

Government Board for People with Disabilities

**National Plan of Actions
for the Handicapped Persons**

**Plan of Events for the Period
II/1992 - 1994**

June 1992

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Introduction

Both several resolutions of the General Assembly of the UNO issued during the Decade of the Handicapped and the Charter for the 80-ies call for working out national plans of actions for the handicapped persons. Creation of the National Plan of Actions for the Handicapped was, therefore, logically incorporated in the declaration of programme of the first Government of the Czech Republic arising from free election after forty years. Our society owed much to over one million of handicapped in the past. It cannot be concealed, either, that the transformatin period of our economy is an extremely hard time for our handicapped fellow-citizens. The Government of the Czech Republic is, however, fully aware that the duty of a democratic state with a traditional highly developed social feeling is to provide gradual assurance of the disabled who - may they try their utmost, still are unable to compete with healthy people in the conditions of market economy - with living conditions comparable to those in which their average healthy fellow-citizens live. At the same time it is not merely passive social advantages and grants to the handicapped what is concerned, the goal should be establishing legal guarantees for full self-realization and integration of the handicapped into the society.

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2. Definition of a Handicap

Degree of Disability

Evaluation of Residual Psycho-senso-motoric Abilities

2.1 Our legislation does not mention any complex definition of an impairment. It is interested only in the extent to which a person is able to work:

2.1.1 Disabled person (Act Nr. 100/1988 of Digest, § 29 par 2) A person is disabled if - because of his long-termed unfavourable state of health -

- a) he is unable to perform any steady job*
- b) performance of such job would make the state of his health much worse*
- c) it is true he can perform a steady job but only one quite inadequate to his previous abilities and social importance of his hitherto occupation, or*
- d) he can perform a steady job only under very exceptional conditions (blind persons, persons with very serious orthopedic defects etc.)*

2.1.2 Partially disabled person (Act Nr. 100/1988 of Digest § 37, par 2 and 3):

2. A person is partially disabled if - for a long-termed unfavourable state of health he can perform

- a) his hitherto or another equally qualified job only under specially facilitated conditions, or*
- b) only another, less qualified job and as a result of that his income has decreased considerably.*

3. A person is partially disabled also if his long-termed unfavourable state of health makes his general living conditions considerably more difficult, even if his income has not substantially decreased.

2.1.3 A person with ZPS (altered working ability) and ZPS with TZP (altered working ability with a serious impairment) (Act FS Nr. 1/1991 of Dig. § 21)

(1) Person with an altered working ability is a person who has, as a result of a long-termed unfavourable state of health, a markedly limited possibility to assert himself at work or vocational training for occupational use. Persons with an altered working ability are also receivers of pensions paid on the condition of long-termed unfavourable working state, as long as the maintained working ability allows their use at a job or training for it.

(2) Person with an altered working ability is always a person who

- a) as a result of unfavourable state of health is able to perform a steady job only quite inadequate to his previous abilities and social importance of his hitherto job,*

b) receives a partial disability pension, or

c) was found partially handicapped, even if he is not entitled to a partial disability pension

(3) Person with an altered working ability with a serious impairment is a person whose ability to assert himself at work including vocational training for it is extremely limited and he can assert himself only in a very narrow range of occupations or work under exceptionally modified working conditions.

(4) Person with an altered working ability with a serious impairment is always a disabled person who can perform a steady occupation only under quite exceptional conditions and a person who can - because of his long-termed unfavourable state of health - prepare for his future job only under quite exceptional conditions.

(5) Persons who are not referred to by the regulations of sections 2 and 4 are persons with an altered working ability or persons with an altered working ability with a serious impairment only if the respective Government authority decides so.

(6) Sections 1 to 5 do not refer to persons over 65 years of age.

2.1.4 Among the other handicapped persons only the powerless pensioners are mentioned in our legal regulation:

Powerlessness (intimation Nr. 149/1988 of Digest § 36 par 1 - 3)

1. Partially powerless is a pensioner needing a long-termed attendance of another person with some inevitable acts of life, e.g. with washing, combing and dressing. A practically blind person is always regarded as a partially powerless.

2. Largely powerless is a pensioner who demands, besides attendance stated in section 1, also regular help of another person in important acts of life, e.g. for walk and satisfying his physiological needs. A completely blind person is always regarded as largely powerless.

3. Completely powerless is a pensioner who has totally lost ability of self-service, demands permanent nursing and is permanently dependent on other person's help with all acts of life.

2.2 It is evident that the definition draws its source only from the possibility to assert oneself in a steady job. The "classification" has left out completely e.g. all handicapped who were never supposed to be able to work, e.g. mentally handicapped and long-term mentally ill. The same situation concerns also those suffering chronic or serious internal diseases and handicapped old pensioners. A great number of practical reasons (e.g. for assessment of social support etc.) makes it inevitable to work out an appropriate definition of an impairment and classification of a degree of its relevance. A justified judgement of the relevance of an impairment will enable the means for social assurance of the disabled to reach above all to those who are totally dependent on them.

2.3 The World Health Organization states in its International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps (1980) the following definitions:

Impairment: Any loss or abnormality of psychological, physiological or anatomical structure or function.

Disability: Any restriction or lack resulting from an impairment of ability to perform activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being.

Handicap: A disadvantage for a given individual resulting from an impairment or disability that limits or prevents the fulfilment of a role that is normal depending on age, sex, social and cultural factors for that individual.

2.4 Some definitions of handicap include also its social context (Norway):

A handicapped is a person who is, as a result of a permanent illness, injury, impairment or deviation of social nature largely limited in practical life if compared to the society around. This can concern e.g. education or occupation and physical or cultural activities.

2.5 Also the following definition is often used:

Handicap is a discrepancy between possibilities of an individual and function expected from him/her by the society in areas which are essential for independence and social life.

2.6 In the health insurance disability is often defined as follows:

State of a permanent and relevant decrease of functional ability as a result of illness, injury or inborn impairment.

2.7 Besides the disability definition it is, for a number of practical reasons, necessary to agree on some classification of its relevance. A justified assessment of a degree of the disability is important e.g. for a fairer allocation of social support.

2.8 What appears as most advantageous for the classification of disability degree is the system of points used e.g. in Germany or Austria. Its advantage consists in simplicity and the classifications according to it can be made also by decisive committees or other similar boards. Form and range of help should correspond to the degree of disability. Classification of the disability degree is proposed by the competent state administrative body in co-operation with VZP (Government Board for People with Disabilities) and the respective professionally oriented physicians' organizations (e.g. Czech Diabetologic Association) and with organizations of the disabled.

2.9 Two people with a very similar impairment can be handicapped by their impairment in quite different ways (in accordance with definition 2.3). One can adapt himself to his aggravated conditions better and another one with more difficulties. The system of points is a statement of the situation, not a forecast of possibilities. To state the range of abilities which can be maintained or regained by means of rehabilitation and the most suitable time and way for the return to occupational and social activities it is needed to have, besides the statement of degree of disability, also methods for evaluation of the residual psycho-senso-motoric abilities. This is a multi-specializational matter and has to be performed by teams of experts in centres of rehabilitation and re-training the network of which is to be established.

3. Number of the Handicapped

3.1 There are no statistic data concerning number of the handicapped in the Czech republic.

3.2 According to the report of MPSV CR upon the development of invalidization by December 31st, 1990 there were 130.354 persons in the CR who received partial disability pension and 352.779 persons with full disability pension, i.e. altogether 483.133 persons. This number, however, does not include youth and a part of retired people, whereas in the world it is usually mentioned that about 50% of all hadicapped are in the age category over 65 years.

3.3 According to the handicap definition used in individual countries the number of disabled is estimated in the range between 5% (Ireland) up to 19% (Norway) of the whole population.

3.4 If we use the most frequently given number (12%) we can estimate that there are roughly 1.200.000 impaired persons, including about 800.000 severely disabled persons.

3.5 It is even more difficult to estimate the number of the handicapped in each category. The only precise data concern cured diabeticians whose number of 479.125 in the CR is published in the Medical Yearly 1991.

3.6 The Report upon the Situation of the Handicapped and the Most Urgent Tasks to Be Solved (Government Board for People with Disabilities, VVZP 202/91, Praha 14. 1. 1992) for the Government of the CR states the following estimations:

60.000 visually impaired, including about 17.000 very severely disabled (till vizus 6/60)

300.000 hearing impaired, including about 15.000 completely deaf

60.000 people with defect of speech

1.500 blind-and-deaf

300.000 mentally handicapped

300.000 people with impairments of locomotive apparate

480.000 patients with diabetes (incl. 70.000 ones using insulin)

150.000 persons after heart and apopletic strokes

140.000 persons afflicted with epilepsy

100.000 mentally ill

Besides the above mentioned best known or most frequent disabilities there exists also a considerable number of the handicapped with e.g. innate development impairments, serious diseases of kidneys and urinary tract, rheumatism, oncological diseases, respiratory diseases and asthma, dermathoses, fenylyketonuria, cystic fibrosis, spina bifida, hydrocephalus, cerebral palsy, hemofilia, disseminated sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, shaking palsy (parkinsonism), nanism hypofyseosis (dwarfism), Turner's syndrom, Bechterev's syndrom etc.

3.7 It is necessary to establish a computer information system for quantification of the needs of the handicapped and qualified decision-making. In its first phase those databases will be of a great importance which are maintained by individual organizations of the disabled on the ground of voluntarily afforded data. In the final

stage, however, it must be Governmental institutions who will operate the databases concerning the handicapped and thus make sure that the acquired data will be administered in accordance with the prepared laws. Ministry of Health Care will create the database of the disabled in the framework of the National Health Information System.

4. Organizations of the Handicapped

4.1 For the handicapped their organizations, associations and clubs have an extreme importance. Also their parents, friends or professionals who work with the disabled found own civic associations. Nearly 70 such organizations, mostly oriented to specific impairments, have risen in the Czech Republic since November 1989. These organizations of the handicapped perform usually following activities:

- associative, including active ways of spending leisure time, cultural events, excursions, events of charitable nature etc.
- counselling and education
- child recreation
- social rehabilitation
- re-training.

4.2 Consequences of a certain impairment for a person do not depend on the number of people afflicted with the same impairment. The importance of the organization of the handicapped does not depend on the number of its members but on the results of its activity. All the state administrative bodies are obliged to pay the same attention to needs of all organizations of the handicapped regardless of the fact if these are members of an umbrella organization or not.

4.3 Organizations of the handicapped need financial resources for their activity. However, our public is not used to presenting money for humanitarian purposes and our legislation does not stimulate donations from enterprises and firms in any way. Organizations of the handicapped will not survive without a substantial and permanent material contribution from the state. Material participation of the Government in supporting these organizations will be able to decrease only with the introduction of new economic and social laws and turn of public opinion.

4.4 Humanitary projects of organizations of the handicapped are financed - besides the Government - by the Czechoslovak Council for Humanitarian Co-operation which administers the former Peace and Solidarity Fund of the National Front based on voluntary donations from persons. Both according to the Fund's status and also from the point of view of logic of maintenance the basic property it is possible to divide only 10% of fund's remainder for grants every year, which is a sum a lot smaller than that needed for these purposes. The situation would be much relieved by realization of the idea to establish a further humanitarian fund from the property of KSČ (Communist Party of Czechoslovakia) and SSM (Young Communists League). Ministry for Economic Policy and Development in co-operation with Ministry of Finance and Ministry of State Inspection will make a proposal to turn the property of former KSČ and SSM into a humanitarian fund which will be used also as an additional grant source for activity of civic associations of the disabled and associations helping them.

