



# [ 2007 Report ]

## Anti-Trafficking and Gender Programme of the **OSCE Mission to Moldova**



Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
**OSCE Mission to Moldova**

[www.osce.org/moldova](http://www.osce.org/moldova)



*The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) is the world's largest regional security organization, whose 56 participating States span the geographical area from Vancouver, Canada to Vladivostok, Russia. As a field presence of the OSCE, the Mission to Moldova was established in 1993 primarily to assist in negotiating a lasting political settlement of the conflict between the Republic of Moldova and the breakaway region of Transnistria. The OSCE Mission to Moldova is further mandated to provide advice and expertise on human and minority rights, democratic transformation, and repatriation of refugees within the "Human Dimension." In line with this portion of its mandate, the Mission expanded its human dimension portfolio in 2003 to work to combat trafficking in human beings and promote gender issues. More specifically, the Anti-Trafficking and Gender Programme of the Mission seeks to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings; to prevent and combat domestic violence; to promote gender equality and women's rights; to enhance identification, protection, and assistance to victims and vulnerable persons; to support the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms; and to encourage the observance of the rule of law.*

## 2007 ANNUAL REPORT ANTI-TRAFFICKING AND GENDER PROGRAMME OF THE OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. Within the context of the mandate of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Mission to Moldova to "provide advice and expertise on human and minority rights [and] democratic transformation," in 2003 the Mission commenced its Anti-Trafficking and Gender activities, which have operated since 2007 as the Anti-Trafficking and Gender (ATG) Programme of the Mission.

2. In formulating ATG Programme objectives and implementing its activities and projects, the Mission is guided by its mandate, the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (Permanent Council Decision No. 557 of 24 July 2003), the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality (Ministerial Council Decision No. 14/04 of 7 December 2004), and the OSCE Decision on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women (Ministerial Council Decision No. 15/05 of 6 December 2005). The OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings addresses the issue comprehensively, covering protection of victims, prevention of trafficking, and prosecution of those who facilitate or commit trafficking. The Action Plan recognizes the role of corruption in encouraging

this crime, as well as the need to address the root causes of trafficking in both countries of origin and destination. With respect to other gender issues, the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality seeks to implement international standards and commitments concerning equality for women and men, non-discrimination, and women's and girls' rights, including full compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The OSCE Action Plan notes that activities aimed at eliminating all forms of violence against women, including trafficking in human beings, should be increased to ensure a safe environment for all citizens.

3. Through the Mission's ATG Programme, and consistent with OSCE commitments, the Mission seeks to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings; to prevent and combat domestic violence; to promote gender equality and women's rights; to enhance the identification and protection of and assistance to victims and vulnerable persons; to support the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms; and to encourage the observance of the rule of law in the Republic of Moldova. In 2007, the ATG Programme concentrated its anti-trafficking and gender efforts in the following areas: coordination and information sharing; institutional support; legislative support and advocacy; and national capacity building. Primarily through the implementation of projects by local non-government organizations (NGOs) and international organizations in Moldova, the ATG Programme further provided financial support to activities and initiatives focused on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and children, protecting and assisting victims and vulnerable persons, preventing and combating domestic violence, promoting gender equality and women's rights, and promoting gender equality and peace-building. Lastly, the ATG Programme continued to contribute to the implementation of the OSCE/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) Trial Monitoring Programme for Moldova. This programme monitors *inter alia* cases of trafficking in human beings and domestic violence in national courts in the Chisinau Municipality and south eastern Moldova.

### II. COORDINATION AND INFORMATION SHARING

#### A. Technical Coordination Meetings in Chisinau

4. Throughout 2007 the Mission's ATG Programme hosted regular Technical Coordination Meetings (TCMs) in Chisinau to facilitate coordination among anti-trafficking actors and encourage a continual exchange of information, experience, and best practices about anti-trafficking activities and initiatives. In June, the Mission reached a formal agreement to partner with the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child in hosting and co-chairing TCMs. The scope of the TCMs was officially expanded to include gender in addition to anti-trafficking. Mrs. Ecaterina Berejan, representing the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child's Department of Gender Equality and Prevention of Violence (which includes domestic violence and human trafficking), serves as the Protection, Family and the Child liaison for the TCMs. Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child representatives provide updated information on national activities in the fields of anti-trafficking and gender at the TCMs. Each meeting is conducted with simultaneous translation between Moldovan/Romanian and English. All TCMs in 2007 included reports on developments at the national

level, reports on recent activities by the participants, and focal issue presentations on a substantive topic or activity relevant to the anti-trafficking community as a whole. Following each TCM, the ATG Programme prepared detailed minutes in English and Moldovan/Romanian, which were formally adopted by the participants. The minutes of all 2007 TCMs in Chisinau and the regions are published and distributed to all relevant representatives of government, civil society, and the international community.

5. In 2007 the ATG Programme hosted eleven TCMs in Chisinau according to the following schedule and with the following focal issue presentations:

DATE	FOCAL ISSUE	PRESENTER	OTHER ISSUES DISCUSSED/PRESENTED
17 January 2007	Crisis Intervention to Prevent Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence	Winrock International	Centre for Preventing Trafficking in Women (CPTW) presentation on the Regional Workshop on Good Legal Practices for Assistance to Victims of Trafficking, organized in late 2006
14 February 2007	Specialized Services for Mother and Child Victims of Trafficking	United Nations Development Programme Project "Better Opportunities for Youth and Women"	
14 March 2007	2006 Statistical Profile Update	International Organization for Migration (IOM) with Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child	Terre des Hommes presentation on the second phase of the project "Fight against Child Trafficking (F.A.C.T.)"
18 April 2007	Effective Methods of Economic-Based Prevention of Human Trafficking	Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Winrock International	Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child presentation of the draft Strategy of the National Referral System
16 May 2007	Process of Preparing New National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings for 2007-2009	International Labour Organization/ Migrant	IOM Moldova presentation on "Children of Migrants in the Republic of Moldova"  Catholic Relief Services' Moldovan Employment and Training Alliance (META) project presentation on Economic Interventions and Employment Generation Projects
13 June 2007	Dimensions of Gender Discrimination in Moldova	Lori Mann (International Research and Exchanges Board Fellow)	CRS/META presentation on its Rapid Employment Needs Assessment for the districts of Balti and Cahul

