

Annex

Article 6 - Violence against women and traffic in women

Annex 2: National Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence Against Women for the Years 2005 – 2008

**MINISTRY OF LABOUR, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND FAMILY
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

**National Action Plan for Prevention and Elimination
of Violence Against Women for the Years 2005-2008**

Bratislava, 2005

National Action Plan for Prevention and Elimination of Violence Against Women for the Years 2005-2008

Introduction

Violence against women is a serious problem, impacting upon the whole of society. According to statistics of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as "MV SR"), women represented 74.9 % of all victims of domestic abuse in 2003, and 80.3 % in 2004; the number of reported cases involving victimized women increased between 2002 and 2004 by over eight times. This fact, however, has not been solely based on the real growth rate of domestic abuse cases but on the results of considerable legislative progress in the relevant area as well, achieved through enactment of several amendments of statutes in the criminal law and civil law fields and enabling investigating violent crime cases faster and more efficiently. Media campaigns realised in the period contributed to the increased level of information of the general public about violence against women. Women singularly prevailed (95.2 % in 2004) among the victims of vice crime (rape, sexual abuse and trafficking with human beings), as per the 2005 statistics of the aforesaid Ministry.

Violence against women has important social causes as well as consequences, therefore its prevention and elimination must be inevitably approached from viewpoints applying to society as a whole. Acceptance of the National strategy of prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence („National strategy“) by SR Government Decree No. 1092/2004, dated 16.11.2004 represented the first step toward a systemic solution of the issue. The strategy was elaborated and coordinated by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic ("MPSVR SR") in cooperation with line ministries and NGOs. Implementation of the decree was advanced by MPSVR SR, MV SR, the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic ("MS SR"), Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic ("MŠ SR"), Ministry of Public Health of the Slovak Republic ("MZ SR") and the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic ("MK SR"), cooperating in the elaboration of the National action plan for prevention and elimination of violence against women („National action plan“). The National action plan emerged from the essential claims defined in the National strategy for resolving the issue of prevention and elimination of violence against women, as well as from its operational goals, priorities and basic measures. The main objective of the National action plan is to implement adequate and efficient procedures toward prevention and elimination of violence against women, so that victims would not have to face violation of their fundamental human rights and could live in safety, freedom, dignity and in absence of any threats.

The National action plan, similarly to the National strategy, use the definition of violence adopted from the 1993 UNO Declaration on the elimination of violence against women, delineating such violence as „any act of violence based on gender inequality, the consequences of which are or lead to physical, sexual or mental injury of the suffering woman, including threats of such acts, coercion or any suppression of freedom, whether in public or private life“.

The National strategy offers proposals for resolving the issue at hand in different time horizons. The draft National action plan for the years 2005 – 2008 will contain measures requiring immediate action, along with those establishing the fundamentals applicable within efforts to achieve long-term objectives. Primarily, these involve the basic steps in the field of prevention, education, research, and construction of the institutional framework for the provision of coordinated assistance to women - victims of violence. Additional legislative improvements are a substantial component of the solution.

The National action plan for the years 2005 - 2008 was not designed to immediately include all of the currently necessary measures for eliminating violence against women; rather, its objective is to create the basis of continuous activities in each relevant field. Therefore, upon evaluation of the results, the document is expected to be updated in three-year intervals, and supplemented by incorporating newly-formulated measures toward smooth progression of the whole issue.

Activities toward implementation, monitoring and evaluation of fulfilment of the National action plan will be coordinated by the materially competent state administration bodies through the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence, executing activities within the SR Government Council for Crime Prevention.

Fields of realisation of the National action plan for prevention and elimination of violence against women

The National action plan for prevention and elimination of violence against women, elaborated pursuant to SR Government Decree No. 1092/2004 by ministries and other central authorities depending on their respective subject-matter jurisdictions, applies to fields defined within the operational objectives of the National strategy for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence.

