



ქვეყნული ბაიროს განყოფილებასთან და სხვა საერთაშორისო
ორგანიზაციებთან საქართველოს მუდმივი წარმომადგენლობა
PERMANENT MISSION OF GEORGIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AT GENEVA.

№ 11/2 22

The permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has honour to present Information to contribute to the Secretary-General's Report pursuant to the General Assembly resolution **65/182 "Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing"** in Georgia.

The permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration. *ს.გ.*

Attachment 3 (*three*) pages.

2 May 2011, Geneva

**Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for
Human Rights
Geneva, Switzerland**



Information to contribute to the Secretary-General Report pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/182 “Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing” in Georgia.

Creation of dignified living conditions for older persons is one of the priorities of the State. The State Care Agency (legal entity of public law) under the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia unites all nursing homes functioning in Tbilisi and Kutaisi, which are funded out of the state budget and provide their services to about 150 beneficiaries. The aim of the above-mentioned institutions is to carry out measures for integration of elderly people in society, their psychosocial rehabilitation and creation of family environment for them. At the same time, these institutions provide elderly people with institutional patronage: care, nutrition, emergency medical aid, medical care and rehabilitation.

With respect to questions 1 and 8 of the questionnaire regarding the situation of human rights of elderly people in the country, existing problems and challenges as well as ways of ensuring their participation in political and public life, reference should be made to Article 38 of the Constitution of Georgia: “Citizens of Georgia are equal in social, economic, cultural and political life regardless of national, ethnic, religious or language origin”.

Pursuant to Article 8 of the Constitution of Georgia: “A citizen who has attained the age of 18 has the right to participate in referenda and elections of state and self-governing bodies. Free will of constituents is guaranteed.”

The aforesaid universal rights are fully enjoyed by elderly people as well.

Furthermore, fundamental conventions ratified by the international organizations are enshrined in law in compliance with the Constitution of Georgia, the Law of Georgia on International Agreements and the Law of Georgia on Normative Acts.

According to Article 6 of the Law of Georgia on International Agreements of Georgia, the international agreement of Georgia is an integral part of the legislation.

International Agreement unless it is inconsistent with the Constitution of Georgia, constitutional law and the constitutional treaty enters into force in compliance with intrastate normative acts (12.06.2009 N1221).

Pursuant to the Law of Georgia on Normative Acts, the international agreement or the treaty of Georgia, which has taken effect by observing the requirements prescribed in the Constitution of Georgia and in the Law of Georgia on International Agreements of Georgia shall prevail over intrastate normative acts unless it contravenes the Constitution of Georgia, constitutional law or the constitutional treaty.

Questions 2, 3 and 4 of the questionnaire regarding all existing programs and laws on the protection of human rights of, and the prevention of discrimination and violence against elderly people: As per Article 3 of the Law of Georgia on Elimination of Domestic Violence, Protection of and Support to Its Victims, domestic violence means violation of constitutional rights and freedoms of one family member by the other through physical, psychological or sexual violence or coercion. Based on paragraph (g) of Article 4 of the same Law, family members, for the purposes of this Law, comprise mother, father, grandfather, grandmother, spouse, child (stepchild), adopted child, foster family (foster mother, foster father), grandchild, sister, brother, parents of spouse, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, as well as former spouse, persons in non-registered cohabitation, guardians. The same Law, Article 6, in particular, defines mechanisms for prevention of domestic violence as unity of social, economic, legal and other means aimed at elimination of causes and preconditions of domestic violence, as well as elimination of facts of domestic violence, prosecution of abusers, rehabilitation and adaptation of abusers and victims.

Questions 5, 6 and 7 of the questionnaire regarding all existing programs and policies on social and health protection of elderly people as well as respective data available in this regard: based on the Law of Georgia on State Pension, grounds for the grant of pension are: attainment of retirement age (65 – for men and 60 - for women), disability status, death of breadwinner.

Based on the Law of Georgia on State Budget of Georgia for 2011, pension on grounds of retirement age will be 80 GEL; pension for persons with clearly visible disability – 80 GEL; for persons with substantial disability – 70 GEL; minimum amount of pension – 55 GEL.

The Department of Health Protection of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia is engaged in carrying out State Health Protection Programs of 2011, of which the following programmes are focused on health protection of elderly people:

- management of infectious diseases, allowing a co-financing opportunity, which means that persons aged 60 and above will pay only 30% of actual expenses (70% will be funded by the programme);
- management of oncological diseases, allowing improvement of health conditions of oncological patients aged 60 and above through enhancement of financial support;
- heart surgery, allowing the financing of cardio-surgical treatment of acquired heart and main vein pathologies, as well as coronary angioplasty - for patients aged 60 and above;
- provision of urgent service for the population, allowing the financing for Georgian citizens aged 60 and above;
- palliative treatment for incurable patients;

- general outpatient services allowing persons aged 60 and above to benefit from expensive services involving advanced technologies.

With regard to continuous professional development of the personnel, it needs to be noted that in connection with the introduction of primary healthcare and family medicine model, family doctors and general nurses are undergoing re-training under the curriculums, which are largely focused on elder care services (geriatric services).

The Day Centre Service is functioning for elderly people with disability status.

Elderly people as one of the most vulnerable groups of the population are extensively covered by targeted social assistance programmes, whose beneficiaries are the families living below the poverty level, which have been identified through a special survey.

Based on this survey of February 2011, state-funded health insurance program covers 235 341 elderly people, subsistence allowance goes to 124 228.

Single, unemployed pensioners receive family allowance. Family allowance for a single unemployed pensioner amounts to 22 GEL; for a family of two or more unemployed pensioners - 35 GEL; a total of 12 377 families benefit from such assistance.