

LITHUANIA**Section I – Impact assessment**

I.1 Has an authority been assigned as responsible for the implementation of the Recommendation? If so, which? Yes No

I.2 How would you assess the impact of the recommendation on the human rights of members of the armed forces in your country? Please explain your reply.

Fully satisfactory Adequate Insufficient Absent

Principles and/or measures safeguarding human rights of members of the armed forces have been implemented in laws, regulations and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania (and applied in practice) already before the Recommendation was issued.

I.3 Have specific measures for the promotion and protection of the human rights of members of armed forces been adopted after and pursuant to the adoption of the Recommendation? If so, please provide examples. Yes No

I.4 Which obstacles, if any, have been encountered in the implementation of the Recommendation?

None

Section II – Dissemination of the Recommendation

II.1 Has an authority been assigned as responsible for the dissemination of the Recommendation? If so, which? Yes No

II.2 Have specific events been organised to ensure the dissemination of the Recommendation? If so, please provide examples. Yes No

II.3 Which obstacles, if any, have been encountered in the dissemination of the Recommendation?

None

II.4 To which authorities has the Recommendation been distributed?

To the Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania, also to the Lithuanian Armed Forces.

II.5 Has the Recommendation been distributed to members of the armed forces? Yes No

II.6 Has the Recommendation been translated? Yes No

II.7 If not, is this foreseen? Yes No

II.8 How would you assess the visibility of the Recommendation?

Fully satisfactory Adequate Insufficient Absent

Section III – Implementation of specific provisions

A - Right to life

A.1 Are there measures in place to ensure an independent and effective investigation into suspicious deaths or alleged violations of the right to life of a member of the armed forces? Yes No

A.2 Are there measures in place to encourage reporting of acts inconsistent with the right to life and to protect those reporting such acts against retaliation? Yes No

A.3 Please provide information about the legal framework of such measures and examples of the measures in place. If the reply to one or more of the questions above is “NO”, please explain why such measures are not in place and whether any measure is in preparation.

There is no separate military justice system in the Republic of Lithuania. Thus according Code of Criminal Procedure investigations into suspicious deaths or alleged violations of the right to life of a member of the armed forces are conducted by Military Police or Police, but always under the scrutiny of the civil (independent) prosecutor and, where applicable, pre-trial judge. Both Police and General Inspectorate of Ministry of National Defence has “confidence hotline” to which acts inconsistent with the right to life of a member of the armed forces may be reported without a fear of retaliation. In some particular situations during the trial process even the identity of the witnesses may be classified in order to protect them.

B – Torture and other forms of ill-treatment

B.1 Are there measures in place to protect members of the armed forces from torture or other inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment? Yes No

B.2 Are there specific measures in place for more vulnerable categories, such as conscripts? Yes No

B.3 Are there measures in place to ensure an independent and effective investigation into alleged acts of torture or other ill-treatment, or when the authorities have reasonable grounds to suspect that such acts have occurred? Yes No

B.4 Are there measures in place to encourage reporting of acts of torture or other ill-treatment and to protect those reporting such acts against retaliation? Yes No

B.5 Please provide information about the legal framework of such measures and examples of the measures in place. If the reply to one or more of the questions above is “NO”, please explain why such measures are not in place and whether any measure is in preparation.

There are no specific measures in place for conscripts, because starting from the year 2008 call-up of conscripts to the initial continuous military service was suspended by the decision of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (Lithuanian Parliament).

There are specific articles in the Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania which prevent torture or other inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. For example, it is a crime for a commander to perform military duties using physical violence against a subordinate serviceman; also it is a crime for serviceman to unlawfully demand another serviceman to behave according to his instruction or to humiliate another serviceman by using mental coercion, physical violence or a weapon.

C – Forced or compulsory labour

C.1 Is military service compulsory? If so, please indicate whether it is possible to exact an alternative service instead of compulsory military service, Yes No and which are the differences in nature and duration of such service?

