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e Diálogo Intercultural, I.P.

(High Commission for Immigration
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PLAN FOR IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION

The Council of Ministers Resolution nº 63-A/2007, May 3rd



PRESIDÊNCIA DO CONSELHO DE MINISTROS



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Despite the positive progress that the welcoming and integration policies for immigrants have made in recent years, Portugal does not yet have the overall, integrated plan and the wider spectrum to systematise the specific aims and commitments of the Portuguese State for welcoming and integrating immigrants that we seek.

Being aware that immigration policies will be linked more and more to the foundation stone of integration in conjunction with the control of migratory flows and the growing concern of helping the development of countries of origin, the intention is to establish, over the next three years, a set of firm commitments establishing the State as a principal ally to immigrant integration.

Understanding that seeking higher levels of integration should be steadfast, either from a sector based perspective, namely in areas of work, social security, housing, health, education and justice or from a transverse perspective, touching upon questions of racism and discrimination, gender equality and citizenship, the intention is to develop an ambitious political programme that foresees concerted efforts on the part of each and every specifically involved Ministry.

The Plan for the integration of immigrants, the result of the collective work of all Ministries with contributions taken from civil society organisations during a period of public debate, has resulted in a document that mirrors the sensibilities of Portuguese society.

With the aim of making a qualitative and effective leap in the policies for immigrant welcoming and integration the intention is to encourage, in conjunction with different structures, be they from the state or civil society, a joint operation for Portugal to offer more solidarity as well as become more inclusive.

In fact, even though in essence, the proposed measures are under the auspices of the State, they also constitute a strong incentive for civil society to underline the importance of these means of intervention either within their own specific fields of work or in partnerships with the State.

In this field the option for immigrants to participate and take joint responsibility in conceiving, developing and assessing immigration policies and considering the immigrant association as a primary expression of immigrant participation and underlying the important role of the socio-cultural mediator is clearly highlighted.

This plan intends, therefore, to launch new initiatives, ensuring the consolidation of existing initiatives as well as both simplifying and reducing the bureaucracy surrounding various procedures.

To guarantee the concerted efforts of all Ministries in following and assessing the proposed objectives the creation of a network for monitoring focal points under the coordination of the High Commission for Immigration and Ethnic Minorities, who will present annual reports regarding the proposed measures of the plan, which have been undertaken, to the Advisory Council for Immigration Affairs, has been foreseen.

The Advisory Council for Immigration Affairs has been heard.

Therefore:

Under the terms mentioned under g) of article 199 of the constitution the Council of Ministries resolve to:

1 – To approve the Plan for the Integration of Immigrants, that is both constant with the annex to the current resolution and forms an integral part of it.

2 – To create a network of focal points for monitoring formed by two representatives from each ministry, one active and one reserve who under the coordination of the High Commission for Immigration and Inter-cultural Dialogue, I.P. will present an annual report on proposed measures in the Plan that have been undertaken to Advisory Council for Immigration Affairs.

3 – The current resolution will come into force on the day after its publication.

The President of the Council of Ministries, March 8th, 2007.

The Prime Minister, *José Sócrates Carvalho Pinto de Sousa*.

ATTACHEMENT

PLAN FOR IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION

Traditionally a country of emigration, Portugal from the 1990's also became a country of immigration. Data reveals that today immigrants make up 9% of the active population and 4.5% of the national population.

Within this framework the migratory phenomenon takes on new proportions for Portuguese society. On the one hand, it represents an important contribution in dealing with the debilitating demographic situation in the interior; on the other hand it is a positive factor in terms of economic growth, for sustaining the social security system and for culturally enriching the country.

However, this situation equally carries a responsibility for the State both to integrate these citizens, with particular emphasis on reinforcing social cohesion and also to improve integration and cultural diversity. The positive role which immigrants play in Portuguese society should not be disassociated from the need for policies and sound measures which promote welcoming and integration of those immigrants and take up a prominent role within the realms of immigration policies.

On a par with the new Nationality Law and a bill proposed in the Portuguese Parliament related to the rules defining conditions and procedures of entry, permanent residence, exiting and deportation of foreign citizens from Portuguese territory the government is now presenting a Plan for Immigrant Integration which outlines over the coming three years a set of concrete commitments showing the State to be clearly allied to immigrant integration.

Through the concerted efforts of different ministries, and the specific competences of each of them, an ambitious political programme is being developed to reach higher levels of immigrants integrating into Portuguese society by launching new initiatives, by building upon existing initiatives and by simplifying and reducing the bureaucracy surrounding procedures.

This plan outlines a set of 122 measures, covering diverse vertical and transverse sectors and assuming as main goal to bring to conclusion the complete integration of immigrants into Portuguese society and which establishes a set of guiding principles, which are highlighted as follows:

- A positive vision of immigration that recognises its economic, social and cultural contribution and is committed to welcoming and to the complete integration of immigrant communities into Portuguese society.
- Increased responsibility in drawing up immigration policies in a country with a long history of emigration and which for that reason understands the revindications and anxieties of immigrants in destination countries.
- Welcoming with hospitality and integrating more citizens as one of the pillars of integration policies.
- Stating the principles of inter-culture, guaranteeing social cohesion, accepting the cultural and social specifics of differing communities and underlining the interactive and related character between those same communities, supporting mutual respect and obeying the laws of the host country.
- Participation and joint responsibility in all areas of society, encouraging immigrants to assume an active participating role and to take jointly responsibility for immigration policies as well as benefiting from them.
- Simultaneous and binding statement of the rights and duties of immigrants.
- Equal opportunities for all, with particular emphasis upon reducing the disadvantages of access to education, to work, to health, to housing and to social rights, rejecting discrimination in whatever form be it ethnic, nationality, language, religious or gender based and combating legal or administrative mal-practice.
- The right to live as a family, recognising the same structural role in integrating immigrants into host societies.
- Affirmation by the State of the allied principle of immigrant integration, adopting the goal of simplifying the formal requirements in contact with immigrants and improving the quality of services offered.
- Affirmation of civil society as an essential partner in the policy of welcoming and integrating immigrants with special focus upon welcoming at a local level.
- Recognising the capacity of immigrant entrepreneurs as having an important value in economic, social and cultural development in the host society.

– Promoting a broad based social consensus in conceiving and assessing welcoming and integration policies established in participation with both Portuguese and immigrant parties, in sensitising public opinion and by breaking down stereotypes and in building platforms for the negotiation and involvement of social partners.

– Special attention to gender equality, recognising the dual vulnerability of female immigrants.

