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**“DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED
SOCIAL SERVICES FOR EXPOSED
FAMILIES AND CHILDREN”**



This project is implemented by
the EveryChild Consortium

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RESULT 2.1

**MONTHLY SURVEY OF THE NEW REGULATIONS AND
DRAFT REGULATIONS RELATED TO
CHILD CARE AND THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

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I. General provisions

In September 2007, Verkhovna Rada and President of Ukraine approved none regulations for the exposed families and children care and, correspondingly, the Project objectives.

II. Expected impacts for the Project objectives

1. The developments in Ukrainian legislation in September 2007 did not concern the procedures of placement of orphans and children removed from parental care.

2. As for public social allowances, CMU Order N 801-p of September 27, 2007, set forth the allocation of additional subventions assigned for public social allowances for orphans and children removed from parental care, and compensations for parental carers and foster parents for delivery of social services FTCH and foster families, under the principle „money follows child” for all regions of Ukraine; the total amount of the subventions is 5,215 mln. UAH

3. A few other legal developments in September 2007 were noteworthy for the Project objectives.

3.1. The model regulations of services for children as divisions of oblast, Kyiv and Sevastopol city state administrations were approved with CMU Order N1068 of August 30, 2007. Heads of state administrations shall supervise these services as divisions that coordinate activities of other local government agencies involved in social protection of children. Besides, these services’ liabilities include keeping public statistics concerning children, control over implementing the legislation on custody, adoption and other forms of children placement, representation of children’s interests in court proceedings and certain other functions. The same CMU Order approved the model regulations on services for children in district, district in Kyiv and Sevastopol city state administrations, too.

3.2. CMU Order N 1087 „On advisory bodies in family issues, gender equality, demographic development and trafficking prevention” of September 05, 2007, set up Coordination council headed with the minister for family, youth and sports. This Council is in charge, particularly, for public education on implementing the public policies for family

issues, gender equality, demographic development and trafficking prevention; setting taskforces and expert groups for preparing proposals related to public policies as well as for contributing to yearly official reports in these areas.

III. Legislative proposals in Verkhovna Rada

During September 2007, Verkhovna Rada worked in its factions and committees only. Thus, none draft laws related to children's rights protection and, correspondingly, the Project objectives were reviewed then.

The draft law „On the national budget of Ukraine for 2008” (N 4000 of September 14, 2007, submitted by Cabinet of Ministers) is subject to the review under VR Resolution N 1254 of September 20, 2007. Meanwhile, it is the newly elected parliament that is to pass this bill.

The most important provisions of this draft law for the Project objectives are as follows:

- 1) Increase in public allowances for families with children funded from the subventions from the national budget to local budgets: for first child – 11.700 UAH, for second child – 25.000 UAH, for third and further child – 50.000 UAH. One-time allowances for birth of first child amount to 4.800 UAH, second child – 4.840 UAH, third and further child – 5.000 UAH. The rest of the allowance for first child shall be paid within next 12 months, for second child – within 24 months, for third and further child – within 36 months. This rest shall be paid in equal amounts under the procedure to be set by CMU (article 51);
- 2) transfer subventions from the national budgets to local budgets for public social allowances for orphans and children removed from parental care, and compensations for parental carers and foster parents for delivery of social services FTCH and foster families, under the principle „money follows child” amount to 99,6 mln. UAH (article 41);
- 3) raise living minimum amount for children from 6 to 18 years old: from January 1, 2008 – 633 UAH per month, from April 1 - 643 UAH, from October 1 – 658 UAH (article 58);
- 4) raise stipends for students of professional schools and educational institutions of I-IV accreditation levels that used to be orphans or removed from parental care, correspondingly, to 500 and 1060 UAH per month (article 60).

However, it is noteworthy that the registered version of the draft law has not incorporated any provision mentioned by President Decree N 849 of September 12, 2007 „On the Council for National security and defense of Ukraine Decision of September 4, 2007 „Guidelines for public funding activities to improve living conditions of citizens in 2008””. In particular, CMU failed to incorporate some specific provisions in the draft law on the national budget of Ukraine in 2008, while from January 1, 2008, the government was advised to:

- 1) provide a new type of public social allowances for families with five or more children amount to 50% living minimum monthly per child of the relevant age;
- 2) pay stipends for students of professional schools and any other accredited educational institutions who used to be orphans amount to two living minimums per month;
- 3) grant additional social benefits for families with five or more children, including urgent granting social housing for families and alone parents with five or more children, or if three or more children were born once; fund premium for special merits up to 35-40% of basic pensions for mothers who gave birth to five or more children and upraised them until six years, as well as for females having the honorable title „mother hero”; take affirmative actions for enlisting children from families with five or more children in all accredited educational institutions and exempt these students from paying tuition fees.

