

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
GREEK NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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<p>Comments on the Draft National Action Plan for Social Inclusion (NAPSI) 2005-2006 of the Ministry of Employment and Social Protection</p>

Following a request by the above Ministry concerning the Plan in question, the Commission recommended the following:

(a) In relation to NGOs' involvement in the preparation of the Plan, the participation of organisations representing the beneficiaries of the National Plan;

(b) The inclusion of more vulnerable social groups, such as asylum seekers and refugees (taking into account the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and the 1967 Additional Protocol);

(c) The need for greater emphasis to be given to the resolution of problems relating to migration;

(d) The introduction of specialized provisions regarding vulnerable persons, in particular the disabled;

(e) The strengthening of social sensitisation programmes (e.g. in primary and secondary education) and a more sensible human rights training;

(f) The promotion of intercultural education through the use of "e-learning";

(g) The elaboration of a plan for a Minimum Guaranteed Income (MGI) according to EU standards;

(h) The expansion of health care to asylum seekers and residents under "humanitarian status" as well as to the elderly and the establishment of regular health control for the aforementioned.

The Commission noted that more attention should also be given to the promotion of the concepts of “Local Employment Pacts” and “Corporate Social Responsibility”, as well as to the development of an advisory network for aliens. Finally, as far as the implementation of “best practices” is concerned, these could well include:

(a) the creation of “Aliens Service Centres” and an advisory network for them, as stated above;

(b) the provision of “Health Care at Home” as part of the programme “Help at Home”; and

(c) the implementation of a Programme for Teaching Human Rights in Primary and Secondary Education.

Athens, 16 September 2005