

**MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL CO-ORDINATION MEETING (TCM)
9 September 2009**

Site: OSCE Mission to Moldova, first floor conference room, Mitropolit Dosoftei, 108, MD-2012, Chişinău, Moldova.

Date/Time: 9 September 2009, 11.00 – 12:30

Chair: Otilia Bologan-Vieru, National Legal Adviser, OSCE Mission to Moldova.

Present: ABA/ROLI (Nadejda Macari); “AGWM” Project Rescue (Elena Gribincea, Heidi Darrin); AIM (Mihaela Copot); Better Opportunities for Youth and Women Project (Viorel Albu); Centre for Support and Development of Civic Initiatives “Resonance” (Stella Vinokurova); CPTW (Victoria Nacu); Gender-Centru (Valentina Bodrug-Lungu); IOM (Elina Saaristo, Stella Rotaru, Viorel Gorceag); Information Agency “Social Aspect” (Elena Petrova); ILO/IPEC (Viorica Ghimpu); Law Centre-Causeni (Ion Oboroceanu); MSPFC (Lilia Pascal, Diana Donoaga); Medecins du Monde (Nicoletta Canter, Laura Pasquero); NGO ITACA (Serena Silvestre); Peace Corps Moldova-TIP (Cristine Oh); OSCE Mission to Moldova (Irina Ilies, Veaceslav Balan, Vladlena Lysenko); SOTIS (Olga Dotin); Regina Pacis (Emilia Moraru); Renal Foundation (Natalia Codreanu); Salvation Army (Vivien Callander, Ludmila Baglai); Terre des Hommes (Antonina Comerzan, Elena Putina); Turkish Embassy (Eylem Polat); UNICEF (Elena Laur); UNIFEM (Galina Corgoja); Winrock Moldova (Sofia Suleanschi; Jennifer Cobb Sovensen); UNFPA (Oxana Lipcanu); USAID (Diana Cazacu); Vivere NGO (Elizabeth Ponce); UNTFHS (Viorica Cretu); Art Center “Coliseum” (Mihai Fusu).

Absent: Amnesty International; Children’s Emergency Relief International; Catholic Relief Services; CCF-Moldova; Border Guard Service; Beginning of Life NGO; EUBAM; Casa Marioarei Shelter; CPD; CRIC; CCTiP/Ministry of Interior Affairs; Delegation of the European Commission to Moldova; General Prosecutor’s Office; Interaction NGO; IL Ponte Foundation; IM/SOIR; ICJ; IREX/PPP; IREX/Institute for Democratic Initiatives; La Strada; Medecins Sans Frontiers; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Moldavian Christian Aid; National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings; National Child Abuse Prevention Centre; Office of EU Special Representative; Organization for the Reform and Development of the Education System NGO; Police Academy; Precept Ministries International; Save the Children; Sida/Asdi; Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation (SDC); Women’s Solidarity of Moldova NGO; UNDP; UNODC; US Embassy; World Window NGO; Step Forward NGO.

Absent with Written Submission(s): None.

Documents Distributed: Minutes of the Technical Co-ordination Meeting of 8 July 2009; Agenda for 9 September 2009 TCM; 2008 ATG Annual Report; updated ATG factsheet; focal issue presentation on Chisinau Assistance and Protection Center in Romanian by IOM; 7th *Kafana* DVD; first issue of the magazine „Не одна” (*Not Alone*) in Russian by the Transnistrian region’s Harmony Family Center.

DISCUSSION ITEMS AS PER AGENDA

1. Call to order, welcome, attendance list, introduction, new participants

1. Ms. Otilia Bologan-Vieru welcomed the participants to the September Technical Co-ordination Meeting (TCM). She explained how to use the equipment for simultaneous translation into English and Romanian and asked the participants to introduce themselves before speaking. Ms. Bologan-Vieru passed around the attendance list and asked everyone to check and, if necessary, update their details.

2. Ms. Bologan-Vieru introduced herself as the National Legal Adviser of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Mission to Moldova. She announced that Ms. Eugenia Benigni, the new Senior Anti-Trafficking and Gender Advisor, is expected to arrive to Moldova in few days and that Ms. Benigni will chair the October TCM.

3. Ms. Bologan-Vieru announced that the co-chair of the TCM from the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child would arrive later. She invited new and returning participants to briefly introduce themselves and their organizations.

4. Ms. Laura Pasquero introduced herself as the new General Coordinator of *Medicins du Monde*. Ms. Nicoleta Cantir introduced herself as the Local Coordinator with *Medicins du Monde*.

