1B).</p> <p>This Action Plan is addressed to all vulnerable populations of intravenous drug addicts and includes preventive measures, social re-inclusion of the addicts, training of health professionals and volunteers street workers, as well as informing the general public.</p> <p>At present, the Action Plan is in the process of redevelopment and its revision is expected.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the above stakeholders.
ACTION II	<p>Mobile Primary Health Care and Psychosocial Support Units for intravenous drug addicts.</p> <p>Overall, three mobile units have been activated in the centre of Athens, distributing sterile material to active injecting drug addicts. The aim is to</p>

	<p>record, early diagnose and treat health problems in population groups (mainly active injecting drug addicts who have multiple vulnerabilities e.g. homeless), who lack access to health services. The interdisciplinary echelons of the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention aim at ensuring the health of target groups, early detecting epidemics, stopping the contagion chain of infectious diseases among users (particularly HIV infection and hepatitis) and, thus, safeguarding public health in our country.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	<p>This program is implemented throughout the years 2013 and 2014 by the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention - Department of Community Intervention, out of its budget and under the auspices of the Ministry of Health.</p>
ACTION III	<p>Street program: free distribution of injectable and peripheral material to intravenous drug addicts (IDUs). This street program is implemented on the target group of injecting drug addicts in the centre of Athens.</p> <p>The aim is to address the prevalence of HIV and hepatitis B and C viruses among intravenous drug addicts.</p>

COMPETENT BODY	The program is designed and implemented throughout the course of years 2013 and 2014 by the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention - Department of Community Intervention - Office of Health Education and Public Awareness, under the auspices of the Ministry of Health.
ACTION IV	Action «INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE» by the Organisation Against Drugs, in collaboration with a network of bodies comprised of the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention, the ATHENS - HEALTH Prevention Centre and the non-governmental organisations Positive Voice, Life Centre, PRAKSIS and Doctors of the World. The action is being implemented since December 2011 and continues until today. It mostly concerns street work, mobile units and special kit distribution points, comprising of syringes and other injecting equipment, printed instructions for their safe use and condoms, the target group being the active intravenous drug addicts in Attica.
COMPETENT BODY	Organisation Against Drugs. The cost for the provision of medical supplies for distribution is covered out of the

	budget of the Organisation Against Drugs, while looking for extraordinary donations.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Number of new syringes per user per year. The international guidelines of the World Health Organization in times of HIV/AIDS epidemics is 200 syringes/user/year. Estimated number of problematic drug addicts in Attica: 7.000 (Greek Documentation and Monitoring Centre for Drugs (EKTEPN), 2013)

2. Providing treatment and housing HIV patients - Housing Structures for Adult Indigent Seropositive Individuals

OBJECTIVE	To house needy adult seropositive individuals
CURRENT STATUS	Homeless seropositive adults, because of their health and socio-economic status, are living in unsuitable conditions for their personal health and safety, which makes it imperative to create protected structures, aiming at housing homeless adults with HIV infection.
ACTION	The Housing Structure for Adults Indigent Seropositive individuals has been operating since 2009 and is an

	interim housing structure, giving priority to homeless seropositive adults living alone or in single-parent families, who do not have adequate housing.
COMPETENT BODY	This program is designed and implemented by the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention - Department for Community Interventions on own funds and private financing, under the auspices of the Ministry of Health
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The staff evaluates capacity building of tenants, their social re-inclusion and their active participation in undertakings.

3. Prevention, treatment and psychosocial rehabilitation of prostitutes living in the community by creating a Day Centre for Prostitutes with multiple vulnerabilities

OBJECTIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to prevent, treat and psychosocially rehabilitate prostitutes living in the community and possibly falling under multiple vulnerabilities (e.g. use of addictive substances, seropositivity) or belonging, in parallel, to vulnerable groups (victims of forced prostitution, immigrants, homeless persons, etc.). - to grow and improve the social and
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	<p>personal skills of the beneficiaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to eliminate social exclusion and marginalization
ACTION	<p>Sub-Project «Planning, Organization and Operation of a Day Centre»</p> <p>Services provided include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting and psychotherapeutic interventions at individual and group levels. • Psychiatric evaluation of incidents. • Educational and social activities. • Recreational Activities. • Light meals and dining for the beneficiaries. • Intra-day sprawling in specifically designed areas • Participation of the beneficiaries in meetings for the diagnostic assessment of their needs. • Networking services and creation of an easily accessible support framework. • Participation of the beneficiaries themselves in voluntary work, primary health care and preventive services.
COMPETENT BODY	<p>This program is designed and implemented by the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention - Department of Community Intervention, under the 2007-2013 National Strategic Reference Framework, Operational</p>

	<p>Program «Human Resources Development for the years 2007 - 2013», for a period of 27 months, under the auspices of the Ministry of Health.</p> <p>The program will be evaluated both internally and by an external evaluator.</p>
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7.4. ADDICTED INDIVIDUALS

SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

1. Treatment, support and integration of addicts

OBJECTIVE	To protect the right to treatment and inclusion of addicts who are in exclusion or at risk of exclusion. The following programs/actions are addressed to the general public.
ACTION I/ SCOPE	Programs addressing drug addiction for users of opiates (heroin), which represent 80% of individuals who turned to therapeutic programs
COMPETENT BODY	Organisation Against Drugs, through the operation of 53 Drug Substitution Units across the country
IMPLEMENTA TION INDICATORS	Today, the Organisation Against Drugs services 8.200 individuals under treatment, on a daily basis, at the drug substitution programs. 2.600 persons are in waiting lists for admission to the program. Of these, 2.300 are in Attica.
ACTION II/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug treatment from using legal and

SCOPE	<p>illegal psychoactive substances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to solve drug addiction problems from psychoactive substances • Systematic support to improve physical and mental health • Systematic support to address problems related to the commission of criminal offenses • Improving conditions to tackle social exclusion • Developing skills for inclusion in the labour market • Vocational training • Personal development
COMPETENT BODY	<p>The Therapy Centre for Dependent Individuals (KETHEA) through its Therapeutic Programs (especially KETHEA ITHACA, KETHEA KIVOTOS, NOSTOS-EXANDAS, KETHEA DIAVASSI, KETHEA PILOT, KETHEA OXYGEN, KETHEA EXODOS, KETHEA EPIRUS, KETHEA ARIADNE, KETHEA KYTTARO, KETHEA ALFA, KETHEA EXELIXIS).</p>
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	<p>4.000 addicted adults participate in KETHEA's therapeutic programs during one year.</p> <p>At the same time, more than 6.500 individuals participate, members of families of persons under drug</p>

	treatment or in preparation for their inclusion in a program
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2. Treating Prisoner Addicts

OBJECTIVE	To ensure the right to treatment for the special category of prisoner addicts
ACTION I/ SCOPE	<p>Pilot Program for the Treatment of Addicts at the Korydallos and Patras Detention Centres</p> <p>Detained drug addicts are entitled to the same quality of health care provided to non-detained drug addicts, regarding elimination of harm from the use of substances. The implementation of therapeutic programs for addicts in the particular environment of the Korydallos and Patras prisons, aims at reducing use of drugs, relapse, risk behaviour in relation to use of drugs and, thereby, reducing the spread of infectious diseases and the delinquent behaviour of suffering detainees. Additionally, rehabilitation while serving a sentence enhances the possibility of social re-inclusion after release.</p> <p>The project's beneficiaries totalled 300 persons (200 persons in Athens and 100 persons in Patras).</p>

COMPETENT BODY	Organisation Against Drugs, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Through this Action pilot therapeutic programs for addicts will be created in the Korydallos and Patras prisons, which will operate for twenty-four months (completion date: July 2014).
ACTION II/ SCOPE	<p>Program KETHEA IN ACTION, under which the following are provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counselling and preparation of addicts for admission to a therapeutic program, within or outside a prison • Drug treatment during detention • Support to organize release procedures, under the provisions of the law • Support to socially include released prisoners
COMPETENT BODY	<p>The Therapy Centre for Dependent Individuals (KETHEA). The following are included in the program IN ACTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Therapeutic Community in the Korydallos Women's Prison • Therapeutic Community in the Thebes Women's Prison • Therapeutic Community in the Korydallos Prison

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 counselling programs in respective detention centres • Counselling Station in the Juvenile Court, Athens • 2 Reception and Re-inclusion Programs for released prisoners • Guest house for released prisoners
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	<p>The program provides services to more than 2.000 detainees and released prisoners a year.</p> <p>More than 30 inmates a year participate in rehabilitation and social re-inclusion programs.</p>

3. Pilot program for alternative measures to imprisonment for minor offenders/drug addicts

OBJECTIVE	Early intervention for minor offenders/drug addicts to avoid the negative effects of imprisonment and the increase of delinquency for users
ACTION/SCOPE	In collaboration with the Ministries of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights and Public Order and Citizen Protection, to give minor offenders/drug addicts arrested the ability to attend a therapeutic program instead of serving a sentence.
COMPETENT BODY	The Organisation Against Drugs in collaboration with the Ministry of

	Public Order and Citizen Protection, with a budget of 1.500.000,00 EUR under the National Strategic Reference Framework for the years 2007-2013.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Number of admissions of persons arrested by the police to therapeutic programs

4. Treatment programs for immigrant addicts

OBJECTIVE	To ensure the right of immigrant addicts to treatment
ACTION/ SCOPE	<p>Program: Therapy Centre for Dependent Individuals (KETHEA) -MOSAIC, which aims at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-including rehabilitated persons • Networking with services facilitating legalization • Supporting the relatives of the immigrants • Neighbourhood hangout for young immigrants, aged 16 to 25, with counselling and raising awareness services, and the ability to participate in activities aimed at their better integration
COMPETENT BODY	<p>The Therapy Centre for Dependent Individuals (KETHEA). The following operate under the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counselling Program at the

	<p>Immigration Detention Facilities in Athens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental rehabilitation program for immigrants • Counselling Centre for immigrants
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	<p>The program provides services to more than 500 immigrants per year. Those in need are admitted into a therapeutic program. More than 200 immigrants receive counselling and family support services and participate in prevention activities.</p>

8. RIGHT TO WORK AND INSURANCE

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Act 1532/1985) provides for the protection of rights at work and the obligation of States Parties to develop employment programs.
- Legislative Decree 1423/84 ratified International Labour Organization Convention no. 122 on employment policy, according to which the States are taking steps to address unemployment and underemployment.
- Act 1424/84 ratified International Labour Organization Convention no. 111 on discrimination in employment and occupation, which prohibits any discrimination, exclusion or preference based on race, sex, religion, political opinion, national origin, social origin, resulting

in the cancellation or differentiation of equal opportunities and treatment relating to employment or occupation.

- Act 1546/1985 ratified International Labour Organization Convention no. 150 on labour administration: role, duties and organization.

- The European Social Charter (Act 1426/1984) provides, in article 1, for the protection of the right to employment.

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

- The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union contains a number of provisions relating to the right to work and insurance (articles 27-34).

- Act 1426/1484 ratified the European Social Charter, article 1 of which provides for the protection of the right to employment.

A.3. CONSTITUTION-LAW

- The Constitution guarantees the right of all to «participate in the social, economic and political life of the country, insofar as they do not infringe the rights of others or violate the Constitution or morality». Apart from the general guarantee for the right to participate in the economic life of the country and the freedom of private economic initiatives, the Constitution enshrines rights that contain specific aspects of economic freedom, such as the right to freedom of work and freedom of occupation (article 22).

- Act 3144/03 on the «Social dialogue for the promotion of employment and social protection and other provisions» established, with the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare, a National Employment Committee for promoting the social dialogue to formulate policies aimed at increasing employment and combating unemployment, commenting on the preparation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Plan for Employment and, in general, on policies related to labour issues.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Work experience program for young unemployed persons, aged 16-24

OBJECTIVE	Work experience contract to facilitate inclusion of youth aged up to 24 years in the labour market
SCOPE	Subsidy Program for work experience of 5.000 unemployed individuals, aged 16-24, newly entering the labour market, in private companies and, in general, private employers, subsidizing their insurance premiums, with the possibility of continuing the subsidy for an additional twelve (12) months, as long as the work experience contract is converted into an employment contract.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare

B.2. Business subsidy program for hiring unemployed graduates of higher education institutions, from both the university and technology sectors, up to 35 years old

OBJECTIVE	To create 5.000 new jobs for employees, on full time and permanent contracts
SCOPE	To recruit unemployed graduates, up to 35 years old, of Greek higher education institutions holding a Bachelor, Masters or PhD degree or equivalent qualifications from foreign schools, in private businesses and, in general, private employers engaged in economic activity
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare

B.3. Practice for students of universities and technological institutions.

OBJECTIVE	Practice for students of universities and technological institutions in private firms.
SCOPE	The students of universities may practise in the private sector, if this practice is included in the curriculum of the Department concerned. According to the regulatory framework for technical universities, the practice is mandatory and part of the studies.

	Students in technical universities receive, during their practice, compensation that has been set at 80% of the wage of an unskilled labourer and the Manpower Employment Organization subsidizes private sector firms with 50% of the compensation paid.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare

B.4. Action Plan of targeted interventions to enhance employment and entrepreneurship of young people

OBJECTIVE	To implement a consistent operational action plan for enhancing employment and entrepreneurship of young people, aiming at promoting targeted policies and measures for the development of employment and entrepreneurship of young people of the two age categories, 15-24 and 25-35, with emphasis on new low qualifications.
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to create jobs for young persons according to their qualifications. <input type="checkbox"/> to strengthen vocational education and training, as well as apprenticeship systems, with emphasis on combined training and work experience and further investment in work placements

	<p>and practice during and after training.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to adopt systematic transition programs from education to work, to support the acquisition of first work experience, focusing on the specific profile and needs of unemployed young persons.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to strengthen counselling and career guidance, with a focus on unemployed young persons.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to strengthen entrepreneurship of young people, focusing on new/innovative products, services and entrepreneurship sectors.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to invest in measures aimed at reducing school dropout.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare

B.5. Subsidy Program for local government enterprises of the first and second degree, to employ 5.000 unemployed persons, aged 55-64

OBJECTIVE	To facilitate access to employment for the elderly.
SCOPE	The beneficiaries who will be employed by the subsidized companies are former workers, aged 55-64, who have had their contract terminated (from 15/7/2010 onwards) as well as long

	term unemployed persons, aged 55-64. The total duration of the program is set at twenty seven (27) months, a period during which subsidized companies are required to maintain subsidized jobs.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare - Program financed by the European Union (European Social Fund - ESF) and national funds.

B.6. Limits on mass redundancies to protect older workers

OBJECTIVE	To protect the employment of older workers
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> During mass redundancies, the number of persons made redundant, aged 55 to 64, may not exceed 10% of the total made redundant. <input type="checkbox"/> Optional insurance for long term unemployed to establish old-age pension entitlement. <input type="checkbox"/> Provision of health care to long-term unemployed, aged over 55 years, following an application submitted to Social Insurance Institute branches.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare

B.7. Right of self-insurance for redundant workers aged 55-64

OBJECTIVE	Right of self-insurance to secure pension rights
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> Redundant persons, aged 55-64, have a right to self-insurance at the Social Insurance Institute <input type="checkbox"/> Uninsured elderly, who have exceeded the 65th year of their age and are not receiving a pension from another insurance body, are paid by the Agricultural Insurance Organisation (OGA) a pension equal to the basic Agricultural Insurance Organisation pension. This pension is paid from the «Special Account for the retirement of uninsured elderly».
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare

B.8. Subsidizing insurance contributions

OBJECTIVE	Programs subsidizing insurance contributions to enhance recruitment and retain jobs
SCOPE	To develop a program - under Act 3833/2010 - to subsidize up to 100% of insurance contributions (employers and employees), for hiring unemployed in businesses or maintaining jobs in businesses
ACTION	- Special two-year program to promote

	<p>employment, by subsidizing social security contributions for the recruitment of 25.000 unemployed persons</p> <p>- Program to retain 10.000 jobs, by subsidizing part of the employers' contributions at constantly operating hotel businesses.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Manpower Employment Organization

B.9. Family allowances

OBJECTIVE	Family allowances
SCOPE	Family allowances are paid to employees who provide dependent services, on a public or private law contract
ACTIONS	<p>A family allowance is paid for children who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - are aged up to 18 years or up to 22 years, if attending studies - are unable to work, for as long as the disability continues - are unmarried - reside in Greece or another Member State of the European Union <p>* In the year 2012, 262.892 beneficiaries received family allowances, while for the same</p>

	allowance the amount of 73.566.210,27 EUR was paid
COMPETENT BODY	Manpower Employment Organization-Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare.

B.10. Second Chance Schools

OBJECTIVE	Second Chance Schools provide the opportunity, to adults aged 18 and above who have not completed compulsory education, to continue their studies and obtain a diploma equivalent to lower high school diploma (Act 2525/97).
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to complete the compulsory education of citizens aged 18 and above <input type="checkbox"/> to reconnect learners with the education and training systems <input type="checkbox"/> to acquire current knowledge, skills and attitudes <input type="checkbox"/> to enhance their self-esteem and self-confidence <input type="checkbox"/> to contribute to their integration or to improve their position in the workplace
COMPETENT BODY	Institute for Youth and Lifelong Learning (INEDIVIM)
IMPLEMENTATION	Funds totalling: 25.323.541 EUR - Estimated completion date: by 2015

INDICATORS	
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B.11. Establishing guidelines and encouraging measure taking - in the context of the «Europe 2020» strategy

OBJECTIVE	To establish guidelines and encourage measure taking - in the context of the «Europe 2020» strategy - to increase women's participation in the labour market, reduce structural unemployment and promote job quality.
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to increase women's participation in the labour market <input type="checkbox"/> to reduce structural unemployment <input type="checkbox"/> to deliver work quality
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare

B.12. Special two-year program to promote employment by subsidizing social security contributions, for the recruitment of 25.000 unemployed persons

OBJECTIVE	To promote employment by subsidizing social security contributions
SCOPE	<p>The program is aimed at private companies and, in general, employers of the private sector, priority being given to small businesses employing up to 50 persons.</p> <p>The duration of the subsidy is 24 months, while at the end of the subsidy</p>

	the businesses undertake to maintain their staff for 12 more months, even without a subsidy.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare

9. RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

9.1. EDUCATION - COMBATING SCHOOL VIOLENCE

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

-The most important international instruments for the protection of rights of the child is the International Convention on the Rights of the Child (Act 2101/1992), the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (Act 3625/2007) and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflicts, which Greece has ratified by Act 3080/2002.

We also point out:

- The European Convention on the Exercise of Rights of the Child.
- The Convention of the Council of Europe Treaty on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (Act 3727/2008).

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union enshrines the rights of the child in article 24.

A.2. CONSTITUTION - LAW

- Article 16 of the Constitution on Education, Art and Science explicitly states that «education constitutes a basic mission for the State and shall aim at the moral, intellectual, professional and physical training of Greeks, the development of national and religious consciousness and at their formation as free and responsible citizens», while enshrining the right for free education and a ten-year compulsory education.

- According to the fundamental Act 1566/1985 on the «Structure and operation of primary and secondary education», the main purpose of primary and secondary education is to contribute to an integrated, harmonious and balanced development of the cognitive, psychological and natural forces of students so that, regardless of their gender and origin, they develop into integrated personalities and live harmoniously.

- Act 3518/06 (article 73) established the compulsory nature of preschool education, for children aged five (5) years and above. Therefore, attendance at kindergartens is now part of the primary education.

- Act 1566/85 (article 2, paragraph 3) provides that attendance is compulsory at the elementary and lower high school, if the student is under 16 years of age. Anyone who has the custody of the child and fails to register or supervise him/her with regard to his/her

attendance is punished in accordance with the provisions of the Penal Code.

- Corporal punishment is expressly prohibited in primary education by article 13, paragraph 8, of the Presidential Decree 201/1998. In secondary education, article 21 of Act 3328/2005 prohibits the imposition of any form of corporal punishment to students deviating from proper conduct. In addition, by Act 3500/2006 on «tackling domestic violence» it becomes clear that corporal punishment is not permitted in the context of both the upbringing and the education of children.

- The circular of the Directorate of Secondary Education Studies under protocol no. 133099/G2/19-09-2013, published in collaboration with the Directorate of Primary Education Studies, on «Regulating student issues», allows exemption from religious education to students who are of a different religion or creed or invoke grounds of religious conscience and so they do not wish to attend.