According to the Law on National Conscription it is possible to exact an alternative service instead of compulsory military service. Those who wish to exact alternative service shall apply in writing. Such request must be grounded on religious or pacifistic beliefs (beliefs which prevent armed service). While completing alternative service persons are assigned *pro bono publicum* duties (which are not related to the use of weapons, special means or forced use of physical power) in state's or municipal institutions. Length of alternative service is either 10 months (instead of 9 months of initial continuous military service) or 4 months (instead of 70 to 90 days of basic military training). Serviceman for the period of alternative service enjoy the same social guarantees as those serving in compulsory military service.

D – Military Discipline

D.1 Is there a clear legal framework in place governing military discipline in accordance with paragraphs 19-21 of the Appendix to the Recommendation? If so, please indicate a reference to the relevant legal framework. If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation. Yes No

Disciplinary Statute of Lithuanian Armed Forces (enacted by Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (Lithuanian Parliament)) empowers military commanders to investigate disciplinary offences (which do not constitute administrative or criminal offences) committed by members of armed forces and invoke summary punishments (together with preventive measures). Disciplinary Statute of Armed Forces sets out which acts or omissions by members of the armed forces constitute disciplinary offences, the procedures to be followed at disciplinary hearings, and the types and duration of punishment that may be imposed. According to the Disciplinary Statute of Armed Forces following sanctions (punishments) for disciplinary offences are possible:

a) for members of compulsory or professional service:

- reprimand
- additional tasks of service
- prohibition to leave the territory of the military facilities
- reduction of salary
- reduction of rank
- discharge from military service

b) for retirees:

- reprimand
- deprivation of the right to wear military uniform during festive occasions
- reduction of the rank of retiree

c) for cadets:

- reprimand
- additional tasks of service
- prohibition to leave the territory of the military facilities
- reduction of scholarship
- discharge from position
- expulsion from institution of military education

Summary punishments, depending on sanction, may be imposed starting by company commander and other commanders up in chain of command, including the Commander of Armed Forces, the Minister of National Defence and the President of the Republic. The level of command which may impose sanction depends on the rank (or position) of the offender and the type of sanction. There is no military tribunal or comparable entity for imposing summary punishments. No approval from the judge or court required to impose aforementioned sanctions. Commander, who has the right to impose a disciplinary punishment, has full discretion to exercise his disciplinary powers with regard to summary punishments. However his decision may be revoked by his superiors or Inspector General of Ministry of National Defence if he imposed sanction in violation of Disciplinary Statute of Armed Forces. It is possible for a superior to annul a summary punishment imposed by subordinate, however he can not replace the annulled punishment directly by a new one (without a new investigation procedure). In addition, superiors have the right to mitigate or tighten the punishment (i.e. they are not bound by the principle of "reformatio in pejus"). According to the Disciplinary Statute of Armed Forces commanders have the right to impose all the punishments, which may be imposed by their subordinates. Military personnel have the right to appeal a summary punishment to the superiors of the commander, which imposed punishment, or directly to the Inspector General of the Ministry of National Defence (decisions of Inspector General are appealed to the Minister of National Defence). If all possibilities of appeal within the Armed Forces or Ministry of National Defence are exhausted, the decision may be appealed to court (administrative). An appeal does not suspend the execution of the punishment. The superiors of the commander, which imposed the punishment, are responsible for the legality and reasonability of punishments imposed. Within Armed Forces of the Republic of Lithuania there is a Law department (comprised from military personnel (officers) and civilian employees, both with legal background) which helps commanders to strictly adhere to the requirements of Disciplinary Statute of Armed Forces. Before the disciplinary punishment is imposed by the commander, summary punishment proceedings are reviewed by military legal adviser in order to ensure that investigation was done properly, impartially and at length and proposed punishment is according the law. Within the Ministry of National Defence there is also Law department, which additionally reviews summary punishment proceedings and advise the Minister of National Defence, if according to the Disciplinary Statute, punishment to be imposed by the Minister of National Defence.

After the disciplinary punishment was imposed by the commander (or when punishment to be inflicted by the Minister of National Defence), summary punishment proceedings are sent to the General Inspectorate of the Ministry of National Defence, where it undergoes additional reviewing.

