

Civil Society on priorities of the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan for Georgia for 2007-2009

Objectives

This document has been created on the initiative of the Open Society-Georgia Foundation, Heinrich-Boell-Stiftung, and Eurasia Foundation and purports to intensify debates and discussion on the priorities of the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan [ENP AP]. In the opinion of supporters of the initiative, the ENP AP for Georgia should be implemented in close cooperation between different strata of society, nongovernmental organizations, the political elite, the media and other interest groups, and its implementation should rest on a broad public consensus. This is needed not only to reach the specific goals that are set out in the ENP AP, but also to ensure permanent readiness of society to opt for European integration.

State of Play – implementing ENP Action Plan in Georgia

The implementation of the ENP Action Plan officially started in 2007. After the launch of the programme, both sides, the EU and Georgia, started a lively discussion on elaboration of the instruments and annual plans of implementation of the Action Plan, and the details and timetable of implementation of specific details were agreed within this framework.

After the launch of the Action Plan, the European Commission published the *Country Strategy Paper* and *National Indicative Programme*, which defined the directions of the European Commission's activities regarding Georgia and the amount of resources to be allocated to the country for the next three years, in 2007-2010. This funding allocation for Georgia comes under the dedicated *European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument*, in which the Commission undertakes to implement and appraise individual assistance programmes for neighbouring countries. The Georgian Government, for its part, has developed the *Strategy of Implementation -2007* for the ENP AP, which outlines the measures to be implemented during the year within the framework of the ENP AP. The Commission intends use the above documents as a framework to monitor implementation of the Action Plan and appraise progress in achieving the objectives that are set forth in the documents. The civil society, for its part, is interested in taking an active part in the monitoring process and promoting an effective implementation of the appraisal process.

Involvement of the Georgian civil sector

The civil sector has been demonstrating its interest in the European Neighbourhood Policy for quite some time now. It was actively involved in the process of elaboration of the ENP AP for Georgia in 2005-2007. In September 2005, some 70 civil organisations with support from the Open Society-Georgia Foundation, Heinrich-Boell-Stiftung and Eurasia Foundation, came up with recommendations for the Georgian Government.. In the opinion of the civil society, those recommendations would be an important contribution to mutually beneficial cooperation between Georgian and the EU. As Georgian government officials have noted on more than one occasion, the government acted on many of these recommendations when working on the document, which raised the level of the civil society's responsibility for and interest in the measures that were taken within the framework of the ENP AP.

From 2006, a group for monitoring the ENP AP implementation was established on the initiative of the Open Society-Georgia Foundation, Heinrich-Boell-Stiftung and Eurasia Foundation; the monthly "European Neighbourhood Policy and Georgia" bulletin was founded; and discussion groups are held periodically on different issues of the EU-Georgia relations to foster public debate. Any interested party can take part in the discussions. Information about the activities which take place within the initiative of the three foundations is available on the www.enp.ge web site.

Scope

In this document, Georgian experts propose to the representatives of the European Commission and Georgian officials a list of measures which will address the new problems and challenges which recently emerged during the process of implementation of reforms in Georgia in the areas of **rule of law, protection of human rights, improvement of the investment environment, peaceful resolution of conflicts and sustainable development.**

This paper broadly follows the structure of the ENP Action Plan priorities, but does not reiterate any of the measures that have already been proposed a number of times in official documents. Where ENP AP priority actions are not handled (e.g. CFSP and regional cooperation), this is because the authors have chosen to make recommendations and describe in detail only those activities whose urgent implementation has been made a pressing issue by domestic developments since the adoption of the ENP AP. For example, the Georgian authorities have exercised new approaches and designed new policies in the areas of social protection, conflict settlement and sustainable development in the last year. In the authors' opinion, **acting on the recommendations in this paper will help the Georgian government focus on the most pressing current problems and take appropriate measures to tackle them, which will for its part help meet the objectives of the ENP AP.**

The Authors

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Priority Area 1: Strengthening rule of law through reform of the judicial system, including the penitentiary system and through rebuilding state institutions. Strengthening democratic institutions and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in compliance with international commitments of Georgia.

