

# NATIONAL ACTION PLAN AGAINST COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

## Chapter I: Prevention

### Objectives:

#### 1. Raising the awareness of children about "sexual exploitation" and creation of mechanisms for prevention.

##### Activity:

1.1 Specification of standards for civil education and their exact inclusion in the standards for school contents and school curricula of school subjects from the obligatory training.

**Leading organization:** Ministry of Education and Science /MES/

**Partners:** SACP, CCCABMA, MC, NGOs - "Partners – Bg" F, Care International - Bg, others

**Financial source:** State budget /According to the National Program "Children of Bulgaria"/, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2003 – 2005

1.2 Inclusion of education on children and human rights in all types of schools, kindergartens, Homes for Raising and Education of Children Deprived from Parental Care /HRECDPC/, Educational Board School /EBS/, Social – Pedagogical Board /SPB/ and Auxiliary Schools /AS/ using the possibilities of school curricula and leisure activities.

**Leading organization:** MES

**Partners:** SACP, CCCABMAM, MC, NGOs – Care International – Bg, "Partners – Bg" F, others

**Financial source:** State budget /According to the National Program "Children of Bulgaria", Donor's funds

**Term:** 2003 – 2005

1.3 Development of modules in school curricula / in all types of schools, kindergartens, HRECDPC, EBS, SPB, AS/ that should include problems: sexual exploitation of children, trafficking in children, gender education and others.

**Leading organization:** MES

**Partners:** MH, MC, SACP, CCCABMA, MI /National Police Service Directorate/, International Organization for Migration /IOM/, NGOs – "Partners - Bg" F, Care International – Bg, "Animus Association" Foundation, "Neglected children" Foundation, Bulgarian Youth Red Cross /BYRC/, others

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2003 – 2005

1.4 Development and promoting of school handbooks for early prevention of sexual abuse in kindergartens and schools.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** MES, MH, MC, School Boards, NAMRB, NGOs – "Partners - Bg" F

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2003 – 2004

1.5 Development and distribution of leaflets, brochures, posters, advertising materials, video materials.

**Leading organization:** SACP, NGOs

**Partners:** MC, MYS, MLSP, MES, AR, CCCABMA, Sofia Municipality, NAMRB, IOM, NGOs – “Partners - Bg” F, Care International – Bg, “Animus Association” Foundation, “Neglected children” Foundation, BYRC, others

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor’s funds

**Term:** 2004

1.6 Encouraging of Internet services providers to raise the awareness of children concerning sexual exploitation and the risks in the Internet and the usage of contemporary communicational technologies.

**Leading organization:** SACP, NGOs

**Partners:** MC, MYS, MES and others

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor’s funds

**Term:** 2004 - 2005

1.7 Distribution and implementation of Regulation for safe work of students in the school network and Internet, adopted with Ordinance of the Minister of Education and Science.

**Leading organization:** MES, MC

**Partners:** SACP, NGOs and others

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor’s funds

**Term:** 2003 – 2005

1.8 Development of special work measures for uncovered, potential dropouts and dropouts from school.

**Leading organization:** MES

**Partners:** SACP, MC, BYRC, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor’s funds

**Term:** 2003 – 2004

1.9 Creating opportunities for active inclusion of children in creative activities, courses, workshops and artistic formations to community centers, municipalities and child centers for activating of the creative thinking and development of their talents.

**Leading organization:** MC, MES

**Partners:** SACP, NGOs, Community centers, Municipalities

**Financial sources:** State budget, Municipal budget, and Donor funds

**Term:** 2003-2004

1.10 Creation of opportunities for activating the children’s free time with appropriate cultural, sports and educational activities, by using the opportunities of the cultural institutes and sports bases in the country-theatres, galleries, museums, libraries, sports halls and so on.

**Leading organization:** MC, MYS, Municipalities

**Partners:** Cultural institutes and sports bases, NGOs

**Financial sources:** State budget, Municipal budget, and Donor funds

**Term:** 2003-2004

**Objective:**

## **2. Raising the qualification of professionals, working with children**

2.1 Distribution of the "Code of Ethics of working with children" in all professional areas and including in job descriptions of the experts from MH, MLSP, MI.