Affording of resources from the fund for civic associations and foundations for the handicapped will be consulted with the Government Board for People with Disabilities.

4.5 In the years 1990 - 1992 civic associations of the handicapped have received Governmental grants for their activity from several various sources: from the Government of the CSFR, Ministry of Health Care CR (MZ ČR), Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs CR (MPSV ČR), Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports CR (MŠMT ČR) and Ministry of Culture CR (MK ČR). The above named departments have already compiled much knowledge concerning effectivity of so spent state finance and co-ordinated their proceedings to a large extent. Ministry of Finance (MF CR) will make use of experience of these departments when working out a proposal of a new legal regulation upon affording and use of grants for the activity of civic associations of disabled persons. It will also assign possibilities of use grants for salaries and investments which the civic associations of the handicapped cannot do without.

5. Government Board for People with Disabilities

National Council for the Handicapped

Association of the Representatives of Organizations of the Handicapped

5.1 There existed no Governmental body in the past possessing the necessary rights to deal with complex problems of disabled persons. The state transferred most of its duties from the area of helping the disabled and even some obligations of the state administration to "non-Governmental" organizations - former Union of the Handicapped.

5.2 With the aim to fulfil both the resolution of the General Assembly of UNO issued for the Decade of the Handicapped and a demand of the Charter for the 80-ies, that is

"...The important matter is that in the government of each country there is a function established or a person in a high position appointed, who is responsible directly to the head of the state or the government, directs preparatory works on the National Plan of Events for the Benefit of the Disabled and co-ordinates its performance. This function or this person has a counselling body at disposal, which consists of representatives of the respective ministries, organizations of the handicapped and private or professional associations working for their benefit."

There was an "Inter-Department Group for Co-ordination of Tasks of Development in Care of the Handicapped Persons" established by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in the year 1982 and was active till the year 1989. This group, however, did not meet the expectations and did not prove to be efficient because the recommendations adopted were not binding and as a rule they were not put to practice.

5.3 After the existence of the Union of the Handicapped was finished there appeared a certain vacuum in our country because the activities which its relatively large apparatus including also a network of employees on the district level provided for the disabled

could not be immediately transferred to any Governmental body. As a result of that, some activities of essential importance for the disabled even ceased to be performed (e.g. consulting of projects concerning accessibility of new public buildings etc.). The return to the original situation is not possible for two basic reasons:

- a) None of a great number of newly founded organizations of the handicapped can be given a substantial advantage compared to the others.
- b) The Government must keep its decisive and control power in certain areas (e.g. affording grants from the state budget).
- c) Tasks of the state administration cannot be transferred to civic associations.

5.4 Resolution Nr. 151 of May 8th, 1991 of the Government of the Czech Republic has formed the Government Board for People with Disabilities on the top-level with the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic as the Chairman, Minister of Health Care as Deputy Chairman and Deputy Ministers and Heads of Departments of twelve relevant ministries as members. After a year's function of the Government Board it can be said that only this decision has really fulfilled the above (5.2) mentioned demand of the Charter for the 80-ies. Bringing all the relevant ministries together to one discussion table for the Government Board meetings enabled to soften negative consequences for the disabled just in the critical period of transformation of our economy.

5.5 Association of Representatives of Organizations of the Handicapped was founded in January 1991. It can be entered by any organization with membership basis formed predominantly by the disabled or their representatives. At the beginning the Association of Representatives was merely an open group of organizations of the disabled because there existed a considerable aversion to creating any umbrella institution whatsoever among them as a natural reaction to the past years. However, members of the Association decided to become legal subject, which will quite certainly raise its importance in future. According to the Government Board status the Association of Representatives is its main counselling body.

5.6 The regulation passed by the Government according to which the Government Board was established reckoned only with two professional employees as the Secretariate of the Board. Nevertheless, both disabled persons and state administrative bodies (quite rightfully) began to turn upon the Government Board with problems which had been previously solved by the Union of the Handicapped. Ministry of Health Care has therefore afforded two more posts from its own very strained resources. One more was added later, offered by the Czech Government Office. It is quite clear, however, that not even in this constitution the Government Board Secretariate can fulfil all what the Government of the CR, state power and administrative bodies, disabled persons and their organizations expect from it - namely:

- a) *Preparation and evaluation of Government Board's meetings*
- b) *Preparation of basic concept materials such as were e.g. Report upon the Situation of the Handicapped or the National Plan of Actions*
- c) *Co-ordination of activity of individual departments in favour of the disabled and gradual verification of achieved results*
- d) *expertise activity in matters of the disabled for the Government of the CR and particular ministries and other bodies of state administration*
- e) *remarks on legislative measures concerning the disabled*

- f) co-ordination of preparatory works of a complex law concerning protection of the disabled*
- g) expressing opinion concerning accessible flats which was imposed upon the Government Board by the Act of ČNR Nr. 102/1992 of Dig.*
- h) making use of a network of staff of district consulting and social rehabilitation centres and arranging that this staff provide their services to all organizations of the handicapped, as was imposed upon the Government Board Secretariate by its III. meeting*
- i) receiving foreign delegations of both non- and Governmental organizations dealing with problems of the disabled and in many cases also arranging for the programme of their stay*
- j) permanent supplying media with information concerning the Board's activity and the situation of the disabled*
- k) handling written, telephone and personal suggestions both from organizations of the handicapped and the disabled themselves.*

Further, the Government Board Secretariate hitherto deals with agenda of the Association of Representatives of Organizations of the Handicapped, namely

- l) distribution of information, preparation and evaluation of meetings for almost 50 organizations unified within the Association of the Representatives*

Some tasks which are very closely connected with the purpose of the Government Board have been till nowadays solved by the Health-and-Social Care Department of the Ministry of Health Care CR, which is, however, underdimensioned as far as staff is regarded, similarly as the Government Board Secretariate. This concerns namely the following tasks:

- m) qualified judgement upon demands of civic associations for grants from the state budget, control and assessment of effectivity of thus spent finance and co-ordination of affording grants with their other resources (so far civic associations are supported both from federal and republic resources - and from several departments - MZ ČR, MŠMT ČR, MK ČR, MPSV ČR etc. - which tempts to passing only slightly altered applications to all potential sources)*
- n) everyday contact with organizations of the handicapped, knowledge of their real activity including the skill to disclose in time foundations or associations which - by proclaiming humanitarian goals - only obscure their profit-making orientation for the benefit of individual persons.*
- o) co-ordination of contacts between medical, working and social rehabilitation and control of the standard of rehabilitation performed by civic associations*
- p) consulting for foundations and charitable organizations concerning optimal distribution of financial means acquired for the disabled both from inland- and foreign sources.*

(However, the Department of Health-and-Social Care MZ ČR solves also a number of other tasks connected with the competences of MZ).

Some activities inevitable for improvement of the situation of the handicapped, then, are not secured yet, e.g.:

r) passing judgement on projects of investors of public buildings from the point of view of barrierfree access

s) consulting for employers of the handicapped in which way they should adapt the working place or procedure so that they can employ a disabled person as quickly as possible

t) co-ordination of national activity in Very Special Arts, etc.

5.7 Following solutions are being proposed:

5.7.1 To maintain the Government Board for People with Disabilities in the recent shape which has proved to be suitable. However, besides activities listed under 5.6 the Secretariate will be charged only with a), b) and c) and participate in tasks d) g), i) and j).

5.7.2 The goal necessity is establishment of an over-department body - National Council for the Handicapped - with the needful competences which will take and develop suitable measures in the solution of matters of life quality of the handicapped persons, secure their equal social position and realize care of the disabled also in the field. Among the tasks stated ad 5.6 the National Council for the Handicapped will perform tasks e), f) and k), will participate in tasks d), g), i) and j), will overtake tasks m), n), o) and p) and will assure tasks s), r), t) and others. The Government Board for People with Disabilities will negotiate about this intention with the Minister of Health Care from the point of view of considering the recent competences.

5.7.3 Association of the Representatives of Organizations of the Handicapped apparently will not be able to do without its own Secretariate. The Secretariate of the Association of Representatives should gradually arrange for implementation of tasks l), h), and t) of section 5.6.

5.7.4 Creation of the National Council for the Handicapped will need a number of negotiations with the main purpose to solve the question of competence, i.e. which body of state administration should found the National Council (apparently the Employment Office of Ministry of Health Care) and which rights it should possess. It will be necessary to get resources for salaries, investments and business and gain accessible site. All this can take some time, but solution of the above mentioned questions cannot be postponed. In the transition period reinforcement of the Secretariate of the Government Board for People with Disabilities and Department of Health and Social Care of Ministry of Health Care CR is inevitable. The association of Representatives of Organizations of the Handicapped must receive finance to establish an own Secretariate for performance of functions of a democratic umbrella organization of civic associations of the disabled and their representatives. After the creation of the National Council for the Handicapped majority of experts from thus enlarged Secretariate of the Government Board and Department of Health-and-Social Care of MZ can move over there, which will considerably reduce demands calling for additional staff of the National Council.

6. Prevention and Medical Care

6.1 We have no statistic data concerning how much a seriously disabled person "costs" the state during his/her whole life. Foreign sources range in re-count between 3 and 5 million Kčs. Regardless of any precise sum it is evident that prevention of disability is a highly efficient investment, not to speak of preventing human pain. Even a mere reduction of a number of the handicapped would be an outstanding social and humanitarian achievement.

6.2 Correlation between the way of living and presence of certain chronic illnesses is clearly proved. Many of them can be prevented e.g. by a change in the composition of food, decreasing consumption of salt etc. Smoking tobacco has a powerful influence, as well as high consumption of alcoholic drinks and other habit-causing stuff. According to the National Plan of Support and Renewal of Health it is necessary to intensify prevention of all types of disability. National Center of Health Support will focus the enlightenment campaign above all on the foodstuff producers. Ministry of Agriculture will work out a system of grants for development of foodstuff production corresponding to the principles of healthy nutrition with special regard of the increasing number of diabetic patients. VZP with a help of experts will elaborate a system stimulating the insured persons for care of their own health.

6.3 There is an evident correlation between antenatal plus new-born baby care and a child's healthy development. In the year 1991 the new-born child mortality was 5,6 and before 28th day after birth 7,2 (per 1.000 born alive). The number of endangered pregnancies keeps increasing.

6.4 Certain number of disabilities is a result of wrong life regime of pregnant women (alcohol, smoking, drugs and inadmissible medicaments). Ways of enlightenment among future mothers are far from being exploited.

6.5 There are highly risky factors causing impairments in up to 30% of children, such as German measles (rubella), infection by cytomegalovirus or toxoplasmosis during pregnancy. Ministry of Health Care will develop vaccination programmes based on the epidemiologic situation, maintain permanent monitoring of the degree of vaccination and consider reasons for its application.

6.6 A high-quality antenatal and new-born child care for babies with very low natal weight among whom there is a great part of individuals disabled for perinatal reasons can be secured only in bigger maternity hospitals disposing of splendidly educated staff and equipped with modern technical means. It is necessary to make sure that all future mothers from risky categories are provided high quality antenatal care.