Reforming the judicial system

1. There is a need to strengthen independence and impartiality of the courts, observe the principle of non-interference in their affairs, and introduce a transparent system of selection and promotion of the judges, in particular:

- a) Ensuring transparency of the process of appointment of the judges;
- b) Ensuring proper appraisal of the candidates for judicial posts at the interview stage according to the clear-cut criteria: Education, professional skills, background and experience, other professional qualities, administrative skills, ethical principles and values, social relations (as well as communicativeness, punctuality, eloquence, etc.).
- c) Preventing isolation of the system from society and its alienation from the social environment and realities;
- d) Ensuring competition within the system.

2. All cases of pressure on courts or judges should be investigated quickly and with maximum transparency.

3. Guarantees of protection for the judges who decide to testify about their coming under pressure should be improved.

4. Guarantees of protection of witnesses who decide to testify about pressure on them should be improved.

5. Independence of the judiciary system and appropriate constitutional guarantees should be ensured by creating relevant financial mechanisms which will rule out the arbitrariness of the executive. High Court of Justice should adhere to the co-participation principle in the process of designing the court system structure, organisation chart and draft budget.

6. Judges from courts of all levels, including magistrate courts, should be represented in High Court of Justice. To take into consideration the interests of all professional groups, representatives of the defence lawyers and academic circles should also be members of High Court of Justice.

7. The judges' code of ethics should be implemented in full. Training course should be conducted on the principles and norms of the code of ethics.

8. The *Amicus Curiae* mechanism should be introduced in the judiciary system.

9. The new Code of Criminal Procedure should be adopted and fully implemented, based on the principles of competition, observation of the defendant's interests, effective investigation and public interests in accordance with the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights, European Convention on Human Rights and provisions, principles and spirit of the EU documents.
10. An educational program of professional development should be designed for the judges who are selected on a competitive basis, and mandatory periodical retraining programs and relevant courses should be introduced. A continuous retraining system, especially on human rights-related issues, should be introduced for the judges, prosecutors, and other legal professionals.
11. The schedules of court hearings and court rulings should be published on a web site.
12. An effective statistics service, which will ensure universal availability of reliable information on functioning of the courts, including on the capacity of the court system, should be established.
13. The judiciary system should be made more effective and independent by creating the effective and independent **public defender** system, and independence of its budgetary, personnel and procedural policy should be ensured.
14. The mandatory insurance principle should be applied to protect clients from the defense lawyer's inexpert services or fraud.
15. The mechanism of disciplinary actions against defence lawyers should be improved and enacted; defence lawyers should start undergoing regular retraining courses.
16. The existing plea bargaining system should become as transparent as possible.
17. A system of timely and effective execution of court rulings should be introduced based on European experience.

Protecting human rights and fundamental liberties

1. The cases of torture or other types of inhuman or humiliating treatment, which become known to the public, should be investigated without delay and in a transparent manner.
2. All instances of use of force by police, and especially the police operations resulting in death should be investigated without delay and effectively (including informing the public).
3. In accordance with the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention Against Torture, an independent and effective nationwide monitoring mechanism should be created for the penitentiaries, which should include experts and representatives of the civil society vested with appropriate powers, and its proper functioning should be ensured.
4. Legal guarantees should be created for monitoring of the penitentiary and pretrial detention facilities (Internal Affairs Ministry) by the civil society and human rights groups.
5. Recommendations of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture in the area of legislative changes should be carried out as thoroughly as possible but with consideration for the actual state of affairs.

