

The Law of Ukraine

“On the National Program ‘The National Plan of Action to Implement the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child’ for the Period up to 2016”

**Date of entry into force:
March 31, 2009**

The present Law shall approve the National Program “The National Plan of Action to Implement the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child” for the Period up to 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the Program).

According to Chapter I of the present Program, Ukraine as a member of the international community shall participate in activities to create a child-friendly environment where adequate development and protection for the rights of children shall be ensured with the adherence to the principles of democracy, equality, peace, and social justice, with due consideration for moral principles and traditional values of the Ukrainian society aimed at strengthening the family and moral health of children in Ukraine.

According to sub-item 1.1. of item 1 of Chapter II of the present Program, the main objectives of the present Program shall be:

- providing equal access for all women, regardless of their place of residence and social status, to high quality healthcare services that shall be rendered to pregnant women and creating the environment for safe childbirth;
- reducing the level of stillbirth by 20 percent by 2010;
- increasing the share of natural childbirth to 70 percent by 2010 as compared with 2007;
- providing for the birth of at least of 90 percent of babies in healthcare facilities that comply with the status of a “Baby-Friendly Hospital” by 2010;
- creating a safe and favorable environment for the development of the child and the preservation of the child’s health and life;
- contributing to the achievement of the level of sole breast feeding of at least 60 percent of babies aged up to six months by 2015;
- lowering the level of mortality of children aged up to five years by two-thirds by 2016 as compared with 1990;
- providing professional consultations in maternity hospitals for parents whose babies were born with congenital malformations;
- enhancing the quality and expanding the scope of healthcare services provided to minor children; for this purpose, it shall be necessary to lower the level of mortality of minor children by 10 percent by 2010;
- implementing measures aimed at preventing disability of children and improving the state of the provision of medical aid to disabled children; for this purpose, it shall be necessary to lower the level of mortality from congenital malformations of babies aged under 12 months by 10 percent and children aged under 18 years – by 10 percent by 2010;
- re-organizing the system of healthcare for children and mothers by way of prioritizing the development of a network of facilities for free primary health care;
- improving the system for specialized medical aid according to international standards; for this purpose, it shall be necessary:

a) to provide for medical examination of all children by 2010;

b) to complete re-equipment of children’s healthcare facilities and obstetrical healthcare facilities with medical equipment by way of increasing output and utilization of medical equipment that shall

be manufactured by domestic producers at least twofold by 2016;

c) to provide for the implementation of measures aimed at treating child pathologies that are currently not treated in Ukraine and to identify an effective and efficient mechanism for the relevant treatment of children in healthcare facilities of other countries.

Sub-item 1.3. of item 1 of Chapter II of the present Program shall identify the goal of rest and recreation: realization of the right of each child for rest and recreation by way of instituting a set of special measures of social, educational, medical, hygienic, and sports nature aimed at improving and strengthening the state of health of children and at organizing their interesting leisure.

The main objective shall be to preserve, develop and effectively and efficiently use the network of the relevant children's recreational facilities. For this purpose, it shall be necessary:

- to provide for recreation in children's recreational facilities at least of 50 percent and respectively at least of 70 percent of children of school age by 2010 and by 2016 respectively;
- to provide for recreation of all orphans and children deprived of parental care by 2010;
- to provide for recreation of at least of 70 percent of children from impoverished families, incomplete families and families having many children by 2010;
- to provide for the equipment of all children's recreational facilities, based on the principle of architectural accessibility, with arrangements to provide access for children and adults with limited physical abilities by 2016.

According to item 2 of Chapter II of the present Program, the goal of organizing education shall be to create equal conditions for access of every child to high quality education (preschool, secondary, out-of-school, vocational, and higher education) for the purpose of ensuring the development of the personality, the society and the state.

According to item 3 of Chapter II of the present Program, the goal of cultural and intellectual development shall be the development of creative potential of children and the organization of their aesthetic and patriotic upbringing.

According to sub-item 4.1. of item 4 of Chapter II of the present Program, the goal of social security and support for families with children shall be to create conditions for the establishment of family values, material security of families with children, the provision for their intellectual health, the training of responsible parenting, and the prevention of social orphanage.

According to sub-item 4.2. of item 4 of Chapter II of the present Program, the goal of preventing social orphanage, overcoming neglecting and homelessness among children shall be to organize effective work to prevent social orphanage, to rehabilitate homeless and neglected children, to develop family-based forms for upbringing children deprived of parental care, homeless and neglected children and children inclined to vagrancy.

The goal of protecting disabled children shall be to provide social security for disabled children, to provide high quality psychological, social and pedagogical, social and medical, legal, informational, and other services to disabled children and families that take care of them; to create conditions for realizing their personal potential (sub-item 4.4. of item 4 of Chapter II of the present Program).

Sub-item 4.6. of item 4 of Chapter II of the present Program shall identify that the goal of combating the use of child labor shall be to prevent the worst forms of child labor and to eliminate them by way of introducing effective and efficient economic, legal and social mechanisms aimed at preventing violations of the legislation related to the use of child labor.

Item 5 of Chapter II of the present Program shall provide for enhancing the role of the territorial community in the solution of issues of protecting the rights of and developing children. The goal of such enhancement shall be to enliven the participation of the territorial community in protecting the rights of and developing children by way of involving representatives of the community in activities in the interests of children.

Financing for the present Program shall be provided at the expense of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine, the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local budgets, as well as at the expense of other sources that shall not contradict the legislation of Ukraine (Chapter III of the present Program).

According to Chapter IV of the present Program, coordination of activities of bodies of executive power and bodies of local government, monitoring and evaluation of how the Program is implemented with respect to the support for the rights and freedoms of children shall be entrusted to the Inter-Departmental Commission for Issues of Childhood Protection. Information on the measures implemented and the results achieved shall be included in periodical reports of Ukraine to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall develop and approve measures to implement the present Program and the approximate volume of their financial support for the next year.

The expected results of the implementation of the present Program shall be:

- instituting a system at the state level for protecting children and preserving their health;
- creating conditions for full-fledged life in the society for disabled children and children requiring correction of physical and (or) mental development to make it possible for them to receive education and to find employment in the future;
- enlivening the process of forming a healthy way of life among children and providing for their broad involvement in physical training and sports;
- creating a system for the provision of children with psychological, social and pedagogical, social and medical, legal, informational, and other services, regardless of their place of residence;
- providing for the preservation and strengthening of the material and technical base of healthcare, educational and cultural facilities;
- reforming the system of facilities for orphans and children deprived of parental care;
- developing and instituting a mechanism for financing the needs of orphans and children deprived of parental care on the basis of the principle “money follows the child”;
- disseminating the practice of placing orphans and children deprived of parental care into families;
- creating the conditions for enlivening national adoption;
- providing protection for children who are refugees;
- reinforcing the combat against children trafficking, providing children with the protection against sexual exploitation and other forms of cruel treatment;
- enlivening activities of bodies of executive power, bodies of local government and the public regarding the support for families with children;
- popularizing the national culture and cultural heritage, national and patriotic upbringing of children and carrying out activities to reveal and to support gifted children;
- providing for broad participation of children in the life of the society;
- enlivening activities of territorial communities in the area of the protection for the rights of children;
- providing for the distribution of social advertisement and broad coverage in the mass media of issues of social and legal protection for children and the adherence to the provisions of

the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.