6.7 Genetic consulting is important for the information of parents concerning the danger of certain inborn impairments. Ministry of Health Care will continue with building up a network of genetic advisory centres and respective laboratory establishments.

6.8 Consequences of many inborn impairments can be much decreased by an opportune diagnosis and immediate beginning of rehabilitation. Late diagnoses still do occur mostly at the latent defects (hearing impairment, mental handicap, some chromosomal deviations with numerous malformations - e.g. Turner's syndrom, etc). Ministry of Health Care will make use of all available means to make the gynecologists, maternity hospitals, baby advisory centres and paediatricians do the screening of all ascertainable inborn impairments of children at their earliest age.

Postponing of diagnosis is a serious professional mistake which should always be dealt with by the Chamber of Medicine.

6.9 National Centre of Support to Health in co-operation with MŠMT and other institutions will stress the importance of healthy conception, healthy pregnancy and postnatal counselling concerning risks in pre-school and school period.

6.10 Some kinds of treatment or medicaments which can influence destiny of the disabled in substantial way and reduce or even prevent origin of their disadvantage are not available at all in our country or only in a very limited amount (spinal operations, implantations of cochlear neuprostheses, growth hormone, human insulin etc.).

Ministry of Health Care in co-operation with the General Health Insurance Office will arrange for establishment of the most important specialized services and will work out system of compensations for highly specialized medical help abroad.

6.11 Even quite common medical help is inaccessible for many handicapped, mostly because of existence of architectonic barriers (inaccessibility for wheel-chair-patients) and communication barriers (physicians cannot make themselves understood with the deaf). Ministry of Health Care will make use of its possibilities for removal of architectonic, communication and orientation barriers in health care establishments of the Ministry of Health Care. Parents of the mentally ill complain that e.g. their child can have a tooth tended under anesthesia only until he/she is 18. There are similar problems with other help, too, where qualified agreement of the patient is demanded.

6.12 Medical research has identified a number of chronical diseases which occur in a very small number but cause a serious handicap of the disabled people. Most of general practioners have in fact no experience with them because they never meet them at their work. Ministry of Health Care will promote opening of specialized centres for diseases causing permanent disability. In these centres ready for a short-time stay of both the patients and members of their family the patient will learn how to live with his handicap (fenyketonuria, cystic fibrosis, spina bifida, hydrocephalus, hemofilia, disseminated sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, shaking palsy - parkinsonism, hypofysary nanism - dwarfism, Turner°s syndrom, Bechterejev°s syndrom etc). Opening of specialized centres which would, besides medical care, provide also education will be needed also for some diseases with very frequent occurence (e.g. diabetes).

6.13. Another factor participating in a high number of handicaps are street accidents and their consequences. The Government Council of ČR for Safety of Road Transport has approved of the System Programme of Increasing Safety of Road Transport in the 90-ties at the beginning of the year 1991. This programme includes assigned particular tasks also concerning protection of the disabled, namely:

- to pay increased attention to risky groups of participants in road transport.....the disabled
- to promote training forms of disabled drivers
- to ensure possibility for the handicapped to participate in road transport as much as possible
- to pay attention to crossing equipment of light signalling which indicate signal for blind participants of road transport.

According to this programme the respective departments will solve questions of driving licences and possibility of the disabled to sit on the front seat. Constant

attention will be paid to enlarging the network of road crossings with light signalling operated with press-buttons easy to reach also for wheel-chair-disabled and height-deficient persons. Equipment of road crossings with acoustic signalisation for the blind will be preferred.

7. Counselling

Medical, Vocational and Social Rehabilitation

7.1 Rehabilitation is a very broad expression which includes all measurements from prevention as far as to influencing attitudes of the society towards the handicapped. We prefer more concrete terms for better arrangement and clearer definition.

7.2 Counselling is understood as an intervention of a team of experts where equally important roles are played by a psychologist, physician, special pedagogue, social worker and finally also successful handicapped adults as vivid examples for parents and later identification models for the child. There should be preferably involved experts who had passed a psychotherapeutical training. Counselling should be widely available and must be able to cope with the basic problems of a disabled person. In order to solve special problems it sends the disabled persons to the respective centre of medical or vocational rehabilitation.

7.3 Medical rehabilitation is a specialized branch the origin of which dates back to the World War II as reaction to the needs of war invalides. However, it began gradually to assert itself also in after-injury treatments, for the disabled and old persons. It represents a whole range of specialized treating processes and exercises designed for softening the consequences of injuries, diseases or both physical and mental handicaps, towards renewal of physical or mental functions and further for development or renewal of (if only a partial) ability of an individual person to go in for a normal activity. The medical rehabilitation must have a narrow link to the social one (learning to live with the chronic illness so that stabilization is achieved re-conditioning courses, practice in self-service, courses of lip-reading etc).

7.4 Vocational rehabilitation means to find a job which is suitable for the disabled person, while regard has to be taken of his previous occupation, his personal capacities and desires, special demands of the considered occupation and the possibilities on the labour market and further in training of the disabled person for this occupation and finding a set of both technical and other aids which will make it easier for him to perform it effectively.

7.5 Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will arrange for training of counsellors for the handicapped from among the employees of each Labour Office.

7.6 Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Health Care and voluntary organizations will co-operate on the establishment of a network of advisory facilities for the handicapped and their parents. MŠMT will arrange for the same conditions for private and church special pedagogic centres as for the Governmental ones and further will work out a proposal of a Regulation of the Government of CR upon affording grants to private pre-school and private school establishments.

7.7 Ministry of Health Care and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will promote opening of rehabilitation-retraining centres which will - apart from the actual medical

rehabilitation - provide also all parts of rehabilitation to a person who appears in a critical situation caused by a sudden occurrence of a permanent disability.

7.8 National Council for the Handicapped will guarantee the professional standard of the individual parts of rehabilitation and will co-ordinate activity of all links of guidance, medical and vocational rehabilitation.

8. Technical Aids

8.1 Modern technology can help to improve life quality of the handicapped in a substantial way by means of technical aids.

8.2 Technical aids can be basically divided into three categories:

8.2.1 Group 1 includes aids which are implanted and become thus a part of the disabled person's body.

8.2.2 Group 2 includes aids which partially or completely replace the lost function or part of a body as it is.

8.2.3 Group 3 includes so called rehabilitative aids.

There is no clear and sharp border to be drawn between these groups.

8.3 Aids in group 1 need a doctor's help before use. They include in the first place pacemakers of heart or urinary bladder, cochlear neuroprostheses for the deaf, mid-ear implants, hydrongel implants into vocal cords, implantable insuline dosing apparatuses, breast implants, endoprotheses etc.

8.4 Aids in Group Nr. 2 include especially prostheses, orthoses and epitheses, glasses, hearing apparatuses, wheel-chairs, elevators etc.

8.5 Aids in Group Nr. 3 complete the previous two groups of technical aids appropriately, so that a disabled person's possibilities came as close to those of a healthy one as can be, or they help to achieve his self-sufficiency as much as he can. They include cars and their accessories, communication systems, robotized systems enabling self-service, aids for re-education, re-socialization and building equipment from the point of view of the needs of handicapped people. There are e.g. glucometers, tonometers etc.

8.6 The common feature of all technical aids for the disabled is that they are very expensive. The main reason for their high price is production in small series.

8.7 A chance to get a suitable technical aid is a human right of a disabled person. Aids in groups Nr. 1 and 2 and some in Nr. 3 in standard model must be given them free of charge. Though, for some aids in group Nr. 3 financial participation of the handicapped person can be demanded, but still to such extent which makes it practically attainable for him/her.

8.8 Co-operation of MZ ČR, MF ČR and MPSV ČR should solve the question of financing the standard assortment of all three groups of aids from one resource. Aids in groups Nr. 1 and 2, as well as some aids in group 3 in standard model will be fully financed from the resources of the General Health Insurance Office. Some of the 3-rd

group aids will be financed with the patient's participation, which will be considered individually and in co-operation with district and local authorities.

8.9 Ministry of Health Care ČR will establish "the National Centre for Rehabilitative Engineering" which will, besides others, arrange for judging of all technical aids for the handicapped from the point of view if their function and price are equivalent. Lists of aids afforded free of charge will include only those approved of by this centre.

8.10 "Centres for Technical Aid to the Disabled" will be founded under a methodic supervision of the National Centre for Rehabilitative Engineering. These will - apart from technical consultations - create permanent expositions of technical aids for the handicapped where these get an opportunity to try to use the aids under expert supervision before they apply for them. This will stop misuse of financial means because not every costly aid recommended by its producer can really bring the expected benefit to the disabled person. Finance for the activity of the above mentioned centres will be drawn from resources of MZ ČR and General Health Insurance Office. Part of business of these centres will consequently be covered from their profit.

8.11 Ministry for Economic Policy and Development will work out a detailed "Programme HOPE to Support Entrepreneurs' Motivation for Providing Production and Services for the Handicapped Persons" which represents a combination of credit guarantees at banks, contribution for payment of interests from credits, returnable financial aid, tax alleviations and other advantages for producers of quality products for the needs of handicapped persons.

8.12 Central Customs Body will arrange for duty-free import of all types of aids for the handicapped.

8.13 Benefit of a technical aid for a handicapped person is usually very much dependent on its perfect individual adaptation. All the members of a complex medical, vocational and social rehabilitation recommending technical aids for the handicapped will be responsible also for the quality of their individual adaptation and will check if especially expensive aids for the disabled are actually in use.

9. System of Education

9.1 There exists a network of Governmental special schools in the Czech Republic covering the basic needs of education of handicapped children, with the exception of those with multiple handicaps and multiple sensoric deprivation (blind-and-deaf). The problem, therefore, does not mean non-existence of these establishments but rather their quality, equipment and basic philosophy of educating the disabled.

9.2 Most of handicapped children namely can and should attend school together with healthy ones. To direction them into specialized schools means in many cases to separate them from the family because the network of specialized schools can never be dense enough. It also means segregation of the disabled from healthy population and disturbance of a "normal" attitude of public towards the handicapped already at the very beginning of the socializing development.

9.3 MŠMT ČR and communities will gradually establish conditions for integration of disabled children into schools of current type:

- a) by reducing number of children in a nursery class attended by a disabled child
- b) by reducing number of children in a basic school class attended by a disabled pupil
- c) by employing a visiting pedagogue from the respective advisory centre or a special pedagogue wherever it is necessary for the concrete type of the handicapped pupil
- d) by providing pupils resp. classes with appropriate technical and didactic means

The Ministry will also send a letter to presidents of all faculties training future teachers explaining the situation and will ask them to include at least a minimum of special pedagogy and psychotherapy into their curriculum. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in co-operation with Ministry of Environment (MŽP ČR) will make out a system of grants which will enable communities to start the process of removing architectonic barriers in their schools.

9.4 Children should, as a rule, be educated in so called "less restricting environment". For most of the handicapped children this represents schools of current type after fulfilling conditions stated in par 9.3. However, there do exist groups of disabled children for whom, on the other hand, placement in normal schools means the most restricting environment in which they cannot develop their potential abilities. Such disabled children are e.g. some mentally handicapped ones, those with multiple impairments, children blind-and-deaf and also a great group of children prelingually deaf who need environment with solid communication facilities in sign language for their healthy development, which cannot be provided in a normal school. MŠMT will support development of Governmental, private, church special nurseries and special schools as well as school establishments for these categories of disabled for whom integration is not possible or suitable.

