Draft

# ACTION PLAN FOR THE PERIOD FROM THE 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF OF 2019 TO 2020, DERIVING FROM THE 2019-2020 STRATEGY FOR JUDICIAL AND LEGAL REFORMS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

# Goal 1. Establish real democracy and strengthen the rule of law by applying the transitional justice toolkit

Strategic Direction: Draft the Law on the procedure of forming and the activity of the Fact-Finding Commission, and set up the Commission

**Action 1.** Draft the Law "On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission"

**Output of Action 1.** The Law "On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission" is submitted to the NA and incorporates the regulations set forth under this Strategy.

## Action 2. Create the Fact-Finding Commission

Output of Action 2. The Fact-Finding Commission is created, and it performs the objectives put before it.

Action	Responsible Body	Baseline situation	The target by p	hases	Check measures	Expecte d output	Source of funding
			The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020		d output	, and the second
Draft the Law "On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission".	The RA Ministry of Justice	Number one precondition for ensuring the efficiency of the Fact-Finding Commission within the frameworks of applying the	The Draft Law "On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact- Finding Commission" is elaborated.	The Draft Law "On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission" is discussed with interested bodies,	The Draft Law "On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission" is submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On the Procedur e of Forming and the	Other funds not prohibited by law.

		transitional justice toolkit, is availability of a clear regulation on the procedure of its formation and mandate, developed through assessment of all the interests and the risks.	the civil society, approved by the Government and submitted to the RA NA.		Activity of the Fact- Finding Commiss ion" is submitte d to the RA NA, and it incorpor ates all the regulatio ns, provided for under this Strategy.	
Formation of the Fact-Finding Commission.	The National Assembly Office of the Prime Minister (subject to agreement)	To investigate the cases of violations occurred in Armenia through 1991-2018 and to collect information thereon, it is necessary to set up a Fact-Finding Commission. The Fact-Finding	Formation of the Fact-Finding Commission.	The Fact-Finding Commission is set up.	The Fact- Finding Commiss ion is set up, and it fulfils the objective s put before it.	Other funds not prohibited by law.

Commission shall		
not have functions		
specific to the law		
enforcement or		
judicial body.		

# Goal 2. Implementing Constitutional Reforms

**Strategic Direction:** Setting up the Constitutional Reform Commission

Action 1. Elaborate and adopt a document defining the composition and the rules of procedure of the Constitutional Reform Commission

Output of Action 1. The Constitutional Reform Commission is set up, and it develops the constitutional reforms package

Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	The target by pl	hases	Check measures	Expected output	Source of funding
			2019	2020			
Elaborate and adopt a document defining the composition and the rules of procedure of the Constitutional Reform Commission	The RA Ministry of Justice Office of the Prime Minister (subject to agreement)	The Constitution has a number of gaps, which, due to subjective or objective factors, distort the principle of the rule of law, at the establishment and strengthening of which the initiation of	The draft procedure for setting up the Commission is developed and published.	The draft procedure for setting up the Commission is discussed with interested bodies and the civil society; it is adopted and the Commission is set up.	The Commission is set up.	The Constitutional Reform Commission is set up, and it elaborates the constitutional reforms package.	Other funds not prohibited by law.

	amendments to the Constitution			
	has been aimed.			

## Goal 3. Reform of the electoral legislation

**Strategic Direction:** Elaborating the Draft Law on Making Amendments and Supplements to the RA Electoral Code

# **Action 1.** Elaborate the package of amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code

Output of Action1. The draft Law on Making Amendments and Supplements to the RA Electoral Code is elaborated and published

Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	The target by phases		Check measures	Expected output	Source of funding
			The second half of 2019	2020			
Elaborate the package of amendments and supplements for the RA Electoral Code	The RA Ministry of Justice	Following the snap elections of the RA National Assembly, as of December 9, 2018, being evaluated as really and truly free and fair, it is necessary that the electoral legislation provides for such mechanisms that	The draft Law on making amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code is elaborated and published.	The draft Law on making amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code is discussed with interested bodies and the civil society.	The package of amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code is sent to the National Assembly.	The draft package of amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code and the package of related draft bills are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	Other funds not prohibited by law.

	will put the			
	achievements			
	enshrined through			
	the			
	aforementioned			
	elections, i.e. the			
	trust among the			
	public in the			
	elections, the			
	legitimacy of the			
	authorities elected,			
	as well as the			
	confidence in the			
	fairness of the			
	electoral process in			
	the perception of			
	the public, on the			
	legislative basis.			
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Goal 4. Strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judicial authority; a judiciary free from corruption and patronage

## Strategic Directions:

- Introduction of bases and procedures of subjecting judges to disciplinary liability in compliance with the international standards
- Improvement of the procedure for subjecting judges to disciplinary liability.

**Action 1.** Elaborate legislative bases of subjecting judges to disciplinary liability in compliance with international standards, as required for the integrity assessment of the judges

**Output of Action 1.** The legislative bases of subjecting judges to disciplinary liability in compliance with international standards, as required for the integrity assessment of the judges, are elaborated, and they meet the European (including, the Venice Commission and the CCEJ) standards

Action 2. Introduce mechanisms required to perform the integrity assessment of judges

**Output of Action 2.** The mechanisms required to perform the integrity assessment of judges are introduced; the bodies having power to institute a disciplinary proceeding against judges and the Supreme Judicial Council (hereinafter, SJC) operate independently, efficiently, professionally, and meet high ethic and accountability standards

Action	Responsible	Baseline situation	The target	by phases	Check measures	Expected output	Source of funding
	body		The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020		-	
Make amendments and supplements	The RA	Regulations	The RA Draft	The RA Draft	The RA Law on	The RA Law on	Other funds
to Constitutional Law of "Judicial	Ministry of	regarding the bases	Law on making	Law on making	making	making	not
Code of the Republic of Armenia"	Justice;	of disciplinary	amendments and	amendments and	amendments and	amendments	prohibited
aiming at the improvement of the	the RA NA	liability of judge	supplements to	supplements to	supplements to the	and	by law.
bases of subjecting judges to	Standing	under the	the	the	Constitutional Law	supplements to	
disciplinary liability, inter alia,	Committee	Constitutional Law	Constitutional	Constitutional	of "Judicial Code of	the	
including the following:	on State and	of "Judicial Code of	Law of "Judicial	Law of "Judicial	the Republic of	Constitutional	
1. clarify the list of significant	Legal	the Republic of	Code of the	Code of the	Armenia" and the	Law of "Judicial	
disciplinary violations underlying the	Affairs	Armenia" are	Republic of	Republic of	package of related	Code of the	
termination of judge's authorities,	(subject to	extremely uncertain	Armenia" is	Armenia" is	draft bills are	Republic of	
with the view to ensuring legal	agreement)	and give cause for	elaborated and	approved by the	elaborated and	Armenia" and	
certainty;	agreement)	confusion, thus	discussed with	RA Government,	submitted to the	the package of	
		violating the	interested	sent to the RA	RA NA.	related draft	
2. clarify the bases for distinguishing		principle of legal	bodies, the civil	NA and		bills are	
any judicial error from the violation		certainty. This is	society, and sent	discussed with		submitted to	
of human rights and fundamental		evidenced in the	to the RA Office	factions.		the RA NA, and	
freedoms, by a judge, in course of		opinion given by the	of the Prime			meet the	
own professional activity;		Venice Commission	Minister.			European	
		after its adoption.				(including, the	
3. clarify the rules of conduct of		The Judicial Code				Venice	
judge, taking therefrom such rules,		fails to specify the				Commission	

which are formulated unclearly or which are not disciplinary in their nature, but are rather ethics rules.	The RA	abuse of human rights as a ground for disciplinary liability.  Some rules of conduct of judges are formulated in an uncertain way, and some of them are ethics rules in their nature, which should not result in any disciplinary liability.  The Constitutional	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law "On	and the CCEJ) standards.  The Draft Law	Other funds
In the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia", clarify the following:  1.the procedures of disciplinary proceeding and investigation of the issue on subjecting judges to disciplinary liability;  2. the appeal procedure for decisions on subjecting judges to disciplinary liability;  3. broaden the authorities of the Supreme Judicial Council in connection with the consideration of the issue on subjecting judges to disciplinary liability.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the RA NA Standing Committee on State and Legal Affairs (subject to agreement).	•	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is elaborated, discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and sent to the RA Office of the Prime	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is submitted to the RA NA, and it clarifies the procedures of disciplinary proceeding and the issue of	Other funds not prohibited by law.

		subjecting judges to disciplinary liability.	Minister.			subjecting judges to disciplinary liability, as well as the procedure for appealing the decisions on subjecting judges to disciplinary liability.	
In the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia", clarify the grounds and the procedure of disciplinary liability set forth with regard to the SJC members.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the RA NA Standing Committee on State and Legal Affairs (subject to agreement).	In the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia", the grounds of disciplinary liability for the SJC members, as well as those for judges are not clearly regulated.	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is elaborated and discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and sent to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is approved by the RA Government and sent to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is submitted to the RA NA, and it clarifies the grounds for subjecting the SJC members to disciplinary liability.	Other funds not prohibited by law.

