

# National Program for Action to Raise Effectiveness of the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms in the Republic of Azerbaijan

Text Size 

27 december 2011, 22:30

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The National Activity Program is being approved with the aim of raising effectiveness of protection of human rights and freedoms, promoting legal culture and ensuring sustainability of activities to improve the regulatory and legal framework and the human rights protection system.

## Chapter I Improvement of the regulatory and legal framework

### **1.1. Drafting laws of the Republic of Azerbaijan relying upon the principal criterion of human rights and freedoms secured in the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the international treaties to which Azerbaijan is a signatory.**

Article 12 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan provides that ensuring the rights and freedoms of individual and citizen and a decent standard of living for citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan is the supreme goal of the State. To achieve this goal, it is necessary to ensure that the laws adopted in the Republic of Azerbaijan primarily secure the rights and freedoms enshrined by the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the international treaties to which the Republic of Azerbaijan is a signatory. Current legislative practice in the country shows that in preparation of laws the legislature is guided by the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the international treaties to which the Republic of Azerbaijan is a signatory. Apart from this, many draft laws are being submitted, for expertise, to international organizations specializing in human rights and subsequently adopted with due account taken of their recommendations.

Implementing institutions: Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

### **1.2. Implementation of the commitments and obligations arising from the international treaties on human rights and freedoms to which the Republic of Azerbaijan is a signatory and ensuring compliance of regulatory and legal acts of the Republic of Azerbaijan with international legal instruments**

Acceding to the international treaties on human rights and freedoms, the Republic of Azerbaijan has undertaken a commitment to ensure the rights and freedoms of everyone within its jurisdiction. As a part of a procedure to monitor the fulfillment of this commitment, it is important to implement the opinions and recommendations, of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, the Council of Europe and other intergovernmental organizations, on periodic reports on protection of human rights and freedoms submitted by the Republic of Azerbaijan. Furthermore, in the framework of execution of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, it is envisaged to undertake measures to improve national legislation. In fulfilling these obligations it is necessary to conduct a detailed analysis of the recommendations, identify future actions and state agencies responsible for their implementation. In this regard, the organizations listed below are to be engaged in this process. Local human rights non-governmental organizations are also to be involved in this activity.

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Justice and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Scientific Research Institute for Human Rights of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**1.2.1. Adoption of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on ensuring the rights and freedoms of persons during pre-trial detention**

Implementing institution: Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: March-April 2012

**1.2.2. Elaboration of a draft law on amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Azerbaijan to ensure the lawfulness of detention of the persons subjected to remand in custody**

Implementing institutions: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

**1.2.3. Elaboration of amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Azerbaijan to ensure the rights of persons detained for the purposes of extradition**

Implementing institution: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012.

**1.2.4. Elaboration of the proposals to update the Chapter of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan on “Crimes against computer information” and to ensure its compliance with the requirements of the Convention on Cybercrime of 23 November 2001, in order to improve the effectiveness of fight against violations of human rights through the use of information technologies**

Implementing institution: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

**1.2.5. Elaboration of proposals to ensure the compatibility of the criminal legislation with international legal standards in order to prevent the sexual exploitation of children**

Implementing institution: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

**1.2.6. Elaboration of the proposals on establishing of the criminal responsibility of the legal entities in order to prevent violations of human rights by them**

Implementing institution: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

**1.2.7. Elaboration of proposals on improving the legislation in order to decriminalize defamation**

Implementing institution: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

**1.2.8. Completion of drafting of the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan in order to ensure the rights of migrants**

Implementing institution: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

**1.2.9. Improvement of labor legislation related to labor rights of working women and workers with family responsibilities taking into consideration the obligations arising from the Conventions of the International Labor Organization “On the protection of motherhood” of 2000 and “Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment for Men and Women Workers: Workers with Family Responsibilities” of 1981**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

**1.2.10. Enhancement of parental responsibility and improvement of normative-legal framework regulating the duties of parents**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children, Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012-2013

**1.3. Continuation of measures relating to the accession of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the international treaties on the protection of human rights**

Up to date the Republic of Azerbaijan has acceded to hundreds of conventions of the United Nations and various regional organizations, as well as other international treaties. At the same time, considering the continued development of international law on human rights and the adoption of new international treaties, it is necessary to analyze the expediency of accession of the Republic of Azerbaijan to these instruments and to take steps in this direction.