Disciplinary Statute of Armed Forces requires commanders to start investigation procedure every time they become aware of the disciplinary offence (alleged disciplinary offence). Investigation is performed by an officer, having the same or higher military rank than the offender, which is appointed by the commander. Offender has the right to challenge investigator (on the grounds of partiality, etc.). Violation of requirements regarding investigation procedure constitutes disciplinary offence itself.

E- Right to liberty and security

E.1 Is there a procedure prescribed by law dealing with the deprivation of liberty of members of the armed forces? Yes No

Members of the armed forces are deprived of liberty according to the same procedure prescribed by law as any other (i.e. civil) citizen of the Republic of Lithuania.

E.2 Is it lawful to detain members of armed forces under the age of 18? Yes No

E.2.1 If so, do detention conditions comply with the conditions set out in Paragraph 23 of the Appendix to the Recommendation? Yes No

E.2.2 If the reply to question E.2.1 is "NO", please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation.

E.3 Are there any limitations or exceptions to the guarantees set out in Paragraphs 24 to 27 of the Appendix to the Recommendation possible? If so, please specify. Yes No

F- Right to a fair trial

F.1 In matters that qualify as criminal under the European Convention on Human Rights, do members of the armed forces enjoy procedural rights and safeguards to the same extent as in criminal proceedings against civilians, in accordance with Paragraphs 28, 30 and 31 of the Appendix to the Recommendation? If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation in this area. Yes No

F.2 Is there a clear legal framework setting out limitations or exclusions to the right to have access to a tribunal for the determination of members of the armed forces' civil rights and obligations? If any, please provide examples of such limitations or exclusions. Yes No

F.3 Does your country have military courts? Yes No

F.3.1 If so, are they separate from the chain of command? Yes No

F.3.2 If the reply to question F.3 is "yes", are there differences in the organisation and operation of military courts, in comparison with civil courts, in particular as regards the procedural safeguards set out in Paragraphs 33 and 34 of the Appendix to the Recommendation? Yes No

G – Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence

G.1 Are there measures in place to ensure that conscripts are posted near their family and home, and that posting of professional members far from their family and home is not used as a disciplinary punishment? Yes No

G.2 Are there measures in place to ensure that members of the armed forces posted abroad are able to maintain private contacts? Yes No

G.3 Are there assistance programmes in place for those accompanying Yes No

the members of the armed forces posted abroad?

G.4 Can members of the armed forces enjoy parental leave, childcare benefits, access to nursery schools and adequate children's health and educational systems? If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation. Yes No

G.5 Where appropriate, please provide examples of good practices regarding the right of members of armed forces to respect for their private and family life, home and correspondence, in accordance with section "G" of the Appendix to the Recommendation.

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service provides, that servicemen in professional military service shall be granted maternity leave in accordance with the procedure laid down by labour legislation. Also it provides, that male servicemen in professional military service shall be granted paternity leave of the duration specified by labour legislation at their request by a decision of their immediate commander (superior officer). Where the servicemen in professional military service serving at a military element of international operations may not be granted the paternity leave taking into consideration the location of the military element and requirements for readiness thereof, they shall be paid a one-time benefit in the amount of their average remuneration as calculated in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Government. Also the said law provides, that servicemen in professional military service shall be granted parental leave in accordance with the procedure laid down by labour legislation at their request and by a decision of their immediate commander (superior officer) for a period until a child attains the age of three years, but not exceeding the term of expiry of a contract on professional military service of a serviceman who is granted the leave. Servicemen in professional military service serving in military elements of international operations shall, taking into consideration the location of a military element and requirements for readiness thereof, be granted a parental leave not later than within six months following filing of a request therefor. Upon granting the parental leave, a serviceman is dismissed from office and is transferred to the temporary reserve of the personnel of professional military service. The serviceman may return to service prior to completion of the leave subject to giving a written notice thereof not later than 14 days in advance to the Minister of National Defence or to his duly authorised commander (superior officer). Upon returning to service, the serviceman is appointed to a position commensurate with his rank.

H – Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

H.1 Are there measures in place to allow all members of armed forces to comply, as much as possible, with their religious obligations? If so, please provide examples. If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation. Yes No

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service sets that freedom of thought, religion and conscience shall be guaranteed for a serviceman and shall not be restricted in any way. Due to the fact, that the predominant religion in Lithuania is Christianity (with the largest confession being Roman Catholicism - about 80 percent of whole population), the same religion is predominant in Lithuanian Armed Forces. Religious services to the Roman Catholics (or other confessions, if required) within Lithuanian Armed Forces are provided by military chaplains.

H.2 Do conscripts have the rights to be granted conscientious objector status? Yes No

H.2.1 If so, is an alternative service of a civilian nature available? Yes No

H.2.2 If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation.

here is no specific provision in the Law on National Conscription for the granting of conscientious objector status to the conscripts which are already performing initial continuous military service. However despite the fact that conscription is still possible under the said law, starting from the year 2008 call-up of conscripts to the initial continuous military service was suspended by the decision of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (Lithuanian Parliament). Currently draftees are called-up to accomplish basic military training only on a voluntarily basis. If the suspension for call-up of conscripts will be abolished in a future, any requests to grant conscientious objector status will be resolved according highest human rights standards.

H.3 Are conscientious objectors exposed to sanctions, disciplinary measures or judicial prosecutions? Yes No

H.4 Can professional members of the armed forces leave the armed forces for reasons of conscience? If so, please explain the conditions and the procedure, and in particular whether the requests can be reviewed by an independent and impartial authority. If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation. Yes No

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service provides that a serviceman who has concluded a contract on professional military service may terminate service prior to the expiry of a term undertaken under the contract solely in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Minister of National Defence and upon his decision for recognised valid reasons. While not specifically mentioned in the said procedure laid down by the Minister of National Defence, reasons of conscience would constitute a recognised valid reason for the termination of the contract on professional military service. However, if the request to terminate service prior to the expiry of a term undertaken under the contract for the reasons of conscience would not be satisfied, serviceman has a right to appeal such decision to a court.

H.5 Are there measures in place to ensure that conscripts and members of the armed forces are informed, respectively, of the right to be granted conscientious objector status and to leave the armed forces for reasons of conscience and of the procedures available to exercise these rights? Yes No

H.6 Where appropriate, please provide examples of good practices regarding the right of members of armed forces to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, in accordance with section "H" of the Appendix to the Recommendation.

I – Freedom of expression

I.1 Is there a clear legal framework setting out formalities, conditions and restrictions to the right to freedom of expression for the members of armed forces? Yes No

I.2 If so, please briefly present it, by providing in particular examples of restrictions to the right to freedom of expression.

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service provides that servicemen shall exercise the human rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania. However the right to dissemination of information and expression of opinion may be restricted by laws and the statutes based on the law only to the extent that is necessary to perform a serviceman's duties and ensure military discipline and obedience as well as attain the goals of service. The same law defines those restrictions - active service servicemen shall be prohibited from making political statements, articles or speeches publicly voicing disagreement with the policy declared and implemented by a democratically elected government of the State (the Seimas, the President of the Republic, the Government) or publicly raising political demands to the government of the State.

J – Right to access to relevant information

J.1 Are there measures in place to ensure that full and detailed information about recruitment in the armed forces and commitments resulting therefrom are provided to potential recruits? Yes No

J.2 Can former and current members of armed forces have access to their own personal data, including medical records and information regarding exposure to situations potentially hazardous to their health? Yes No

J.3 If so, are there restrictions to this right of access? Please provide examples, if any. Yes No

K – Freedom of peaceful assembly and association

K.1 Can members of the armed forces join lawfully established military associations or trade unions? If so, please indicate the conditions and eventual restrictions to this right. If not, please explain why and whether any measure to review or lift the existing restrictions or prohibitions is in preparation. Yes No

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service, article 36, prohibits participation of members of the armed forces in trade unions, thus there are no military trade unions in the Republic of Lithuania. However members of armed forces are allowed to participate in the activities of military associations and confederations.