11 July 2007	Results from 12 Months of Trial Monitoring Human Trafficking Cases	OSCE / Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights Trial Monitoring Programme	CPTW presentation/update on representation of trafficking victims in court, including challenges and problems encountered
12 September 2007	Focus on Human Trafficking in Transnistria	IOM and Interaction	
10 October 2007	Media Coverage of Trafficking Issues	Independent Journalism Center	Center to Combat Trafficking in Persons presentation on the Vienna Conference "Improving Law Enforcement's Response to Combating Sexual Exploitation of Children on the Internet"
14 November 2007	Focus on Children: How Abandonment and Violence Result in Child Trafficking	UNICEF	CRS presentation "Building Sustainable Livelihoods for young Moldovan women from villages"
12 December 2007	National Standards on Identification of Trafficked Persons	La Strada	Secretary of the National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings presented updates on their activities and plans for 2008

6. From 25 to 50 representatives of organizations attended each TCM. The following organizations were particularly active participants, attending at least six of the eleven TCMs in 2007: American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA/ROLI), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Project "Better Opportunities for Youth and Women," Catholic Relief Services (CRS) "Moldova Employment & Training Alliance (META)," Causeri Law Centre, Centre for Partnership and Development, Centre for Prevention of Trafficking in Women (CPTW), the NGO Children, Communities, Families (CCF) Moldova, Gender-Centru, International Organization for Migration (IOM), La Strada, Medecins du Monde, Regina Pacis, Salvation Army, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), UNICEF, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, United States (US) Embassy, Winrock International "New Perspectives for Women," and World Council of Churches "Moldova Partnerships Program." Mr. Ion Focsa, Secretary of the National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, attended four TCMs in 2007.

## B. Technical Coordination Meetings in the Regions

7. In 2007 the ATG Programme, in partnership with Winrock International, organized six regional TCMs in Stefan Voda, Taraclia, Glodeni, Briceni, Ocnita and Cantemir. In addition to promoting coordination and exchange of information between national and local government and civil society anti-trafficking actors, the regional TCMs sought to raise public awareness and gain insight into aspects of human trafficking in each region. Representatives of local public authorities, law enforcement, prosecutors' offices, courts, social workers, media, and civil society participated in the Regional TCMs. All actors reported



on the human trafficking situation in their respective region and the initiatives undertaken locally to prevent and combat trafficking. An innovative aspect of the 2007 regional TCMs was a presentation on the National Referral System (NRS) and how it has been developed and piloted in the districts by IOM and the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child. Following each regional TCM, the ATG Programme prepared detailed minutes in English and Moldovan/Romanian.

8. In 2007 the ATG Programme and Winrock International organized six Regional TCMs according to the following schedule and with the following participants:

DATE	LOCATION/PARTNER	REPORTS BY OFFICIALS
26 April 2007	Stefan Voda: Centre for Preventing Trafficking in Women (CPTW) Branch Office in Causeni	Secretary of the local anti-trafficking committee; Stefan Voda district Prosecutor; Causeni Social Assistance Department; Stefan Voda Education Department
15 May 2007	Taraclia: Comrat Regional Support Center of Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" Project	Taraclia district Executive Committee; Taraclia district Court; Taraclia Police Commissariat; Taraclia Customs Office; Taraclia district Social Assistance Department
6 June 2007	Glodeni: Balti Regional Support Center of Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" Project	Glodeni district Executive Committee; Glodeni Anti-trafficking Committee; Prosecutor's Office; Glodeni Office of the National Employment Agency; Glodeni Police Commissariat; Glodeni district Passport Service
16 July 2007	Briceni: Soroca Regional Support Center of Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" Project	Briceni district Executive Committee; Briceni Anti-trafficking committee; Briceni Police Commissariat; Briceni district Education Department; Briceni office of the National Employment Agency
12 October 2007	Ocnita: Soroca Regional Support Center of Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" Project	Ocnita district Executive Committee; Ocnita district Youth and Sports Department; Ocnita district Education Department; Ocnita Police Commissariat; Ocnita Prosecutor's Office; Border Guard Service; Ocnita office of the National Employment Agency
18 October 2007	Cantemir: Cahul Regional Support Center, Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" Project	Cantemir district Anti-trafficking Committee; Cantemir Police Commissariat; Cantemir Prosecutor's Office; Cantemir office of the National Employment Agency

9. Representatives of the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child, the National Referral System Coordination Unit, Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" Project, and the IOM Mission to Moldova and its Rehabilitation Center attended all regional TCMs. Several meetings were also attended by Terre des Hommes, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and other agencies.

### C. Sectoral Donors' Meetings

10. In 2007, the Mission's ATG Programme participated in four meetings of the Gender Task Force of Donor Agencies organized by Swedish International Development Agency in Moldova. This forum seeks to promote coordination and information sharing among donors and to encourage partnerships with national authorities to strengthen national gender machinery\* and promote cross-cutting gender principles and policies, such as gender mainstreaming.

11. On 15 August the Mission participated in a meeting organized by the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child with the donor community active in the social assistance, gender, and anti-trafficking fields. The Mission briefed the Minister about the Anti-Trafficking and Gender Program and conveyed its appreciation for the new partnership between the Mission and the Ministry.

### D. Anti-Trafficking and Gender Network Website

12. The ATG Programme in partnership with Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" continued updating the Moldova Anti-Trafficking and Gender Network website, <http://www.atnet.md>. The Website was launched in the autumn of 2006 in English, Moldovan/Romanian, and Russian and includes a description of the human trafficking situation in Moldova; a database of partner organizations, projects, and activities throughout the country; events and announcements; publications and resources; and coordination information including minutes from all TCMs in Chisinau and the regions. Information about 340 partner organizations, some with multiple anti-trafficking activities, is available on the website.

