**UN Human Rights Council Report on "Protection of the family and the contribution of families in realizing the right to an adequate standard of living**

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The Cabo Verdean family is protected by the Constitution under the Article #16, paragraph 3, and this protection is translated into the main strategic orientation instruments of the country at the legal level, political, economic, social and cultural.

The Government of Cabo Verde aware of the building process of an inclusive, fair and prosperous society, with opportunities for all, has assumed its responsibilities in the promotion of social development of its people, particularly families living in vulnerable situations.

The Seventh Legislature of the Government Program - 2006/2011 saw the family as the repository of the values ​​of the nation and set it as priority of this sector in the formulation of integrated and multi-sectoral policies and implementation of programs focused on family, aiming at its promotion and development with its participation, in close cooperation with civil society.

In turn, the Strategic Agenda of the Government Program for the 8th legislature - 2011/2016 establishes the Social Development as a priority area through the Promotion of Development and Social Cohesion reinforcing the centrality of the family, taken as a priority transversal area and defined as a fundamental challenge the Empowerment of Families and strengthening social cohesion, and is intended to facilitate access to basic services for the implementation of coordinated and integrated economic and social policies for the most vulnerable families.

In this sense, the Government in 2009 under the Organic then the Ministry of Employment, Vocational Training and Social Solidarity, created the National Family Council - a collective body and advisory of the ministry that is charge for the family's issues, composed by representatives from various public departments, civil society organizations, various entities, civil and religious, and even by some personalities of recognized merit in family matters - by Decree-Law No. 62/2009, published in the Official Bulletin No. 47 Series I , of December 14, 2009.

The Council's mission is:

* Ensure the involvement of social partners in the formulation of a national strategy for family protection, promoting conditions that ensure the stability of households and enable the fulfillment of its social function, personal development of its members and guardian of recognized moral values by the society;
* To monitor and evaluate the actions of public bodies and the community in this area.

Still in this matter to better respond to family issues, it was created the Executive Secretariat of the National Council of the Family, which is a body that supports the Council in carrying out its functions, and works with the Office of the Minister responsible for the family area.

All this is being done with the purpose of building a nation ever more inclusive, equitable and prosperous with opportunity for all Cabo Verdean families, including family in the Diaspora.

Since the social protection has as objectives reducing poverty and support the poorest, Cabo Verde, as a developing country and middle-income, has transformed, promoted, protected and prevented the policy measures of the social protection system through several instruments, both in the field of legal framework (Legislative), and in the fields of social assistance, social transfers and social security for the family protection

All the protection system of the Cabo Verdean family has been developed and implemented through public development policies, social protection and integration expressed in various strategic tools of guidance, coordination and planning, bringing together the various projects and programs adopted by governmental public institutions, local authorities, civil society institutions, non-governmental organizations – NGOs, community associations and religious bodies.

For example, a research on social protection in Caboe Verde (ILO) "Social Protection in Cabo Verde: situation and challenges, (2010)", where it identifies a system characterized by a large number of initiatives covering a varied universe of areas of interventions, both at the central power - the existence of 95 social protection activities spread over 82 programs and 14 institutions such as the level of local Government - with about 206 initiatives and 181 programs. All this with the purpose to promote, prevent, protect and improve the living conditions and family welfare.

These data show the purpose of preventing and improving the ability of individuals and families to deal and recover from situations of social and economic vulnerability risk; contribute to the ability of people and chronically poor families to go out of poverty, deprivation and insecurity; empower poor families less active to live a dignified life, with an adequate standard of living, so that poverty does not pass from generation to generation; ensure access to essential goods and services; and advance potential individual, family and social for poverty reduction and sustainable development.

The protection of family in social terms is enshrined in our Constitution of the Republic of Cabo Verde according in its Article 69 that "Everyone has the right to social security for their protection in unemployment, sickness, disability, old age, orphans', widow and in all situations of lack or reduction of means of subsistence or capacity to work. "

Since it’s enshrined in the Constitution, particular attention has been given due to mainstreaming, complementarity and complexity of the sectoral public policies, especially in the field of social protection in health, education, job training and employment and access to housing, water, energy, sanitation and security, including children and adolescents, youth, adults, seniors and people with disabilities.