Policy measures

WELCOMING

1. Consolidating National Immigration Support Centres (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To strengthen and broaden the scope of the intervention and support of National Immigrant Support Centres (CNAIs), in Lisbon and in Porto to develop new services which meet the needs of immigrants, always from the perspective of integration and cooperation from public services.

To stimulate and consolidate the involvement of socio-cultural mediators such as the structured staff of CNAIs.

To encourage the greater involvement of mediators in the Algarve, a region with the second highest number of immigrants after the Greater Lisbon metropolitan area.

To promote regular internal and external assessment of the operations and work of CNAIs.

To cooperate, whenever immigrant representation justifies such cooperation, with the new “Citizen Shops” namely in Faro by setting up a branch of CNAI.

2. Consolidation and expansion of local Immigrant Support Centres network (PCM/ ACIDI, I. P.)

To consolidate the operations of existing Local Immigration Support Centres and to open new Counselling Centres with significant immigrant numbers, by offering information, guidance and integration for immigrants within a local context and including a large involvement from local authorities and local institutions from civil society.

3. Consolidating the National Network of Information for the Immigrant (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P., MAI/ SEF)

To strengthen the various information tools available in all forms (printed, television, internet and telephone) that provide information for immigrants, in the various languages of the principal foreign communities resident in Portugal, regarding the rights and duties toward the host society in general.

4. To improve the service to the public by the Foreign and Border Service (MAI/ SEF)

To broaden and de-centralise locations where the Foreign and Border Service (SEF) attend the public.

To improve both the physical space and amenities for attending the public in the regional departments of the Foreign and Border Service.

To develop support measures for SEF and include a digitalised service to attend the public, as well as progressively introducing digital equipment to help speed up the service for SEF and its customers.

To substitute the traditional model of a residence document with a completely secure, electronic foreign citizen's card that can be used in relation to all public services.

WORK EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

5. Specific training for the staff of employment centres for the integration of immigrant labour (MTSS/ IEFP, I.P.)

To develop ongoing training schemes for the staff of employment centres of the Institute of Employment and Professional Training, I.P. (IEFP; I.P.), to deal with the problem of integrating immigrant labour, namely in the areas of inter-culture, citizenship and in combating all forms of discrimination.

**6. To facilitate entry into Portuguese further education for students who have attended further education abroad and to simplify the recognition of foreign qualifications by introducing a specific service for dealing with this matter.
(PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MCTES/ DGES)**

To create within CNAI, in partnership with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Further Education a Support Office to deal with the Recognition and Equivalence of Qualifications.

To encourage, the setting up of a special service in further education establishments, for accepting and recognising the qualifications of immigrant citizens to support the administrative procedure. This measure will be further solidified by the measures to simplify the procedures for recognising foreign qualifications, with the effect of allowing studies to proceed while at the same time enabling accreditation in the field of further education experience and professional training, approved by Decree Law numbers 64/2006, March 21st, 74/2006, March 24th and 88/2006 May 23rd and by measure 6 of SIMPLEX 2007 of which the following goals can be mentioned:

- (1) To facilitate the entry of foreign students of further education into Portugal for continuing their studies with the quick and objective recognition of their school training and professional skills.
- (2) To simplify the system of recognising foreign degrees in Portugal, including diverse levels of study (Bachelor's and Master's degrees and PhDs), beginning with the existing mechanisms for the level of a Bachelor's degree ("Doctor" in Portugal) namely by:
 - (i) Accelerating the procedure for establishing the level of degrees to be applied;
 - (ii) Broadening the mechanisms for setting Bachelor's and Master's degrees;
 - (iii) Including, for those degrees, an automatic conversion process for classification.

7. To campaign for specific sensitisation of safety in the work place for immigrant workers in areas with the highest rates of accidents (MTSS/ ACT)

To develop through the Authority for Working Conditions (ACT) a campaign directed at sensitising immigrant workers, in various languages, regarding questions of safety in the work place as well as accident prevention and professional-related illnesses.

**8. To strengthen the active inspection of employers who illegally use immigrant manual labour and to use the law to penalise such employers.
(MAI/ SEF/ MTSS/ ACT)**

To develop the skills and instruments of ACT to control the illegal use of immigrant manual labour, in conjunction with SEF, above all in regard to the exploitation of and disrespect for the rights of immigrant workers.

**9. To reinforce and encourage the complete fulfilment of all obligations in regard to the Department of Social Security and the Fiscal Administration
(PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MAI/SEF/ MFAP/ DGCI/ MTSS/ ISS)**

To carry out a campaign to sensitise immigrants to the importance of entering the social security system and meeting tax obligations as a source of basic social rights.

To carry out a campaign of sensitising employers to the importance of enrolling workers into the social security system and also of meeting tax obligations.

**10. To make Portuguese employers and workers aware of their responsibility to integrate immigrant workers into their work context
(MEI/ MTSS)**

To promote and broadcast, in conjunction with businesses, the good practice in welcoming and integration of immigrant workers with the collaboration of Portuguese workers and to enlist the help and support of specific vocational organisations to that end. To consider schemes for supporting language learning and of accessing the means to professional training and qualifications and of actively participating in the socio-cultural affairs of company workers.

**11. Creating measures aimed at facilitating the social, professional and labour inclusion of immigrants through both training schemes and job creation schemes
(MTSS)**

To implement an inclusion programme for unemployed immigrant workers, including the National Plan for Inclusion, with the aim of facilitating the social, cultural and professional inclusion of immigrants and which ensures single, constructive solutions geared towards the means of inclusion, takes full advantage of both the employment and professional training measures and the existing resources currently available and creates and promotes cooperation at a local and regional level with a view to establishing partnerships and building platforms for dialogue.

12. To encourage Trade Union membership for immigrants (MTSS)

To encourage immigrants, in conjunction with trade unions, to become union members not only as a means of defending their working rights but also to become socially integrated into Portuguese society.

13. To encourage immigrant entrepreneurship (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MAI/ SEF/ MEI/ DGAE/ IAPMEI, I.P./ MTSS)

To reduce the legal barriers immigrant workers place upon themselves and to encourage the setting up of innovative banking products that nurture and assist the founding of new businesses.

To promote schemes of an informative nature aimed at immigrants concerning the rules, access conditions and aims of micro-credit.

To create an office for welcoming immigrant entrepreneurs, in collaboration with the General Board of Economic Practice and with IAPMEL, I.P., where from an integration and cooperation perspective public services will provide help and advice to immigrants on launching business initiatives, where opportunities and incentives can be found and where personal assistance accompanying the whole bureaucratic procedure of setting up a business will be provided.

