

Annex

Introduction - Government documents designed to promote equality between men and women

Annex 1: National Action Plan for Women

## **National action plan for women in the Slovak Republic**

Slovak government is responsible for the development in the society and is obliged to supervise the legislation, education, economy policy, employment policy, social and family policy to support the development and to depress the discrimination for women and men as well.

**The priorities of the Slovak government are:**

### **I. To bring to real life equal opportunities for women in the family, at work and in the society**

#### **Provisions:**

Promote and monitor human and civil rights of women.

Promote the principle division of the statistics data according to sex.

Promote the supervision of safe labour conditions for women.

Help women in finding jobs, mainly to women with health problems, family duties and other problems.

Support the services for education and child care.

Increase the legal knowledge of women in labour and family law.

Support the establishment of the "ombudsman" to supervise human rights in all spheres.

Supplement the legislation regarding regional and local responsibilities for housing conditions. From the tax incomes the towns should be able to finance the investments in housing and services, mainly for women and families.

Find a legislative way to solve housing problems after divorce, provide allowances for housing and state economic provisions to help the housing policy.

Supplement the legislation, so women could use their own surname together with their husband's surname.

### **II. To find possibilities for women's life decisions concerning the family, job and society.**

**Provisions:**

Enlarge possibilities for women in their choice between maternal and professional roles.

Promote new requirements for family allowances.

Promote a consistent system of provisions for mothers who want to start their professional career. This means mainly amendments in labour law for women and their further education.

Promote legislative changes in minimum alimony for small children who are in care of just one parent.

Promote the state support for families with more children, where parents care properly for their alimentation and development.

**III. To promote the abolition of the economic disadvantages causing the material poverty of women.**

**Provisions:**

Continue monitoring and analysing of the differences in wages according to sex and to eliminate differences in remuneration.

Support jobs with shorter working time.

Promote the average wage pension payments paid by the state during women's maternity leaves.

Create tax preferences for those who employ women with children under 15.

State possibilities for economic activities of women, their self-employment, family enterprises, small and medium size companies, change the tax and credit policy, promote consultancy and information services, in regard with the specific position of businesswomen.

**IV. To influence the public opinion regarding the equal opportunities for women and men**

**a) in education**

**b) in mass media**

**Provisions:**

ad a) In education we suggest:

Give more care to the girls' and boys' education in prosocial and cultural communications and to learn them to honour the family values.

Promote critical thinking, selective use of mass media, mainly electronic ones.

Promote anti-drug education in regard to the pupils' age, health care prevention, family and parental education, to learn them the values of human life from birth till death as a prevention in the negative social activities.

Enlarge the education with social work, communication with the victims and offenders of criminal acts in the system of post graduate study and the whole life education.

ad b) Via the mass media we suggest:

Monitor the objectivity, truth and information scale of the mass media regarding the women's position in the society.

Promote the restriction of violence in mass media, change of programme structure and transmitting times with the aim to eliminate the violence and drug addiction.

Inform about the most important tasks of the Slovak Republic in solving the women's position in our society, so it is in accordance with the international conventions.

Realize the public opinion research to state the efficiency of the governmental mass media projects.

Support the mass media activities to stress the women's self confidence.

Use the results of the national and international projects and inform public about the aim to improve the women's status in the society.

## **V. To create conditions for the protection and improvement of women's health**

### **Provisions:**

Prepare analyses on women's health based on demographic and health statistics in the Slovak Republic.

Learn women to take regular medical oncological and cardiological controls as it is stated in Slovak legislature.

Care especially for the prevention on drug abuse of women in regard with their maternal function.

Create possibilities for women's free time activities, mainly in sport.

In frame of the state family policy it is necessary to apply the system of indirect provisions to support the birth rate and healthy development of the population including social and educational provisions.

Support the establishment of the centers for families with small children who need whole day care and the service centers for older women's care and consultancy.

Help the lactation program and healthy alimentation program for children.

Pay special attention to interests and needs of the children, mainly those of girls' alimentation and health programs.

## **VI. To create conditions to eliminate the violence against women**

### **Provisions:**

Create legislative and educational provisions to eliminate the violence against women.

Support new centers for violence victims (asylum houses), resp. centers for people in hard life situation with consulting services.

Promote changes in legislation so the criminal acts committed against family members were punished by law and the victim's approval would not be necessary.

Prepare educational programs to change the behaviour of aggressive individuals and their come back to their families.

Promote the creation of the SOS line for violence victims, to train the SOS lines staff.

Join the national and international programs, eliminate prostitution and trade with women and children and publish these programs.

## **VII. To promote the development and employment possibilities for women with small professional chances (women living in small villages, Roman women, women not prepared for their maternal role, disabled women).**

### **Provisions:**

Strengthen the competences of local administration, their resources for women with small development opportunities in culture and education.

Support regional investments to create new jobs for women with low development opportunities.

Support educational and cultural activities, development in small villages, development of local administration, local activities, etc. (preparatory grade for the population with smaller development chances).

Improve the employment of handicapped women.

Open possibilities for Roman women with smaller development chances for their educational influence in the family and in their children education.

Abolish the discrimination in the pensions from youth for disabled girls and women and pensions for disabled women.

Prepare specific program in family education for disabled girls and women.

**VIII. To support the organizations promoting the development of women on the national and international levels**

**Provisions:**

Support projects and programmes on equal opportunities for men and women and on women status on national and international levels.

Support activities and cooperation of all national and international institutions and organizations based to help equal opportunities for men and women.

Support the research in the field of equal opportunities for women and men and their common relations on national and international levels.

Create suitable legislative and economic provisions for the non-profit women's organizations.

Via the international organizations (regional committees, other subregional structures) help the national institutions in monitoring, realization and evaluation of the Action platform accepted on 4th World Women's Conference held in Peking.

Via regional offices and specialized agencies of UNO (UNICEF, UNESCO, UNDP, FAO, etc.) identify women's worst problems of, including the time frame and financial possibilities.

Support experience exchange in solving individual problems concerning the women with EU and other associated countries.