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Make a supplement to the	The RA	The Constitutional	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law "On	The Draft Law	Other funds
Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code	Ministry of	Law of "Judicial	"On Making	"On Making	Making	"On Making	not
of the Republic of Armenia", thereby	Justice;	Code of the Republic	Amendment and	Amendment and	Amendment and	Amendment	prohibited
adding the Commission for	the RA NA	of Armenia" does	Supplement to	Supplement to	Supplement to the	and Supplement	by law.
Prevention of Corruption to the list	Standing	not give any power	the	the	Constitutional Law	to the	
of bodies having authority to institute	Committee	to the Commission	Constitutional	Constitutional	of "Judicial Code of	Constitutional	
disciplinary proceeding against	on State and	for Prevention of	Law of "Judicial	Law of "Judicial	the Republic of	Law of "Judicial	
judges.	Legal	Corruption to	Code of the	Code of the	Armenia" is	Code of the	
	Affairs and	commence a	Republic of	Republic of	elaborated and	Republic of	
	the	disciplinary	Armenia" is	Armenia" is	submitted to the	Armenia" is	
	Commission	proceeding against	elaborated and	approved by the	RA NA.	submitted to	
	for	judges.	discussed with	RA Government		the RA NA, and	
	Prevention		interested	and submitted to		it vests the	
	of		bodies, the civil	the RA NA.		Commission for	
	Corruption		society, and sent			Prevention of	
	(subject to		to the RA Office			Corruption	
	agreement)		of the Prime			with authority	
			Minister.			to commence a	
						disciplinary	
						proceeding	
						against judges.	
In the Constitutional Law of "Judicial	The RA	The Constitutional	Draft legal acts	Draft legal acts	Draft legal acts on	Draft legal acts	Other funds
Code of the Republic of Armenia",	Ministry of	Law of "Judicial	on making	on making	making	on making	not
the laws "On Commission for	Justice;	Code of the Republic	amendments to	amendments to	amendments to the	amendments to	prohibited
Prevention of Corruption" and "On	the RA NA	of Armenia" does	the	the	Constitutional Law	the	by law.
Public Services", define mechanisms	Standing	not set forth any	Constitutional	Constitutional	of "Judicial Code of	Constitutional	
required for the integrity assessment	Committee	requirement for	Law of "Judicial	Law of "Judicial	the Republic of	Law of "Judicial	
of judges, aiming at:	on State and	judges to file	Code of the	Code of the	Armenia", the laws	Code of the	
, 8	Legal	extraordinary	Republic of	Republic of	"On the	Republic of	
1. Submission, by all the RA judges,	- 8	declarations in	Armenia", the	Armenia", the		Armenia", the	

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of declarations on own property,	Affairs and		laws "On the	laws "On the	Commission for	laws "On the
incomes, interests and expenses to	the	legislative	Commission for	Commission for	Prevention of	Commission for
the Commission for Prevention of	Commission	amendments.	Prevention of	Prevention of	Corruption" and	Prevention of
Corruption, in a timely manner as set	for	No priority is	Corruption" and	Corruption" and	"On Public	Corruption"
forth under the Law.	Prevention	envisaged by the	"On Public	"On Public	Services", are	and "On Public
2. Examination, by the Commission	of	Commission for	Services", are	Services", are	elaborated and	Services", are
for Prevention of Corruption, of all	Corruption	Prevention of	elaborated and	approved by the	submitted to the	submitted to
declarations submitted by all the	(subject to	Corruption with	discussed with	RA Government	RA NA.	the RA NA, and
serving judges of the RA;	agreement).	regard to inspection	interested	and submitted to		they
		of the judges'	bodies, the civil	the RA NA.		incorporate
3. Identification of such declarations		declarations.	society, and sent			mechanisms for
that are problematic from the			to the RA Office			the submission,
integrity viewpoint, commencement		The Commission for	of the Prime			by all the RA
of a disciplinary proceeding on the		Prevention of	Minister.			judges, to the
basis thereof, and filing with the SJC;		Corruption does not				Commission for
4. Effective investigation of the		have any power to				Prevention of
aforementioned declarations by the		commence a				Corruption, the
SJC.		disciplinary				declarations on
		proceeding on the				property,
		basis of problematic				incomes,
		declarations of the				interests and
		judges and filing				expenses
		with the SJC.				thereof and of
						affiliated
						persons in a
						timely manner
						as set forth
						under the Law,
						examination of
						the declarations
						submitted by all

						the judges	
						serving in the	
						RA,	
						identification of	
						the declarations	
						that are	
						problematic	
						from the	
						integrity	
						viewpoint,	
						commencement	
						of a disciplinary	
						proceeding on	
						the basis	
						thereof and	
						their	
						submission to	
						the SJC,	
						effective	
						investigation of	
						the	
						aforementioned	
						declarations by	
						the SJC (as	
						applicable).	
Make amendment to the	The RA	According to the	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law "On	The Draft Law	Other funds
Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code	Ministry of	Constitutional Law	"On Making	"On Making	Making	"On Making	not
of the Republic of Armenia", aiming	Justice;	of "Judicial Code of	Amendment and	Amendment and	Amendment and	Amendment	prohibited
at formation of Ethics and	the RA NA	the Republic of	Supplement to	Supplement to	Supplement to the	and Supplement	by law.
Disciplinary Committee instead of	Standing	Armenia", the	the	the	Constitutional Law	to the	•
the Disciplinary Committee, the	Committee	General Assembly of	Constitutional	Constitutional	of "Judicial Code of	Constitutional	

members of which will be elected for	on State and	Judges shall set up a	Law of "Judicial	Law of "Judicial	the Republic of	Law of "Judicial	
two vs. five years, and which will	Legal	Disciplinary	Code of the	Code of the	Armenia" is	Code of the	
incorporate not only judges, but also	Affairs and	Committee;	Republic of	Republic of	elaborated and	Republic of	
representatives from the HRD Office	Commission	nevertheless, taking	Armenia" is	Armenia" is	submitted to the	Armenia"	
and the general public.	for	into account the fact	elaborated and	approved by the	RA NA.	provides for the	
	Prevention	that it should watch	discussed with	RA Government		creation of	
	of	the compliance with	interested	and submitted to		Ethics and	
	Corruption	the ethical norms, it	bodies, the civil	the RA NA.		Disciplinary	
	(subject to	would be more	society, and sent			Committee	
	agreement).	advisable to rename	to the RA Office			instead of the	
		it.	of the Prime			Disciplinary	
			Minister.			Committee,	
						with the	
						involvement of	
						representative	
						from non-	
						governmental	
						organizations.	

Train:	The RA	Through the period	Training	Trainings for the	Trainings for the	The members of	
	Ministry of	of judicial-legal	manuals are	members of the	members of the SJC	the SJC and the	
1. the SJC members, pursuing the	Justice;	reforms, having	prepared,	SJC and the	and the	Commission for	
goal of developing their capacity in	Academy of	reached the phase of	trainers to	Commission for	Commission for	Prevention of	
the sphere of the legislative	Justice of	its ongoing	deliver training	Prevention of	Prevention of	Corruption are	
amendments made and application of	the RA;	development, the	courses are	Corruption are	Corruption are	trained, and	
the new mechanisms introduced.	Commission	members of the SJC	selected.	delivered.	delivered.	they ensure	
2. the members of the Commission	for	and the Commission				effective	
for Prevention of Corruption,	Prevention	for Prevention of				compliance	
pursuing the goal developing their	of	Corruption need to				with the	
capacity in the sphere of the	Corruption	be trained to ensure				requirements of	
legislative amendments made and	(subject to	compliance with the				the legislation.	
application of the new mechanisms	agreement).	amended legislation.					
introduced.	-8						

Goal 5. Strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judicial authority

Strategic Direction: Improvement of the procedure for qualification checks for the incumbents of judge candidates

**Action 1**. Introduce a new procedure for qualification checks for the incumbents of judge candidates in compliance with the international standards, which should, inter alia, set forth the following:

- 1.improve the legislative regulations regarding the qualification checks of the incumbents of judge candidates;
- 2. ensure the transparency and the public accessibility of the qualification check processes of the incumbents of judge candidates.

**Output of Action 1.** The new procedure for the qualification checks of the incumbents of judge candidates is introduced, the incumbents of judge candidates are selected by more transparent procedures, and the evaluation is carried out by clear standards.

Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	The target	by phases	Check measures	Expected output	Source of funding
			The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Make amendment to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia", aiming at:  a) the change of the procedure for setting up an evaluation commission; b) clarification of the evaluation standards and ensuring the reasoning behind the evaluation; c) performing a psychological test at the first stage of interviewing, being prepared by leading international psychological institutes	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (subject to agreement)	While the procedure for appointment of judges has been significantly changed under the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia", various problems, both in legislative and practical terms, have been already identified in course of the practical application thereof. Particularly, the problems relate to the reasoning behind the evaluation of the written qualification check stage of the incumbents of judge candidates, the interview procedure		The Draft Law "On Making Amendm ents and Suppleme nts to the Constituti onal Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is approved by the RA Governm ent and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On Making Amendments and Supplements to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is submitted to the RA NA, and it improves the procedure of the qualification checks of the incumbents of judge candidates.	
d) introduction of a grievance procedure for the examination		and evaluation standards, the grievance procedure	society, and sent to the RA	IVA.			

results and ensuring	regarding the	Office of		
the transparency of	examination results	the Prime		
decision making by	and the transparency	Minister.		
the Supreme Judicial	of decision making.			
Council.				

## **Strategic Directions:**

- Strengthening social guarantees deriving from the status of judges
- Enhancing the public perception of the role of the judicial authority and the trust therein

Action 1. Reform of financial and social guarantees provided to judges and the capacity building thereof

**Output of Action 1.** The financial and social guarantees provided to judges are reformed, the size of salary and social guarantees provided to judges is increased, the capacities of judges are developed.

Action 2. Capacity building of, reform of the financial and social guarantees provided to and increasing the number of the judicial staff

Output of Action 2. Capacities of the judicial staff is developed, the financial and social guarantees provided thereto are reformed and the number thereof is increased

Action 3. Improve court buildings and material-technical conditions

**Output of Action 3.** The court buildings and material-technical conditions are improved and those are satisfactory for the effective activity of courts.

**Action 4**. Undertake awareness raising activities focusing on the public perception of the role of the judicial authority and increasing the trust therein.

Output of Action 4. Awareness raising activities focusing on the public perception of the role of the judicial authority and increasing trust therein are undertaken, and the public trust in the judicial authority is increased.