**Leading organization:** SACP,

**Partners:** MH, MLSP, MI, MES, MC, CCCABMA, SAA and Municipalities

**Financial source:** State budget /According to "The children of Bulgaria" National Program/

**Term:** 2003-2004

2.2 Development of modules for training of professionals, working with children.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** MLSP, MES, MH, MI, MJ, CCCABMA, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2003 – 2004

2.3 Publishing and dissemination of a Handbook for best practice for policemen and prosecutors in conducting proceedings with children-victims of sexual exploitation, in accordance with the best EU practices.

**Leading organization:** MI

**Partners:** National Central Bureau-Interpol

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2004

2.4 Organizing of educational seminars for teachers, pedagogical advisors and school psychologists, parents and so on, including on risks from sexual exploitation, connected with Internet, forms it may achieve and how to restrict the access to it.

**Leading organization:** SACP, MES

**Partners:** Parental boards, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2004

2.5 Organizing of educational seminars for social workers from CPD.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** SAA, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2004

2.6 Organizing seminars for policemen /investigators/, judges and prosecutors, including about risks of sexual exploitation, connected with Internet, forms it may achieve and how to restrict the access to it.

**Leading organization:** MI, MJ-MTC

**Partners:** SACP, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2004

2.7 Training seminars for general practitioners, doctors in school cabinets, doctors in hospitals and medium medical staff.

**Leading organization:** MH

**Partners:** SACP, Bulgarian Medical Union /BMU/, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2004

2.8 Training seminars for specialists from the system for prevention of antisocial behavior of children, including about risks of sexual exploitation, connected with Internet, forms it may achieve and how to restrict the access to it.

**Leading organization:** CCCABMA

**Partners:** SACP, MI, RCCABMA, Municipalities, CPD, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2004

2.9 Organizing training seminars for journalists, working in the area.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** Electronic Media Council /EMC/, NGOs

**Financial source:** Donor funds

**Term:** 2004

2.10 Creating a procedure and measures for informing the employers about sexual activities against children by people working with children

**Leading organization:** MI

**Partners:** SACP

**Financial sources:** State budget

**Term:** 2004

**Objective:**

**3. Media policy of institutions for raising the public awareness on the problem of sexual exploitation of children and advertising of "zero tolerance" towards violence and exploitation of children.**

**Activities:**

3.1 Encouraging the media for their constructive input to common consciousness for sexual exploitation of children and its influence by developing relevant behavior rules and directions for written, audiovisual and electronic media and mainly influence the respect of child privacy, identity and dignity.

**Leading organization:** all concerned bodies

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2003 –2004

3.2 Promoting of responsible behavior of media in picturing the children and childhood as a whole and for participation and engagements in programs for education and raising the awareness about the sexual exploitation..

**Leading organization:** all concerned bodies

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2003 – 2004

## Chapter II:Protection

**Objective:**

**4. Harmonization of domestic legislation with the international standards, improvement of the rights protection of children-victims.**

**Activities:**

4.1 Review of the national legislation and its synchronization with the international agreements and requirements.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** MFA, MJ

**Financial source:** State budget

**Term:** Permanent

4.2 Amending the Bulgarian Identification Papers Act and Notary and Notarial Activity Act for prevention of the "unaccompanied children abroad" phenomenon.

**Leading organization:** MJ, MI

**Partners:** MFA, IOM

**Financial source:** State budget

**Term:** 2003 - 2004

4.3. Guarantying the access to justice of child – victims by providing free legal help to victims of sexual exploitation by envisaging of appropriate amendments to PPC

**Leading organization:** MJ

**Partners:** SACP, CPD, NGOs

4.4 Shortening the terms for declaring missing children for national inquiry

**Leading organization:** MI, NCB-Interpol

**Financial sources:** State budget

**Term:** 2003

4.5 Ensuring the confidentiality of the witness testimony /records/ and respecting the right for solitude of children, victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking by amending PPC.

**Leading organization:** MJ

**Partners:** SACP, CPD

**Financial sources:** State budget

**Term:** 2004

4.6 Developing the PPC for creating video records from interrogations of children, victims or witnesses of sexual exploitation. Creating special conditions for protection of child-victim as-one interrogation, special premises, child-friendly, indirect participation of the other side and its lawyer in the interrogation and so on. The aim is to minimize the harm, caused to the victims, witnesses and their families and to raise the probability of their testimony when respecting their dignity.

**Leading organization:** MJ

**Partners:** MI, SACP

**Financial sources:** State budget, Donor funds

**Term:** 2004

4.7 Creating conditions for effective tracing, investigation and proving offences according to Chapter IX "a", connected with Chapter II, part VIII from the PC.