6. Medical service should be made available to the detainees at all places of confinement as soon as they are taken there and/or immediately upon the first questioning.
7. The registry of detainees should become accessible to the civil monitoring organisations and human rights groups; daily information about acceptance of detainees with injuries to these facilities should be accessible on a regular basis to the mentioned organizations (on the proviso of keeping personal information undisclosed). The content and layout of the inmate registration logs and other documents should be regulated by law.
8. Owing to the growing trend toward overcrowding of the penitentiary facilities, state should carry out analysis/research (outside the justice system) to identify both causes and a set of measures to address this problem.*
9. Reaction to violations of property rights should be rapid at both national and local level, and mechanisms of legal settlement of problems (including the right to go to law) should be improved.
10. The legislative basis should improve to prohibit limiting or curbing the guarantees of freedom of information by law or by presidential decree. Monitoring of the requirements of freedom of information should be introduced. Strict measures should be taken to establish the principles of and current regulations on freedom of information in the public administration and record management.
12. The system of collection of the court fees should be changed in a way that it does not hinder accessibility of the courts and effectuation of justice (especially in the field of freedom of information).
13. Introduction of the system of preferences and benefits (tax benefits, funding) in the media to introduce the effective and mandatory self-regulatory mechanisms which will rule out the possibility of state regulation.
14. All individual instances involving pressure on, violence and injury against, or death of journalists or media sources, should be investigated in a timely and transparent manner.
15. Electronic transparency should be legally supported. In particular, public departments should be obligated to upload information on the internet for free use on a free-of-charge basis.
16. Fundamental studies should be carried out on the Georgian Code of Criminal Procedure and accompanying laws (law on the police, law on imprisonment, etc.) with a thorough review of the legislative changes and innovations of the last five years, especially those regarding detention, arrest, and plea bargaining provisions to make it possible to take into account the experience of manipulations with legal norms in the legislative process.
17. Intense training courses should be conducted for the judges, defence lawyers, law enforcement departments and human rights groups not only on the Georgian laws, but also on the standards and procedures that were created in compliance with the legal framework set out in Article 3 of the European Commission and are prescribed by provisions and decisions of the UN Committee Against torture.

* There is difference of opinions among experts on the importance of implementation of this clause

Priority Area 2: Improving the business and investment climate, including a transparent privatization process, and continuing the fight against corruption

Legislative changes to improve the business climate

1. The notion of purpose of the tax should be formulated correctly in the Tax Code because this will promote cooperation between the taxpayer and state, on the basis of presumption of the taxpayers' good faith.
2. Amendments should be introduced to the Tax Code to rule out ambiguity of the norms and ensure simplification and comprehensibility of the law for the business community, which will decrease the number of disputes between the businesses and tax departments.
3. The system of settlement of tax disputes should become more flexible and effective, which will promote faster, fairer and more impartial settlement of tax disputes.
4. Amendments should be introduced to the Tax Code to make it less discriminatory toward the taxpayers.
5. Compliance of the bylaws, in particular, finance minister's instructions, with the Tax Code should be ensured.
6. Compliance of the norms of the Tax Code with legal acts of higher jurisdiction should be ensured.
7. Article 2 of the Tax Code should be amended because it postulates that only those international agreements that have been ratified and enacted by Parliament can be part of the Georgian tax regulations, whereas Georgia is under obligation to fulfil all international agreements to which Georgia is a signatory, even if they are not ratified by Parliament.
8. Limitation of the right to own and use property and confiscation of property should be possible only by court ruling.
9. Legal support for transparency of the privatization agreements that have been entered to this day and that will be entered in the future should be ensured and the legal framework which regulates privatization should be improved in the following directions:
 - The degree of transparency of the privatization process should be increased at all stages, including the early stage, of decision making process by defining the detailed procedures of ensuring public awareness and participation;
 - Legal support should be ensured for auditing the entity to be privatized and, if need be, for making inclusion of the audit results in the conditions of privatization and privatization agreement;
 - Norms that will ensure effective mechanisms monitoring and public control of the obligations imposed by the privatization agreements should be established.

Other measures to improve the business climate

10. The process of modernisation of tax administration should be finalized.
11. An effective audit system and fiscal control strategy should be created.
12. Research methods should be introduced which will make it possible to develop the procedure of selective inspection of taxpayers by the tax authorities, which, in turn, will make it possible to inspect only potential offenders most of the time.
13. To improve tax administration, agreements on avoidance of double taxation of profits and capitals should be signed with all the EU member states in order to meet the requirements of the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan for Georgia.
14. An effective system of monitoring the tax administration activities should be designed and implemented, which will improve administration of the law and reduce the number of illegal imposition of tax sanctions on taxpayers.

Priority Area 3: Encourage economic development and enhance poverty reduction efforts and social cohesion, promote sustainable development including the protection of the environment; further convergence of economic legislation and administrative practices.