### E. Coordination of the Moldova Country Steering Group of the Danish Programme against Human Trafficking in Eastern and South Eastern Europe

13. In 2007 the Mission continued coordinating the activities of the Moldovan Country Steering Group (CSG) of the Danish Programme against Human Trafficking in Eastern and South Eastern Europe. The Mission's ATG Programme, IOM Moldova, La Strada Moldova, and Center to Prevent Trafficking in Women comprise the Moldova CSG. The ATG Programme organized and created formal minutes for six CSG meetings and participated in one Joint Country Steering Meeting with partners from Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine and one Regional Partner Forum with partners from Belarus, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine. The Danish programme started in 2006 and will continue its work throughout 2008, with a possibility of extending activities to 2011.

### F. A Joint Project Proposal for the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security

14. Throughout 2007, the Mission's ATG Programme in partnership with UNDP, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and IOM Moldova worked on a joint

\* Machinery here indicates national policy-level actors, laws, rules, actions plans, activities, etc.

proposal for the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS). Utilizing the expertise of each agency, the partners jointly developed a concept note and project proposal entitled “Protection and Empowerment of Victims of Trafficking and Domestic Violence and Vulnerable Persons in Moldova,” and submitted the concept note to UNTFHS. The project will address reforms in the priority areas of domestic violence and human trafficking at the national, district, and local levels in Moldova.

#### **G. Co-operation with United States Peace Corps Moldova to Build the Capacities of Local Civil Society Partners**

15. In 2007 the Mission and the US Peace Corps in Moldova agreed to collaborate in providing support and capacity building to local civil society partners on projects in anti-trafficking and gender. The Mission provided assistance in identifying the training needs of three partner NGOs to participate in the programme. Peace Corps volunteers developed individual intervention strategies to mentor and assist these NGOs in improving their project management skills. In December 2007 Peace Corps volunteers began working with the NGOs Causeni Law Centre and Casa Marioarei. The project is planned to continue and expand in 2008.

#### **H. Cooperation with the International Research and Exchanges Board Citizen Participation Program**

16. In May the Mission participated in the selection committee for anti-trafficking project proposals to be funded by the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) Citizen Participation Program (CPP). The Mission, IOM Moldova, Winrock International, the Ministry of Education and Youth, and IREX/CPP evaluated 77 project proposals submitted by local NGOs and initiative groups from Moldova’s right bank regions (excluding Chisinau) and awarded grants to 15 project proposals on preventing human trafficking. Similarly, in June the Mission participated in the selection of project proposals to be implemented in the Transnistrian region.

### **III. INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT**

#### **A. National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings**

17. The National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (NC) held three sessions during 2007, in Balti, Cahul, and Chisinau. The Mission attended as an observer the sessions held in Cahul and in Chisinau. The session in Balti on 23 February 2007 was only for NC members. The Cahul session on 30 October 2007 gathered local authorities from the southern region of Moldova, and many presented reports on the anti-trafficking situation in their districts and in Chisinau. The Cahul meeting was chaired by Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs Valentin Zubic.

18. The session in Chisinau was held on 17 December with representatives from the central region of Moldova. It was chaired by Gheorghe Papuc, Minister of Interior Affairs,

although the Moldovan legislation in force stipulates that a Deputy Prime Minister must chair the NC. At the December 17 session, a Mission representative called for a meeting with Minister Papuc to discuss the creation of a permanent secretariat to support and monitor the work of the NC and the National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings.

19. On the initiative of the Secretary of the NC, on 22 February 2007 the Mission, IOM, and the International Labour Organization (ILO)/Migrant met to discuss support for creating a permanent secretariat. This initiative was highly welcomed as the topic has been under discussion for three years. A project proposal was developed and the Mission, IOM, ILO/Migrant, and La Strada agreed to endorse the proposal. The project is expected to begin implementation in 2008.

20. Throughout 2007 the Mission participated in meetings of the working groups responsible for developing a Draft National Action Plan (NAP) to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings for 2007 to 2009. The meetings were organized by ILO/Migrant in the framework of their project supported by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development and the European Union. Representatives of all ministries and departments responsible for developing and implementing the NAP, as well as civil society and donors, attended these meetings. At the final working group session on 31 July 2007 the draft NAP was presented to the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, who serves as Deputy Chairman of the NC. It was expected that the government would approve the draft NAP by the end of 2007; however, no official record of approval had been released by year’s end.

#### **B. Gender Equality Committee**

21. The Gender Equality Committee, formed in accordance with the 2006 Law on Equal Opportunity for Women and Men, did not meet in 2007.

#### **C. Parliament**

22. On 28 November the Mission attended parliamentary hearings on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and implementing the National Action Plan on Human Rights. The Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights organised and hosted these hearings. Reports of government agencies were examined along with a report by an independent expert on the implementation of the NRS in Moldova. Members of the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, government representatives responsible for combating trafficking in human beings, representatives of NGOs active in the field and members of the international community participated.

23. On 5 December, the Parliamentary Committee for Human Rights organised hearings on the evaluation of Chapter 11 of the National Action Plan on Human Rights, “Ensuring Women’s Rights.” The Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child; the Ministry of Education and Youth; the Ministry of Internal Affairs; and the Ministry of Justice presented reports on the implementation of Chapter 11. UNDP consultants Daniela Terzi-Barbarosie and Valentina Bondrug-Lungu presented additional reports on two specific issues: ensu-



ring equal opportunities for men and women; and preventing violence against women. The Mission provided copies of the *2006 Anti-Trafficking and Gender Programme Annual Report* and of the OSCE Mission's 6-month report on the Trial Monitoring Program, "Preliminary Findings on the Experience of Going to Court in Moldova." Members of parliament, government representatives, NGOs and international organizations participated.

#### IV. LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY

##### A. Law to Prevent and Combat Violence in the Family

24. On 1 March the Moldovan Parliament adopted the Law to Prevent and Combat Violence in the Family after the second and final reading. The Mission observed the discussions and voting procedures. Mrs. Buliga, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Social Protection, Health and Family, reported that a working group consisting of representatives of relevant ministries, the NGO Gender-Centru, the OSCE Mission, UNICEF, and other UN bodies had finalized the draft law for submission to Parliament. She reported that the recommendations of the CEDAW Committee for Moldova were taken into consideration in preparing the draft Law.

