



შენიშვნა: გაეროს განვითარებასთან და  
სხვა საერთაშორისო ორგანიზაციებთან  
საქართველოს მუდმივი წარმომადგენლობა



MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA GÉORGIE AUPRÈS  
DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES ET DES AUTRES  
ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES A GENÈVE

N 8/6 -02

January 22, 2010

Dear Sir/Madame,

Referring to your letter of November 20, 2009 (reference: poverty 2009 ER) I  
have the honor to transmit the response of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social  
Affairs of Georgia to the questionnaire on the issue of "social protection of older persons  
from a human rights perspective."

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

  
Giorgi Gorgiladze

Ambassador

UN Independent Expert on the  
Question of Human Rights and  
Extreme Poverty

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CH-1211 Geneva 10

Enc: 2 p.

OHCHR

25 JAN 2010

Recipients: 

### (i) The legal and institutional framework

1. a) The only eligibility criteria for receiving the pension is age 60 for women and 65 for men, it does not take into account the nature of the occupation (e.g. formal or informal employment)
- b) There are no restrictions (including a qualification period) for receiving the pensions
- c) It is a non-contributory programme (pension scheme)
2. The programme's (pension scheme's) regulatory framework is the "Law on State Pensions" and Decree # 46/n of the Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia issued on February 10, 2006.
3. a) The main governmental body which conducts design and monitoring activities of the programme (pension scheme) is the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia. Responsible for implementation of the programme is Social Service Agency (under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs). The agency has branches on regional and district levels.
- b) Civil society organizations were involved in the elaboration process of the "Law on State Pensions".

They provided with consultations, proposals and comments.

### (II) Programme costs and coverage

4. According to the 2009 data number of beneficiaries of the programme (pensioners who receive old age pension) is 654 931 persons, 450 157 out of them are women, and 204 774 men.

| Age                        | Older than<br>79 | 75-79   | 70-74   | 65-69   | 60-64  | other | total   |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-------|---------|
| Number<br>of<br>pensioners | 106,707          | 118,517 | 183,118 | 146,402 | 97,669 | 2,518 | 654,931 |

Collecting data on profile of pensioners' ethnicity or origin does not occur.

5. The programme covers all geographical areas of Georgia (except Abkhazia, and so called South Osetia due to the political confrontation of local de facto governments).
6. Annual budget of the programme (pensions' expenditure) is approximately 635 mln. GEL. It constitute 3,7 % of the GDP (2008).

7. The programme is financed directly from the state budget. External resources for this programme are not used.

8. Programme covers all population of Georgia and it is accessible for all persons who meet certain legal conditions (except Abkhazia, and so called South Osetia).

9. Minimum amount of old age pension is 80 GEL. Average monthly nominal earning is 531 GEL (1 quarter of 2009).

### **(III) Implementation procedures**

10. After the applying for old age pensions, the old age cash benefits transfer directly to the private account (in private bank).

11. Information about the programme is available in State language. All information is provided by Social Service agency. In case of requirement all main ethnic minorities can receive information on their own languages.

12. In connection to the pension, the beneficiaries can receive cash benefit for service years and other services (for example day care service) they also can participate in all other state social programmes if they meet certain conditions (for example: they can apply for targeting social assistance if they are under the poverty line).

13. Beneficiaries of the programme have access to other public services at special conditions. (for example: if they are under the poverty line, they have health insurance).

### **(IV) Monitoring mechanisms and procedures**

14. Social Service Agency has internal monitoring function for the implementation of the programme. The Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia also analyses the effectiveness of the programme.

15. According to the "Law on State Pensions" liability for the infringement statutory requirement are determined by the general Georgian legislation.

16. N/A

### **(V) Existing studies and evaluations of old age pensions**

17. European commission – Georgia. Support to the pension reform in Georgia.

18. N/A