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Gagik Tsarukyan,
President of “PROSPEROUS ARMENIA” Party

[signature]

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[signature]

**“PROSPEROUS ARMENIA”
PARTY**

PROGRAM

/new edition/

Yerevan 2007

“Prosperous Armenia” Party was established to serve for the people, provide a dignified life for them and make its contribution to the prosperity of our homeland.

The members of “Prosperous Armenia” Party are united by the ideas of freedom, justice, peace solidarity and patriotism. “Prosperous Armenia” is resolute to protect and propagate these values.

The main problems set before Armenia is possible to settle only in case of unification and collaboration of individuals and political forces who enjoy the trust of people and propagate high values, noble goals and elevated ideas. In the political system of the country, “Prosperous Armenia” sees its mission within the given context and will act based on the political solidarity and unity.

“Prosperous Armenia” is a party of political accord. Being guided by the universal truth affirming that a human is a supreme value, the activity of the party will be guided by the slogan “At the Man’s side, through the Man and for the Man”.

We will contribute to the reinforcement of the democratic orders in the country, the formation of the political society, the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

“Prosperous Armenia” Party is a centralized political force, the activity of which is encouraged by realism and common sense. By rejecting the extremity, political adventurism and dogmatism, we are aspiring to settle the main problems set before the society in a target-oriented and fundamental manner. We are confident that the most significant guarantee for the development of the society is the presence of moral and spiritual valuable system.

In addition to the propagation of democracy and liberalism, as well as the aspiration for the formation of a new valuable system, “Prosperous Armenia” Party is a supporter of national and traditional values by highlighting the role of family, the church and the state within this valuable system.

1. BUILDING A LEGAL STATE

One of the principal tasks of “Prosperous Armenia” Party is the contribution of its efforts and opportunities to the building of a legal state in Armenia based on the civil society and the protection of the citizen’s rights and freedoms and democratic institutions.

Political stability

Below are the main directions of “Prosperous Armenia” Party directed at providing a political stability anchored by the principles of the division and balance of Legislative, Executive and Judicial Authorities:

1. Specific regulation of faulty activity of the authorities due to the adoption of respective laws and other legal acts within the constitutional changes.
2. Implementation of future constitutional reforms conditioned by the comprehensive settlement of the main tasks required for the development of the democracy, as well as necessitated by the time and set before the society.

To build a stable social and political relationship based on the political accord, we particularly consider it primary

- to create conditions so as to shift to 100% proportional electoral system of the elections of the National Assembly,
- to contribute to the enhancement of the level of transparency of the activity of the electoral commissions and the responsibilities of the political forces introduced therein,
- to contribute to the preservation of the freedom of the activity of public organizations,
- by attaching importance to the role of mass media as a significant tool for the expression of diverse opinions and formation of public opinion to improve the conditions of their free and impartial activity within the procedure of the development of democracy,
- to support the exercise of right to hold the citizens’ peaceful and unarmed rallies, meetings, demonstration and marches.

Beneficial state regulation

To reform and improve the state administration, “Prosperous Armenia” Party considers it primary

1. to exclude the implementation of similar operations conducted by the ministries, administrations other regulatory state bodies,
2. to adopt an administrative regulation by defining and specifying the procedure and terms for the adoption of decisions, as well as the liability for the violation of the rules with regard to document circulation and administration,
3. to raise the level of the activity of the transparency of state bodies and officials by inculcating the international experience of public supervision,

4. to reduce the number of state officials and employees to the extent possible, to raise their responsibility and improve the remuneration system of the state employees.

Prevention and reduction of corruption

As to the overcoming of corruption, we consider it necessary

1. to enhance the productivity of state administration
2. to eliminate the possibility of the adoption of voluntarily decisions by officials and state employees; to exert efforts so that the aforementioned individuals will carry out such actions for which they are authorized,
3. to conduct a comprehensive expertise of laws and legal acts, remove such provisions and eliminate the available concepts and ambiguities,
4. in case of detection of facts of corruption, bring respective individuals to account in the manner prescribed by the legislation regardless of their position and post,
5. to improve and strengthen the mechanism for the declaration of property, incomes and expenses.
6. to consistently and comprehensively struggle against such occurrences combined with corruption as counterfeiting, shadow activity, trafficking, bribing etc.
7. to simplify the judicial appeal procedure by the official and state employees due to the judicial reforms,
8. to establish the administrative courts institutions and facilitate its formation,
9. to work out and adopt anti-corruption legislative package.

Struggle against offence

In this sphere, to our conviction, the state policy ought to be based on the principles of supremacy, impartiality of law, fair punishment, inevitability of liability, publicity and transparency of the activity of law enforcement and judicial bodies.

In the sphere of struggle against offence, “Prosperous Armenia” Party considers it necessary to raise the productivity, transparency and accountability of the activity of law enforcements bodies. We realize that it is impossible to completely eradicate the offence but we believe that due to the substantiated, consistent and serious work it is possible to considerably reduce the level of offence within a short period of time.

The formation of an independent judicial system and reforms of prosecutor’s system.

It is impossible to build a legal state, form a stable democratic society and solve social and economic serious fundamental tasks without a beneficial judicial system which is to be independent and enjoy the trust of the society.

We are convinced that the activity of the judicial system of the Republic of Armenia ought to be based on the principles of the guarantee of publicity of justice and transparency, protection of an individual’s rights and fair and public judicial examination of the case within the reasonable time.

To specify the judge's status and guarantee his/her independence and impartiality, it is necessary to create legal, social and other necessary grounds for the judge's immunity and exchangeability by balancing them with the active mechanisms of liability guarantee.