25. After adoption, the law was sent for promulgation to the President but was returned to Parliament for re-examination. The Office of the President objected to the fact that the law did not specify the financial means required for creating rehabilitation centres for aggressors. Parliament repeatedly postponed re-examining the draft law during its 2007 sessions.

##### B. Anti-Discrimination Law

26. In 2007 the Mission's ATG Programme provided support to the Anti-Discrimination Coalition of Moldovan NGOs to develop and promote a draft anti-discrimination law. ATG Programme support was used to retain two independent legal expert consultants, one national and one international, who conducted legal research on applicable international treaties, examples of anti-discrimination legislation from other countries, relevant reports from international organizations, relevant European Union recommendations, and the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights. They conducted research on national legislation to ensure that the draft was in line with existing legislation and national institutions, particularly with respect to procedural issues such as standing, limitation periods, and evidentiary rules. The consultants met with civil society representatives working on discrimination issues in Moldova, the Centre for Human Rights (Ombudsman's Office) in Moldova, and relevant national authorities.

27. In June the OSCE-supported consultants completed a preliminary draft law on anti-discrimination and a comprehensive accompanying commentary. The commentary provides background information about the current situation of discrimination in Moldova and relevant international standards in the field. It describes the existing legislative framework in Moldova and its compliance and non-compliance with international and European standards. The draft law and commentary were translated into Moldovan/Romanian.

28. Starting in July the Mission organized working sessions on the draft anti-discrimination law with representatives of the Anti-Discrimination Coalition. The OSCE-supported consultants presented the text of the draft law and accompanying commentary to the participants and facilitated an article-by-article discussion of the draft. The Moldovan/Romanian and English versions of the draft law were finalized with all comments from the working groups incorporated, and the draft was ready to be presented to the Ministry of Justice (on 3 October).

29. On 28 September the Mission met with Deputy Minister of Justice Elena Mocanu to discuss common areas of work and the Mission's support for the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry asked for Mission's support to develop a framework for anti-discrimination legislation and asked to see the draft anti-discrimination law. The Mission provided a copy of the draft law to Deputy Minister Mocanu's office on 28 September.

30. On 3 October the Mission participated in the first working group on anti-discrimination chaired by Deputy Minister of Justice Nicolae Esanu. The group consists of representatives of relevant ministries and NGOs active in the field. It was created by the Government Order No. 0701/a-197 of 20 September 2007 with the aim of promoting a legal framework for Moldova that would meet international standards for good practices in anti-discrimination. The working group had a three-month work plan to examine discrimination problems that might exist in Moldova and, if needed, to forward proposals to improve the legislative framework. The Mission distributed the anti-discrimination draft law and commentary, and invited working group members to use them, as these two documents cover all areas of the working group's responsibility.

31. On 5 October the Mission's ATG Programme met with a delegation from the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) and offered a comprehensive briefing on discrimination in Moldova. The Mission also briefed the ECRI delegates on recent efforts undertaken by civil society and the international community in Moldova to promote a comprehensive legal framework to support human rights and to protect people against discrimination. ECRI representatives endorsed the Mission's efforts to support a draft anti-discrimination law and provided the Mission with relevant ECRI publications on European standards against discrimination.

32. On 29 October the Mission organized a roundtable with relevant donor organizations (Council of Europe, European Union Commission Delegation, UNDP, and IOM) with the Anti-Discrimination Coalition. The participants expressed their support for the draft law and offered ideas on how international organizations and donors in Moldova could promote it.

33. On 29 October, the Mission participated in the second working group meeting on anti-discrimination, chaired by Deputy Minister of Justice Nicolae Esanu. Government representatives and members of the Anti-Discrimination Coalition were present, as were other civil society and donor representatives. The working group decided to gather comments and opinions on the draft law and to compile a common assessment of the amendments proposed to the existing legislative framework.

34. On 17 December 2007, the Ministry of Justice held a third meeting of the working group with government representatives and members of the Anti-Discrimination Coalition. Government representatives argued that the current legislative framework on anti-discrimination was sufficient and that no additional legislation was needed. However, the Ministry of Justice decided that due to international requirements and given the data provided by the Anti-Discrimination Coalition, it would advise the government to proceed with the development of a law to prevent and combat discrimination. The Mission anticipates continuing to support this process in 2008.

### **C. Victim and Witness Protection Law**

35. In 2007, the Witness/Victim Protection Section at the Centre to Combat Trafficking in Persons (CCTIP) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs requested the Mission's assistance in developing a new draft law on victim and witness protection. The existing law, adopted in 1998, does not offer sufficient protection for victims of trafficking. The ATG Programme identified and supported a national expert from the Institute for Penal Reform to write the draft. On 27 July the Mission co-chaired a working group meeting held at the CCTIP to discuss the draft. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Interior, the Intelligence and Security Service, the Centre to Combat Economic Crimes and Corruption, the Ministry of Finance, and the Ministry of Informational Development. The OSCE-supported expert presented the draft law, answered questions, and collected comments and suggestions from the participants. In December, the Ministry of Internal Affairs presented the draft to the government.

## **V. NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING**

### **A. Judicial and Prosecutorial Training**

36. A series of three training sessions for judges and prosecutors on domestic violence were organized in October and November 2007 by the American Bar Association/Rule of Law Initiative (ABA/ROLI) with support from the Mission's ATG Programme. The National Justice Institute participated in selecting the 72 trainees and developing the agenda. The session included a presentation by an IOM psychologist who works with victims of domestic violence. Lawyers and experts presented on the domestic violence legislative framework in Moldova. The training included mock trials of domestic violence cases and materials on relevant legislative acts, guidelines for interviewing victims, and case studies.

### **B. Training for Civil Society Representatives**

37. With ATG Programme support, Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" conducted a training course on project management called "Getting Funded: A Training Course on Proposal Writing." Fifteen representatives of national and local NGOs developed their competencies in writing competitive project proposals in the gender and anti-trafficking fields and in developing project monitoring and evaluation strategies.