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Scientific Research Institute for Human Rights of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**1.4. Implementation of measures on extension of treaty-law framework improving the legal status of the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan living in foreign countries and regulating the protection of their rights**

The Republic of Azerbaijan takes the necessary steps to ensure the rights and freedoms of all its citizens regardless of their location. For this purpose, the agreements must be concluded with the relevant states and their competent authorities to ensure the rights of citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan residing in foreign countries.

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

## **Chapter Two**

### **Protection of rights of various population groups**

This chapter defines activities aimed at better protection of the rights and freedoms of various population groups, including those considered vulnerable in terms of exercise of human rights – refugees and internally displaced persons, prisoners, military servicemen, women, children, elderly people, persons with disabilities, etc. A number of important measures have already been taken in these directions, as well as joint projects have been implemented with the international organizations to protect the human rights of these groups. Besides, a systematic continuation of activities in these areas makes it necessary to implement additional measures.

**2.1. Continuation of the work with international organizations to inform the world community of mass violations of the rights of the persons who have become refugees and internally displaced persons as a result of Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan, as well as of the fact of destruction of Azerbaijan's natural, historical and cultural wealth as a result of occupation, and to seek compensation for the damage caused by Armenia to them**

Implementing institutions: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice, Economic Development, Ecology and Natural Resources, Culture and Tourism, Education, Youth and Sport, Agriculture, Transport of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.2. Continuation of the activities to preserve and develop the cultural heritage of ethnic minorities**

Implementing institutions: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Culture and Tourism, Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.3. Strengthening the rights of entrepreneurs and consumers**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Economic Development and Taxes of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patents of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.4. Improvement of the competitiveness of the unemployed persons in labor market and organization of the courses for learning new professions**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Labor and Social Protection of the Population, Health, Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee for Statistics of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.5. Strengthening the protection of worker's labor rights and increasing the effectiveness of measures in the field of ensuring the labor safety in industrial and construction activity**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Labor and Social Protection of the Population, Emergency Situations and Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.6. Increasing the effectiveness of the measures in the field of ensuring the right to peaceful enjoyment of property**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee for Property Issues of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, executive authorities of cities and districts of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.7. Conduction of extensive awareness campaign among the population, especially children and young people, for a healthy environment and healthy lifestyle, rehabilitation of those suffering from drug-addiction, alcoholism and HIV/AIDS infected persons**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Health, Labor and Social Security of the Population, Youth and Sport, Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.8. Training of specialized medical personnel, teachers and social workers in order to improve the quality of education, professional training of and services provided to the disabled and children with restricted abilities (social services, inclusive education, etc.)**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Education, Labor and Social Security of the Population, Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.9. Conduction of research and improvement of the monitoring system to secure the rights of elderly people**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Labor and Social Security of the Population, Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee for Statistics of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.10. Continuation of the measures to bring the conditions at places of detention in line with international standards**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Justice, Internal Affairs, National Security, Defense, Labor and Social Security of the Population, Health, Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2015

**2.11. Continuation of the work on the construction of new penitentiary establishments in order to ensure the conformity of conditions of detention of the sentenced persons to international standards**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2015

**2.12. Involvement of public and non-governmental organizations in correcting sentenced persons, application of public oversight procedures and study the best practices in this area**

Implementing institutions: Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.13. Increasing the competitiveness of women in the labor market, development of private entrepreneurship among the women, arrangement of courses for the women for acquiring new professions**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Labor and Social Security of the Population, Health, Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.14. Preparation of rehabilitation programs for women who have been subjected to domestic violence**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children.  
Time-limit: 2012-2013

**2.15. Strengthening the fight against violence, including domestic violence against women, securing the legal remedies, necessary compensation, rehabilitation, medical and psychological assistance to the victims of such violence**