B. SET OF ACTIONS CURRENTLY BEING IMPLEMENTED OR TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Educational priority zones

OBJECTIVE	To promote the equitable inclusion in the educational system (especially in primary and secondary education) of students from areas with low educational and socioeconomic indicators, high school dropout rates and low access to higher education.
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SCOPE	<p>1) scientific administration of the project,</p> <p>2) implementation of a pilot program,</p> <p>3) training teachers and education officials</p> <p>4) expansion of the institution.</p> <p>Action Educational Activity Area (ZEP) is run in synergy and complementarity with the following actions:</p> <p>1) training immigrants and returning students</p> <p>2) educating Roma children</p> <p>3) educating children of the Muslim minority in Thrace</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Special Implementation Service (EYE) - Directorate for the Application of Educational Projects (DIEFES) - School Committees
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 24.930.000 EUR - Project completion estimate: 31/12/2014

B.2. Organizing and Operating School Centres for Remedial Teaching - 2012-2015

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to re-include students in the learning process <input type="checkbox"/> to reduce school dropout <input type="checkbox"/> to improve their performance
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to develop an independent supportive

	<p>curriculum to groups of students who have learning gaps or problems in lower high school.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Remedial Teaching in the lower stage of secondary education - lower high school - refers to monitoring an independent supportive curriculum. Participating students should be able, at no extra cost for additional extracurricular courses, to complete their compulsory education and have access to the second stage of secondary education (General - Technical Education).</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Special Implementation Service (EYE) - Action Inclusion Decision dated 13.2.2013.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 51.000.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.3. Producing educational tools to train students to cope with earthquakes and other natural disasters - Deucalion Project

OBJECTIVE	To produce educational tools to train students to cope with earthquakes and other natural disasters. The main target group are students in primary and secondary education (aged 5-16).
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SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to create elementary scientific material <input type="checkbox"/> didactic transformation of raw material <input type="checkbox"/> to create educational tools (by integrating contemporary information technology).
COMPETENT BODY	University of Ioannina
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 655.868 EUR - Estimated time to completion: 30/4/2014

B.4. Income support for families with children attending compulsory education and having low income

OBJECTIVE	To avoid school dropout
BENEFICIARIES	Families of Greek nationals and nationals of Member States of the European Union, including single parent families, who have children attending public schools and an annual family income not exceeding EUR 3.000
SCOPE	To provide an annual income payment of EUR 300, per child, up to the end of his/her compulsory education and, maximum, up to 16 years of their age
COMPETENT BODY	The allowance is budgeted by the Ministry of Education
SCHEDULE	Continued annual action, without a

	deadline
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B.5. Adopting a National Action Plan for the Rights of the Child

OBJECTIVE	To draft and adopt an Action Plan for Children and a National Facility, pursuant to the Convention on the Rights of the Child of the United Nations, in view of the next periodic evaluation of Greece by the relevant United Nations Committee.
SCOPE/ACTIONS - (PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS)	<p>Best possible development of a facility for preparing and monitoring the National Action Plan for the Rights of the Child and actions, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - supportive interventions and social services in areas where children live in particularly vulnerable circumstances - to expand the implementation of fostering institution - Operation of the registry for foster families provided - to establish specifications for the operation of institutions and other child protection bodies - to ensure access of every single child to health, medical and nursing care. - actions to combat poor attendance and school dropout, particularly in vulnerable population groups.

COMPETENT BODY	Coordination by the Secretariat General of Transparency and Human Rights/Ministry of Justice, with the participation of Ministries and bodies. Assistance from the Children's Ombudsman.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS/ SCHEDULE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of an Interministerial Committee for Children, among all stakeholders, in the first half of 2014 - Proposals relating to interventions mentioned above, within 2015 - Establishment of a Monitoring Facility under the United Nations Treaty on the Rights of the Child, within 2015 - Adoption of a National Action Plan for children, by the end of 2015.

9.1.1. COMBATING SCHOOL VIOLENCE

A. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

A.1. Observatory for the Prevention of School Violence and Bullying

OBJECTIVE	To design and implement actions to prevent school violence and bullying.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to systematically record and process actions, initiatives, programs and related actions that have been implemented by various bodies, to prevent and address school violence and

	<p>bullying.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to rank actions and priorities of the Observatory.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to explore the phenomenon of school violence and bullying in all schools of the country, through a nationwide survey in the total sample of students (electronic filing of an anonymous questionnaire by students in each school, processing of data by the Statistical Service of the Ministry of Education and crossing variables using the SPSS application).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to elaborate a guide with advice and detailed instructions to District Directors and educational officials, in response to incidents of school violence and bullying</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to develop a good practice guide and positively evaluated actions to prevent and respond to school violence and bullying, targeting both the involvement and co-operation of all stakeholders in the educational process (teachers, students, parents), and strengthening the functional relationship of schools with the local community.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to strengthen the sense of law and democracy of the country's students,</p>
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	<p>through teaching and experiential learning of the principles of statecraft and law, preventing and addressing racism and xenophobia.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to delineate the actions and role of the Observatory at administrative - institutional and social levels.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to include specific subjects relating to the prevention and treatment of school violence in the training program for teachers, in the context of the Educational Policy Institute.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to create a website for the Observatory and a special communication platform with teachers and students, which will provide rich information material and web links to national, European and international bodies involved in the issue.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Education/Directorate of Primary Education Studies/Directorate of Secondary Education Studies - Educational Policy Institute
STATUS	Implementation stage

9.2. SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

A. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

A.1. Designing and developing an electronic registry for all students with disabilities and/or special educational needs, aged 4-25 years

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to enhance access and participation of persons with disabilities and/or special educational needs in the educational system. <input type="checkbox"/> to create a Special Management Information System (registry for persons with disabilities), where all students with disabilities and/or special educational needs, at primary and secondary education (aged 4-25 years), will be registered by type of disability and/or special educational need.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> census and registration of students <input type="checkbox"/> to create a Special Management Information System which will record, indicatively, data related to assessments, medical examinations and student projects <input type="checkbox"/> pilot implementation of the Information System <input type="checkbox"/> training officials from the Ministry of Education in the use of the software for persons with disabilities, <input type="checkbox"/> correctness checks on data entry.
COMPETENT BODY	Special Implementation Service (SIS)
IMPLEMENTA	Funds totalling: 597.453,00 EUR -

TION INDICATORS	Estimated Completion Date: 31/7/2013- A request for extension has been submitted by the beneficiary of the Action until 27/02/2015
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A.2. Specialised Educational Support Program for the inclusion of students with disabilities and/or special educational needs

OBJECTIVE	To implement specialized educational support for students with disabilities and/or special educational needs in general education schools (parallel support, etc.), by providing a suitably trained teacher for each student in the class.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to recruit teachers <input type="checkbox"/> to train and constantly support teachers <input type="checkbox"/> to collect and classify the training material already produced <input type="checkbox"/> to employ specialist support staff
COMPETENT BODY	Special Implementation Service (SIS)
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 92.362.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2014

A.3. Assessing Special Education and Training structures
- Configuration of a software application to permanently

monitor and evaluate structures and critical parameters of Special Education

OBJECTIVE	To combine quantitative and qualitative examination of the special education and training structures (Centres for Differential Diagnosis and Support of Special Educational Needs - KEDDY, Special Education and Training School Units - SMEAE, Integration Classes) nationwide.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to review Special Education structures and services through the development of measurement tools <input type="checkbox"/> to collect and analyse quantitative data for recording the structures of student and teacher populations <input type="checkbox"/> to describe the operating principles and procedures by which to evaluate the existing special education structures <input type="checkbox"/> web application to support continuous monitoring and evaluation of the condition of the Special Education structures.
COMPETENT BODY	University of Athens (UOA)
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 846.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 15/11/2014

A.4. Designing and developing accessible educational and teaching aids for students with disabilities

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to adapt the textbooks for all subjects of A and B primary school grades - in printed and digital format - so that they become accessible to students with disabilities. <input type="checkbox"/> to supply special software to be used for customizing and integrating educational content in digital environments, accessible to students with disabilities. <input type="checkbox"/> to develop a specific educational material for supportive services designed to more adequately prepare students with disabilities for school attendance.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> administration and management of the Action, scientific and pedagogic documentation and evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> to distribute educational material to Special Education units <input type="checkbox"/> to train General and Special Education and Training teachers and counsellors in the new, accessible, educational material <input type="checkbox"/> to supply accessible supervisory material, develop audio and special educational material for Greek writing in the Braille Code

	<input type="checkbox"/> to supply special software so that students with disabilities have access to digital content <input type="checkbox"/> to develop digital educational material for students with hearing problems
COMPETENT BODY	Educational Policy Institute
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 2.863.370 EUR - Estimated time to completion: A request for extension until 30/06/2015 has been submitted by the beneficiary of the Action and is currently under consideration

A.5. Program of measures to individually support students with disabilities and/or special educational needs to maximize their academic and social development through the use of New Technologies and Digital Educational Material

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to streamline and enhance education of students with disabilities and/or special educational needs <input type="checkbox"/> to restructure the role of special schools and integration classes using existing accessible educational material in digital form <input type="checkbox"/> to implement innovative curricula
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to implement innovative curricula by

	<p>special education teachers in primary and secondary education</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to train multipliers and special education teachers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to develop a guide for curriculum differentiation and collect and complete training material and special tools.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Special Implementation Service (SIS) - Educational Policy Institute
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 37.425.922 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/10/2014

9.3. EDUCATION OF MUSLIM MINORITY CHILDREN IN THRACE, FOREIGN NATIONALS, AND VULNERABLE GROUPS OF MINORS

- All foreign children residing in Greece are entitled to a 10-year compulsory education, just as their native peers, in accordance with the Act 2910/2001 (article 40 (1)), and may have access to all school or educational activities, at any educational level. Furthermore, in accordance with article 40 (3) of this Act, they have the right to enrol in public school, even if they have insufficient documentation, in case they are children of:
 - a. persons protected by the Greek State as refugees and those under the protection of the United Nations' High Commissioner for Refugees
 - b. persons originating from areas where an unsettled situation prevails,
 - c. persons who have applied for asylum,

d. third-country nationals residing in Greece, even if their legitimate residence there has not been regulated.

- Act 2413/1996 on «Greek education abroad and intercultural education» established intercultural education aiming at organizing and operating primary and secondary schools to provide education to young people with educational, social or cultural specificities, by implementing programs of their respective public schools adapted to the particularities-needs of the students. In the above context, intercultural schools operate, being independent schools.

A. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

A.1. Intercultural educational activities in secondary education by strengthening transnational co-operation

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to strengthen staffing of reception classes in Educational Priority Zones and remedial tutorial classes in Educational Priority Zones in Secondary Education <input type="checkbox"/> to train teachers to be employed in the above classes <input type="checkbox"/> to utilize transnational co-operation with the countries of origin of foreign students
SCOPE	Intercultural educational activities in secondary education relating to the operation of reception classes in Educational Priority Zones and remedial tutorial classes in Educational

	Priority Zones for students from vulnerable social groups (third-country nationals, returnees, Roma, Muslim children, etc.), who have been integrated into the structures of the secondary education but lack the necessary knowledge of the Greek language.
COMPETENT BODY	Special Implementation Service (SIS)
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 1.571.974 EUR - Estimated completion date: in the near future.

A.2. Training immigrants and returning students

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to integrate and cause effective participation of immigrants and returning students in the educational system and combat school dropout. <input type="checkbox"/> to improve the education provided, support-empower teachers & education officials.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to support the operation of reception classes (RC) <input type="checkbox"/> to enhance the knowledge of Greek language <input type="checkbox"/> to cultivate a climate of intercultural communication at school level <input type="checkbox"/> to train teachers and members of the

	<p>educational community</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to enhance mother tongues of students</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> psychological support programs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to connect school and community</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to network schools</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki - University of Thessaly - University of the Aegean Sea - University of Ioannina
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 21.000.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: the beneficiary of the Action has submitted a request for extension until 31/10/2014, which is currently under consideration.

A.3. Educating the children of the Muslim minority in Thrace

OBJECTIVE	<p><input type="checkbox"/> to include all children of school age, members of the Muslim minority, in the educational system</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to provide knowledge of intercultural education and educational materials to teachers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to provide counselling support to families</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to raise awareness of all involved in education</p>
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> actions enhancing the knowledge of

	<p>Greek language and the performance of Muslim students attending kindergarten, primary, lower and senior high schools</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> actions suspending the school dropout/abandonment effect</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> actions supporting students with low performance/unstable attendance and/or poor school integration (Roma-Muslim)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> actions to socialize students</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> organization and operation of Program Support Centres</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> training teachers and education officials</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> interventions for information, consultation and raising public awareness</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> creation/reproduction of educational and training materials, changes and corrections to existing educational material</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> networking schools</p>
COMPETENT BODY	<p>University of Athens (UOA) - Aristotle University of Thessaloniki</p>
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	<p>Funds totalling: 10.255.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: a request for extension has been submitted by the beneficiary of the Action until 31/12/2014, which is currently under consideration.</p>

A.4. Educating Roma children

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to enhance access of Roma children in pre-school education and their early enrolment in the First Grade <input type="checkbox"/> familiarization with school and attending it for at least the duration of compulsory education.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to strengthen the attendance of Roma children at school through supportive courses to cover knowledge gaps <input type="checkbox"/> internal and external school interventions to enhance children's interest in learning <input type="checkbox"/> to take care of shortages and pending issues in official documents and/or medical/social obligations (vaccinations, registration of births, etc.) of Roma children <input type="checkbox"/> to enhance access of young Roma students and their families (mostly mothers) in Adult Education Centres and Second Chance Schools <input type="checkbox"/> educational support for teachers and education officials <input type="checkbox"/> to provide psychosocial support for students and their families to strengthen the relationship of school, family and community. <input type="checkbox"/> to network schools
COMPETENT	University of Athens (UOA) - Aristotle

BODY	University of Thessaloniki - University of Thessaly - University of Patras
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 11.478.500 EUR - Estimated completion date: the beneficiaries of the Actions have submitted an extension request until 31/12/2014, which is currently under consideration.

A.5. NEW SCHOOL (21th Century School) - The transition: culture and inclusion of vulnerable social groups in primary schools

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> to apply the basic principles of the New School (21st century School), particularly to primary schools, with a single reformed curriculum. <input type="checkbox"/> to smoothly and effectively integrate all pupils in the educational system, regardless of their social group and social specificity.
ACTIONS	To enrich the learning potential of primary schools showing needs to support inclusion of students from vulnerable social groups, with teachers who will work in the Reception Classes of Educational Priority Zones and the Remedial Tutorial Classes of Educational Priority Zones in the Primary Education (Primary Schools).

COMPETENT BODY	Special Implementation Service (SIS)
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 42.875.326 EUR - Estimated completion date: in the near future
STATUS	An Action related to Reception Classes is being implemented (the remaining actions have been included in the Operational Programme «Education and Lifelong Learning» «Supporting schools with a Unified Reformed Educational Program»)

9.4. REGULATING ADOPTION AND FOSTERAGE OF MINORS

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

The International Convention on the Rights of the Child and its two Optional Protocols on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and on the involvement of children in armed conflicts - (see above 9.1.).

A.2. CONSTITUTION-LAW

- Act 2447/1996 (Official Gazette issue no. 278 A'), as well as Presidential Decree 86/2009 (Official Gazette issue no. 114 A') set out the terms and conditions as well as the details of the organization and functioning of the institution of fosterage. The immediate priority is to reform the institutional framework on fostering minors to

minimize the number of children living in institutions, as well as to establish a National Registry for Fostered Minors to make the institution more effective.

A.3. CURRENT STATUS

The programs of a social/welfare nature, in the context of the institution of foster parents to generally support families in «crisis», are implemented by the Social Welfare Centres - Child Protection Departments, Districts etc.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. To coordinate child protection actions and services

OBJECTIVE	To coordinate child protection actions and services
SCOPE	To mobilise, support and operate the Child Protection Network [National Child Protection Line - Child Protection Teams (CPT) of the municipalities in the country - Juvenile Public Prosecution Offices and child protection bodies]
BODY	<input type="checkbox"/> Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare/National Social Solidarity Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION	Support and operation of the Child Protection Network by the end of 2016

B.2. Recording and collecting data regarding child protection issues

OBJECTIVE	To identify and gather data regarding child protection, to research, evaluate and analyze the problems, needs and results in the field of child protection.
SCOPE	To maintain a national registry and sub-registries (National Child Protection Registry, Registry of Children at Risk, Registry of Adoptions and Fostering Registry (awaiting the Ministerial Decree on the data the last one will include)
BODY	<input type="checkbox"/> Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare - National Social Solidarity Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION	National Child Protection Registries by the end of 2016

9.5. CHILD FRIENDLY JUSTICE

- JUVENILE OFFENDERS/PRISONERS

A. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

A.1. Correctional treatment of juvenile detainees in special juvenile detention facilities (4 facilities)

OBJECTIVE	Smooth social re-inclusion of juvenile offenders
SCOPE	Primary and Secondary Education for

	<p>juveniles and remedial teaching. Additional programs: chess, physical education, environmental, cultural, recreational, painting etc. Programs: ACTIONAID (1), Greek Red Cross (1) and UNESCO (1). European Union Programs: Teachers for Europe (1) and Spring Day in Europe (1). Program Grundtvig (1).</p> <p>Therapeutic-Counselling Programs: Juvenile facilities conduct such programs to support, mentally and physically rehabilitate addicted detainees</p>
COMPETENT BODY	<p>Ministry of Education, Chess Academy of Chalkida, Greek Ornithological Society, the School of Fine Arts, Municipalities, Hellenic Aluminum Manufacturers, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, University of Thessaly, Therapeutic Centre for Addicts (KETHEA-IN ACTION), Rehabilitation Unit for Alcoholics-Addicts-18 ANO of the Psychiatric Hospital of Athens, Rehabilitation Centre for Addicted Prisoners at Eleonas/Thebes (KATKETH), Drug Addicts Anonymous Group, European Union and other public and private entities.</p>
IMPLEMENTA	<p>The Action covers the course of a</p>

TION INDICATORS	judicial/school year.
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A.2. Preventing juvenile delinquency in the context of enforcing the reformatory measure of placing a minor in a state educational institution

OBJECTIVE	Training, social support, education and vocational training of juveniles
SCOPE	To provide Basic Education (Primary School). Programs: visual arts, cooking and baking, jewellery and crafts, ceramics, soccer, dance, counselling on drug addiction issues, participation in choir.
COMPETENT BODY	Special Primary School of the Primary Educational Foundation for Male Juveniles in Volos, Therapeutic Centre for Drug Addicts (KETHEA), Holy Metropolis of Dimitriada, University of Thessaly
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The project covers the course of a judicial/academic year

A.3. Alternative measures of serving a sentence

Expanding the institution of community service to juvenile offenders.

OBJECTIVE	To determine the bodies providing community service to juvenile offenders.
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SCOPE	In the context of activating implementation of the reformatory measure of community service by juvenile offenders, as provided in article 122, paragraph 1, case g of the Penal Code, a «List of bodies participating in the implementation of the institution for juveniles» is drawn up through a Joint Ministerial Decree issued on the initiative of the Ministry of Justice.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Signature of the Joint Ministerial Decree - Estimated implementation date: within 2014

A.4. Program «CHILD FRIENDLY JUSTICE»

OBJECTIVE	Detachment from courts, crime prevention, avoiding stigmatization of juveniles and addressing victimization of juveniles
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to institute new ways (via teleconferences, closed circuits etc.) so that the child-victim and the child-offender may give evidence. <input type="checkbox"/> to apply specific tools, similar to those existing in European countries, helping abused children to recall the memory of events, during pre-trial

	<p>proceedings, without finding themselves in a difficult position before the court.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to develop, in a wider range, the implementation of restorative justice, with alternative measures for serving the sentences of juvenile offenders.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to establish the institution of fostering juveniles in moral danger or juveniles who have been victimized.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, Juvenile Courts, Juvenile Probation Services, Courts of First Instance, Public Prosecutions, Municipalities etc.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The action is expected to be completed by 2015

A.5. Preventing juvenile delinquency in the context of enforcing the reformatory measure for juveniles to attend social and psychological programs in state, municipal, community or private bodies

OBJECTIVE	To update, mobilize, provide support for Internet addiction and all kinds of addictions (alcohol, drugs, etc.)
SCOPE	Programs: 1) Internet addiction, 2) Counselling, 3) Rehabilitation of all types

COMPETENT BODY	Juvenile Probation Services, in co-operation with other public or private bodies
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The Action covers the course of a judicial/school year

A.6. Therapeutic Programs for Adolescents

SCOPE/ ACTIONS	<p>The objective of the programs is to support and cure youth involved in the use of drugs and delinquency.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to early intervene in problems related to the use of drugs and delinquency</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to systematically support adolescents with drug use problems</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to empower and strengthen youth, aiming at social inclusion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to provide support to address problems related to Internet addiction and protection from the dangers of the Internet</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to systematically support the families of adolescents</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Therapy Centre for Drug Addicts (KE.TH.E.A.) through Therapeutic Programs (STROFI, PLEFSI, NOSTOS-EXANDAS, ANADISI, PILOTOS, OXYGONO, ARIADNE)
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	About 600 adolescents a year receive

TION INDICATORS	support, counselling and treatment services on issues posing a risk to their social inclusion. At the same time, 1500 individuals, members of families of adolescents, are participating in family support programs.
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9.6. UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

A. Current situation.

In order to better protect unaccompanied minors, the criteria for issuing and/or renewing residence permits for minors on humanitarian and exceptional reasons were, among others, identified and simplified (Act 3907/2011, establishing the Asylum Service and First Reception Service, adaptation of the Greek legislation to the provisions of the Directive 2008/115/EC «on common standards and procedures in the Member - States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals» and other provisions). Specifically, a residence permit on humanitarian grounds may be granted to unaccompanied minors, victims of domestic violence, victims of trafficking in human beings or smuggling, or to minors the custody of whom has been entrusted to Greek families or families of third-country nationals legally residing in the country or for whom adoption is pending before the Greek authorities or minors hosted by institutions or other charitable entities.