**1 – In terms of legislative:**

- Basic Law on the social protection system; Decree-laws on the social security system for employees, and integration of the civil service system into the social protection system; Decree-Law which defines the protection of maternity (maternity leave) to waive for prenatal and breastfeeding consultations; Ordinance that sets the monthly amount of child benefit, the breastfeeding allowance, the allowance for disability and funeral; Decree-Laws that creates the Mutual Fund Pensioners of Social Welfare, National System of Social Housing - SNHIS, the Social Housing Fund - FHIS; Ordinance that creates and regulates the minimum wage ensuring the employee within the labor law regime - minimum wage and the law that approves the Statute of Children and Adolescents - ECA.

**2 – In terms of Social Assistance:**

- Social protection and reintegration of children, adolescents at risk; Support for Children at Risk and Their Families; Support and integration of people with disabilities; National Health System; National Program for Reproductive Health; National Program for Food Security and Nutrition; Mental Health Programs to Fight AIDS, to Fight Leprosy, Tuberculosis and Blindness; Education and Training (children, adolescents, youth and adults) including pre-school activities, the elementary school integrated, secondary and high education; Adult Education and Training; Inclusive Education aimed at integrating children and young people with special educational needs; National Program for Professional Training; Promotion Program of Rural Socio-Economic Opportunities - POSER - Opportunities (PNLP); National System for Social Housing (SNHIS); House for All Program which aims to combat the housing deficit in all the country's islands and in urban and rural areas that include sanitation, water, electricity and green spaces.

**3 - In the field of Social Transfers:**

- Support for foster families ensuring immediate protection for children at high risk; Support centers, care and counseling, and psychosocial care to children at risk (Youth Center in Assomada, Lem Cachorro, Picos, Nho Djunga, Cha de Matias, Emergency center for children); Telecentres and Youth Centers in all municipalities of the country; Employment and vocational training centers; Institute of Employment and Vocational Training (IEFP) that through various employment centers and vocational training provide training in various fields (economic, agricultural and livestock, construction, hospitality and tourism, new information technologies and communication, etc.); Support for socio-economic integration of young people (tuition fees, income generating activities); Support for training in Income Generating Activities - AGR and Entrepreneurship); Housing support for young people; Protection program in health, through the inter-island evacuation of sick and abroad and drug coverage and supplementary diagnostic tests. Student Welfare of the Cabo Verdean Institute for Student Welfare Foundation – FICASE which providing daily hot meals in schools, payment of school transport, supply of school kits, school fees payments; Scholarship; Support for Training deprived Families of Students (provided by Solidarities Directorate General in paying tuition, transportation and allowance for study).

**4 - Social Security, there are two systems:**

- **Social Protection System of Contributory Insurance System** managed by INPS, which assures employed and civil servants, guaranteeing them benefits and social coverage (medical assistance, family benefits, funeral allowance) with a current coverage of active workers at about 38%.

Overall the compulsory social protection system aims to ensure workers and their families the benefits in loss situation or reduced ability to work in case of sickness, maternity, paternity, adoption, invalidity, old age and death. Covering equally guarantees of additional services in order to meet family expenses, as well as family allowances.

This system also ensures the maternity benefits, paternity and adoption, sickness benefits, medical assistance and medication, dental care, physiotherapy treatment, prosthetic devices and the payment of transport and accommodation expenses.

- **Social Protection System of Not Contributory System of the Social Security or Social Insurance** managed by the CNPS which cover the basic pension, social pension for disability and survivors pensions). Currently covers about 21,500 elderly, sick and persons with disability and poor person are not covered by any social security system. It includes the allocation of a social pension (5,000 escudos monthly), medical assistance and, funeral allowance.

Taking into account these indicators, we can see the progress in family protection in different areas of policy indicators, since economic and social which continues to progress in terms of human capital, economic, institutional, and social in Cabo Verde.

Zelinda Cohen

/ A Presidente da CNDHC/