The National action plan for prevention and elimination of violence against women will be fulfilled by concrete measures applied in the following four fields:

I. Criminal and civil law relevancies

Operational objective

Efficient utilisation of existing legislation in practice, supplementing it to ensure sufficient protection of victims of violence and adequate sanctioning of perpetrators

Characteristics

A series of legislative amendments accepted by the Slovak Republic between 1999 and 2002 amended a multitude of provisions in the Criminal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure, Rules of Civil Procedure and in the Act on compensation of victims of violent crimes, substantially improving the legal environment that enables penalizing several forms of violence against women. No progress in amending the Act on the police force could yet be achieved within this series of amendments. The original formulation proposed extending the jurisdiction of the police by authorising it to prohibit, in justified cases of concern about life or health, entry of the apartment or house of a relative threatened by violent conduct of the violator. This amendment would protect the victim until issuance of a preliminary ruling restricting use of the flat by the violator.

In spite of the creation of the legislative framework for more efficient handling of cases of violence, and notwithstanding the signals coming from professionals in the field on its positive impact on relevant solutions, the axiom that the existence of a law

in itself, good as it may be, is insufficient without its effective and adequate implementation in practice. Importance is attached to not only judicial interpretation of the law but also to the work, engagement and attitude of all active professions in the field of criminal and civil law (courts, police, prosecution, the Bar) in cases of violence against women. The insufficient application of existing legislation in practice is most frequently reflected in the inadequately protracted duration of related criminal and civil proceedings, as well as in the irrelevant classification of violent actions. Monitoring and evaluation of the practical utilisation of applicable legislation, together with targeted preparation of all professions involved in criminal law enforcement are unavoidable preconditions in the assurance of the necessary attention and adequate handling of all crimes of violence against women.

In addition to the need of fast and efficient action on the side of all involved professions in the criminal law and civil law fields, sensitive and emphatic approach is necessary over the entire process to the injured persons, whether within police investigations or judicial proceedings, to prevent their repeated traumatisation. The methods of investigation applied by law enforcement institutions should be analyzed from viewpoints of the status and necessities of the injured, in order to prevent their victimisation. Substantial improvement is visualized in the increase of the numbers of women working in the related professions and participating in works with female victims of violence.

The issue of trafficking with human beings, sexual exploitation and forced prostitution requires, considering its specificities, a separate conceptual solution. In link therewith, the Government Council for Crime Prevention established a group of experts, tasked with preparation of the Strategy and the National action plan against human trafficking.

Activities (I)

Task	Responsibility	Indicators	Deadline
1. To elaborate a comparative study about legal protection instruments available to women - victims of violence in the SR and in selected EU member states, and to use its results in proposing new legal regulations to be adopted in	Slovak National Human Rights Centre, MV SR, MPSVR SR, MS SR		31.5.2006

SR law			
2. To elaborate monitoring reports on procedure used by law enforcement institutions, and evaluation reports on the utilisation of applicable legislation with the objective to improve effectiveness of protection provided to women - victims of violence.	MV SR, GP SR		31.5.2006
3. To elaborate investigating methodology in order to protect women - victims of violence against repeated traumatisation and victimisation	MV SR		31.5.2006

II. Provision of assistance to women – victims of past or present violence

Operational objective

Assurance of fast and efficient assistance to all women exposed to violence or threat thereof, taking in account the specific needs evolving from their situation

Characteristics

Coordination of activities targeted at the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of fulfilment of the National action plan will be executed by the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention in cooperation with the Division of Family and Gender Policy of MPSVR SR.

The renewed activities of the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Government Council for Crime Prevention are designed to provide for realisation of coordinated activities and support of the creation of additional workgroups and teams in the field of violence against women. This Group of experts, in cooperation with the Division of Family and Gender Policy of

MPSVR SR and operating through the Government Council for Crime Prevention, will coordinate the establishment of intervention teams composed of all relevant professions, and monitor their work. In addition, it will generate indicators in accordance with the joint European system for measuring progress in combating violence against women, enabling to follow progress achieved on the issue.