The provisions of Act 3875/10 on the («Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols

thereto and related provisions) modified the provisions of Act 3386/05. Special care was provided for unaccompanied minors, for whom the competent prosecution or police authorities take the necessary steps to establish their identity and nationality as well as the fact that they are unaccompanied. They also make every effort for the fastest possible identification of their families and immediately put into effect all necessary measures to ensure their legal representation. It is emphasized at this point that third-country nationals identified as victims of trafficking in human beings or smuggling of immigrants are granted, by decision of the Minister of Interior, a residence permit or renew an already granted one, without having to pay a fee, with a duration of one year and the possibility to renew it until an irrevocable court judgment is pronounced. For victims of trafficking in human beings who do not cooperate, the residence permit is renewed until criminal proceedings are terminated in any way.

On Wednesday, March 20, 2013, a workshop was held in Athens, with the participation of judges and prosecutors for juveniles, the Children's Ombudsman, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, representatives of non-governmental organizations and officials from governmental departments responsible for providing custody and assistance to juveniles, under the auspices of the Secretariat General of Transparency and Human Rights, on addressing the phenomenon of «Unaccompanied Minors», in particular asylum seekers. A common finding of all stakeholders was that the

framework governing the status of unaccompanied minors should be assessed and that concrete and immediate solutions are required for this issue.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

A.1. Operation of a Service for the Management of Housing Requests from Asylum Seekers and Unaccompanied Minors

OBJECTIVE	<p>A) to collect and manage housing requests from asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors referred by public authorities or cooperating reception and social support service providers of the target group</p> <p>B) to create and maintain a system to record, manage and monitor housing requests from asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors</p> <p>C) to co-ordinate bodies authorised from the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare or voluntary relocation programs, so that they assist the Central Authority in implementing the necessary movements of unaccompanied minors to hospices</p>
SCOPE	Operation of a Service for the Management of Housing Requests from Asylum Seekers and Unaccompanied Minors
COMPETENT	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and

BODY	Welfare/National Social Solidarity Centre
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A.2. Taking supporting measures for homeless minors

OBJECTIVE	To facilitate access of citizens in crisis or falling into a state of emergency (e.g. homelessness) to Welfare & Mental Health Services
SCOPE	Operation of a Helpline for Psychosocial Support no. «197», on a 7-day/24-hour basis
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare/National Social Solidarity Centre

A.3. Reviewing the legal framework governing the status of unaccompanied minors.

OBJECTIVE	To review the legal framework governing the status of unaccompanied minors.
SCOPE	To establish and operate an inter-ministerial working group with the participation of specialized bodies and organizations to assess the effectiveness of the existing legal framework and suggest appropriate solutions on the issue of unaccompanied minors.
COMPETENT	Ministry of Justice Transparency and

BODY	Human Rights, with the co-operation of other agencies and Ministries.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Submission of specific proposals and solutions to address the phenomenon, within 2014.

9.7. PROTECTION OF HEALTH IN CHILDHOOD

A. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

A.1. Reducing infant and child mortality

OBJECTIVE	To reduce infant and child mortality and prevent serious diseases through vaccination
SCOPE	To ensure universality in the vaccination coverage of the population, with emphasis on the vaccination coverage of infants-babies, minors and youth under the «National Immunization Program for Children & Adolescents 2011», on the basis of the guidelines laid down by the Council of Europe on «childhood immunization - successes and challenges of childhood immunization in Europe and the way forward», as well as the «Adult Immunization Schedule». The vaccines included in the National Immunization Program are provided free of charge to the needy and uninsured.
COMPETENT	Ministry of Health - District Units of

BODY	the country
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Ongoing Project - Financed by Expense Codes budgeted by the Ministry of Health

A.2. National Neonatal Screening Program

OBJECTIVE	To develop and universally implement the National Neonatal Screening Program (E.P.P.E.N.)
SCOPE AND ACTION LINES	<p>The bill entitled «Primary National Health Network (PEDY), change of purpose for the National Organization for the Provision of Health Services and other provisions» passed by the Greek Parliament (article 29), provides for the establishment and updating of the National Neonatal Screening Program (E.P.P.E.N.).</p> <p>According to the provisions of this article, following a proposal by the Institute of Child Health, the terms, conditions, scientific protocols, standardization process and any other relevant details for the universal implementation of the program, across the country, will be determined.</p> <p>In particular, the ministerial decree provided will set out the procedures for the collection of biological material,</p>

	the contents of preventive screening, the administrative and laboratory procedures, the organization and automation of relevant records, the use of research data, as well as the supervision and audit of the program implemented.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Health, Institute of Child Health
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Under formulation

A.3. Institution of Health Education Officers in Primary & Secondary Education

OBJECTIVE	Health Education Officers monitor, support and evaluate the long-term Health Education Programs
SCOPE	<p>To conduct health education programs on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health - interpersonal relationships (racism - violence - addressing grief - xenophobia) <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of human rights <input type="checkbox"/> Prevention of school and domestic violence, <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender relationships - gender equality - sex education - sexually transmitted diseases

COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Education - Department B': Health and Environmental Education
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Ministerial Decree no. 93006/G7/10-08-2012 placed Health Education Officers until 31.08.2015
STATUS	Under implementation (on an annual basis)

A.4. Therapeutic Programs for Adolescents

SCOPE/ ACTIONS	<p>The objective of the programs is to support and cure young people involved in the use of drugs and delinquency.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> early intervention in problems related to the use of drugs and delinquency</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> systematic support of adolescents with drug related problems</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> empowering and strengthening young people, aiming at their social inclusion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> support to address problems of Internet addiction and offer protection from the dangers of the Internet</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> systematic support of the families of adolescents</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Therapy Centre for Drug Addicts (KE.TH.E.A.) through Therapeutic Programs (STROFI, PLEFSI, NOSTOS-EXANDAS, ANADISI, PILOTOS, OXIGONO, ARIADNE)

IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	About 600 adolescents a year receive support, counselling and treatment services on issues posing a risk to their social inclusion. At the same time, 1500 individuals, members of families of adolescents, are participating in family support programs.
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A.5. Youth Counselling Stations

OBJECTIVE	Psychosocial coverage of the needs of prefectural school units, with a possibility of identification, diagnosis, brief psychological intervention and referral of students in need of special psychological treatment.
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> parental counselling and preventive intervention in the context of family support <input type="checkbox"/> possibility to participate in pedagogical meetings of the teachers' association at prefectural schools, to specify issues associated with the health education programs being implemented, <input type="checkbox"/> to update teachers on specific problems school students may face, at the invitation of the schoolmaster, or at the request of the Parents and Guardians Association, <input type="checkbox"/> to raise awareness of the wider

	<p>community on topics of health education and mental health</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to monitor and support mental health programs in school units in the area of competence of their Directorate, in collaboration with the Health Education Officers of the District to which they belong</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to organize group meetings for teachers to solve pedagogical, organizational and other issues</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Education - Department B'/ Health and Environmental Education
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	<p>Ministerial Decree no. 93007/G7/10-08-2012 placed Youth Counselling Station Officers until 31/08/2015.</p> <p>Under implementation (on an annual basis)</p>

9.8. PROTECTION OF MINORS IN AN AUDIO-VISUAL ENVIRONMENT

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. CONSTITUTION-LAW

- Act 2328/1995 (article 3), («Principles of broadcasting and advertisements - Right of reply - Protection of personality and private life - Protection of childhood - Proper use of the Greek language»), as regards the protection of minors provides for rules relating to their protection from the contents of television advertising (article 3, paragraph 3), while article 14 of the relevant

Act explicitly provides for the protection of minors from private television stations, by banning dramatized news broadcasts, taking actions on racism, xenophobia and social hatred and showing television programs at specific times to prevent possible physical, mental or moral harm to minors.

- Act 2644/1998 on the «Provision of subscription radio and television services and related provisions» refers to child protection.

- Act 3592/2007 on the «Concentration and licensing of Mass Media Enterprises and other provisions» optimally adjusts the protection of minors from potentially harmful audio-visual content.

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

- The provisions of the Presidential Decree 109/2010 transposed into the Greek law Directive 2010/13/EU of the European Parliament and the Council, which reinforces the institutional framework for the protection of minor viewers, while covering the gaps of the previous legislation on television. It specifically regulates the banning of alcohol sponsorships in programs the content of which is presumably addressed to minors, and the prohibition to display sponsorship logos during children's programs.

It also introduced the ban for product placement in programs, if they are addressed to minors, while it also introduced a provision according to which «the participation of minors on entertaining and educational television programs is only permitted with the consent of

their parents or those exercising their custody and if it does not adversely affect their physical, intellectual and moral development”.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Classifying and labelling TV programs in linear and non-linear audio-visual services

OBJECTIVE	To determine classification categories of television programs, symbols or sound signals for each category, and the respective permitted broadcasting hours for the protection of minors, in both the linear and non - linear audio-visual media services, from harmful audio-visual content.
SCOPE	To take additional legislative measures to protect the physical, moral and intellectual development of children from linear and non-linear audio-visual media services by establishing: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the classification of programs in program categories, for both linear and non-linear services, 2) a description of the process of classification, 3) a labelling with special symbols for both linear and non-linear audio-visual media services, as well as the commitments to be made by the broadcasters.

COMPETENT BODY	Secretariat General for Mass Media - Secretariat General of Information and Communication
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The relevant Ministerial Decree is expected to be issued in the first half of 2014.

9.9. FAMILY SUPPORT

A. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

A.1. RESIDENTIAL CARE

12 Social Welfare Centres (public law legal entities) (Act 4109/2013) and Papafio Child Care Centre for Boys, Thessaloniki (Act 4199/2013)

The new Social Welfare Centres, public law legal entities established with the above Act and being under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare, are primarily based in the respective headquarters of each District and their purpose has been broadened so that from now on they may intervene in issues related to the protection of the family, childhood, youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups.

In particular, the Child Protection Offices of the above Centres are intended to provide care, psychosomatic development and, in general, care for the education and vocational training of infants and children who are proven to be unprotected and deprived of family care, until they are adapted to an environment guaranteeing their best possible development (placement with a foster family or adoption).

As for responding to emergencies, the projects under development of the new organizations of Social Welfare Centres, which are being advanced to be drafted, will provide the possibility of operation of intermediate structures to cover all cases involving immediate protection of vulnerable groups - children, for as long as needed, until a proper environment is ensured for them (admission to an institution, fosterage, adoption, etc.).

Other Child Protection Institutions (private law legal entities). Their purpose is analogous to those of the Social Welfare Centres and their operation is governed, in accordance with their legal status, by the provisions of the Civil Code, Legislative Decree 1111/72 (Official Gazette issue no. 23/72) and their founding act. Those which are endowments are governed, apart from their founding act, from the provisions of Emergency Act 2039/39 as well (Official Gazette issue no. A' 455).

A.2. OPEN CARE

CHILD AND INFANT CENTRES

- Nursery and Infant Schools of Charity Associations, Dioceses and private law non-profit legal entities.
- Nursery and Infant Schools of private businessmen, for profit.
- Nursery and Infant Schools of local government organisations

CREATIVE CHILDREN ACTIVITY CENTRES (KDAP)

Units occupying children aged 5 to 12 years for a certain time period of the day. Their purpose is to occupy children outside school hours, utilize their leisure time

with individual - organized activities or through organized workshop groups and the convenience of parents.

A.3. CAMPS

- State program: 31 Children Camps of the State program operate under the provisions of Act 749/48, to accommodate children, families, the elderly and persons with disabilities, with low family income.
- Private Children Camps: Private and Church Children Camps, for profit or non-profit, operate under license issued by the competent Prefect.

A.4. ALLOWANCE POLICY

Financial aid program for unprotected children: The purpose of the program is to provide monthly financial support to children aged up to 16 years, who for various reasons lack paternal presence. This program is implemented under the provisions of Act 4051/1960 and the Presidential Decree 108/83, as subsequently amended and supplemented.

Program of maternity allowance payments: This program pays allowances in the order of 440,20 EUR to working women who are unable to claim them from their insurance body or are uninsured, while they have not reached an adequate living standard.

Family Allowances: From 1.1.13 the following family allowances were introduced:

- By Law 4141/2013 a special allowance is specifically paid to families with three or more dependent children,

which is set at five hundred (500) EUR per year for each child, based on income criteria.

- By Law 4093/2012, as amended and in force, the uniform child support allowance is paid to families from the first child, taking into account number of dependent children, equivalence scale, equivalent income and income category.

A.5. RELATED ACTIONS

- To assign to the National Social Solidarity Centre (EKKA) the promotion, at national level, of the coordination of welfare and development actions for an integrated Electronic System for the Interconnection and Interactivity of Welfare Services - «e-pronoia» - financed by the Digital Convergence Operational Program of the National Strategic Reference Framework for the years 2007-2013, to improve the quality and efficiency of the services provided to children.

- To launch the National Child Protection Helpline, with free use of the four-digit number «1107», on a 24-hour basis, to provide immediate information and urgent psychological and social counselling support to children and adolescents.

A.6. Parent Schools

OBJECTIVE	To support parents so that they can successfully meet their role, as shaped in the contemporary socio-economic conditions.
SCOPE	To provide training programs on issues

	<p>such as: family in modern times, psychological support and health education of vulnerable social groups, etc.</p> <p>To conduct a nationwide research aimed at investigating the impact of the economic crisis on family relationships</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Institute for Youth and Lifelong Learning (INEDIVIM)
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Funds totalling: 6.380.000 EUR

RELATED ACTIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF YOUTH

1. Program «Legal Assistance for Youth»

OBJECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> Free legal aid to socially vulnerable youth groups (minors and youth aged 18 to 30 years).
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to combat social exclusion often experienced by target groups, by directly and practically enhancing the possibility of settling legal issues and/or appealing to justice. <input type="checkbox"/> to encourage and support new lawyers in taking cases involving vulnerable social groups of minors and youth. Legal aid is provided in cases

	<p>involving:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> delinquent offenders</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> abused minors and youth up to 30 years old (particularly for women aid is provided up to the age of 35 years)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> domestic violence</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> refugees or returnees up to 30 years old</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> young cured drug addicts, up to 30 years old, undergoing social re-inclusion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> smuggling and trafficking in human beings up to 30 years old</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> use of prohibited substances by young people up to 30 years old</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> labour issues involving minors</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> unaccompanied minors for administrative disputes.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Education - Secretariat General for Youth
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Implementation financed by the Secretariat General for Youth
STATUS	Under implementation - Ongoing program

10. PROTECTION OF FOREIGN NATIONALS

10.1. ASYLUM - REFUGEES

The Greek asylum system, with the shortcomings it had in the past (insufficient information provided to stakeholders, lack of sufficient number of interpreters, delays in the processing of requests, lack of identification process for vulnerable groups in need of special protection, prolonged stay in detention centres), in conjunction with the lack of necessary funds that would allow coverage of the housing and material needs of the applicants, classified asylum seekers in the most vulnerable groups, as it concerns failure to guarantee their rights.

The implementation of the national asylum policy, under the National Action Plan on asylum and immigration management, is based on two thematic pillars: establishing an effective border management and return system on the one hand and access to international protection on the other.

In particular, it focuses on the establishment and operation of the First Reception Service, the new Asylum Office and the Appeals Authority, as well as on ensuring the existence of an efficient, anthropocentric system, based on relevant programs that have been developed by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Hellenic Police.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- The Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees (Act 3989/1959) sets the general framework governing the status of refugees, including the definition of a refugee,

the rights recognized refugees have in the territory of a State - Party to the Convention, and their fundamental obligations and regulates, further, their legal status.

- The European Court of Human Rights repeatedly invokes the principle of non-refoulement, in the context of interpretation of article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights on «banning torture» and article 5 of the European Convention on Human Rights «on the right to freedom and safety», where it is called upon to protect asylum seekers.

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

- Primary law - According to article 3, paragraph 2 of the European Union Treaty (EU Treaty) «The Union shall offer its citizens an area of freedom, security and justice without internal frontiers, in which the free movement of persons is ensured in conjunction with appropriate measures with respect to external border controls, asylum, immigration and the prevention and combating of crime».

- The Common European Asylum System (CEAS) has already been established with the Amsterdam Treaty and the original Dublin Treaty for determining the Member State which is responsible to consider an asylum application.

- The principle of solidarity and fair sharing of responsibility between Member - States, including the financial level, is reflected in the Lisbon Treaty, which expressly provides for the establishment of a Common European Asylum System.

- The right to asylum is explicitly enshrined in article 18 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Further, article 19 of the Charter, in paragraph 1, prohibits collective expulsions, while paragraph 2 explicitly prohibits the removal, expulsion or extradition of a third-country national to a State where he/she is at serious risk of being condemned to the death penalty or be subjected to torture or other inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- Secondary law - Regulation (EU) 604/2013 (Dublin III): «establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State which is responsible for considering an international protection application, filed in a Member State by a third-country national or a stateless person (restatement)».
- Directive 2013/33/EU on the requirements for the reception of international protection applicants (restatement), also known as «Reception Directive».
- Directive 2011/95/EU on the requirements for the identification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible to subsidiary protection and for the content of the protection granted (restatement).
- Directive 2005/85/EC on the minimum standards for the procedures by which Member - States grant and withdraw refugee status, known as Procedural Directive.
- Directive 2008/115/EC on the common rules and procedures in Member - States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals.

A.3. LAW

- The procedure for considering asylum applications during the transition period, i.e. from the start of operation of the new Asylum Service and the Appeals Authority, is regulated by the Presidential Decree 114/2010.

- Act 3907/2011 established the First Reception Service for the purpose of the efficient and humane management of third-country nationals who illegally enter the country, with respect for their dignity, by submitting them to particular first reception procedures, as well as the Asylum Service and the Appeals Authority for considering international protection applications, at first and second levels.

Within the scope of Act 3907/2011, Presidential Decree 113/2013 was promulgated, whose purpose is to adapt the process of recognising, to third-country nationals and stateless persons, the status of refugee or beneficiary of subsidiary protection. This Decree contains provisions regulating the right to submit international protection applications, with particular emphasis on its exercise by minors, the fundamental rights of asylum seekers, the prohibition of refoulement throughout the period a submitted application is being considered, the obligations asylum seekers have against the public authorities, the procedural guarantees for asylum seekers, as well as the conditions for granting, on the part of the Greek Authorities, a residence permit on

humanitarian grounds to applicants for international protection.

Further, by Presidential Decree 141/2013, our country complied with the requirements of Directive 2011/95/EU on the requirements for the recognition of third-country nationals or stateless persons, as beneficiaries of international protection, for the purpose of creating a unified status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection.

Article 23, paragraph 6 of Act 3907/2011 establishes an external audit system for the expulsion procedures of third-country nationals, which will operate care of the Ombudsman, in co-operation with international and non-governmental organizations, financed by the Return Fund. The organization and operation of the audit system is regulated by a Joint Ministerial Decree issued by the Ministers of Interior and Public Order, upon proposal of the Ombudsman.

