

**Information of the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories,
Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia on the report of the Independent Expert on
protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender
identity**

3. State efforts to address socio-cultural and economic exclusion through legislation, policies, data gathering, and other means:

- On May 2, 2014 the Parliament of Georgia adopted the Law of Georgia on “Elimination of All forms of Discrimination”, which consolidated and harmonized the relevant anti-discrimination norms in the legislation of Georgia. The aim of the Law is to eliminate all forms of discrimination and ensure equal rights of every natural and legal person under the legislation of Georgia, regardless of race, skin color, language, sex, age, citizenship, origin, place of birth, place of residence, property and rank, religion or faith, national, ethnic and social origin, profession, marital status, health condition, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, political and other beliefs. Justice and impartiality are the main principals of decision-making for providing social security services. Within the framework of the "Social Rehabilitation and Child Care Program", any service is equally available to the person in need of this service throughout the country, including LGBT youth and older persons.

- On February 19, 2019 the Parliament of Georgia adopted amendments to the labour legislation. The legislative package was prepared in compliance with EU directives (2000/78/EC, 2000/43/EC, and 2004/113/EC) and includes following organic laws and laws of Georgia: Organic Law of Georgia “Georgian Labour Code”, Law of Georgia on “Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination”, Law of Georgia on “Public Service”, Law of Georgia on “Gender Equality”.

The above-mentioned amendments aim to establish those principles that serve to eliminate and prohibit discrimination in labour and pre-contractual relations, employment and occupation, selection criteria and recruitment conditions, access to and supply of goods and services based on religion or faith, disabilities, age, sexual orientation, racial or ethnic origin and apply to all persons employed in public and private sectors.

The Law of Georgia on “Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination” defined sexual harassment as any form of unwanted physical, verbal, non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature occurs, with the purpose or effect of violating the dignity of a person, in particular when creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment. While Law on “Gender Equality” defines that harassment and sexual harassment in labour relations/at workplace are prohibited.

- Access to medical services for all Georgian population is ensured through State Health Programs. “Universal Health Coverage Program” covers basic services, including: Planned and emergency out-patient services; Planned surgery and emergency in-

patient services; Cancer diagnostics and treatment: chemotherapy, hormone and radiation therapy and related medical examinations and medicines; Childbirth and caesarean section; In patient medical services during high-risk pregnancies, labor and postpartum period; Infectious diseases management.

In addition to Universal Health Coverage, various targeted (public health and disease oriented) programs are applicable. Targeted programs cover medical services in a wide range of important areas such as Immunization, Tuberculosis, HIV / AIDS, Drug Abuse, Maternal and Child Health, Hepatitis C, Mental Health, Diabetes, Onco-hematology, Dialysis and Kidney Transplantation, Palliative Care of Incurable Patients, Treatment of Patients with Rare Diseases, Urgent Emergency Assistance, Rural Doctor Program, Provision with Medications for Chronic Diseases, etc.

According to the Article 6 of the Law on “Health Care”: “It shall be prohibited to discriminate against a patient due to his/her race, skin colour, language, sex, religion, political and other beliefs, national, ethnic and social affiliation, origin, property status and title, place of residence, disease, sexual orientation, or a personal negative attitude”.

International and non-governmental organizations (UNICEF, Global Fund, “Tanadgoma” etc.) often carry out short-term training courses for health professionals in the field of reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases and regarding specification of service delivery for the target population.