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Tbilisi, Georgia, 9-11 September, 2009
Pregnancy termination: common problems

Every second pregnancy in the world is unplanned.

- Private reasons
- Health state (HIV, TB, severe somatic pathology, etc.)
- Social and economic problems
- Relationship with the partner
- Non-willingness to have a baby

Annually some 80 mln cases of unplanned pregnancies emerge due to:

- Lack of awareness of partners
- Lack of accessibility of contraception
- the fact, that contraception doesn’t work
- situations of violence or forced sex
Dynamics of frequency of abortions in the regions of the world

Abortions/1000 women 15-44

- Africa: 33, 29
- Asia: 48, 28
- Europe: 37, 31
- Latin America: 22, 21
- North America: 24, 18
- Eastern Europe: 90, 44
- Southern Europe: 24, 18
- Northern Europe: 18, 17
- Western Europe: 11, 12

Source: Lancet, 2007
Artificial termination of pregnancy: barriers for accessible safe abortions

- **Political, administrative and legal issues**
- **Social, cultural and religious, including stigma**
- **Lack of awareness of population**
- **Healthcare systems**
  - Medical institutions do not provide full scale services for safe abortions
  - Unnecessary medical procedures are required
  - Outdated and less safe methods are used
  - Mediations, necessary for medical abortion are not approved or accessible
- **High price of service and medication**
The East European Alliance for Reproductive Choice was established in June 1008 by representatives of 11 countries with the support of ICMA (International Consortium for Medical Abortion)
The Eastern European Alliance for Reproductive Choice: mission

**Concept**

*every woman must have free access to safe abortion, including medical abortion, in case she makes a decision to terminate pregnancy*

**Goal**

*protect reproductive health of women through providing them with their reproductive rights and reproductive choice, including access to safe abortion*
The Tasks of the Alliance

- Serve as a forum for dissemination of information, exchange of experience, strategic thinking and planning in order to form a collective vision of reproductive choice and safe abortion problem in the context of regional and international law.

- Broaden accessibility of modern technologies of protection of reproductive health, including safe technologies of abortion for every woman.
The Tasks of the Alliance (cont.)

- Support the members of Alliance in moving forward towards cooperation, based on the specificities of each participant country in the following directions:

  ✓ **Legislation, policy and advocacy**
  ✓ **Forming the network of likeminded people**
  ✓ **Scientific research and information exchange**
  ✓ **Development of healthcare services/protection of reproductive health**
EEARC: cooperation prospects

Based on the situation and priorities it is possible to:

– Prepare national guidelines for conducting safe abortions
– Identify and eliminate barriers in the current policies and practice of healthcare systems
– Train the already working and/or new categories of specialists in clinical and communicative skills
– Ensure access of specialists to relevant equipment and necessary medical preparations
– Inform women on their legal reproductive rights
Performance

- Extension of the Alliance in Central and Eastern Europe as well as in Central Asia
- Further development of the EEARC web-site for the purpose of dissemination of informational resources on safe abortion and, in particular, on medical abortion
- Preparation and distribution of methodical materials; facilitation of trainings on advocacy and network development, improvement of medical care quality
- Support for active participation of the members of the organizations working on safe abortions in regional and international meetings
Thank You!