K.2 Can members of the armed forces join political parties? If so, please indicate the conditions and eventual restrictions to this right. If not, please explain why and whether any measure to review or lift the existing restrictions or prohibitions is in preparation. Yes No

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service, article 36, prohibits members of armed forces to participate in any kind of political activities: they are required to be politically impartial, and serve the nation and the country. As for today there are no plans to review or lift these restrictions. However, retired servicemen, volunteer servicemen and other servicemen in the active reserve may participate in political activities but they can not associate such activities with their servicemen status or wear the uniform.

L – Right to vote and to stand for election

L.1 Are there any restrictions on the electoral rights of members of the armed forces and on membership in the armed forces during a Yes No

member's candidacy or term of office? If so, please provide examples.

Right to vote for the members of the armed forces is not restricted: they can vote as they wish, however they can not participate in any kind of political activities, therefore they can not be elected to any state or municipality office.

M- Right to marry

M.1 Do members of the armed forces enjoy the right to marry and to form civil partnership in the same terms as civilians? If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation. Yes No

N – Right to protection of property

N.1 Are there measures in place to ensure that the property of members of armed forces, including conscripts, if retained upon joining the armed forces, is returned at the end of military service? Yes No

O – Accommodation

O.1 Are there measures in place to ensure adequate accommodation for members of armed forces and their families, both on the national territory and abroad? Yes No

O.2 Where accommodation is provided in barracks, are there separate dormitories for women and men? Yes No

P – Remuneration and pension

P.1 Do professional members of the armed forces receive remuneration giving them a decent standard of living and an adequate retirement pension? Yes No

P.2 Are there measures in place to ensure that men and women in the armed forces are entitled to equal pay for equal work or work of equal value? If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation. Yes No

Q – Right to dignity, health protection and security at work

Q.1 Are there specific measures in place to protect the dignity at work of members of armed forces, in particular as regards the prevention of sexual harassment? If so, please indicate the relevant legal framework and provide examples. If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation. Yes No

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service provides, that the human dignity of every serviceman must be respected, a serviceman may not suffer humiliation. Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania (Art. 152) provides, that a person who, in seeking sexual contact or satisfaction, harasses a person subordinate to him in office or otherwise by vulgar or comparable actions or by making offers or hints shall be considered to have committed a misdemeanour. Disciplinary Statute of Lithuanian Armed Forces provides, that a serviceman, who harasses verbally, in writing or by action against another person's sexual self-determination and integrity (if that does not impose criminal liability) shall be considered to have committed disciplinary offence.

Q.2 Is medical care provided during and as a result of military operations free of charge for the servicepersons? Yes No

Q.3 Are there allowances or compensation schemes available for members of the armed forces obliged to leave the armed forces because of an injury resulting from the exercise of military duties, or in case of death in service? Yes No

Q.4 Where appropriate, please provide examples of good practices regarding the right of members of armed forces to dignity, health protection and security at work, in accordance with section "Q" of the Appendix to the Recommendation.

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service provides, that a serviceman who becomes disabled while in the performance of official duties or due to service or a serviceman who does not become disabled, but has had lasting effects owing to a health disorder and the degree of his fitness for service has been reduced shall be paid a one-time compensation. Compensation amounts are also set in the said law and it depends of the percentage of serviceman's lost capacity to work. In the event of a serviceman's death, a one-time compensation shall be paid in the amount of 120 one month's basic pays (without bonuses) as established for a professional military serviceman with an appropriate rank during the first year of service, which shall not be less than 100 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government per each dependant of the serviceman. The compensation shall be paid in equal instalments to the perished person's spouse, father, mother and each dependant of the serviceman.

R – Nutrition

R.1 Are there measures in place to ensure that members of the armed forces enjoy the right to decent and sufficient nutrition in accordance with section "R" of the Appendix to the Recommendation? Where appropriate, please provide examples of good practices. Yes No

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service provides, that servicemen in initial mandatory military service shall be supplied with food in accordance with the physiological nutrition standards as established by the Government or an institution authorised by it. In the cases when servicemen in initial mandatory military service are released from service by a decision of a unit's commander and are authorised to leave the unit for more than one day, a pecuniary reimbursement of expenses for meals in the amount established for professional military servicemen shall be paid to them for the days free of service. Servicemen in professional military service, with the exception of the servicemen sent to foreign training establishments or to a place of service abroad where complete supply is provided, shall be provided with food according to the physiological nutrition standards established by the Government or an institution authorised by it or shall be paid a pecuniary reimbursement of expenses for meals in the amount established by the Government.

