



Pressrelease

Regional consultation aims to enforce the implementation of the Law on Early and Preschool Education and Care in Adjara

TBILISI, Georgia, 17 July, 2017. The Coordination Council established by the Parliament to oversee the progress in implementation of the Law on Early and Preschool Education and Care, the Legal Issues Committee of the Parliament of Georgia and UNICEF are holding the first regional consultation meeting on 17 July, 2017 in Kobuleti, Georgia to raise awareness of municipalities of the Adjara region on the preschool system reform.

The forum brings together 60 representatives from different ministries, governors and sector managers from the Adjara municipalities and aims to raise awareness and build capacity of municipalities by sharing detailed information about the Law, standards and strategies to overcome system challenges for ensuring quality pre-school education for all children in Georgia.

The implementation process is crucial for realizing the main principles of the law in practice. In order to support the implementation of the Law, UNICEF has provided technical support to the ministries to develop the following national standards: Early and Preschool Education National Standards; Professional standards for early and preschool caregiver-pedagogues; Early and Preschool Infrastructure and Physical Environment Standards; Technical Regulations on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Preschools and Technical Regulations on Nutrition for Preschools. These standards will have to be approved by the Government of Georgia in October 2017.

UNICEF has also provided technical support to the Tbilisi City Council in the development of the following normative acts on: Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Systems; Preschool Institutions Internal Monitoring and Evaluation Systems; Job Instructions, Behaviour and Ethical Norms; Establishing Professional Standards for Preschool Personnel; Establishing Qualification Requirements for Public Preschool Directors.

The first-ever Law on Early and Preschool Education and Care was adopted by the Parliament of Georgia in 2016. The Law introduces legal provisions for wide-scale system reform promoting child rights. The Law foresees the introduction of a pre-primary year for all five-year-old children to improve school readiness, mechanisms for the prevention of violence against children and development of the national standards in education,

hygiene and sanitation, nutrition, physical environment in pre-school institutions. The Law also envisages increased responsibilities of the central authorities to monitor the national standards as well as supports municipalities to improve governance, quality and access to inclusive pre-school education. To make the new Law effective, it is essential to establish a national system for pre- and in-service training of preschool educators.

In 2017 the Parliament Legal Issues Committee established a Coordination Council to oversee the progress of implementation of the Law by the government entities at central and local level. The Council strives to share knowledge and provide technical guidance to key stakeholders about effective and efficient implementation of the Law across the country.

For further information, please contact:

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