**Summary of the**

**Activity in the system of delivery of the state guaranteed legal assistance in 2013**

During 2013, the National Council for State Guaranteed Legal Assistance (hereinafter as NCSGLA) met in **9 regular sessions and an extraordinary one**. The NCSGLA adopted **54 decisions** in order to assure the functionality of the legal aid system. Under the law of state guaranteed legal aid, Territorial Offices of the NCSGLA have provided emergency legal assistance (arrests in criminal and misdemeanor procedures – **2699**) and qualified legal assistance (33569 cases, of which 31454 criminal cases and 2115 non-criminal cases/civil, administrative and misdemeanor/), receiving legal assistance guaranteed by the state **37007** **persons** (including 1948 children, 4060 women).

Thus, in 2013, the number of beneficiaries of legal assistance guaranteed by the state increased with **8%** relative to number of beneficiaries of legal assistance guaranteed by the state in 2012, and with 88% relative to 2008.

In 2013, **490 advocates** were involved in the process of delivering legal assistance guaranteed by the state, including **12 public defenders**, **11 specialized advocates** in delivering legal assistance guaranteed by the state to children, **10 specialized advocates** in delivering legal assistance guaranteed by the state to asylum seekers, refugees, beneficiaries of humanitarian protection, stateless and stateless applicants and **13 specialized advocates** in delivering legal assistance guaranteed by the state to persons with mental disabilities.

In the month of January 2014, **32 paralegals** were involved in the delivering primary legal assistance in 32 communities from Republic of Moldova within the project „Legal empowerment of rural communities through a network of community-based paralegals”, implemented by the Soros Foundation Moldova, with the financial support of Swedish Government. One of the achievements made ​​in this regard in 2013 is nationwide expansion of paralegal network. Thanks to the collaboration between the NCSGLA, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, and Soros Foundation Moldova was possible transition to **partial funding by the state** of **15 paralegals** under a contract of delivering primary legal assistance services signed with the Territorial offices of the NCSGLA.

During 2013, the NCSGLA signed **collaboration agreements** in order to improve an effective legal assistance guaranteed by the state. Thus, Territorial office Bălţi of the NCSGLA signed a collaboration agreement with **the "University Legal Clinic Bălţi".** As well, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the NCSGLA, **Bureau of Migration and Asylum of the Ministry of Internal Affairs** and **NGO “Advocates’ Law Centre”**. In this context, the parties agreed on organization of delivering the primary and qualified legal assistance guaranteed by the state to foreign citizens and stateless persons on which was ordered the detention by placing them in the Foreigners Temporary Placement Center. Not less important is the collaboration agreement signed between the NCSGLA and **the Institute for Penal Reforms**.

In order to ensure the quality of legal assistance guaranteed by the state, the NCSGLA in collaboration and with the support of the National Institute of Justice held 10 **trainings for advocates** that provide legal assistance guaranteed by the state in Chisinau. Training activities of advocates continued due to collaborative relationships established between the NCSGLA and its partners, as follow: UNDP Moldova, OSCE Mission in Moldova, the Institute for Penal Reforms, The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Council of Europe Office in Moldova etc.

For 2014, by NCSGLA were established objectives of activity in legal aid system, as follow: strengthening of the NCSGLA and its territorial offices in organization and administration of the legal aid system; diversification of the range of the legal aid services; improvement of the legal aid services’ quality; assuring transparency functioning of the legal aid system and access to legal information and strengthening partnerships.