Acting in cooperation with providers of assistance to women, the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention will elaborate the standards of provision of adequate assistance and protection of persons who are victims of violence by the individual groups of workers involved in the issue (police, social work, public health, schools, etc.), as well as joint standards of coordinated procedure of the aforesaid professions toward adequate assistance to women who are victims of violence. The same group will prepare reports, update documents and prepare information materials and methodologies applying to the provision of assistance to victims of violence, along with education schemes to professions working in the field of justice, police, health care and social work with women exposed to violence.

From viewpoints of providing assistance and support within the network of social services it is of importance that the relevant services should be oriented to support given to abused women and their children, as to the specific target group. Adequate adaptation of legislation applying to the execution of activities that take the diversified needs of women who are victims of violence in account is therefore a priority requirement. Safe accommodation, protection, advices and assistance must be made available to all clients, regardless of their nationality, age, religion or income.

Then establishment of integrated intervention teams of experts will be an important component in the coordinated work of relevant professions in the interests of efficient provision of assistance to women - victims of violence. Coordination of these professions should be accomplished by workers of the Offices of Labour, Social Affairs and Family. The teams should be composed of police officers, attorneys, health care and social workers, representatives of relevant NGOs, experts providing hotline consultancy services and in the advisory centres of the Offices of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, physicians, psychologists, educationalists, representatives of self-governments, and others.

Earliest creation of a sufficient network of telephone crisis help lines, advisory centres and other social services for women – victims of violence is an inevitable condition of commencing the resolution of the issue of violence against women; it could not be fulfilled without appropriate engagement of the self-governments. Currently there already exist so-called standby phone lines at the social divisions of the Offices of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, used in the interests of protecting children's rights in cases of threat to their life and health. Violence against women is very frequently accompanied with such threat. Establishing the network of assistance to victims of violence is, however, based not only in the installation of new emergency lines and consulting centres, but also on the interlinkage and visualisation of the already available crisis lines and advisory services. For this reason it is necessary to map the presently available options of providing specialised help to victims of violence. Since the provision of social services and the establishment of conditions for the realisation of specialised advisory services of assistance is within the competencies of the higher territorial units ("VÚC"), a dialogue on resolving the issue of violence against women should be initiated at all interested parties at regional levels as well, for example through the

regional commissions of the Government Council for Crime Prevention.

Part of the intervention teams' work will be the dissemination of information about possibilities to achieve assistance in cases of violence against women. Information materials will be elaborated on the places and methods of providing assistance to women generally, as well as specifically from the assistance providers' professional aspect.

The higher the level of knowledge of professionals working in the criminal and civil law enforcement field of the characteristic forms and courses, causes and consequences of violence against women, the more success can be expected of the procedures realised toward its elimination. Police officers, attorneys, prosecutors and judges must not trivialise displays of violence, mistake manifestations of violence for squabbles and/or admit causal linkages between violence and "provocative" behaviour of the victim, frequently used as an argument to apologise for or justify violence and victimisation. Therefore the lifelong education system of all interested involved professions will have to be supplemented with the violence against women issue. Instruments unavoidably needed for early identification and elimination of violence must be introduced in all relevant subsystems (health care, education, police, justice, social affairs, self-governments, etc.). The Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention in cooperation with experts in the violence against women issue will elaborate the corresponding proposals of tuition plans and texts, and the individual departments will assert their incorporation into their departmental training plans. Conditions for specialised training of the relevant professions will be established, and realised with assistance of experts in cooperation with NGOs within the framework of projects and programmes.

One of the most important tasks is the initiation of special programmes for the perpetrators of violence against women in order to reduce its occurrence and to protect women, efficiently based on international experience with such programmes.

The violence against women issue started opening in Slovakia mainly thanks to certain nongovernmental organisations of women. Financial support of their activities in the form of grants and projects is extraordinarily important, considering their long years of experience and work in the relevant field.