) ,							
Develop legislative amendments focusing on	The	The judge's salary and	Draft laws on	Draft laws on	Draft laws on	Draft laws on	Other funds
the increase of the judge's salary and any	RA	any premiums set in	making	making	making	making	not
premiums set in relation thereto, the judge's	Minis	relation thereto, the	amendments	amendments	amendments and	amendments	prohibited
pension, as well as ensuring other social	try of	judge's pension, as well	and	and	supplements to the	and	by law.
guarantees provided to any public servant.	Justic	as other social	supplements to	supplements to	RA Law "On	supplements	by law.
	e, the	guarantees provided to	the RA Law	the RA Law "On	Remuneration of	to the RA Law	
	RA	any public servant are	"On	Remuneration	Persons Holding	"On	
	Minis	not sufficient to ensure	Remuneration	of Persons	Public Offices" and	Remuneration	
	try of	the full independence	of Persons	Holding Public	related laws are	of Persons	
	Finan	and impartiality of the	Holding Public	Offices" and	elaborated and	Holding	
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	ce and	judiciary.	Offices" and related laws	related laws are approved by the	submitted to the RA NA.	Public Offices" and	
	the SJC (subj ect to agree ment ).		are elaborated, discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	RA Government.		related laws are submitted to the NA, and they are aimed at the increase of the judge's salary and any premiums set in relation thereto, the judge's pension, as well as ensuring other social guarantees provided to any public servant.	
Deliver trainings for judges in the following spheres:  a) investigation of corruption, economic and official crimes;  b) parallel to introduction of the electronic justice tools, the skill development of judges to work with the	The RA Minis try of Justic e and the Acad	Currently, the practice of literal interpretation of law without right-based valuation thereof is seen in the RA judicial system, as well as issues related to the interpretation and exercise of the ethics	Appropriate training programs are developed.	On the basis of the developed programs, training courses for judges are being organized.	The programs of the training courses for judges are elaborated; trainings for judges are being delivered.	The skills of judges in the aforemention ed spheres are improved; in course of their activities, the judges show	Other funds not prohibited by law.

evidence on the electronic media is being prioritized;  c) professional code of conduct and ethics; d) case law of the European Court of Human Rights regarding concrete articles of "European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms".	emy of Justi ce of the RA.	rules for judges, to the interpretation and application the ECHR case law are observed. Besides, the launch of the active phase of the fight against corruption also implies the need of developing skills for investigation of corruption, official crimes. And introduction of electronic justice tools implies improvement of skills to deal with the electronic evidence.				appropriate conduct in line with the ethics rules.	
Make amendments to respective legal acts aiming at the increase of the number of the judicial staff.	The RA Minis try of Justic e, the RA Minis try of Finan ce and the SJC	The number of the judicial staff is small, resulting in the overload of the staff and, accordingly, in low-level performance efficacy.	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the number of the judicial staff are elaborated, discussed with interested parties, put out for public	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the number of judicial staff are approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the number of the judicial staff are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the number of the judicial staff are submitted to the RA NA, and envisage an increase in	Other funds not prohibited by law.

Make amendments to respective legal acts aiming at an increase in salaries of the judicial staff.	(subj ect to agree ment ).  The RA Minis try of Justic e, the RA Minis try of Finan ce and	The salaries of the judicial staff are not satisfactory to ensure the latter's independence and impartiality, as well as to involve high quality professionals.	consultation and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.  Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the salaries of the judicial staff are elaborated, discussed with interested parties, put out	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the salaries of the judicial staff are approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA.	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the salaries of the judicial staff are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	the number of the judicial staff.  Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the salaries of the judicial staff are submitted to the RA NA and provide for an	Other funds not prohibited by law.
	the SJC (subj ect to agree ment ).		for public consultation and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.			increase in salaries of the judicial staff.	
Provide the courts with building conditions required for their effective activity.	The RA Minis try of	In the Republic of Armenia, there are still problems, where the administrative	Needs assessment to improve the building	The process of providing courts with building conditions, as	The note on needs assessment to improve the building conditions	Courts are provided with the building conditions	Other funds not prohibited by law.

	Justic e; the RA Minis try of Finan ce and the SJC (subj ect to agree ment ).	buildings of courts or their seats have non-satisfactory space or are not appropriately separated from the seats of other state bodies, as well as problems of ensuring access of disabled persons to the court. Moreover, some of the court buildings are not provided with minimum necessary conditions, i.e. court session halls, an opportunity to create open and closed zones, etc.	conditions required for the effective activity of courts is performed.	required for their effective activity, has started, according to the set priorities and schedule.	as required for the effective activity of courts and defining the priorities and the schedule thereof, and documents on the commenced construction works.	needed for their effective activity.	
Provide the courts with a material-technical basis needed for their effective activity.	The RA Minis try of Justic e; the RA Minis try of Finan ce and	The material-technical basis of courts is not satisfactory for effective activity.	The list of material-technical basis needed for courts with the view to their effective activity, is elaborated.	The process of providing courts with the material-technical basis needed for their effective activity has started, according to the set priorities and schedule.	The note on needs assessment of the material-technical basis required for the effective activity of courts, on defining the priorities and the schedule thereof, and documents regarding the support being already provided.	Courts are provided with the material-technical basis required for their effective activity.	Other funds not prohibited by law.

	the SJC (subj ect to agree ment ).						
Undertake awareness raising activities	The	Given various surveys	The program	Implementation	The program of	Awareness	Other funds
focusing on the public perception of the role	RA	and the analyses of	of awareness	of awareness	awareness raising	raising	not
of the judicial authority and increasing the	Minis	public opinion, it is	raising	raising activities	activities focusing	activities	prohibited
trust therein.	try of	irrefutable that the	activities	focusing on the	on the public	focusing on	by law.
	Justic	public harbors deep	aiming at	public	perception of the	the public	
	e;	mistrust of the judicial	public	perception of	role of the judicial	perception	
	the	system, being formed	perception of	the role of the	authority and	of the role	
	Supre	for many decades.	the role of the	judicial	increasing the trust	of the	
	me		judicial	authority and	therein is	judicial	
	Judici		authority and	increasing the	elaborated; the	authority	
	al		increasing the	trust therein has	events are	and	
	Coun		trust therein is	started in	underway.	increasing	
	cil		developed.	accordance with		the trust	
	(subj			the developed		therein are	
	ect to			program.		undertaken	
	agree					; the public	
	ment					trust in the	
	)					judicial	
						system has	
						increased.	

Goal 6. Development of alternative dispute resolution

**Action 1**. 1) Contribute to the introduction of modern tools to carry out conciliation (online conciliation, telephone conciliation) for performing dispute resolution therewith between consumers and public services providing organizations;

- 2) Enlarge the directions of the activities of the financial system mediator, reserving thereto also authorities to investigate and resolve disputes between legal persons;
- 3) Sign the United Nations Convention "On International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation" and, based on the latter, define appropriate mechanisms for its application under the RA legislation.

**Output of Action 1.** Other conciliation and dispute resolution mechanisms are effectively in place.

Output of Action 1. Other conciliation and dispute resolution mechanisms are effectively in place.										
Action	Responsible	Baseline	The target by phases		Check measures	Expected output	Source of			
	body	situation	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			funding			
1) Contribute to the introduction of modern tools to carry out conciliation (online conciliation, telephone conciliation) for performing dispute resolution therewith between consumers and public services providing organizations.  2) Enlarge the directions of the activity of the Office of Financial System Mediator, reserving thereto also the authority to investigate and resolve disputes between legal persons;  3) sign the United Nations Convention "On International Settlement	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Office of Financial System Mediator (subject to agreement)	Alternative dispute resolution is not functioning effectively.	The 2nd half of 2019  The directions of introducing alternative dispute resolution, the sources of funding are identified; appropriate specialists are involved; appropriate draft legislative acts are elaborated.	Appropriate tools are introduced; legislative acts are adopted.	Other alternative means of dispute resolution are introduced and put into effect; the Office of Financial System Mediator investigates also the disputes between legal persons.	Dispute resolution can be carried out in a rather short time period with obviously less cost for the consumer; the normative legal environment regulating the relations connected with international mediation is replenished.	Other funds not prohibited			

Agreements Resulting				
from Mediation" and,				
based on the latter, define				
appropriate mechanisms				
for its application under				
the RA legislation.				

#### Goal 7. Reform of the criminal and criminal procedure legislation

#### **Strategic Directions:**

Elimination of the criminal subculture

Introduction of a system of alternative punishment

Introduction of criminal liability of legal persons

Reform of the criminal procedure legislation

Introduction of alternative pre-trial restrictions

Introduction of simplified preliminary investigation

Plea bargaining and cooperation proceedings

Amendment in connection with receipt of information constituting a bank secret

Improvement of the proceedings with involvement of minors

Envisaging effective mutual legal assistance regulation regarding criminal cases

#### **Action 1**. Elaborate a new Draft Criminal Code of the RA and submit it to the NA

**Output of Action 1.** The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is adopted, the RA criminal legislation is improved; the system of punishment is up-to-dated; issues related to subjecting a person to criminal liability and releasing from criminal liability have been clarified; the measures of criminal influence against the minors are improved; the scope of acts considered as crime is revised; rules qualifying acts of crime are clarified; the contradiction available in the current Code are removed; the Criminal Code is in line with the European standards.

Action 2. Elaborate a new draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA and submit it to the NA

**Output of Action 2.** The new draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA is adopted; procedures of criminal proceeding in the RA are clarified and improved; plea bargaining and cooperation proceedings, the functions of the criminal proceeding participants and the mechanisms of effective implementation thereof are introduced; legislative basis and practical mechanisms for protection of human rights in the criminal proceeding is improved; regulations with regard to conducting investigation and other

procedural actions are streamlined; regulations in connection with the revision of judicial acts are reformed; the Code is brought into conformity with the recommendations submitted as a result of Phase 4 of the OECD Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan monitoring.

Actions	Resp	Baseline situation	The target by	y phases	Check measures	Expected	Source of
1	onsib le body		The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	The 1st half of 2020		output	funding
Elaborate a new Draft Criminal Code of the RA.	The RA Minis try of Justic e	The current Criminal Code needs to be completely amended. The system of punishment, other means of criminal-legal influence, as set forth therein, are not in conformity with the current-day realities; there are contradictions in the Code. The elaboration works of the new Code are underway.	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is elaborated.		The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is elaborated.	Under the new RA Draft Criminal Code, the RA criminal legislation is improved; the system of punishment is streamlined; the issues related to commenceme nt of criminal proceedings against a person and releasing from criminal liability are clarified; the measures of criminal influence	Other fund not prohibited by law.

					against the minors are improved; the scope of acts considered as crime is revised; the rules for qualifying the acts of crimes are clarified; the contradictions available in the current Code are removed; the new Draft Code is in line with the European standards.	
Organize public consultations of the new Draft Criminal Code of the RA.	The RA Minis try of Justic e	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is discussed with representatives of the civil society and all the interested parties; it is amended	_	The version of the RA Draft Criminal Code, agreed with all the interested parties, is elaborated; the summary of the recommendations and comments	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is amended, taking into account the	Other funds not prohibited by law.

		based on the recommendations and comments received.		submitted on the draft is available.	opinions of the civil society, all interested parties and the professional community.	
Submit the new Draft Criminal Code of the RA for discussion to the RA Government, and subsequently to the RA NA.	The RA Minis try of Justic e	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister; approved by the RA Government.	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is submitted to the RA National Assembly.	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA.	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA submitted to the RA NA is adopted; the RA Criminal Code is improved, the system of punishment is improved; the issues related to instituting criminal proceedings against a person and releasing thereof from criminal liability are	Other funds not prohibited by law.