2. Adoption of Draft Minutes from 8 July 2009 TCM

5. Ms. Bologan-Vieru moved to review the minutes from the 8 July 2009 TCM and asked participants if they had any comments or changes to propose. She thanked Ms. Viorica Ghimpu from the International Labour Organization / International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC) for sending her comments and corrections. As there were no other additions or changes from participants, the draft minutes of the July TCM were adopted.

3. Updates on activities of the Ministry of Social Protection, Child and Family; National Committee and other relevant National Authorities

6. As the representative of the MSPFC was late, Ms. Bologan-Vieru proposed to move to the next item on the agenda and return to this agenda item upon arrival of the Ministry representative.

4. Updates from all participants on new activities, initiatives, interventions

7. Ms. Bologan-Vieru gave the floor to Mr. Veaceslav Balan to update the participants on the new activities of the OSCE Mission.

8. Mr. Balan announced that the next Social Partnership Round Table in the Transnistrian region will take place on 17 September at the Tiraspol office of the OSCE Mission. These monthly round tables are organized by the OSCE Mission and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Mission to Moldova, in co-operation with the NGO Social Aspect (Социальный аспект) and the NGO Interaction (Взаимодействие). Mr. Balan reminded those who want to participate at the round table should register and send their details (full name, date of birth, passport number, and information about the means of transportation) to the OSCE Mission or the Social Aspect at least three days prior to the event.

9. The next regional TCM is scheduled for 24 September in Ocnița. Regional TCMs are organized in co-operation with MSPFC and IOM Mission to Moldova. Representatives of civil society are invited to present information about their activities in the respective regions.

10. Ms. Bologan-Vieru informed participants that among the distributed materials are the minutes from the Child Pornography Round Table that took place on 9 July 2009. It was organized by the OSCE Mission and the NGO CCF-Moldova (Child, Community, Family). Ms. Bologan-Vieru specified that it was the first meeting of this kind and expressed the hope that meetings on this important topic will become regular and that relevant Governmental agencies will actively participate.

11. Ms. Bologan-Vieru opened the floor for participants' interventions and invited them to share information on their recent activities.

12. Ms. Pasquero of Medecins du Monde (MdM) informed participants that over the past two months the MdM volunteers carried out a number of prevention activities: seminars in a summer camp in Vascauti village, Floresti District, and in two summer schools in Soroca District. Medecins du Monde will organize similar activities in 2010. Ms. Pasquero also announced that Sunday 13 September, Medecins du Monde together with their partners—youth groups and youth centres—will organize an awareness raising event in Cosauti village, Soroca District. The event is part of MdM's prevention activities and will aim at raising people's awareness about trafficking in human beings, especially risks and consequences for young people and children.

13. Ms. Valentina Bodrug-Lungu of the NGO Gender-Centre informed participants about the Global NGO Forum ICPD +15 that took place in Berlin, Germany, on 2-3 September 2009. NGO representatives from several countries gathered to discuss and evaluate progress in reproductive health in the 15 years since the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo (ICPD). Participants also discussed the role of NGOs in implementing the ICPD PoA (Programme of Actions) and in promoting sexual and reproductive rights. Reproductive health was discussed through a range of issues, including gender-based violence. Participants developed recommendations for their respective Governments. Ms. Bodrug-Lungu mentioned that she would send the final document of the Forum as soon as it is ready to all TCM participants via e-mail.

14. Ms. Svetlana Haraz of the National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (NCCAP) presented the new issue of the newsletter *Impact*, which is entirely dedicated to preventing child trafficking and other worst forms of child labour exploitation. The newsletter presents the results of

the projects on preventing child trafficking and child labour implemented by NCCAP in 2005-2009 with the support of the ILO/IPEC. Copies of the newsletter are available for TCM participants.

15. Ms. Viorica Cretu, coordinator of the project “Protection and empowerment of victims of human trafficking and domestic violence” jointly implemented by UNDP, UNFPA, IOM and OSCE, announced that the Small Grants Programme for NGOs and mass media launched in June received 64 project ideas. After a multi-agency pre-selection process, 31 project ideas were short-listed and further developed into project proposals. Finally, 24 project proposals were approved for financial support. Implementation is expected to begin in October 2009. Ms. Cretu mentioned that the 24 winning projects would be briefly presented at the October TCM.