### **C. Participation in International Events**

38. The ATG Programme financially supported the participation of Dr. Valentina Bodrug-Lungu, an Associate Professor at Moldova State University and President of the NGO Gender-Centru, at the Fifth European Conference "Gender Equality in Higher Education" from 28 to 31 August 2007 at Humboldt University in Berlin. The conference provided a unique forum for scientists and practitioners to debate and exchange experience on gender inequality in higher education. More than 100 professionals participated, including academics, gender equality practitioners and researchers.

39. The ATG Programme co-supported the participation of two Moldovan police officers from CCTIP at the conference "Improving Law Enforcement's Response to Combat Sexual Exploitation of Children on the Internet." This event was organized by the Special Police Matters Unit of the OSCE on 20 and 21 September 2007 in Vienna. The purpose was to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement agencies in OSCE countries to combat use of the Internet for child exploitation. The Mission collaborated with the US Embassy to identify and support the officers' participation.

## **VI. PROJECT SUPPORT**

40. In 2007, the Mission's ATG Programme supported selected organizations and institutions in developing and implementing 25 anti-trafficking and gender projects in Chisinau and other regions of Moldova. The Programme worked with both established and new partners, including state institutions, NGOs, and social service providers at the national, district, and local levels. Through these projects the ATG Programme reached, directly and indirectly, beneficiaries such as state and local authorities, civil society representatives, vulnerable persons, and victims of trafficking and domestic violence.

### **A. Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**

41. With the financial support of the Mission's ATG Programme, Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" published an interim report on their project "Media Monitoring Bulletin: Media Coverage of Human Trafficking and its Prevention." Implemented in partnership with the Independent Journalism Centre, the project monitored seven national newspapers. It analyzed articles featuring aspects of internal and external human trafficking for purposes of prostitution, forced labor, begging and petty crime, and/or organ harvesting. The analysis also included articles describing activities and projects designed to combat these crimes and to provide opportunities for vulnerable groups. According to the interim report, the number of articles reporting on trafficking in persons has increased, but much remains to be done to increase the quality, professionalism, and profile of human trafficking coverage. 21 out of 256 articles were published on the front page; on average fewer than two sources were used per story; and the most frequently cited sources were "government officials." The report concludes with a series of recommendations for reporters, media development NGOs, and specialized anti-trafficking bodies. It can be accessed at <http://www.winrock.org.md>.



42. With support from the Mission's ATG Programme, the Centre for Prevention of Trafficking in Women (CPTW), operated by the NGO Association of Moldovan Women in Legal Careers, implemented the project "Prevention Activities" from July to December 2007. At 325 seminars, CPTW trainers informed a total of 5988 adolescents about the risks of illegal migration. The trainers presented concrete information on safe migration and ways to identify potential cases of trafficking in persons to the participants. The seminars sensitized and motivated educators, teachers, and school principals to be more aware of the issue of human trafficking and of ways to motivate students to make better-informed decisions. The seminars presented information on the services available to victims and potential victims of trafficking so as to encourage participants to seek advice and information from these services. Additional prevention activities included updating the brochure *Trafficking in Women: What Should You Know?*, which was based on a recent analysis of the situation in the country and new trends in trafficking. The update provided more concrete information, including legal provisions in the Criminal Code and the law on preventing and combating trafficking in humans. CPTW also developed and printed a leaflet on human trafficking, which includes indicators to identify trafficking in persons, general data on trafficking and forms of exploitation, the rights of victims, and useful phone numbers, including updated information for contacting Moldovan Embassies and Consulates abroad.

43. With the support of the Mission's ATG Programme and IOM, the NGO Interaction from Tiraspol implemented the project "Toll Free Hotline in Transnistria" for preventing human trafficking and illegal migration. From January through December 2007, the hotline received 1180 calls and 32 assistance cases were opened. The hotline aimed to provide information about the laws and realities of migration, potential consequences of illegal migration, and risks of trafficking in persons. The hotline was used to identify victims of trafficking in the Transnistrian region and to refer beneficiaries to other services when needed. In addition to the hotline, Interaction printed and distributed leaflets on human trafficking and migration in the region, especially in rural areas, and conducted a series of 300 training activities for a total of 5784 young people.

## **B. Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Children**

44. In 2007 the Mission's ATG Programme again joined UNICEF and SCD to finance the third year of the Terre des Hommes (TdH) project "Fight against Child Trafficking (F.A.C.T.) in Moldova." The project included local capacity building actions, child and parent assistance, training for local service providers, support for capacity and policy development at the national level and, in the Transnistrian region, monitoring and promoting best practices. At the local level, the project created and supported Local Councils for Protection of Child Rights (LCPCR) to increase local actors' capacities to work against child neglect, abuse, exploitation, and trafficking and to organize child protection strategies, collective interventions, and individual assistance. Protection and prevention activities were narrower in geographical scope than in previous years, and focused on rural communities in two districts (Soroca and Ungheni), as well as in Chisinau. In all, the project identified 1200 children at risk, provided services to 2308 children, assisted 878 parents and trained 114 specialists on child reintegration in 12 districts in Moldova. National and regional advocacy and poli-

cy development support included assistance to the Ministry of Public Administration and the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child in drafting regulations for LCPCRs; supporting and encouraging NGO involvement in child protection and child rights work; and memoranda to support child protection work in targeted districts with the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child and UNICEF, including work in the Transnistrian region. TdH supported development and implementation of monitoring and best practices at the regional and national levels, including a monitoring system, tools for local authorities responsible for child protection, and an online database for case management.

45. The ATG Programme supported the Causeni Law Centre in implementing the project "Together against Trafficking in Human Beings." The project's aim was to inform young people in the Causeni, Anenii Noi, and Stefan Voda districts and the towns of Tiraspol and Bender/Tighina in the Transnistrian region about the risks of trafficking in human beings and illegal migration. As part of the project, the Causeni Law Centre hosted two meetings of the Regional Coalition on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. It organized 12 seminars in schools for 599 children and adolescents, three seminars for 148 social assistants, and one seminar for 35 educational managers from Causeni district. The participants at these events discussed issues related to trafficking in persons and received materials. The implementation team collaborated with local and regional media to publish 16 articles in newspapers. The project included publication of 500 copies of an album of children's drawings about human trafficking, which was distributed to beneficiaries, partners, state institutions, and the donor community.