						clarified; the	
						measures of	
						criminal	
						influence	
						against the	
						minors are	
						improved; the	
						scope of acts	
						considered as	
						crime is	
						revised; the	
						rules for	
						qualifying the	
						acts of crimes	
						are clarified;	
						the	
						contradictions	
						available in	
						the current	
						Code are	
						removed; the	
						new Draft	
						Code is in line	
						with the	
						European	
						standards.	
Trainings on the new Criminal Code of the	The	It is necessary to train	Specialists to	Training	Training programs	Public	Other funds
RA for all public participants of the criminal	RA	all public participants	elaborate the	programs are	for public	participants of	not
proceeding and judges.	Minis	of the criminal	training programs	elaborated;	participants of the	the criminal	prohibited
	try of	proceeding and judges	and to deliver the	trainings are	criminal proceeding	proceeding	by law.
	Justic	to raise the latter's	trainings are	being	and judges are	and judges are	

	e; Acad emy of Justic e of the RA	awareness about the new Criminal Code of the RA.	selected; the main directions of the training programs are elaborated.	delivered.	developed; trainings are being delivered.	aware of the regulations of the new Criminal Code.	
Provide material-technical support, required for performing the functions deriving from the legislative amendments, to the bodies administering the criminal proceeding, including the courts.	RA Minis try of Finan ce	It is necessary to provide the bodies administering the criminal proceeding, including the courts, with material-technical support required for performing the functions deriving from the legislative amendments.	The list of material-technical resources required for the bodies administering the criminal proceeding, including the courts, to perform the functions, as derived from the legislative amendments, the priorities and the schedule thereof are elaborated.	The process of providing material-technical support required for the bodies administerin g the criminal proceeding, including the courts, to perform the functions, as derived from the legislative amendment, by priorities and the schedule, has	The list of material-technical resources required for the bodies administering the criminal proceeding, including the courts, to perform the functions, as derived from the legislative amendments, the priorities and the schedule thereof are elaborated; the process of providing the resources has started.	The bodies administering the criminal proceeding, including the courts, are equipped with material-technical resources required for performing the functions deriving from the legislative amendments.	Other funds not prohibited by law.

				started.			
Develop the new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA.	The RA	The existing Criminal Procedure Code needs	The new Draft Criminal	-	The new Draft Criminal Procedure	Under the new Draft	Other fun
	Minis try of Justic e	to be completely amended. The mechanisms for human rights protection in course of the criminal proceeding, and investigative and procedural actions need an update. The elaboration works of the new Code are underway.	Procedure Code of the RA is elaborated.		Code of the RA is elaborated.	Criminal Procedure Code of the RA, the procedures of the criminal proceeding in the RA are clarified and improved, plea bargaining and cooperation proceedings, the functions of the participants of criminal proceeding and the mechanisms of effective implementati	not prohibited by law.

introduced; legislative bases and practical mechanisms for protection of human rights in criminal proceedings are improved; regulations in
bases and practical mechanisms for protection of human rights in criminal proceedings are improved;
practical mechanisms for protection of human rights in criminal proceedings are improved;
mechanisms for protection of human rights in criminal proceedings are improved;
for protection of human rights in criminal proceedings are improved;
of human rights in criminal proceedings are improved;
of human rights in criminal proceedings are improved;
criminal proceedings are improved;
criminal proceedings are improved;
are improved;
are improved;
regulations in
relation to
performing
investigative
and other
procedural
actions are
modernized;
regulations in
connection
with revision
of judicial acts
are reformed;
the Code is
brought into
conformity
with the
recommendati
ons submitted
as a result of

						Phase 4 of Istanbul Anti- Corruption Action Plan monitoring.	
Organize public consultations for the new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA.	The RA Minis try of Justic e		The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA is discussed with representatives of the civil society and all the interested parties, and amended based on the recommendations and comments received.		The version of the RA Draft Criminal Procedure Code, agreed with all the interested parties, is elaborated; summary on the draft is available.	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA is amended, taking into account the opinions of the civil society, all interested parties and the professional community.	Other funds not prohibited by law.
Submit the new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA for discussion to the RA Government, and subsequently to the RA NA.	RA Minis try of Justic e	-	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA is submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister; it is approved by	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA is submitted to the RA	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA is approved by the RA Government.	Under the new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA, submitted to the RA NA, the	Other funds not prohibited by law.

t	the RA	National	procedures of
	Government.	Assembly.	the criminal
		·	proceeding in
			the RA are
			clarified and
			improved,
			plea
			bargaining
			and
			cooperation
			proceedings,
			the functions
			of the
			participants of
			criminal
			proceeding
			and the
			mechanisms
			of effective
			implementati
			on thereof are
			introduced;
			legislative
			bases and
			practical
			mechanisms
			for protection
			of human
			rights in
			criminal
			proceedings

						are improved;	
						regulations in	
						relation to	
						performing	
						investigative	
						and other	
						procedural	
						actions are	
						updated;	
						regulations in	
						connection	
						with revision	
						of judicial acts	
						are reformed;	
						the Draft	
						Code is	
						brought into	
						conformity	
						with the	
						recommendati	
						ons submitted	
						as a result of	
						Phase 4 of the	
						OECD	
						Istanbul Anti-	
						Corruption	
						Action Plan	
						monitoring.	
Trainings on the new Draft Criminal	The	It is necessary to train	Specialists to	Training	Training programs	Public	Other funds
Procedure Code of the RA for all public	RA	all public participants	elaborate the	programs are	for public	participants of	not
participants of criminal proceeding and	Minis	of criminal proceeding	training programs	elaborated;	participants of	criminal	prohibited

judges.	try of	and judges to raise the	and to deliver the	trainings are	criminal proceeding	proceeding	by law.
	Justic	latter's awareness about	trainings are	being	and judges are	and judges are	
	e;	the regulations of the	selected; the main	delivered.	elaborated; trainings	aware of the	
	Acad	new Criminal	directions of the		are being delivered.	regulations of	
	emy	Procedure Code of the	training programs			the new	
	of	RA.	are elaborated.			Criminal	
	Justi					Procedure	
	ce of					Code.	
	the						
	RA						
Provide material-technical support required	The	It is necessary to	The list of	The process	The list of material-	The bodies	Other funds
for performing the functions deriving from	RA	provide material-	material-	of providing	technical resources	administering	not
the legislative amendments to the bodies	Minis	technical support to the	technical	material-	required for the	the criminal	prohibited
administering the criminal proceeding,	try of	bodies administering	resources	technical	bodies	proceeding,	by law.
including the courts.	Finan	the criminal	required for the	support	administering the	including the	
	ce	proceeding, including	bodies	required for	criminal proceeding,	courts, are	
		the courts, as required	administering the	the bodies	including the courts,	equipped with	
		for performing the	criminal	administerin	to perform the	material-	
		functions deriving from	proceeding,	g the	functions deriving	technical	
		the legislative	including the	criminal	from the legislative	resources	
		amendments.	courts, to perform	proceeding,	amendments, the	required for	
			the functions	including the	priorities and the schedule thereof are	performing the functions	
			deriving from the legislative	courts, to	elaborated; the		
			amendments, the	perform the functions	process of providing	deriving from the legislative	
			priorities and the	deriving	the resources has	amendments.	
			schedule thereof	from the	started.	amenuments.	
			are elaborated.	legislative	staticu.		
			are claudiateu.	amendments,			
				by priorities			

		and the		
		schedule, has		
		started.		

#### Goal 8. Reform of the Law Enforcement System

Strategic Direction: Reform of the Prosecutor's Office System

**Action 1.** Introduce a mechanism to assess prosecutors' integrity, putting into effect the principles adopted to assess the judge's integrity.

**Output of Action 1.** On an ongoing basis, prosecutors undergo integrity check that reduces the corruption in the system and ensures observance of the rules of prosecutors' professional conduct in scope of their activity

**Action 2**. Change the rules of setting up the Qualification Commission, so that the simple majority of the members thereof is appointed through a process not incorporating the involvement of the Prosecutor General, and broaden the representation of prosecutors holding not senior positions in representational bodies of prosecutors.

**Output of Action 2.** The rules of setting up the Qualification Commission are changed; the simple majority of the members thereof is appointed through a process not incorporating the involvement of the Prosecutor General; the representation of prosecutors holding not senior positions in representational bodies of prosecutors is broadened

**Action 3**. Revise the requirements to the candidates for prosecutors and ensure the transparency of the prosecutors' selection competition.

Output of Action 3. The requirements to the candidates for prosecutors are revised; the transparency of the prosecutors' selection competition is ensured

**Action 4**. Implement structural changes of the Prosecutor's Office and capacity building in the field of the state interest protection not through criminal procedure measures, as well as in the fields of corruption, economic, official and other crime investigation, working with electronic evidence, etc.

Output of Action 4. The structural changes of the Prosecutor's Office are completed; activities aiming at the prosecutors' capacity building are implemented

Action	Resp onsib	Baseline situation	The target by phases		Check measures	Expected output	Source of funding
	le body		The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Introduce a mechanism to assess prosecutors' integrity, putting into effect	The RA	In the first place, the reforms of the	Prosecutors' integrity	Prosecutors' integrity	Prosecutors' integrity assessment	Prosecutors ' integrity	Other funds not
the principles adopted to assess the judge's integrity.	Mini stry	Prosecutor's Office System are	assessment mechanism is	assessment mechanism is	mechanism is discussed with	assessment mechanism	prohibited by law.
	of Justic	connected with the need of increasing	elaborated.	discussed with interested	interested parties, the civil society,	is submitted	

	1 11 .		. 1	11 1	1 374	
e	the public trust in		parties, the	approved by the	to the NA,	
The	that system. The		civil society,	Government and	and it has	
Pro	report prepared		approved by	submitted to the	adopted	
cuto	within the		the	NA.	the	
's	frameworks of		Government		principles	
Ger	"Strengthening the		and submitted		of the	
ral	Independence,		to the NA.		judges'	
Off	Professionalism and				integrity	
e of	A				assessment.	
the	the Justice System in					
RA	Armenia" joint					
(sul	project implemented					
	by the European					
ect	Union and the					
to	Council of Europe					
agre	nroves that the					
men	scores of satisfaction					
)	with the personal					
	and professional					
	characteristics of					
	prosecutors are low,					
	especially in					
	comparison with					
	other players					
	involved in the					
	sphere of exercising					
	justice. Besides, the					
	court users are the					
	least satisfied with					
	the prosecutors'					
	professionalism.					
	Professionansin.					