16. Ms. Elina Saaristo from the IOM Mission to Moldova informed participants about the Plural Plus Video Competition for Youth on migration. This is a world-wide competition within the framework of Alliance of Civilizations. In Moldova it is organized jointly by UNFPA, IOM and UNICEF. Detailed information can be found on the UN Moldova website and the Plural+ Moldova group on Facebook. Organizations working with youth who are interested in this competition should get in touch with IOM or UNFPA for more information. The winners of the competition will be announced in December 2009 on International Migrants Day.

17. Ms. Saaristo also announced that, after one year of working with IOM in Moldova, she is leaving to work with IOM in another country. She thanked all participants for their co-operation and expressed her hope that all the initiatives, especially those related to working with media, will continue. She addressed special thanks to the Anti-trafficking & Gender team of the OSCE Mission to Moldova.

18. Ms. Otilia Bologan-Vieru thanked Elina for her work in Moldova and wished her good luck with her new job.

19. Ms. Elizabeth Ponce from the NGO “Vivere” announced that in 2005-2008 her NGO implemented the project “Community Syndrome”. The project included activities to address different problems and risks faced by young people, including migration, human trafficking, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmissible infections, and violence. All these problems are inter-related and a comprehensive approach is needed when addressing them. “Vivere” decided to include activities to prevent alcohol abuse because it becomes more and more common among young people and is related to violence and risky behaviours. In 2009 Vivere is supporting the activities of the local NGO Compasiune in Costesti village, Ialoveni District. Ms. Ponce also announced that the NGO Vivere is finalizing their report on the 2009 CAP Study, which is similar to studies Vivere conducted in 2007 and 2008.

20. Ms. Bologan-Vieru suggested that the final report on the CAP Study be shared with the TCM participants, if it is for the public use. Ms. Ponce specified that Vivere is looking for financial support for the finalization and publication of the report and, as soon as it is ready, it will be shared with all who are interested.

21. Ms. Olga Dotin from the Centre for Family Support and Protection in Balti reported that on 25 August the Centre officially opened. Organizations working in the field of violence prevention and those providing assistance to victims of domestic violence were invited to the ceremony. Ms. Dotin added that those interested can visit the Centre at any convenient time.

22. Mr. Ion Oboroceanu, Causeni Law Centre, reported that in August four seminars were held within the project “Say NO to domestic violence and human trafficking”, implemented with the financial support of the American Bar Association. Two seminars were held at a summer camp in Calarasi and the other two in Causeni. Also in August, the Causeni Law Centre continued providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

23. Ms. Bodrug-Lungu, Gender-Centre, reported on the progress in preparing the “16 Days Campaign” which will take place 25 November – 10 December. This year, Gender-Centre is leading organizing of the 2009 Campaign and is currently preparing a matrix with all activities planned for this year. Ms. Bodrug-Lungu encouraged all NGOs and donors to actively participate in the Campaign and asked them to send the information about relevant activities planned for that period. (This year’s theme for the 16 Days Campaign Against Gender Based Violence is *Commit – Act – Demand: We CAN End Violence Against Women!* and more details can be accessed at <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/16days/home.html>.)

24. Ms. Antonina Comerzan of the Swiss Foundation “Terre des Hommes” (TdH) introduced her new colleague, Ms. Elena Putina, and reported on the progress of the TdH study on the situation of Moldovan children identified in the Odessa region, Ukraine. The first phase of the study was conducted in April-May in the town of Odessa. The second phase started on 7 July and is to be finalized on 20 September. In addition to Odessa, 10 other towns in the Odessa region were included. The study is carried out in collaboration with an NGO from Odessa. The results of the study will be shared with the TCM participants as soon as the report is ready.

25. Ms. Oxana Lipcanu of UNFPA updated participants on some of the activities within the project “Protection and empowerment of victims of human trafficking and domestic violence” (implemented jointly by UNFPA, UNDP, IOM and OSCE Mission). UNFPA is responsible for the activities related to the development of services for victims and potential victims of domestic violence. In August the first co-operation agreements were signed with local public authorities in five target villages in Soldanesti district and with the authorities in the town of Soldanesti. In these target communities the Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) will be consolidated so that they are able to provide adequate services at the community level or refer victims of domestic violence to services outside the community, to the district or national level as appropriate. The MDTs will receive financial support to purchase the most important equipment, furniture and literature, and MDT members including police officers, social assistants, family doctors, etc. will be trained. This support will enhance the capacities of the MDTs to better identify and assist victims and potential victims of domestic violence. Co-operation agreements will be signed with the local public authorities in the other four target districts where the project is being implemented: Rezina, Anenii Noi, Vulcanesti and Grigoriopol.