In the framework of the reforms of the prosecutor's system the task that requires primary solution is the reservation of right to exercise a supreme control over the enforcement of the laws of the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Armenia with regard to bringing a lawsuit on the protection of legal interests, as well as the guarantee of proper exercise and impartiality of the powers vested in the prosecutor's bodies.

The formation of information society

"Prosperous Armenia" highlights the participation of Armenia in the modern procedures and tendencies existing in the world which are targeted at the enhancement of universal welfare level and the establishment, reinforcement and deepening of mutually beneficial relations between different civilizations and peoples. From this point of view, considering also the potential of the republic in the sphere of information technologies, the Party is persistent in undertaking practical measures directed at the formation of the information bases or, in other words, the future society foundation in Armenia and to this end it considers that the following tasks are primarily to be settled, particularly:

- development of a set of state programs with regard to the development of information society which are to be directed at the improvement of state and public management based on the supremacy of knowledge,
- increasing the potential of the republic in the sphere of information technologies and their efficient utilization,
- implementation of the programs aimed at a more comprehensive utilization of scientific-educational and professional capabilities,
- integration to the information world network and the enhancement of quality of the services provided in the given sphere,
- enhancement of accessibility level of the information public domains and ongoing expansion of the user community of the information networks,
- formation of the investment, organizational and institutional beneficial environment for the development of information technologies.

2. THE DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY

"Prosperous Armenia" intends to exercise civil society assistance and protection policy. The party is confident that the tremendous potential of the society development is built upon the self-organizational forms of the citizens based on national and global values. The State ought to maximally use the given potential by ensuring the activity of creative and cultural unions, public, legal defense organizations, as well as owners, consumers, employers, employees, national, religious and other associations.

The development of local self-government

In view of the fact that the local self-government is the foundation of the civil society, as well as in observation of the principles of the European Charter of local self-government and viewing the

establishment of economically powerful self-government as a strategic goal in Armenia, “Prosperous Armenia” Party considers it necessary:

1. to reinforce the constitutional guarantees of local self-government, define the powers and authorizations of state government and local self-governing bodies in a legislative manner,
2. to raise the significance of local elections and ensure democratic representation in the local self-governing bodies, to gradually shift to the mixed, i.e. plurality and proportional system within the communities, but in the future, to shift to 100% proportional electoral system.
3. to adopt the laws regulating the status of Yerevan and relations associated with the management of the capital by distinctly distinguishing the authorizations of Yerevan Municipality and district communities.
4. to expand the possibilities of the increase of the budget incomes of the communities and introduce new mechanisms of financially-adjusted principles for the purpose of harmonious development of the communities,
5. to review the mechanisms of calculation and collection of property tax and land tax, by ensuring considerable increase of such types of taxes,
6. to reinforce and improve the administrative, financial and public control over the activity of local self-governing bodies by the state and the population.

Assistance to public organizations

The development of public organizations and the state assistance of this process, whose supporter is “Prosperous Armenia” Party will enable to settle such important tasks as:

- essential reinforcement of human factor, increase of possibilities of the acquisition of public accord with regard to the dialogs and diverse matters between the authorities and the society.
- expansion of opportunities for the participation of the citizens in the processes of reforms, state government and local self-government and in this regard promotion of the participation process.
- economy of considerable means of the state through the transition to the public organizations and the creation of new work positions in non-commercial sector of the economy, development of the market of non-commercial services etc.

To solve the aforementioned tasks it is required:

1. to create opportunities for the participation of public organizations within the control procedures of development, consideration and execution of state decisions, involve specialized public organizations in the development of social and economic programs, as well as contribute to the settlement of main problems regarding the orphaned children, the elderly, the handicapped and the refugees.
2. to ensure an active participation of the public organization in the implementation of a social program as envisaged by the state budget.

3. ECONOMIC POLICY

One of the key foundations of the development and prosperity of any country is the presence of efficient economic system, the formation of which may be achieved through the purposeful, persistent, stable, predictable way, as well as through the implementation of economic policy ensuring the balance of legal interest of all the layers of the society.

“Prosperous Armenia” Party considers the following as the strategic goals of the economic policy for the provision of state rates of economic growth and the improvement social and economic situation of the country within the long-term sector of the development, particularly:

1. guarantee of such economic growth which will enable to maximally increase the involvement and engagement of the population.
2. acceleration of the process of structural reforms and establishment of productive relationship based on productivity and competition.
3. assurance of stability, systematization and transparency of tax-budget and monetary and credit policies,
4. formation of investment beneficial environment and the enhancement of the level of investment attraction for the purpose of development of business (particularly small and medium-sized business),
5. reduction of the volume of shadow economy,
6. activation of foreign economic activity and efficient management of foreign debt,
7. establishment of competitive robust environment and the implementation of real mechanisms for the protection of the consumers’ rights and legal interests.

Structural policy

The principal goal of the structural policy, in our opinion, ought to be the elimination of the restrictions, hindrances and obstacles of the formation and development of competitive markets which will serve as an actual basis for the transition to structural policy aimed at the formation of the market model based on the business activity and contemporary substructures. To this end, it is primary to settle the following main tasks:

1. enhancement of the efficiency of the privatization efficiency by showing a specific approach towards the social substructure and health units,
2. development of market substructures (banking and insurance systems, communication means, exchange trade etc.),
3. development of economic competition on commodity markets, separation of non-monopoly sectors of natural monopoly, tariff regulation of the natural monopoly entities and perfection of control over their expenses.
4. review of bankruptcy mechanisms, standards and procedures, assurance of their practical application.