S – Non-discrimination

S.1 Are there measures in place to ensure that members of armed forces enjoy their rights and freedoms without any discrimination, in accordance with section "S" of the Appendix to the Recommendation? Where appropriate, please provide examples of good practices. Yes No

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service provides, that servicemen shall exercise the human rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution of the

Republic of Lithuania. Exercise by servicemen of the rights to protection of private life, guarantees of the place of service, rest and leisure time, freedom of association, choice of the place of residence and free movement, inviolability of official accommodation, participation in meetings, group petitions, dissemination of information and expression of opinion may be restricted by laws and the statutes based on the law only to the extent that is necessary to perform a serviceman's duties and ensure military discipline and obedience as well as attain the goals of service. However those restrictions, which are in force, are not based on grounds such as sex, sexual orientation, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status of the servicemen.

S.2 Are there any limitations to the access of women to the armed forces, or to particular types of occupational activities within the armed forces? If so, please provide examples. Yes No

S.3 Can sexual orientation constitute a ground to prevent access to the armed forces, or for discharge? Yes No

T – Persons under the age of 18 enlisted in the armed forces

T.1 Does your legislation allow the voluntary recruitment into the armed forces of persons under the age of 18? Yes No

T.2 If so, are there measures in place to ensure the full information about the duties involved and the informed consent of these persons and of their parents or legal guardians? Yes No

T.3 Are there special measures in place to protect the physical and psychological welfare of these persons? Yes No

T.4 Can these persons take an active part in the hostilities? Yes No

U – Training

U.1 Are training activities aimed at increasing the knowledge of human rights by members of armed forces in place? If so, please indicate by whom are such training activities carried out. Yes No

Such training is normally given by the officers/employees of the Law Department of Lithuanian Armed Forces or guest lecturers (from other State's institutions, NGO's, etc.).

U.1.1. If the reply to question U.1 is "YES":

U.1.1.1 Is international human rights law part of the training programme? Yes No

U.1.1.2 Are the human rights of the members of armed forces themselves part of the training programme? Yes No

U.1.1.3 Are prevention of ill-treatment and discrimination part of the training programme? Yes No

U.1.1.4 Is international humanitarian law, including the duties mentioned in paragraph 84 of the Appendix to the Recommendation, part of the training programme? Yes No

U.1.2 If the reply to question U.1 is “NO”, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation.

V – Allegations of human rights violations

V.1 Are there measures in place to ensure that members of the armed forces have the right to bring allegations of human rights violations, in particular of discrimination, harassment and bullying, before an independent body? If so, please indicate to which authorities can such allegations be brought and which is the procedure. If not, please explain why and whether any measure is in preparation.

Yes No

Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service provides, that a serviceman whose rights as guaranteed by this Law or relating to the serviceman’s service in the national defence system (i.e. human rights included) have been violated may refer to a superior commander or the Inspector General of Ministry of National Defence. These persons must investigate the facts and take the measures necessary to forthwith eliminate the violations. If the serviceman is not satisfied with the results of such investigation, he may refer to court. Alternatively any serviceman may report alleged human right violations to the The Seimas Ombudsmen’s Office of the Republic of Lithuania.

Section IV - Follow-up

IV.1 Which measures would you recommend to ensure that the principles set out in the Recommendation and in its Appendix are complied with in national legislation and practice?

No special measures needed.

IV.2 Should the Council of Europe continue examining periodically the implementation of this Recommendation? If so, should such examination in future concentrate on specific issues, and which specific issues would you recommend examining in that case?

From the national perspective there is no need for further periodical examination.

IV.3 Are there any issues on which the Recommendation and its Appendix should be revised or completed? If so, please indicate them.

No issues.