**Leading organization:** MI

**Financial sources:** State budget

**Term:** Permanent

4.8 Raising the penalties for sexual offences against children in the Penal Code

**Leading organization:** MJ

**Financial sources:** State budget

**Term:** Permanent

4.9 Creating of mechanism, including about financing, for returning of children, abroad unattended.

**Leading organization:** MFA

**Partners:** MI, SACP, ASA, IOM

**Financial sources:** State budget

**Term:** Permanent

4.10 Creating an opportunity for the victims, if appropriate, to remain in the country in order to be given an opportunity to participate in the concerning procedures.

**Leading organization:** MJ

**Partners:** MFA, SAR

**Financial sources:** State budget

**Term:** 2004

4.11 Clear distribution of responsibilities among the institutions, which implement measures for protection of child-victims of sexual exploitation: CPD to SPD, SACP, CCCABMA, RCCABMA and police bodies.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** MI /CPR/, ASA /SPD/, RCCABMA

**Financial sources:** State budget

**Term:** Permanent

**Objective:**

#### **5. Development of system of measures, concerning perpetrators**

**Activities:**

5.1 Review and analysis of existing legal regulations, containing measures to combat the perpetrators. Proposals for amendments.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** MJ, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor funds

**Term:** Permanent

5.2 Development of system of measures for combating /punitive, administrative/, based on public danger of the concrete actions, their indictability and the object of offence.

**Leading organization:** MJ

**Financial source:** State budget

**Term:** 2003-2004

5.3 Initiating of a public discussion for effective implementation of penal repression towards perpetrators of sexual offences.

**Leading organization:** NCPC

**Partners:** MI, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor funds

**Term:** Permanent

5.4 Raising of public awareness, introducing the citizens to their rights and obligations of citizens and the possibilities for action in concrete cases by distribution of informational materials and other suitable forms.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** MI, NGOs, IOM

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor funds

**Term:** 2004-2005

5.5 Encouraging the participation of Internet providers to work consciously with the relevant government institutions for stating and combating the different ways, through which the Internet can be used for sexual exploitation of children.

**Leading organization:** MI

**Partners:** SACP, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor funds

**Term:** 2003-2005

5.6 Ensuring resources for using software for tracing of illegal and harmful content of Internet, as well as stating the whereabouts and identity of persons, which create, edit or distribute child pornography, encourage or incite to child prostitution.

**Leading organization:** MI

**Partners:** NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor funds

**Term:** Permanent

5.7 Opening hot telephone lines, encouraging the citizens to report about cases of child pornography or instigation to child prostitution by a Internet site, which will allow for the relevant legal authorities to take concrete action.

**Leading organization:** MI

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor funds

**Term:** Permanent

5.8 Influence over the perpetrators by applying specialized social services, medical and psychological measures for treatment and reintegration.

**Leading organization:** SAA

**Partners:** MH, MLSP, MI-Institute of Psychology, SACP, NGOs

**Financial sources:** State budget, Donor funds

**Term:** 2004-2005

### **Chapter III: Rehabilitation and reintegration**

**Objective:**

#### **6. Rehabilitation and reintegration of the victims of sexual exploitation**

**Activities:**

6.1 Establishment of National hot child telephone line for psychological help and support and popularization of existing local telephone lines.

**Leading organization:** SACP, NGOs



**Partners:** NAMRB, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2004

6.2 Creation of crisis-consultative centers for children-victims of violence and their parents and promotion of existing ones.

**Leading organization:** ASA, SACP, Municipalities

**Partners:** NGOs, RCCABMA

**Financial source:** State budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2004-2005

6.3 Creating of shelters for temporary accommodation for victims of illegal traffic:

a) ensuring normal living conditions and personal hygiene;

b) giving the accommodated persons food and medicine

c) ensuring the urgent medical and psychological help;

d) assistance of accommodated persons for establishing a contact with their relatives, as well as with the specialized bodies and organizations.

**Leading organization:** The central level body, which will be created after the Law for trafficking in human beings

**Partners:** Municipalities, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, Municipal budget, Donor's funds

**Term:** 2004-2005

6.4 Improving the conditions in existing Homes for temporary accommodation of children /including victims of sexual exploitation/ by assisting of local authorities.

**Leading organization:** MI

**Partners:** IOM, NGOs

**Financial source:** Donor's funds

**Term:** 2003

6.5 Establishment of centers for support and help of victims trafficking by:

a) giving information about administrative and legal procedures, which arrange assistance and protection of victims of illegal traffic in understandable language;

b) ensuring specialized psychological and medical help;

c) assisting the reintegration of victims in family and social environment.

