The Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and in reference to its Verbal Note of 22 November 2011 (Reference ID/LOH/Res18/12), has the honour to transmit herewith the response of the Government of Georgia to the request for information concerning the human rights-based approach of the Government of Georgia to policies and programs to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity, as provided in Human Rights Council Resolution 18/2.


Enclosure: one page

28 December 2011

United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva
Information concerning the human rights based approach of the government of Georgia to policies and programs to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity

The contribution from the Government of Georgia

The Government of Georgia herewith submits the information concerning the technical guidance used by the Government of Georgia in its work to eliminate maternal mortality and morbidity requested by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The human rights-based approach of the Government of Georgia to policies and programmes to reduce preventable maternal mortality and morbidity, as well as in other areas of health care is based on the guiding principles outlined in the State Health Care Strategy of Georgia 2011-2015 and the Action Plan.

Based on these principles, the Government of Georgia has taken sustainable steps over the decade in order to achieve the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity. As a result, the rate of mortality has been substantially reduced (in 2000 maternal mortality rate on every 100 000 births was 49.2, while in 2010 it was reduced to 19.4):

- Based on the Action Plan the Government has taken relevant steps to improve and renovate the infrastructure.
- The Action Plan identifies the availability of qualified midwives across the entire territory of Georgia.
- The state cooperates with international organizations in order to ensure the lifelong education of the medical personnel in the area of women’s health, including family planning and emergency medical treatment. The state program “village doctor” has made the services of the family doctor accessible throughout the whole country.
- The state ensures the accessibility of medical treatment and education free of charge. This includes basic midwifery services, such as antenatal services and routine screening to prevent the spread of infections. The emergency midwifery services, as well as the management of complicated pregnancy and childbirth, are ensured. Moreover, since 2011 the screening of the tumour diseases of the reproductive system is available across the country.
- One of the priorities of the accessibility of the health care system is the reduction of poverty and the protection of vulnerable groups.