The following are the basic directions directed at the settlement of the structural policy:

- the formation of the optimal structure of an economic branch, including promotion of small and medium-sized business and enhancement of the role of the securities market in the interbranch capital process.
- the enhancement of profitability of enterprises and prevention of artificial unprofitableness,

- the encouragement of innovation activity of enterprises,
- the perfection of state regulatory system of natural monopoly sphere, antimonopoly, implementation of a unique policy of the natural monopoly-free services in the given spheres.
- simplification and improvement of bankruptcy procedures of enterprises, expansion of the opportunities of financial recovery of insolvent enterprises and the implementation of the mechanisms of state aid.
- implementation of comprehensive reforms of productive substructures.

Investment policy

The analysis of the situation existing in the investment sphere of the republic shows that in spite of the created microeconomic and interpolitical comparative stability, the presence of the legislative field regulating the investments and certain encouraging and protecting substructures, rich and rather powerful Diaspora, the available volume of the investments are far from being satisfactory.

The main goal of the investment policy of the Republic of Armenia, in our opinion, ought to be the security of the enhancement of the economic activity, formation of favorable investment environment, enhancement of investment attraction level and stable economic growth through the increase of investment volume.

“Prosperous Armenia” views the following to be the main directions for the improvement of the investment policy, particularly:

- perfection of the innovation policy and innovation undertakings,
- establishment and improvement of legislative and contractual legal field regulating the investment sphere,
- ensuring the protection of investment and investors’ interests
- ensuring equal conditions of management for the overseas and local investors,
- granting strictly-controllable privileges in the definite and supreme areas and the ones of strategic significance for the large-scale investments, as well as the development of economy,
- state assistance in the development and implementation of investment projects,
- establishment and development of the investment-promotion substructures,
- implementation of state investment comprehensive programs.

Tax policy

“Prosperous Armenia” Party believes that the tax system of the country ought to closely relate to the structure of economy by reflecting not only the vital interests of the state, but also the business circles along with the actual proportionate formed within the given period. The State and the tax payers ought to assume equal and balanced liabilities in the tax and, generally, financial mutual relations.

“Prosperous Armenia” considers the following to be the main tasks of the tax policy in Armenia,

1. accordance of the interests of the state and the economic entities and the alleviation of conflicts between them.
2. the increase of the proportionate index of the tax incomes and the domestic gross output (about 20-25% in the near future).
3. formation of the tax system facilitating the assurance of economic growth, particularly, the enhancement of the investment activity.

4. expansion of the opportunities of the development of the actual sector of economy and the tax basis conditioned by it.
5. the development of the tax legislation, the elaboration and adoption of the tax code.

The following ought to be regarded as the priority tasks for the development of tax policy at the recent stage of economic reforms: the enhancement of the efficiency of the utilization of regulatory and stimulating lever of the tax mechanisms directed at the entrepreneurial activity, as well as the provision of fairness and substantiation of the allocation of the tax burden. The tax system built upon this foundation ought to ensure the minimal level of shadow economy and a high level of tax collection, equal allocation of tax burden and optimal rates of taxes, efficient tax administration, regular flows of state revenues.

We highlight the following as the development of the efficiency of tax policy:

- the enhancement of the efficiency of the tax administration and the professional level of the employees involved in the tax authorities (particularly in the regional subdivision thereof),
- ensuring the proper observance of the Legislation, ensuring the transparency of the tax policy and forecast, including the development of methodical foundations for the forecast of the output of the policy.
- ensuring the stability of the tax legislation and policy and ongoing development of tax mechanisms,
- elimination of the negative impact of the lobbying activity upon the development and implementation of the tax policy,
- prevention of the accumulation process of the tax arrears and unsubstantiated tax overpayment,
- enhancement of the level of favorability of the tax field for the development of the local production, as well as small and medium-sized business,
- simplification of the legislative field and implementation of the active mechanisms of the control over the enforcement of the legislation,
- rejecting application of the compulsory social security fees and enforcement of minimal profit income compulsory fees upon the creation of respective opportunities,
- ensuring the optimal correlation between the direct and indirect taxes in the tax revenue structure.

Budget policy

To form an efficient budget system, “Prosperous Armenia” Party considers first and foremost it necessary to settle such tasks as:

- ensuring transparency and publicity of the expenses made in all the levels of the budget system,
- the enhancement of the level of stability of the budget system, reduction of the level of its dependence upon of the foreign economic situation,
- the enhancement of the role of the budget policy as a significant instrument facilitating the expansion of the investments of stat capital,

- the development of the budget process, the enhancement of the level of its efficiency and the security of the programs, powers, liabilities assumed determined in all the levels of the budget system and the equivalence of the expenses as envisaged for their exercise,
- ensuring the reasonability of the expenses of the preservation of the state administrative apparatus,
- increase of the specific volume of the domestic sources within the structure of financing the deficit of state budget.

These problems ought to be settled through comprehensive budget reforms in the following directions:

- establishment of efficient system of the state finances management,
- development of the legislation regulating the budget relations, including the elaboration and adoption of the budget code,
- development of the budget process and interbudgetary relations,
- development of the treasury system,
- ensuring the stability and transparency of budgets and budget procedures
- implementation of the program budget system,
- development and implementation of methodical bases for the forecast of microeconomic correlation of budget expenses and state budget,
- development of budget statement and control procedures
- the enhancement of the level of coordination between various directions of financial-economic policy (particularly, tax budget and money-and-credit policies),
- reinforcement of financial discipline.

One of the crucial objectives of the State is the assurance of personal insolvency, for which it is required to accord the state liabilities with the resources managed by itself and in consideration of the high level of the foreign liabilities and strive to reduce the budget deficit. To this end, it is necessary to “make and inventory” of the whole liabilities of the state, and where appropriate, to rebuild the domestic liabilities and eliminate the unsubstantiated budget expenses which create unequal conditions for the competition or are used for the purposes devoid of sufficient substantiation.

