



PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY
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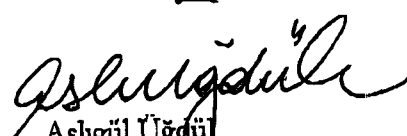
23 December 2008

Dear Ms. Special Rapporteur,

As you may recall, we have forwarded to your Office a brief note in response to the questionnaire on cash transfer programmes on 16 December 2008, with reference to the Note dated 1 October 2008 (Refer: Q1/08).

Please find attached an additional note prepared by the Turkish State Planning Organization in response to the questionnaire mentioned above. I believe that it will provide comprehensive and detailed information on some of the questions in the questionnaire.

Hoping that the additional information will be useful for study, please accept, Ms. Special Rapporteur, the assurances of my highest consideration.



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Minister Counsellor
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Encl. 1

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23 DEC 2008

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONNAIRE**Answers 1. and 2.**

- 1) Assistances under the Law No. 2022: Under this Law, which has been in vigor since 1976, stipends are paid to the needy citizens over 65 and the disabled. This social assistance program aims to compensate the poverty particularly incorporated with the old age and disability, and is implemented by Social Security Institution (SGK).
- 2) Assistances under the Regulation of In Kind and Cash Assistance by the Social Services and Child Protection Institution (SHCEK): Under this program, in kind and cash assistances are extended -to the best of the capacity of resources- to the people and families who have difficulty in sustaining their lives even at I lie subsistence level. Priority is given to the children in need of protection by the social assistance programs implemented by SHCEK.
- 3) Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT): This comprises the stipends paid to the families of the poor children on the condition that they continue their education and have their regular health controls done. This assistance program is implemented by I he Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations (SYDVs) organized in 931 provinces and townships (their number is expected to be elevated to 973 by the Law No. 5747).
- 4) Assistances given under the By-law 227: Needy people arc stipended by the General Directorate of Foundations under the decisions of the Regulation of Stipends for Needy and Foundation- *Imaret* (Alms house). Scholarships are also given to needy secondary education children under the decisions of Scholarship Regulation.
- 5) Scholarships under the Law 2684: Given by the Ministry of National Education (MoNE) for the successful students deemed in needy condition in primary and secondary education.
- 6) Scholarships under the Law 5102: Given by Higher Education Credits and Student Hostels Institution (YURTKUR) for the students attending higher education institutions.
- 7) One-time financial assistances: Given by SYDVs in casual instances under the Law No. 3294.
- 8) Assistances made by the Municipalities: The Municipalities can also provide assistance under the Municipality Law No. 5393. They decide how to implement their programs on their own.

Answer 3.

3-a) Applications for admissions and allowances procedures of assistances under the Law No. 2022 shall be carried out, having their reorganizations completed as required by the Law No. 5797, by the Social Security Provincial Departments and Social Security Centers. Currently, for the assistances given under the Law No. 2022, applications are admitted by the relevant units of governorships and local governments. In case of an eligibility condition, the decision thereof is transmitted to Social Security Institution (SGK), and thereafter SGK decides whether it is appropriate or not to give assistance to applicant upon the examination of relevant documents. The applicant remains to receive assistance unless an information regarding the termination of eligibility is notified.

3-b) For the assistances under the Regulation for In Kind and Cash Assistance by SHCEK, admissions are managed by the Provincial Social Assistance Departments and the

subsidiary institutions of SHCEK (such as growing-up hostels, day care centers) and investigation of eligibility is carried out by these institutions. The decision of assistance is taken by Provincial Social Assistance Departments, upon the expertise report, if the amount of assistance approved is under a certain limit, or by SHCEK if above that. For the time-bound assistances realized under this framework, a social investigation is conducted for the recipient family six months later than the inception of the assistance, and the assistance is renewed for another year if the condition of eligibility continues. Assistance period can also be extended for an additional two years upon the termination of the first year. Actually, assistance period can be extended each two years as long as the eligibility continues. The said assistance is given the applicant once in a month.