☐ Activities underway to improve the current situation

- First Reception Service

The legislative framework provided by the enabling provisions of Act 3907/2011 is nearing completion, while the Joint Ministerial Decrees on the establishment of the First Reception Centre in Filakio, Evros and the First Reception Mobile Units have been issued, as well as the relevant decree of the Minister of Health on the provision of medical and psychosocial support services at these Centres. The process for selecting candidate employees to be transferred is, also, in its final stage, to staff those services, while its headquarters are already in

full operation, housed in a building of the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection. The organizational structure of the First Reception Service was amended by article 110 of Act 4172/13, while the procedures for operating accommodation structures for applicants of international protection and vulnerable groups are also advancing. The provisions of said Act on the organization and operation of the First Reception Service amend certain provisions of Presidential Decree 102/2012 and Act 3907/11.

- A draft Joint Ministerial Decree on the organization and operation of the external audit system for the expulsion procedures of third-country nationals was prepared by the Ombudsman and is being forwarded to be signed, according to article 23, paragraph 6 of Act 3907/2011.

- Existing actions regarding asylum:

- Appointment, by the Minister of Public Order and Citizen Protection, of a coordinator to supervise and effectively handle pending asylum cases, with the purpose of filing cases that could be classified as «inactive».

- Provision of appropriate training to the staff in charge of considering asylum requests.

- Regular update of asylum seekers on their rights: a relevant information booklet has been printed in 19 languages and is systematically distributed to third-country nationals approaching District Asylum Offices. A free hotline for applicants for international protection is also operating normally.

- Completion of the staffing of the Asylum Office and the Appeals Authority with specialized scientific and technical personnel, based on their existing organizational charts, while the provision of necessary training is still pending.
- Completion of procedures for finding suitable premises to house the Central Asylum Service and the District Asylum Office in Athens, by conceding building infrastructure owned by the Hellenic Radio & Television (ERT) to the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection.
- Since its operation, the Asylum Service maintains, in its Central Service, a Documentation Unit. The purpose of the latter is to search, collect, evaluate and maintain information on the political, social and economic situation in the countries of origin of the applicants for international protection. The Documentation Unit also assists operators of requests for international protection by providing written answers to their questions, as well as through personal contacts, manages the pages of Greece in the of EASO portal (EASO Common Portal), and cooperates with counterpart units and departments in other Member States of the European Union.
- The Directorate for Social Perception and Solidarity implements, on an annual basis, reception actions. In particular, the following programs are implemented: providing accommodation services, providing information and legal aid, providing health, psychosocial support and counselling services, providing interpretation and translation services, and providing information to local

communities and training for local authorities and organizations to come in contact with the target group during the reception process.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. First Reception Centres and Mobile Units

OBJECTIVE	To establish and operate First Reception centres and mobile units
SCOPE	<p><input type="checkbox"/> to identify and determine the exact locations to accommodate First Reception Centres, the number of which will depend on the migration flows. Ongoing action: A First Reception Centre is already operating since March 2013 - in Filakio/Evros, with a capacity of 240 persons - and works are underway for it to be fully operational and staffed. For three (3) more, the sites have already been defined and, for the first, construction works for the facilities have begun, for the second, works are expected to begin early 2014, while for the third its establishment will depend on the migration flows at land borders.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to decide to set up two additional First Reception Centres, in line with the existing migration flows.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to manage migration flows and the pressure put on the country at sea</p>

	borders, two (2) mobile units were set up and are in operation, active from 1 July 2013 at the islands of the Eastern Aegean Sea.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Completion of action within the year 2014

B.2. Constructing of a First Reception Centre in Lesbos

OBJECTIVE	To establish and operate First Reception centres and mobile units
SCOPE	<p>To identify and determine the exact location to accommodate First Reception Centres, whose number will depend on the migration flows. Ongoing action: A First Reception Centre is already operating since March 2013 - in Filakio/Evros, with a capacity of 240 persons. For three (3) more, the sites have already been defined and, for the first, construction works for the facilities have begun, for the second, works are expected to begin early 2014, while for the third its establishment will depend on the migration flows at land borders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to decide to set up two additional

	First Reception Centres, in line with the existing migration flows. To manage migration flows and the pressure put on the country at sea borders, two (2) mobile units were set up and are in operation, active from 1 July 2013 at the islands of the Eastern Aegean Sea.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated time to completion: during the first half of 2014

B.3. Constructing a First Reception Centre in Attica

OBJECTIVE	To establish and operate First Reception centres and mobile units
SCOPE	To construct a First Reception Centre in Attica. The Joint Ministerial Decree for its establishment is to be signed.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated time to completion: during the second half of 2014

B.4. Constructing Accommodation Structures for Asylum Seekers and Vulnerable Groups

OBJECTIVE	To ensure Accommodation Structures
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	for applicants for international protection and persons belonging to vulnerable groups
SCOPE	To design - support a system for recording accommodation requests, to design and provide support services (medical and psychokinetic services), to organize and operate accommodation structures, to evaluate and audit the services provided in the respective structures.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection

B.5. Access to first reception procedure (interpreting services)

OBJECTIVE	To constantly ensure effective access to first reception procedures (interpreting services)
SCOPE	☐ to provide for interpretation services to persons subjected to first reception procedures. Co-operation with non-governmental organizations for the employment of interpreters, both during registration and during interviews. Attempts to obtain financing from European Union funds, European Economic Area (EEA) Grants etc.
COMPETENT	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen

BODY	Protection (First Reception Service)
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated completion date: 2014

B.6. Operational status of the Asylum Service

OBJECTIVE	To integrate the existing legal framework governing the operation of the Asylum Service
SCOPE	A new Bill has been drafted, including provisions regarding the Asylum Service and the Appeal Authority.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The bill is being drafted. It is expected within 2014.

B.7. Infrastructure for housing and equipping the Central Asylum Service and the District Asylum Offices

OBJECTIVE	To ensure the necessary infrastructure for housing and equipping the Central Asylum Service and the District Asylum Offices
SCOPE	The Central Asylum Service, the District Asylum Office (PGA) in Attica and the Appeal Authority operate, from June 7, 2013, in sufficiently equipped buildings located at Kanellopoulos Ave.

	Further, the Thessaloniki District Asylum Office has already started its operation as an asylum echelon, pending the completion of maintenance and restoration works in its building. The District Asylum Offices of North and South Evros and those of Rhodes and Lesbos have also begun to operate. There is a plan to establish a District Asylum Office in Patras during the current year.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated time to completion: within 2014

B.8. Access to the asylum process (translation services-legal support)

OBJECTIVE	To constantly ensure effective access to the asylum process (translation services - legal support)
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> The non-governmental organization «Metadrasi» has undertaken interpretation services at all District Asylum Offices and the Appeals Authority <input type="checkbox"/> Actions to ensure targeted legal protection to asylum seekers by skilled

	and specially trained lawyers are in the planning stage
COMPETENT BODY	Asylum Service, Appeals Authority, competent non-governmental and international organizations.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Action underway, estimated completion: within 2014

B.9. Providing assistance to asylum seekers

OBJECTIVE	To ensure medical and psychosocial assistance to asylum seekers.
SCOPE	To plan for the provision of certain social services, with special emphasis on asylum seekers claiming to be victims of torture or inhuman, degrading treatment. Ongoing efforts to receive financing from the European Economic Area (EEA) Financial Facility (EEA financing). Currently, Asylum Service forwards accommodation requests from applicants for international protection to the National Social Solidarity Centre and, as soon as it receives a reply, informs them accordingly.
COMPETENT BODY	Asylum Service - Appeals Authority - Non-Governmental Organizations
IMPLEMENTATION	Action underway, estimated completion:

TION INDICATORS	within 2014
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B.10. Facilitating inclusion of third-country nationals in the labour market

OBJECTIVE	To facilitate inclusion of third-country nationals in the labour market
SCOPE	<p>To provide work permits or other assistance for the vocational rehabilitation of those recognized by the state as refugees, asylum seekers and temporary residents, on humanitarian grounds.</p> <p>A third-country national who has been recognized as a refugee and is holding a residence permit is granted a work permit of equal duration.</p> <p>Asylum seekers (holders of an «asylum seeker card»), as well as temporary residents on humanitarian grounds (holders of «special residence permits for humanitarian reasons») wishing to work, are granted a temporary work permit.</p>
ACTIONS	<p>Foreign nationals, refugees and temporary residents on humanitarian grounds requesting asylum are supported by:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> allowance and active employment</p>

	<p>policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> unemployment subsidies and social benefits to unemployed and employed persons <input type="checkbox"/> counselling actions <input type="checkbox"/> training and retraining actions <input type="checkbox"/> vocational education in current disciplines, with innovative learning methods at Apprenticeship Schools of the Manpower Employment Organization <input type="checkbox"/> financing the special maternity protection allowance and additional maternity benefits. <input type="checkbox"/> employment counsellors at the Employment Promotion Centres (KPA) of the Manpower Employment Organization, integrate the specific groups in a process of individualized approach and counselling <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Action Plan capturing their profiles and identifying their professional needs and professional goals.
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10.1.1. SURVEILLANCE OF MARITIME BORDERS

- THE HELLENIC COAST GUARD

The public function exercised by the Hellenic Coast Guard personnel when performing its duties aims at highlighting its professional and ethical completeness,

based on a common pillar of professional conduct and action. As part of our democratic polity, men and women of the Hellenic Coast Guard must be, in their field of competence, the custodians of the fundamental rights of every person.

Every action of the Hellenic Coast Guard staff is designed and undertaken in the light of respect for human rights and civil liberties, with the ultimate aim of establishing relations of co-operation between the Hellenic Coast Guard and the society, as well as their mutual recognition and trust.

In this context and in order to ensure public order and safety, serving the public interest and safeguarding the rights and legitimate interests of every person, the Hellenic Coast Guard has taken the following actions:

A.1. SET OF IMPLEMENTED ACTIONS

A.1.1 Provision to contain cases of abuse by the staff of the Hellenic Coast Guard

OBJECTIVE	First reception measures
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> Circular-Order to all Port Authorities on the «Measures to satisfy the first entry needs of illegal third-country nationals» - Legal framework. <input type="checkbox"/> to ensure the demarcation of appropriate temporary sites for the reception of immigrants on the part of the Port Authorities, in collaboration with the competent local bodies, such as the Districts, local authorities, the

	<p>Hellenic Police, Port Management Authorities, the armed forces and non-governmental organizations and ensure that the specific areas satisfy their basic needs (cleaning, beds, toilets, separating vulnerable groups, drinking water).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to ensure adequate feeding of persons.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to ensure the health (basic) screening of all arrested illegal third-country nationals, in collaboration with local public health bodies (Health Centres, Hospitals), and non-governmental organizations (Red Cross, Doctors Without Frontiers, etc.), where they are active.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to provide legal aid and psychosocial support to beneficiaries of international protection, through qualified personnel of the First Reception Centres, where they are in operation. Otherwise, to facilitate unimpeded access of representatives of specialized bodies and individuals in the areas where incidents occur.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to provide first accommodation packages from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to the Services of the Hellenic Coast Guard</p>
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	(with basic necessities, such as sleeping bag, soap, toothpaste/toothbrush, etc.), to be given to the beneficiaries, third-country nationals.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Mercantile Marine and the Aegean Sea - Hellenic Coast Guard
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Constant action

A.1.2. TRAINING THE HELLENIC COAST GUARD STAFF

OBJECTIVE	To modify the Curriculum of the Coastguards School, to incorporate the European Training Program (Common Core Curriculum - CCC) of Frontex in the circular curriculum.
SCOPE	To incorporate special courses on human rights, the obligation to provide protection, identify and treat victims of trafficking in human beings, protect minors and vulnerable groups, identify asylum seekers and non-discriminatory treatment due to racial, ethnic, religious or other origin. Please note that the basic training of border guards provided by Frontex, at European Union level, which is mandatory for the

	participants in the joint European operations of the Agency, includes fundamental rights, as a core subject.
COMPETENT BODY	-Ministry of Mercantile Marine and the Aegean Sea - Hellenic Coast Guard
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Completion of Action

B.2. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.2.1 Co-operation with Institutions and Organizations

OBJECTIVE	To sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
SCOPE	To train and raise the awareness of the Hellenic Coast Guard staff overseeing maritime borders, with regard to respecting human rights and identifying beneficiaries of international protection and asylum, as well as distribute, through the Port Authorities, in particular at the Eastern Aegean Sea, personal hygiene goods to the newly arriving mixed immigrant groups.
COMPETENT BODY	-Ministry of Mercantile Marine and the Aegean Sea - Hellenic Coast Guard
IMPLEMENTATION	Estimated time to completion: first

TION INDICATORS	quarter 2014
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B.2.2 Appointment of a Human Rights Officer

OBJECTIVE	To appoint a special Hellenic Coast Guard officer as Fundamental Rights Officer for the Hellenic Coast Guard
SCOPE	Said officer will be the contact point of the Hellenic Coast Guard towards third parties and will monitor the process of investigating incidents of violations of fundamental rights on the part of Hellenic Coast Guard officers
COMPETENT BODY	-Ministry of Mercantile Marine and the Aegean Sea - Hellenic Coast Guard
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated time to completion: first quarter 2014

B.2.3 Training Hellenic Coast Guard officers

OBJECTIVE	To systematically and constantly train the staff of the Hellenic Coast Guard to ensure long-term compliance with the principles of international and European law on immigrants and beneficiaries of international protection.
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> the objective of this program is to

	<p>provide applied training to border guards on methods incorporating fundamental rights in their daily work practices and to familiarize them with human rights issues, occurring in the Greek marine operational environment.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to secure financing from the European External Borders Fund (Operational Program 2012) to train the staff of the Hellenic Coast Guard directly involved with the issue of protecting human rights.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to propose financing for the inclusion of subject training courses in the context of the National Strategic Reference Framework 2014-2020 (NSRF) and, specifically, into thematic objective THS 10 - Investing in education, skills and lifelong learning</p>
COMPETENT BODY	<p>-Ministry of Mercantile Marine and the Aegean Sea</p> <p>- Hellenic Coast Guard</p>
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated time to completion: first half 2014

10.1.2. REFUGEES

The distinction between the terms «refugee», «asylum seeker» and «irregular immigrant» forms the basis for understanding the needs and distinct rights of these

groups. Weakness or ignorance in understanding this distinction is the starting point of many cases of rights violations, as often all above categories are treated in the same way, i.e. as persons illegally entering the country.

The existence of groups to which a degree of protection from the State is acknowledged, without recognizing them as refugees (third-country nationals or stateless persons enjoying a form of subsidiary or temporary protection), further complicates the distinction between the above categories, and the rights of each group.

Each of the above groups faces different problems when claiming and enjoying their rights. Failure to understand the language of their host country is often an insurmountable obstacle, as access to information and contact that is often required with public institutions to serve their rights become impossible for a large number of them.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. LEGISLATION

- Presidential Decree 266/1999, on «Attachment and operation of the existing Refugee Centre at Lavrion, Attica and social protection of recognized refugees, asylum seekers and persons staying in the country on humanitarian grounds».
- Presidential Decree 80/2006 on the «Provision of temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons».

B. CURRENT ACTIONS

The Directorate for Social Awareness and Solidarity of the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare, under its competence as the Responsible Authority of the European Refugee Fund, implements, on an annual basis, actions designed to smoothly integrate refugees. More specifically, programs are implemented aiming at:

- providing advice and assistance in areas such as housing, means of subsistence, inclusion into the labour market.
- adapting them to the Greek society, in social and cultural terms.
- educational, training, learning Greek and skill acquisition activities.

C. LONG-TERM GOALS

- Classifying the legal framework per beneficiary group will positively contribute to identifying gaps in legislation and any supplement or amendment of it, if necessary, as well as clarifying it for the purpose of facilitating all government agencies involved in the implementation of individual provisions.
- It is useful for the State to record the main points of the legislative framework in languages understandable to beneficiaries, so that they are fully informed.

10.2. LEGALLY RESIDING IN THE COUNTRY THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS (IMMIGRANTS)

A. Current Situation

1. National Immigration Policy

Greece is a country of strong migration interest, as evidenced by the statistics for residents/third-country nationals, which remain high. A consistent target of the national immigration policy is the rational management of legal migration flows, while respecting the fundamental rights of third-country nationals, with special emphasis on the rights of children and groups in need of protection.

Since 2005, the Greek Government has launched a comprehensive effort of administrative restructuring and reorganization for the optimal provision of quality services to citizens/third-country nationals. Moreover, it promotes a new, streamlined, legal framework for legal immigration, which aims, firstly, at simplifying bureaucratic procedures for legal immigration, secondly, at informing decentralized Directorates and Social Organizations and, thirdly, at synchronising it with new management trends for the immigration phenomenon. Specifically:

2. One-stop shops - Simplifying the process to issue residence permits on humanitarian grounds

In the context of restructuring the administrative organization of the country, steps have been taken to establish «one stopshops», which will take applications from third-country nationals to grant or renew residence permits and, additionally, will provide them with all necessary information regarding their rights and obligations (Act 3852/2010 on «New Architecture of Local Authorities and the Decentralized Administration - Kallikratis Program»). These measures will stop

intervention of municipalities in issuing residence permits, and the time required for the issuance/renewal of permits for third-country nationals will be dramatically reduced.

Specifically, the purpose of establishing «one stop shops» is a) to accelerate and simplify the procedures provided in the immigration legislation, b) to improve the level of services provided to citizens involved, since the two most important points in the process of issuing residence permits are the provision of correct and valid information to immigrants and the receipt of a complete dossier with supporting documentation and c) to save budget appropriations by reducing the services involved in the relevant process.

The efficient operation of services and the overall better service of third-country nationals concerned, decisively contribute to safeguarding human rights, facilitating administrative bodies in the exercise of their duties and facilitating the prevalence of the principles of legality and security.

A series of laws simplified the procedure for granting residence permits on humanitarian and exceptional reasons (reduction of co-competencies of Ministers, delegation of signing power to rapporteurs, increase in the number of Immigration Committees), thus resulting in a dramatic reduction in the time required to process applications. Please note that, based on the above measures, the consideration of nearly all pending applications within the last five months was made possible.

3. Legally residing in the country third-country nationals
Third-country nationals, members of European Union families or families of Greek citizens residing in Greece, enjoy the right to equal treatment with nationals, within the scope of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (EU), as long as they have the right of stay or a permanent residence.

4. Protecting the rights of third-country nationals

The national immigration legislation ensures the fundamental rights of third-country nationals. Measures aimed at racial or religious discrimination, in accordance with articles 1-3 of Act 927/1979, are prosecuted in accordance with article 71 of Act 3386/05 on the «Entry, residence and social inclusion of third-country nationals in the Greek territory».

4.1. Legally residing third-country nationals

- Third-country members of families of European Union citizens or families of Greek citizens residing in Greece, enjoy the right to equal treatment with nationals, within the scope of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as long as they have the right of stay or a permanent residence (Act 4071/2012 on the regulations for local development, local government and decentralized administration - transposition of Directive 2009/50/EC).

- third-country nationals legally residing in the country are insured in the respective social security institutions and have the same social security rights as the nationals. They are, also, subject to the provisions for social

protection of Legislative Decree 57/1973, as applicable (Act 3386/05, article 71).

- detained third-country nationals are informed, shortly after their admission to an institution, in a language they understand, of the rules of living in it, as well as their rights and obligations. Also, their communication with the diplomatic or consular officers of the country of which they are nationals or from which they originate and their lawyers, is facilitated (Act 3386/05, article 71).

- third-country nationals legally residing in the country have access to the health system and education (Act 3386/05, articles 74 and 84).

- public services, legal entities of public law, local authorities, utilities and the social security institutions are obliged to provide their services to third-country nationals who have entered and reside legally in Greece (Act 3386/05, article 84).

- wardens of prisons and detention facilities shall receive and keep the passports or other documents proving the legality of residence and the identity of third-country nationals detained. These documents are returned upon release of the third-country national. If the third-country national does not possess these documents, the above officers shall immediately notify the nearest police authority or the nearest competent Service (Act 3386/05, article 84).

- third-country nationals for whom a decision has been issued by an Administrative Court, suspending or temporarily suspending administrative acts against which they have filed a cancellation request, due to a) a

rejection of a request to grant or renew a residence permit or b) a revocation of a residence permit issued and c) a rejection of a request for an initial residence permit, may be provided with a special legal residence certificate. The special certificate is a temporary residence permit, has an annual duration and entitles its holder to rights corresponding to the category of a non-renewed, non-revoked or non-initially granted residence permit (Joint Ministerial Decree 22037/2010 on «Determining the type of the special legal residence certificate issued for third-country nationals who have been issued a temporary suspension order or a suspension order has been issued by an Administrative Court of First Instance»).