Implementing institutions: State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children, Ministries of Health, Labor and Social Security of the Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.16. Preparation of TV programs on educating and enlightening the children, as well as study the possibility of establishing a children's television**

Implementing institutions: National Television and Radio Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children, Fund on State Assistance to Mass Media under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2013

**2.17. Strengthening the measures to fulfill the commitments arising from the international conventions on child labor and documents of the International Labor Organization**

Implementing institutions: Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and

children, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.18. Cooperation with the nongovernmental and international organizations in fighting homelessness and in social rehabilitation of underage children**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Internal Affairs, Justice, Education, Labor and Social Security of the Population, Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.19. Establishing the crisis centers in the regions for the victims of violence and human trafficking, persons without support to life and the persons in need of treatment for drug-addiction and alcoholism**

Implementing institution: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2015

**2.20. Supporting the activities of “legal clinics” functioning under higher education institutions**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of the Republic of Azerbaijan of Education, Justice, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2015

**2.21. Undertaking the measures to improve the environmental situation in order to secure the right of the population to live in a healthy environment and to prevent environmental pollution**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Ecology and Natural Resources, Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**2.22. Arrangement of the courses on the exercise of the freedom of speech and thought for the mass media**

Implementing institutions: Azerbaijan Press Council, National Television and Radio Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

### **Chapter Three Improving the activity of government agencies**

**3.1. Profound investigation of the violations of law and human rights, abuse, abuse of office and other similar offences during detention, arrest, keeping a person in pretrial detention facilities and implement necessary measures**

Continuous measures carried out in this area have brought about positive results in securing the rights of the persons kept in custody. According to an Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 13 January 2009, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan has been appointed as the institution in charge of the national preventive mechanism envisaged under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. According to the Constitutional Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 24 June 2011 “On amendments to the Constitutional Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan”, relevant authority and privileges of the institute of ombudsman of the Republic of Azerbaijan have been established.  
Implementing institutions: Ministries of Internal Affairs, Justice, National Security of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Prosecutor-General’s Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently..

### **3.2. Building up capacity, development of national instruments to combat corruption and continuation of institutional reform in this area**

The Republic of Azerbaijan, focusing on the fight against corruption, has carried out a major reform in this area, established effective cooperation with specialized international intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations as part of various joint programs and achieved important successes.

Implementing institutions: Commission on combating corruption of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Economic Development, Finance, Taxes of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Central Bank of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Financial Monitoring Service under the Central Bank of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

### **3.3. Preparation of an action plan for subsequent years to ensure transparency in the activities of government agencies and combating corruption**

Thanks to the implementation of the "Action Plan related to the execution of the national strategy on improving transparency and the fight against corruption (2007-2011)", approved by the Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 28 July 2007, substantial progress has been achieved in this area. Considering the importance of the fight against corruption, an action plan for the coming years is to be adopted

Implementing institutions: Commission on combating corruption of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

### **3.4. Ensuring the provision of electronic services by government agencies**

The Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On certain measures in the field of providing electronic services by government agencies" indicates that in order to ensure a modern and flexible management, increase transparency of government activities and prevent phenomena contributing to corruption, it is necessary to provide the population with electronic services. With this aim, the official web-sites of central executive authorities must have a section on electronic services, a list of documents required for the provision of such services and receipt of electronic applications together with the required documents. In order to ensure the execution of the said Order, a resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 24 November 2011 approved a "Procedure for the provision of electronic services by central executive authorities" and "The list of electronic services". Issues relating to the provision of electronic services by government agencies are regulated by the said Procedure, while "The list of electronic services" establishes specifies the electronic services provided by each government agency. The "Electronic government" portal has already been created and a number of government agencies connected to it. Measures are taken to connect all government agencies providing electronic services to the portal.