HOUSING

14. To develop and open up the market for council housing through Local Authorities (PCM/ DGAL/ MAOTDR/ IHRU, I.P./ MTSS/ MS/ ME)

To promote, through PROHABITA - the Programme for Financing Access to Housing and with suitable means, and also in conjunction with Local Authorities, a new phase of council housing that will serve not only eligible Portuguese people but also immigrants by promoting their inclusion in shared, non-segregated areas. An integrated approach, with all the necessary social facilities for an effective quality of life, principally crèches, schools, places for occupying free time of the young, health centres and support for the elderly.

15. New council housing solutions, in partnership with Immigrant Associations, Private Social Solidarity Institutions, other Non Governmental Organisations and Housing Cooperatives (MAOTDR/ IHRU, I.P.)

To create and develop new council housing solutions –namely in conjunction with immigrant associations, private social solidarity institutes (IPSS) and Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and cooperatives – that will be accessible to all official immigrants in Portugal through the tools and resources provided by the Institute for Urban Housing and Re-housing, I.P. (IHRU, I.P.)

16. Creating Offices for Housing Support (PCM/ACIDI, I.P./ MAOTDR/ IHRU, I.P.)

To create Housing Support Centres, in partnership with immigrant associations and NGOs, that help immigrant citizens in finding definite housing solutions, in combating ethnic discrimination, in mobilizing guarantors and in strengthening immigrant inter-community relations that will allow for new, concrete solutions for access to housing (one example being the setting up of cooperatives).

17. Perfecting access to means of rent support (MAOTDR/ IHRU, I.P.)

To publicise the means of accessing rent support for immigrants in the same circumstances as Portuguese people.

18. To sensitise the banking sector to open up greater access to bank credit on the part of immigrants (MEI)

To evaluate the way in which the system of accessing bank credit has been applied in respect to immigrants, with the aim of identifying possible discrimination and weaknesses and to perfect the system implemented via Decree Law number 27-C/2000, March 10th.

To motivate, in conjunction with the Bank of Portugal, the setting up of innovative banking products that make new solutions available to immigrants, namely for house purchasing, in accordance with their socio-cultural profile and with guarantees appropriate to the socio-cultural context, foreign guarantors who are resident in Portugal, being an example.

19. Concluding the Special Re-Accommodation Plan (MAOTDR/ IHRU, I.P.)

To publish, as quickly as possible, the conclusion to the process of re-housing families registered in the Special Re-housing Plan (PER).

20. To reinforce the alternative solutions for residents of collective housing intervened by PER, who were not initially registered (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MAOTDR/ IHRU, I.P.)

To develop a set of alternative solutions to help house residents, living in areas where the PER have intervened, who have no rights to re-housing, which include:

- a) Extending the pre-determined deadline to allow further time for both adapting and finding other housing solutions;
- b) Integrating individual support schemes to find Housing developed by local authorities and by Housing Support Offices;
- c) To reinforce financial aid in searching for alternative accommodation, by extending the period of rent support.

21. To demand the fulfilment of contractual obligations by the beneficiaries of re-housing programmes (MAOTDR/IHRU, I.P.)

To reaffirm the obligation of fulfilling contractual duties (e.g. the paying of rent, water and electricity bills, building upkeep) as well as other obligations (e.g. respecting and preserving public spaces) on the part of immigrants benefiting from re-housing programmes and also to assume responsibilities if those duties are not fulfilled.

HEALTH

22. To promote the carrying out of training, education and community schemes to combat the lack of information held by immigrants in relation to health services and to encourage them to use the National Health Service (MS/ ARS)

To put into practice, at a local level and in conjunction with Health Centres, information schemes for immigrants in order for them to understand their rights and duties, with a view to them enrolling in health services. To utilise the various support materials available in various languages (printed matter, telephone, personal and media).

23. To promote immigrant access to health services (MS/ ARS)

To stimulate promotional information schemes at a regional level and encourage through sensitisation and education the highest number of immigrants to enrol in, and make appointments at, Health Centres on a wider national scale.

To stimulate the carrying out projects related to immigrants and health at a municipal level.

To develop a manual for administrative procedures for health centre enrolment of immigrants notwithstanding their status in complete agreement with the Ministry of Health Dispatch number 25360/2001 made available to all health services as well as to local councils.

To create a telephone help-line to deal with administrative problems immigrants face when enrolling in the National Health Service (SNS).

24. Access to health for foreign citizens without official status (PCM/ACIDI, I.P.)

To guarantee access to health for foreign citizens, who have no official status under the terms provided by law, through their enrolment in the National Health Service by presenting papers issued by ACIDI, I.P. as an alternative to proof of residence issued by local councils and as a way of applying the Ministry of Health Dispatch number 25 360/2001.

25. To implement the integration of Portuguese hospitals into the “Migrant Friendly Hospitals” European Network (MS/ARS/IHMT)

To help National Health Service hospitals to become familiar with the internationally renowned “Migrant Friendly Hospital” by way of improving both the services and the cultural organisations related to migrant populations, namely in respect to:

- Monitoring both the needs and availability of patients and of the health care providers;
- To adapt clinical practice, preventative services and schemes for promoting health to the target population;
- To provide special care for patients with traumatic migratory experiences (e.g. offering mental health care);
- To carry out a needs diagnosis for each hospital, involving immigrants, staff and administration;
- To improve the understanding of clinical communication, overcoming linguistic barriers.

26. Training schemes on interculturality for National Health Service (SNS) professionals (MS/ ARS/ IHMT)

To develop ongoing training schemes with the aim of creating the intercultural and linguistic skills of health carers to improve the health of the immigrant and ethnic minority populations.

27. Programme for integrating immigrant professionals with degrees in medicine (MS/ ACSS, I.P.)

To utilise the specific skills of immigrants with degrees in medicine who can help answer the needs of the SNS, respond to the special needs of immigrant patients (e.g. with communication difficulties) as well as share in “inter-pares” training opportunities on interculturality.

28. To develop a Socio-Cultural Mediation Programme within the hospital and health centre network in regions with large numbers of immigrants (MS/ARS)

To promote the contracting of socio-cultural mediators who offer services in Health Centres and in Hospitals serving regions with large numbers of immigrants with a view to facilitating access to health through linguistic and cultural means.

29. To develop partnerships between NGOs, the National Health Service and other organisations for promoting immigrant and ethnic minority access to health in Portugal (MS/ ARS)

To create effective support mechanisms in partnership with local organisations, immigrant associations and other interested parties on questions of immigrants and ethnic minorities to facilitate developing the most suitable services rendered which meet the needs of immigrants (e.g. from the cultural and linguistic point of view).

To encourage the participation of representative organisations from immigrant communities in order to assess the needs, the impact of schemes and joint responsibility in the process of improving available services.