Change the rules of setting up the	The	According to the	Law on making	The Law on	The Law on making	The Law on	Other funds
Qualification Commission, so that the	RA	current regulation, the	amendments	making	amendments and	making	not
simple majority of the members thereof is	Mini	Qualification	and	amendments	supplements to the	amendments	prohibited
appointed through a process not	stry	Commission is	supplements to	and	Law "On	and	by law.
incorporating the involvement of the	of	composed of nine	the Law "On	supplements to	Prosecutor's Office"	supplements	
Prosecutor General, and broaden the	Justic	members. The	Prosecutor's	the Law "On	is discussed with	to the Law	
representation of prosecutors holding not	e;	Qualification	Office" is	Prosecutor's	interested bodies,	"On	
senior positions in representational bodies	The	Commission consists of	elaborated.	Office" is	the civil society, and	Prosecutor's	
of prosecutors.	Prose	the Rector of the		discussed with	submitted to the	Office" is	
	cutor	Academy of Justice, one		interested	NA.	submitted to	
	's	deputy Prosecutor		bodies, the civil		the NA, and it	
	Gene	General appointed by		society, and		ensures the	
	ral	the Prosecutor General,		submitted to		appointment	
	Offic	four prosecutors and		the NA.		of the simple	
	e of	three lawyer-scientists.				majority of	
	the	The Qualification				the members	
	RA	Commission is headed				of	
	(subj	by the Deputy				Qualification	
	ect	Prosecutor General.				Commission,	
	to	Such regulation far				through a	
	agree	more emphasizes the				process not	
	ment	ranking and closed				incorporating	
	)	nature of the				the	
		Prosecutor's Office				involvement	
		system, endangering				of the	
		the independence of				Prosecutor	
		individual prosecutors.				General and	
		•				broadening of	
						the	
						representation	
						of prosecutors	

						holding not senior positions in representation al bodies of prosecutors.	
Make amendments and supplements to the Law "On Prosecutor's Office" focusing on the revision of the requirements to the candidates for prosecutors and ensuring the transparency of the prosecutors' selection competition.	The RA Mini stry of Justic e; the Prose cutor 's Gene ral Offic e of the RA (subj ect to agree ment )	In the existing law, there are concerns about ensuring transparency and manifestation of subjectivity in regard to the prosecutors' appointment procedure. The problems are mainly connected with close competition and the power of the Prosecutor General to include candidates for prosecutors in the list.	The Law on making amendments and supplements to the Law "On Prosecutor's Office" is elaborated.	The Draft Law on making amendments and supplements to the Law "On Prosecutor's Office" is discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, approved by the Government and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law on making amendments and supplements to the Law "On Prosecutor's Office" is discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, approved by the Government and submitted to the RA NA.	The Law on making amendmen ts and supplement s to the Law "On Prosecutor's Office" is submitted to the RA NA, and it ensures transparen cy of the prosecutors 's election competition and clarification of the requirements to the candidate for	

						prosecutors
Implement structural changes of the	The	The reforms of the	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law on	The Draft
Prosecutor's Office and capacity building	RA	Prosecutor's Office	on making	on making	making	Law on
in the field of the state interest protection	Mini	System are, in the	amendments	amendments	amendments and	making
not through criminal procedure measures,	stry	first place,	and	and	supplements to the	amendmen
as well as in the fields of corruption,	of	connected with the	supplements to	supplements to	Law "On	ts and
economic, official and other crime	Justic	need to increase the	the Law "On	the Law "On	Prosecutor's Office",	supplement
investigation, working with electronic	e;	public trust in that	Prosecutor's	Prosecutor's	setting forth	s to the
evidence, etc.	The	system. The report	Office", setting	Office", setting	structural changes,	Law "On
	Prose	prepared within the	forth structural	forth structural	is discussed with	Prosecutor'
	cutor	frameworks of	changes, is	changes, is	interested bodies,	s Office" is
	's	"Strengthening the	elaborated;	discussed with	the civil society, and	submitted
	Gene	Independence,	training	interested	submitted to the	to the NA,
	ral	Professionalism and	programs for	bodies, the civil	NA. Prosecutors	and it
	Offic	Accountability of	prosecutors in	society,	have started the	provides
	e of	the Justice System in	appropriate	approved by	trainings based on	for
	the	Armenia" joint	fields are	the	the elaborated	structural
	RA	project implemented	elaborated.	Government	programs.	changes,
	(subj	by the European		and submitted		capacity
	ect	Union and the		to the RA NA.		building in
	to	Council of Europe				the field of
	agree	proves that, the				the state
	ment	scores regarding				interest
	)	satisfaction with the				protection
		personal and				not
		professional				through
		characteristics of				criminal
		prosecutors are low,				procedure
		especially in				measures;
		comparison with				activities

other players	aiming at
involved in the	developme
sphere of exercising	nt of the
justice. Besides, the	prosecutors
court users are the	' capacities
least satisfied with	are
the prosecutors'	implement
professionalism.	ed.

#### Goal 9. Reform of the Law Enforcement System

**Strategic Direction:** Reform of the investigative bodies

**Action 1.** To assess the investigators' integrity, revise the grounds and the procedure of subjecting investigators to disciplinary liability to ensure the transparency thereof by putting into effect the principles adopted for the assessment of the judge's integrity

**Output of Action 1.** On an ongoing basis, investigators undergo integrity check that reduces the corruption in the system and ensures observance of the rules of investigators' professional conduct in scope of their activity

**Action 2.** Implement investigators' capacity building in the fields of corruption, economic, official and other crime investigation, working with electronic evidence, etc. **Output of Action 2.** Activities aiming at the investigators' capacity building are implemented

Action	Resp onsib	Baseline situation	The target by phases		Check measures	Expected output	Source of funding
	le body		The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Make amendments and supplements to	The	To restore the health	The package of	The package of	The package of bills	The	Other funds
respective legal acts, aiming at the	RA	of the justice system,	bills envisaging	bills envisaging	envisaging	package of	not
improvement of the grounds and the	Mini	it is important to	amendments	amendments	amendments and	bills	prohibited
procedure of subjecting investigators to	stry	ensure that all the	and	and	supplements to	envisaging	by law.
disciplinary liability.	of	bodies constituting	supplements to	supplements to	respective legal acts	amendmen	
	Justic	component parts of	respective legal	respective legal	providing for	ts and	
	e,	that system,	acts providing	acts providing	changes of the	supplement	
	The	including the	for changes of	for changes of	grounds and	s to	

	RA	investigative bodies,	the grounds	the grounds	procedures of	respective	
	Inves	are in conformity	and procedures	and procedures	subjecting	legal acts	
	tigati	with the vision of	of subjecting	of subjecting	investigators to	providing	
	ve	the new concept of	investigators to	investigators to	disciplinary liability,	for changes	
	Com	justice, in terms of	disciplinary	disciplinary	is submitted to the	of the	
	mitte	their structure, the	liability, is	liability, is	RA NA.	grounds	
	e;	principles of their	elaborated.	discussed with		and	
	Speci	activity and		interested		procedures	
	al	professional		bodies, the civil		of	
	Inves	potential.		society,		subjecting	
	tigati			approved by		investigato	
	on			the RA		rs to	
	Servi			Government		disciplinar	
	ce of			and submitted		y liability,	
	the			to the RA NA.		is	
	RA;					submitted	
	,					to the RA	
	<b>NT</b> .					NA, and it	
	Natio					contains	
	nal					regulations	
	Secu					required	
	rity					for	
	Servi					effective	
	ce of					assessment	
	the					of	
	RA					investigato	
						rs'	
						integrity.	
Implement investigators' capacity building	The	To restore the health of	Programs of	Investigators	Investigators started	Activities	Other funds
in the fields of corruption, economic,	RA	the justice system, it is	investigators'	started their	their trainings in	for the	not
official and other crime investigation,	Mini	important to ensure	trainings in	trainings in	accordance with the	investigato	prohibited

working with electronic evidence, etc.	stry	that all the bodies	appropriate	accordance	elaborated	r's capacity	by law.
	of	constituting component	fields are	with the	programs.	building	
	Justic	parts of that system,	elaborated.	elaborated		are	
	e;	including the		programs.		performed.	
	Aca	investigative bodies, are					
	dem	in conformity with the					
	y of	vision of the new					
	Justi	concept of justice, in					
	ce of	terms of their structure,					
	the	the principles of their					
	RA	activity and the					
	(subj	professional potential.					
	ect						
	to						
	agree						
	ment						
	)						
	<u> </u>						

#### Goal 10. Reform of the Civil and Civil Procedure Legislation

## Strategic Directions:

- Reform of the civil legislation.
- Review of the institute of returning statement of claim.

**Action 1.** Elaborate draft bills aiming at making amendments to the RA Civil Code and other legal acts.

**Output of Action 1.** The Civil Code of the Republic of Armenia and the legislation regulating civil-legal relations are in conformity with the current requirements of the market.

**Action 2.** Make amendments to the RA Civil Procedure Law, reviewing the institute of returning statement of claims.

Output of Action 2. Reducing the workload of the courts of general instance by reviewing the institute of returning statement of claim.