46. The ATG Programme supported Casa Speranțelor to implement the project "Trafficking in Human Beings – A Violation of Human Rights." The NGO conducted 30 seminars for communities in Soroca district for a total of 320 young people (80 boys and 240 girls) on issues related to human trafficking and the risks of illegal migration and trained 25 volunteers to disseminate information and to conduct seminars about human trafficking for their peers after the project's completion.

47. The ATG Programme provided financial support to the NGO Children, Communities, Families (CCF) Moldova for the project "Listen to the Voices of Children", implemented from May to December 2007. The project was designed to empower teenagers in 11 rural communities in Ialoveni district by offering them the chance to speak against trafficking in human beings and illegal migration. CCF Moldova organized a series of training sessions for 58 teenagers in 11 Ialoveni district villages on trafficking in human beings and launched an art contest. About 180 children aged 8 to 17 participated in the art contest individually and in groups by submitting drawings, embroidery work, collages, posters, small sculptures and other forms of artwork. An art album with the winning submissions was compiled and launched at a public event. It will also be distributed to NGOs, international organizations, donors, local authorities, and schools.

48. With financial support from the Mission's ATG Programme, from February to December 2007 the NGO League for the Defence of Human Rights in Moldova (LADOM) implemented the project "Caravan programme: The Rights of Children in Difficulties." The primary goal was to provide children and adolescents in need with information regarding



their problems, interests, rights, and responsibilities. In cooperation with *Florile Dalbe*, a magazine for youth, LADOM donated 539 magazine subscriptions to children in orphanages, boarding schools, and detention institutions. LADOM published ten pages in *Florile Dalbe* on youth rights, case studies, anti-trafficking, and illegal migration. LADOM organized six seminars on the rights of children in need for 176 children and adolescents from six villages. The seminars familiarized participants with the fundamental human rights and liberties in the UN Convention for the Rights of the Child, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights, and relevant national legislation. The seminars included debates to help participants learn about the problems and difficulties they face as adolescents and to find solutions for their issues. A contest to select the best essays, poems, and drawings was conducted; more than 100 children from all over Moldova submitted creative pieces. A compilation of the essays, entitled *The Right to Know My Rights*, was published and 1000 complimentary copies were distributed in Moldovan schools and presented to the contest winners.

### C. Protection and Assistance to Victims and Vulnerable Persons

49. With support from the ATG Programme, the National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (NCCAP) implemented the project “Prevention of Trafficking in Adolescents through Reducing Domestic Violence.” The project provided psycho-social interventions to decrease the risk of trafficking among vulnerable adolescents. The project provided multi-disciplinary assistance to four adolescents at risk; informed 106 adolescents and 81 adults about the risks of trafficking in persons; and sensitized the national child protection community, including state institutions responsible for child protection, about domestic violence and its connection to trafficking in persons. With the cooperation of community members, police, schools, and medical institutions, the project provided counselling and reintegration services to 44 adolescent victims of domestic violence. The NCCAP conducted psycho-social evaluations of 33 adolescents and developed individual intervention strategies for each of them. Other activities included 4 peer support group sessions for young people and 7 workshops for 47 parents to learn about the effects of violence on children and about children’s psycho-social development. NGO psychologists participated as expert witnesses in four court sessions representing the interests of children. Upon requests from child protection institutions, the centre’s specialists conducted two psychological evaluations of child victims of violence and two legal interviews with child victims of sexual abuse. As a result, for the first time in Moldova, the court interviewed the children in a safe environment, *i.e.*, in the centre’s office. This is a significant achievement in terms of legal practices in Moldova. The main obstacles and gaps identified during project implementation include:

- gaps in legislation that allow the abuser to stay in the family while taking the abused child out of the family which negatively impacts child rehabilitation and reintegration;
- legislation on how courts interview child victims and witnesses needs to be improved to ensure a better child protection; professionals from the child protection and law enforcement systems often interpret violence in ways that lead to inaction in abusive situations, thereby leaving a child with an abuser;

- the inadequacy of centres and services for children in difficult circumstances (including abused, neglected, abandoned, and homeless children) remains a pressing issue.

50. With ATG Programme support, the NGO Child Rights Information Centre (CRIC) implemented the project “Social Inclusion of Children Left behind by Migrating Parents.” As a result of the project, the administrations in 50 schools revised their priorities for weekly classes with form teachers to meet the specific needs and interests of these children. From 50 schools in Calarași, Anenii Noi and Cimislia districts, 136 teachers, school managers, form masters, and school psychologists were trained and increased their capacities to:

- identify children’s needs and interests and to develop appropriate activities to respond to those needs;
- promote children’s rights and participation, both in and out of school, including extra-curricular activities, to reduce children’s vulnerability;
- organize activities with children left behind in order to prepare them for independent life and to reduce their vulnerability to social and health risks;
- offer psychological support to children left behind, as well as to caregivers and parents intending to migrate;
- involve local social services in preventing the negative consequences of parental migration and in supporting children left behind.

Fifty-one teachers from 15 schools in Calarași district developed their capacities to provide professional orientation and career counseling for children. At least 3000 children of school age were involved in activities organized by trained teachers. The Guide for Professionals Working with Children Left Behind was developed and distributed to teachers and other interested professionals (1000 copies). The booklet *My Child Home Alone* for parents and caregivers (15,000 copies) and the *Home Alone* pocket book for children left behind (15,000 copies) were printed for distribution in 2008. Thirty-five radio spots were broadcast from May to November 2007 during popular national radio programmes. The radio spots addressed the situation of children left behind by migrating parents, ways to support these children, and project activities. The October 26 national television broadcast of the popular *Buna Seara* talk-show featured the issue of children left behind by migrating parents and presented CRIC’s project activities.