- third country nationals who have been granted the status of long-term resident (Directive 2003/109/EC), enjoy equal treatment with nationals with regard to a set of rights that are essential to their smooth integration into the host society and their general well-being. Furthermore, these persons are given the right to move and reside in other Member States of the European Union, with a view to employment or self-employment, education and vocational training or as financially independent persons (Presidential Decree 150/2006 on the «Adaptation of the Greek legislation to Directive 2003/109/EC of 25 November 2003, concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents»).

4.2. Illegally residing in the country third-country nationals

- The right to access to education is also enshrined for the minor children of third-country nationals, who are protected by the Greek State as refugees or are under the protection of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, or have applied for asylum or reside in Greece, even if their legal residence has not been arranged, just like for nationals (Act 3386/05, article 72).
- Third-country nationals extraordinarily admitted into hospitals have access to the health system, regardless of the legality of their residence or, if minor children of third-country nationals, regardless of the legality of their residence or that of their parents (Act 3386/05, article 84).

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

The European Commission decided to establish the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals (Decision 2007/435/EC), under the Framework Programme of the European Union «Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows». The Directorate of Social Inclusion of the Ministry of Interior, as Responsible Authority of the European Fund for the Inclusion of Third Country Nationals in our country, seeks to implement legal immigrant inclusion initiatives. Financing rate reaches 95% for Community funds and 5% for national funds, with regard to the annual programs of the years 2012 and 2013, which include the following actions:

Annual Program 2012 (implementation until 30/06/2014)

B.1. Implementing actions designed to meet the «Common Fundamental Principles for the social inclusion policy of immigrants in the European Union».

ACTION 1

OBJECTIVE	To provide information - service to third-country nationals
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: to provide support and information to third-country nationals on their rights and obligations, as well as on the possibilities to address discrimination phenomena against them, at both the public and private sectors. <input type="checkbox"/> Project 2: to provide support to Immigrant Inclusion Councils to identify local needs and develop local policies and inclusion initiatives <input type="checkbox"/> Project 3: to provide administrative support and information to third-country nationals for their training opportunities, the opportunities to recognize/match their qualifications (and their professional rights thereunder) and the existence of reciprocal terms for exercising their profession.

ACTION 2

OBJECTIVE	To raise the awareness of the host society and empower third-country
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	nationals
ACTIONS	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: to strengthen partnerships at local level among immigrant organizations (cultural organizations, athletic organizations, professional organizations, business organizations, etc.) and organizations of the host society and encourage the participation of immigrants in the respective organizations of the host society (mainstream organizations).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 2: to create mixed youth centres in urban areas with a high concentration of immigrants, which will provide - among others - career, counselling and psychological support services, while young people, third-country nationals and natives, will come in contact with each other, to combat ghettoisation phenomena.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 3: Intercultural Mediation Program in selected hospitals of the country.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 4: to raise awareness and inform the host society with respect to the religious beliefs of third-country nationals and their right to exercise their religious worship.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 5: awareness raising campaign for students in schools, by</p>

	<p>utilizing people who exercise considerable influence on public opinion.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Task 6: to produce pilot radio material (broadcasts) - with web postings - on issues related to immigrant communities, to promote immigration radio and diversity in the mass media.</p>
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ACTION 3

OBJECTIVE	Education and training of third-country nationals
ACTIONS	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: to offer Greek language, culture and history learning courses to:</p> <p>a) women members of families of third-country nationals who entered the country under family reunification schemes b) immigrants with disabilities and c) elderly immigrants.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 2: to train members of immigrant organizations on project financing and management, leadership, information technologies (ICT) and management topics.</p>

ACTION 4

OBJECTIVE	To promote interculturalism as an inclusion facility for legally residing
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	third-country nationals in the host society
ACTION	<p>Project 1: to support the harmonious co-existence of third-country nationals with the host society, through sports and recreational activities.</p> <p>Project 2: to support the harmonious coexistence of third-country nationals with the host society, through the arts and culture.</p>

B.2. Developing indicators and evaluation methodologies in order to assess the progress, adjust policies and measures and facilitate co-ordination of comparative learning.

OBJECTIVE	Studies/research in the fields of immigration and inclusion of third-country nationals
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: evaluation and quality assessment study of the organizations that provide programs to learn the language and/or the Greek culture (both public and private providers) to third-country nationals, on quality criteria (e.g. by measuring user satisfaction) and/or quantitative criteria (e.g. user language skills tests) and creation of a database with the existing educational material, educational tools, teaching

	practices and exercises regarding learning Greek language, civics and Greek history and culture elements to immigrants, which will be accessible to all stakeholders.
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B.3. Capacity building for inclusion policies, coordination and development of intercultural competences of the Member States, at all government levels (national, regional, local)

OBJECTIVE	Intercultural training of civil servants
ACTIONS	Project 1: to provide seminars to prospective and practicing judges in order to: a) probe and update information possessed by judges on the national and Community legislation against discrimination on third-country nationals and b) probe in mediation techniques during the communication process of judges with the third-country national/party

B.4.: Exchanging experiences, good practices and information between Member - States concerning inclusion

OBJECTIVE	To create co-operation networks on immigration and inclusion issues
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: to develop co-operation networks linking representatives of

	<p>Member States of the Mediterranean Sea, which face similar challenges regarding inclusion of third-country nationals</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 2: to develop a local co-operation network (Immigrant Inclusion Councils) between Member - States of the European Union</p>
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ANNUAL PLAN 2013

(To be implemented by: 30/06/2015)

B.5.: Implementing actions designed to meet the «Common Basic Principles on social inclusion policy of immigrants in the European Union»

ACTION 1

OBJECTIVE	To provide information - services to third-country nationals
ACTIONS	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: street work program on health and prevention topics.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 2: to promote preventive medicine through mobile healthcare units.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Task 3: to facilitate access to medical and social first level services at health centres and medical-social centres in major urban centres of the country.</p> <p>This involves placing a health inspector and a social worker in existing health centres, medical-social centres and</p>

	<p>poly-clinics of the municipalities in large urban centres, such as Athens, Thessaloniki and Patras.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 4: to raise an awareness raising campaign for third-country nationals - with emphasis on women - on the value of their participation in collective forms of organization, and their more active participation in the host society in general (especially in regard to their participation in the Immigrant Inclusion Councils).</p>
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ACTION 2

OBJECTIVE	To empower third-country nationals (migrant empowerment) & raise the awareness of the host society.
ACTIONS	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: Intercultural Mediation Program at bodies providing social services to vulnerable immigrant groups (e.g. persons with disabilities, elderly, children) and rehabilitation units - centres in the country.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 2: awareness raising campaign in schools on issues of racism.</p> <p>This action will relate to raising awareness among students, their parents and teachers. Any action will take place inside the school's premises.</p>

OBJECTIVE	To educate and train third-country nationals
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: Remedial teaching and promoting the value of a balanced diet program for immigrant students, within the neighbourhood, offering their parents the possibility to attend Greek language courses. <input type="checkbox"/> Project 2: Greek language and history learning program in various special groups of third-country nationals

OBJECTIVE	To promote multiculturalism as a fundamental facility for the inclusion of legally residing third-country nationals in the host society.
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: to support the harmonious coexistence of third-country nationals with the host society through sports (mixed sporting events, such as soccer, basketball tournaments in squares and streets of Athens neighbourhoods, with a high concentration of third-country nationals). <input type="checkbox"/> Project 2: to support the harmonious coexistence of third-country nationals with the host society through culture (mainly through gastronomy and

	<p>cooking events) in areas with high concentration of immigrants.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 3: Program of creative activities for infants at the existing structures of nurseries, aiming at the interaction of immigrants and locals.</p>
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B.6.: Developing evaluation indicators and methodologies in order to assess progress, adjust policies and measures and facilitate co-ordination of comparative learning

OBJECTIVE/ ACTIONS	Mapping and evaluation study on the quality of inclusion service provided to legally residing third-country nationals across the country
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B.7.: Capacity building for inclusion policies, coordination and development of intercultural competences of the Member States, at all government levels (national, regional, local)

OBJECTIVE	Intercultural training for civil servants dealing with third-country nationals or handling issues related with them
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> Project 1: capacity building for: a) civil servants of first degree local authorities on issues related to designing and implementing inclusion initiatives in the local community, as well as using national and Community

	<p>resources for the implementation of inclusion initiatives in the local community and b) employees of Devolved Administrations to develop, implement and monitor their inclusion strategies.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 2: intercultural training and legislative update (Greek & European) program on health issues (e.g. who is entitled to health care) for administrative employees dealing with third-country nationals or handling matters concerning them, at selected hospitals in the country.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project 3: intercultural training and awareness raising program against discrimination due to national origin, sex and race, addressed to civil servants of the Ministry of Citizen Protection.</p>
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B. 8. Co-operation networks

OBJECTIVE	To create co-operation networks for immigration and inclusion issues
ACTION	Project 1: to develop a co-operation network between representatives of Immigrant Inclusion Councils and other relevant local bodies in the European Union, as well as representatives of immigrant organizations/associations at

	European level.
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11. ELIMINATING RACISM AND INTOLERANCE

Racist violence, in all its forms, constitutes an affront to human dignity and, at the same time, a serious threat to social cohesion • in an advanced stage, it may cause an overthrow of the rule of law and disturbance of social peace. Therefore, prevention and active suppression of endemic racism and xenophobia are on the top of the pyramid of social priorities of the Greek State.

In their recent reports, international institutions have expressed concern about the dimensions of racist violence in our country, focusing on the organized and systematic acts of extreme groups against third-country nationals.

The demand to streamline the national legislative framework governing the criminalization of racism is raised in an increasingly urgent manner, to make it compatible with the international obligations of our country.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- The most important international ecumenical convention on the elimination of racism is the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Legislative Decree 494/1970).
- The prohibition of racial discrimination is also enshrined in a number of international, regional and

universal, conventional instruments. Thus, the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR) establishes (article 14) strict respect for rights and freedoms, regardless of discrimination based on sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, participation in a national minority, property, birth or other status. We also point out article 20, paragraph 2 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Act 2462/1997), which prohibits the invocation of national, racial or religious hatred constituting an incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence.

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

- The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, introduces a ban of «a. any discrimination, particularly because of sex, race, colour, ethnic origin, social origin, sexual characteristics, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation, and b. any discrimination on grounds of nationality within the scope of the Treaties and without prejudice to any special provisions of theirs» (article 21).
- Of particular importance is the Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA of the European Council dated 28/11/2008 «on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of the criminal law».

A.3. CONSTITUTION-LAW

- The prohibition of committing racist crimes and hate crimes is mainly reduced in the value of man, as a general principle of law enshrined in the Greek Constitution and, specifically, in article 2, paragraph 1. Furthermore, according to article 5, paragraph 2 «All persons living within the Greek territory shall enjoy full protection of their life, honour and liberty irrespective of nationality, race or language and of religious or political beliefs. Exceptions shall be permitted only in cases provided by the international law».
- Act 927/1979 provided for the criminal punishment of either acts or actions that may cause discrimination, hatred or violence, or the expression of offensive ideas against individuals or groups, on the sole ground of their racial or ethnic origin or religion.
- Penal Code, in article 79, formulates the racist motive as a criterion for judicial sentencing.
- Act 2472/1997 on the «Protection of Individuals with regard to processing personal data» protects, as sensitive data, racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union memberships, health, social welfare and love life.
- Act 3304/2005 on the «Implementation of the principle of equal treatment, irrespective of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation» is aimed at establishing the general legislative framework to combat discrimination, based on racial or ethnic origin and combating discrimination on grounds of

religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation in the field of employment and occupation.

- Act 3386/2005 provides, among others, to grant residence permits on humanitarian grounds to third-country nationals who have been victims of criminal actions, based on racial or other discrimination, as laid down in articles 1 and 2 of Act 927/1979, and article 16 of Act 3304/2005, if a prosecution has been exercised for these and pending a court judgement and to grant or renew residence permits to victims of trafficking in human beings who do not cooperate with the law enforcement authorities, provided that a relevant qualification act has been issued by the competent Public Prosecutor, at the Court of First Instance.

- Act 3875/2010 on the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols involve changes which, among others, relate to provisions of the Penal Code on trafficking in human beings, the extension of the application of the protective provisions of Greek legislation for victims of trafficking in human beings to persons identified as victims of immigrant smuggling, and the adoption of measures to protect witnesses in relation to the offenses of trafficking in human beings and immigrant smuggling.

☐ Activities underway to improve the current situation

- Establishment of two Departments to Combat Racist Violence at the State Security Police Subdirectorates of the Attica and Thessaloniki Security Police Directorates,

and sixty-eight Offices to Combat Racist Violence at the Security Sections, Security Police Subdirectorates, Attica Security Police Directorate, as well as the Security Police Subdirectorates and Security Police Departments across the country. The purpose of establishing these Services is to effectively and efficiently combat violence demonstrated against individuals or groups, with racist motives and background (Presidential Decree 132/2012 - Official Gazette issue no. A ' / 239)

A 24-hour five-digit helpline for complaints (11414) operates with the State Security Police Subdirectorate, Attica Security Police Directorate, through which any person or body concerned may immediately file a complaint with respect to cases of racist violence or even be informed of their rights in relevant cases. Additionally, the website of the Hellenic Police has a special link which leads to an electronic communication and complaint form for racist incidents.

- **Implementation of Legislation in Force** - Adoption of criteria to identify racist motives and provision of specific instructions to police staff on investigation

- **Code of Conduct:** The Police Code of Conduct already provides for the general principle of unprejudiced and socially sensitive approach of citizens by the police, and the obligation of the police officers to apply special care to vulnerable social groups.

- **Investigation of racial motives** in both the criminal pre-trial proceedings and during disciplinary process: the investigation of racial motives results from a relevant circular of the Hellenic Police Headquarters. The same

obligation have, under the above circular, officers in the context of disciplinary investigation of cases involving unethical behaviour of police officers against persons belonging to vulnerable ethnic, religious or social groups or third-country nationals.

- **Disciplinary Law of Police Personnel:** The investigation of disciplinary offenses allegedly committed by police officers against citizens precedes the examination of other disciplinary offences.

- **Publication and distribution of a handbook for police staff:** a manual titled «Hellenic Police Guide of Conduct to religious and vulnerable social groups» has been distributed to all police staff.

- **Co-operation with local and non-governmental organizations:** The Hellenic Police has already developed a co-operation with relevant local bodies, as well as with non-governmental organizations, to raise the awareness and education of police officers on issues of respect for human rights and support to refugees, immigrants, members of vulnerable groups and detainees.

- **Training of police staff:** In the academic year 2012 - 2013, a special section entitled «Racism - Xenophobia» was added at the curriculum of the Police Academy, which included subjects related to the characterization and handling of offenses with an allegedly racist motivation. Further, in consultation with the School of Further Education and Training of the Hellenic Police, approximately two hundred Greek police officers, serving in the aforesaid new Departments and Offices to Combat Racist Violence, attended a special training, for two

days, during the period from 23/1 to 2/2/2013, in five training series, which expanded on subjects relating to the identification of incentives of racist violence, addressing vulnerable groups, law on racism, relevance of the racist phenomenon with the phenomenon of illegal immigration, the experience gained from the network recording cases of racist violence, as well as current concerns on aspects of international human rights protection.

- **Appointment of a Special Public Prosecutor:** In the context of immediate actions, a Special Public Prosecutor was appointed to oversee cases of racial hatred, racism and xenophobia and the possibility of information and communication of third-country nationals with the Greek Authorities was introduced, using information booklets and a hotline (11414).

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Reviewing the institutional framework for granting citizenship

OBJECTIVE	Smoother social inclusion of immigrants and their children - Mitigation of stereotypes and racism towards immigrant populations in the country.
SCOPE	A bill, which will meet the assumptions of the Decision of the Council of State no. 460/2013 on the «nationality of children of third-country nationals and the right of third-country nationals to

	vote and be voted in municipal elections», by which the provisions of the existing Act 3838/2010 for granting citizenship were declared unconstitutional, is currently being advanced.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Interior
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Action in progress

B.2. Simplifying the legislative framework for immigration

OBJECTIVE	To design an immigration strategy - Promote social cohesion - Equal treatment and combating racism and xenophobia.
SCOPE	A streamlined legal framework for legal migration, which, among others, simplifies bureaucratic procedures, fully informs Decentralized Directorates and Social Institutions and adopts new trends to face the migration phenomenon.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Interior
IMPLEMENTATION	A bill has been tabled in the Parliament on the «Ratification of the Immigration

INDICATORS	and Social Inclusion Code». The main purpose of the proposed regulation is to codify the legislation in force by issuing an Immigration Code, as well as, through a number of targeted and required interventions in the existing institutional framework, necessary to address the inefficiencies in the institutional framework, which either were confirmed in the last period or are due to changes or different approaches to issues covered by or related to the implementation of Community legislation, to make it more rational, functional and compatible with the socio-economic situation of the country, as this has been established.
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B.3. Developing a new National Plan for Immigrant Inclusion

OBJECTIVE	To simplify the procedures and improve the existing framework for the social inclusion of immigrants.
SCOPE	To develop a new National Inclusion Plan for Legal Immigrants, which is expected to contribute to the synchronization with the new management trends in migration and the management of issues of different social characteristics, with emphasis on

	inclusion and combating racism.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Interior
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Action in progress

B.4. Caring for the proper operation of the Departments and Offices to Combat Racist Violence

OBJECTIVE	To successfully execute the mission of the Departments and Offices to Combat Racist Violence.
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to continue running specialized training programs for the purpose of constant updating police staff serving in those Departments and Offices, regarding latest developments noted in the controversial area of policing. <input type="checkbox"/> special care for the physical and mental health of police staff serving in those Departments and Offices. <input type="checkbox"/> to constantly monitor these Departments and Offices to immediately identify any problems arising during their operation. <input type="checkbox"/> to supply the necessary logistics equipment
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection

IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	By the year 2014
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B.5. Systematically recording and processing incidents of violence

OBJECTIVE	To monitor and record the racist phenomenon as a whole, in our country
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to create a single State network recording incidents of racist violence <input type="checkbox"/> Single Database and monitoring of cases <input type="checkbox"/> to systematically monitor and collect, on the part of the competent services of the Hellenic Police, incidents taking place and forward them to the appropriate Hellenic Police Headquarters
BODY	- Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection - Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Constant action

B.6. Updating-Issuing circulars to address racist incidents

OBJECTIVE	To effectively address incidents of racist violence, with particular
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	emphasis on the obligation to investigate racial motivation and provide support to victims and witnesses
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to update circular no. 7100/4/3 dated 24/05/2006 referring to addressing racism, xenophobia, intolerance and prejudice during police action. <input type="checkbox"/> to issue a circular order to provide more specific instructions and guidance to the Heads of Services dealing with the related issues.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated time to completion: Early 2014

B.7. Creating co-operation channels between the Hellenic Police and other agencies and special training of its staff in practices addressing racist phenomena

OBJECTIVE	To more efficiently address incidents of racist violence on the part of Hellenic Police staff
SCOPE	To establish closer and more intensive co-operation of the Police with other agencies, through the establishment of joint working groups. To improve the curriculum, both by

	adding new modules and by updating the content of already existing subjects
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection

B.8. Transposing Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA into national law

New antiracist Act

OBJECTIVE	To take measures to combat particularly severe forms of racism and xenophobia, by means of the criminal law
SCOPE	A bill, which was tabled in the Parliament on 20.11.2013, amended the above-mentioned Act 927/1979, for the transposition of Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA of the European Council dated 28/11/2008 «on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of the criminal law», so that racist and xenophobic behaviour becomes an offense, by providing effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> based on a new institutional framework, the investigation and prosecution of crimes of racism and xenophobia, is conducted ex officio <input type="checkbox"/> to establish the administrative liability of legal persons involved in

	<p>any way in racism and xenophobia incidents or in committing crimes with such motives.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to develop a reliable data collection and processing model, which can be taken over by the Ministry of Justice, as the central government body.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Entry into force of new legislation: within 2014.