Monetary policy

Certain positive tendencies have been recorded in the sphere of monetary policy over the last years, but so far there exist a number of main issues connected with the lack of efficient mechanism of inflation management under the condition of underdevelopment of financial markets. From the viewpoint of social-economic harmonious development of the republic, the main goal of the monetary policy ought to be the assurance of the stability of prices for which it is required to form predictable “multi-storey” financial and credit markets and with necessary intensity. In this regard, it is necessary to settle the following main tasks.

1. development of financial and credit markets,
2. ensuring the stability of prices,
3. ensuring the increase of trust for the national dram,

3. determination of the substantiated level of inflation and the enhancement of its management,
4. ensuring the stability of national dram, money supply and potentials of the economy,
5. enhancement of the sales level on the financial market.

“Prosperous Armenia” Party regards the following as the main directions for the development of monetary policy:

- development and implementation of the efficient financial and credit policy contributing to the development of economy,
- expansion of non-cash money turnover and the assurance of cash conversion,
- comprehensive recovery of trust in respect to the bank system and promotion of the process of involvement of savings by the system,
- reduction of the credit rates, increase of the volume of long-term credits and guarantee of availability of credit resources,
- implementation of the mechanisms of voluntary insurance of credits and the development of safety guarantee of the deposits of population,
- development of currency regulation and reinforcement of the control over the enforcement of the currency legislation,
- guarantee of flexibility of inflation management under the purposefulness of the inflation,
- improvement of payment and settlement relations,
- development of the legal sphere of the regulation of the field.

Development of the securities market

The securities market in Armenia remains unaccomplished, since up to now it is not regarded as an efficient means for the centralization of the savings and the conversion thereof into investment and the exercise of foreign control over the enterprises. In other words, the securities market in the republic has not yet become such a system of institutions which will be in condition to regulate the free flow of the capital. In this regard, the enterprises do not regard the issuance of securities in such a situation as an efficient means of the capital involvement, whereas the population does not regard it as an efficient means of the investment of its free cash means in the capital.

In this regard, the principal objective of the state policy with regard to the development of the securities market ought to be the enlivening of the contacts between the institutional investors and the enterprises in need of investments and the protection of legal interests of the market members.

In the opinion of “Prosperous Armenia”, the following ought to be the strategic directions of state policy implemented within the securities market:

- balancing and protection of the interests of all the members of the securities market,
- reinforcement of competition among the professional members of the securities market,
- the increase of the transparency level of the activity of the securities issuers,
- reduction of transactional expenses on the securities market,
- activation of the self-regulatory mechanisms of the members of the given market.

Efficient management of foreign debt and foreign economic policy

The strategic objective of the reformation of the managerial system of the foreign debt of the republic generally ought to be the assurance of the optimal balance between the demand of the country and the actual opportunities of the maintenance of such loans in respect of the borrowed means by refraining from the “temptation” of the increase of the foreign debt of the Republic of Armenia with a view to settling the current or situational tasks.

To achieve the aforementioned strategic objective, “Prosperous Armenia” Party deems it necessary:

1. to ensure the transparency of attraction and utilization of foreign loans,
2. to improve the control mechanism over the attraction and utilization of the foreign loans,
3. to create a flexible system of a foreign debt.
4. to raise the levels of coordination and efficiency of the budget policy management and foreign debt.

The development of the management of foreign debt is closely related and also conditioned by the settlement of the tasks with regard to the state regulation of the foreign economic activity and the security of national safety in the given sphere. In this regard, the following ought to be regarded as the primary tasks for the activation of the foreign economic activity:

1. a more comprehensive integration of the Republic of Armenia to the world economy, activation of the collaboration with other states, international economic and financial structures,
2. expansion of the sales markets of local products,
3. protection of the interests of local manufacturers with regard to the development of foreign trade and reinforcement of competition on the world market,
4. implementation of the policy directed at the reduction of the foreign liabilities of the Republic of Armenia and the balanced economic policy,
5. undertaking of measures directed at the reduction of foreign currency accounts on the domestic market and prevention of uncontrollable export of capital in the sphere of currency regulation and control.

Debureaucratization of economy and assistance of small and medium-sized entrepreneurial activity

In the sphere of the development of the entrepreneurial activity and state aid, “Prosperous Armenia” Party proposes the following strategic approaches:

1. reduction of the number of state bodies in charge of conducting inspections of small and medium-sized enterprises and balance and protect the interests of organizations and state,
2. conducting a coherent (consistent) policy aimed at the reduction of the list of the activity types subject to licensing and create such a licensing system which ought to be rigid in terms of the fulfillment of the requirements, but rapidly overcomeable with regard to the procedures.
3. improvement of the activity of a single unified licensing body with regard to the production, import and export of all types of goods and services, exclusion of the repeatability of the operations and other actions in the given sphere, as well as simplifying the licensing procedure to the extent possible,

4. distinctly defining the types and sizes of the liabilities of the employees and officials of state government and local self-governing bodies by virtue of the administrative and criminal legislation for the activities and inactivities due to which the entrepreneurs will bear losses,
5. envisaging sum of state assistance for small and medium-sized entrepreneurial activity in annual state budget (by using all the modes of such assistance) which in the near future should not be less than 1 percent of the total budget expenses of the given year,
6. To enhance the competition of the economic entities of the republic and, generally, the whole country, reviewing the priority of the application of state regulatory levers of business by placing an emphasis upon the enhancement of the level of productive and efficiency of the entities,
7. creation of the assistance system of licensing relation with a view to making the production equipment available for small-sized business.

Development of state purchase system

Each year the considerable part of the budget expenses is allocated for the payment of purchase and service of the goods of state needs, which is strictly binding in terms of the assurance of the efficiency of state expense management. But the reality is that the process of making these expenses, in essence, is not only beyond the scope and control of the society, but also the legislative body, which brings about dispersion of corruption, sponsorship, scanty budget means, organization of formal competitions and other diverse abuses.

