



CPT/Inf (2008) 38

**Response of the Government of the
Republic of Moldova
to the report of the European Committee for the
Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading
Treatment or Punishment (CPT)
on its visit to Prison Establishment No. 8 in Bender
on 18 March 2006**

The Moldovan Government has requested the publication of this response. The report of the CPT visit to Prison Establishment No. 8 in Bender in March 2006 is set out in document CPT/Inf (2008) 37.

Strasbourg, 4 December 2008

**The response of the Government of the Republic of Moldova
on the Report of the Committee for the Prevention of Torture
and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)
on CPT's visit to the Penitentiary Institution nr. 8 - Bender
since 18 March 2006**

In accordance with article 10 of the European Convention of the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) since 10 August 2006, as a result of the visit to the Penitentiary Institution nr. 8 – Bender since 18 March 2006, has sent to the Moldavian authorities the Report nr. (2006)31.

The CPT Delegation ascertains in its report the situation in the Penitentiary Institution nr.8-Bender, providing a detailed description of diverse aspects of its activity. The report is generally positive, despite this, there are still some reserves which are described in detail in the following points: 12, 13, 14, 15-21.

In order to fulfill the recommendations mentioned in the above mentioned CPT's Report, there were undertaken the following measures.

Point 12

CPT draws attention to insufficient organization of the activities for detainees, especially of educational character.

To this compartment we can mention the following: with the aim of detainees' free time organization, including implementation of socio-educational activities in the current year there have been elaborated and successfully implemented in penitentiaries, including Penitentiary nr.8-Bender, 8 socio-educational programs:

- 1) Program on socio-legal initial training for detainees
- 2) Program of activities with newly entered detainees
- 3) Program of preparation to release from detention facilities "PROSOCIAL"
- 4) Program on sports and physical activities "PROSPORT" with detainees
- 5) Program of preparation to conditional release from detention facilities
- 6) Program on detainees' employment
- 7) Program-pilot of the psycho-social rehabilitation of drug
- 8) Program-pilot on violence reduction oriented on delinquent minors

Point 13

CPT expresses its concern in connection with low temperature in the visiting rooms. Furthermore, underlines that visitors, entering to the Transnistrian region have to pay the local authorities a fee of 7 lei and if the visitors come for a long visit, they have in addition to pay the prison administration 15 lei per day for the use of the respective rooms.

Concerning low temperatures in the rooms for visitors (8 rooms in total), it is worth mentioning that during cold period of years 2005-2006 the Penitentiary nr.8-Bender did not experienced need for solid fuel (fire-wood and coil). In general the average temperature in living rooms is not low then 19 C. Due to the fact that the number of detainees has been reduced, the visiting rooms are heated only during the time of the visit. When the rooms are empty the heating system is turned off. Another reason of the low temperature is the reason of temporary and unsuccessful construction of the stoves. Taking in account the above mentioned, until present time the penitentiary administration took all necessary measures towards reconstructions of the stoves in visiting rooms. Today the Penitentiary nr.8-Bender is provided 100% of the total necessity for solid fuel (fire-wood and coil), which will permit to overcome the cold season of the years 2006-2007 without obstruction.

As regards respective fee for entrance on the territory of Transnistrian region for all nonresidents – in amount of 7 lei, it can be mentioned that the relations between Moldavian and Transnistrian authorities are still tensed and at the moment it seems to be impossible to solve the problem of fee release. The payment of 15 lei for the use of visiting rooms constitutes a financial contribution for its utilization and can not be abolished as far as were not founded other financial resources.

Point 14

CPT solicits to stop the administering of medical treatment through the bars in the “procedures room”.

To this compartment it can be mentioned that administration of Penitentiary nr.8-Bender have taken all necessary arrangements for removal of the mentioned bars and at present time the medical treatment is carried out in a normal way without bars.

Points 15-21

CPT wishes to be informed about solutions found in connection of problems existing in Penitentiary nr.8-Bender – or connection to water, sewerage and electricity supply systems, or relocation of detainees to other penitentiaries.

In the context of these recommendations, we would like to assure the CPT that the Moldavian authorities are very concerned about impediments, which the Penitentiary nr.8-Bender confronts in its activity. In spite of this, taking in account the measures undertaken, we consider that at the moment the situation is under control and there are no reasons for relocation of the detainees to other penitentiaries. The detainees held in the Penitentiary nr.8-Bender have adequate conditions of detention which are compatible with living conditions of rural locations. They are provided sufficiently with foodstuffs, drinking water, medicaments and at the moment, there are no any impediments in providing the penitentiary with the mentioned goods. Therewith, the Moldavian authorities are constantly seeking for any efficient solutions directed at amelioration of the situation existing in Penitentiary Institution nr.8-Bender.