**Information by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population**

Necessary measures have been taken to improve the legal framework for the social and legal protection of the older citizens in accordance with international standards, as well as recommendations of the Regional Strategy on implementation of the principles of the Madrid International Action Plan on Aging and the Vienna Conference of Ministers on Aging Problems.

The Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Social Service" was adopted on 30 December 2011, in order to regulate legal, economic and organizational bases of the state policy on the social service delivery for persons living in difficult conditions, including older persons in Azerbaijan and other issues related to this area. According to the law, persons who have reached 70 years of age are considered as older persons. The activities consisting of medical, social, psychological, legal assistance, home care, catering organization and assistance in social services institutions, regardless of the type of property, organizational and legal form are included in the law.

According to the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Social Service", older persons have the right to appeal for social services, the possibility of rendering social services, the rules and conditions, the form and types of social services, as well as receiving information about their rights and obligations.

1 October – International Day of the Older Persons has been celebrated on a state level since 1993 in Azerbaijan. On the eve of this day, complex measures are being undertaken to strengthen the social protection of older persons and provide decent living conditions and also to cover the full range of state protection for those who forced to loneliness and helplessness for certain reasons.

State Social Protection Fund under the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan ensures comprehensive state protection for older persons. All the conditions for the welfare of the older persons are provided in this institution, such as a living space equipped with the necessary furniture and equipment meeting the sanitary and hygienic requirements, clothing, bedding sets in compliance with certain standards and expiration dates and 3 times food per day.

In addition to the major overhaul and reconstruction works, the two new building with a five-store for 170 persons has also been constructed. Relevant measures have been taken to provide better quality social services to older persons in accordance with the standards of advanced international practice and appropriate conditions, libraries and sports halls have been set up in order to organize their leisure time. older persons use freely domestic appliances, radio-television devices, musical instruments, books and board games here. In 2018, 244 older persons were provided with social services, of which 118 were men and 126 were women.

According to the "Regulation of home-based (mobile) social services" approved by Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan number 108 dated 22 April 2014, home-based (mobile) social service is provided for older persons who are not living in the same dwelling place with their dependent relatives or legal representatives, and who are in need of social services by region (city) departments of the State Social Protection Fund under the Ministry.

Thus, 10420 persons were provided social services at home by 1183 social workers in 2014. There also legal advice assistance rendered to them, along with various public-catering, commercial and communal services. Professional development courses are regularly organized to improve the skills of specialists in the social, household, medical and other services provided to elderly citizens.

According to the "Regulation on placement of persons (families) living under difficult conditions at the state social service institutions" approved by Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan No 320 dated November 5, 2013, 222 persons, who doesn't have the self-service ability because of his/her illness, disability or ageing and who have no relatives capable to work or legal representatives to support and take care of them, have been placed in the social service institution of the State Social Protection Fund under the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan.