

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO COMBAT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE ESTABLISHED



On March 30, 2010 the National Interagency Committee to Combat Gender-Based Violence in Armenia was established as per Decree (N 213-A) of Tigran Sargsyan, the RoA Prime Minister. Creation of the National Interagency Committee to Combat Gender-Based Violence (GBV) as per RoA Prime Minister's Decree became an unprecedented act of political will at the highest policy-making levels that demonstrated readiness of the RoA Government to take concrete steps towards eradication of GBV in the Republic of Armenia.

The decision concerning the establishment of the National Interagency Committee to Combat GBV was a follow up to the official request from UNFPA Armenia addressed to the RoA Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, which stated the importance of coordination of the efforts undertaken by different structures in the field and ongoing support to the Government for implementation of the national policies and programmes targeting gender-based violence (GBV) reduction and prevention, as well as called upon the Government of Armenia to create a special coordination and monitoring body on the highest official level to ensure the effectiveness of the programmes implemented in the field.

As per the Prime Minister's Decree, the established National Interagency Committee

1. Will coordinate:

- The implementation of activities in the field of combating GBV in Armenia,
 - Information exchange in the field;
2. Will make sure that that funds allocated by the international organizations for combating GBV in Armenia are appropriately directed to the relevant activities;
3. Will contribute to the elaboration and implementation of the National Action Plan Against Gender-Based Violence.

Taken into account the complex and multidimensional nature of GBV problem, the National Interagency Committee will include representatives from:

- Cabinet of the RoA Prime Minister;
- RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs,
- RoA Ministry of Territorial Administration,
- RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
- RoA Ministry of Healthcare,
- RoA Ministry of Justice,
- RoA Ministry of Economy,
- RoA Ministry of Education and Science,
- RoA Police,
- International organizations in the field including UN agencies (UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF, and UNHCR), IOM, OSCE, USAID, as well as

- Local NGOs in the field including International Center for Human Development (ICHD), Armenian Association of Women with University Education (AAWUE), and Women's Rights Center (WRC), Women's Resource Centre.

The Commission will be coordinated by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Government focal point for gender issues).