

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus

Regulation No. 1636 of November 8, 2001

Minsk

**ON THE STATE PROGRAM OF COMPREHENSIVE MEASURES FOR COMBATING
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND SPREAD OF PROSTITUTION FOR 2002 - 2007**

In order to implement comprehensive measures for combating trafficking in persons and spread of prostitution, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus DECREES:

To approve the State Program of Comprehensive Measures for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Spread of Prostitution for 2002 - 2007*.

The Ministry of Interior shall:

inform on the above State Program all engaged Republican governmental bodies and other subordinate public organisations of the Government of the Republic of Belarus, which are appointed responsible for implementation of the above Program,

The above bodies and organisations shall ensure timely and adequate implementation of measures, stipulated by the State Program and shall submit relevant progress reports on the matter to the above Ministry (by July 20th);

submit annual progress reports on implementation of the above Program to the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus

G.Novitskiy

* Not to be circulated

APPROVED BY:

Regulation No. 1636 of the
Council of Ministers of the
Republic of Belarus of
November 8, 2001

THE STATE PROGRAM

of Comprehensive Measures for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Spread of Prostitution for 2002 - 2007

Trafficking in persons and prostitution become more and more abundant in the Republic of Belarus, substantially and adversely affecting moral and psychological climate in the country. Numbers of persons, engaged into prostitution and trafficking in persons, continue to grow.

Now, the Republic is in the focus of interests of international criminal syndicates, engaged into trafficking in persons and their recruitment for illegal exploitation. According to expert estimates, at the global level, criminals annually generate about \$7-9 billion from this criminal business alone. CIS countries provide a substantial share of their criminal proceeds. Notwithstanding that Russia and Ukraine belong to the major suppliers of prostitutes at the post-Soviet space, forecasts suggest growth of these crimes in our country as well. For example, in recent years, there was growth of numbers of women, who were administratively sanctioned for practising prostitution. Modern information technologies, including Internet, allow to post numerous adverts about paid sex-services and employment opportunities for women abroad.

Organised groups of Belorussian women or individual women migrate to Germany, Poland, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Greece, Israel and other countries for prostitution. Now, many of them have already established business connections with pimps and brothels of European, Arab and Asian countries and visit these countries under cover of tourist visas.

The scale of prostitution and trafficking in persons demonstrates inadequate efficiency of contemporary measures. Activities of trade unions, numerous non-governmental associations and funds, that have necessary experience and finance resources to address the problem, still remain inefficient. The established practice of addressing these problems primarily by law-enforcement measures, with heavy reliance on the Ministry of Interior, is still considered as almost the only tool for combating trafficking in persons and prostitution, but the practice falls short of expectations. The contemporary system of co-ordination of different governmental agencies needs review and adjustment. There is no efficient awareness raising system, the due national legislation needs improvement and harmonisation with international legal standards. Under these circumstances, and without implementation of necessary measures, trafficking in persons and prostitution might very adversely affect health and wellbeing of citizens of the Republic of Belarus.

The State Program of Comprehensive Measures for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Spread of Prostitution for 2002 - 2007 (referred hereinafter as the Program) has been developed to address these problems. The Program stipulates comprehensive and co-ordinated social, health care, legal and organisational measures.

The key objectives of the Program incorporate combating trafficking in persons and prostitution and development of a system for prevention of these negative phenomena with the aim of their eventual reduction. Implementation of the Program is based on joint efforts of all relevant governmental agencies, non-governmental associations, legal entities and citizens.

Besides that, the Program stipulates development of relevant local programs.

Comprehensive measures for combating trafficking in persons and spread of prostitution for 2002 - 2007