9.5 The contents of par 37 of Act on Education allows to free some extremely seriously disabled children from the duty to attend school or from obligatory school attendance. Even if we think that this regulation cannot be understood in the sense of segregation and its purpose was to make optimum living conditions for severely mentally handicapped individuals with a combination of impairments in the framework of social care homes MPSV and also to afford a certain protection to these children and their parents from a duty of theoretical education impracticable for them, sometimes inappropriate application of this law in practical life deprived children of right for education ensured by the Human Rights^o Declaration. MPSV, MŠMT and MZ will be responsible for an individual examination of every person who asks for it by a team of experts who will suggest a way how this person receives fulfilment of his/her right to education in the general meaning of the word.

10. Occupational Training

Job

Sheltered Work

10.1 One of the basic goals of the National Plan of Actions for the Handicapped is to enable them to contribute practically the society in a maximum range which their capabilities allow them. Great majority of the disabled can and want to work. *"It is important that nobody is deprived of a chance to work, not even when the society must put in a considerable effort to enable employment of the handicapped. No matter how open-handed the financial compensation is, it is not the right solution because for many it means neglecting of the deepest psychical needs of an individual to experience satisfaction drawn from a feeling that one is useful for the society and of increased dignity of a working man..."* (Working Party on Training and Employing Handicapped, Dublin, 1975)

10.2 Discussions concerning employment of the handicapped usually concern only the most seriously disabled for whom the working place must be modified. It is, however, necessary to keep in mind that each type of impairment covers a broad spectre of seriousness - from minute deviations of normality to the most severe impairments. Equally, one must think of a whole scale of possible working use - from free labour market to sheltered workshops.

10.3 A number of working places have been established in our republic in the past where mostly the handicapped were employed. These organizations must be further supported, namely by way of advantageous orders or prior production rights to workshops and co-operatives of the handicapped and also with a help of tax alleviations and other financial advantages. This must appear in law and legal regulations connected with the complex change of the tax system.

First of all, one must consider how the new tax system coming into validity on January 1-st, 1993 will support work of the handicapped in organizations employing them. The present grant system of these organizations predominantly in investment area and system of contributions to equipment and operation of sheltered workshops and working places must be further maintained.

10.4 Those disabled who seek a job can make use of all services of directioning at the Labour Offices. MPSV will ensure gradual increase of qualification of officials in charge who look for jobs for the handicapped at the Labour Offices, which will - step by step - arrange for barrierfree access into their rooms.

10.5 Asserting of the handicapped in the open labour market is the most desirable goal and for many disabled it is achievable. Regulation of the Government of ČR upon obligatory percentage of persons with ZPS among employees of an employer and tax alleviations for employers have created favourable conditions for its fulfilment in the whole society. Controls of implementation of the mentioned regulation and monitoring of the way how tax alleviations for the handicapped are applied by employers should also enable a current monitoring of employment of the handicapped. MPSV and MF will suggest a way of running monitoring of employment degree of persons with an altered working ability, as well as altered working ability with a serious handicap.

10.6 The efficiency of the Governmental regulation concerning the obligatory percentage of persons with ZPS in the total number of employees of an employer could be put even higher by way of opening regional funds for employment of handicapped persons which would concentrate finance drawn from sanctions for its non-fulfilling (recently they flow to a specially opened budget with pre-number 2794, K - symbol 354X). Sanctions assessed by the instruction of MPSV ČR Nr. 7/91 are relatively low (mere 4% of the amount allowed by Act of ČNR Nr. 9/91). Ministry of

Labour and Social Affairs will consider, on the base of experience with asserting its instruction Nr. 7/91, the possibility to raise sanctions for breaking the regulation of Government ČR upon obligatory percentage of persons with ZPS and ZPS with TZP in the total number of employees of an employer.

10.7 The possibilities of being useful in the open labour market for the handicapped could be substantially broadened by accessibility of both civic service buildings and areas closed for the public, if only the nature of operation enables to employ persons with serious locomotive impairments (services etc).

10.8 Government Board for People with Disabilities will start a campaign aimed at the employers' awareness of the abilities of the handicapped and generally to a higher degree of their employment.

10.9 Some handicapped need a change of working place or special technical aids for their performance of the given work. The range of modifications varies from simple ramps and platforms and minute modifications of working tools to very expensive Brail- and sound computer accessories for the blind.

10.10 MPSV in correlation with the financial possibilities of the state budget will gradually raise the limit of contribution for changes of a working place for the seriously disabled, so that they could make full use of all chances offered them by development of modern technic to compensate for their impairment. Handicapped entrepreneurs must receive a contribution up to the full extent of real costs and maximum limit assigned for the respective period.

10.11 In many countries they have a good experience with establishing a kind of working teams of the handicapped in existing enterprises. Some positive experience have been also in our country e.g. with employment of the deaf when most of problems were overcome by employing one social worker for a certain number of deaf - a sign language interpreter. Somewhere else a group of handicapped employees could be helped by training of their works physician and recruit in civil service in the respective problems.

10.12 Ministry for Economic Policy and Development will consider possibility to include employment of the handicapped as an additive criterium for affording supports to entrepreneurs in the framework of newly proclaimed programmes of enterprising development.

10.13 So-called sheltered workshops must be founded for the most seriously disabled. They are not expected to perform so much at work that the very expensive sheltered workshop could stand the free competition. MPSV enabled their opening and partial financial support from state budget by its regulation Nr. 115/1992 of Dig. upon execution of vocational rehabilitation. The same Ministry will issue a report upon the facts how many sheltered workshops are financed on the base of this regulation, how many disabled work in them and what is their structure and will keep gradual monitoring of efficiency of this way of employment of the most seriously disabled.

10.14 Besides long-term employment of the most seriously handicapped the sheltered workshops should gradually play an important role in a chain of vocational rehabilitation. They must become also centres of vocational training and re-training of persons with inborn impairments for finding their place in the free labour market.

10.15 Disabled basic- and special school leavers must get an opportunity to be apprenticed in the chosen specialization, appropriate as far as health is concerned. One

must come out from the specific capacity of each handicapped during the vocational training and make as much use as possible of his strong points. Special school pupils must be given an opportunity of vocational training in apprentice- and training specializations, auxiliary school pupils must, after finishing their obligatory school attendance, get a chance to go through training or practice specializations, a part of which is a continuous education towards maximum self-service. One has to be particularly concerned about over-evaluation of possibilities of training specializations for children suffering epilepsy. MŠMT in co-operation with Ministry of Industry will suggest a way of individualization of vocational training of the handicapped for their job. At the same time it will support development of specialized educational establishments and training branches for disabled youth. In co-operation with Ministry of Interior it will support establishment of training facilities for the disabled in the educational establishments of a current type. In co-operation with Ministry of Finance it will suggest the way of reimbursement of costs of vocational training of handicapped apprentices by the Government, including the costs of guides and interpreters of sign language.

11. Independent Living

11.1 The general opinion on the problems of disability have seen considerable changes during the last 10 years. Laws forbidding any form of discrimination of the handicapped based on their impairment have been passed in several most advanced countries. A world-wide movement of the handicapped "Independent Living" has been founded. This movement is conditioned by a whole complex of factors, their implementation being the goal of the National Plan of Actions - by the quality of rehabilitation, removal of barriers, acquiring technical aids, access to information, antidiscriminative legislation and change in the attitude of public. However, not even fulfilment of all the conditions listed is sufficient for some disabled. An excellent way how to solve their situation can be employing the so-called personal assistants who are trained in care of seriously handicapped. The experience of countries which tried a mass involvement of personal assistants show that this way enables the handicapped to live in their own environment and final expenses are much lower than those spent on any form of an institutional care. We see the possibility to assure personal assistants in our country in combination of the system of attendance service with the institute of civil service. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will work out an additional material to the methodic regulation of the Act of FS Nr. 18/1992 upon Civil Service which will recommend priority of utilization of persons in civil service as personal assistants of seriously handicapped people. At the same time it will suggest a way of reward for these assistants and will stress that the decisive word for acceptance resp. dismissal of the assistant belongs to the handicapped him-/herself or their responsible representative.

11.2 Independent life of mentally disabled is possible especially in so called "sheltered housing" where assistants afford help and care to a small group of the handicapped living together. Outstanding projects of two model centres of sheltered housing (Community Living Arrangements) in our country are financed by the American Congress by means of a foundation "Joint Distribution Committee". Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs has asked Ministry of Finance for allocation of means to

continue financing of these model centres after their support from the United States expires.

12. Residential Care

12.1 In spite of the development of medical science and improvement of rehabilitation methods there still does and will exist a certain number of the handicapped who need a long-term institutional care. In the past tendency of their segregation into large specialized institutes prevailed. They were located separately and far from places with highly concentrated population. This philosophy is no more acceptable. A disabled person must get a chance to live in his/her own environment as long as possible (see chapter 11 - independent life) and to prefer small communities located in normal housing quarters when newly built establishments of permanent care are concerned.

12.2 In the year 1990 Czech Republic had 516 social care establishments housing the total of 54.930 people. 87% of them were retired (47.795), 11% mentally disabled (6.040) and 2% both physically and mentally disabled (1.095).

12.3 The recent social care institutes for physically, sensorily and mentally disabled must be transformed - step by step - to open establishments affording the handicapped a differentiated assistance:

a) Those who cannot cope even with a simple vocational rehabilitation must be offered an appropriate daily activity and programme (education and stimulation), as well as a chance for spending leisure time. Approach to a handicapped person must be in principal different from that to an ill one, for he/she need not be cured from the handicap but must be helped to overcome it. This help must be such that it always maintains dignity of an individual and leaves him/her the highest possible degree of independence, own privacy and freedom of decision-making. The assistant's care is only one of the parts of a complex institutional attendance which must not be reduced for any person merely to satisfying his/her basic biologic needs.

b) Those who - after passing through the respective vocational rehabilitation and re-training courses - can and want to work, an appropriate job in sheltered workshops should be offered.

c) Vocational rehabilitation and re-training plus support by integrating the handicapped into the society of healthy people. MPSV will work out a study of a concept for further increase of assistance quality and removal of barriers in recent social care institutions and pensioners' homes including also the plan of steps for their gradual change into open and non-segregating systems, plus estimation of expenses needed.

12.4 After the year 1989 new social care establishments responding to the contemporary philosophy of permanent institutional care were founded by various civic associations, churches and orders. The main problem all these initiatives are facing is lack of resources for investments and for function of these establishments. Financing by way of grants for the activity of the civic associations is not in this case an optimum solution. At the same time, however, these are quite evident examples of overtaking of some Government duties by non-Government organizations. MPSV in co-operation with Ministry of Finance will suggest a way of grants for establishment

of social care by NGOs and those founded by communities. Equality of economic conditions should be achieved both for Government and non-Government homes. Ministry will find out average costs per one ward in Government establishments and the non-Government ones will be afforded the same amount on the ground of a previous analysis of regional conditions.

13. Training of Experts for Dealing with the Handicapped

13.1 The basic principle is that all who work with the handicapped, be it in medical, pedagogical, technical, psychological, legislative or administrative area, should have the necessary qualification and make use of all available possibilities for permanent training which leads to the maximum "general education" on all aspects of rehabilitation.