Action	Responsible	Baseline situation	The targe	by phases	Check measures	Output	
	body		1st half of 2020	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2020			Source of funding
Elaborate draft bills aiming at making amendments to the RA Civil Code and other legal acts.	The RA Ministry of Justice	1) The status of non-paper securities, electronic money, crypto assets is not clarified;  2) Regulations relating to the contractual right, including the forms of contracts, the regulations relating to contracts concluded in the online domain (on electronic platforms) are not updated;  3) there are organizational-legal relations that are not in harmony with market relations; no modern-day corporate management solutions regulating corporative legal relations are available in the legislation.  4) the consistency	The draft bills are elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	The draft bills are approved by the RA Government.	The draft bills are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The legislation is in line with the current development trends of civil-legal relations.	The State budget or other funds not prohibited by law.

between	10		
procurem			
	and the RA		
Civil Cod	is not		
ensured.			
5) the leg	l norms		
regulatin			
	ntracts are		
	formity with		
the sector	With		
developm	unte		
	bank and		
	; there are		
contradic			
	ne RA Civil		
Code and			
regulation			
under the			
legislation			
6) The co	sistency and		
equivaler			
	s relating to		
	ies, as set		
forth und			
	, with the		
the sector	regulating		
	IS HOL		
ensured;			
7) Institu	es of the		
secured r	tht and the		

	peculiarities of application thereof are not clearly distinguished;  8) Legal regulations connected with liabilities arisen as a consequence of causing damage through an activity posing a higher risk for the minors' environment, the norms relating to the damage caused to the life and health are subject to review.					
The RA Ministry of Justice	It is necessary to bring specific regulations under the RA Law "On Consumer Crediting"; the RA Law "On Attraction of Bank Deposits", the RA Law "On Banks and Banking Activity"; RA Law "On Compulsory Insurance of Motor Third Party Liability",	-	1. Draft bills are elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.  2. Draft bills are approved by the	Draft bills are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The legislation is in line with the modernday approaches of regulating personal legal relations.	The State budget or other funds not prohibited by law.

		the RA Law "On Fund Transfers through Payment Order", the RA Law "On Bank Secret" into conformity with the modern-day approaches of regulating personal legal relations.		RA Government.			
Make amendments to the RA Civil Procedure Law, reviewing the institute of returning statements of claims.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (subject to agreement).	The process of returning, by the judge, the statement of claim without reservation, on all the grounds, is one of the key reasons of the workload of the courts of general jurisdiction.	The draft Law "On making amendments to "The RA Civil Procedure Code" is elaborated; the draft is circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	The draft Law "On making amendments to "The RA Civil Procedure Code" is approved by the RA Government.	The draft Law "On making amendments to "The RA Civil Procedure Code" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The draft Law "On making amendments to "The RA Civil Procedure Code" is submitted to the RA NA, and thereby the institute of returning statement of claim is reviewed.	The RA State budget ( AMD); cooperation with internationa l partners

Goal 11. Increasing efficiency of the administrative justice and administrative proceeding

Strategic Directions:

- Creating an administrative chamber for the court of cassation
- Repealing the procedure of administrative proceeding with regard to disputing the decisions, actions and inactions of the administrative staff of penitentiary facility.
- Improving notification procedures in administrative proceedings
- Applying written and simplified procedures in administrative proceedings
- Reviewing regulations relating to the state duty
- Increasing the efficiency of special administrative procedure proceedings
- Increasing the efficiency of administrative act appeal by the administrative procedure
- Improving the legislation relating to administrative offences
- Reviewing the fines envisaged for administrative offences

**Action 1.** Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, envisaging an administrative chamber for the Court of Cassation.

**Output of Action 1.** Ensuring efficiency of judicial protection by setting up an administrative chamber at the court of cassation.

Action 2. Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code and the Criminal Procedure Code.

Output of Action 2. Reserving the dispute on decisions, actions and inactions of the administrative staff of penitentiary facility to the court of general jurisdiction

Action 3. Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, introducing new notification procedures

Output of Action 3. Introducing new notification procedures in the administrative proceeding

**Action 4.** Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, introducing new written and simplified proceedings.

Output of Action 4. Envisaging written procedure for appeal and cassation stages, and simplified proceeding for concrete cases.

Action 5. Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code and the Law "On State Duty", defining an obligation to pay state duty, where there are applications on appealing the actions of compulsory enforcement officers, as well as appeals against the decision made by appropriate authorized bodies on administrative offences.

Output of Action 5. Review of the regulations regarding exemption from the state duty

Action 6. Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, reviewing the types of special proceedings.

Output of Action 6. Reviewing the types of special proceedings and the classification thereof.

**Action 7.** Make amendments to the Law "On the Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Procedure", defining compulsory appeal procedures for administrative acts.

**Output of Action 7.** Formation of a single administrative appeal body, which will be authorized to handle all administrative appeals submitted with regard to all cases, as well as defining compulsory administrative act appeal cases by the administrative procedure.

Action 8. Adopt a new Code on Administrative Offences.

Output of Action 8. Availability of institutional and comprehensive legislation on administrative offences.

**Action 9.** Make amendments to the Code on Administrative Offences.

Output of Action 9. Changing the penalty amounts and defining also a penal unit, apart from the penalty, as an administrative fine.

Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	The target by phases		Check measures	Expected output	Source of funding
			The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Make amendments to the RA	The RA	Not only is the	Draft bills "On	Draft bills "On	Draft bills "On	Draft bills "On	The State
Administrative Procedure Code,	Ministry of	efficiency of the right	making	making	making	making	budget or
envisaging an administrative	Justice;	to judicial protection of	amendments to	amendments to	amendments to the	amendments to	other
chamber for the Court of	the Supreme	the right of person in	the "RA	the "RA	"RA Administrative	the "RA	funds not
Cassation.	Judicial Council	the sphere of	Administrative	Administrative	Procedure Code"	Administrative	prohibited
	of the RA	specialized	Procedure	Procedure	and the	Procedure	by law.
	(subject to	administrative justice	Code" and the	Code" and the	Constitutional Law	Code" and "On	
	agreement).	accountable for by the	Constitutional	Constitutional	of "The RA Judicial	making	
	agreement).	accessibility and	Law of "The	Law of "The	Code" are	amendments to	
		efficiency of the court	RA Judicial	RA Judicial	elaborated and	the	
		of cassation - the only	Code" are	Code" are	submitted to the RA	Constitutional	
		appeals instance, but an	elaborated,	approved by	NA.	Law of "The RA	
		important factor	circulated in	the RA		Judicial Code"	
		determining the	the prescribed	Government.		are submitted	
		efficiency of such right	manner and			to the RA NA,	

Make amendments to the RA	The RA	is also full demonstration of the specialization factor in the court of cassation.  Nonetheless, the judicial acts of the Administrative Appeal Court are currently reviewed by the civil and administrative chambers of the Court of Cassation.  The jurisdiction issue	submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.  Draft bills "On	Draft bills "On	Draft bills "On	and, thereby, they ensure preconditions for creation of an administrative chamber for the Court of Cassation.	The State
Administrative Procedure Code	Ministry of	regarding the dispute	making	making	making amendments	making	budget or
and the RA Criminal Procedure Code.	Justice; the Supreme	on the decisions, actions and inactions of	amendments to the "RA	amendments to the "RA	to the "RA Administrative	amendments to the "RA	other funds not
Gode.	Judicial Council	the administrative staff	Administrative	Administrative	Procedure Code"	Administrative	prohibited
	of the RA	of penitentiary facility	Procedure	Procedure	and "On making	Procedure	by law.
	(subject to	has not yet been solved,	Code" and "On	Code" and "On	amendments to the	Code" and "On	
	agreement)	and in the judicial	making	making	"RA Criminal	making	
		practice it is subject to	amendments to	amendments	Procedure Code" are	amendments to	
		mutually exclusive	the "RA	to the "RA	elaborated and	the "RA	
		comments.	Criminal	Criminal	submitted to the RA NA.	Criminal Procedure	
			Procedure Code" are	Procedure Code" are	INA.	Procedure Code" are	
			elaborated,	approved by		submitted to	
			circulated in	the RA		the RA NA,	
			the prescribed	Government.		and, thereby,	
			manner and			the jurisdiction	
			submitted to			issue regarding	
			the RA Office			the dispute on	

			of the Prime Minister.			the decisions, actions and inactions of the administrative staff of penitentiary facility is solved.	
Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, introducing new notification procedures.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (subject to agreement)	Under the current notification system in the administrative procedure, the court must, with regard to each case, notify any participant of the proceeding of each judicial activity, mainly through postal mail. Note that no distinction is made whether the participant of the proceeding is a natural or legal person, or an advocate, or state or local self-government body. In all cases, the court actually spends vast financial and human resources to meet the requirement	study relating to the reform of	The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" is approved by the RA Government.	The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA, and, thereby new notification procedures are prescribed in the administrative procedure.	The State budget or other funds not prohibited by law.

Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, introducing new written and simplified proceedings.  The Administrative procedure is lacking written and simplified proceedings.  The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA  the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (subject to agreement)  The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA  (subject to agreement)  The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA  simplified and written procedure is conducted; the Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA  NA.  The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA  Administrative procedure Code" is elaborated and submitted to the RA  NA.  The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA  Administrative procedure is conducted; the Draft Law "On making written and submitted to the RA NA, and, thereby, written and		
amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" is elaborated; the draft is circulated in the prescribed manner and sent to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.  2. The Draft	ministrative Procedure Code, roducing new written and	The State budget or other funds not prohibited by law.

				making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" is approved by the RA Government.			
Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code and the Law "On State Duty", defining an obligation to pay state duty, where there are applications on appealing the actions of compulsory enforcement officers, as well as appeals against decision made by appropriate authorized bodies on administrative offences.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (subject to agreement)	Nowadays, people are exempt of the obligation to pay state duty, where there are applications on appealing the actions of compulsory enforcement officers, as well as appeals against the decision made by appropriate authorized bodies on administrative offences.  It appears that, with regard to almost all cases constituting the workload for the administrative court, the plaintiffs are exempt of the	Draft laws "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" and "On making amendments to the Law on State Duty" are elaborated; the draft is circulated in the prescribed manner and sent to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	Draft laws "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" and "On making amendments to the Law on State Duty" are approved by the RA Government.	Draft laws "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" and "On making amendments to the Law on State Duty" are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	Draft laws "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" and "On making amendments to the Law on State Duty" are submitted to the RA NA, and, thereby, obligation to pay state duty is defined.	The State budget or other funds not prohibited by law.

		obligation to pay state duty.					
Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, reviewing the types of special proceedings.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (subject to agreement)	Case handling with regard to subjecting, by the judicial procedure, to administrative liability has been categorized among special proceedings of the RA administrative procedure that should be removed from the Code, as it is the function of the administrative body. Currently, the Administrative Procedure Code specifies proceedings, the necessity of which handling by the procedure of a special proceeding is not justified. Furthermore, many of such proceedings cannot be deemed as special ones, as they contain claims of parties with opposing interests and material-legal claims.	The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" is elaborated; the draft is circulated in the prescribed manner and sent to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" is approved by the RA Government.	The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA, and, thereby, special proceedings in the administrative procedure are regulated.	The State budget or other funds not prohibited by law.