30. To publicise the conditions for access to health in the Consulates, of countries of origin, in Portugal and also in Portuguese (MNE/DGACCP, MS/DGS)

To publish guidelines regarding conditions of access to health in Portugal for those citizens of other countries who have health care benefits.

EDUCATION

31. Training of teaching staff in interculturality (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ ME/ DGIDC)

To define the framework of ongoing training programmes for teachers with the aim of improving teacher's skills for developing, their work in schools more and more heterogeneous and understanding, namely by making Portuguese as a second language a priority training area.

32. To revise the criteria of the school network to guarantee well balanced classes (ME/ DGIDC)

To revise the criteria of the school network namely with regard to the distribution of students coming from the same groups/neighbourhoods as well as suggesting school boards to take into consideration the needs of schools to have a balanced "ethnic make up" in classes.

33. Providing appropriate welcoming strategies in schools specifically for students of immigrant descent (ME/ DGIDC)

To develop diverse strategies to help the integration of student children of immigrants into schools, namely by taking into account the age levels of students, language ability and length of stay in Portugal.

34. Involvement of immigrant families in School (ME/ DGIDC)

To propose the carrying out of various strategies for welcoming and involving immigrant families, namely by clarifying the role of parents in portuguese schools.

35. Involvement of socio-cultural mediators within the school context (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ ME/ DGIDC)

To rethink, in collaboration with immigrant associations, the profile/recruitment and affect of socio-cultural mediators in schools and to reinforce their role and pedagogical duty in collaboration with teaching staff and by them being introduced and having value as members of the educative community.

36. To give importance to the role of the teacher in the welcoming and integration of students of immigrant descent (ME/ DGIDC)

To motivate teaching staff to understand the specific socio-cultural backgrounds of their students as well as for them to establish the appropriate pedagogical strategies for diverse situations. To underline the need of teaching staff to develop a firm relationship within the family context of those students.

37. Equipping schools with intercultural materials (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ ME/ DGIDC)

To equip schools with pedagogical materials for supporting intercultural and anti-racist education and boosting projects/awards for good practices which place importance upon an approach through educative projects.

38. To reinforce Education Offices within National immigrant Support Centres (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ ME/ DGIDC)

To reinforce Education Offices at CNAI within ACIDI, I.P. both in Lisbon and in Porto with the aim of offering help in resolving problems related to the process of school enrolment for students of immigrant descent.

39. To extend information for immigrant families about the Portuguese education system (MNE/ DGACCP/ ME/ DGIDC)

To make information available, both in printed form and on the internet in various languages at Consulates in countries of origin and in Portugal as well as in Portuguese Consulates themselves which clarifies how the Portuguese education system is organised and how it operates and about how to enrol descendents of immigrants into that same system.

40. Recognition, certification and validation of immigrant qualifications (ME/ DGIDC/ ANQ, I.P.)

To hasten the process of recognising, validating and certifying the qualifications of immigrants (both young and adult) in the scope of the “New Opportunities” initiative.

41. Collaboration of Immigrant Associations in promoting access to education for all children of immigrant descent (ME/ DGIDC)

To involve immigrant associations in helping to publicise on a vast scale the rights for schooling of all children and young people whatever their nature or immigrant status in the country.

42. To expand and encourage the training and research in the field of intercultural education (ME/ MCTES)

To promote the development of scientific investigation into problems surrounding the education/schooling of descendents of immigrants in Portuguese schools through specific lines of research under the auspices of able institutions.

43. To improve qualitative and quantitative data on cultural diversity in schools (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ ME/ DGIDC)

To create and maintain through an Immigration Observatory a system of quantitative and qualitative indicators (case studies and good practices) that can evolve from the "Entreculturas" database experiment which can lead to new forms of categorisation, an overall diagnosis and a sustained follow up of procedures school results of children of immigrant descent.

44. To promote the welcoming of foreign students both on their immediate arrival into Portugal and during their stay (MNE/ DGACCP/ IPAD, I.P./ MAI/ SEF/ ME/ DGIDC/ MCTES/ DGES)

To encourage the forming of partnerships between diverse interested parties (e.g. Embassies, Student Unions and NGOs) with the intention of developing initiatives, which will promote positive welcoming and integration for foreign students, in particular at the very moment of their arrival in Portugal.

To encourage the setting up of Support Offices for welcoming foreign students giving priority to further education establishments where those students have enrolled or by mobilising existing structures to that end. To promote a quicker and more flexible procedure for issuing study visas.

To stimulate the organisation of cultural and sporting events, within academic communities, with the aim of integrating foreign students into their respective communities.

To simplify and accelerate the process of granting and managing scholarships to foreign students.

To include Embassies and Consulates in the instruction and selection process of applicants as well as guaranteeing those same applicants preferential attention to scholarships and scholarship applications.

To guarantee reserved accommodation for all scholarship students upon arrival.

To offer free, complimentary training in Portuguese to all scholarship students coming from Portuguese speaking countries/East Timor.

To set up a Portuguese Cooperation Scholarship website within the website of the Portuguese Institute of Support for Development, I.P. (IPAD) where both information and a personal section are available.

45. Information Guide for foreign students (MNE/ DGACCP/ MCTES/ DGES)

To publish a guide (in both printed and digital form, in various languages) containing useful and necessary information for welcoming and integrating foreign university students.

To make this guide available at various embassies and consulates in origin countries, as well as in Portugal, to clarify the rights and obligations that prospective foreign students have to Portuguese society.

46. To promote the education and the spreading of science as a factor of social integration (ME/ MCTES)

To promote and support education projects and the spread of science for the social integration of immigrants, profiting from universal science concepts and the way they are constructed, which turn them into independent, cultural points of reference and don't imply the rejection of immigrant's origin and culture, maximising the potential of teaching sciences as a positive factor for personal and scholastic affirmation.

To support education activities and the spread of science at Active Science Centres – 13 centres throughout the whole country as part of a network of modern science museums-which apart from mounting exhibitions, offer sets of activities aimed at a wide-ranging public, especially the young. To locate these centres in areas of differing social and economic natures, making science and technology proximity factors for the population.

SOLIDARITY AND SOCIAL SECURITY

47. To give priority to establishing Social Security agreements which are lacking, between countries of origin of immigrants and Portugal, in descending order of size of the present community (MNE/ MTSS)

To make efforts to establish social security agreements with other countries similar to those already agreed upon with Brazil, The Cape Verde Islands, Angola, São Tomé & Príncipe, Romania, and Tunisia.

To accelerate the procedures for signing agreements already underway with Guinea Bissau, the Ukraine and Moldavia.

48. To safeguard the acquired rights and rights in development of immigrant workers resulting from their links to the welfare system within the Social Security System (MNE/ MTSS)

To make efforts to guarantee appropriate information for immigrant workers allowing them to fully exercise their rights.