26. Ms. Stella Vinokurova introduced herself as the coordinator of the Harmony Family Centre (“Гармония”), which is a new programme started in January 2009 by the Centre for the Support and Development of Civil Initiatives Resonance. The Harmony Family Centre is focussed on preventing domestic violence and human trafficking and provides assistance to victims and potential victims. Several training events for journalists and representatives of law enforcement agencies have been organized. The Centre works with local authorities and promotes legal initiatives in the field of preventing and combating human trafficking and domestic violence in the region.

27. Ms. Vinokurova announced that a large seminar will be organized in collaboration with IOM Mission to Moldova and UNFPA in Dnestrovsk town. Participants at the seminar, who will include social workers, child care and health professionals, representatives of law enforcement agencies and local authorities, will learn about the best practices in preventing and combating domestic violence in Moldova, including the National Referral System, legal framework, etc.

28. Ms. Vinokurova continued, informing participants that in August, within the programme for developing voluntary initiatives, a seminar was organized for 25 newly recruited peer-volunteers. In September, together with other peer-volunteers, this group will visit schools in the Transnistrian region and organize informational activities on human trafficking and domestic violence prevention, HIV prevention, reproductive health, and related topics.

29. The Harmony Family Centre is publishing the magazine „ Не одна” (*Not Alone*) which contains information on organizations working in the field of anti-trafficking and domestic violence in Transnistrian region and activities in the field. Ms. Vinokurova announced that the first issue of the magazine is available for TCM participants and the contact details of the organization are indicated there. She also announced that the Harmony Family Centre launched a contest for the best media materials on the topic “Domestic violence – myths and reality”.

30. Ms. Nadejda Macari, lawyer at the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA/ROLI), announced that on 15-16 September ABA/ROLI, in collaboration with the National Institute of Justice and UNFPA, will organize two training seminars for prosecutors, judges and lawyers on the implementation of the Law No. 45 to Prevent and Combat Violence in the Family. Together with the same partners, ABA/ROLI is developing a detailed guide for prosecutors, judges and lawyers on the implementation of this law. As soon as the guide is published, copies will be distributed to TCM participants. Ms. Macari emphasized that this collaboration between ABA/ROLI and UNFPA was a result of discussions during the TCMs.

31. Ms. Otilia Bologan-Vieru asked if the guide will also include the interpretation of the law and explanations on how the protection order can be practically applied. Ms. Macari answered that the guide will provide clear and detailed explanation on how the law should be applied; it will also include, among other things, examples of good practices from other countries and recommendations for the judges on how to apply the protection order. Ms. Macari specified that the above-mentioned training will be for judges, prosecutors and lawyers only from the five target districts where UNFPA is working. However, she expressed the hope that in the future it will be possible to cover the other districts of the country as well.

32. Mr. Veaceslav Balan announced that on 9 September (the day of the TCM) a training session was being held for the operators of the trust line for the victims of domestic violence. The trust line, managed by the NGO La Strada, will be promoted through a media campaign launched in October.

33. Ms. Elizabeth Ponce commented that the NGO Vivere organized a violence prevention information campaign in Costesti village in 2007. As a result, reporting of cases of domestic violence increased significantly. However, due to lack of specialized services, victims are often not assisted. Ms. Ponce asked if someone is actually preparing the specialists who would deal with the increased number of reported cases of violence as a result of different campaigns.

34. Ms. Nadejda Macari answered that several organizations provide specialized assistance to victims of domestic violence. For instance, Causeni Law Centre is providing free legal assistance, and UNFPA is training Multi-Disciplinary Teams at community and district levels in five target districts. The above-mentioned guide on the implementation of the Law No. 45 for judges, prosecutors and lawyers will contain a list of existing services and organizations that could provide different kinds of support to victims of domestic violence.

35. Ms. Ponce commented that victims usually need long-term psycho-social assistance and that it is necessary to work with the aggressors before the prosecution. No such services exist in Ialoveni district where Vivere is working.

36. Ms. Oxana Lipcanu of UNFPA agreed with the fact that the services for victims of domestic violence and aggressors are either under-developed or non-existing. However, she responded that under the coordination of the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child, the National Referral System is now extended geographically to five target districts where the project “Protection and empowerment of victims of human trafficking and domestic violence” is implemented: Rezina, Anenii Noi, Soldanesti, Vulcanesti and Grigoriopol, as well as thematically to address domestic violence, besides human trafficking. UNFPA is focused on building the capacities of the Multi-Disciplinary Teams in those 5 target areas. Also, Ms. Lipcanu recommended that Ms. Ponce refer victims from Ialoveni district to the Casa Marioarei shelter or to the Chisinau Assistance and Protection Centre.