B.9. Ratification of the Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Cybercrime

OBJECTIVE	To improve the legislative framework against racism
SCOPE	To vote the Act ratifying the Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Cybercrime, which is pending. The Protocol refers to combating acts of a racist or xenophobic nature and hate speech, committed through electronic means. It is signed and is pending ratification.
ACTION	To draft a bill for the ratifying Act and its implementing provisions. Table and vote it in the Parliament.
COMPETENT	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and

BODY	Human Rights
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Vote (Official Gazette) and application of the law - a ratification bill has already been tabled in the Parliament.

B.10. Training seminars for judges and prosecutors

OBJECTIVE	To effectively prosecute and punish incidents of racist violence
SCOPE	To educate and raise awareness of judges and public prosecutors to develop investigatory reflexes for racial motives
ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/> to include special subjects in the curriculum of the National School of Judges, to tackle racist crime. <input type="checkbox"/> seminars and courses during undergraduate studies and throughout the professional career of judges and public prosecutors. <input type="checkbox"/> to conduct six three-hour courses on racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights - National School of Judges

12. PROTECTION OF THE ELDERLY

Human rights apply to all, regardless of age. Despite an aging population, the vulnerability of the elderly and despite references to elderly in other international

conventions, there is no international convention exclusively focusing on the rights of the elderly. The rights of the elderly are protected only under the general term «human rights».

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

Several international instruments protect groups or individuals against the discrimination they suffer, among others, due to their age. This protection follows from the principle of non-discrimination and is based on the rights of human freedom and dignity and the principles of fair and equal treatment enshrined in these instruments.

These instruments are mentioned above in Chapter 4 on equal treatment and non-discrimination (A 1-3, pp. 64 et seq.)

A.2. CONSTITUTION - LAW

- The Constitution enshrines - article 21, paragraph 3 - the special care of the State for the health of citizens and adopts special measures for the protection of youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities and the care for the needy.

- Act 3304/2005 enshrines the principle of equal treatment, irrespective of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

☐ Elder abuse

With an aging population and the important social and economic reforms that this demographic change brings about, finding ways to prevent elder abuse and ensuring a

decent life in old age is a major challenge across the European Union.

The measures to be implemented should fully ensure that the elderly are adequately protected and can enjoy a decent life, even when dependent on others for their care. According to a report prepared by the World Health Organisation (WHO/Europe) in July 2011, each year, 2.7% (4.000.000) of all persons over 60 years' experience physical abuse, 19.4% (29 million) experience psychological abuse, 3.8% (6.000.000) experience economic exploitation and, finally, 0.7% (1.000.000) experience sexual abuse.

Regarding Greece, there is lack of data on the size of the problem, as there is no national policy for the systematic (or not) recording of incidents.

B. ACTIONS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION

B.1. ELDERLY CARE

The residential care for the elderly is provided by Elderly Care Homes (MFH), which operate in the form of legal entities of private law and are either non-profit (established by charities, the Church) or for profit (established by individuals).

DAY-CARE CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY (KIFI)/INTRADAY CENTRES - DAY-CARE CENTRES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (KDID AMEA):

«Actions to support the elderly and other persons in need of assistance for the employability of indirect beneficiaries» under the National Strategic Reference

Framework/ Operational Programme "Human Resources Development" (E.P.AN.A.D.), with financing body the Ministry of Interior and beneficiary the Hellenic Agency for Local Development and Local Government (EETAA) SA, refer to the operation of Day-Care Centres for the Elderly (KIFI), as well as Intraday Centres - Day-Care Centres for People with Disabilities (KDIF AMEA), which provide day accommodation services to reliant elderly (physical disabilities, dementia, etc.), and day-care and stay services to people with physical disabilities or sensory disabilities, or mental retardation, or multiple disabilities, or a different kind of disability.

CYCLE	BUDGET	LEGAL COMMITMENTS	DIRECT BENEFICIARIES
2011- 2012	50.000.000	22.730.330	2.700
2013- 2014	21.000.000	20.566.160	3.002

Further, it is noted that, for 2013 (1-1-2013/31-10-2013), about 4.000.000 EUR have been allocated from national funds (Central Independent Resources of Municipalities) for local government bodies and legal entities, to about 1.600 beneficiaries.

PROGRAM «REMOTE ASSISTANCE AT HOME»: The purpose of the program is to provide the possibility of direct contact of solo-living reliant elderly with their relatives or a friendly environment, as well as with emergency services, so that they feel less vulnerable and insecure and remain in the place of their choice.

PROGRAM «HELP AT HOME»:

The «Help at Home» (VSS) program began as an initiative of certain municipalities in the 1980s. From the late 1990s until 2011, Community co-financing was ensured, with intervals of national financing. From 01/01/2012 to 30/09/2013 it is financed from national funds and, in particular, those of the Ministries of Labour, Social Security and Welfare and Interior.

By article 127 of Act 4199/2013 (Official Gazette issue no. 216, A/11-10-2013) the duration of the «Help at Home» program was extended until 30/09/2014.

The «Help at Home» program provides services to beneficiaries of the «Homecare for Retirees» and «Social Care at Home» programs, as instituted by said article. In particular the «Social Care at Home» program is supervised by the Ministries of Labour, Social Security and Welfare and Interior for the elderly and persons with disabilities. The operation of the program will be covered by the regular budget appropriations, A' grade Central Independent Resources (CFP), of the Partnership Agreement 2014 - 2020 and private funds.

To finance the «Help at Home» program (1-10-2013/30-9-2014) appropriations will be transferred from a) the Insurance Fund for the Solidarity of Generations (AKAGE) of the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare, for up to 35.000.000 EUR b) the regular budget of the Ministry of Labour, Social Security Welfare, c) the A' grade Central Independent Resources (CFP) of the Ministry of Interior and d) the special levy on insured persons for up to 5 million EUR. A Joint Ministerial

Decree of the Ministries of Economy, Labour and Interior determines the amount of the funds being transferred and the transfer process. The management is determined in a programmatic contract between the Ministries of Labour and Interior, Social Insurance Institute- Single Insurance Fund for Employees (ETAM) and the Hellenic Agency for Local Development and Local Government (EETAA) SA. Moreover, the «Help at Home» program may provide «Homecare» services. Please note that local government bodies are 290, with approximately 3.000 employees and more than 75.000 beneficiaries.

- Camps - thermal baths: Each year a camps - thermal baths program is implemented for the elderly, across the country, from July through October, lasting ten days, for every elderly person.

B.2. UNINSURED

Uninsured elderly, who have exceeded the 65th year of their age and are not receiving a pension from another insurance body are paid by the «Special Account for the retirement of uninsured elderly» a pension equal to the basic pension of the Agricultural Insurance Organisation.

B.3. HOUSING THE ELDERLY

Housing Assistance Program: Lonely uninsured and financially weak elderly over 65 years, as well as couples of uninsured and financially weak elderly, evidently lacking a home and staying in rented homes, are paid a housing allowance in the form of rent.

C. ACTION TO BE IMPLEMENTED

Respect the rights of the elderly

On October 1, 2013 - International Day for the Elderly - a workshop was held at the Greek Parliament, jointly by the Secretariat General for Transparency and Human Rights, Ministry of Justice, the Special Permanent Parliamentary Committee for Gender Equality, Youth and Human Rights and with the participation of Members of the Parliament and representatives of non-governmental organizations, on «Respecting the rights of the elderly». The workshop proposed actions for the elderly.

C.1. Improving the position of the elderly in today's life

OBJECTIVE	To improve the position of the elderly in today's life
ACTIONS	<p>1) to draft an Action Plan for the Elderly.</p> <p>2) to establish the National Council for the Elderly, consisting of representatives of bodies for the Elderly, which will have a say on all matters affecting them, as well as on other social and national issues.</p> <p>3) a discussion to be held on the International Day for the Elderly in the Parliament, at the level of Heads of political parties.</p> <p>4) The Guaranteed Minimum Income to be paid, by priority, to the elderly who have survival problems.</p>

COMPETENT BODY	Coordinating competence of the Secretariat General for Transparency and Human Rights/Ministry of Justice and the Ministries of Labour, Social Security and Welfare, Health and Finance.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Issuance of the special programs and decisions within 2014

13. SOCIAL INCLUSION OF ROMA

Developing a National Strategy for the Social Inclusion of Roma, 2012-2020

The National Strategy for the Social Inclusion of Roma 2012-2020 aims at developing a long-term Multisectoral Action Plan and its specialization, based on the principles of the social operational planning by sector (sectoral operational plans) and, at regional level, through integrated interventions that will be implemented in municipalities and settlements of the country and with the necessary co-operation among levels and interventions, both spatial and sectoral ones.

The primary objective of the Action Plan is to remove the conditions of social exclusion of Roma and establish the conditions for the social inclusion of Roma.

The above strategic objective is served through three specific general objectives:

a. to ensure and guarantee a «home».

b. to develop an adaptive grid of social intervention (in the areas of employment, education, health and social inclusion).

c. to develop a social dialogue and a consensus, through the social emancipation and participation of Roma themselves.

The implementation of the Strategy requires the establishment of an administrative facility for the integrated management of the national strategy, to coordinate monitoring and evaluation of interventions.

The National Strategy has initially been specialized in three pilot regional strategies (Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, Thessaly and West Greece) and the development of actions is planned to promote social inclusion and promotion of employment.

A. ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

A.1. Prevention, health promotion and social protection of gypsies (Roma) - Support centres for Roma and vulnerable groups

OBJECTIVE	To promote the health and social protection of gypsies, by utilizing the services and benefits of the National Health System and familiarising them with the public services.
SCOPE/ CURRENT STATUS	The support centres for Roma and vulnerable groups provide support and social inclusion services (e.g.: consultancy), support and promotion of the rights of the child and utilize the

	institutionalized structures of the State (educational, sport, cultural, creative activities etc.).
ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> to implement the program: «Protection and promotion of health and psychosocial support to Greek gypsies». <input type="checkbox"/> to conduct clinical tests, vaccinate children, address social problems with the co-operation of local bodies, by visiting, with mobile units of the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention, camps where wandering gypsies are staying, under the supervision of the Directorate of Social Awareness and Solidarity of the Ministry Labour, Social Security and Welfare and upon invitation <input type="checkbox"/> National Strategy for the Social Inclusion of Roma <input type="checkbox"/> to establish a Working Group at the Ministry of Health to handle health and inclusion issues for the Roma and participate in an inter-ministerial Committee for the operational planning of programs - actions concerning health issues. The main actions concern the following pillars: - Public Health, Hygiene and Food Pillar - Environmental Hygiene Pillar

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevention, Health Promotion in Primary Health Care Issues Pillar - Prevention, Health Promotion in Mental Health Issues - Addictions Pillar - Access to Health Services - Health Education Pillar
COMPETENT BODY	The Interministerial Administrative Coordinating Committee for the specialization of the National Strategy for the Social Inclusion of Roma operates as a national point for Roma, at the National Social Solidarity Centre/Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Under formulation

A.2. Empowering encounters and dialogue among different populations

OBJECTIVE	<p>To promote equality and remove stereotypes against Roma populations.</p> <p>To socially and culturally include Roma through intercultural dialogue in the field of culture.</p> <p>To make contacts between different communities and strengthen the dialogue among them.</p>
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	To include Roma in the educational and arts community
SCOPE	<p>«With Roma at the Museum»</p> <p>Task 1: Dissemination of good museum practices</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Organization of two (2) workshops with representatives of museums and departments of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism (MCT) with a relevant subject (Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities) at national level and Roma representatives from their respective areas.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Printed version (at least 200 pages) to record good practices.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Publication of printed information material, recording and evaluating Action 1.1 (5.000 copies, with at least 16 pages).</p> <p>Task 2: Training young Roma as cultural mediators</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The Byzantine and Christian Museum will design and implement educational sessions at the Museum, with the participation of ten (10) candidates Roma mediators.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pilot museum educational activities in the permanent exhibition of the Byzantine and Christian Museum. The trainees mediators, after the end of</p>

	<p>Action 2.1., will undertake to design and implement pilot reception and acquaintance actions for Roma groups (both adults and families) with the permanent collections of the Museum.</p> <p>Task 3: Museum educational awareness actions on discrimination issues, addressed to mixed school teams involving at least 50% of Roma students and their teachers.</p> <p>Task 4: Production of short films. Production of at least six (6) short films to further disseminate information on combating discrimination against the Greek Roma.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	The Byzantine and Christian Museum (BCM) in collaboration with the Greek Film Centre
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	The project will be implemented in the period from March 2013 to March 2014.

A3. Support centres

ACTION TITLE	BUDGET	BENEFICIARIES
Training programs for socially vulnerable groups (persons with disabilities - rehabilitated and under	85.000.000	8.214

rehabilitation drug addicts) through specialized vocational training centres		
Support Centres for Roma and Minority Groups	12.500.000	2.320

14. RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- Particular mention should be made of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, signed in New York on March 30, 2007, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, signed in New York on 27 September 2010, instruments which were ratified by Act 4074/2012 (Official Gazette issue no. 88 A').

A.2. EUROPEAN LAW

- The Charter of Fundamental Rights provides, in article 26, inclusion of persons with disabilities

- Act 3304/2005 on the «Implementation of the principle of equal treatment, irrespective of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation» transposed into the Greek law: a) Directive 2000/43/EC on «Implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons, irrespective of their racial or ethnic origin» and b) Directive 2000/78/EC «On combating

discrimination on grounds of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation».

A.3. CONSTITUTION - LAW

- Protection of the family, as the foundation of maintenance and advancement of the Nation, is constitutionally guaranteed in article 21 which, among others, provides for special care for large families, persons with disabilities or war victims, widows, orphans of those who fell in the war, etc. Special State care is provided for the protection of youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities and to care for the needy. Paragraph 6 of the same article states that «Persons with disabilities have the right to enjoy measures ensuring their independence, occupational inclusion and participation in the social, economic and political life of the country.»

- Act 2430/1996 establishes the 3rd of December as the «Day for the Persons with Disabilities».

- Act 2447/1996, which reformed family law and introduced the institution of guardianship. Article 1666 of the Civil Code identifies the persons subject to guardianship, such as:

a) Persons who, due to mental or intellectual disorder, are unable, in whole or in part, to care by themselves for their own affairs,

b) Persons who are unable, because of physical disability, in whole or in part, to care by themselves for their own affairs.

- Act 2643/98 on the «Care for the employment of special categories of persons and other provisions», regulates the

quota of compulsory placement of persons with disabilities and other protected social groups in the public and private sectors.

- Act 1143/1981 «On the Special Education, Special Vocational Training, Employment and Social Welfare of individuals diverging from normal behaviour and certain other educational provisions», Act 1566/1985 on the «Structure and function of the primary and secondary education and other provisions» and, especially, Act 2817/2000, which supplemented and upgraded the existing legislative framework for special education, are the most important legislation on special education.

- Act 2817/2000 identifies as persons having special educational needs those who:

- a) have cognitive impairment or immaturity.
- b) have particularly severe visual or hearing problems.
- c) have serious neurological or orthopaedic defects or health problems.
- d) have speech impediments.
- e) have specific learning difficulties, such as dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysanagnosia.
- f) have complex cognitive, emotional and social difficulties and those who have autism and other development disorders.

- Act 3304/2005 prohibits direct or indirect discrimination and harassment on grounds of disability, among others, to all persons in the public and private sector, as regards terms of access to work and employment, access to all types and levels of vocational guidance, employment terms and conditions etc.

- Per Act 3996/2011, on «Reforming Labour Inspectorate, regulating social security issues and other provisions», Labour Inspectorate monitors compliance with equal treatment against persons with disabilities and ensures that employers make all reasonable adjustments by taking all appropriate measures to ensure access and retention of persons with disabilities into work.
- In the context of instituting in Greece the Social Economy and Social Enterprise area, the provisions of Act 4019/2011 establish a new form of social cooperative enterprises for the inclusion of persons belonging to vulnerable groups of the population into economic and social life.

B. SPECIFIC ACTIONS

EXISTING OBLIGATIONS - ACTIONS OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR THE PROTECTION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES/GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

RESIDENTIAL CARE (Legal Entity of Public Law) (Act 4109/2013) 26 Offices for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities, Recovery and Rehabilitation of Children of Persons with Disabilities, Chronic Diseases)

The New Social Welfare Centres (Legal Entities of Public Law) which were established under the above Act and are under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare, are primarily located in the respective District headquarters and aim, among others, at providing residential care services to persons with

disabilities, providing operational, social, prevocational and vocational training and rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities and providing long-term hospitalization services to reliant persons, where rehabilitation is not possible.

Organization and Operation of Supported Living Housing (SYD)

In the context of the National Strategic Reference Framework and driven by the application of the imperatives of social inclusion, the promotion of independent living of persons with disabilities and family support for persons with disabilities, we have prioritized the establishment of Supported Living Housing. The aim of such an intervention is to develop, in our country, an alternative for living with the community for people with intellectual disabilities, at risk of institutionalization and social exclusion, due to the absence or inability of their family environment.

For this reason, it was suggested and was made possible to finance the organization and operation of the Housings from the Operational Programme «Human Resources Development» of the 2007 - 2013 National Strategic Reference Framework, while the infrastructure is financed by the District Development Programmes for the period 2007-2013.

Within the framework of the Operational Programme «Human Resources Development» 2007-2013 and in the Intervention Category: Preventing and addressing social exclusion of vulnerable groups of the population, we include and finance proposals - actions on the

organization and operation of Supported Living Housing (SYD) for Persons with Disabilities characterized by mental retardation, that can live independently with appropriate support (Boarding Houses and Apartments).

In the context, also, of the Regional Operational Programmes (ROP) of the 2007-2013 National Strategic Reference Framework, we include and finance proposals to build Supported Living Housing. Until today, our Ministry has approved and recommended for inclusion in the respective Operational Programmes the following actions:

A) in the Operational Program «Human Resources Development», the organization and operation of:

- Thirty - four (34) Boarding Houses that will accommodate a total of 272 persons
- Sixteen (16) Apartments that will accommodate a total of 58 persons

B) in the Regional Operational Plan of the 2007 - 2013 National Strategic Reference Framework, the construction or purchase of:

- Nineteen (19) Boarding Houses that will accommodate a total of 150 persons
- Twenty - two (22) Apartments that will accommodate a total of 44 persons.

Driven by the international obligations and the requirements of the Constitution, a series of programs for persons with disabilities has been established, which form part of the preservation and protection of human rights, as they aim at social inclusion and the provision

of opportunities for equal inclusion and participation in social events:

Care for Financially Weak Persons

The Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare concludes annual contracts with Hospitals of Chronic Diseases, of a non-profit (legal entities of private law) nature, aiming at disposing, on their part, beds for the care and treatment of financially weak and uninsured persons with disabilities, requiring necessary care. The relevant expense is covered from the expense budget of the Ministry (F.220 expense code number: 2291) to subsidize local regions.

Camping programs for persons with disabilities

Every year, a camping program is successfully designed and implemented for persons with disabilities, during summer, in collaboration with ESAmA (National Confederation of Persons with Disabilities) and POSGAmA (National Federation of Parents and Guardians of Persons with Disabilities), which is taking place in 12 camping sites in respective municipalities, throughout the country. The aim is, for 10 days, persons with severe and multiple disabilities, along with their families, to find themselves at a recreation and entertainment site that aims at strengthening relations between participants, thus contributing to their socialization.

Meanwhile, in summer, the program «Operation of a model beach accessible to Persons with Disabilities» is

implemented in the premises of the Attica Centre for the Rehabilitation of Children with Disabilities, in collaboration with the National Association of Paraplegics.

Granting a Public Transport Card to Persons with Disabilities

A joint decree issued by the Ministries of Finance and Labour, Social Security and Welfare defines the criteria for granting a Public Transport Card to Persons with Disabilities. It is issued by the competent District authorities, as well as the Citizen Service Centres (KEP) of the country to Persons with Disabilities (PWD) who have a disability degree of at least 67% and their individual income does not exceed EUR 23.000 or their family income does not exceed 29.000 EUR. Also, a Public Transport Card is granted to the attendants of totally blind persons and those with severe mental retardation, with an IQ of 30 or lower. Persons with a disability degree over 67%, regardless of income, are eligible to a Card providing a 50% discount on the tickets of intercity coaches.

National Register of beneficiaries of social and welfare benefits

Pursuant to Article 18 of Act 4025/2011 the Joint Ministerial Decree no. P2a/G.P.oik. 35099/2.4.2012 was signed on the «Establishment of a National Registry of beneficiaries of social and welfare benefits».