It is required to undertake measures in this sphere so as to completely control the situation and raise the levels of substantiation and efficiency of state expenses, particularly:

1. reviewing and elaborating RA Law “About Purchases” and other legislative documents related to state purchases with an intention of excluding the elements of subjectivity, disregard of the legislation and corruption with regard to the winners of competitions,
2. vesting the powers for the formation of the competition commission in the representative or collegial bodies and forming the staff of the respective commissions one hour prior to the competitions in case of high purchases of certain volumetric or price indices,
3. clearly recording the cases and standards of winning in the competitions as prescribed by Law,
4. vesting the powers for the holding of competitions conducted for the state purchases in the state body endowed with operational independence by also involving the representatives of self-governing organizations and unions of the employers.

Anti-monopoly policy and protection of economic competition

One of the main obstacles of the economic development of Armenia is currently the weak protection of a competitive field and a high level of monopolization of the branches and spheres of economy with different indications. Although a number of laws has been adopted in this sphere, a state body for the protection of economic competition has been established and etc, but the situation originated in the sphere of the protection of the competitive rights of economic entities still remains strictly disconsolate, thereby, endangering the perspective of liberal economy building based on the efficient market relations.

To this end, “Prosperous Armenia” suggests adopting an active anti-monopoly policy by settling the following paramount tasks:

1. essentially enhancing the role and operational independence of the State Commission for the Protection of Economic Competition of the Republic of Armenia, grant all the powers required for the protection of competition and implementation of an active anti-monopoly policy, ensuring the uninterrupted activity of the mechanisms of information exchange and cooperation between the other state bodies and the Commission.
2. specifying and separating the register books of monopoly and the entities with dominant position, defining the determination of the standards of “monopoly” and dominant position statuses as prescribed by law and conducting distinguished and substantiated anti-monopoly policy equivalent to their status,
3. regularly conducting surveys and analyses of the competitive field on the same commodity market, also including at the administrative territorial level.
4. promptly eliminating the obstacles of free movement of the capital and workforce within the republic and contributing to the reduction of transactional expenses in this sphere,
5. specifying and to the extent possible simplifying the procedures and mechanisms of the protection of economic competition,
6. determining definite regulatory mechanisms for the protection of the interests of small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as reviewing the legislation regulating the advertising relations by ruling out the opportunities of the application of concealed advertisements and disregarding the respective restrictions.
7. focusing on the matters of protection of the domestic market to which the respective legislation is not applied by resulting in the “deformation” of separate markets and subordination of the interests of local manufacturers.

State regulation of natural monopolistic activity

The system of the state regulation of national monopolistic sphere (distribution networks, water supply, water removal, gas supply etc.) has a considerable short history in our republic, which is basically related to the presence of the slow process of legislative regulation of the competitive field, the fast rates of privatization of these spheres and other similar factors, as a consequence of which the state regulatory system of the national monopolistic spheres, in essence, is still at the stage of formation.

From the point of view of the establishment and perfection of the state regulatory system of natural monopolistic spheres, “Prosperous Armenia” deems to primarily settle the following tasks:

1. strategy of state regulation of natural monopoly, specification of principles and methods,
2. assurance of availability of the services provided by the natural monopolistic entities for the consumers,
3. establishment of the strategic objectives of state regulation of natural monopoly clearly defined by the legislation by including the balance of the interests of individuals and consumers engaged in the activity regulated in the sphere of public services, assurance of the availability of the services rendered by the entities of natural monopoly and the supremacy of the public interests, where appropriate, the application of differentiated regulatory methods, principles and approaches, encouragement of the investments in the spheres of natural monopoly and safety security, as well as guarantee of transparency of regulation for the society etc.

4. creation of a single unified, independent state body endowed with operational independence, necessary levers, powers, rights and responsibilities for the purpose of state regulation of the spheres,

5. elaboration and adoption of a law regulating the sphere by reflecting therein not only the organization and legal regulatory norms, but also the normative adjusters of the investments made by the entities, limitations and required for the formation of face value,

“Prosperous Armenia” views the following as the main principles of the reconstruction of the entities of natural monopoly and the state regulation of the sphere of their activity, particularly:

- ensuring the transparency and publicity of the development, consideration and application of strategy of reforms by involving all the interested parties in the given process,
- perfection of the control mechanisms over the activity of entities of natural monopoly, including by balancing their monopolistic rights with the protection of consumers’ interests and through the state participation of the given entity in the chartered capital,
- ensuring and preservation of the unity of the technological complexes,
- guarantee of substantiation of the reforms in the sphere and impermissibility of the destruction of the activity of natural monopolies during the application thereof,
- distinct separation of management and policy in the given spheres.

Reduction of the volume of shadow economy

The procedures of the struggle against shadow economy and corruption in Armenia are hampered by the incompleteness of the democratic institutions and judicial system in our country, the slow rates of the formation for the civil society, the disregard of the law supremacy principle, the presence of monopolistic conditions in the economy, tax and customs rigid, but inefficient administration and other numerous factors.

“Prosperous Armenia” highlights and deems the following primary as the strategic directions of struggle against shadow economy:

1. elaboration and implementation of the comprehensive program of struggle against shadow economy, as well as the reinforcement and perfection of a respective legislative field:
2. combination of administrative and economic methods of struggle by giving priority to the elimination of the economic stimulants of shadowiness,
3. differentiation of the struggle administration against shadow economy by applying the liability means and mechanisms equal to the damage caused to the society.
4. expansion of the tax basis due to respective legislative, administrative and organizational measures, elimination of the privileges which result in abuses and reduction of the economic interests of the employers with regard to the undertaking of the activity in the shadow sphere,
5. elaboration and implementation of the program of actions directed at the simplification of the tax and customs administration,
6. exemption of the liabilities as envisaged by the legislation in the event of withdrawal of the economic entities or citizens from the shadow field voluntarily or at their initiative,

7. activation of mutual collaboration with other countries (particularly the ones who are commercial partners) in the sphere of tax and customs administration, particularly with regard to the matters of exchange of tax and customs information and struggle against economic crimes and corruption,
8. centralization of all the forces upon the struggle against the shadow economy and the creation of the comprehensive and universal database,
9. implementation of explanatory and information activities for the society, including recurrent presentation of information about the use of budgetary means,
10. development and consistent implementation of the struggle strategy against “money laundering” and corruption.