Activities (II)

Task	Responsibility	Indicators	Deadline
1. To renew the activities of the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention	MV SR		31.10.2005
2. To ensure, within	MPSVR SR in	The allocated	31.5.2008

the Ministry of Labour's 2006 subsidisation policy, financial support of the establishments designed to carry out activities that take in account the diversified needs of women - victims of violence	cooperation with VÚC	amount of funds	
3. To elaborate specific standards of activities in the field of social services that take in account the diversified needs of women exposed to violence or threat thereof, based on EU member countries' standards	Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention in cooperation with MPSVR SR		31.05.2006
4. To create procedural methodologies applying to the provision of assistance, and training schemes in the field of work with women – victims of violence for members of relevant professions (justice, police, health care and social work)	MPSVR SR in cooperation with the Offices of Labour, Social Affairs and Family (“ÚPSVaR”), MV SR, MS SR, MZ SR, through the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention.		31.5.2006
5. To coordinate joint activities of all professions providing assistance and protection to women - victims of violence in practice, by supporting local-level	MPSVR SR in cooperation with ÚPSVaR, MV SR, MS SR, MZ SR a VÚC	The number of model-generated integral teams intervening at local levels	Continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31.5.

collaboration			
6. To include the establishment of a specialised network of crisis lines providing assistance and advices by telephone into the European Social Fund programmes as one of the justified ESF activities	MPSVR SR	The number of new crisis lines providing assistance by telephone	31.5.2008
7. To explicitly incorporate positions of workers providing psychological advices to women – victims of violence into employees' job descriptions	ÚPSVR	The number of advisors involved mainly in the violence against women issue	31.5.2006
8. To inform, through the assisting professions, the general public about how to detect violence against women at an early stage, and about assistance possibilities (emphasizing specifically threatened groups of women)	MPSVR SR, MZ SR, MV SR, MS SR, MK SR	The number of preventive activities in the field of violence against women The number of information materials created and distributed	Continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31.5.
9. To supplement the lifelong education system of all members of the relevant professions with materials about the violence against women issue	MPSVR SR, MŠ SR, MZ SR, MV SR, MS SR through the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention	The number of created professional training texts The number of departmental agreements on cooperation with universities and other adult education facilities	31.5.2008
10. To realise special training courses for	MPSVR SR, MV SR, MS SR	The number of training courses	Continuously, with annual progress

members of the relevant professions (mainly for trainers' coaches) through experts, cooperating with nongovernmental organisations ("NGOs") within various projects and programmes		for the individual professions The number of trainees The number of training graduates The number of approved projects including the contractually agreed funding	checks to the date 31.5.
11. To realise special programmes for persons condemned for violent crimes in connection with violence against women	MS SR, MPSVR SR	The number of realised programmes The number of convicts involved in the special programmes designed for perpetrators of violence against women	31.5. 2008
12. To support the activities of NGOs in the field of elimination of violence against women and to create conditions for extending such activities, e.g. through grant programmes	MPSVR SR, MZ SR, MV SR,	The amount of funds primarily allocated for resolving violence against women issues The number of approved projects in the field of elimination of violence against women	Continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31.5.

III. Prevention

Operational objective

To prevent the occurrence of violence and of any situation contributing to the inception and tolerance of violence

Characteristics

Efficient prevention of violence against women is based on the increase of social awareness of the gravity and negative consequences of violence against women, and on the propagation of zero tolerance of violence. The point of gravity in the assertion of measures toward prevention and increased awareness lies mainly on the side of institutional education and of the media.

Upbringing and education in a schooling environment implants in children the perception of what attitudes and conducts are considered desirable or, conversely, unacceptable by society. Institutional education is irreplaceable in the shaping of public opinion, and may therefore substantially contribute to the refusal and subsequent elimination of violence against women. Education with the objective of refusal of any manifestations of violence against others, and in the given case mainly against women, should have its point of origin in the general principles of respect for human rights. Highest effectiveness in the field of the prevention of violence against women is reached by providing information about violence against women that is derived from understanding the specificities of causes and interlinkage of the various forms of violence against women.