37. Mr. Viorel Gorceag, director of Chisinau Assistance and Protection Centre (CAPC), confirmed that CAPC offers services to which victims could be referred. The Centre provides assistance not only to victims of trafficking, but also to potential victims of trafficking. About 80% of the beneficiaries assisted by the Centre are or have been victims of domestic violence.

38. Ms. Lilia Pascal from the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child specified that the National Referral System is being implemented in 24 districts at the moment. If some of the cases of domestic violence can not be assisted in Ialoveni, the NRS National Co-ordination Unit should be contacted at the telephone number (0-22) 72 72 74 and the cases will be referred to relevant services.

39. Ms. Pascal also informed participants about the structure and role of the newly created community social assistance services that are supervising the activity of the community-based social assistants. The Ministry is finalizing the initial training for all district and community-level social assistants, including those from Ialoveni district. The training included assistance to victims of domestic violence and human trafficking. As to services for aggressors, at the moment only the Ministry of Interior has competencies in the field. Within the projects implemented in collaboration with UNFPA, a Rehabilitation Centre for aggressors is to be created in Drochia district.

40. Ms. Oxana Lipcanu of UNFPA added that services for victims of domestic violence are under development. She confirmed that one of the initiatives, supported within the joint UNTFHS project of UNFPA, UNDP, IOM and OSCE Mission, is related to the creation of a Rehabilitation Centre for aggressors in Drochia town. It is planned to develop services for aggressors in other communities as well. Study visits to Russia and Romania will be organized so that professionals from Moldova can learn about the experience in these countries of working with both victims and aggressors. Another initiative is related to developing a service in Anenii Noi to work with alcohol dependent aggressors.

41. Ms. Balan announced that the TCM is being filmed for the new cycle of thematic TV programmes *Destinies and Destinations*, addressing human trafficking and domestic violence issues. The 2009 programmes of *Destinies and Destinations* is produced within a joint project of Winrock, IOM and OSCE Mission. Six programmes will be produced by the end of 2009 and broadcast by national and regional TV channels. Mr. Balan encouraged TCM participants to get in touch with the implementing partners if they have activities that they would like to be reflected in these programmes.

42. Mr. Viorel Albu informed TCM participants that within the UNDP Project “Better Opportunities for Youth and Women” three maternal centres were created in Drochia, Cahul and Causeni. These centres have good experience in providing assistance to victims of domestic violence. The Artemida Maternal Centre in Drochia collaborates with UNFPA. Mr. Albu asked if UNFPA is planning to work with the Virginia Maternal Centre in Cahul. Ms. Lipcanu answered that UNFPA will work in Cahul and in Causeni, but she was not sure which centres exactly would be partners within the UNFPA programmes. She promised to get back to Mr. Albu with more detailed information.

43. Mr. Oboroceanu emphasized the role of the National Referral System in order for all cases of human trafficking and domestic violence to be correctly registered, referred and assisted. NGOs cannot be responsible for providing all necessary services to victims and aggressors. It is important that the MSPFC also take part of the responsibility through the Chisinau Assistance and Protection Centre and in keeping records. The Law on free legal assistance guaranteed by the state should be carefully studied, Mr. Oboroceanu remarked. In almost all districts, public lawyers are already appointed and will provide free legal assistance to victims of domestic violence.

44. Ms. Bologan-Vieru announced a change in the agenda of the TCM: after the focal issue presentation, there will be an additional presentation of the play, *The 7th Kafana* by Mr. Mihai Fusu. She then invited Mr. Lilia Pascal from MSPFC to update TCM participants on the recent activities of the Ministry.

45. Ms. Lilia Pascal reported that the MSPFC, as an implementation partner of the project “Protection and empowerment of the victims of human trafficking and domestic violence”, participated in organizing the training seminars for the MDTs in the five target districts (Rezina, Anenii Noi, Soldanesti, Vulcanesti and Grigoriopol).

46. In August the Ministry finalized the agreement between the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation on repatriation of unaccompanied children, victims of human trafficking and illegal migrants. By the end of the week the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will receive all necessary documents in order to promote the agreement for approval by the Government.

47. In July two Moldovan children were repatriated from Romania and Ukraine. Six adults were repatriated in August. By the end of September another eight Moldovan children will be repatriated from Russia.