3-c) Admission of applications and investigation of eligibility are carried out by SYDVs and information obtained upon investigation are conveyed to General Directorate of Social Assistance and Solidarity (SYDGM) via e-mail and information is assessed through a scoring formula SYDGM concludes eligibility upon the said assessment and the applicant benefits from the CCT assistance if he or she is needy. The eligible person receives the said assistance monthly.

3-d) Applications for stipends for needy and scholarships by General Directorate of Foundations can be made to Regional Departments of Foundations. Assessments of the applications are made by the General Directorate of Foundations. Assistances are given monthly for one year. The person should reapply to benefit from the assistance for another year.

3-e) In order to benefit from the scholarships offered by MoNE applicants whose household income is under a certain level enter an examination made by MoNE. Applications for this examination made to the school directorates. Payments are made quarterly to those who succeeded in the examination. Scholarship is maintained until the student completes his or her secondary education so long as the condition of being needy persists.

3-f) Applications are made to YURTKUR through the internet in order to benefit from the scholarships offered by it. The applicant student can benefit from the scholarship in case he or she meets the requirements (such as not having a scholarship from another institution or organization and not being paid by a minimum wage or a monthly income higher than that). Scholarships are paid monthly and maintained until the undergraduation of the student unless he or she becomes unsuccessful.

3-g) In order to benefit from one-time financial assistances, applications are made to SYDVs. SYDVs conduct a social investigation in order to determine the household's condition of being needy and decide whether or not to render assistance following the results therefrom.

3-h) The municipalities decide how to implement their programs on their own.

Answer 10.

Delivery institutions of social assistance and its type	Eligibility Criteria
SGK (Old Age Pension- Disability Allowance)	To have an income lower than the amount that is calculated by multiplication of an indicator number specified by Budget Law each year with and a coefficient applied for wages of government officials
SHCEK (cash-in kind assistance)	No specified eligibility criteria. Type and amount of social assistance is determined according to the result of a social investigation report covering social and economic conditions of the applicant.
SYDGM (CCT)	The state of neediness of the applicants is determined through a scoring formula.
Directorate General of Foundations (Stipend for needy and Scholarship)	To have an income lower than the amount that is calculated by multiplication of the 400 indicator number with the base wage coefficient for government officials
MoNE (Scholarships)	To have a per capita share amount from the annual income of family lower than 4 folds of the lowest school dormitory fees of MoNE
YURTKUR (Scholarships)	Students who do not receive student stipend from another institutions, who do not receive orphan's pension or any assistance in this kind and who has not an income higher than the minimum wage
Directorate General of Social Assistance and Solidarity	Type and amount of social assistance is determined according to the result of a social investigation report covering social and economic conditions of the applicant.

Answer 12.

- As of the end of 2007, the amount of old age pension given under the scope of 2022 is 76.6 YTL per a month, the amount of disability allowance varies between 153.3 YTL and 229.9 YTL per a month based on disability degree of the person. These amounts are calculated by the multiplication of 1600 indicator number with base wage coefficient for government officials.
- As of the end of 2007, the amount of monthly assistance, given under S H C E K Regulation on Assistances in Kind and Cash, 183.73 YTL. This amount is calculated with a formula based on the 40 percent of the highest salary given to government officials.
- As of the end of 2007, the amounts of CCT for girls and boys at primary education are 22 YTL and 18 YTL per month, respectively. For girls and boys at secondary education these amounts are 39 YTL and 28 YTL, respectively. The amount of health assistance is 17 YTL per child per month.
- Poverty allowance paid by Directorate General of Foundations is 251 YTL as of the end of 2007. The amount of student stipends is 50 YTL per month. These amounts are calculated by the multiplication of 400 indicator number with base wage coefficient for government officials.

- The amount of monthly student stipend paid by MoNE is 58 YTL as of the end of 2007. This amount is calculated by the multiplication of an indicator number changing each year with the base wage coefficient for government officials. While the Indicator number is 1200 for 2007, it is 1300 for 2008.
- The amount of monthly student stipend paid by YURTKUR is 150 YTL for undergraduate students, 300 YTL for masters' students and 450 YTL for PhD students. Information regarding the delivery frequency of these payments is given under the 3rd Question.