	Measures	Terms of completion	Implementing agencies
Organisational and legislative measures			
1.	To analyse the national legislation for its compliance with the international legal standards in the sphere of combating trafficking in persons. To develop relevant recommendations, based on results of the analysis.	2002	MoJ, MFA, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, MoI
2.	To study and analyse experience of law-enforcement bodies of Belarus in the sphere of combating trafficking in persons and prostitution, international experience of legislative regulation of combating these negative phenomena and protection of rights of victims of these crimes; to develop recommendations on improvement of the due legislation and practices.	2002-2003	MoI, KGB, the State Committee of the Border Guard Troops, MFA, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection.
3.	To develop conceptual provisions, defining status of victims of crimes, associated with trafficking in persons	2004-2005	MoI Academy, R&D Forensic Institute of MoJ, the Institute of National Security of KGB, the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, the Ministry for Education, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry of Public Health, MFA.
4.	To submit proposals on improvement of the due legislation for combating trafficking in persons, prostitution, and actions associated with propaganda of prostitution and provision of sex-services under cover of legitimate businesses.	2002-2007	MoI, MoJ, KGB, the State Customs Service, the National Centre for Legislative Developments under the President of the Republic of Belarus, the Supreme Court (at their consent).
5.	To study practices of organisation of foreign travel of citizens of the Republic of Belarus for employment and tourism purposes. To develop, based on results of the study, proposals on improvement of these practices and ensuring compliance of these practices with the due legislation of the Republic of Belarus.	2002	The Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry for Sport, MFA, MoI, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops
6.	To study practices and mechanisms for introduction of mandatory life and health insurance for persons, who travel abroad, at the expense of legal entities that employ them, and provide them tourist services, in order to improve these practices and mechanisms.	2002-2003	BELGOSSTRAKH Belarus State Insurance Company, the Ministry for Sport, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, MoJ, MFA
7.	To study and generalise court and investigation practices, pertaining to cases of trafficking in persons and prostitution, to submit (if deemed necessary) relevant proposals on improvement of the legislation of the Republic of Belarus and activities of law-enforcement bodies.	2002-2005	MoI, MoJ, the Ministry for Education, the Supreme Court (at their consent).
8.	To develop measures for control of suspicious media adverts and making advertisers and editors liable for publishing these adverts.	2002	MoI, MoJ, the Ministry for Information, Belarus TV and Radio Company.
9.	To carry out comprehensive study of the following	2002-2003	The National Academy of Sciences

	<p>problems: Trafficking in persons; Prostitution in Belarus; Migration of women abroad. To develop research, practical and methodological guidelines and recommendations for MoI officers, dealing with prevention of prostitution and combating crimes, associated with trafficking in persons.</p>		<p>of Belarus, the Institute of Socio-Political Studies under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Belarus (at its consent), MoI Academy, the Ministry for Education, MoJ, the Ministry for Culture, the Ministry for Public Health, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection.</p>
10.	To organise meetings and seminars, dedicated to study and exchange of experience in the sphere of combating trafficking in persons and prostitution.	2002 - 2007	The Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry for Education, non-governmental associations (at their consent), local executive bodies.
11.	To carry out theoretical and practice-oriented conferences, dedicated to improvement of the due legislation and anti-trafficking activities of law-enforcement bodies, including <i>inter alia</i> the following topics:		
11.1	Prevention and combating prostitution among young people; propaganda of healthy way of life;	2005	The Ministry for Public Health, MoI, MoJ, the Ministry for Sport
11.2	Combating crimes, associated with trafficking in persons, particularly with trafficking in children	2003	MoI, KGB, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops, the State Customs Service, MFA
11.3	International co-operation in the sphere of combating crimes, associated with trafficking in persons and prostitution.	2004	MoI, MFA, KGB, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops, the State Customs Service, MoJ, the Ministry for Education, the Ministry for Labour and Social Policies, the Ministry for Culture.
12.	To consider introduction of licensing requirements for international marriage companies	2002-2003	MoJ, MoI
13.	To recommend appointment of female officers at staff positions in law-enforcement bodies, engaged into combating trafficking in persons and prostitution.	2002 - 2005	MoI, KGB, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops
Proactive measures for combating violence, trafficking in persons and spread of prostitution			
14.	To stipulate special measures for prevention of growth of unemployment among women graduates, in the course of development of the State Employment Program.	2002-2007	The Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry for Education, local executive and administrative bodies.
15.	To review and analyse practices of adoption of children (citizens of the Republic of Belarus) by foreign nationals. To submit proposals on improvement of this mechanism to the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus (if deemed necessary)	2003-2004	The Ministry for Education, the Ministry for Public Health, the Ministry for Sport (at their consent).
16.	To incorporate issues of combating prostitution, trafficking and recruitment of women for sexual exploitation into curricular courses (legal, moral and sexual education) of secondary education facilities.	2002	The Ministry for Education, MoJ
17.	To organise awareness raising and information dissemination activities for prevention of trafficking in persons and prostitution.	2002-2007	Belarus TV and Radio Company, the Ministry for Information, MoI, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry for Education
18.	To organise production and dissemination of information and awareness raising materials	2002-2007	Executive and administrative bodies