49. Humanitarian Aid in situations of extreme immigrant poverty (MNE/MTSS/MS)

To guarantee social support and respect of basic human rights in cases of extreme poverty of unofficial immigrants or immigrants cut off and in poor health, coming under the definition of humanitarian emergencies equal to those defined for national citizens. To set up, with the necessary diligence, and in conjunction with countries of origin, the means of offering appropriate consular protection under the terms provided by applicable international rights.

50. Sensitising and Training of Social Security staff in the welcoming and integration of immigrants (MTSS)

To run a training scheme for members of social security staff who deal with questions of immigration with a view to improving their specialised answers to specific social questions encountered in relation to immigration.

CULTURE AND LANGUAGE

**51. The “Portugal Welcomes” Programme
(MTSS/ IEFP, I.P.)**

To broaden and optimise the scope of the “Portugal Welcomes” programme incorporated into the “Intervention for Unemployed Immigrant Workers” programme, which is the responsibility of the IEFP, I.P., to include the largest number of participants, reach the greatest profitability from the investment made and adapt the programme to the most diverse contexts and promoters.

52. To valorise the teaching of Portuguese as a second language (ME)

To promote, implement, monitor and assess the specific curricular and extra-curricular activities to develop the field of teaching Portuguese as a second language by schools through applying the guiding document (“Portuguese language as a second language in the National Curriculum, the National guidelines and the availability of diagnostic assessment tools for defining the linguistic competence and school profiles of students and their correction”).

53. Cooperation with Civil Society Organisations (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ ME)

To establish a cross-institutional dialogue with immigrant associations and other partners with the aim of improving specific support conditions for learning the different languages of students. To identify, in collaboration with those organisations, specialists in different languages to help recognise language interference in the process of teaching/learning Portuguese.

**54. Investing in training courses for Portuguese technical language
(MTSS/I EFP, I.P./ MCTES/ DGES)**

To develop training programmes in Portuguese specially designed for professional situations which demand very specific vocabulary.

**55. Production and distribution of support materials in a multi-lingual context
(ME/ MCTES)**

To promote, support and disseminate in conjunction with civil society, teacher organisations and researchers the creation/adaptation of learning support materials. To

encourage and equip schools and research centres with support materials for learning Portuguese in a multi-lingual context.

56. To set up the initial and ongoing training of educators (MCTES)

To mobilise the scientific community, namely schools of advanced training and teacher associations, to the need for encouraging teacher training (both initial and ongoing) in the field of teaching/learning Portuguese as a second language.

57. General training for inter-culturality (MCTES)

To sensitise the scientific community and universities to the need of integrating graduate and post-graduate level training components within the area of interculturality into the curricula of institutes of higher education and universities, namely in social sciences and humanities.

58. To stimulate the expression of cultural diversity in all fields and activities which incorporate the area of culture (MC/ IMC, I.P.)

To sensitise the Institute of Museums and Conservation network, I.P., as well as archive networks, cine-theatres and other cultural facilities, to develop programmes which include both historical and up to date contributions from migrant communities.

To stress the importance of the socio-cultural and/or linguistic dimensions of migrant communities regarding new equipment designed for spaces specifically set aside for hosting artistic events and activities in museum areas and performance centres which are in some way connected with language.

59. To support initiatives that promote inter-cultural dialogue and multi-culturality (MC)

To promote and encourage schemes that give visibility and public expression to cultural exhibitions/demonstrations developed by migrant communities. To promote co-productions and other forms of collaboration between creators and other cultural participants, specifically in the areas of the performing and plastic arts.

JUSTICE

**60. To support access to Justice for all immigrant citizens
(MJ/ MTSS)**

To make complete information about access to justice for all immigrant citizens visible by producing broadcast materials in the languages of the most represented communities in Portugal.

To communicate to immigrants the existence of a justice and translate its contents into the languages of the communities most represented in Portugal.

**61. To encourage support for the work of mediators
between immigrant victims and institutions of Security and Justice
(MAI/ GNR/ PSP/ SEF/ MJ/ MTSS)**

To create awareness of the existence and work of mediators helping and assisting the immigrant victim namely by producing materials published in the languages of the most represented communities in Portugal.

To promote platforms of trust and mediation which allow immigrant victims, independent of their official status, to benefit from access to legal protection constant with the support of mediators instances.

**62. Access to alternative forms of settling disputes
(MJ/ GRAL/ MEI/ DGC)**

To create awareness, in immigrant communities, about the existence, in certain areas of justice, of alternative forms of settling disputes (Peace Judgements, Arbitration Centres, Penal Mediation, Labour Mediation and Family Mediation) with the most rapid and up to date litigation solutions and to promote access to these means.

**63. To stress the importance of Offices for Legal Aid to the Immigrant
and the “SOS Immigrant” help line (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)**

To expand the work developed by offices of immigrant legal aid through the operations of CNAI in Lisbon and in Porto and by an “SOS Immigrant” help line to place information, and freely available, quality legal advice, within reach of immigrants.

64. To guarantee translation and interpretation services at every moment of immigrant involvement in the legal system, including cases in which alternative means of settling disputes have been used (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MJ/ MEI/ DGC)

To publish through the General Management Board for the Consumer (DGC) the translation and interpretation service listed in the official ACIDI, I.P. register of translators to avoid any citizen being prejudiced in relation to justice as a result of a poor command of the Portuguese language.

65. Assessment of resulting miscarriages of justice to foreigners (MJ)

To identify, through the appropriate studies, possible miscarriages of justice to foreign citizens and to promote their correction.

66. To encourage the active role of consular authorities of countries of origin in helping their detainees (MNE/ DGACCP/ MJ)

To promote cooperation with diplomatic representatives and the consulates of detainees to assist those detainees with translation/interpretation costs resulting from an insufficient command of the Portuguese language, and to, in cooperation with competent national institutions, monitoring their social reintegration after completion of punishment.

67. Cooperation between the Prison Services and the Foreign and Border Service (MAI/ SEF/ MJ/ DGSP)

To encourage the development of a collaborative protocol between the Prison Services and SEF, with the aims of both facilitating communication between foreign detainees and the police authorities who regulate them and in resolving their problems.

68. Schemes for schooling and training for foreign detainees (MJ/ DGSP/ ME)

To enable all detained foreign nationals, independent of their official resident status, to attend schooling programmes or training under the same conditions as detained national citizens.