51. With financial assistance from the Mission’s ATG Programme, the NGO La Strada implemented the project “Direct Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings—Adults and Minors.” The project supported the reintegration of trafficked persons. As a result of the project, 121 beneficiaries (47 adult victims, 15 minor victims, and 59 children of victims) received standard packages and individual emergency aid packages. The packages included food, toiletries, school supplies for children, medical assistance, and cash assistance for utilities and rent. Twelve home visits by a multi-disciplinary group (social worker, police officer, lawyer, doctor, or other specialist as needed) were made upon beneficiaries’ requests.

## D. Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence

52. In 2007 the NGO Refugiul Casa Marioarei, located in Chisinau, implemented the project “Violence—A Hotline for Our Life.” This project was supported by extra-budgetary funds from the proceeds of the 2006 OSCE Charity Ball and supervised by the Mission’s ATG Programme. Through a telephone hotline, the project provided urgent psychological aid to victims of domestic violence and other categories of women in crisis and experiencing abuse. In the six months of project implementation, Casa Marioarei received 784 calls from victims of different forms of abuse, 763 from women and 21 from men. Most calls came from people living in urban areas (79%). Nearly all callers were married or cohabitating (97%). The people who sought assistance through the hotline reported multiple forms of abuse: 98% reported emotional abuse; 63% physical abuse; 11% sexual abuse; and 29% economic abuse. This hotline represents the only means to provide urgent psychological assistance and support to victims of domestic violence, to refer them to other services, and to collect basic data on domestic violence. Casa Marioarei is the only national shelter in Moldova for victims of domestic violence.

53. In 2007 the Mission’s ATG Program supported Casa Marioarei to implement the project “Financial Support for Access to Medical Assistance of Victims/Aggressors of Domestic Violence in Need.” The NGO provided assistance to cover the costs for emergency medical tests and treatment for 14 families (from Chisinau and other regions) in which women were abused by their partners. Six women benefited from detoxification assistance and 218 female victims of domestic violence were helped to procure medicine to sustain and speed their rehabilitation. In order to support family reintegration for victims, 57 aggressors received medical assistance and psychological counseling. The project aimed at contributing to the rehabilitation and reintegration of female victims of domestic violence by facilitating their and their partners’ access to urgently needed medical assistance.

54. With financial support from the Mission’s ATG Programme, the International Centre for Women’s Rights Protection and Promotion La Strada implemented the project “Assessment of National Initiatives in Domestic Violence.” The project was designed to identify the dimensions of domestic violence that require immediate intervention and to recommend activities to address urgent needs. More than 50 professionals (social workers, psychologists, medical staff, police, NGO service providers, and members of international organizations and donor agencies) were interviewed to assess the dimensions of domestic violence, to identify actions to counteract it and additional actions needed, and to analyze the legal framework and its *de facto* implementation. La Strada interviewed victims of domestic violence to identify their perceptions of factors that cause it, the degree to which victims self-identify as victims, the degree to which victims access assistance, the ways in which victims access assistance, and victim and aggressor profiles. The study results will be presented in a final report in early 2008.

55. In 2007 the Mission’s ATG Programme supported Winrock International’s “New Perspectives for Women” to implement the project “Distribution of the Destinies and Destinations Programme.” Winrock copied all the episodes of this programme produced to date onto a DVD and is distributing this DVD to TV and radio stations, interested organizati-

ons, and relevant institutions. Since 2006, in partnership with the Independent Journalism Centre and OWH TV Studio, Winrock has produced 20 episodes of this TV programme, and 46 episodes of the radio version, about migration, domestic violence, and entrepreneurship. The programmes present Moldovan women with alternatives to going abroad to find well-paid jobs.

56. For the third year, the Mission’s ATG Programme supported Winrock International’s “New Perspectives for Women” to implement the 2007 “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” campaign. The 2007 theme was “Demanding Implementation, Challenging Obstacles: End Violence against Women!” and was dedicated to overcoming challenges and obstacles faced by activists, networks, and organizations that work to end violence against women. On 26 November the Mission hosted a press conference to launch the campaign. Representatives of Winrock International, Gender-Centru, IOM Moldova and UNFPA affirmed during the press conference the need to pool their efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and called upon the President of Moldova to promulgate the draft law on preventing and combating family violence. In partnership with the United States Agency for International Development, the Independent Journalist Centre, the Centre for Partnership in Development, Gender-Centru, UNFPA, ABA/ROLI, Amnesty International, Peace Corps Moldova-Trafficking in Persons (Moldova-TIP), Casa Marioarei Shelter, and OWH TV Studio, Winrock and its regional support centers organized and conducted a series of awareness raising events including press conferences, round tables, TV and radio shows, media campaigns, and street events throughout Moldova. Workshops and training sessions organized during the campaign targeted young people as well as decision-making bodies.

57. The Balti NGO LOGOS implemented the project “Violence in the Family - A Violation of Human Rights” with the financial support of the Mission’s ATG Programme. Project activities were organized as part of the “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” campaign and were implemented in northern Moldova. The project promoted information and debates on preventing violence against women and produced and distributed 2500 leaflets, 1000 calendars and 30 T-shirts with non-violent messages. An audio spot was developed and broadcast 180 times during the campaign on the local radio station FM 103.5. The implementing team participated in radio and TV shows and presented initiatives in preventing violence against women in Balti and other districts in the north of the country. LOGOS carried out five social theatre performances on violence and collected signatures in support of adopting the law on preventing family violence. Awareness raising visits and events were organized in five northern districts of Moldova: Floresti, Drochia, Glodeni, Falesti, and Telenesti.

## E. Promoting Gender Equality and Women’s Rights

58. The Mission’s ATG Programme provided financial support to the Forum of Women’s Organizations of Moldova for the implementation of the project “GLOW (Girls Leading Our World) Summer School 2007.” The NGO prepared and organized the summer school in cooperation with Peace Corps volunteers. The project provided a week-long educational camp, designed to develop leadership skills for 89 Moldovan/Romanian and Russian



speaking girls aged 14 to 17 from all over Moldova. The participants were socially vulnerable girls living in orphanages, boarding schools, and small rural communities. Interactive sessions presented information on communication and leadership, trafficking in persons, domestic violence, and health issues, and prepared the girls with theoretical knowledge as well as with practical skills.