Recommendations related to the ongoing reforms in the social sector:

1. Transparency of the target and as-needed social assistance programmes should increase.
2. The national programme of social protection of the people who live below the poverty level, and in general, the ongoing reforms in the social sector should be planned on the basis of thorough preliminary analysis and consideration of the available resources. Better communication and coordination between government departments should be ensured, which will increase their effectiveness.
3. A continued appraisal and development system should be designed and introduced for the social protection sector (which would involve not only regular updating of the statistical and demographic data, but also appraising implementation of the programs and effectiveness of their results), which will facilitate detection of possible flaws of the new system and improvement of their effectiveness in the future.
4. Compilation of the statistical data and creation of databases with greater degree of impartiality should be ensured.
5. The population (especially the impoverished strata) should be fully informed of the state-funded services and assistance programmes (raising public awareness through large-scale and permanent information campaigns on the reforms in the sector).
6. The Georgian health care and social protection systems should develop in a manner which will allow providing medical services to both the extremely poor and the middle class, so that the middle class does not have to shoulder the entire burden of bearing medical expenses.
7. Conditions of bids for tenders to privatize health care facilities should be described in greater detail, brought into line with the objectives of the health care reforms, and the process should be more transparent.

8. Sustainability of the hospital reform and, in general, proper functioning of the hospital sector should be ensured.
9. Measures that are aimed at long-term results should be planned and implemented by state, which will result in reduction of the poverty level.

Priority measures to promote sustainable development

1. The legal framework regulating the planning system should be improved, including, among others, from the standpoint of strengthening the degree of cooperation between the sides taking part in planning and ensuring public awareness and participation.
2. The procedure of formulation of the strategy of sustainable development should be established and introduced (which will be based on OECD-DAC Strategies for Sustainable Development: Practical Guidance for Development Co-Operation, 2001) with due consideration for the need to ensure participation and involvement of the parties concerned, including the public at large.
3. The development strategy should be formulated; the strategy should form a foundation for the country's macroeconomic policy and should be approved by the Georgian Parliament.
4. An action plan should be mapped out for implementation of the sustainable development strategy, and the measures that will be envisaged by the plan should be properly reflected in the law on the national budget; effective mechanisms of public monitoring of implementation of the action plan should be introduced; Regular (biennial) assessments of the sustainable development strategy and action plan implementation should be carried out and accountability to society should be ensured to further improve and modify the plan.
5. The state commission on sustainable development should establish itself as an efficient and functional unit, with competent technical and administrative staff and appropriate financial support.
6. Training courses should be conducted for the civil servants and officials who are involved in formulation of the economic policy and their knowledge of methodology of proper formulation of the sustainable development strategy and action plan.
7. The National Environmental Action Plan should be elaborated with coordination among different departments and with public participation; conditions should be created for implementation of the plan, which implies highlighting problems and developing a feasible financial plan of implementation of measures to tackle these problems in coordination with the economic development, financial and other state institutions, which will incorporate the funds both from donors and from the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument.
8. Reports on implementation of the National Environmental Action Plan should be made public regularly.
9. Gradual introduction of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), an instrument of environment protection integration which has proven itself in Europe, in other policy sectors (agriculture, transport, infrastructure development), including:

- 9.1 All necessary legal frameworks should be designed and put in place in accordance with 2001/42/EC/SEA directive, including establishment of detailed procedures ensuring participation of all concerned parties and active public involvement;
- 9.2 Providing training in implementation of the strategic assessment of environmental effects to civil servants and decision makers in all sectors (transport, energy, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure and regional development);
- 9.3 Strategic assessment of environmental effects of the national programmes and main directions documents, including the *Government of Georgia Basic Data and Directions for 2007-2010*.
10. The legal framework which regulates the Environmental Impact Assessment (including the Law On Licenses and Permits) should be harmonized with the EU laws and standards, and first and foremost, with the EU EIA Directive 85/337/EEC, as amended by 97/11/EC, EU Guidance on EIA (1996) and Aarhus Convention, including, but not limited to:
- 10.1 Establishment of administrative procedures of ensuring public participation in environment-related decision making in line with the requirements of the EU law and Aarhus convention;
- 10.2 Mandatory procedures of assessment of environmental effects of utilization of natural resources should be introduced, and appropriate normative acts should be elaborated, passed and implemented before natural resources (mineral resources, water, forests, biodiversity sites) are privatized or before licenses are issued to use them.
11. The "polluter pays" principle should be integrated into the law and the pollution tax should be re-established (revenues from this should be directed to a special environment protection fund).