#### **3.4.1. Introduction of the E-Government portal**

Implementing institutions: Ministry of Communication and Information Technologies of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

#### **3.4.2. Ensuring provision of electronic services**

Implementing institutions: central bodies of the executive authority of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012-2013

#### **3.4.3. Provision of the government agencies with the electronic signature**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Finance, Communication and Information Technologies of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

#### **3.4.4. Creation of regional terminals of electronic applications and encouraging people to use such terminals in order to expand application opportunities**

Implementing institutions: Ministry of Communication and Information Technologies of the Republic of

Azerbaijan, executive authorities of cities and districts of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2015

**3.5. Improvement of the efficiency of enforcement procedures in order to ensure timely and accurate execution of court judgments**

Timely and accurate execution of court judgments is part of the right to justice. Thanks to the measures taken in recent years, including the amendments to national legislation, a number of problems in this area have been eliminated.

Implementing institutions: Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**3.6. Extensive use of the topics related to the international conventions on human rights and studying of the international experience in this area during the training of judges and candidates to the judicial position, law enforcement officials and lawyers**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Justice, National Security, Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Bar Association of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**3.7. Conduct of research on the application by courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan of the provisions of international instruments regulating the protection of human rights**

Implementing institutions: Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Scientific Research Institute for Human Rights of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**3.8. Organization of training for law enforcement officers and media representatives in order to ensure the presumption of innocence of persons**

Implementing institutions: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012-2013

**3.9. Strengthening of the Bar Association of the Republic of Azerbaijan, improvement of the efficiency and independence of its activities and increasing the number of professional lawyers in regions**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Bar Association of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012-2013

**3.10. Continuation of specialized courses on the electoral law for members of election commissions**

Implementing institutions: Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

## **Chapter Four**

### **Educational, scientific analytical and enlightenment activities in the area of human rights**

**4.1. Organization of the study of the requirements of the Convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and its Optional Protocol by officials of law enforcement and other relevant agencies, as well as lawyers and representatives of nongovernmental organizations with expertise in law**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Justice, Internal Affairs, National Security, Defense, Education, Health, Labor and Social Security of the Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, The Bar Association of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Council on State Support for nongovernmental organizations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012



**4.2. Conduct of educational and other necessary activities to ensure effective fulfillment of the functions of the national preventive mechanism in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Justice, Internal Affairs, National Security, Defense, Education, Health, Labor and Social Security of the Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Bar Association of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012

**4.3. Preparation of training manuals on human rights in line with the “Enlightenment of human rights” and “Education for Human Rights” proclaimed by the UN General Assembly, the Global Program on human rights education of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UNESCO Decades “Education for Sustainable Development”**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Education, Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Scientific Research Institute for Human Rights of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**4.4. Enhancing of teaching of human rights at specialized vocational and higher education institutions and develop stage-by-stage teaching of the rights of the child in secondary schools**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Education, Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012-2015

**4.5. Continuation of conducting competitions, exhibitions and other activities on the human rights among pupils and students**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Education, Youth and Sport, Culture and Tourism, Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the human rights ombudsman of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**4.6. Continuation of work on preparation, publication and dissemination of educational and visual aids, booklets and posters on human rights**

Implementing institutions: the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Scientific Research Institute for Human Rights of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**4.7. Improvement of scientific research work on human rights and freedoms at higher education and research institutions**

Implementing institutions: Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Scientific Research Institute for Human Rights of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**4.8. In order to promote the UNESCO principle “Education for All” and facilitate a more effective protection of human rights and freedoms, preparation of trainers in the field of legal education for different population groups (women, children, youth, disabled, elderly, refugees and internally displaced persons, prisoners, soldiers, drug addicts and people with HIV/AIDS infection)**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Internal Affairs, Justice, Education, Labor and Social Security of the Population, Youth and Sport, Defense, Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children, State Committee for work with religious associations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**4.9. Establishment of specialized human rights centers (school of human rights, house of human rights, etc) or networks in order to improve effectiveness of education in the field of human rights and facilitate proper coordination in this sphere**

Implementing institutions: Ministry Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Scientific Research Institute for Human Rights of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Time-limit: 2012

**4.10. Conduct of awareness activities in order to develop a proper culture of law, prevent discrimination, promote a culture of peace and tolerance and national and spiritual values of our people**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Internal Affairs, Justice, Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the problems of the family, women and children, State Committee for work with religious associations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012-2015