Upbringing and education oriented toward refusing any disparaging and underrating views of women is a precondition of efficient prevention and elimination of violence against women. In this respect, the already outlined preparation of future professional workers in the field of the police, education, health care, social work, law and in the media and marketing communications is of paramount importance, as they are those who, while carrying out their vocation, could substantially contribute to the prevention and elimination of violence against women.

The issue of violence against women (including trafficking in women) in its human-rights dimension should be integrated into all relevant subjects at primary and secondary schools, using sensitive and suitable methods sufficiently clearly explaining its gender-based conditionality.

The media are one of the most effective instruments for influencing public opinion and the attitudes of society toward violence against women. They may, within the framework of prevention of violence, act directly as well as indirectly by specifically addressing the issue of violence against women and by providing objective information to the general public about the causes and effects of such violence; by supporting non-violent behavioural models; by informing about sources of assistance to victims and about legislative options of help; and/or by eliminating myths about violence against women.

In order to incorporate the media into the agenda of prevention of violence against women, prior continuous education of media workers and media monitoring specialists (e.g. the Programmatic Committee of the Broadcasting and Retransmission Council) is necessary, along with the initiation of cooperation and consultations among the media, marketing agencies and experts in the violence against women issue.

There is as yet lack of sufficient statistical data in Slovakia on harassment cases in the

framework of labour law and similar legal relationships. Assistance to the addressing of this issue could be provided by increasing the awareness of illegitimacy of such actions, and by providing information to the public about the instruments of legal protection.

Women in socially disadvantaged environments, members of ethnic minorities and migrants are specifically exposed to violence. They frequently lack sufficient legal awareness on the punishability of violence against women (mainly when the perpetrator is a relative or friend), absence or weak social contacts, depend for subsistence on their environments and their options to participate in the labour market are reduced. Therefore they inevitably need specially targeted activities, oriented toward increasing their level of information on the punishability of violence and options of assistance.

Activities (III)

Task	Responsibility	Indicators	Deadline
1. To accentuate, within realisation of the National plan of education toward human rights, the issue of violence against women	MŠ SR		Continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31.5.
2. To pay careful attention to the issue of violence against women in the creation of pedagogic documents applying to the relevant primary and secondary school subjects within human-rights education	MŠ SR and the organisations under its direct management	The number of pedagogic documents that take in account the violence against women issue in a human-rights context	31.5.2008
3. To educate media workers and media monitoring specialists in the field of violence against women	MPSVR SR in cooperation with NGOS	The number of media workers involved in the education The number of trained media monitoring specialists	Continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31.5.
4. To establish task forces at the Councils, committed to motivation of the	MPSVR SR in cooperation with the Slovak TV Council and with the Radio		31.5.2006

public media toward informing about violence against women , in the sense of professional knowledge of the issue	Council		
5. To realise education and information activities toward increased legal awareness of the illegality of harassment in labour law and other similar legal relationships	Slovak National Human Rights Centre; MPSVR SR in cooperation with the social partners	The number of persons (employees, employers, entrepreneurs, tradesmen) involved in preventive activities The number of educating activities	Continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31.5.
6. To inform women in specifically disadvantaged groups about the issue of violence against women and on assistance options	Migration Office, Government Agent for the Roma Communities, MPSVR SR in cooperation with NGOS	The number of persons involved in preventive activities The number of elaborated information materials The number of lectures and seminars	Continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31.5.
7. To make accessible information about assistance to women - victims of violence on webpages	MPSVR SR		31.12.2005

IV. Research

Operational objective

To create a sufficient basis of knowledge about various aspects of violence against women

Characteristics

Violence against women is a very sensitive and difficultly investigated social problem. In Slovakia, the issue of violence against women started to receive attention only recently. Hence the basis of knowledge of violence against women is less developed in Slovakia, there is lack of research practice, experience and possibilities to compare and/or test. The first representative sociological research into violence against women was carried out as

recently as to the end of 2002 and early 2003.