69. Preventing the reoccurrence of deviant behaviour and illicit activities of young descendents of immigrants under the tutelage of the General Management for Social Re-inclusion (MAI/ SEF/ MJ/ DGSP/ MTSS/ DGRS/ ME)

To support the social integration of these young people, namely in what concerns their life project (including training and professional guidance), official legal status as well as by creating the mechanisms that allow the DGRS to provide translators and interpreters.

70. To accelerate the work relating to Registries and Notaries (MNE/ DGACCP/ MAI/ SEF/ MJ/ IRN, I.P.)

To increase and improve the communication channels between Portuguese and foreign counterparts in terms of scope and to speed up and reduce the bureaucratic process.

To dispense with birth certificates of national citizens from origin countries where records have been lost or destroyed because of war whenever those immigrants have been carrying residence permits in Portugal.

To encourage on the part of the Portuguese State an increase in services provided by diplomatic and consular representatives in Portugal (e.g. issuing of passports and passport renewals).

To have documents issued by diplomatic and consular representatives, intended to substitute documents that should have been emitted by the origin countries, accepted by experienced Portuguese entities.

To standardise procedures at different registry offices.

SOCIETY OF INFORMATION

71. To encourage digital inclusion schemes for immigrant communities namely in the realm of School Programmes (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MCTES/ UMIC)

To maximise the potential of information and communication technology to facilitate social inclusion. To ensure digital inclusion as an inclusion into modern society.

72. Organising schemes directed at immigrants on the internet (MCTES/ UMIC)

To empower the organising of schemes aimed at immigrants on the places of the “Internet Spaces Network” (more than 1000 public spaces providing free access to the internet and computers supported by prepared personnel), aiming at facilitating access to using computers and the internet for educational, cultural, health care and work related means and also for contacting public services and leisure activities as well as a vehicle for easing communication with distant families and friends.

SPORT

73. To promote access to sports activities for immigrants under the same terms and conditions as national citizens and to simplify and minimise the bureaucracy surrounding access to practicing sports in their different contexts (PCM/ IDP, I.P./ ME/ MCTES)

To encourage individuals from all communities to participate at all levels of sport – management, training and practice – and to encourage social inclusion via this means.

To consolidate legislative and/or administrative measures that give more flexibility to the rules of access related to practicing organised sport and school sports at all levels taught to young immigrants and immigrant descendents, by simplifying bureaucratic demands.

To consolidate the means of support for sports infrastructures and equipment deemed for public use, making it possible to create special conditions of access for immigrants, in particular for children and young athletes.

74. To reaffirm the offer of sport within difficult social and urban contexts (PCM/ IDP, I.P.)

To develop a policy of nurturing diversified sports with the aim of social inclusion particularly in more vulnerable areas with poor resources for occupying free time.

75. To overcome and eliminate discrimination and racism in sport (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ IDP, I.P.)

To encourage campaigns to combat racism occurring in any type of sport and to establish

severe punishments for racist attitudes from whatever source in all sporting activities (particularly players, trainers and spectators).

76. Schemes to publish “success cases” of immigrant sports people within the local community (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ IDP, I.P.)

To promote the broadcasting of success cases of immigrant sports people who can offer an inspiring example to other members of the local community in particular children and young people.

77. To use sport to promote tolerance and intercultural dialogue (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ IDP, I.P.)

To develop a common campaign to stress the contribution to intercultural dialogue in various types of sport have made principally through building multi-cultural teams.

DESCENDENTS OF IMMIGRANTS

78. To strengthen school integration and to combat lack of school success and school abandonment (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ ME/ MCTES)

To support the creation of projects which seek to promote a more effective school integration of descendent children and young people.

To promote and support the inter-cultural initiatives of educational projects in schools at different levels of study, namely through the initiatives of the Entreculturas Secretariat, building bridges with cultures of origin that should be valued.

To promote a more effective relationship between teaching establishments, including tertiary education, and communities with large numbers of immigrants and their descendants.

To stress the importance of the role of teaching establishments, including those of higher education, as agents of socialisation and upward social mobility to families. To stress the importance of the role of socio-cultural mediators, of tutoring teachers and other members of the educational community who may provide more individualised and systematic assistance to more vulnerable students.

79. Combating spatial segregation (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To promote initiatives that build more effective bridges between segregated areas and the rest of the urban fabric, namely through “Escolhas” Programme as well as other initiatives which permit inter- and intra-territorial links to be set up.

To promote the existence of ACIDI, I.P. in closer proximity to more vulnerable neighbourhoods which seeks both to deconstruct the negative image generally associated with these neighbourhoods and to establish more direct contact with those populations.

80. To combat the social exclusion of descendents of immigrants (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To develop and mobilise “Escolhas” Programme as tools for implementing projects for descendents of immigrants and ethnic minorities through integrated and structured neighbourhood projects, giving priority to neighbourhoods more vulnerable to exclusion processes and where there is an overabundance of immigrant descendents.

To help set up precisely diagnosed local projects put into practice by consortiums of local, regional and central institutions which are able to activate the search for inherent answers to situations where more vulnerable children and young people suffer social exclusion.

81. Access to professional training and employment (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MTSS/ IEPF, I.P.)

To defend equal opportunities of access to professional training and employment for young descendents of immigrants by eradicating all forms of discrimination and racism.

To develop a network of Insertion into Active Life Units (UNIVA) in partnership with civil society organisations with the aim of providing information, professional guidance, procuring training and/or employment and helping young people in experiencing the job market.

82. To encourage civic participation (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To set up a Work Group of young immigrant descendents with positive leadership qualities, seeking their joint responsibility in conceiving and putting into practice specific answers and also in establishing channels of active dialogue with ACIDI, I.P. and other central, regional and local administrative bodies.

To stimulate the joint participation of immigrant descendents within the internal context of their communities of origin, and above all within the context of the host community in joint inter-cultural expression.

83. To sensitise public opinion about the integration of descendents of immigrants (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To publish cases of success in the field of social integration as well as the paths to success of children and young people of immigrant descent, through the channels of ACIDI, I.P. and “Escolhas” Programme and through the resources of the media at large.

To endorse as promising practices, projects in the area of integrating descendent children and young people, giving visibility to the innovative and effective solutions to their integration.

84. To broaden scientific understanding on descendents of immigrants (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To promote and support, through the auspices of the Immigration Observatory a scientific study on the descendents of immigrants, taking into account that they are a population with specific risk/success factors within the theme of immigration and within the population in general.

THE RIGHT TO LIVE AS A FAMILY – FAMILY REUNIFICATION

85. To reduce bureaucracy and accelerate the process of family reunification and strengthen the consular network in dealing with the origins of migratory flows to Portugal (MNE/ MAI/ SEF)

To facilitate the process of gathering documentation and translations, improving the response of consular services, including a comparative analysis of the answers that appear to have been given by those consular services and, eventually, to solidify the consular means that are most sought after.