**Leading organization:** The central level body, which will be created by the Law Against Trafficking in Human Beings

**Partners:** Municipalities, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, municipality budget and donor's funds

**Term:** 2004 - 2005

#### **Chapter IV: Children's participation**

**Objective:**

7. Children's participation in development of appropriate strategies and measures for realization of all actions against sexual exploitation of children.

**Activities:**

7.1 Including children representatives for participation in working groups to Child Protection Council.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** Children Parliaments, BYRC

**Financial source:** State budget, donor's funds

**Term:** 2003

7.2 Including the children victims of violence in prevention and rehabilitation programs. Creating of self-help groups.

**Leading organization:** SAA - CPD

**Partners:** SACP, LCCABMA, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget, donor's funds

**Term:** Permanent

7.3 Invitation to children and young people for participation in different forums, organized from state bodies and NGOs, which develop children programs.

**Leading organization:** Organizers of the forum

**Partners:** BYRC, Children Parliament

**Financial source:** Relevant

**Term:** Permanent

#### **Chapter V: Informational insurance and international cooperation**

**Objective:**

**8. Creating of national mechanism for informational exchange between engaged institutions and organizations.**

**Activities:**

8.1 Development of mechanism for collecting information about children victims of commercial sexual exploitation and following the development of the concrete case.

**Leading organization:** MI

**Partners:** MJ, NSI, SACP, MH, MFA, CPD, CCCABMA, IOM, NGOs and others

**Financial source:** State budget

**Term:** Permanent

8.2 Creating of order for access to information and for the interaction between the institutions, which work on this problem.

**Leading organization:** MI

**Partners:** Engaged institutions

**Financial source:** State budget

**Term:** 2003 – 2004

8.3 Conducting of theme researches – risk groups of children and families, character and reaction against risk factors, level of the problem in Bulgaria. Researches to be made periodicaly and results to be announced.

**Leading organization:** National coordinator

**Partners:** Relevant

**Financial source:** State budget, donor funds

**Term:** 2003 - 2005

8.4 Collecting information for good practices on national and international level.

**Leading organization:** SACP

**Partners:** MI, MFA, MH, CPD, CCCABMA, IOM, NGOs and others

**Financial source:** State budget

**Term:** 2003 - 2005

8.5 Building a network of partners on international level for cooperation.

**Leading organization:** National coordinator

**Partners:** MFA, NGOs

**Financial source:** State budget

**Term:** Permanent

8.6 Collecting information about the implementation of the National Plan and preparing of periodical reports on international treaties on which Bulgaria is a party /UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Second Optional Protocol to it for selling children, child prostitution and child pornography/.

**Leading organization:** MFA

**Partners:** SACP and all engaged institutions

**Financial source:** Relevant

**Term:** Permanent

8.7 Creating and supporting of specialized Internet site of the problem.

**Leading organization:** National coordinator

**Partners:** all engaged institutions

**Financial source:** State budget

**Term:** Permanent

## **Chapter VI: National coordinator of the Plan**

Functions of National coordinator on the National Plan are implemented jointly from the Minister of Interior and the Chairperson of the SACP.

SACP State Agency for Child Protection

MES Ministry of Education and Science

MC Ministry of Culture

MI Ministry of Interior

NPD National Police Directorate

MJ Ministry of Justice

MFA Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MLSP Ministry of Labor and Social Policy

MH Ministry of Health

MYS Ministry of Youth and Sport

SPOC Supreme Prosecution Office of Cassation

PO Prosecution Office

MTC Magistrates Training Center

AR Agency for Refugees

CPD Child Protection Department

CCCABMA Central Commission for Combating Antisocial Behavior of Minors and Adolescents

LCCABMA Local Commission for Combating Antisocial Behavior of Minors and Adolescents

NGOs Nongovernmental organizations

IOM International organization for migration

NAMRB National Association of Municipalities in Republic of Bulgaria

BGRF Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation

SAA Social Assistance Agency

NSI National Statistic Institute

BYRC Bulgarian Youth Red Cross

PPC Penal Procedure Code

CPA Child Protection Act

HRECDPC Homes for raising and education of children deprived from parental care

EBS Educational board school

SPB Social – Pedagogical Board

AS Auxiliary Schools

BMU Bulgarian Medical Union

EMC Electronic Media Council