

**JIM / JAP Conference**  
**"Impact of the Economic Crisis on the Republic of Croatia"**

**Conclusions**  
**JIM SESSION**

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| <b>SOCIAL WELFARE</b>   |
| <p>➤ <b>The new Social Welfare Act should:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reform the cash benefits system in order to make the procedure easier and faster as well as better targeted to the rights (to change the equivalent scale in the favour of single person households and single parents households with one child).</li> <li>• Introduce work activation of work able social assistance beneficiaries (the introduction of new programmes that will help social assistance to return to the labour market; to implement public works; to give the opportunity to social assistance beneficiaries to continue receiving benefits for a short period after employment, subsidies for employment costs of the long term unemployed social assistance beneficiaries)</li> <li>• Support the process of further deinstitutionalization</li> </ul>   |
| <p>➤ <b>Deinstitutionalization and decentralization processes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop a Master Plan for transformation of social institutions according to the needs and differences of the beneficiaries and to develop a three-years budget plan for the transformation of institutions</li> <li>• To encourage social services on the county level</li> <li>• To develop a social services network based on the assessment of priorities using the 'bottom up' approach</li> <li>• Social contracting with clearly defined conditions and criteria for services providers implementing and supporting the new approach and the implementation of social services standards.</li> <li>• To form intensive coordination of MSES, MFAWVIS, MHSW with the aim of adjusting strategic goals in the transformation and the deinstitutionalization processes (services of priority).</li> <li>• To integrate all components that have come out from the former reforms implemented by the MHSW, with the purpose of qualitative legislation and institutional reform</li> </ul> |
| <p>➤ <b>Homelessness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conduct an extensive survey on homelessness in transition countries and the causes of this problem as it is a relatively new phenomenon</li> <li>• To conduct an extensive qualitative survey (based on the experiences of the homeless, their needs and ways to satisfy them).</li> </ul>   |
| <p>➤ <b>Child benefits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To solve the issue of double residence and/or to identify the incomes of this group of beneficiaries)</li> <li>• All children with the severe disabilities should receive benefits, however in different amounts, according to the level of household income.</li> <li>• The budget line for the income census or the amounts of benefits should be adjusted with the annual increase of living expenses</li> <li>• To give back the child benefit rights to students; and to introduce child benefits according to age of a child</li> </ul>   |
| <b>HEALTH PROTECTION</b>  |
| <p>➤ <b>Primary health care</b></p> <p>According to the National Health Care Development Strategy 2006-2011 it is necessary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the efficiency of the primary health care system as well as strengthening</li> </ul>   |

- the community based health care institutions as basic primary health care institutions
- To improve the efficiency of the emergency medical services through its reorganization

➤ **Identification of possible areas of corruption in the health care system**

For this purpose it is necessary :

- To improve legal and institutional frames for the efficient and systematic fighting and prevention of corruption in the health system
- To strengthen capacities of the health system by modernizing outdated equipment and facilities
- To provide permanent education and specialization of medical workers
- To further improve the transparency of the 'waiting lists' as well as increasing the transparency of the health system in general
- To work on a better and more precise regulation of legislation that regulates the conditions under which doctors employed in state health care institutions may provide health care services within their private medical practices

**EDUCATION AND LONG LIFE LEARNING**

- The education reforms should be conducted according to the conception of lifelong learning, based on strategic and legal frameworks
- Use international experiences in developing lifelong learning strategies
- Similarities between the Croatian and international environment regarding strategic goals and priorities and adjustment obligations, need to be integrated in a strategy

**NATIONAL MINORITIES**

- It is required to introduce statistic programmes for monitoring of the implementation of legal acts that assert minorities' rights and measures for their implementation
- To work on setting up trust
- To foster local action multi- sector groups for employment
- Targeted co-financing of women's entrepreneurship for members of minorities
- To develop social entrepreneurship