To carry out short term training schemes in the field of family reunification directed towards staff.

To progressively adapt the consular network to deal with the new Portuguese migratory reality by means of finding the most suitable answers to the needs of immigrants, namely regarding the procedures for family reunification.

To alter the methods of granting visas with the idea of greater autonomy for the consular network, whenever possible in conjunction with officials allied to immigration.

RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION

86. Effective equal opportunities of Employment, to combat all forms of ethnic discrimination (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MTSS)

To develop, particularly during the Year of Equal Opportunities for All (2007), initiatives to sensitise employers to equal opportunities and to combat discrimination, to promote good practices within this field and also to develop the capacity of both immigrant associations and NGOs to set up schemes for promoting equal opportunities.

To reinforce the skills and capacity for involvement on the part of the Commission for Equality and Against Racial Discrimination (CICDR) in fighting clear examples of discrimination towards immigrant communities and ethnic minorities in relation to accessing employment.

87. To combat discrimination and racism in access to housing (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To consolidate and develop the effective work of CICDR in area of intervening in the refusal of rent contracts or house purchases on ethnic grounds.

88. Publicising and Training in the fight against racism and racial discrimination (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ IPJ/ I.P./ FDTI)

To organise a seminar about the national and European legal framework in the area of combating racism and xenophobia (with the participation of, among others, experienced organisations to instruct upon the procedures, security forces, local authorities, sponsorship organisations and trade union associations).

To create a CICDR website (with access to applicable legislation in complaint form and a data base relating to the opening of legal proceedings).

To solidify schemes to sensitise and broadcast the activities of CICDR, as much as through the distribution of leaflets and brochures regarding the schemes of ACIDI, I.P., directly to potential recipients, as through the “Us” television programme and in partnership with School Programmes.

89. To extend the scope of the Immigration Observatory in studies on discrimination in school and in the areas of housing and the job market (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MAOTDR/ MTSS/ ME)

To extend the scope of the Immigration Observatory in respective studies on discrimination in school and in areas of housing and the job market.

90. To encourage aid for victims of acts of racism and discrimination (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To increase the supply of aid to victims of racist or xenophobic acts, namely through the protocol established with the Victims Support Association (APAV) and operated by the Support Unit for the Immigrant Victim and Racial and Ethnic Discrimination, with the eventual extension of the protocol into the area of mediation.

91. Legislative alterations to extend the capacity of intervention by the Commission for Equality and Against Racial Discrimination (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To expand upon the proposed alterations to the current legal framework which establishes the institute of mediation as an obligatory procedural step in relation to law suits, the attribution of skills for instructing law suits by one single entity, the fixing of deadlines for instructing law suits, the simplification of procedures and further still the increasing of applicable fines.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

92. Consolidating the Law on Religious freedom (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To introduce measures, which in a systematic, transverse and effective form promote the values of respect for freedom of culture and religious conviction in Portuguese society.

93. Specific training for professionals in key areas (MJ/ MS/ MC)

To promote the carrying out of ongoing training schemes for professionals working in particularly sensitive areas managing religious diversity (e.g. health professionals) with the aim of attending, with all due respect and dialogue, to the attitudes and behaviour related to the beliefs of different religious convictions.

IMMIGRANT ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

94. To promote Association Membership in immigrant communities (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To broadcast the activities and the contacts of existing Immigrant Associations.

To design and distribute leaflets to motivate association membership, aimed for immigrants.

95. Participation of Immigrant Associations in welcoming and integration policy (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To encourage the active participation of Immigrant Associations in welcoming and integration measures, giving responsibility to and involving immigrants through their associations. To maintain and develop partnerships with Immigrant Associations. To promote participation in the same welcoming and integration policies at a local level in partnership with local authorities and by setting up consultant counselling at a local level.

96. To help the recognition of Immigrant Association representation (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To assist Immigrant Associations, in the sense of them bringing together the conditions and requisite needs to become recognised and to enjoy the inherent rights of such recognition.

97. To assist in managing projects associated to the integration of immigrants (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To assist associations in presenting their requests for aid in managing their projects with special concern with helping with need analysis, with conception and programming

of activities, with establishing the mechanisms for self assessment, with facilitating contacts and partnerships, and yet more in seeking sustainable finance.

98. Making the resources available for running an Immigrant Association (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ DGAL/ SEJD)

To develop, in partnership with local powers, support for Immigrant Associations substantiated by the availability of information technology, internet access, meeting rooms and spaces and other administrative facilities which, above all, enable the associations more deprived in terms of equipment with the means of carrying out their activities.

To facilitate the access of associations to information regarding public programmes, either national or community, from which those same associations can benefit and carry out their activities via the ACIDI, I.P. website.

99. Training opportunities for association leaders (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ FDTI)

To develop training schemes in partnership with training organisations and/or the academic world, constant with the time and capabilities to expand the wide range of materials related to the concept of associations, to project management and to leadership.

100. Inter-Association Network (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ FDTI)

To promote the exchange of experiences between Immigrant Associations and to facilitate the growth of partnerships through the creation of a website for and by Immigrant Associations and the promotion of joint ventures prepared and organised by the leaders of different associations.

MEDIA

101. To encourage the development of self regulatory mechanisms in the media, based upon ethical practice and professional deontology (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ GMCS)

To encourage, respecting media autonomy and the ethics and deontology of journalists, the development of self regulatory mechanisms that cover the domain of news about immigration, namely by adhering to facts and the appropriate framework by way of countering the perverse effects of inciting racism and xenophobia which the media can generate.

To appeal for the application of a standard rule that people are not to be identified neither by nationality nor by ethnic origin except when it is needed to explain news content, as well as refusing the use of group categorisation as a subject for the news or as a basis for determining behaviour.

To publish, through the Offices of the Means of Social Communication (GMCS) in conjunction with major sector representatives, relevant documentation produced by such international organisations as the European Union, the Council of Europe and UNESCO, in relation to target materials.

102. Nurturing cultural diversity in the media (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ GMCS)

To stimulate the media to give space to programming/information that demonstrates the existence of cultural diversity in Portuguese society, placing importance upon the cultural and linguistic expression in the resident migrant communities in Portugal.

RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

103. More efficient financial systems for sending remittances (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To encourage the development of systems of transferring remittances through financial institutions (banking or other) be they public or private, promoting market competition between institutions to generate a reduction in the prices incurred by clients (migrants) for transfers and to improve the quality of the services provided.

To improve information materials about the various types of existing institutions in the market available for immigrants who send remittances to their countries of origin.