Promoting good environmental governance

1. Public participation and involvement in the decision making process should be enhanced through creation of the electronic database at the Environment Protection and Natural Resources Ministry and establishment of customer feedback (publishing information about the quality of environment and associated health risks, creating the information registry, making available the strategies, plans, draft laws and other documents in the elaboration stage).
2. Legal changes should be introduced which will ensure accessibility of the judiciary (cancellation of the fee, representation in court, etc.).
3. Judges should undergo training on the rights granted by the Aarhus convention.

Improving the environment and monitoring of the quality of the environment

1. A procedure of at least minimal environment quality monitoring should be designed and implemented along with relevant normative acts and standards (with public participation). The agencies which will carry out monitoring and sources of their funding should be determined.
2. The environment quality standards should be reviewed and brought into line with European standards.
3. Reports on the state of environment should be prepared regularly. The quality of the national report on the state of environment should be improved and the statute on its publication should be reviewed with participation of the public. The report should include descriptions of the environmental factors (air, water, etc.) in both absolute and relative terms (in accordance with European standards).
4. The 2001-2005 national reports *On the state of environment* should be published.
5. The following measures should be taken in the area of forest management:
 - 5.1 The national forestry policy should be formulated on the basis of a full inventory/categorization. The blueprint of the reform and action plan should be developed and implemented based on the policy document accordingly. The strategic environmental appraisal of the document should be carried out.
 - 5.2 The Forestry Code should be brought into line with the forestry policy.
 - 5.3 Indicators of the biodiversity of forests and sustainable forestry for the current conditions in Georgia (The Centre for Forestry Development, Environment Protection Ministry, 2006). The forestry certification system should be introduced.
 - 5.4 A blueprint of the system of conservation areas and reform of nature conservation should be elaborated in accordance with the Vienna conference (the 4th Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe) resolutions and Natura-2000 requirements to create conservation areas of local importance.
6. The following measures should be taken in the waste management sector:
 - 6.1 Waste management action plan should be developed, which will identify measures to be taken stage by stage (taking inventory of existing waste, designing a plan of waste collection and disposal for towns and villages) at the local level. Appropriate laws should be drafted and passed;
 - 6.2 The waste disposal problem should be identified during the privatization process (both "inherited" and new); an environment protection plan should be made mandatory for privatization of property as a part of the contract.
7. The following measures should be taken in the water management sector:
 - 7.1 Development of water management blueprint, which will ensure integration of the water-related laws in water conservation strategies, mechanisms of water basins management should be established, and legal framework for water consumption monitoring should be prepared;

- 7.2 The current system of sanitary norms and standards (the old Soviet MAS system) for determining maximum permissible amounts of water pollutants needs to be changed;
 - 7.3 Flaws in legislation should be uprooted in order to stringently regulate toxic discharge into water basins. The procedure and financial support of monitoring of the stationary sources of water pollution should be introduced;
 - 7.4 A comprehensive strategy of integrated management of the surface water resources should be prepared;
 - 7.5 The amount of drinking water resources in the long-term perspective should be determined.
8. The fuel monitoring program should be implemented and banning imports of leaded gasoline in the country.
 9. A plan to find and neutralize abandoned radioactive and chemical waste should be designed and implemented.
 10. Provisions of the Kyoto Protocol and UN Convention on Climate Change should be implemented, special indicators/criteria should be developed by the Georgian Energy and Environment Protection and Natural Resources ministries for the "Clean Development Mechanism" projects, which will for their part be based on the "Gold Standards" that were created in 2003 as a result of international cooperation and are considered the best.

Priority Area 6: Promoting peaceful resolution of internal conflicts

Measures to be implemented by the EU:

1. The EU should support Georgia's aspiration toward its European identity, which will increase the likelihood in the Tskhinvali region and especially in Abkhazia that the local residents will want to live in the same state with the Georgians as an "acceptable alternative."
2. Realisation at both the government and public level of the need to resolve the conflicts only by peaceful means should be promoted.
3. The EU should systematically discuss the issue of the conflicts in Georgia in its bilateral relations with Russia.
4. Defusing tensions in relations between Georgia and Russia should be encouraged.
5. Dispelling the illusion of universal applicability of the "Kosovo precedent" among the separatists should be encouraged.
6. The strategy of popularisation of the idea of European orientation in the conflict zones, especially in Abkhazia, should be worked out and implemented, including campaigns disseminating information on the advantages of the Western values and legal and administrative systems, popularising the process of European and Euro Atlantic

integration, ensuring accessibility of alternative sources of information, and ridding the local public of the Russian propaganda.

