Statement by
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MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL JUSTICE OF ROMANIA

Session 3 – Eradication Poverty and Promoting Prosperity in a challenging world

10 July 2017
Mister Vice-president,

Distinguished Delegates and Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

To begin with, Romania fully aligns itself to the position of the European Union expressed earlier. Further I would like to present a national statement on poverty eradication.

Regarding the progress made by Romania in the field of poverty eradication we should mention in the first place the National Strategy for Poverty Eradication and Social Exclusion, approved in 2015. The Strategy's objective is to socially include the vulnerable groups (Romania has identified 18 vulnerable groups) and to reduce the number of people in the risk of poverty. Romania's target is to include 580,000 people up to 2020 compared to 2008 in order to fulfill the objectives of Europe 2020 Strategy.

The policies comprised in the Strategy are related to:

- Employment,
- Social transfers,
- Education,
- Health,
- Housing,
- Social Participation.

We also have to mention the National Strategy for Gender Equality for the period 2014-2017 which has the main role of assuring the women participation in the decision making process in the political, economic and public life. Also, the
Strategy emphasis that all citizens should be appreciated and valued and their basic needs should be satisfied.

At last but not least we have the National Employment Strategy for the period 2014-2020 whose main goal is to reduce the unemployment rate - in Romania, at the level of December 2016 it was of 5.5% while the European Union average was of 8.3%. At the end of May this year, the unemployment rate was of 4.18%. Focusing on leave no one behind, another objective is to increase the employment rate, especially the youth employment as well as promoting the active ageing in accordance with the National Strategy for Active Ageing and Protecting the Elderly for period 2015-2020. I'd like to mention the main provisions of the Active Ageing Strategy:

- Integration of all long term services for the elderly
- Specific policies and specialized structures.

Romania's target is to create a performant, dynamic and flexible labor market with an employment rate of 70% for the people of 20 up to 64 years.

The current Government has been elaborating and implementing several active measures and I would like to mention the mobility package in order to encourage the people to move in disadvantaged areas with high unemployment rate. According to the Programme those people receive an installment subsidy and another fiscal facilities.