13.2 All students of Medicine must be explained the necessity of an early diagnosis, consequences and possibilities of rehabilitation of individual types of handicaps. The Government Board for People with Disabilities will negotiate with the presidents of faculties of Medicine about a classified subject on elementary knowledge about rehabilitation and possibilities to introduce studies of rehabilitative medicine at their faculties.

13.3 It is important to provide all students of Pedagogic and other faculties preparing future teachers with basic information about special pedagogy and the quality of specialized studies of special pedagogy must be put much higher and opened also for the handicapped themselves. The Government Board for People with Disabilities will negotiate with presidents of faculties training future teachers about introduction of a classified subject Elements of special pedagogy for all students and possibility for the handicapped students to be admitted for studies of special pedagogy.

13.4 The Government Board for People with Disabilities will negotiate with the presidents of technical faculties about the possibility of opening studies of rehabilitative engineering. It will constantly appeal to the presidents of the respective faculties to make them introduce specialized educational subjects with a possibility of training focussed on the disabled from the aspects of psychology, psychiatry, sociology, linguistics and law. It will discuss introduction of a subject concentrated on removing architectonic barriers with presidents of faculties of Building, Engineering, Electrotechnics and Transport and a similar subject for secondary technical schools with Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

13.5 The Government Board for People with Disabilities will support international exchange of students concentrated on the problems of disability as a part of the programme TEMPUS.

13.6 A very good programme for training experts for work with the handicapped in our country is financed by the American Congress by means of the Joint Distribution Committee. As a part of this programme a training institute and two model centres of community attendance to both physically and mentally disabled have been established in our country in November 1991. This project will be fully financed from the USA till autumn 1993, the Charles° University will have to overtake half of the costs in the following year and finance it fully in the years from then on. MŠMT will get resources for the Charles° University needed for financing the training institute and two model

centres of sheltered housing after the Joint Distribution Committee stops its financial support from the USA.

14. Housing, Barriers and Transport

14.1 One of the essential needs of a human being is a roof above one's head, comfort and safety of an own home. The handicapped possess this need even stronger because majority of them spends much more time at home than healthy people and for many of them home is the only place where they find peace after constant slights caused them by our - still not enough cultivated - public.

14.2 Most of the disabled can live in normal flats without problems but some categories need them adapted in a certain way. These adaptations cover a whole scale of financial demands - from relatively low (e.g. installation of induction loops and light bells for the deaf) over to a high one (of bathrooms, lavatories, doors etc. for the paralysed) and to flats built as accessible ones on purpose.

14.3 Intimation Nr. 182/1991 of MPSV allows receiving a grant for removal of barriers in a flat. The situation is at the moment rather complicated because of obscure ownership situation in many houses which has not been removed by the new civic law: it considers accessible flats as flats of special purpose: their occupation must be - according to par 9 of Act of ČNR Nr. 102/1992 of Dig. consulted with the Government Board for People with Disabilities.

There are many unanswered questions yet to be solved, e.g. who is responsible for the adaptations realized in flats inside houses in various types of ownership, whether the owner of a house can quit a disabled person from a flat which was expensively (and often with a Governmental grant) adapted, who becomes owner of the adaptations after eventual moving away of the handicapped and which is the limit value or standard of adaptations from which on the flat is regarded as an accessible one.

14.4 Ministry of Environment in co-operation with FMPSV will propose a new procedure of affording grants for removal of barriers in flats inside houses with various type of ownership. In co-operation with Ministry for Economic Policy and Development it will suggest the necessary legislative regulations solving the problem of accessible flats in a complex way, including a proposal for status of an accessible flat. Ministry of Environment will present a proposal of a governmental regulation to the Government of ČR according to which about 10% of flats in Governmental (local) construction should be projected so that they could be adapted into accessible ones at minimum costs.

14.5 Public notice of State Committee for Scientific-Technical and Investments^o Development Nr. 53/1985 upon general technical demand assuring use of buildings by persons with limited ability to move was issued in the year 1985. Investors must make sure that all the newly constructed buildings meet the demands of this intimation. Ministries of Education, Youth and Sports, Health Care, Culture and Interior will elaborate a system of grants for consecutive removal of architectonic barriers in similar standing establishments.

14.6 Another type of impairments may see no problem in architectonic barriers, yet may face equally serious barriers for communication (the deaf) and orientation (the

blind). These problems should be incorporated in the novelized intimation Nr. 53/85 of Dig.

14.7 The handicapped persons find the question of suitable transport facilities extremely important. It must be stated that exceptional advantages of II. and III. degree including right to a charge-free transport in regular communication of town public transport and price reduction on trains and buses have proved to be fully useful and that it is important to maintain these advantages for the disabled in future, too.

14.8 However, there are many handicapped who are entitled to transport either at a reduced price or completely free of charge, and still they cannot make use of it because the means of transport are inaccessible for them. Generally there exist three ways how to solve this problem:

- a) Completely accessible public transport
- b) Specialized measurements in public transport
- c) Individualized service (taxis, minibuses etc).

14.9 A solution perhaps more realistic would be a regulation that the newly purchased means of public transport must allow entrance of wheel-chair-passengers and their gradual incorporating into the transport network.

14.11 Ministry for Economic Policy and Development will initiate actualization of a study of all aspects of transport for the seriously handicapped with a concrete statement of tasks including financial demands. The necessary legislative means will be assured by the state administrative body with the respective competence.

15. Social Assistance

15.1 Even in advanced countries with market economy studies prove a tight relationship between a handicap and poverty. The reasons may be various but certainly an important role is being played by low employment of the disabled and their frequent absence because of being ill. If they work at all, then mostly in the worst paid jobs. Besides, the disabled have demonstrably higher minimum living costs than the healthy population as a result of need of special nutrition, transport, adapted or more heated flat, giving small presents to nurses etc. The Government of the Czech Republic is aware of the fact that different measurements must be used for the handicapped persons than for the healthy population and that they cannot be expected to compete with the rest in conditions of market economy.

15.2 Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will periodically evaluate efficiency of social means which are supposed to help the disabled and design their flexible corrections so that the undeservedly handicapped persons do not experience being in the situation of social need, if this can be avoided.

15.3 Supports, social services and exceptional advantages in favour of the handicapped are at the moment dealt with in the Intimation of Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Nr. 182/1991 of Dig.

Single contributions

- Single financial and material support afforded to socially needful seriously handicapped and old persons to cover exceptional necessary expenses which they cannot pay from the usual income. This may also concern more tiring work needed for house-keeping. Support is afforded by the community.

- Contribution for gaining special aids concerns aids enabling compensation of disability consequences. This contribution may, but need not be afforded. If the aid is transferred to another person within 5 years since the contribution was received it must be paid back. Contributions can be given by district authorities.

- Grant for flat or family house flat adaptation is given to persons with serious impairments of carrying or locomotive apparatus and the blind with regard of their income and property situation. It can be afforded up to 70% of proved expenses but up to maximum of 50.000,- Kčs on the condition of returning the amount after flat exchange within 10 years. Grant can be afforded by district authorities.

- Grant for purchase, general repair or special adaptation of a motor vehicle can be afforded to persons with serious impairments of carrying or motion system who are reliable on individual transport. The height of the grant is 50% of the purchase price, maximum being 60.000,- Kčs on the condition of returning the amount in case of sale of the vehicle within 5 years. There exists a possibility to afford two grants to a disabled couple. Grant can be afforded by district authorities.

- Contribution for the use of motor vehicle and for insurance costs afforded to seriously handicapped persons enjoying exceptional advantages of II. and III. degree. The contribution

is 50% of price of 60 l petrol Special for III. degree and 30 l for II. degree. The contribution can be afforded by district authorities.

- Contribution for individual transport for persons suffering serious impairments of carrying or locomotive apparatus or blind who are not owners of a motor vehicle up to 5.000,- Kčs a year. The contribution can be paid by communities.

- Contribution for recreation and spa treatment can be afforded to non-working pensioners who pay for the vouchers themselves. The contribution in relation to the income may represent 60 - 100% of the voucher price. It can be paid by local authorities.

- Contribution for heating oil and purchase of radiators and other appliances is directed to seriously handicapped and old, socially needful persons. The contribution limit is 3.000,- Kčs for heating oil per annum and 2.500,- Kčs for purchase of radiators and can be afforded by local authorities.

- Contribution for establishment and change of a telephone station is directed to the socially needful and seriously handicapped persons who have been granted advantages of III. degree or those who enjoy pension increase for powerlessness. The height of the contribution can reach up to 1.000,- Kčs. It can be afforded by local authorities.

- Contribution to the handicapped youth after finishing their vocational training for job. The wards of institutes for disabled youth, institutes for TP youth with additional mental handicap, institutes for TP youth with multiple impairments and to persons with an altered working ability who have passed vocational training for a job can be afforded single financial contribution and material help of 5.000,- Kčs, exceptionally

up to 10.000,- Kčs at leaving the establishment on the condition that the ward's savings do not exceed 5.000,- Kčs and nobody has alimetal duty towards them.

Repeated financial contributions:

- Contribution for increased costs of living afforded to socially needful seriously handicapped persons and old people who have increased costs of living e.g. as a result of necessity of diet nourishment, higher rent etc. The contribution can be afforded by district authorities.

- Contribution to persons using permanently complicated orthopedic compensation or other aids can be afforded to persons using them for increased expenses caused by this use up to 300,- Kčs per month. The contribution can be afforded by local authorities.

- Contribution to blind persons permanently active at work who attend vocational training or studies for job or the blind who enjoy orphan pension is 300,- Kčs per month. The contribution can be afforded by district authorities.

- Contribution for operation of a telephone user's station can be afforded to socially needful seriously handicapped persons or lonely living persons over 70 years of age. The contribution limit is 50,- Kčs per month and it can be afforded by district authorities.

- Contribution for covering the rent for using an accessible flat and garrage can be afforded to persons with serious impairments of carrying or locomotive system and the blind who live in an accessible flat covering the difference between current rent and that of an accessible one. Contribution for covering the expenses for using a garrage can be up to 200,- Kčs per month. It can be afforded by local authorities.

- Blind owner of a guide dog can be afforded a contribution for dog's food up to 600,- Kčs per month by the commissioned district authority.

- Contribution in case of care for a related and other person

(1) A person who becomes socially needful because of attendance to a related person who is mostly or completely powerless or over 80 years of age is entitled to a financial contribution. The same concerns a person attending to a person other than related on the conditions stated in the first sentence and that that they live together in a common household.

(2) Financial contribution belongs also to a parent or grandparent or another person who provides care compensatory to the parents' care if they become socially needful because of care of a child permanently seriously handicapped and demanding exceptional attendance and not placed in an establishment for such children with whole-week or whole-year stay.

(3) One does not examine for the purpose of stating social need of persons listed in sections 1 and 2 whether they can increase their income by own endeavour or whether their husband (wife) or children have alimetal duty towards them.

(4) Persons named in sections 1 and 2 are entitled to a monthly financial contribution up to the amount of pension which is afforded to a single person as the only source of income, increased by the Governmental balancing contribution if they attend to one person. If there are two or more persons they attend to they are entitled to a monthly financial contribution up to the amount of a pension which is afforded as the only

resource of income to a married couple, increased by the a state balance contribution. It is afforded by district authorities.