59. The NGO Gender-Centru received financial support from the Mission's ATG Programme to implement the project "The Role of NGOs in Implementing the Gender Equality Law in Moldova." The project monitored the implementation of the Law on Equal Opportunities for Men and Women, and the National Plan "Promoting Gender Equality in Society from 2006 to 2009," which was adopted by Parliament in 2006. Six national gender experts and three consultants participated in monitoring from March to May 2007. The experts analyzed legislative acts, statistics, and ministerial reports. They interviewed 259 representatives of state institutions and civil society on implementing the law and its action plan in the socio-economic, legal, political, education, health and social protection fields as well as among mass media, institutional mechanisms, civil society and in the labour market. The findings were analyzed with consultations from civil society and state institutions and were officially presented during a press conference held at the OSCE Mission to Moldova.

60. The NGO National Women's Studies and Information Centre for Partnership in Development commenced a year-long project entitled "Increasing Juridical Culture in the Population" in September 2006. Funded by an extra-budgetary contribution from the French Delegation to the OSCE and facilitated and supervised by the Mission's ATG Programme, this project aimed at increasing the legal understanding of the population. From September 2006 to August 2007, the Center published 1000 copies of the *Legal Orientation Guide*. The publication presents legal instruments and samples of tools (e.g., petitions, requests) to be used by readers when advocating for their rights. The guide is composed of five chapters presenting (i) the system of rights and legislation in the Republic of Moldova; (ii) general and special guarantees in exercising rights and freedoms; (iii) fundamental rights and freedoms; (iv) rights and family; and (v) fundamental duties. The publication was distributed to beneficiaries, especially women, from urban and rural areas, to local authorities, and to human rights activists all over the country. The implementing team hosted 16 follow-up meetings at which NGOs and community stakeholders discussed challenges in human rights and got acquainted with the *Legal Orientation Guide*. As a result of this project, beneficiaries increased their knowledge of the social, economic, and cultural rights stipulated in the national and international legislation, and the targeted communities were encouraged to implement policies designed to protect women's and children's rights. An increased level of women's participation at the community level was observed in the targeted communities.

61. Also in 2007, the Centre for Partnership in Development (CPD) implemented the project "Say NO to Sexual Harassment" with financial support provided by the Mission's ATG Programme. As part of the project, a questionnaire for analysing sexual harassment among female employees and female students in Moldova was developed in consultation with a group of national and international gender experts. CPD selected IMAS Marketing and Polls Company to conduct a nationally representative survey among women on sexual harassment. Of the 1139 respondents, 816 were employed women aged 18 to 50, and 323

were female students aged 18 to 30. The results of the survey were published in a report launched on 30 November at a press conference with the participation of NGOs, mass media, and international organizations. Highlights of the research include the following:

- more than half of the respondents considered that the most important conditions for success are family and health;
- a quarter of the respondents believed that men should rule in the family;
- the most frequent causes of gender inequality are the tendency of male workers to dominate decision-making positions and the high level of corruption in the political and business sectors;
- only a few participants in the study reported knowing organizations or institutions where they could seek assistance when facing discrimination;
- more than 8 out of 10 women believed that sexual harassment has a very negative effect on professional or academic results, relations with work or study colleagues, with husbands or partners, or on one's personality;
- employed women more often became victims of sexual harassment than female students.

This project was part of a larger one titled "Resource Development for the Equitable Empowerment of Women and Men to Advance Gender Equality in the Republic of Moldova."

## E. Preventing Discrimination

62. The Mission's ATG Programme provided financial support to the Association of Young Trainers of Moldova to implement the project "Youth Against Discrimination" from June to December 2007. The project aimed to combat all forms of discrimination among adolescents and young people by offering them the opportunity to develop life skills, responsible attitudes, tolerance, and safe behaviors through the creative, innovative method of social theatre. Theatre performances were organized in 17 communities at which 4261 adolescents and 203 adults were invited to reflect on discrimination and its consequences. Audiences had the opportunity to go on stage, enter the scene, and present solutions or alternatives that would fight discrimination and protect people's rights.

## VII. TRIAL MONITORING PROGRAMME

63. In 2007 the OSCE Mission and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) continued the implementation of the Trial Monitoring Programme. Memoranda of understanding with both the Superior Council of Magistrates and the General Prosecutor's Office for implementing the programme in its second year were signed. The programme analyzes *de facto* compliance of the Moldovan judicial system with both national and international fair trial standards to draw the attention of national authorities to areas that need improvement and to encourage and assist national authorities to find solutions to enhance human rights protection and to strengthen the rule of law. From October to December 2007, the programme was extended to monitor court hearings in three south

eastern districts of Moldova (Causeni, Stefan Voda and Anenii Noi, including the Tighina/Bender Court of Appeals in Varnita). In 2007, trial monitors attended a total of 2735 court hearings, 138 of which were in the south. Approximately 4086 hearings were monitored from the project's inception in March 2006 to the close of 2007. Monitoring continued to focus on cases of trafficking in human beings, domestic violence, trafficking in arms, crimes against the administration of justice, corruption, and crimes committed by public officials.

64. A six-month analysis of the Trial Monitoring Programme titled "Preliminary Findings on the Experience of Going to Court in Moldova" and covering the period April-September 2006 was published in Moldovan/Romanian and English in consultation with the Superior Council of Magistrates. On 19 April 2007 the Mission, in partnership with the Council, held a public launch of the report in the Supreme Court of Justice building.

## VIII. CONCLUSION

65. Through its activities in 2007, the ATG Programme contributed to the implementation of the Mission's mandate as well as to the implementation of the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, and the OSCE Decision on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women. ATG Programme objectives and activities in 2008 will build upon earlier achievements and will contribute to the observance of human rights and the establishment of a safe and secure environment for vulnerable people in Moldova.

*Judith Hale  
Programme Manager  
Anti-Trafficking and Gender Programme  
OSCE Mission to Moldova  
Chisinau, Republic of Moldova*