	(brochures, leaflets, newsletters, etc.) aimed against violence, trafficking in persons and prostitution.		
19.	To organise TV and radio programs, aimed at combating trafficking in persons and prostitution.	2002 - 2007	Belarus TV and Radio Company, relevant governmental agencies.
20.	To supply citizens of the Republic of Belarus with adequate and reliable information on external labour migration; to publish regularly lists of economic agents, that have valid licences for provision of services associated with employment of citizens of the Republic of Belarus abroad, in mass-media outlets.	2002 - 2007	The Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry for Information, Belarus TV and Radio Company.
Measures for combating trafficking in persons and spread of prostitution			
21.	To develop the action plan for co-ordination of operations of law-enforcement bodies in the sphere of disclosure and combating crimes, associated with trafficking in persons and prostitution.	2002-2007	MoI, KGB, the State Customs Service, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops
22.	To develop systems and databases for: Collection and analysis of information on individuals and legal entities, engaged into trafficking in persons, as well as information on progress in combating trafficking in persons and prostitution; Collection of information on persons, who were suspected of involvement into trafficking in women and children for sexual exploitation by law-enforcement bodies due to results of search and investigation activities, preliminary investigations, court proceedings or due to information submitted by foreign law-enforcement bodies via Interpol channels.	2002 and the whole period	MoI, KGB, the State Customs Service, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops
23.	To implement measures for improvement of the logistics and for purchase of necessary technical means for law-enforcement bodies, engaged into combating trafficking in persons and prostitution	2002-2007	MoI, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops, KGB, the State Customs Service, MoJ.
24.	To develop methodologies for investigation of crimes, associated with trafficking in persons	2002-2007	MoI Academy, MoJ, the Ministry for Education
25.	To disclose and terminate, within their respective spheres of competence, activities of legal entities and individuals, that are engaged into activities, associated with employment of citizens of the Republic of Belarus abroad without due licenses.	2002-2007	The Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, MoI, the Ministry for Taxes and Charges
Measures for rehabilitation of victims of violence and trafficking in persons			
26.	To consider the issue of establishment and improvement of operations of rehabilitation and crisis centres for women and children - victims of violence and trafficking in persons; to provide finance, organisational and methodological assistance to already operational centres.	2002-2007	Local executive and administrative bodies, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry for Education, the Ministry for Public Health.
27.	To ensure establishment (at the base of centres of social services for families and children) of universal centres for children, adolescents, youth in their places of residence, as well as other social facilities for citizens, permanent hot-lines, facilities for provision of consultative and psychological assistance to women and children - victims of violence or trafficking in persons, facilities for	2002-2007	Local executive and administrative bodies, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry for Public Health, the Ministry for Education.

	provision of socio-psychological and psychiatric assistance		
28.	To organise refresher training of specialists, dealing with victims of violence, trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation in pedagogical and medical education facilities and Belarus State University.	2002-2007	The Ministry for Education, the Ministry for Public Health, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, MoI, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops
29.	To develop and implement the system of measures for rehabilitation and protection of rights of victims of violence and trafficking in persons.	2002-2007	The Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry for Public Health, local executive and administrative bodies.
International co-operation or combating trafficking in persons			
30.	To expand co-operation with international, governmental and non-governmental organisations, engaged into combating trafficking in persons	2002-2007	MFA, MoI, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops
31.	To intensify co-operation with international, inter-governmental organisations, engaged into combating trafficking in persons	2002-2007	MFA, MoI, KGB, MoJ, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection
32.	To continue development of service contacts with law-enforcement bodies and special services of foreign countries on issues, pertaining to organisation of combating trafficking in persons.	2002-2007	MoI, KGB, the State Committee for the Border Guard Troops, the State Customs Service
33.	To review practices and address the issue of conclusion of bilateral agreements between the Republic of Belarus and countries of destination of victims of trafficking in persons on joint activities for prevention of trafficking in persons.	2002-2007	MFA, MoJ, MoI, the Ministry for Labour and Social Protection

Mechanisms for the Program implementation and monitoring

Republican governmental agencies, other governmental bodies (organisations), that occupy first places in the range of implementing agencies in the relevant column, are appointed as responsible agencies and shall ensure timely and adequate implementation of relevant measures. Besides that, these agencies shall submit annually to the Ministry of Interior their progress reports on the Program implementation (by July 20th, up to 2007 and later on). If deemed necessary, other Republican governmental agencies (that are not included into the list of implementing agencies, but authorised to address relevant issues) may be also involved into implementation of specific measures.

Proposals on financing the Program implementation in 2002-2007 shall be reviewed by the Ministry of Finance jointly with other engaged ministries and Republican agencies in the course of development of the state budget of the Republic of Belarus for relevant years.

In 2002, costs of implementation of the Program measures shall be funded from regular budget allocations, stipulated by the State Budget for relevant Republican governmental bodies (organisations). In subsequent years, necessary expenditures shall be reviewed by the Ministry of Finance jointly with other engaged agencies in the course of development of the Republican budget for relevant years.