- contribution to collective meals can be afforded by communities to socially needful seriously handicapped and old persons up to 12,- Kčs per one lunch meal. It can be raised in exceptional cases by 15% at most.

15.4 The above mentioned regulations together with a system of exceptional advantages and disability pensions and aids afforded on the ground of a medical perscription in principle cover needs of the handicapped. The problem is rather in the height of contributions, facultativity of many of them and complicated system of their affording by different institutions. A disabled person must exert an extreme effort to learn at all what form of help he/she is entitled to and to arrange for all the formalities needed. It is a sad irony that many places he/she must visit then are inaccessible because of a number of barriers. Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will include the grant system into the proposal of principles of the Act upon State Social Support until the Act upon the Handicapped is passed. MPSV ČR should suggest a way how to settle all the matters connected with social insurance by visiting minimum number of accessible places.

16. Education of Public

16.1 Life quality of the handicapped is extremely influenced by the way how the wide public treat them. The public's behaviour, then, can be influenced to a large extent by systematic education and enlightenment. However, besides education of public one must also look for ways how to bring the handicapped up towards integration into the society.

16.2 Both non- and Governmental sector must participate in the process of education of public for the right relations to the disabled.

16.3 The Government Board for the Disabled will be responsible for co-ordination of enlightenment events organized by Governmental bodies in favour of the disabled.

16.4 The same Board will establish regular contact with the authorities of Czech TV and radio and will inform them gradually about the most urgent up-to-date problems of the handicapped.

16.5 The very Board, again, will start a campaign concerning problems of the handicapped in the public media.

16.6 Ministry of Finance will, in the framework of Governmental grants for the activity of civic associations, support also their activity in areas of enlightenment, information and propaganda.

17. Leisure time, Culture, Sports

17.1 Active ways of spending leisure time, culture and sports are an important component of the activity of civic associations of the handicapped which must be supported by Governmental bodies, too. Besides self-realization at work the disabled find a very efficient compensation of social problems caused by their handicap in these areas and it is also here where integration on the ground of quite equal rights

with healthy population is achieved. There exist namely such possibilities of spending free time almost for all types of impairment where they are not handicapped if compared to the others (blind musicians, deaf sportsmen, disabled artists etc.). Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will - as a part of grants for activities of civic associations, support cultural, sport- and fine arts-programmes of the handicapped. (17.1).

17.2 There is an international movement called "Very Special Arts" focussed on discovering strong points hidden in every individual, no matter what the handicap. It trains its instructors via its international branch-offices for development of artistic, literary, musical and dramatic (or pantomimic) abilities of the disabled, collects financial means for this activity systematically and has been able to build the international training centre in New York for the disposal of all national organizations. Association of Representatives of the Handicapped will start negotiations with the "Very Special Arts" concerning a branch office possibly opened in the Czech Republic. (17.2).

17.3 There is a very strong tradition in some forms of arts and sports performed by the handicapped in the ČSFR which has lead as far as to organizing regular international festivals (of blind musicians, of pantomime of the deaf). This tradition must continue. The Federal Government will, in the framework of its budget resources for civic associations of handicapped with federal activity, support international events of arts and sports of the handicapped in our country and participation of our disabled artists and sportsmen abroad. (17.3).

17.4 Commercialization of culture and sport puts up entrance fees to such a level which many handicapped cannot afford to pay. Reducing entrance fees for them cannot be demanded from the organizers of such events, but one can appeal to them in this respect and advise them that they can deduce the profit thus lost from the base for tax calculation. The Government Board for People with Disabilities will appeal to organizers of cultural and sports events to afford entrance fee reduction to the holders of cards TP, ZTP and TZP/P.

18. Legislation

18.1 Both the Charter for the 80-ies proclaimed on the 14th Congress Rehabilitation International in Winnipeg, Canada on June 26th, 1980 and the World Action Programme concerning handicapped persons adopted by the Resolution Nr. 37/52 of the General Assembly UNO on December 3-rd, 1982 call for creation of legislation for assurance of rights of disabled people including the right for services.

18.2 Not even the best legislation by itself can solve problems of the handicapped. This can be done only if wide public understands their needs perfectly and even more - high Governmental personalities, politicians, leadership of enterprises and trade unions. High-quality legislation is, nevertheless, a necessary - yet not sufficient - condition for improvement of life for the handicapped.

18.3 The handicapped are above all mentioned in the following law regulations in the Czech Republic:

18.3.1 International law regulations ratified in the ČSFR:

- *Agreement of the International Labour Organization in Geneva Nr. 37 upon Obligatory Disability Insurance of Persons Employed in Industrial and Business Enterprises, in Free Occupations and Home Workers and Servants from the year 1933 (see Nr. 469/1990 of Dig.).*

- *Agreement of the International Labour Organization in Geneva*

Nr. 38 upon Obligatory Disability Insurance of Persons Employed in Agricultural Enterprises from the year 1933 (Nr. 469/1990 of Dig.).

- *Agreement of the International Labour Organization Nr. 102 upon Social Insurance from the year 1952.*

- *Agreement of the International Labour Organization Nr. 159 upon Work Rehabilitation and Employment of the Disabled from the year 1983 (Nr. 72/1985 of Dig.).*

18.3.2 Legal regulations of ČSFR and ČR concerning the handicapped immediately:

- *Act FS Nr. 100/1988 of Dig. upon Social Insurance in reading of Acts Nr. 110/1990, 180/1990, 1/1991, 46/1991, 306/1991, 482/1991, 578/1991 of Dig.*

- *Intimation FMPSV Nr. 149/1988 of Dig. executing Act upon Social Assurance in reading of Intimations Nr. 123/1990, 260/1990, 313/1990, 501/1990, 1/1991, 20/1991, 306/1991 and 578/1991 of Dig.*

- *Act Nr. 29/1984 upon the System of Basic and Secondary School (the Educational Act) in reading of act Nr. 171/1990 of Dig.*

- *Act ČNR Nr. 564/1990 of Dig. upon State Administration and Self-administration in Education.*

- *Act ČNR Nr. 76/1978 of Dig. upon School Establishments in reading of act Nr. 390/1991 of Dig. on Pre-school and School Establishments and reading of act Nr. 395/1991 of Dig. upon school establishments.*

- *Intimation of MŠMT ČR Nr. 399/1991 of Dig. upon Special Schools and Special Nurseries.*

- *Intimation of the State Committee for Scientific-technical and Investitious Development Nr. 53/1985 of Dig. upon General Technical Demands Assuring Use of Buildings by Persons with Limited Locomotive Ability*

- *Act of ČNR Nr. 114/1988 of Dig. upon the Activities of Bodies of ČSR in Social Assurance in reading of Act Nr. 245/1990 of Dig.*

- *Intimation of MZSv ČSR Nr. 152/1988 of Dig. executing Act Nr. 114/1988 of Dig. (esp. par 38 - 62) in reading Nr. 141/1990, 267/1990 and 352/1990 of Dig.*

- *Act Nr. 382/1990 of Dig. upon Parential Contribution in reading of act Nr. 117/1992 of Dig.*

- *Act of ČNR Nr. 575/1990 of Dig. upon Measurements and System of Central Bodies of State Administration of the ČR (esp. art. I, sect. 1, letter c, point 2).*

- *Act of ČNR Nr. 425/1990 of Dig. upon District Offices (esp. par 2, 5, 9, 16 - 20)*

- *Act of ČNR Nr. 367/1990 of Dig. upon Communities (esp. par 13, 14 sect. 1 letter f, g and sect. 2)*

- *Act of FS Nr. 1/1991 of Dig. upon Employment (esp. par 1 sect. 2 - 8, par 9, 21 - 24) in reading of Act*
- *Act of ČNR Nr. 9/1991 of Dig. upon Employment and Activity of Bodies of ČR in the Field of Employment*
- *Intimation of MPSV ČR Nr. 20/1991 of Dig. assigning More Detailed Conditions of Affording Material Support to Job Seekers*
- *Intimation of MPSV ČR Nr. 21/1991 of Dig. upon Closer Conditions of Assuring Re-training for Job Seekers and Employees*
- *Intimation of MPSV ČR Nr. 22/1991 of Dig. stating Closer Details Concerning Establishment of Socially Purposeful Working Opportunities and Public Useful Work.*
- *Intimation of MPSV ČR Nr. 182/1991 of Dig. executing Act upon Social Assurance and Act of ČNR upon Activity of Bodies of ČR in Social Assurance*
- *Intimation of MPSV ČR Nr. 183/1991 of Dig. upon Transition from Inability to Work into Disability (Partial Disability).*
- *Intimation of MPSV ČR Nr. 347/1991 of Dig. upon Assurance of Employees Working for Part-time because of Temporary Sale and Financial Difficulties*
- *Intimation of MPSV Nr. 349/1991 of Dig. as an addition to the Intimation Nr. 22/1991 of Dig.*
- *Order of Government of ČR Nr. 384/1991 of Dig. upon Fixing an Obligatory Participation of Persons with an Altered Working Ability on the Total Number of Employees of an Employer*
- *Act Nr. 463/1991 of Dig. upon the Life Minimum*
- *Act of ČNR Nr. 482/1991 of Dig. upon Social Needfulness*
- *Civic Code*
- *Intimation of MPSV ČR Nr. 115/1992 of Dig. upon Performing Vocational Rehabilitation of Persons with an Altered Working Ability*
- *Act of ČNR Nr. 102/1992 of Dig. (par 9) adapting some questions connected with passing Act Nr. 509/991 of Dig. which changes, complets and adapts the Civic Code.*

18.4 Laws solving the problems of the handicapped in a complex way have been adopted in several countries. (*France - Act Nr. 75-534 of June 30th, 1975 upon Measurements in Favour of Handicapped Persons, Germany - Act upon Seriously Handicapped Persons of June 16th, 1953 amended by Act upon Assuring Integration of Seriously Handicapped Persons into Work, Occupation and Society of April 29th, 1974 and USA - The Americans with Disabilities Act of July 26th, 1990*). An expertise on legislation is needed to find out to what extent such a law would match our legal system.

18.5 A legislative expertise must be executed whether it would be possible to incorporate a complex law upon the handicapped into our legal system. However, regardless of the result whether such a complex act is passed or not it is necessary to adapt the legislation of the following:

- the range of sheltered persons (classification of the handicap) - see chapter 2
- prohibition of discrimination of the handicapped

- Governmental duty to ensure complex rehabilitation for all disabled persons who need it with regard of their impairment
- term till when architectonic and orientation barriers in public buildings must be removed, order removal of barriers in public transport means purchased from a certain date on
- duty of all operators of accommodation facilities to dispose of certain percentage of accessible flats from a certain date on
- duty of all TV companies to provide a certain percentage of programmes broadcast with visible or closed captions for the deaf and interpretation of news programmes into sign language
- duty to equip all TV-sets sold in ČR from a certain date on with decoder of closed captions for the deaf (considerable reduction of costs by large series production and purchase)
- duty of all police stations, hospitals, fire stations etc. to be equipped with writing telephones for the deaf and faxes.

18.6 The legal adaptations must create economic conditions for the activity of organizations of the handicapped and organizations helping them.