Land civil turnover and enhancement of effectiveness of land use

We believe that the private ownership to the land (including political lands) is an important and indispensable institution, particularly with regard to the acquisition of credits through pledging, utilization of the mortgage mechanisms, revival of investments, the opportunities of the reduction of the administrative impact upon the enterprises or from other viewpoints. But the importance and necessity to extend the private ownership right to the land cannot justify the application of such a practice in this sphere which at the present moment has resulted in the origination of a number of basic problems, particularly the organization of formal tenders and auctions during the alienation of the lands, alienation of the lands at an unsubstantiated low prices.

We consider the following tasks to be primary in the sphere of the land civil turnover and land use:

1. formation of the land evaluation system, legal establishment of the land evaluation mechanisms and evaluation methodology,
3. Elimination of the reasons of separation of agricultural lands and application of the extension mechanisms and procedures of land parcels.
4. the enhancement of the level of productivity of land use through the expansion of the agricultural lands based on the principles of unified volunteering.
5. restoration and repair of land use substructures (irrigation systems, transport networks etc.)
6. development and implementation of special policy related to the peculiarities of land use within the mountainous and border territories.
7. specific regulation of the civil turnover of the lands (including manners and types of necessary limitations, rights and liabilities, duties), as well as precise separation of powers of state governing and local self-governing bodies in this matter.

Rebirth of the village and agricultural policy

With regard to the development of the village communities of the Republic of Armenia there are a number of institutional, legislative-legal, substructural, ethical-psychological and other diverse main problems, the bulk of collective “burden «of which compels to first of all speak of the development of villages and the rebirth of village communities.

In this regard, as a strategic main objective, in our opinion, it is necessary to enhance the productivity and efficiency of the work in agriculture, the comprehensive implementation of contemporary methods of market mechanisms and state assistance, as well as the settlement of social main issues of the village for which it is required:

1. to develop and implement a strategic plan of the development of agriculture, the constituent part of which is to constitute the state assistance program (with the application of both the mechanisms of state purchases and donations, crediting and other well-known mechanisms) which will enable to indirectly regulate the prices of agricultural foodstuff,
2. to support rural economy with regard to the availability and accessibility of credit resources by stimulating the pledging of the land and contributing to the “cheapening” of the credit means of the agriculture (it is necessary to achieve such an objective that the economies will be able to borrow loans or sign contracts basically for future harvest),
3. to put into actual operation the insurance mechanisms in the agricultural sphere and provide state guarantees to the commercial banks in the event of failure of the return of credits in force-majeure circumstances,
4. activate and promote the land leasing process with an intention of involving privatized lands, as well as the lands of state reserves within the civil turnover and land use which are not utilized for different reasons,
5. to enhance the level of commodity of agricultural production and the production of agricultural collective economies and create conditions with a view to gradually reducing the specific volume of commodity exchange of the agricultural product and enhancing the monetary level of such products,
6. to promote the development of various types of agricultural cooperation and the process of formation of the unions of economic entities engaged in the production of agricultural foodstuff
7. to provide a state assistance to the importers of agricultural product, to the extent possible reduce the presence of different kinds of “mediators” not only in the process of product turnover, but also production turnover, as well as form large-scale markets of agricultural foodstuffs,
8. to have special focus on the restoration and development of productive, engineering and social substructures of the village communities,
9. to struggle against the racketeering, beaurocratic indulgence and privatization elements in the sphere of production and turnover of agricultural foodstuff, due to which not only the vital interests of the manufacturers of agricultural foodstuff, but also the consumers’ vital interests will be protected.

The rebirth of the village is first and foremost conditioned by the state political substantiation and efficiency conducted in the agricultural sphere, in regard of which the main issues of the development of the given sphere are as follows:

- creation of efficient and stable agrofood complex,
- enhancement of the security level of foodstuff of the country,
- enhancement of the income level of the employees in the agricultural sphere,

- enhancement of the efficiency of the use of agricultural lands and natural resources,
- expansion of the sales market of agricultural goods and foodstuff products,
- restoration and reoperation of anti-hailing stations,
- creation of regulatory system of land relations and establishment of land market.

To develop the sphere the “Prosperous Armenia” Party views the following as the main directions of state policy:

- formation of organizational and structural bases of the development of agriculture,
- updating of the legislation regulating the agrarian sphere,
- development of financial substructures of agrofood markets,
- assistance in the expansion of the sales markets of agrofood products,
- implementation of the insurance system in the agriculture
- guarantee of the program development of the industry reprocessing the agricultural-economic raw.