Make amendments to the Law	The RA	The inefficiency of	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law "On	The Draft Law	The State
"On the Fundamentals of	Ministry of	appealing the	"On making	"On making	making amendments	"On making	budget or
Administration and	Justice	administrative acts by	amendments to	amendments	to the Law "On the	amendments to	other
Administrative Procedure",	Justice	an administrative	the Law "On	to the Law	Fundamentals of	the Law "On	funds not
defining compulsory appeal		procedure has resulted	the	"On the	Administration and	the	prohibited
procedures for administrative acts.		in the workload of the	Fundamentals	Fundamentals	Administrative	Fundamentals	by law.
procedures for administrative acts.		RA Administrative	of	of	Procedure" is	of	by law.
		Court.	Administration	Administratio	elaborated and	Administration	
		Gourt.	and	n and	submitted to the RA	and	
			Administrative	Administrative	NA.	Administrative	
			Procedure" is	Procedure" is	11/1.	Procedure" is	
			elaborated,	approved by		elaborated and	
			circulated in	the RA		submitted to	
			the prescribed	Government.		the RA NA, and	
			manner and	Government.		it provides for	
			submitted to			the formation	
			the RA Office			of a single	
			of the Prime			administrative	
			Minister.			appeal body, as	
			Willister.			well as defining	
						compulsory	
						administrative	
						act appeal cases	
						by an	
						administrative	
						procedure.	
						•	
Adopt a new Code on	The RA	For the time being, the	The new draft	The new draft	The new draft Code	The new draft	The State
Administrative Offences.	Ministry of	Code on Administrative	Code on	Code on	on Administrative	Code on	budget or
	Justice	Offences adopted as far	Administrative	Administrative	Offences is	Administrative	other
		back as on December 6,	Offences is	Offences is	elaborated and	Offences is	funds not
		1985, by the Supreme	elaborated,	approved by	submitted to the RA	submitted to	prohibited

		into eff 1986, is the Armeni underly discretic philosop systemic irresolv contrad dozens multiple unsucce	an SSR and still in each still	June 6, effect in c of w of the gics and the are and with er laws, eful and	the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office	the RA Government.	NA.	the RA NA and provides for the regulation of the issues in the field of administrative offences.	by law.
		decades provisio outdate	nents ma ons thand or do no practical	many at are not have					
		defective incomparts administration measure	e lete trative es, this	and liability Code is					
		issues p	to solut before comply wents of tate.	e it and with the					
Make amendments to the Code on Administrative Offences	The RA Ministry of	Admini should	strative apply w	fine rith the	The Draft Law "On making	The Draft Law "On making	The Draft Law "On making amendments	The Draft Law "On making	The State budget or

Justic	e view to shaping lawful	amendments to	amendments	to the Code on	amendments to	other
	behavior of person and	the Code on	to the Code on	Administrative	the Code on	funds not
	preventing	Administrative	Administrative	Offences" is	Administrative	prohibited
	commitment of new	Offences" is	Offences" is	elaborated and	Offences" is	by law.
	administrative offences.	elaborated,	approved by	submitted to the RA	submitted to	
	However, in practice,	circulated in	the RA	NA.	the RA NA, and	
	both imposition of	the prescribed	Government.		it provides for	
	penalty and increasing	manner and			adoption of	
	the penalty amount	submitted to			new approaches	
	cannot become	the RA Office			for imposition	
	constraining factors and	of the Prime			of	
	prevent commitment of	Minister.			administrative	
	new offences.				fines.	

## Goal 12. Increasing the efficiency of the bankruptcy system

#### Strategic Directions:

- Improvement of the procedures for acquiring a profession, qualification and appointment of bankruptcy administrator, introduction of a toolkit to increase their responsibility and the efficiency of their activity
- Review and improvement of regulations relating to debtor's property inventory, assessment and sale
- Increasing the role of creditors, judges (the court) in the bankruptcy proceeding.

**Action 1.** Make appropriate amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy", reviewing the institute of the disciplinary liability of bankruptcy administrators. **Output of Action 1.** Increase the responsibility of bankruptcy administrators.

**Action 2.** Adopt normative legal act of the Minister, defining the procedure of qualification implementation for bankruptcy administrators.

**Output of Action 2.** The level of the professional readiness of bankruptcy administrators is increased, their capacities and skills are developed; fair distribution of bankruptcy cases between bankruptcy administrators is guaranteed; administrators' independency is strengthened and the latter's responsibility is increased.

Action 3. Initiate the elaboration of scientific practical commentary, manuals and(or) guides for the Law "On Bankruptcy"

Output of Action 3. Interested persons have reliable sources for acquiring knowledge on bankruptcy proceeding and tackling the practical problems arisen.

**Action 4.** Improve the training programs for bankruptcy administrators.

**Output of Action 4.** The up-to-datedness, diversity and quality of the educational materials are improved.

**Action 5.** Make appropriate amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy", reviewing the regulations relating to the property inventory and assessment.

Output of Action 5. The process of debtor's property inventory, assessment and sale is clarified and has become more transparent; the sale process is carried out electronically.

Action 6. Elaborate draft Government Decree defining the procedure for carrying out property sale in the bankruptcy proceeding.

**Output of Action 6.** The relations connected with debtor's property sale in the bankruptcy proceeding are regulated.

**Action 7.** Make appropriate amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy", clearly defining concrete timeframes for concrete court actions; exclude, to the extent possible, the elements of judicial discretion in the procedural actions; broaden the creditor's rights when making decisions on approving the remuneration and costs of bankruptcy administrator, appointment of bankruptcy administrator and termination of the authorities thereof, approval of any liquidation or financial rehabilitation program.

**Output of Action 7.** The role of creditors and judges is increased in the bankruptcy system and at the main stages of the bankruptcy process; creditors are vested with appropriate rights.

**Action 8.** Review the training programs for bankruptcy judges.

Output of Action 8. Apart from training on legal issues, trainings are delivered also on non-legal topics, such as economics, business, finances management.

Activity Responsi		Baseline situation	The target by phases		Check measures	Output	Control		
Ticurity	body	Busefile situation	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020	Greek measures	Guspus	Source of funding		
Make appropriate amendments to	The RA	Issues of the	The draft Law	The draft Law	The draft Law	The	The State		
the Law "On Bankruptcy",		Ministry of	Ministry of	disciplinary liability of	providing for	providing for	providing for	responsibility of	budget or
reviewing the institute of the	Justice	bankruptcy	amendments	amendments to	amendments to the	bankruptcy	other		
disciplinary liability of bankruptcy		administrators are not	to the Law	the Law "On	Law "On	administrators	funds not		
administrators.		clearly regulated under	"On	Bankruptcy" is	Bankruptcy" is	is increased.	prohibited		
administrators.		the existing legislation.	Bankruptcy" is	approved by the	elaborated and		by law.		
			elaborated,	RA	submitted to the RA				
			circulated in	Government.	NA.				
			the prescribed						
			manner and						
			submitted to						

Adopt normative legal act of the Minister, defining the procedure of qualification implementation for bankruptcy administrators.	The RA Ministry of Justice	The regulations with regard to the status of the qualification commission, the composition of the commission, details regarding the organization of qualification examinations and the requirements thereto are not clarified.	the RA Office of the Prime Minister. The draft normative legal act is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner.	The normative legal act is adopted.	The new qualification regulation for bankruptcy administrators is adopted and put into effect.	The qualification procedures for the bankruptcy administrators are revised.	The State budget or other funds not prohibited by law.
Initiate the elaboration of scientific practical commentary, manuals and (or) guides for the Law "On Bankruptcy".	The RA Ministry of Justices; Higher educational institutions (subject to agreement); Bankruptcy court (subject to agreement).	There are no up-to-date and comprehensive documents available in Armenian relating to bankruptcy proceeding that would incorporate the whole analysis of the legislation on bankruptcy and the bankruptcy proceeding, and that would present accessible comments on the law, taking into account the judicial practice and	Making a schedule for work performance, involvement of appropriate specialists, identification of main directions of papers.	Based on the identified directions, elaborating appropriate sources, papers, organizing editorial treatment, testing, summarizing and publishing the works.	Scientific practical commentary, manuals and (or) guides for the Law "On Bankruptcy" are prepared and published.	Interested parties have reliable sources to acquire information about the bankruptcy case and to tackle the practical problems arisen.	Cooperation n with internation al partners.

Improve the training programs for bankruptcy administrators.	The RA Ministry of Justice; Self-regulatory organizations of bankruptcy administrators (subject to agreement).	jurisprudential approaches, the specificities of proceeding and practical issues.  Training courses are delivered as per the provisions under the Law "On Bankruptcy"; no training courses are available with consideration of specific sectors and institutions and the judicial practice.	Making a schedule for work performance, involvement of appropriate specialists, designing the main directions of training programs.	Conducting studies based on the identified directions; elaboration (upto-dating the programs), discussion, summarizing and approval of new training programs.	New training programs for bankruptcy administrators are prepared and approved.	The up-to-datedness, diversity and quality of learning materials are improved.	
Make appropriate amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy", reviewing the regulations relating to the property inventory and assessment.	The RA Ministry of Justice	Currently, the processes of debtor's property inventory and assessment by the bankruptcy administrator is not regulated, thus giving the bankruptcy administrator an opportunity to exercise broad discretion.	The Draft Law providing for amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy" is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	The Draft Law providing for amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy" is approved by the RA Government.	The Draft Law providing for amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	Clear inventory and assessment criteria, simple and clear procedures, control mechanisms with regard to the inventory and assessment process are introduced.	The State budget or other funds not prohibited by law.

Annex N 2 to the RA Government Decree N--N-----, dated as of –

Elaborate a draft Government Decree defining the procedure for carrying out property sale in the bankruptcy proceeding.	The RA Ministry of Justice	No legal act defining the procedure for carrying out the property sale in the bankruptcy proceeding is available.	The draft Government Decree is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	The Government Decree is adopted.	The procedure of carrying out the debtor's property sale in the bankruptcy proceeding is adopted and in effect.	The relations connected with the debtor's property sale in the bankruptcy proceeding are regulated.	The State budget or other funds not prohibited by law.
Make appropriate amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy", clearly defining concrete timeframes for concrete court actions; exclude, to the extent possible, the elements of judicial discretion in the procedural actions; broaden the creditor's rights when making decisions on approving the remuneration and costs of bankruptcy administrator, appointment of bankruptcy administrator and termination of the authorities thereof, approval of any liquidation or financial rehabilitation program.	The RA Ministry of Justice	According to the studies conducted, of the key players in the bankruptcy system, the judges were enjoying the least confidence, and in many cases creditors were not vested with appropriate rights.	The Draft Law providing for amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy" is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	The Draft Law providing for amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy" is approved by the RA Government.	The Draft Law providing for amendments to the Law "On Bankruptcy" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The role of creditors and judges is increased in the bankruptcy system and at the main stages of the bankruptcy process; creditors are vested with appropriate rights.	
Review the training programs for bankruptcy judges.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the	The training subjects for the bankruptcy judges are to be	Making a schedule for the work	Conducting studies based on the identified	New training programs for judges are prepared and	Apart from training on legal issues,	The State budget or other

	broadened to include,	performance;	directions;	approved.	trainings for	funds not
Supreme	inter alia, topics of non-	involvement	elaboration		bankruptcy	prohibited
Judicial Council	legal nature.	of appropriate	(updating the		judges are	by law.
of the RA		specialists;	programs),		delivered also	
(subject to		designing the	discussion,		on non-legal	
agreement)		main	summarizing		topics, such as	
		directions of	and approval of		economics,	
Academy of		training	new training		business,	
Justice of the		programs.	programs.		finances,	
RA (subject to					finance	
agreement)					management.	