The following laws should be passed as soon as possible:

- upon existence and activity of charitable organizations
- upon existence and activity of foundations
- upon existence and activity of non-profit public useful enterprises. Grants for organizations of the handicapped and organizations helping them should be afforded with more generosity in frame of the respective Governmental resolutions and laws passed by ČNR and FS concerning the state budget, and the use of these resources for investments and foreign contacts should not be excluded.

19. Plan for the period II/1992 - 1994

1. A disabled is a person who, as a result of permanent illness, injury or impairment, is substantially limited in practical life compared to the society around. This can concern e.g. education or work and physical or cultural activities (2.4). Both the form and contents of help should be appropriate to the degree of handicap, the classification of which will be provided by a competent body of state administration.

2. There are about 1.200.000 disabled persons living in the ČSSR, including about 800.000 persons with severe impairments. A computer information system must be created by a Governmental institution for a quantification of the handicapped and for a qualified decision-making. Ministry of Health Care will work out a database of the disabled as a part of the National Health Information System (3.7)

1. proposal of the MZ ČR Information System Concept

Term: 31. 12. 1993

Cost: 250.000,- Kčs

2. Creation of database

Term: running

3. All the bodies of state administration must pay equal attention to needs of all organizations of the handicapped regardless of the fact whether those are members of some kind of an umbrella organization or not (4.2)

All state administrative bodies

Term: running

4. Ministry for Economic Policy and Development in co-operation with Ministries of Finance and State Inspection will make a proposal to turn the previous property of KSC and SSM into a humanitarian fund which will be exploited also as an additional resource of grants for the activity of civic associations of the handicapped and associations helping them. Allocation of means from the fund to the civic associations and foundations with problems of the handicapped will be consulted with the Government Board for People with Disabilities (VVZPO). (4.4)

MHPR ČR, MF ČR, MSK ČR, VVZPO

Term: 31. 12. 1992

5. Ministry of Finance will make use of the experience of MZ ČR, MPSV ČR, MŠMT ČR, MŽP ČR, MSK ČR and MK ČR for working out a proposal of a new legal regulation upon affording and use of grants for the activity of civic associations of the handicapped persons. They will also assign ways of use of the grants for wages and investments which the civic associations of the handicapped cannot do without. (4.5).

MF ČR

Term: 31. 9. 1992

6. Establishment of an over-departmental body with the necessary authorities is an urgent goal: this body will pass and develop suitable solutions of problems of the

quality of life of the handicapped and their equal social position and realize care of the disabled in the field, too. The Government Board for People with Disabilities will discuss this aim with the Minister of Health Care from the point of view of consideration of recent competences (5.7.2)

Term: 31. 12. 1992

7. It is inevitable to reinforce the Secretariate of the Government Board for People with Disabilities and department of Health and Social Care of Ministry of Health Care in the transition period. The Association of Representatives of Organizations of the Handicapped must be given means for creation of an own Secretariate to provide functions of a democratic roof organization of civic associations of the handicapped and their representatives (5.7.4).

Term: 1. 1. 1993

Expenses: Secretariate of the Board: 8 new employees

560.000,- Kčs for investments

Department ZSP MZ ČR: 4 new employees

280.000,- Kčs for investments

Association of Representatives of Organizations
of the Handicapped: 5 employees

350.000,- Kčs for investments

8. In accordance with the National Plan of Health Support and Renovation both primary and secondary prevention of all types of handicaps must be intensified (6.2)

MZ ČR, NCZP

Term: running

9. The National Centre of Health Support will focus the enlightenment campaign above all to foodstuff producers. Ministry of Agriculture will work up a system of grants for development of foodstuff production according to the principles of healthy nutrition especially with regard to an increasing number of diabetic patients. VZP with help of experts will elaborate a system stimulating the insured for care of one's own health (6.2).

NCPZ, MZe ČR, VZP

Term: 31. 12. 1992

10. Ministry of Health Care will continue in building up a network of genetic consulting centres and respective laboratories (6.7).

MZ ČR.

Term: running from 1. 1. 1993 on

Costs: 2.000.000,- Kčs p.a.

11. Ministry of Health Care will make use of all available means to make gynecologists, maternity houses, children's counselling centres and paediatricians to execute screening of all ascertainable impairments of children at as early age as possible. Postponing of diagnosis and immediate care is a serious professional mistake which should always be dealt with by Chamber of Medicine. (6.8).

MZ ČR

Term: running

12. The National Centre of Health Support in co-operation with MŠMT and other institutions will emphasize in contact with public the importance of genetic consulting, healthy conception, healthy pregnancy, postnatal consulting and risks of pre-school and school age.

NCZP

Term: running

13. Ministry of Health Care in co-operation with the General Health Insurance Office will assure introduction of the most important specialized services and will work out a system of covering highly specialized medical help abroad (6.10).

VZP, MZ ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

14. Ministry of Health Care will utilize all its possibilities in removal of architectonic, communication and orientation barriers in medical establishments of Ministry of Health Care (6.11).

MZ ČR

Term: before the end of the year 1994

Costs: 1993.....5.000.000,- Kčs

1994....10.000.000,- Kčs

15. Ministry of Health Care will adapt the way of affording medical services to mentally disabled patients in a legislative way (6.11).

MZ ČR

Term: principles before 31. 12. 1992

16. Ministry of Health Care will support origin of specialized centres for illnesses causing permanent disability. These centres will be ready to host both the patient and members of his family for a short time and teach everybody how to live with his/her handicap (6.12).

MZ ČR

Term: running

costs: 10.000.000,- Kčs p.a.

17. In accordance with the System Programme of Increase of Road Transport Safety for the 90-ties the respective departments will deal with the subject of driving licences and sitting on the front chair for the handicapped. Permanent attention will be paid to broadening the network of road crossings with light signals controlled by press buttons easy to reach even for the wheel-chair patients and height-deficient persons. It will prefer providing crossings with an acoustic signalization for the blind (6.13).

MHPR ČR, MV ČR and others

Term: running

18. Counselling must be widely available and must be able to cope with the basic problems of a handicapped person. Centres of complex rehabilitation and job advisory offices must be established as a part of the recent bodies of state administration. A

team of experts will work there, consisting of a psychologist, physician, social worker, special pedagogue and an official specialized on finding jobs for the handicapped.

MPSV ČR

Term: network built up step by step

19. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Health Care and voluntary organizations will co-operate to create a network of consulting centres for the handicapped and their parents. MŠMT will arrange for the same conditions for private and church special pedagogic centres as for the Governmental ones and also will make out a proposal of an Order of the Government of ČR concerning grants to private pre-school and private school establishments (7.6).

Co-ordination MŠMT ČR

Term: Preparation of the Order of Government 31. 8. 1992, further running

Costs: From 1. 1. 1993 on.....7.000.000,- Kčs p.a.

20. Ministry of Health Care and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will stimulate building of rehabilitation-retraining centres which will ensure - besides the medical rehabilitation itself - also the other components of rehabilitation for a person who finds him-/herself in a critical situation as a result of a sudden occurrence of a permanent disability (7.7).

MZ ČR, MPSV ČR

Term: 1993

costs: 40.000.000,- Kčs

21. It is a human right of a handicapped individual to receive an appropriate technical aid. Aids of groups Nr. 1 and 2 and some in Nr. 3 in standard model must be afforded to the disabled free of charge. As for the aids in group Nr. 3, only such a financial participation of the handicapped may be expected which is practically attainable for him (8.7). Aids in Groups Nr. 1 and 2 and some in Nr. 3 in their standard model will be fully financed from the resources of the General Health Insurance Office. Some of the aids in group Nr. 3 will be financed with the patient's participation which will be considered individually and will be solved with a help of district and local authorities.

Proposal of the financing conditions: VZP, VSP, MZ ČR, MPSV ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

22. Ministry of Health Care will establish "The National Center for Rehabilitative Engineering" which will, beside other tasks, assure evaluating of all technical aids for the handicapped from the point of view of their function and appropriate price. The lists of aids distributed free of charge will include only those approved of by this centre (8.9)

MZ ČR, VSP

Term: gradual start till 31. 12. 1994

23. "Centres for technical help to the handicapped" will be founded under methodic supervision of the National Center for Rehabilitative Engineering. Apart from technical consultations they will open permanent expositions of technical aids for the disabled where these will be let to try the aids under an expert supervision before they apply for their allotment (8.10).

MZ ČR, VZP

Term: gradual start till 31.12. 1994

24. Ministry for Economic Policy and Development will elaborate in a detailed way the "Programme HOPE to Support Entrepreneurs' Interest in Providing Production and Affording Services for the Handicapped Persons" (8.11).

MHPR ČR, Czech-Moravian Guarantee and Development Bank, MF ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

25. The Central Customs Administration will arrange for tax-free import of all types of aids for the handicapped (8.12)

The Central Customs Administration

Term: 31. 12. 1992

26. MŠMT ČR and communities will gradually assure conditions for integration of handicapped children into schools of current type:

a) by reduction of number of children in a nursery school class attended by a handicapped child

b) by reduction of number of children in a school class attended by a handicapped pupil

c) by gradual arrangement of employing a visiting pedagogue from the respective consultation centre or special pedagogue whenever it is necessary for the respective type of a handicapped pupil (9.3).

d) by providing pupils resp. classes with the appropriate technical and didactic aids

MŠMT ČR

Term: gradual from 1. 1. 1993 on

Costs:

a) At integration of 500 handicapped children into nurseries of current type: the yearly impact on budget of chapter MŠMT ČR are 5.500.000,- Kčs of non-investment means (salaries, teaching aids)

and impact on budget of communities are 3.000.000,- Kčs of non-investment means (operation)

b) At integration of 3.000 handicapped pupils into basic school of current type: the yearly impact on the budget of chapter MŠMT is 27.800.000,- Kčs of non-investment means (salaries, teaching aids) and

impact on budget of communities is 15.900.000,- Kčs of non-investment means (operation).

c) With 36 pedagogical centres the impact on the budget of MŠMT ČR is about 7.100.000,- Kčs of non-investment means p.a.

27. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will distribute a letter to all presidents of faculties preparing future teachers. It will explain the situation and will ask them to incorporate at least a minimum from special pedagogy and

psychotherapy into the curricula for all students of pedagogy (9.3).

MŠMT ČR

Term: 30. 9. 1992

28. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in co-operation with Ministry of Environment will work up a system of grants enabling communities to begin with removal of architectonic barriers (9.3).

MŠMT ČR, communities

1. Working out grant system

Term: 31. 12. 1992

2. Removal of architectonic barriers

Term: step by step at every-year investment of 150.000.000,- Kčs into the communities' budget. The order would be due to the quality and economy of the presented applications for grants.

29. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will support development of Governmental, private and church special nurseries and schools, as well as school establishments for those categories of the handicapped for whom integration is not possible or recommended (9.4).

MŠMT ČR

Term: running

Costs: average numbers of pupils of special schools (establishments) multiplied by the respective limits.

30. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and Ministry of Health Care will be responsible for giving a chance to every person who asks for it to be examined by a team of experts that will suggest a way of fulfilling the right of this person to receive education in general meaning of the word (9.5).

MPSV ČR, MŠMT ČR, MZ ČR

Term: running.

31. It is important to check how the new tax system valid since 1. 1. 1993 encourages employment of the disabled in organizations where they are working. Their recent grant system predominantly in the investment area and the system of contributions for establishment and function of sheltered workshops and working places must be maintained (10.3).

