**Contributions by the Republic of Lithuania**

**The project of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances of a General Comment No. 1 on “Enforced Disappearances in the context of Migration”**

c) Mutual legal assistance and cooperation

General remark. As concerns legal assistance and cooperation, Lithuania suggests to consider enhancing inter-state cooperation **in the area of prevention**, especially as concerns smuggling and/or trafficking of migrants. We believe that the best outcomes to be achieved by further supporting cooperation model between the State parties, international and civil society organizations.

25. To facilitate cooperation and assistance State parties should adopt and implement cooperation agreements, **enhance existing institutional capacities, or** establish competent authorities, and strengthen their capacities necessary to ensure effective coordination of search efforts including prompt, and secure exchange of information and documentation that may help in locating persons disappeared during migration.

f) Victims’ rights

35. Special consideration must be given to the rights of **migrants in vulnerable situations related to their personal factors, including age, gender or disability,** migrant children, especially unaccompanied minors, who face increased risk of enforced disappearance when leaving migrant reception centres. Children born while their mothers are on the migrant routes, are under additional risk to be wrongfully removed. (Art. 25)

36. State Parties **together with international and civil society organizations** should use interstate cooperation mechanisms **involving National Human Rights Institutions, independent experts from human rights mechanisms, and academia** to ensure continuity in the enjoyment of victims' rights on their way from the one SP to another, but also after arriving in the country of destination or upon return to the country of origin.