Territorial policy

“Prosperous Armenia” Party considers the following tasks to be primarily settled in the sphere of the territorial development:

1. elaboration of the approaches ensuring the harmonious development of fundamental principles and territories for the administrative-territorial division of the republic,
2. enhancement of the efficiency of the local self-governing activity,
3. increase of the financial opportunities of the communities and the formation of stable financial basis of the administrative-territorial units,
4. application of a more flexible mechanisms for the settlement of the main issues of employment in the regions,
5. precise determination of the mutual relations of state authorities and territorial management and local self-governing bodies,
6. ensuring the smoothness of the process of decentralization of state management,
7. development and application of the system of privileges for the purpose of reinforcement and development of the communities situated on border territories, as well as in mountainous and foothill zones.
8. implementation of a respective policy with a view to making the disaster zone a complete restoration and development zone,

In the opinion of the party, the main directions of the territorial policy of the Republic of Armenia ought to be:

- the expansion of the communities, the formation of administrative-territorial new division of the republic and transition to the bi-level system of state management in accordance with substantiated principles and standards,
- the social and economic harmonious development of administrative-territorial units of the republic,
- repopulation of the territories which have a strategic value

4. SOCIAL POLICY

The implementation of purposeful, target and efficient social policy in the Republic of Armenia is the paramount condition for the settlement of a number of main issues regarding the balance, stability of economic reforms, guarantee of inconvertibility of the democratic processes, as well as the improvement of a demographic situation, prevention of population emigration, the enhancement of the birthrate level and other social issues.

“Prosperous Armenia” Party is convinced that the main objectives of a social policy ought to be the persistent enhancement of living standards, reduction of social inequality and guarantee of universal availability of the social main goods and services.

We deem it necessary to undertake radical measures directed at the settlement of significant main tasks such as:

1. high level of poverty and rigid polarization of cash incomes of the population,
2. ageing of the population conditioned by the decrease of birthrate and average duration of life and reduction of natural growth, as well as demographic unfavorable situation created as a consequence thereof,
3. low level of social assistance and assistance target.

We are the supporters of the formation of the market economy which has a European-type social orientation in the country which presumes the actual implementation of the idea of the social state declared by the Constitution and the formation of the active system of the social protection for the citizen’s of the republic of Armenia.

“Prosperous Armenia” Party believes that the main directions of the social policy implemented in the country ought to be:

- the guarantee of the cash income growth of the population and the reduction of their polarization through the increase of the salary, increase of the salary part in the gross domestic output, improvement of the pension security and increase of the social assistance target of the population;
- overcoming of the income and human poverty, social safety security of the citizens,
- securing the availability of significant social values, above all, health, social service and education,
- the updating of state policy of the settlement of the main issues of refugees and prisoners and elaboration and implementation of respective projects,
- supremacy of the investments in the human capital, guarantee of the rate of the growth of state expenses in respect of other state expenses directed at the social development,
- exercise of the efficient protection of the socially vulnerable layers which are in need of state assistance and incapable of independently settling the social issues,
- the application of the social protection insurance principles of the population,
- creation of the conditions required for the implementation of the economic activity for the able-bodied population of the country, which will enable to raise the living standards thanks to the own means of the citizens,
- creation of conditions necessary for the efficient employment of the population, guarantee of demand and supply balance on the business market, enhancement of the competition of workforce,
- implementation of the measures directed at the social development of rural settlements,

- improvement of the demographic situation through the creation of preconditions for the reduction of death rate level and improvement of birthrate indices of the population,
- elaboration of efficient schedule of resettlement of border zones with a tendency of development.

Health care system

According to the observation of our party, the main directions and primary tasks of the state policy in the sphere of the development of health care and medical assistance are as follows:

1. elaboration and implementation of “Strategic Plan of Health Care Development”,
2. qualitative improvement of free-of-charge medical services, guarantee of balance of financial opportunities of the state and the volume of the state guarantees with an aim of providing medical services, reduction of the shadow turnover volume in the sphere and the corruption risks, implementation of the medical insurance system,
3. improvement of the manageability of the health care system, efficiency of organization and financing, application of the medical assistance to the population and the diversity of its compensation (state order, partial payment, medical insurance etc),
4. providing reasonable and quality medical aid to the population, health protection of mother and child,
5. implementation of special state policy directed at the settlement of the main issues of the disabled (handicapped) which will result in the creation of the condition of overcoming the limitations of living standards for the disabled and will ensure the exercise of their rights and adoption of social protection comprehensive program of the disabled,
6. providing a free-of-charge medical aid to socially insecure population and the individuals involved in separate (special) groups,
7. reinforcement of the role of the first medical assistance system in rural communities and the improvement of the activity thereof,
8. enhancement of the availability of medicines and safety levels.

Employment policy and struggle against unemployment

The State as an important and primary obligation ought to recognize the guarantee of high and stable level of employment, as well as the protection of the rights of the individuals to earn through their free choice of work and live prosperously. The problem of remuneration of work is peculiar in the sphere of state regulation of working relations and the policy applied thereto ought to have tendency toward the compliance of the minimal wages to the value of the minimal basket of living security as defined by the law and ongoing improvement of living conditions of the employees through the recurrent reviewal thereof. In this regard, the Party deems to primarily settle the following tasks:

1. raising the minimal salary proportionate to the inflation rates,

2. developing the grounds for the determination of the salaries in consideration of the quality, period, complexity, quantity of work and the qualification of the employees,
3. increase of the budget expenses for the implementation of the employment plans.

“Prosperous Armenia” is convinced that the main directions of the state policy on the labor market ought to be the following:

- development, implementation of the employment plans and implementation of their efficient evaluation procedures,
- considerable increase of the amount of unemployment benefits and updating of calculation, assignment and payment procedure of the given benefits,
- assistance of the professional trainings, retraining and employment for the women, the youth and the disabled,
- expansion of the credit volumes for the enhancement of the self-employment level in the sphere of small and medium-sized business,
- target assistance with regard to the employment of the citizens who are in need of social security.