48. On 18-19 August, the MSPFC, in partnership with the Ministry of Economy and Trade, organized a seminar on “Integration of the gender dimension in labour legislation” for the representatives of trade-unions and employers. ILO experts were invited to present international standards regarding gender equality in the work place. Participants discussed draft amendments to the Labour Code that are to be submitted to the Government for approval in September or October.

49. A seminar on “Reflecting gender dimensions in electronic and printed media” was organized for the journalists on 25 August by the MSPFC.

50. Ms. Bologan-Vieru introduced the focal issue presentation of the Chisinau Assistance and Protection Centre (CAPC) after one year as a public institution, and gave the floor to Mr. Viorel Gorceag, CAPC Director.

5. *Focal Issue Presentation on Chisinau Assistance and Protection Centre 2009—one year as a public institution*

51. Mr. Gorceag explained that CAPC (full name: Centre for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of Human Trafficking) was created in 2001 as a response to the need to provide assistance to victims of human trafficking. At that time, 99% of the beneficiaries were women repatriated from the Balkans–Kosovo, Macedonia, and Albania. The Centre was started as an implementation unit for the projects of the IOM Mission to Moldova.

52. In 2003, with the support of UNICEF, a separate wing was created for minors and mothers with children. In 2007, with the support of the Government of Moldova, a free space was allocated for the Centre (prior to that, IOM had been paying expensive rent). In 2008 the Centre was transformed into a public institution (Governmental Decision # 847 of 11.07.2008) and began to receive partial financing from the state budget.

53. CAPC is an important part of the National Referral System (NRS). In addition to providing specialized services for victims and potential victims, the CAPC staff is actively involved in providing training to social assistants and other members of the Multi-Disciplinary Teams.

54. Before the NRS, human trafficking issues were addressed by Moldovan diplomatic missions abroad, IOM Mission to Moldova, the Rehabilitation Centre and NGOs. Once the NRS was launched, important new elements were created: Multi-Disciplinary Teams providing assistance and monitoring and the NRS National Co-ordination Unit. The NRS made it possible to ensure social assistance for re/integration. This type of assistance could not be qualitatively provided before by the organizations working with victims, especially in all geographic areas of the country.

55. The CAPC rehabilitation strategy includes several elements:

- *Social assistance*: assistance for repatriation, crisis intervention, case evaluation, elaboration and implementation of individual assistance plans, referral to MDTs within the NRS, monitoring of assisted cases, etc.;
- *Psychological assistance*: individual counselling, group counselling, family counselling, overcoming crisis and post-traumatic stress, etc.;
- *Medical assistance*: diagnosis, treatment for acute diseases, ongoing treatment for chronic and incurable diseases. Mr. Gorceag specified that there is no discrimination against beneficiaries with HIV/AIDS or other diseases. Everyone receives all necessary assistance and care;
- *Legal assistance*: legal assistance in civil and criminal cases, representation in court, preparing different categories of documents, etc. In terms of providing legal assistance to victims and potential victims of trafficking, Ms. Gorceag pointed out

the lasting and effective collaboration with the Centre for Prevention of Trafficking in Women (CPTW) and the Causeni Law Centre.

56. During the first seven months of 2009, 275 persons were assisted at the CAPC: 189 persons were provided with assistance and temporary placement, 86 were assisted without placement in the Centre.

57. Categories of beneficiaries assisted during the first seven months of 2009 include:
- 36% victims of human trafficking;
 - 25% prevention cases (victims of domestic violence, other socially vulnerable categories, members of beneficiaries' families);
 - 38% beneficiaries' children;
 - 1% stranded migrants (adults with or without children identified in other countries, as well as citizens of other countries identified in Moldova).

58. The age of beneficiaries assisted during the first seven months of 2009 49% minors and 51% adults. Most of the victims assisted were women, 89%, with men making up 11% of beneficiaries in the reporting period. Mr. Gorceag specified that although it is still difficult to identify male victims of trafficking, their number is increasing.

59. Types of exploitation include:
- 46% sexual;
 - 28% labour;
 - 9% begging;
 - 1% organ transplant (no recent cases of trafficking for organ transplantation were identified, all assisted cases were "historical", i.e. took place in previous years, but were only now identified and assisted);
 - 16% transit / recruiting.

60. At present the CAPC is financed from the state budget (40%) and from the IOM programme (60%). Funds provided by IOM are used for the individual reintegration plans. The contribution from the state budget will be gradually increased over the next years.

61. Mr. Gorceag concluded his presentation with a slide providing CAPC contact details – tel: 55-30-42; fax: 92-71-37; e-mail: shelter_team@iom.md . He invited participants to ask questions.