FMF, MF ČR, MPSV ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

32. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and Ministry of Finance and will suggest a way of regular monitoring of employment of persons with an altered working ability with- or without serious handicap (10.5).

MPSV ČR, MF ČR

Term: 31. 3. 1993

33. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will consider - on the ground of experience with realization of its Instruction Nr. 7/91 - the possibility of increasing sanctions for breaking the law regulations of the Government of ČR upon the obligatory percentage of persons with ZPS and ZPS with TZP among the total number of employees of an employer (10.6).

Term: 30. 6. 1993

34. The Government Board for People with Disabilities will start a campaign with a view to the awareness of the employers of abilities of the handicapped and to a higher degree of employment of the handicapped in general (10.8).

VVZPO

Term: running

costs: 1992 - from the budget of VVZPO

1993: 500.000,- Kčs

1994: 700.000,- Kčs

35. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will gradually, in dependence on financial conditions of the state budget, raise the limit of a contribution for adaptation of a working place for seriously handicapped so that they can fully use all the possibilities offered them by the development of modern technic for compensation of their handicap. Disabled entrepreneurs will receive this contribution at the amount of real expenses up to

the maximum limit assigned for that respective period (10.10).

MPSV ČR

Term: running

36. Ministry for Economic Policy and Development will consider the possibility to include employment of the handicapped as an additional criterium for affording grants to entrepreneurs in framework of newly proclaimed programmes of enterprising development (10.12).

MMHPR ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

37. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will issue a report upon how many sheltered workshops are financed on the ground of the intimation upon providing work rehabilitation of persons with an altered working ability, how many disabled work in them and what is their structure, and will watch regularly effectivity of this way of employment of the most seriously handicapped (10.13).

MPSV ČR

Term: Every year

38. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in co-operation with Ministry of Industry will suggest a way of individualization of vocational training for the handicapped. At the same time it will support development of specialized educational establishments and training specializations for disabled youth. It will support creation of training facilities for the handicapped in educational establishments of a current type in co-operation with Ministry of Interior. Together with Ministry of Finance it

will suggest a way of covering the costs of vocational training of handicapped apprentices for a job by the Government, including expenses for guides and interpreters of sign language (10.15).

Co-ordination MŠMT ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

39. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will work out a supplement to methodic instruction to Act of FS Nr. 18/1992 upon civil service with a recommendation that persons in the civil service should be used with priority as personal assistants of the seriously handicapped. At the same time it will suggest a way of paying these assistants and will stress that the decisive word by admitting or dismissal belongs to the handicapped person him-/herself or to his/her responsible representative (11.1).

MPSV ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

40. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will ask Ministry of Finance for allotment of finance for two model centres of sheltered housing founded in our country by the Joint Distribution Committee after the expiry of their financing from the USA (11.2).

Term: From the year 1993 half of the costs, further full costs

Costs: 1993: 630.000,- Kčs

1994: 1.300.000,- Kčs

41. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in co-operation with Ministry of Finance will suggest a way of grants for social care establishments of non-Government and those administered by communities in order to achieve equality of economic conditions both for non-Government and Government establishments (12. 3).

MPSV ČR, MF ČR

Term: 31. 7. 1993

42. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will work out a study of further improvement of quality of care and removal of barriers in recent social care homes and pensioners' homes including plan of steps for their gradual turning into open and non-segregating systems and estimation of expenses needed (12.3)

MPSV ČR

Term: 31. 7. 1993

43. The Government Board for People with Disabilities will negotiate with presidents of faculties of Medicine about the possibility to introduce a classified subject on elementary rehabilitation and a study of rehabilitative medicine at their faculties (13.2).

Further will it negotiate with presidents of faculties preparing future teachers about the introduction of a classified subject elementary special pedagogy for all students and possibility to admit handicapped students for studies of special pedagogy (13.3).

The same Board will also negotiate with presidents of technical faculties about the possibility to establish studies of rehabilitative engineering. It will constantly appeal to presidents of the respective faculties to establish specialized study subjects with a possibility of practical training oriented to the handicapped in subjects of psychology,

psychiatry, sociology, linguistics, law etc. It will deal with presidents of Building, Engineering, Electrotechnical and Transport faculties about introduction of a subject focussed on removal of architectonic barriers and a similar subject at the secondary technical schools with MŠMT (13.4).

VVZPO

Term: 31. 7. 1992

44. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will arrange for resources for the Charles° University to finance the training institute Joint Distribution Committee after its support from the USA expires (13.6).

MŠMT ČR, UK

Term: from the year 1993 on - running

Costs: 1993 : 200.000,- Kčs

1994 and on: 300.000,- Kčs

45. Ministry of Environment in co-operation with Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will suggest a way of affording contributions for removing barriers in flats inside houses with various type of ownership. Together with Ministry for Economic Policy and Development it will propose the necessary legislative changes solving the problem of accessible flats in a complex way including a status of an accessible flat. Ministry of Environment will present a proposal of the Governmental regulation to the Government of ČR, according to which about 10% of flats in the Governmental (local) construction should be projected in such a way that they could be turned into accessible ones at minimum costs (14.4).

Co-ordination MŽP ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

Costs: 70.000,- Kčs

46. Investors must make sure that all the newly constructed buildings respond to the demands of the State Committee for Scientific-Technical and Investition Development Nr. 53/1985 upon general technical data assuring use of buildings by persons with a limited ability of motion. Ministries of Education, Youth and Sports, Health Care, Culture, Trade and Tourism and Interior will elaborate a system of grants for gradual removal of such existing architectonic barriers (14.5).

Co-ordination MŽP ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

Costs: 180.000,- Kčs

47. Ministry for Economic Policy and Development will initiate actualization of a study of all aspects of transport for seriously handicapped people with concrete results including financial demands. The needed legislative means will be assured as for competence by the respective body of state administration.

48. The Government of the Czech Republic is aware of the fact that the criteria taken upon the handicapped persons must be different from those upon healthy population. They cannot be expected to compete with the healthy population in conditions of market economy (15.1). Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will periodically

evaluate effectivity of social arrangements which are supposed to help the disabled and will be flexible at their corrections so that the (due to nobody's fault) handicapped never find themselves, if possible, in the situation of being socially needful (15.2).

MPSV ČR

Term: running

49. Until the Act upon the Handicapped is passed the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will incorporate the contribution system into the Act upon the State Social Support (15.4).

FMPSV

Term: 31. 12. 1992

50. The Government Board for People with Disabilities will be responsible for co-ordination of enlightenment events in favour of the disabled performed by Government bodies (16.3).

It will also keep in regular contact with the leadership of the Czech TV and Radio and will keep them permanently informed about the most urgent up-to-date problems of the disabled (16.4).

The same Board starts a campaign concerning problems of the handicapped in the public media (16.5).

VVZPO

Term: running

Costs: 100.000,- Kčs p.a.

51. Ministry of Health Care will - as a part of Governmental grants for the activity of civic associations - support also their activity in the fields of enlightenment, information and propaganda (16.6).

MZ ČR

Term: running

52. Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will, within the framework of grants for activity of civic associations, support artistic, cultural and sport programmes of the handicapped (17.1).

MK ČR, MŠMT ČR

Term: from the year 1993 on - running

Costs: 8.000.000,- Kčs p.a. to the chapter MK

15.000.000,- Kčs p.a. to the chapter MŠMT

53. The Federal Government will - in the frame of budget resources for civic associations of the handicapped with federal activity - support international arts° and sport events of the disabled in our country and travels of the disabled artists and sportsmen abroad (17.3).

Government of the ČSFR

Term: from the year 1993 running

Costs: about 10.000.000,- Kčs p.a.

54. The Government Board for People with Disabilities will appeal to the organizers of cultural and sport events to afford a reduction on entrance fees to holders of cards TP, ZTP and ZTP/P (17.4).

VVZPO

Term: running

55. A legislative expertise must be executed whether it would be possible to incorporate a complex law upon the handicapped into our legal system. Regardless of the fact whether such a complex act is passed or not it is still necessary to adapt very quickly legislation of the following items:

- range of sheltered persons (classification of the handicap)
- prohibition to discriminate the handicapped
- duty of the Government to ensure complex rehabilitation for all disabled persons who need it with regard to their impairment
- term till when architectonic and orientation barriers in public buildings must be removed, an order that all means of public transport purchased from a certain date on must be accessible ones
- duty of all administrators of accommodation establishment to assure a certain percentage of accessible flats from a certain date on
- duty of TV companies to provide a certain percentage of programmes broadcast with visible or closed captions for the deaf and provide interpretation of news programmes into sign language
- duty to provide all TV sets sold in the ČR from certain date on with a decoder of closed captions for the deaf
- duty of all police stations, hospitals, fire stations etc. to be equipped with writing telephones for the deaf and faxes from a certain date on.

Co-ordination a competent respective body of state administration in co-operation with VVZPO ČR

Term: 30. 6. 1994

56. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will make out a proposal of law regulations for the proposal of Act upon the Handicapped, stating:

- range of sheltered persons (classification of the handicap)
- duty of the Government to ensure a complex rehabilitation for all disabled persons who need it with regard to their impairment (18.5).

MPSV ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

57. Ministry of Health Care will co-ordinate preparation of the Act upon Mental Health

MZ ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

58. The following laws should be passed as quickly as possible:

- upon existence and activity of charitable organizations
- upon existence and activity of foundations
- upon existence and activity of non-profit enterprises of public benefit.

Within the framework of the respective Governmental decisions and laws of ČNR and FS concerning the state budget in the respective year satisfactory grants must be assured for organizations of the handicapped and organizations which help them without excluding these resources for investments and foreign contacts.

FMF, MF ČR, MV ČR

Term: 31. 12. 1992

Costs: Grants for the year 1994 about 300.000.000,- Kčs
grants for the year 1994 about 350.000.000,- Kčs

GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

R E S O L U T I O N

OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

of June 29th, 1992 Nr. 466

upon the NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTIONS FOR THE HANDICAPPED PERSONS

T h e G o v e r n m e n t

I. a p p r o v e s o f the National Plan of Actions
for the Handicapped Persons according to the suggestins and proposals arising from
the Governmental discussion,

I I . c h a r g e s

1. the ministers to ensure fulfilment of tasks listed in Chapter 19 of the National Plan of Actions for the Handicapped Persons,
2. the Chairman of the Government Board for People with Disabilities to discuss the assurance of the tasks from the National Plan of Actions for the Handicapped Persons with non-Governmental institutions,
3. the Minister of Finance to reserve the necessary financial resources in the proposals for the state budget for each year

I I I . t a k e s n o t i c e o f the fact that eventual financial needs in the year 1992 will be dealt with in the framework of the budget chapters of the budget for the year 1992.

In the responsibility of:

Ministers of Finance, for Economic Policy and Development, Culture, Trade and Tourism, Labour and Social Affairs, State Inspection, Education, Youth and Sports, Interior, Health Care, Agriculture, Environment,
Chairman of the Government Board for People with Disabilities

For information:

Prime Minister of the ČSFR
Head of the Czech-Moravian Guarantee and Development Bank
Head of the National Centre of Health Support
Chairman of the Association of Representatives of Organizations of the Handicapped
Chairman of the Association of Towns and Communities
Rector of the Charles°University
Head of the Central Customs Administration
Head of the General Health Insurance Office

Prime minister
JUDr. Petr P i t h a r t