104. Information on countries of origin (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MNE/ DGACCP/ MAI/ SEF)

To set up partnerships with governments in countries of origin, in conjunction with Portuguese Embassies to provide information to citizens intending to emigrate to Portugal, for better integration into the host country.

105. Connecting to the countries of origin of foreign students (MNE/ IPAD, I.P./ MCTES/ FCT, I.P.)

To promote, in particular with institutions granting study scholarships (and other forms of subsidy) to these students, to nurture programmes which encourage these students to return namely by (i) regular trips to their countries of origin; (ii) doing research and work about their countries of origin during their periods of study; (iii) promoting professional work placements incorporated into their studies or as a compliment; (iv) help in entering the job market in the country of origin.

To define goals for granting scholarships differentiated by country in terms of strategic necessity.

To create a register of graduating scholarship students and graduated scholarship students.

To create intern and employment grants with resources from embassies in origin countries and form embassies in Portugal.

The introduction of work placements in development projects, supported by IPAD, I.P.

To make grants available for professional internal and external training in accordance with the area of training of grant recipients.

106. To support returning and circulatory migration (MNE/ MAI/ SEF)

To promote circular migration, with the temporary or permanent return of immigrants to their respective country of origin, without forsaking their acquired rights, as laid down in bilateral agreements.

To nurture the entrepreneurship of immigrants, above all in trans-national investment projects, or help with investment in countries of origin. To involve NGOs, businesses and institutions in the host country to maximise the rewards for such investments of the capital involved (both physical and human).

107. To support the involvement of Immigrant Associations in the development of countries of origin (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To give credit to immigrant associations who nurture the development of their countries of origin, frequently in small, local communities, promoting the development of their

native homeland with capital accumulated in the meantime and also minimising the “brain drain.”

108. To strengthen the consular network dealing with the origins of migratory flows to Portugal (MNE/ DGACCP)

To progressively adapt the consular network to deal with the new Portuguese migratory reality by means of finding the most suitable answers to the needs of immigrants, namely regarding the procedures for family reunification.

ACCESS TO CITIZENSHIP AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

109. Campaign to publish the new Nationality Law and to create a network to help with instructing legal processes in applying for and acquiring nationality (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MJ/ IRN, I.P./ ME)

To publicise the new Nationality Law through media, and clarification schemes in hand with immigrant communities with the involvement of immigrant associations. Intense involvement of the Immigrant SOS help-line for clarifying matters to immigrants by telephone.

To set up in partnership with immigrant associations and NGOs, a network for supporting and explaining the application and acquisition procedure of the Nationality Law with the idea of easing the application procedure for immigrants while on the other hand simplifying the work of the public services when analysing the process.

110. Campaign to publish the new Immigration Law (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MAI/ SEF)

To publicise the new Immigration Law through media, and clarification schemes in hand with immigrant communities with the involvement of immigrant associations. Intense involvement of the Immigrant SOS help-line for clarifying matters to immigrants by telephone.

111. A scheme to promote the census of all immigrants eligible for participation in local authority elections (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To promote the campaign for a census and an appeal for electoral participation of immigrants who are now able to politically take part in Portuguese society.

112. Study of the Immigration Observatory and subsequent public debate about the political participation of long term resident immigrants (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P.)

To develop the study by the board of the Immigration Observatory about the political participation of long term resident immigrants.

113. Campaign to publicise the rights and obligations of immigrants while consumers (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ MEI/ DGC)

To develop an information campaign about the rights and obligations of immigrants while consumers, in substantial part as exercising their citizenship.

EQUALITY OF GENDER

114. To combat the vulnerability of female immigrants (PCM/ CIG/ MAI/ SEF)

To combat the vulnerability of female immigrants originating from multiple causes such as domestic violence or because of rejecting some traditions of the origin community which put into question their dignity, to stimulate autonomy and self-determination. To this effect awareness should be made of a secure residence permit, independent of the mechanisms attached to family reunification, as well as adequate legal protection.

115. To broadcast, to female immigrants, information about their specific rights and obligations as women (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P./ CIG)

To promote information and sensitisation campaigns on the rights and obligations of female immigrants in addition to and in conjunction with the National Plan for Equality by providing information leaflets translated into the various languages of the major communities.

116. To promote the employability and entrepreneurship of female immigrants namely through access to education and to professional training (PCM/ CIG)

To motivate employers to set up gender equality programmes which favour the recruitment of female immigrants and the attending of training schemes relative to improving their professional status.

To promote sensitisation and training programmes in the area of inter-culturality and gender equality directed towards both employers and workers.

**117. To promote the partnership of women in society
and their involvement in movements associated to defending women's rights
(PCM/ ACIDI, I.P. / CIG)**

To help give visibility to the role of female immigrants in building an inter-cultural society and combat gender stereotypes that inhibit their participation in economic, social and public life.

**118. To broaden scientific understanding about questions of gender
in immigration (PCM/ ACIDI, I.P. / CIG)**

To support, namely through the Immigration Observatory, scientific studies on questions of gender in immigration, particularly taking into account the obstacles facing female immigrants, the discrimination that are subject to as well as their specific needs and vulnerability.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**119. To reinforce legal protection and legal aid for victims, including children
(PCM/ CIG/ MAI/ SEF/ MJ)**

To create the most effective legal tools and institutions to support victims namely by establishing a "victim of trafficking" statute as much in the case of trafficking for sexual exploitation as trafficking for the exploitation of labour, reinforcing the inter-connections between the different intervening institutions such as police bodies, courts, NGOs. To guarantee the complete enjoyment of their fundamental rights in accord with the guiding principles of human rights.

**120. To set up a welcome centre for victims of trafficking
(PCM/ CIG/ MAI/ MJ)**

In partnership with civil society to create an institutional answer, namely through a welcome centre where victims of trafficking are afforded effective legal aid, socio-psychological, medical and administrative support as well as protection from threats to their physical safety.

121. To create a Human Trafficking Observatory (PCM/CIG, MAI)

To create an Observatory for Human Trafficking in line with the stated concerns and proposed measures within the National Plan of Action for Inclusion, giving visibility to strict and independent analysis of the phenomenon of human trafficking, especially with regard to the trafficking of women for means of sexual exploitation.

**122. Developing more effective strategies to combat human trafficking
(PCM/ ACIDI, I.P. / CIG/ MAI/ SEF/ MJ)**

To broaden the study and research upon the phenomenon of human trafficking and to develop police strategies to combat the same, with special reference to the transportation and illicit capture of human beings by whatever means of restraint.

To create the conditions for denouncing human trafficking and the supplying of essential information by victims and witnesses to aid criminal investigation, specifically by establishing protection programmes that would include, if necessary, the respective families in countries of origin.