62. Mr. Oboroceanu, Causeni Law Centre, asked if there were any dramatic changes in the activity of the Centre after it became a public institution and whether the team of the Centre would like to replicate their experience as a model for other similar services created in Moldova.

63. Mr. Gorceag answered that a public institution often has more possibilities than an NGO. After becoming a public institution, the CAPC is "under the protection" of the MSPFC and of the Government. From the financial point of view, the situation did not change, because the budget is supplemented from IOM. Also, the assistance to beneficiaries, programme or principles of work did not change. As to the question about replicating the experience of CAPC for other similar services, Mr. Gorceag stated that the team is opened for any collaboration and experience exchange. Experts from CAPC already provide training for the members of Multi-Disciplinary Teams, judges, prosecutors, police, representatives of different NGOs, and other relevant professionals.

64. Mr. Albu, UNDP Project “Better Opportunities for Youth and Women”, commented that there are insufficient specialized services in Moldova. He asked Mr. Gorceag about any disadvantages which resulted from transforming the CAPC into a public institution. Mr. Gorceag answered that the change in the status did not create any particular disadvantages for CAPC. However, all public institutions financed from the state budget (not only CAPC) are in a difficult situation at the moment. For example, the transfer of funds is sometimes delayed.

65. Ms. Nadejda Macari, ABA, asked if CAPC assisted any Moldovan migrants who became victims of domestic violence abroad, and if so, in which countries they were identified.

66. Ms. Stella Rotaru from IOM Mission to Moldova intervened to answer that such cases have received assistance. She gave an example of a Moldovan woman married to a Muslim man from the Netherlands. After moving to Holland she was severely beaten by her husband, isolated, and could not communicate with anyone. She gave birth to a child. When she managed to come to Moldova to visit her family, the local priest referred the case to IOM Mission to Moldova. The woman was further referred to IOM in the Netherlands and is now assisted by specialized services there. She received assistance to obtain a divorce, find a safe place to stay and start a new life.

67. Ms. Lilia Pascal provided a similar example of a Moldovan woman married to a Turkish man. The case was recently referred to the MSPFC and is now under evaluation. Ms. Rotaru added that some reported cases prove to be false. Sometimes relatives simply invent stories about domestic violence against a Moldovan woman married abroad, or stories about trafficking, because they hope that IOM or La Strada, or another organization, would bring the woman back to Moldova.

68. Ms. Nadejda Macari asked how this information is usually verified and whether there are local organizations (in Turkey for instance) that could actually meet the person and check the reported information. Ms. Rotaru answered that IOM is collaborating with the Hot Line 157 in Turkey, as well as with the Moldovan Embassy in Ankara and Moldovan Consulate in Istanbul. To discuss the problems of migrants who can become victims of domestic violence in Turkey, the IOM Mission came up with the idea of organizing a meeting between Turkish authorities and the Embassies of different countries including Moldova which have citizens living in Turkey. One of the problems in this respect is that the Centre for Victims of Trafficking in Turkey is not as flexible as the CAPC in Moldova. The Centre in Turkey does not assist migrants who became victims of domestic violence. Assistance is provided exclusively to victims of human trafficking, and this status must be confirmed by the law enforcement agencies in Turkey.

69. Ms. Antonina Comerzan, Terre des Hommes, asked how long a beneficiary can stay at the CAPC. Mr. Gorceag answered that usually the beneficiaries are accommodated at the Centre for one month. However, if necessary, this period could be extended. In one case, the beneficiary spent eight months in the Centre. Ms. Comerzan asked how children are identified and assisted by the Centre. Mr. Gorceag responded that some children come with their mothers who are beneficiaries of the Centre, some children are placed in the Centre after being repatriated, and some children are referred by the Ministry of Interior or other organizations. Ms. Comerzan asked how the Centre monitors beneficiaries after leaving the Centre. Mr. Gorceag answered that normally the assisted cases are monitored for one year through visits and phone calls by the CAPC specialists. In exceptional cases, beneficiaries are monitored for a longer period. The monitoring is done through community-

based social assistants or other available professionals, services or organizations, Multi-Disciplinary Teams and local authorities.

70. Ms. Bologan-Vieru thanked Mr. Gorceag for the presentation and gave the floor to Mr. Mihai Fusu to briefly present the play *The 7th Kafana*.

