

## **On the measures in the field of child rights in Uzbekistan**

Since the first days of independence Uzbekistan has been paying an importance of priority to the issues of legal, economic and social protection of maternity and childhood, creating conditions for comprehensive development and bringing up the under-aged children in the spirit of common to all mankind values.

Uzbekistan has ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child on December 1992. Therefore, Uzbekistan was the first country in Central Asia that took the obligations to follow the Convention.

Until there were presented two national reports on fulfilling this Convention provisions to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

To realize the final remarks and recommendations of the Committee the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan elaborated the National Action Plan and adopted more than 15 laws.

It is worth to mention that there has been taken into account a principle of the best securing of child interests factually in all new laws and codes of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The legislative system of the Republic of Uzbekistan gives to child all rights providing in the Convention without any discrimination, regardless of race, color of skin, sex, language, religion, political and other convictions, national, ethnic or social background, property condition or other circumstances. Moreover, there is the draft of the Law “On the rights and prosperity of the children of the Uzbekistan” underway.

One of the important directions of achievement of observance the children’s interests - to organize the practical measures aimed at their rights’ guarantee. Consequently, there were adopted and realized some important state programs by the Government of Uzbekistan in this direction, as “Family”, “Healthy Generation” (2000), “Mother and Child” (2001), “Ecology, Maternity and Childhood” (2001), “On the Additional Measures on Strengthening of Health of Women and Growing Generation” (2002), “On the Measures on the Realization of Priority Directions to Increase the Medical Knowledge in Family, Strengthen Women’s Health, Bearing and Bringing Up the Healthy Generation” (2002), “Kindness and Charity” (2004).

The Commission on Affairs of Under-Aged Children has been functioning since 2001. Moreover, some non-governmental organizations are realizing their vital activity in Uzbekistan such as “Uzbekistan Children Foundation”, “For the Health Generation” (“Soglom Avlod Uchun”) International Charity Fund, “You Are Not Alone” (“Siz Yolqiz Emassang”) Foundation, “Umidvorlik” Center for Supporting of Handicapped Children, “SOS-Kinderdorf International” Association, “Mekhr-Tayanchi” Center, Uzbekistan Child Sport Development Foundation, Centers for social and legal assistance to under-aged children and others.

In order to increase an effectiveness of bringing up spiritually developed and physically healthy growing generation, the National Center of Social Adaptation of Children was established by the Women Committee of Uzbekistan.

In addition, a great attention is paid to the issue of social partnership between state bodies and non-governmental organizations in conducting of joint events.

Thus, the coalition of NGOs that work in the interests of children unifies 122 NGOs which conduct their activity in various areas and dimensions by cooperating with state bodies, international nongovernmental organizations, foundations, as well as foreign embassies and representations.

The Steering Board for social protection of orphans and children left without parental care under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan was established as a result of active cooperation of state and nongovernmental bodies in accordance with Memorandum of International Conference “Social Protection of orphans” (June 2-3, 2004, Tashkent).

Besides effective measures are taken aimed at decreasing the infantile mortality. As a whole, the indicator of infant mortality nationwide for the last years is dynamically decreasing. Since 2003 considerable activity is taken in the republic in getting on to the live-born criteria recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Basic medical services for children of the republic is being improved in order to decrease the infantile decease and mortality. Children from 1 to 5 years old are being constantly examined and the children 6 years old are having their medical check-ups before entering the school. Children under 14 years old have an annual complex medical examination by the narrow-profiled specialists.

With the purpose of preventing the intestinal diseases all provinces of the country are provided with necessary medicine in amount required.

WHO systems on struggling against respiratory and intestinal diseases and integrated treatment of child diseases are successfully adapted in Uzbekistan. Additionally, specialists on their wide implementation are trained in every region nationwide.

In general, care for the growing generation, its physical and moral health, spiritual and material welfare is considered in Uzbekistan as a priority of state policy.

Besides, one of the best traditions of Uzbek people – sincere and disinterested support of everyone who needs help – serves as a guarantee that no child in Uzbekistan will be left without attention.