These circumstances in the SR resulted in absence of the country's own information basis at reported statistical data as well as at research data level. Only the statistics of reported criminal cases have been regularly monitored and published. From this aspect it is important to analyse the existing statistical reporting system and to propose its optimisation, supplementing it with currently absent data. Certain departmental or self-government statistics are virtually nonexistent, and their collection and processing should therefore commence as soon as possible.

This statistical information should be centrally processed, and the results regularly published in order to provide for a basis of knowledge sufficient to propose policies and measures preventing and eliminating violence against women.

Resolution of the violence against women issue depends, additionally to reporting, inevitably also on research activities, targeted to the collection of qualitative as well as quantitative data on the individual forms of violence against women. Presently, attention of researchers should be primarily focused on the occurrence of violence, its consequences and contexts, which is contingent upon introduction of several information sources and research procedures. While examining the issue of violence it is important to be aware of the potentially specific differences of women from other cultural or social environments (migrants, women in socially disadvantaged environments and in ethnic minorities).

Research in the SR has as yet been financed virtually exclusively by foreign sources (UNO, international grants and funds). Slovakia could, in this respect, enter the EU programmes supporting research into violence against women, including, for instance, DAFNÉ II. Involvement of the SR in this EU programme is connected to its co-funding with natural budget means.

Cooperation and exchange of information and good-practice examples between the research sphere and state administration bodies is inevitable in the interests of the future assurance of development of the institutional and legislative networks, and of expansion of the necessary policies, assistance services and protection of victims.

Good experience and practices acquired in an international context in the field of prevention and elimination of violence against women were transformed into the joint European system for measuring progress in combating violence against women. Their generalised outcome resulted in the establishment of the essential framework and indicators regarding budgets, legislation, justice, provision of services, education of specialists, civil society, data collection and prevention. This set of indicators may be used in the monitoring and evaluation of progress attained in the field of prevention and elimination of violence against women.

Activities (IV)

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Task	Responsibility	Indicators	Deadline
1. To improve the existing statistical reporting system (including departmental administrative sources) in the field of violence against women	MPSVR SR, MV SR, MS SR, Office of the Prosecutor General of the Slovak Republic ("GP SR"), MZ SR - in cooperation with VÚC	The number of new and/or changed statistical indicators applying to violence against women, at least to the range of indicators in Task No. 2	31.5.2006
2. To extend, in link with the improvement of information in the field of violence against women on the side of relevant departments, the summary processing system of such information in the form of statistical outputs, and to ensure their regular publishing	Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic ("ŠÚ SR")	The number of violent crimes against women differentiated by case facts (bodily harm, murder, sexual violence, statutory rape (girls until 15 years), blackmail, mental and physical abuse, harassment in labour law and other similar legal relations, etc.), by the gender of the perpetrators and by the crime occurrence place - development trends in annual time series	31.5.2008
3. To realise research projects and surveys on violence against women (including those from specifically disadvantaged groups) as requirements for such research in the framework of specialised departmental	MPSVR SR, MK SR, MŠ SR,	The number of realised research projects, surveys and published studies	Continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31.5.

research institutions			
4. To financially ensure participation of the SR in the EU programmes supporting research into violence against women	MPSVR SR, MF SR	The number of programmes entered by the SR Co-financing of SR's participation	31.5.2008
5. To elaborate monitoring reports of the implementation of policies and activities targeted to the combating of violence against women, based on the set of joint EU indicators in order to map the situation in the SR.	MPSVR SR, MV SR through the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention	The number of monitoring reports and mapping outputs	Continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31.5. 2008

Decree of the Government of the Slovak Republic

No. 635
dated 24 August 2005

to the Draft National Action Plan for Prevention and Elimination of Violence
Against Women for the Years 2005 - 2008

Document reference: 14478/2005
Submitted by: The Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family