**4.11. Prevention of crime that poses a serious threat to human rights and freedoms, such as aggression, terrorism, corruption, human trafficking, to continue activities both within the country and abroad (roundtables, seminars, conferences, etc.) on the theme of dialogue among cultures and religions and to strengthen religious tolerance**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice, Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, State Committee for work with religious associations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012-2015

**4.12. Translation into Azerbaijani and dissemination among relevant agencies of the judgments and decisions of the European Court of Human Rights**

Implementing institutions: Agent of the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan before the European Court of Human Rights, Ministries of Justice, Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**4.13. Ensuring the study of international instruments on human rights, in particular the European Convention on Human Rights, on the part of civil servants, members of the judiciary, prosecutors, officials of law enforcement agencies and lawyers, members of staff and regional centers of the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan and members of municipalities**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Internal Affairs, Justice, Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Bar Association Of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**4.14. Improvement of cooperation with international scientific research and educational institutions with expertise in human rights**

Implementing institutions: Ministries of Justice, Foreign Affairs, Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Scientific Research Institute for Human Rights of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**4.15. Development of human rights sections of libraries**

Implementing institutions: Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Education, Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Scientific Research Institute for Human Rights of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the

Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2015

**4.16. Conduct of awareness activities involving explanation of the national legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan on access to information and securing effective access to information**

Implementing institutions: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Communication and Information Technologies of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Fund on State Assistance to Mass Media under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2015

**4.17. Creation and development of web-sites of government agencies engaged in the field of human rights**

Implementing institutions: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Communication and Information Technologies of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Fund on State Assistance to Mass Media under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2015

**4.18. Preparation of volunteers for educating the population in reproductive health and family planning issues**

Implementing institutions: Ministry Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

## **Chapter Five**

### **Cooperation with international organizations in the field of human rights**

**5.1. Preparation and implementation of joint projects with specialized institutions of the United Nations and international regional organizations**

The implementation of cooperation programs of the Republic of Azerbaijan with various institutions of the UN, including the organizations specializing in human rights –High Commissioner for Refugees, UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank, as well as the Council of Europe, the European Union, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and other regional organizations has proved the importance of such programs. These programs also create an opportunity to apply the international experience and to invite international experts to the process of reforms in the country.

Implementing institutions: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan and other relevant government agencies.

Time-limit: this activity shall be implemented permanently.

**5.2. Implementation of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Azerbaijan for 2012-2013**

Commenced in 1995 the cooperation of the Republic of Azerbaijan with the Council of Europe is being successfully continued in the field of judiciary, fight against corruption, youth dimension, development of civil society and other spheres. As part of the Action Plan envisaged for the next few years jointly with the Council of Europe, additional measures will be taken in these areas.

Implementing institutions: Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministries of Internal Affairs, National Security, Justice, Youth and Sport, Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commission on Combating Corruption of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Financial Monitoring Service under the Central Bank of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Agent of the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan at the European Court of Human Rights, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Time-limit: 2012-2013

**5.3. Development of a fruitful cooperation with the UN Council for Human Rights to promote and implement the UN Millennium Develop Goals**

In accordance with the National Action Plan on the Protection of Human Rights in the Republic of Azerbaijan, approved by the Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 28 December 2006

and in order to promote and implement UN Millennium Development Goals, relevant government agencies of the Republic of Azerbaijan established cooperation with the UN Council for Human Rights.  
Implementing institutions: the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Economic Development, Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.  
Time-limit: 2012-2015

## **Chapter Six**

### **Coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the National Program for Action**

- 6.1. The Working Group for coordination of the implementation of the National Program for Action, comprised of representatives of implementing institutions, shall regularly inform the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan about its activities.
- 6.2. The Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall analyze the information provided by the Working Group for coordination of the implementation of the National Program for Action and submit proposals to improve it.
- 6.3. The Working Group shall organize, together with representatives of local executive authorities, municipalities, judicial, internal affairs bodies and the prosecutor's office, local NGOs, mass media, communities and other relevant structures, public hearings, seminars, roundtables, conferences, and television and radio broadcasts aimed at promotion and effective implementation National Program for Action.
- 6.4. In order to effectively secure the rights and freedoms, the National Program for Action might be regularly updated.

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