The National Registry includes recipients of disability allowances (blindness, deaf-muteness, quadriplegia, paraplegia, amputation in insured and uninsured public officials, severe mental retardation, cerebral palsy, severe disability, congenital haemolytic anaemia, congenital bleeding (S.E.A.A.), Hansen's disease and movement allowance) beneficiaries of allowance for unprotected minors, beneficiaries of allowance for expats, beneficiaries of housing aid allowance for elderly pensioners of the Agricultural Insurance Organisation and beneficiaries of dietary allowance for nephritics and transplanted persons. The result of this action is to have a unique electronic database which is the National Register kept by the Department for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities.

Designing Programs for the Financial Aid of Persons with Disabilities

Ten financial aid programs are implemented for persons with disabilities, regardless of financial and income criteria, which solely relate to meeting the needs arising from the disability and depend on the type and degree of disability, the disease, insurance status, etc. Ministerial Decree no. P3a/F.18/G.P.oik. 63731 defines allowances granted to persons with disabilities.

Article 46 of Act 4025/2011 ruled that «the beneficiaries of all disability allowances... are mandatorily examined by the Healthcare Committee, as a condition for granting the allowance to them». In addition, Joint Ministerial Decree no. F.11321/oik 10219/688/4.5.2012 on the

«Single Table Defining Disability Degrees» (State Gazette issue no. 1506/B'/2012) differentiated disability degrees per disease.

B.1. ONGOING ACTIONS

ACTION TITLE	BENEFICIARIES	BUDGET
National social intervention network for the social inclusion and empowerment of vulnerable social groups	39.310.700	70.000
Local social inclusion Actions for vulnerable groups (Local Actions for the Inclusion of Vulnerable Social Groups TOP/EKO)	60.000.000	12.000
Programs to assist unemployed persons from socially vulnerable groups through Specialised Vocational Training Centres	13.090.000	1.380
Operation of Supported Living Housing	26.500.000	500

Employment Support Programs for Persons with Disabilities

ACTION TITLE	BENEFICIARIES	BUDGET
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Three-Year Program to support employers by means of a subsidy corresponding to the amount of total insurance contributions, to recruit 2.300 unemployed Persons with Disabilities (PWD), persons rehabilitated from drugs or other substances, released prisoners, juvenile offenders or young persons who are at social risk and Program subsidizing 50 positions for ergonomic adaptations of workplaces for Persons with Disabilities (PWD)	27.000.000	2.300
Program subsidizing 800 new, self-employed, unemployed persons with disabilities (PWD), persons rehabilitated from drugs or other substances, and released prisoners and Program subsidizing 50 positions for ergonomic adaptations of workplaces for Persons with Disabilities (PWD)	22.400.000	800

Management of unemployment among persons with disabilities

OBJECTIVE	To manage unemployment among persons with disabilities
SCOPE	The Department for the Vocational Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities, now called EKO Department, as part of active labour market policies, implements programs of new jobs and new freelancers for Vulnerable Social Groups.
COMPETENT BODY	The implementation of New Jobs and New Freelancer programs for Vulnerable Social Groups is applied and promoted by the six existing (6) EKO Departments. Where EKO Departments do not exist, vulnerable social groups are serviced by the Employment Agencies of the Manpower Employment Organization.

Social Rehabilitation Programs for People with Disabilities

OBJECTIVE	Social rehabilitation programs for persons with disabilities in order to meet the increased and specific needs they encounter and to achieve their social inclusion.
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SCOPE	To apply 10 financial aid programs under the alternative and complementary nature of Welfare, in relation with pension fund benefits and depending on the type and degree of disability, insurance status etc. These programs cover all types of disabilities (blind, deaf, people with physical disabilities, etc.)
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B.2. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.2.1. Actions expected to be implemented in 2013-2014

ACTION TITLE	BENEFICIARIES	BENEFICIARIES
Training programs for socially vulnerable groups (persons with disabilities - rehabilitated and under rehabilitation drug addicts) through specialized Vocational Training Centres	85.000.000	8.214

B.2.2. Systemic Interventions for Persons belonging to Socially Vulnerable Groups

Establishment of an Agency for the effective monitoring and implementation of social inclusion and social protection policies: the legislation concerning the

creation of the Facility, as a coordinating body, and the synergies to be developed between the competent Ministries that will be the pillars of the Action Plan to be developed with the Ministry of Labour as executive body (Directorate of Social Protection), has been drafted.

B.2.3. Active Policy Programs to Employ Unemployed Persons of the General Population involving a (small) Percentage of Persons with Disabilities

ACTION TITLE	BUDGET	POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES	BENEFICIARIES
Training unemployed persons in certified Vocational Training Centres (VTC) with mandatory employment in «green jobs»	94.600.000	7.500	3.950
Training unemployed in certified Vocational Training Centres (VTC) with mandatory employment in	4.540.0000	3.600	3.360

the tourist sector			
Vocational training programs in Basic Skills to use Information and Communication Technologies	30.000.000	30.000	11.500
Vocational training for unemployed persons in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), using a voucher	44.000.000	36.664	24.893

B.2.4. Access of Persons with Disabilities to e-Government services: web portal for persons with disabilities

OBJECTIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to utilize Information and Communication Technologies for the social inclusion of persons with disabilities. - to facilitate access of persons with disabilities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the web <input type="checkbox"/> the public administration
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	<input type="checkbox"/> the services of the welfare State <input type="checkbox"/> assistive technology products
SCOPE	<p>A set of web applications, user-friendly and accessible to persons with different kinds of disabilities. Specifically it concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> persons with disabilities facing all forms of disability <input type="checkbox"/> elderly facing major or minor disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> people supporting persons with disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> health and psychosocial care professionals <input type="checkbox"/> organizations caring and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities. <input type="checkbox"/> manufacturers and suppliers of products and services with specialized assistive technology <input type="checkbox"/> social partners planning or supporting interventions or psychosocial care <p>The scope of the project includes two main pillars:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Studies 2) Development of a wide range of accessible services, such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Electronic Citizen Service Centre for persons with disabilities «e-KEP» b) Vocational Inclusion Service

	c) Information Service for Assistive Technology Products and Services for Persons with Disabilities d) Model Web Portal for Persons with Disabilities
COMPETENT BODY	Project Owner: Ministry of Interior, Public Administration & e-Government. Contracting Authority: «Information Society» SA (KtP. SA).
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	This project is in operation by the National Social Solidarity Centre.

B.2.5. Content production, enrichment and utilization system (SYSPEAP)

OBJECTIVE	SYSPEAP (Content Production, Enrichment and Utilization System) is a system providing communication and information services addressed to persons with disabilities. It aims at developing a system that will facilitate the management and access of persons with disabilities, with a series of audio-visual content services.
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to adapt educational and informational content to a content accessible to all persons with disabilities. <input type="checkbox"/> to develop an infrastructure for

	<p>information and communication technological applications to collect, process, produce and distribute digital content, suitable for dissemination via the Internet and/or digital television for use by persons with disabilities.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Audio-visual content rendering with the following access aids: acoustic image description, written or pronounced subtitles, use of sign language, content rendering with predetermined symbols etc.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	The project's budget is EUR 5.001.795,27, financed by the Operational Program «Digital Convergence» (National Strategic Reference Framework) and is being implemented by the National Social Solidarity Centre
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Final completion stage and implementation of pilot operation.

B.2.6. Designing accessibility Actions - physical or electronic - for persons with disabilities

OBJECTIVE	A series of actions to facilitate accessibility - physical or electronic - for persons with disabilities
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to codify all scattered provisions

	<p>relating to accessibility (physical and electronic) of persons with disabilities and handicapped persons, in a single legislative text.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to activate audit mechanisms of the State (General Inspector of Public Administration/ Internal Audit Service of Public Administration (S.E.EL.D.D.)), using the manual «Accessibility Audit Methodology for Public Services and Infrastructure».</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to reprint the digital «Guide for citizens with disabilities». The National Confederation of Persons with Disabilities proposes it in its positions for the Policy Objective 2 «Improving access to Information and Communication Technologies, their use and quality», in view of planning and drafting a Development Program for the years 2014-2020.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to activate (by issuing a relevant Circular) the «Accessibility Program to the Primary Level Local Government», which will include all municipalities resulting from «Kallikratis», on the basis of the best practices of the previous «Accessibility Program to Municipalities».</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to issue a circular to ensure</p>
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	accessibility of persons with disabilities to the websites all public services, in accordance with the Decision of the IT Development Department which ratified the «Framework of e-Government services».
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance

15. COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Trafficking in human beings is a contemporary form of slavery, which is growing rapidly, taking alarming proportions in all countries of the Western world, with the participation of organized crime groups and networks and victims thousands of men, women and children each year, worldwide.

Greece, because of its geographical position and status as a member of the European Union, is a country of transit and destination of trafficked and exploited victims by organized crime networks, moving to Western Europe.

According to the records kept by the Department of Public Security of the Hellenic Police Headquarters, for the years 2003-2012, it emerges that the victims are mainly women trafficked for the economic utilization of their sexual lives. They mainly originate from Eastern Europe countries and the Balkans. Lately there is an increase in the number of victims from Nigeria. Their educational level is usually that of primary and

secondary education of their country and their financial-living standard is low and is one of the key factors that facilitate recruitment. Few cases have been recorded with underage victims.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- United Nations Treaty against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (Act 3875/2010).
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Act 3625/2007)
- Treaty of the Council of Europe on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (expected to be discussed and voted at a plenary session of the Parliament)
- Agreement between the Government of the Hellenic Republic and the Cabinet of the Republic of Albania for the protection and assistance of trafficked minors (Act 3692/2008).

A.2. CONSTITUTION-LAW

- Act 3064/2002, on «Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, crimes against sexual freedom, child pornography and, in general, the economic utilization of sexual life and provision of assistance to victims of such acts».

- Presidential Decree 233/2003 on the «Protection and assistance to victims of crimes provide by articles 323, 323A, 349, 351 and 351 of the Penal Code, per article 12 of Act 3064/2002».
- Act 3907/2011 simplified and defined the criteria for the issuance and/or renewal of residence permits on humanitarian and exceptional grounds for, among others, minors, victims of domestic violence, victims of trafficking in human beings or smuggling, either unaccompanied or minors the custody of whom has been assigned to Greek families or families of third-country nationals legally residing in the country or for whom adoption proceedings are pending before the Greek authorities or minors hosted by institutions or other charitable entities. Residence permits on humanitarian grounds may be granted to victims of trafficking in human beings who do not co-operate with law enforcement authorities.
- Act 3875/2010 amended the provisions of Act 3386/05, aiming at a more effective protection of trafficked migrants.
- Act 4198/2013 on «Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims and other provisions». (The provisions of this Act harmonize the Greek law with Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims.)

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Informing and raising the awareness for selected groups on issues related to trafficking in human beings

OBJECTIVE	To prevent and combat trafficking in human beings by informing/raising the awareness of selected target groups and the general public.
SCOPE	<p><input type="checkbox"/> to draft an awareness raising action plan, which will include the identification of target groups to which actions will be addressed and the description of information - awareness raising measures, proposed by the contractor.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to organize and implement a series of interactive happenings/competitions in fields such as video, photography, cinema, documentary, theatre, literature, street art, sports, etc. on trafficking in human beings.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to organize thematic film festivals from around the world, on the issue of trafficking in human beings.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to organize two concerts with prominent artists (e.g. Athens/Thessaloniki).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> to produce printed material, and create audio-visual material to be shown through the mass media.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Foreign Affairs/The project will be implemented by a contractor -

	after an open public tender - who may take the form of a consortium.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated implementation date: September 2013 - September 2014 - Budget: 355.000 EUR

B.2. Informing and raising awareness of public officials and other bodies

OBJECTIVE	Targeted awareness raising and information actions for public officials and other bodies on issues of trafficking in human beings.
SCOPE	<p>These actions are addressed to: public prosecutors, judges, members of Anti-Trafficking Task Forces, the Hellenic Police, coast guard staff, border guards, labour inspectors, health workers, local government officials and members of non-governmental organizations. They will have the form of two-day information sessions that will take place both in Athens and the Districts, with mixed groups of about 20 participants.</p> <p>These informative actions will contribute to the development of a National System for the Identification and Referral of Victims, for the creation of which our country is bound</p>

	by the European legislation and international treaties. Also, target groups will form nuclei and act as multipliers for raising the awareness of a larger number of officials involved in the phenomenon of «trafficking in human beings» in Greece.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Foreign Affairs/The project will be implemented by a contractor - after an open public tender - who may take the form of a consortium.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated implementation date: September 2013 - September 2014 - Budget: 100.000 EUR

B.3. Creating a Database

OBJECTIVE	National Facility for collecting and processing statistical data related to the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings
SCOPE	The Facility (Database) which will be created in the context of developing a pan-European information network for «trafficking in human beings», aims at integrating fragmented data kept, until today, by various agencies, to ensure the fullest possible recording of victims of trafficking in human beings, with a view to assisting and repatriating more

	<p>victims on humanitarian grounds.</p> <p>In this database - that will operate over the Internet - quantitative and qualitative data will be recorded. By processing these data, reliable and updated information will be provided to the State on «trafficking in human beings» issues, so that it takes administrative decisions and formulates policies to combat trafficking in human beings.</p> <p>Said database will be fed with data from competent agencies, namely the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection, the National Social Solidarity Centre and the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention. Data may also be input by non-governmental organizations with a certified action in the field of providing assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings.</p> <p>Moreover, data will be provided resulting from the co-operation with the diplomatic/consular authorities and the National Coordinators of the countries of origin of the victims, as well as from international organizations.</p> <p>The project includes the following stages:</p>
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	<p>Stage (1) Application design: Recording the Existing Situation and System Requirements Analysis (the implementation plan of the project will be determined at this stage).</p> <p>Stage (2): Development - Installation of an IT system, aiming at recording, classifying and processing statistical data.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Foreign Affairs/The project will be implemented by a contractor - after an open public tender - who may take the form of a consortium.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Estimated implementation date: September 2013 - September 2014 - Budget 37.500 EUR.

B.4. Training Officials of Competent Ministries

OBJECTIVE	To educate officials of competent Ministries in the practical application tool for the development of common guidelines to identify and assist victims of trafficking in human beings (Euro TrafGuID, ISEC programs of the European Union).
SCOPE	To train competent bodies to a European System for Identifying and Referring Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. In particular, to

	organize a system providing assistance to victims, based on good practices for the detection, identification and referral of victims to certified hostels and their humanitarian repatriation through the International Organization for Migration.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Foreign Affairs: General Directorate for International Development Co-operation (Hellenic Aid) - G.ETH.EIS
BUDGET	European Program totalling 500.00 EUR, participation of six European countries (Greek participation: 20.000 EUR)

B.5. Conference on the Greek & European Anti-Trafficking Policy

OBJECTIVE	European High-Level Conference on the Greek & European Anti-Trafficking Policy and, in particular, «Corporate Social Responsibility - CSR Vs THB»
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to highlight the role of Greek operations in the fight against Trafficking in Human Beings. <input type="checkbox"/> to create a European Platform for Operations Against Trafficking of Human Beings, in the context of the events of the Greek Presidency, in

	Athens.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Foreign Affairs (G.ETH.EIS), in collaboration with the Office of the Anti-Trafficking Coordinator of the European Union.
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	First half of 2014

16. COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

A. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The main forms of violence against women are:

- 1. Domestic violence.

Act 3500/2006 «Addressing domestic violence and other provisions».

Domestic violence is any kind of physical, sexual or psychological violence against the victim by his/her former or current spouse or partner, as well as members of his/her family. The main aspects of domestic violence is violence between spouses or partners, attacks of adolescents against their parents, abuse and exploitation of minors or elderly family members. Violence in the family may appear in forms such as psychological abuse, financial exploitation, physical and sexual abuse. One of the most common forms of domestic violence is that manifested by a (former or current) spouse or partner against his/her spouse or partner respectively.

2. Sexual harassment, which is the occasional behaviour of a sexual content or other gendered behaviour, which

violates the dignity of women and men in the workplace, including the behaviour of superiors and colleagues. Sexual harassment is a violation of Act 3896/2010 on the «Implementation of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and occupation»,

3. as well as the punishable by the provisions of the Penal Code offenses of rape (article 336 of the Penal Code) and sexual abuse (article 337 of the Penal Code).

4. Other provisions which may be applied in cases of violence against women are:

- Act 3064/2002 on «Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, crimes against sexual freedom, child pornography and, in general, the economic exploitation of sexual life and provision of assistance to victims of such acts», the

- Presidential Decree 233/2003 on the «Protection of and assistance to victims of the crimes provided for by articles 323, 323A, 349, 351 and 351 of the Penal Code, article 12 of Act 3064/2002»,

- Act 3907/2011, according to which immigrant women - victims of domestic violence may get a residence permit on humanitarian grounds,

- Act 4198/2013 on «Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims and other provisions». (By its provisions the Greek legislation harmonizes with EU Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims)

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Creation of 14 Counselling Centres of the Secretariat General for Gender Equality in each District headquarters and in Piraeus

OBJECTIVE	To prevent and combat all forms of violence against women
SCOPE	<p>To develop Counselling Support Centres in order to prevent and combat violence against women, at regional level. The categories of actions include:</p> <p>Actions to address - combat violence and support and assist women-victims of violence (psychological support and legal counselling).</p> <p>Awareness-raising actions at the local communities.</p> <p>Providing legal support, in co-operation with bar associations, to women - victims of violence.</p> <p>Counselling on sexual and reproductive health.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - Research Centre for Gender Equality (KETHI) to implement
IMPLEMENTA	Budget 5.000.000 EUR - Estimated

TION INDICATORS	completion date: 31/12/2015
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B.2. Creating Counselling Centres and Hospices in co-operation with municipalities

OBJECTIVE	To prevent and combat all forms of violence against women
SCOPE	To create and operate, on a pilot basis, 19 hospices by municipalities or bodies supervised by them, following a Programmatic Agreement, and to create 25 Counselling Support Centres for women-victims of violence
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - Hellenic Agency for Local Development and Local Government (EETAA) to implement
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget (8 projects): 21.285.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

A.3. Operation of a telephone and electronic support hotline (SOS15900)

OBJECTIVE	To prevent and combat all forms of
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	violence against women
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to continue operating the SOS 15900 hotline for immediate counselling support to women-victims of violence. <input type="checkbox"/> the project «Training personnel» working in the context of the SOS support hotline, nationwide, is in the implementation phase. <input type="checkbox"/> the campaign to prevent and raise awareness of the public, with distinct actions on the various forms of violence, based on sex, is under development.
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	- Budget Project «Training Personnel»: 1.639.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015 - Budget Project: «Implementation of a comprehensive set of coordinated prevention and awareness raising interventions»: 543.000 EUR - Estimated completion date: 31/12/2015

B.4. Upgrading Hospices

OBJECTIVE	To prevent and combat all forms of violence against women
SCOPE	<p>A project for fitting-out - upgrading and operating two hospices of the National Social Solidarity Centre in Ilion and Thessaloniki, with additional pilot actions for women-victims of violence and their children, is under implementation, based on the Programmatic Agreement between the Secretariat General for Gender Equality and the Beneficiary (National Social Solidarity Centre).</p> <p>As an upgrade to the existing structure/service we mean: to increase the capacity of the existing structure, provide new services and streamline the services offered, using new and innovative methods.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	Special Service for the Coordination, Management and Implementation of Co-Financed Actions (EYSYDE)/Secretariat General for Gender Equality (GGIF) - Ministry of Interior - Secretariat General for Gender Equality - National Social Solidarity Centre to implement
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Budget 1.000.000 EUR - Estimated Completion Date: 31/12/2015

B.5. Programmatic Agreement with the District General Hospital - Maternity Home «Helena Venizelos»

OBJECTIVE	Inclusion of the dimension of gender in social and health protection issues
SCOPE	Programmatic Agreement between the Secretariat General for Gender Equality and the District General Hospital - Maternity Home «Helena Venizelos», designed to ensure a permanent and regular co-operation for the joint implementation of actions in the fields of both the protection of sexual and reproductive health of women, and the prevention and combating violence against women.
COMPETENT BODY	Secretariat General for Gender Equality
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	Action in progress

B.6. Preventing and combating all forms of violence against women

OBJECTIVE	To prevent and combat all forms of violence against women
SCOPE	<input type="checkbox"/> to operate an Emergency Hospice for women - alone or with their children - victims of violence (domestic or trafficking and smuggling in human

	beings). <input type="checkbox"/> to operate a Short Term Shelter House for women - alone or with their children - victims of violence (domestic or trafficking and smuggling in human beings)
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare/National Social Solidarity Centre

B.7. Vocational training for abused women, aiming at their (re)inclusion

OBJECTIVE	Social and labour (re)inclusion of women who have experienced domestic violence or abuse
SCOPE	Career guidance, education/training and promoting employment/entrepreneurship for 70 (seventy) women serviced by the Social Solidarity Centre
COMPETENT BODY	Project of the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013 - Action: «Bridging the Gap - Solidarity and Support for Women». Implementation by the Development Partnership «Diexodos» (Coordinator: Centre for Women's Studies & Research «Diotima»)
IMPLEMENTA	Budget: 380.000 EUR - Estimated

TION INDICATORS	implementation date: June 2014
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17. RIGHT TO A DECENT LIFE

17.1. GUARANTEED MINIMUM INCOME

The predominant human right is the decent living of individuals. This requires access to basic food and decent housing, as well as access to basic social services (health, education etc.).