7. The EU should support the Georgian government's new initiative to create a provisional administrative unit in the Tskhinvali region and, in general, promote a peaceful dialogue with the alternative de facto authority.

8. Coordination between the EU and the United States should be improved and implementation of the peace initiatives should be supported.

9. A special EU contact group on the conflicts in Georgia should be created. Representatives of the countries which are better familiar with the region and are therefore more motivated should become members of the group and, together with the EU Special Representative, they will be able to more efficiently lobby appropriate decisions at the relevant EU institutions.

10. Direct dialogue among the Georgian, Abkhazian and Ossetian sides should be encouraged.

11. The Georgian government should be encouraged to be consistently considerate of the interests of the parties to the conflicts.

12. Creation of a new format of conflict settlement and involvement of the EU as a new participant in the negotiating process should be supported.

Measures to be implemented by Georgia

13. A blueprint for the conflict regulation should be drawn up.

14. Attempts to organise political discussions and public debate on conflict regulation should be supported.

15. The process of democratic transformation should be expedited, in order to boost trust toward Georgia among the other parties to the conflicts. From this point of view, there is a need for a fundamental reform of the judiciary system, radical improvement of the human rights protection system and establishment of supremacy of law.

16. Innovative and unorthodox methods should be encouraged to facilitate the dialogue with the parties to the conflict and to build trust.

17. Grassroots diplomacy should be supported.

Priority Area 8: Transport and Energy Sector

Bringing the energy sector policy closer to the EU energy policy objectives

1. The *Main Directions of the State Energy Policy of Georgia* document should be assessed from the standpoint of the EU energy policy. The work on reviewing this document should begin with public participation to harmonize the policy document with the principles of sustainability in the energy sector and the EU policy document, so-

called Green Document standards and objectives (competitive environment, sustainability and security).

2. The energy policy should be diversified into the rural and urban sub-sectors to increase the degree of decentralization and sustainability of the energy system.
3. Assessment of the directions of the Georgian energy sector policy and strategic environmental effects of the action and long-term plans should be carried out.
4. The plan of development of the Georgian energy sector with minimum expenses should be re-introduced, and the issue of affordability of energy to the population and businesses should be studied.
5. The energy security strategy and action plan should be developed in line with the documents (directives, action plan) currently adopted in the EU (and with consideration of the need to improve the security infrastructure in the energy sector and to make energy efficiency a priority).
6. Increasing the role of the Georgian National Energy Regulatory Commission in setting tariffs and reviewing the procedure for setting tariffs in order to review the components of returns from capital funds and wear and tear surcharges and to optimize the tariffs.
7. Amendments to the law on the electric energy and gas should be elaborated and bylaws should be drafted to draw a line between the competitive and monopolistic activities in the sector, define all market products and services that are required for safe operation, ensure growth in the number of direct customers in market, promote creation of the competitive environment, establish mechanisms of regulation of the monopolistic services, ensure protection of public interests and define obligations which should be undertaken to ensure transparency.

Security of supply and infrastructure

1. The existing energy generation facilities should be rehabilitated/modernized using the minimum expense principle.
2. Strategic reserves of energy resources should be created by building reservoirs for different types of reserves in the country or using reservoirs outside Georgia's territory.

Improving energy efficiency and using renewable sources of energy

1. Drafting of the law and bylaws on energy efficiency and renewable sources of energy should begin with public participation.
2. Carrying out legislative changes to support rehabilitation of small hydroelectric power stations and building of decentralized renewable energy generating facilities (small hydroelectric facilities and wind generators) preferentially and issuing government guarantees when such construction projects are carried out;
3. Credit facilities, grants and subsidies should be allocated for energy efficiency programs, and a national fund (so-called revolving fund) should be created which will support implementation of the energy efficiency projects;

4. The energy efficiency strategy, action plan and energy efficiency programs should be designed using appropriate financial and expert assistance from international financial institutions (the World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank).

5. A special programme should be created, which will help train highly qualified professionals both to design energy efficiency programs and build the renewable energy generating facilities and to provide engineering and technical services.