The Government

A. Approves

A.1. The National action plan for prevention and elimination of violence against women for the years 2005-2008;

B. Instructs

The Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family
The Minister of Interior Affairs
The Minister of Justice
The Minister of Education
The Minister of Public Health

The Minister of Culture
The Chairman of the Statistical Office

B.1. To fulfil the measures of the National action plan for prevention and elimination of violence against women for the years 2005 –2008;

The Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family

B.2. To formulate, in the applicable budget category within the programmatic structure of the draft 2006 - 2008 public administration budget, the objectives and measurable indicators ensuing from the measures of the National action plan for prevention and elimination of violence against women for the years 2005 - 2008
continuously,

B.3. To elaborate a report on fulfilment of activities within the National action plan for prevention and elimination of violence against women for the years 2005-2008, and to submit it to governmental debate
by 31 May 2008;

C. Recommends

To the General Prosecutor,
To the chairpersons of self-governed regions,
To the chairperson of the Association of Cities and Communities of Slovakia,
To the President of the Union of Cities of Slovakia,
To rectors of universities,
To the Director of the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights,
To the Chairperson of the Broadcasting and Retransmission Council,
To the Chairman of the Slovak Television Council
To the Chairman of the Radio Council

C.1. To cooperate in realisation of the National action plan for prevention and elimination of violence against women for the years 2005 – 2008.

To be implemented by: The Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family
 The Minister of Interior Affairs
 The Minister of Justice
 The Minister of Education
 The Minister of Public Health
 The Minister of Culture
 The Chairman of the Statistical Office

For information: The President of the Slovak Republic
 The Chairman of the National Council of the Slovak

Republic

The General Prosecutor,
The chairpersons of self-governed regions,

The chairperson of the Association of Cities and Communities of Slovakia,
The President of the Union of Cities of Slovakia,
Rectors of universities,
The Director of the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights,
The Chairperson of the Broadcasting and Retransmission Council,
The Chairman of the Slovak Television Council
The Chairman of the Radio Council

Annex to the Government Decree No. 635/2005

**Implementation Schedule
of the
National Action Plan for Prevention and Elimination of Violence Against Women
for the Years 2005 - 2008**

1. To elaborate a comparative study about legal protection instruments available to women - victims of violence in the SR and in selected EU member states, and to use its results in proposing new legal regulations to be adopted in SR law
R(esponsibility of): Slovak National Centre for Human Rights, MV SR, MPSVR SR, MS SR
D(eadline): 31. 5. 2006
2. To elaborate monitoring reports on procedure used by law enforcement institutions, and evaluation reports on the utilisation of applicable legislation with the objective to improve effectiveness of protection provided to women - victims of violence
R: MV SR, GP SR
D: 31. 5. 2006
3. To elaborate investigating methodology in order to protect women - victims of violence against repeated traumatisatisation and victimisation
R: MV SR
D: 31.5. 2006
4. To renew the activities of the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention
R: MV SR
D: 31. 10. 2005
5. To ensure, within the MPSVR SR subsidisation policy in the year 2006, financial support of the establishments designed to carry out activities that take in account the diversified needs of women - victims of violence
R: MPSVR SR in cooperation with VÚC
D: 31.5.2008