6. Presentation of the theatrical play *The 7th Kafana*

71. Mr. Fusu stated that “hot” social issues, such as domestic violence, violence against women, and human trafficking, should be addressed more in art. He explained that he became interested in subjects related to human trafficking in 2000, when human trafficking was recognized as a serious problem for Moldova and many Moldovan women were trafficked to the Balkans. In 2001 *The 7th Kafana* play was created, based on anonymous interviews with victims. The play has now been translated into several languages including Swedish, German, English, Russian, and French, published as a book in France and in Scandinavian countries, used as a basis for a screenplay in the USA, and presented in theatre performances in several countries including western countries of destination.

72. With the support of the Swiss Department for Development and Co-operation, IOM, and the US Embassy, *The 7th Kafana* has been shown over 100 times in different regions of Moldova. After each performance, experts working in the field of counter-trafficking and the actors hosted discussions with the audiences. Because no other similar piece existed in the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States), the team was asked to translate the play into Russian and was invited to perform in the larger cities and towns in Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia.

73. Negotiations with authorities in the Transnistrian region failed and the play was forbidden in that region. In 2009 with the support of the OSCE Mission the play was filmed (and is now available on CDs, with subtitles in English and in Russian) and performed in Russian in Comrat, Vulcanesti and Ceadir-Lunga, Gagauzia. Unlike in the Transnistrian region, the authorities in Gagauzia were very supportive.

74. The NGO Art Centre Coliseum, managed by Mr. Fusu, is focussed on social topics. The play *Family stories* performed by Coliseum in collaboration with the Mihai Eminescu Theatre addresses domestic violence; another play, *The Woman as a Battlefield* addresses violence against women. Mr. Fusu concluded that theatre, cinema, and art in general are very powerful tools in fighting against human trafficking and domestic violence. He also announced that he is now working on an anti-torture project and is looking for partners and donors to support this initiative.

75. The TCM participants watched a short (10 minute) video presentation of the play *The 7th Kafana*. Mr. Fusu explained that the main aim of this play is to help the general public understand the victims of human trafficking, and to help the victims of trafficking to overcome their fear and shame and to look for help and assistance in order to get back to a normal life.

76. Ms. Bologan-Vieru thanked Mr. Fusu for the presentation and stated that the play has a very powerful impact on the audience.

77. Mr. Oboroceanu asked if directors and actors from other countries created similar plays or movies, and why most artists are not actively involved in addressing this kind of social problems. Mr. Fusu answered that he is not aware of all existing plays or movies. However, he

mentioned that there are several good examples: the movies *Lilia 4-Ever* and *Human Trafficking*; the theatre play *In container*, written by Constantin Cheianu and performed at the Mateevici Theatre; different plays on the subject of human trafficking written by Dumitru Crudu and performed at the Satiricus Theatre; and the play *Oameni ai nimanui* by the Eugene Ionesco Theatre and supported by IOM.

7. *Any other business*

78. Mr. Veaceslav Balan announced again that a team from OWH TV Studio was filming the TCM and after the meeting the OWH studio representatives might ask some of the participants to give short interviews about their activities. Mr. Balan invited participants to take copies of the CD with *The 7th Kafana*, which was also filmed by OWH TV Studio.

79. Ms. Eylem Polat, Turkish Embassy, announced that, after working for two years with the Turkish Embassy in Chisinau, she is leaving Moldova. She thanked everyone for their collaboration and support. Ms. Polat mentioned that during the past two years she met many Moldovan people, especially young women, who were very enthusiastic about going to Turkey and other countries to look for a job or to get married. Information campaigns and awareness raising activities are important, however as long as the social and economical problems are not tackled, human trafficking and illegal migration will continue to exist, Ms. Polat concluded.

80. Ms. Bologan-Vieru thanked Ms. Polat for her work and for her good co-operation, and expressed the hope the successor of Ms. Polat will continue participating to the TCMs on behalf of the Turkish Embassy in Chisinau.

81. Ms. Rotaru, IOM Mission to Moldova, also thanked Ms. Polat for her support. Ms. Rotaru underlined that the root causes of trafficking should be tackled not only by the countries of origin, but also by the transit and destination countries, because the supply is conditioned by the existence of demand. A study on demand conducted in Turkey revealed interesting things, such as, for instance, that often Turkish men save money on food and other things in order to be able to buy sexual services at least once a week. Ms. Rotaru mentioned that, even though one could think that many women go abroad and work in the sexual industry by choice; in reality many of them simply do not see other options, as they need to support their children and their families.

82. As there were no other issues to discuss, Ms. Bologan-Vieru thanked the participants for their active participation, invited them to the October 2009 TCM, and closed the meeting.

Approved by TCM:

Date

Otilia Bologan-Vieru, Chair