



## PRESS-RELEASE

### *PROTECTION OF WOMEN - MIGRANT WORKERS RIGHTS*

**Dushanbe, 13.03.2014 - *Over the past five years, female labor migration has been increased in Tajikistan. The number of women leaving country for migration consist of 11 to 15% out of total amount of labour migrants.***

Despite the growth in female labor migration in Tajikistan, gender and migration policy RT do not consider women migrant workers interests. Women are less independent in making decisions about migration, they have limited opportunities in improving skills, job search and use earned money, in their communities due to the influence of gender stereotypes women migrant workers are often discriminated against.

Learning the special needs of women migrant workers the UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women has developed and adopted the Recommendation number 26 establishing obligations of States under the "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women" (CEDAW) against women migrant workers.

Given that the situation of women migrant workers and women members of migrants' workers families insufficiently studied yet in RT and detailed information about the implementation of Tajikistan with its obligations under CEDAW against women migrant workers and their families is poorly lit, the Human Rights Centre in partnership with Public Foundation Panorama held a public monitoring of compliance with the rights of this category of persons. Monitoring data partially included in the subject report of HRC, which was directed to the UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Committee). In addition to that partner organizations of HRC - PO Law and Prosperity and Network of Women Living with HIV is also sent to the Committee information on the status of family members of migrant workers from the perspective of migration as a risk factor stateless situation and situation of labor migrants' wives as a risk HIV/AIDS infection. Upon the review, the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in its concluding recommendations to Tajikistan noted to pay attention to the needs and take measures to respect the rights of these categories of women. In addition, the Committee included a separate recommendation affecting these groups of women who need special attention by the state.

Given the fact that Tajikistan has developed the National Plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, PO HRC and its partners PO Law and Prosperity and Network of Women Living with HIV, scheduled a roundtable to improve awareness of decision-makers about the problems of women - migrant workers and women - members of migrant workers' family for the implementation of their special needs in policy, legislation and practice of RT.

The following is scheduled in the Round table:

- Presentation of the results of public monitoring about rights of women - migrant workers from Tajikistan, which was conducted in June - August 2013 by HRC.
- Discussion of migration issues as a factor of risk stateless and risk infection HIV/AIDS wives of migrant workers.
- Discussion of the final recommendations of the UN Committee under CEDAW and the National Plan of RT to the recommendations of the UN CEDAW.
- Making recommendations for improving the situation with regard to the rights of women migrant workers and women - members of migrants' workers family.

This roundtable will be conducted within the "Migrant Workers and Their Families: Empowered institutions - protected rights" project, financed by the European Union and implemented by DCA Central Asia in partnership with PO "Human Rights Center", PO "Ghamkhori" and PO "MHAIDS".



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The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders. To this end the EU is active in Tajikistan since 1992 and provides approximately EUR 25 million annually in development assistance.