6. To elaborate specific standards of activities in the field of social services that take in account the diversified needs of women exposed to violence or threat thereof, based on EU member countries' standards
R: Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Government Council for Crime Prevention in cooperation with MPSVR SR
D: 31. 5. 2006
7. To create procedural methodologies applying to the provision of assistance and training schemes in the field of work with women – victims of violence for members of relevant professions (justice, police, health care and social work
R: MPSVR SR in cooperation with ÚPSVR, MV SR, MS SR, MZ SR through the Expert group for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Government Council for Crime Prevention
D: 31. 5. 2006
8. To coordinate joint activities of all professions providing assistance and protection to women - victims of violence in practice, by supporting local-level collaboration
R: MPSVR SR in cooperation with ÚPSVR, MV SR, MS SR, MZ SR and VÚC
D: continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31. 5.
9. To include the establishment of a specialised network of crisis lines providing assistance and advices by telephone into the European Social Fund programmes as one of the justified ESF activities
R: MPSVR SR
D: 31. 5. 2008
10. To explicitly incorporate positions of workers providing psychological advices to women – victims of violence into employees' job descriptions
R: ÚPSVR
D: 31.5. 2006
11. To inform, through the assisting professions, the general public about how to detect violence against women at an early stage, and about assistance possibilities (emphasizing specifically threatened groups of women)
R: MPSVR SR, MZ SR, MV SR, MS SR, MK SR
D: continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31. 5.
12. To supplement the lifelong education system of all members of the relevant professions with materials about the violence against women issue
R: MPSVR SR, MŠ SR, MZ SR, MV SR, MS SR through the Group of experts for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for crime prevention
D: 31. 5. 2008
13. To realise special training courses for members of the relevant professions (mainly for trainers' coaches) through experts in cooperation with NGOS within various projects and programmes
R: MPSVR SR, MV SR, MS SR
D: continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31. 5.

14. To realise special programmes for persons condemned for violent crimes in connection with violence against women
R: MS SR, MPSVR SR
D: 31. 5. 2008
15. To support the activities of NGOs in the field of elimination of violence against women and to create conditions for extending such activities, e.g. through grant programmes
R: MPSVR SR, MZ SR, MV SR
D: continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31. 5.
16. To accentuate, within realisation of the National plan of education toward human rights, the issue of violence against women
R: MŠ SR
D: continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31. 5.
17. To pay careful attention to the issue of violence against women in the creation of pedagogic documents applying to the relevant primary and secondary school subjects within human-rights education
R: MŠ SR and the organisations under its direct management
D: 31. 5. 2008
18. To educate media workers and media monitoring specialists in the field of violence against women
R: MPSVR SR in cooperation with NGOS
D: continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31. 5.
19. To establish task forces at the Councils, committed to motivation of the public media toward informing about violence against women , in the sense of professional knowledge of the issue
R: MPSVR SR in cooperation with the Slovak TV Council and with the Radio Council
D: 31. 5. 2006
20. To realise education and information activities toward increased legal awareness of the illegality of harassment in labour law and other similar legal relationships
R: Slovak National Centre for Human Rights, MPSVR SR in cooperation with social partners
D: continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31. 5.
21. To inform women in specifically disadvantaged groups about the issue of violence against women and on assistance options
R: Migration Office, Government Agent for the Roma Communities, MPSVR SR in cooperation with NGOS
D: continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31. 5.
22. To make accessible information about assistance to women - victims of violence on webpages
R: MPSVR SR
D: 31.12. 2005

23. To improve the existing statistical reporting system (including departmental administrative sources) in the field of violence against women
R: MPSVR SR, MV SR, MS SR, GP SR, MZ SR in cooperation with VÚC
D: 31. 5. 2006
24. To extend, in link with the improvement of information in the field of violence against women on the side of relevant departments, the summary processing system of such information in the form of statistical outputs , and to ensure their regular publishing
R: ŠÚ SR
D: 31. 5. 2008
25. To realise research projects and surveys on violence against women (including those from specifically disadvantaged groups) as requirements for such research in the framework of specialised departmental research institutions
R: MPSVR SR, MK SR, MŠ SR
D: continuously, with annual progress checks to the date 31. 5. 2008
26. To financially ensure participation of the SR in the EU programmes supporting research into violence against women
R: MPSVR SR, MF SR
D: 31. 5. 2008
27. To elaborate monitoring reports of the implementation of policies and activities targeted to the combating of violence against women, based on the set of joint EU indicators in order to map the situation in the SR
R: MPSVR SR, MV SR through the Group of experts for prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence at the Council for Crime Prevention
D: continuously, with progress check to the date 31. 5. 2008