According to statistical figures from the Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (ELSTAT, EUROSTAT), the level of poverty and social exclusion indicators show an unfavourable image for Greece, as compared with previous years and the European average. Research shows that families with children face the most acute problem. Indeed, according to the recent UNICEF Report «The situation of children in Greece - 2013» children lacking basic living goods amounted to 322.000. The primary duty of a civilized and socially sensitive state is to support fellow humans living under extreme poverty.

Hunger, homelessness, long-term poverty are an affront to humanity and constitute a substantial violation of human rights.

Ensuring the right to a decent life, in its various forms, is a priority policy for the Secretariat General for Transparency and Human Rights.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognizes the right to an adequate living standard (Act 1532/1985).

B. SET OF ACTIONS BEING IMPLEMENTED OR TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Pilot program for a guaranteed minimum income

Support to the financially weak, by setting a guaranteed minimum income, had repeatedly been proposed to the Parliament for legislation ³, without eventually having been adopted until now, despite the fact that Greece, by Act 1426/1984, ratified the European Social Charter, article 13 of which refers to the protection of the financially weak and where it is noted that failure to provide protection constitutes a restriction of political and social rights.

The first legislation to establish a minimum guaranteed income to support individuals and families living in extreme poverty was recently enacted. Specifically, Act 4093/2012 is projected to be implement a pilot guaranteed minimum income program in two districts of the country, the terms and conditions of application of which (beneficiaries, amount of aid, inclusion procedures, competent services, choice of two districts) will be established by a Joint Ministerial Decree of the Ministers of Labour, Social Security and Welfare and Finance.

OBJECTIVE	To eradicate extreme poverty in two districts of the country with different
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	socioeconomic characteristics
BENEFICIARIES	Individuals and families living in extreme poverty
ACTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to provide income support, as a difference between real income and guaranteed minimum income - actions for the social re-inclusion of beneficiaries (such as health care, inclusion/re-inclusion into the labour market for those who are able to work)
COVERAGE	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare/Ministry of Finance
SCHEDULE	<p>To issue a Joint Ministerial Decree in the coming period (currently being drafted)</p> <p>Implementation of a pilot program in 2014</p>
BUDGET	20.000.000 EUR budgeted by the State for the year 2014

B.2. Income support to households in mountainous and disadvantaged areas with low income

OBJECTIVE	To support low income families to meet their basic living needs
BENEFICIARIES	Families of Greek nationals and nationals of other European Union States, including single parent families, whose members live in mountainous or disadvantaged areas, as defined by

	Directive 85/148/EEC.
SCOPE	<p>To provide annual income support as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - income support amounting to EUR 600, if the annual family income does not exceed EUR 3.000 and - income support amounting to EUR 300, if the annual family income is between the amount of EUR 3.000 and EUR 4.700.
COMPETENT BODY	The allowance is budgeted by the Ministry of Finance
SCHEDULE	Constant annual action, without a deadline

17.2. RIGHT TO HOUSING

Housing is a prerequisite for claiming any other rights, such as health, decent living, quality of life, etc. It is one of the key factors that may give substance to the State of Welfare, Law and Social Sensitivity.

The existence of homeless persons, especially those who live in public areas or outdoors and are exposed to bad weather conditions, violence and hunger, lacking health coverage, is not peculiar to our culture or social justice. Unfortunately, the problem of homelessness exists in Greece and, due to the economic crisis, is constantly compounded, as is clear from the survey data of the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare.

The situation prevailing today makes imperative the need for immediate return policies and measures to tackle this huge social problem.

Act 4052/2012 introduced a provision which recognises homeless persons as a vulnerable social group. Specifically, article 29 provides that:

«Homeless persons are recognized as a vulnerable social group, to which social protection is provided. By homeless persons we define all persons legally residing in the country, which lack access or have insecure access to an adequate own, leased or ceded house meeting the necessary technical specifications and having the basic water and electricity facilities.

In particular, homeless persons include those living in the streets, in hostels, those who are temporarily hosted, out of necessity, in institutions or other closed structures, and those who live in inadequate accommodation.

By decree of the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity and the relevant competent Minister, promulgated in the Official Gazette, particular aspects of application of these provisions will be regulated, especially the content, the extent and timing for providing social protection, as well as the procedure and implementing bodies to record homeless persons.»

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognizes the right to an adequate living standard (Act 1532/1985).

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B.1. Providing housing to vulnerable groups

OBJECTIVE	To facilitate access of citizens under crisis or falling into a state of emergency, with respect to their housing.
SCOPE	Operation of three shelters for homeless persons in Attica
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare/National Social Solidarity Centre
IMPLEMENTATION INDICATORS	To be in operation in the year 2014

B.2. Student housing allowance for families who have children attending tertiary institutions in a city other than that of their principal residence

OBJECTIVE	To financially support low-income families whose children are studying in a city different from that of their main residence.
SCOPE	Undergraduates of tertiary institutions, the Higher Schools of Tourism Education and the Merchant Marine

	<p>Academies of Greece, as well as the Schools of Cyprus (included in the system of nationwide examinations), either Greek nationals or nationals of other countries of the European Union, are granted an annual housing allowance of 1.000 EUR, provided that, cumulatively:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The student is living in rented house because of his/her studies, in a city other than that of his/her main residence.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The annual family income for the previous year does not exceed 30.000 EUR, plus 3.000 EUR for each additional child.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Attendance is evidenced by a certificate issued by the School</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The parents of the student or himself/herself are not owners or usufructuaries of houses with an area exceeding 200 square meters, except for residences in areas with a population of less than 3.000 inhabitants.</p>
COMPETENT BODY	The allowance is budgeted in the expenditures of the Ministry of Education

18. RIGHT TO ENVIRONMENT

The right to environment ensures both human health and quality of life and, at the same time, protects the environmental elements themselves. Natural environment has become an independent protected commodity, to ensure maintenance of the country's ecological balance and preservation of its natural resources for the sake of future generations. The jurisprudential formulation of the principle of sustainable development, by the Council of State, significantly contributed, since the beginning of the year 1990, to this enhanced protection of the environment.

Environmental law is a major priority in the European Union.

A. NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

A.1. CONSTITUTION - LEGISLATION - INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

Article 24 of the Greek Constitution enshrines the mixed rights (individual, social and political ones) of everyone in the natural and cultural environment and, at the same time, establishes the State's obligation to protect and take preventive or enforcement action under the principle of sustainability. Through this constitutional provision, one of the most important principles of International Environmental Law is transposed into the national law, the Preventive Principle, which relates to the obligation for taking measures to avoid scientifically verified risks of damages.

In accordance with the constitutional provisions, the protection of the environment includes forests and

woodlands (article 44, paragraph 1, subparagraphs c, d & e), as well as the residential (article 24, paragraphs 2-5) and cultural environment (article 24, paragraph 6). Please note that the right to the environment is presumed from other provisions of the Constitution as well, such as article 2, paragraph 1, on the primary obligation of the State to respect and protect the value of man, a prerequisite for which is life in a healthy environment.

The Penal Code (PC) of the country specifically provides as misdemeanours, among others, the violation of the provisions for the sea-shore (article 421 of the Penal Code), the violation of the provisions for cleanliness (article 427 of the Penal Code), pollution (article 428 of the Penal Code), the violation of the provisions on flood prevention (article 430 of the Penal Code), etc.

Furthermore, the Civil Code (CC) provides for an adequate framework on the protection of citizens, in relation to violations against the environment, while indirectly achieving protection of the environment through the provisions for the protection of personality (articles 57, 59 of the Civil Code), ownership etc.

Greece has a rich institutional framework for the protection of the environmental. One of the major environmental laws is Act 1650/1986 on the «Protection of the Environment». According to article 1, the basic purpose of the Act is to establish a fundamental regulatory and legislative framework for the protection of the environment, to enable people to live in a high quality environment, in which to protect their health and promote the development of their personalities. Please

note that the Act, when passed, was considered one of the most innovative pieces of legislation in Europe, as it provided for the basic framework for the protection of the environment on which subsequent, more specific, laws, Presidential Decrees and Joint Ministerial Decrees are based.

Subsequent laws and ministerial decrees to protect the natural and aquatic environments are (indicative list):

☐ Act 1739/1987 on the «Management of Water Resources», which was replaced by Act 3199/2003 on the «Protection and management of Waters - Compliance with Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and Council, dated 23 October 2000».

☐ Act 3044/02 (Official Gazette issue no. A' 197), which established 25 Protection Areas with a Management Body (MB), added to the two regions which had already been declared as protected ones, under Acts 1650/1986 and 2742/1999: i.e. the National Marine Park of Zakynthos and the National Park of Schinias-Marathon.

☐ Presidential Decree 51/2007 on the «Definition of measures and procedures for the integrated protection and management of waters, in compliance with the provisions of Directive 2000/60/EC».

☐ Act 3818/2010 on the «Protection of forests and forest land in Attica».

☐ Act 3882/2010 on the «National Geospatial Information Infrastructure - Compliance with Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and the Council dated 14 March 2007 and other provisions. Amendment of

Act 1647/1986 on the «Hellenic Mapping and Cadastral Organization» (HEMCO) and other relevant provisions».

☐ Act 3889/2010 on «Financing Environmental Interventions, the Green Fund and the Ratification of Forest Maps».

☐ Joint Ministerial Decree no. 31822/1542/E103/2010 on the «Assessment and management of flood risks».

☐ Joint Ministerial Decree no. 51354/641/E103/2010 on «Setting Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) for concentrations of certain pollutants and priority substances in surface waters, in compliance with the provisions of Directive 2008/105».

☐ Act 3937/2011 on the «Conservation of biodiversity» (Official Gazette issue no. 60 A/31.03.2011), which replaced the provisions of articles 18, 19, 21 and amended the provisions of articles 22 and 28 of Act 1650/1986. The Act contains provisions on the national system of protected areas, conservation of flora and fauna, the conservation of natural ecosystems and the prevention of deterioration.

☐ Act 3983/2011 on the «National Strategy for the protection and management of the marine environment - Compliance with Directive 2008/56/EC».

☐ Act 4014/2011 on the «Environmental licensing of projects and activities, legalizing illegal constructions in relation to creating an environmental balance and other provisions of competence of the Ministry of Environment».

□ Joint Ministerial Decree no. 145116/2011 for «Laying down measures, conditions and procedures for reusing treated wastewater».

□ Act 4042/2012 on the «Criminal protection of the environment - Compliance with Directive 2008/99/EC - Framework for the generation and management of wastewater - Compliance with Directive 2008/98/EC - Regulating issues of the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change».

Important components of the National Environmental Acquis are both Community legislation (e.g. Regulations, Directives) and international conventions and treaties (regional and global ones), which has been ratified by our country through an Act, as provided in the Constitution.

To configure the existing international, Community and national environmental law, particularly important was the contribution of the principles of international environmental law, such as the principle of sustainable development, the prevention and precautionary principles, the «the polluter pays» principle and the principle of access to information and public participation in environmental issues. The Treaty on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, known as the Aarhus Treaty, signed by our country on the 25th of June 1998 and ratified by Act 3422/12-12-2005, contributed to the institutionalization of this principle.

It also noted that the right to protect the environment is enshrined by article 37 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

Finally, please note that the right to environment is directly linked to other rights of mixed nature, such as the right to health, the right to water, the right to food, while other civil and social rights have environmental aspects, such as the right to privacy, the right to property etc.

B. SET OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

B1. Solid Waste

OBJECTIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to protect the environment, address important needs in the field of solid waste to improve quality of life and comply with the requirements of Directive 2008/98/EC • to reduce waste, increase high quality recycling by separately collecting waste, increase reuse and recycling of waste to achieve the objectives of Directive 2008/98/EC for high quality recycling.
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to revise the National Waste Management Plan and the District Waste Management Plan • to complete an appropriate national and regional network of waste management facilities, based on their updated management plans.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to implement waste prevention programs • to promote innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and efficient use of resources in the field of waste. • to reform education and training systems, adapt skills and qualifications, upgrade the skills of the workforce and create new jobs in the waste sector. • to promote home composting and reuse • to enhance systems for collecting and transporting recyclable materials (infrastructure per stream: paper, glass, metal, plastic) • systems for the collection of bio waste • to develop and/or create new source separation systems for waste - Green Points • to construct processing plants for biodegradable urban waste • integrated management activities of urban solid waste in the islands • to complete and supplement the infrastructure for integrated waste management, based on the District Solid Waste Management Plans (PESDA)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop and expand alternative management and recycling systems for construction and demolition waste • to construct Hazardous Waste Management Units (industrial, hospital, etc.) • model environmental restoration of contaminated sites, in the context of integrated waste management facilities and/or restoration of derelict and contaminated land and sites. • integrated management of non-hazardous industrial waste. • to construct hazardous waste management facilities, with cutting-edge technologies • to construct non-hazardous industrial waste management facilities, with cutting-edge technologies • to enhance business activity to cover the shortfall in treatment/recovery facilities for the safe disposal of hazardous waste • to develop a network for the repair and promotion of used products for reuse • to develop secondary sector recycling • to enhance social entrepreneurship in the field of Waste Reuse/Prevention and Recycling
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to promote actions of green public procurement • model environmental restoration of contaminated sites from waste management activities, by recovering materials and/or other utilization of resources or land uses. • to promote programs - school activities with visits to Centres for Environmental Education and waste treatment areas - facilities. • actions to support social entrepreneurship in the field of reusing materials/equipment etc. and recycling waste • training activities in the field of solid waste management
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change

B2. Nature and Biodiversity - Conservation of the National Natural Capital and Ecosystem Restoration.

OBJECTIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to protect forests • to ensure adequate «green infrastructure» for the conservation of species and habitat types in the Greek ecosystems (both terrestrial and marine ones) • to strengthen the synergies of key sectoral policies with the conservation
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	<p>of biodiversity, establish relevant incentives, complete the Natura 2000 network and ensure its sound administration through the effective organization of their management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to increase the knowledge available to assess biodiversity status.
SUGGESTED ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to complete the Natura 2000 network by including new marine areas • to set objectives, measures and conservation priorities for the areas of the Natura 2000 network • National Action Plan to combat illegal use of poisoned baits in Special Protection Areas (SPAs) • more effective spatial planning and minimum impact of large infrastructure projects on biodiversity and ecosystem functions • economic and social assessment of ecosystem functions. • to prepare and implement management plans for the country's habitat kinds and types • to implement action plans and management and protection measures resulting from existing plans (e.g. results from Life programs of the European Union) • to streamline standards - draft plans

	<p>for sustainable growth of forests (both public and private ones), by integrating measures in favour of biodiversity in the forest management plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to implement exemplary and innovative practices in productive sectors and tourism, based on species and regional management plans. • to strengthen cross-border co-operation to maintain biodiversity • to protect against flooding and damaging silt, prevent land degradation in mountainous regions from the runoff of rainwater and improve proper use of water resources, by performing mountain torrent control works • wetland delineation-assessment of restoration priorities • to set objectives, measures and conservation priorities for landscapes of Outstanding Natural Beauty • to take actions to protect biodiversity from invasive alien species • actions for the conservation of genetic resources and access to them • strategic framework for setting priorities to restore ecosystems, by using green infrastructure • to prepare a research for the development of criteria and indicators
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	<p>that will contribute to the evaluation of the functions of the different types of natural ecosystems in Greece</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to identify and institutionally recognize important species and habitats of the country, e.g. endemic species • to implement a national biodiversity inventory (Act 3937/2011) • to promote the institution of environmental education in the primary and secondary education • to strengthen and improve the infrastructure of Environmental Education Centres • to promote programs - school activities, with visits to Environmental Education Centres and protected areas or places of outstanding natural beauty. • education and training in «green infrastructure» • to encourage the participation of citizens in actions to protect biodiversity and encourage volunteering • to create fish refuges for the recovery of fish stocks • to promote agricultural and forestry production practices and methods that contribute to the conservation of biodiversity, natural ecosystems and
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	<p>rural landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to record, evaluate and conserve agro-ecosystems • action plans and interventions for the conservation and restoration of the elements of rural landscapes and their features (e.g. hedgerows and terraces) • forestry regulations, based on the needs of species and habitats • to conserve and protect agricultural land and enhance suburban farming, both for the sake of contributing to the needs of residents, and for environmental reasons, while preserving the biodiversity of agroecosystems and rural landscape • to support stock-breeders and farmers for the conservation and breeding of local breeds in danger of extinction • to restore burned forest ecosystems, including species that have not developed adjustment mechanisms to fire (such as abies cephalonica and hybrid fir forests, black pine forests) or have low germination (e.g. juniper forests) • to protect the soil and improve water management • cultivation interventions at the low Mediterranean zone (evergreen,
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	<p>broadleaf plants) to reduce combustible biomass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to conserve and restore ecosystem functions provided by multifunctional forests (encourage foresters to protect and enhance forest biodiversity) • to restore forests and woodlands at the low Mediterranean zone (evergreen, broadleaf plants), through cleaning and selective logging.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change

B3. Climate Change and Risk Prevention

OBJECTIVE	To promote the adaptation to Climate Change and prevent risks
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop a National Strategy and Action Plan to adapt to Climate Change • to assess and monitor the effects of climate change on health, and monitor/record the respective effects from extreme weather and other threats (e.g. deaths from heat waves, increasing threat from diseases carried by mosquitoes and rodents) • to prioritise actions to maintain and help habitats and species at risk from climate change • to intensify research to study the

	<p>phenomenon of climate change and its influence in Greece and, specifically, in areas of national interest, such as biodiversity, agriculture, public health, constructions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop and implement a National Plan for Risk Prevention and Management, to assess, map and manage natural disasters
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change

B4. Water Resources

OBJECTIVE	Integrated protection and management of water resources (both inland and marine ones) to improve the quality of life of citizens.
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to prepare and implement management plans for river basins of the country's Water Districts, in accordance with the requirements of Directive 2000/60/EC, pursuant to Act 3199/2003 and Presidential Decree 51/2007, by the Special Secretariat for Waters of the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change. • To assess the environmental status of marine waters, determine their good environmental status, set a series of

	<p>environmental targets and associated indicators and adopt and implement a monitoring program of marine waters for the constant assessment and regular adjustment of targets, in accordance with articles 8, 9, 10 and 11 of Directive 2008/56/EC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to prepare programs of measures aiming at achieving a good environmental status of marine waters, in accordance with article 12 of Directive 2008/56/EC.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change

B.5. Public access to environmental information and participation in decision making

OBJECTIVE	To ensure: 1) the right to access environmental information and 2) the right to public participation in decision making.
ACTIONS	<p>Public consultation, approval and publication takes place on all actions.</p> <p>Examples are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of an Integrated Strategy Proposal on the actions deemed necessary to be implemented at local and national levels to promote and widely publicize the objectives of the

	<p>Directive 2000/60/EC and the consultation processes provided under it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public consultation of Management Plans per Water District (YD), under article 14 of Directive 2000/60/EC. • Approval and promulgation in the Official Gazette of 8 (Eastern Peloponnese, Western Peloponnese, Northern Peloponnese, Attica, Epirus, Eastern Central Greece, Eastern Macedonia, Thrace) out of 14 Management Plans for the country's Water Districts. • The remaining Management Plans are in the process of being drafted, public consultation and approval by the National Water Commission.
COMPETENT BODY	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change

Footnotes

3 For the first time in our parliamentary history, in June 1998 members of the New Democracy party - (with the participation of the then MP Mr. George Sourlas) - tabled a bill, followed by a bill from MPs of the PASOK party, in October 2000 and, subsequently, one from the Synaspismos party, in July 2004, but, unfortunately, no bill was ever accepted.

Part C: Annex

List of members of the Working Group

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General Secretary for Transparency and Human Rights,
Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights

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