

### **To the question no. 1**

The Slovak Republic makes considerable effort within the implementation of commitments arising from the international human rights documents. Under the Article 40 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic *“Everyone has the right to health. On the basis of the health insurance, the citizens are entitled to free healthcare and medical devices under the condition laid down by law.”* The Slovak Republic considers the factual state referring to subject area satisfactory.

### **To the question no. 2**

The contraception is understood in a broader measure as a protection against the unwilling pregnancy by the means of contraceptive methods intended not only for woman, but for man as well. The hormonal contraception is only one of many methods that may lead to the prevention of the unwilling conception.

The fact that a medicine is not included in the list of categorized medicine or in the list of medicines with the officially set price does not mean that it may not be covered by the public health insurance. If physician (a provider of healthcare) considers that the use of contraceptive is from the medical point only suitable solution for woman, by which e.g. the origin of serious health complications relating to pregnancy could be prevented, he may ask the patient’s health insurance company for the special manner of payment of such medicine. The physician shall provide a woman necessary information about the product and method of its use.

The Slovak Republic maintains a position that each one of the available forms of contraception bears the risk and possible side effect. Woman who takes medicine is obliged to visit a physician regularly not only with regard to necessary prescription, but to monitor her health status as well. The use of hormonal contraception may not be appropriate if woman suffers health problems.

According to data from the registered medicine database of the State Institute for Drug Control are currently in the Slovak Republic registered and thus available 245 kinds of hormonal contraceptives.

The Slovak Republic does not have information about the system of healthcare in other states which fully covers all patient’s needs. The Slovak Republic does not agree with the statement that the current legislative allows discrimination of women and adolescent girls by disabling of access to healthcare services and access to information. Contraceptives as well as other methods of contraception are in the Slovak Republic available and in case of their medically justified use it may be covered by the patient’s health insurance company. Individual assessment of applications for reimbursement enables to consider the health risks of treatment of such patient.

### **To the question no. 3**

With the aim to strengthen antidiscrimination legislation the possibility of adopting temporary affirmative actions was included into the amendment of Anti-Discrimination Act<sup>1</sup>, which came into force on 1. April 2013. In this connection the methodological regulations are being prepared by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic.

Besides, nowadays, the negotiations among the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic concerning the possible manners of the access improvement of women and girls as well as men and boys living in the material need to reproductive health and family planning services are being carried out.

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<sup>1</sup> 365/2004 Coll Act on Equal Treatment in Certain Areas and Protection against Discrimination, amending and supplementing certain acts