### Goal 13. Developing Alternative Dispute Resolution

# Strategic Direction:

Improving the arbitration law

Action 1. Elaborate Draft Law on making amendments to the Law "On Commercial Arbitration".

**Output of Action 1.** The rights of persons resorting to arbitration are more protected; regulations for providing support to the arbitration by the national courts with a focus on promoting investment protection are in place.

Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	The target	t by phases	Check measures	Result	Source of funding
	·		The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Elaborate Draft Law on making	The RA	The activity of	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law is	The activity	The State
amendments to the Law "On	Ministry of	institutional	is elaborated,	is approved by	elaborated and	of	budget or
Commercial Arbitration"	Justice	arbitration	circulated in	the RA	submitted to the RA	institutional	other funds
		(arbitration centers)	the prescribed	Government.	NA.	arbitration	not

should be subject to	manner and		(arbitration	prohibited
legislative regulation;	submitted to		centers) is	by law.
the regulations of	the RA Office		regulated;	
providing, by the	of the Prime		the	
national courts,	Minister.		regulations	
support to the			of providing	
arbitration should be			support, by	
reviewed; improve			national	
the provisions			courts, to the	
regulating the			arbitration	
independence and			are	
flexibility of the			reviewed.	
arbitration process,				
inter alia, in the				
context of the choice				
of the procedure and				
the law to apply.				

## Goal 14. Increasing the effectiveness of the advocacy system

### **Strategic Directions:**

- Broadening the scope of beneficiaries of free legal aid
- Developing alternative mechanisms of providing free legal aid
- Increasing the efficiency of the public defenders' activity
- Developing the activities of the School of Advocates
- Improving the rules of advocate's conduct and integrity
- Developing internal mechanisms of the Chamber of Advocates

Action 1. Make amendments to the Law "On Advocacy", broadening the scope of persons having the right to receiving free legal aid.

Output of Action 1. The scope of persons having the right to receiving free legal aid is broadened, as well as the amount limitation threshold envisaged for receiving free

legal aid with regard to property claim cases are reviewed.

**Action 2.** Make amendments to the Law "On Advocacy", introducing an effective mechanism for pro-bono legal services.

Output of Action 2. The effective mechanism for pro-bono legal services is introduced and put into effect.

**Action 3.** Conduct a comprehensive study regarding the workload of public defenders and the reform of the infrastructures of the Office of Public Defender; make appropriate legislative amendments by the study results.

Output of Action 3. Reduction of the workload of public defenders; reform of the infrastructures of the Office of Public Defender

**Action 4.** Introduce improved procedures for professional education, qualification examination of the students of the School of Advocates, and for professional training of advocates

**Output of Action 4.** Up-to-dated programs for professional education, qualification examination of the students of the School of Advocates, and for professional training of advocates, mechanisms ensuring the simplicity, objectivity and transparency of conducting qualification examinations are introduced.

Action 5. Make amendments to the Law "On Advocacy", formalizing in legislation the minimum standards of advocates' conduct and integrity.

Output of Action 5. The minimum standards of advocates' conduct and integrity are formalized in legislation.

Action 6. Make amendments to the Law "On Advocacy", introducing effective self-management mechanisms for the Chamber of Advocates.

Output of Action 6. Effective self-management mechanisms for the Chamber of Advocates are introduced.

Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	The target by phases		Check measures	Expected output	Source of funding
			The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half 2019	The 1st half of 2020			
Make amendments to the Law	The RA	The scope of persons	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law "On	The Draft Law	RA State
"On Advocacy", broadening the	Ministry of	eligible for receiving	"On making	"On making	making	"On making	budget (40
scope of persons having the right	Justice;	free legal aid does not	amendments	amendments	amendments and	amendments	mil.
to receiving free legal aid.	Chamber of	incorporate foreigners	and	and	supplements to the	and	AMD);
	Advocates of	to appeal the decision	supplements to	supplements to	RA Law "On	supplements to	cooperatio
	the RA (subject	on deportation; persons	the RA Law	the RA Law	Advocacy" is	the RA Law	n with
	to agreement).	regarding which case	"On Advocacy"	"On Advocacy"	elaborated and	"On Advocacy"	internation

		proceedings are	is elaborated,	is approved by	submitted to the RA	is submitted to	al partners
		underway with regard	circulated in	the RA	NA.	the RA NA, and	
		to recognizing them as	the prescribed	Government.		thereby the	
		having incapacity for	manner and			scope of	
		work or limited	submitted to			beneficiaries	
		capacity to work,	the RA Office			eligible for free	
		recognizing a citizen,	of the Prime			legal aid, is	
		being recognized as	Minister.			broadened.	
		having incapacity for					
		work, as capable to					
		work or elimination of					
		any limitations with					
		respect to citizen's					
		capacity to work; as					
		well as victims and					
		witnesses, in cases					
		where the latter are					
		compulsory-duty					
		servicemen or children.					
		Besides, in terms of					
		cases with property					
		(money) claim, the					
		right to receiving free					
		legal aid is restricted, if					
		the case with property					
		(money) claim exceeds					
		one thousand-fold of					
		the minimum salary.					
Make amendments to the Law	The RA	No alternative	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law "On	The Draft Law	Cooperatio
"On Advocacy", introducing an	Ministry of	mechanisms for	"On making	"On making	making	"On making	n with
effective mechanism for pro-bono	Justice;	providing free legal aid	amendments	amendments	amendments and	amendments	internation

legal services.	the Chamber of Advocates of the RA (subject to agreement).	are set forth under the Law "On Advocacy".	and supplements to the RA Law "On Advocacy" is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	and supplements to the RA Law "On Advocacy" is approved by the RA Government.	supplements to the RA Law "On Advocacy" is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	and supplements to the RA Law "On Advocacy" is submitted to the RA NA, and thereby mechanisms for pro-bono legal services is prescribed.	al partners.
Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	The target by pha	ases	Check measures	Expected output	Source of funding
	,		The 1st half of 2020	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2020		•	Ü
Conduct a comprehensive study regarding the workload of public defenders and the reform of the infrastructures of the Office of Public Defender; make appropriate legislative amendments by the study results.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Chamber of Advocates of the RA (subject to agreement)	Increasingly growing number of cases, as compared to the incomparably smaller number of public defenders, as well as insufficiency of infrastructures of the Office of Public Defender	A comprehensive study regarding the workload of public defenders and the reform of the infrastructures of the Office of Public Defender is conducted; appropriate	Appropriate draft legislative amendments are approved by the RA Government.	Appropriate draft legislative amendments are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	Appropriate draft legislative amendments are submitted to the RA NA, and thereby legal regulations on reduction of the workload of public defenders and the reform of the	Cooperatio n with internation al partners.

			draft legislative amendments are elaborated; the draft is circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.			infrastructures of the Office of Public Defender are prescribed.	
Introduce improved procedures for professional education, qualification examination of the students of the School of Advocates, and for the professional training of advocates.	The RA Ministry of Justice; Chamber of Advocates of the RA (subject to agreement)	Unsatisfactory level of teaching such skills and abilities that are of practical significance and importance for the students of the School of Advocates, of the training programs for advocates, as well as the qualification process in the context objectivity and simplicity.	Needs assessment of professional education of the students of the School of Advocates and the professional training of advocates, and elaboration of improved procedures for qualification examination based on the study of the best practice.	Introducing up-to-dated programs for professional education of the students of the School of Advocates and professional training for advocates, as well as improved procedures for qualification examination.	The structure, content and format of the education and training programs are updated; the procedures for conducting qualification examinations are improved.	Up-to-dated training programs for the students of the School of Advocates and the advocates, as well as improved procedures for the qualification process are introduced and operational.	Cooperation with internation al partners.

Make amendments to the Law	The RA	Lack of the minimum	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law "On	The Draft Law	Cooperatio
"On Advocacy", formalizing in	Ministry of	standards of advocates'	"On making	"On making	making	"On making	n with
legislation the minimum standards	Justice;	conduct and integrity	amendments	amendments	amendments and	amendments	internation
of advocates' conduct and	the Chamber of	in the Law "On	and supplement	and supplement	supplement to the	and supplement	al partners.
integrity.	Advocates of	Advocacy".	to the RA Law	to the RA Law	RA Law "On	to the RA Law	
	the RA (subject		"On Advocacy"	"On Advocacy"	Advocacy" is	"On Advocacy"	
	to agreement)		is elaborated,	is approved by	elaborated and	is submitted to	
			circulated in	the RA	submitted to the RA	the RA NA, and	
			the prescribed	Government.	NA.	thereby the	
			manner and			minimum	
			submitted to			standards of	
			the RA Office			advocates'	
			of the Prime			conduct and	
			Minister.			integrity are	
						prescribed.	
Make amendments to the Law	The RA	Unsatisfactory level of	The Draft Law	The Draft Law	The Draft Law "On	The Draft Law	Cooperatio
"On Advocacy", introducing	Ministry of	the self-management of	"On making	"On making	making	"On making	n with
effective self-management	Justice;	the Chamber of	amendments	amendments	amendments and	amendments	internation
mechanisms for the Chamber of	Chamber of	Advocates	and supplement	and supplement	supplement to the	and supplement	al partners.
Advocates.	Advocates of		to the RA Law	to the RA Law	RA Law "On	to the RA Law	
	the RA (subject		"On Advocacy"	"On Advocacy"	Advocacy" is	"On Advocacy"	
	to agreement)		is elaborated,	is approved by	elaborated and	is submitted to	
			circulated in	the RA	submitted to the RA	the RA NA, and	
			the prescribed	Government.	NA.	thereby	
			manner and			effective self-	
			submitted to			management	
			the RA Office			mechanisms are	
			of the Prime			introduced for	
			Minister.			the Chamber of	
						Advocates.	

Annex N 2 to the RA Government Decree N--N-----, dated as of –