Social protection and income policy

In Armenia the serious main issue is not only the social protection of insecure population, but also the low level of remuneration of the majority of the employees. In the sphere of social protection the main directions of the state policy ought to be the following:

- elaboration of the social protection concept of the population,
- reduction of the poverty and elevation of the negative consequence of poverty, decrease of social inequality and prevention of social possible tension,
- enhancement of efficiency of social benefits and other types of assistance based on the target principle,
- decrease of the level of social polarization of the society and ongoing enhancement of living standards of the population
- elaboration and implementation of the target state programs for the pensioners, the disabled, the elders, children and other layers of population which are in need of social assistance,
- growth of the level of pensions, scholarships, benefits, remuneration of work, as well as the implementation of the state programs directed at the enhancement of living standards of the population conditioned by them,
- elaboration and implementation of the mechanisms of return and indexing standards of the savings deposits deposited by the population in the Savings Banks of the former USSR in observation of ownership right standards, as well as updating of the insurance system of the deposits.

Security of citizens' right to receive a decent pension

The serious main issue existing in the pension system operating within Armenia is the low level of pensions. In this regard, it is indispensable to ensure a close connection between the pension amount and payments of former salaries and social fees of the pensioner for which in the upcoming years it is required to launch the implementation of the pension system reforms by pursuing the goal of increasing the level of pension security level and involvement in this system of self-employees and those engaged in agriculture.

Our objective is the creation of such pension security system so that it will be based on the following principles and approaches:

- ongoing increase of pensions in consideration of the deflation level,
- security of the rights of citizens to receive not low pension from the minimal basket of life support,
- formation of non-governmental (voluntary) pension system in parallel with the assignment of state pensions, showing state assistance in the formation and development of non-governmental pension foundations,
- adjustment of insurance, accumulative and social component of the pension formation,
- formation of three-level pension system (compulsory social insurance system, social pension system and voluntary pension system),
- unification of the income tax and compulsory social insurance fees in a single tax type,
- increase of age pension distinguishing level depending upon the size of the fees made from the pension income and work experience,
- granting opportunities of choice of various pension security schemes,
- specification of the mechanisms of collection of compulsory social insurance fees and the increase of efficiency of administration in this sphere.

Active policy in granting apartments

The strategic objective of the state policy in granting apartments is the creation of respective opportunities for the security of apartment conditions required for each citizen for which “Prosperous Armenia” Party deems it necessary:

1. to develop the types of long-term financing of the apartment construction and mortgage crediting and implement their mechanisms,
2. to continue the construction of the existing premises of the incomplete apartment construction and the granting thereof to the needy people on basis of the apartment certificates,
3. elaboration and implementation of the crediting mechanisms and land allocation under privileged conditions for the construction of residential houses for individual categories of the population (young families, refugees, the disabled etc.), as well as for individual territories.

Protection of family, mother and children

At the present moment there does not exist a definite policy directed at the protection of family in Armenia, whereas the protection system of mother and children is still weak and inefficient. In the absence of the democratic traditions and civil society, the matters regarding the protection of the family are of crucial importance since the formation of harmonious relations of a family will enable to settle the matters of neutralization of the discrepancies and diverse conflicts arising between the generations. In this regard, it is required to ensure

1. comprehensive assistance to the newly-built families,
2. granting one-off monetary benefits or other aid increasing accordingly, implementation of other birth rate promotion programs in the event of birth of the first, second, third, fourth and the next each child,
3. assistance in the amount and procedure as prescribed by the law against the tuition fee of one member of a young family studying on paid basis in the state educational establishments.

Youth policy

“Prosperous Armenia” Party believes that it is required to develop and implement relevant policy for the purpose of creating conditions and guarantees for comprehensive development, self-accomplishment and self-manifestation of the young generation concerned with the state policy of the youth, that is the national and universal values in the Republic of Armenia and bearing liability before the homeland and its own people based on the following directions:

- ensuring the guarantee in the sphere of youth employment, implementation of state equal staff policy,
- state assistance of young families,
- providing social services guaranteed for the youth,
- state assistance of the youth showing emergency abilities,
- creation of conditions necessary for the spiritual and physical development of the youth, their political and local patriotic upbringing,
- state assistance of the activity of the youth organizations,
- ensuring the collaboration with the youth of other countries and especially with the Diaspora.

5. EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL POLICY

Education

A many-sided developed citizen who has received a quality education is strategic intellectual potential of our country. “Prosperous Armenia” Party is convinced that the strategic objective of the state policy in this sphere ought to be the formation of such an educational system that each citizen will have an opportunity to receive quality knowledge which is in social demand by guaranteeing the decent place of educated citizens in the society.

To achieve this strategic objective, the following tasks are primarily to be settled within the state complex and target programs:

1. creation of the educational system ensuring the solution of maxi-problem of having a generation propagating the ethical values, who are many-sided educated, raised with national spirit, patriotic and have high qualification.
2. ongoing enhancement of the level of work remuneration for the teaching and academic teaching staff,

3. considerable improvement of quality of education, gradual transition to the principle of providing free-of-charge textbooks, updating of the legislation on education, as well as social target assistance to insecure students, orphaned and parentless children including complete or partial compensation of tuition fees,
4. promotion of the formation of private charitable foundations for the purpose of supporting the students in the educational system and implementation of various mechanisms of patronage (granting additional or target pensions, provisions of free-of-charge textbooks, tuition fees in foreign countries, compensation of tuition fees etc),
5. actual guarantee of participation of the society in the managerial procedure of education and university autonomy,
6. ongoing increase of scholarships,
7. updating of educational content, promotion of computer knowledge and foreign language skills,
8. legal equality of the graduates of state and accredited non-governmental educational establishments, particularly actual guarantee of labor rights.

Science

The paramount tasks of “Prosperous Armenia” Party is the guarantee of the respective conditions for science and scientific-technical progress and the development of substructures. To this end, it is required to develop a comprehensive program of the development of science which will stipulate the settlement of the following important tasks:

- formation of efficient managerial system of science,
- updating of the financing mechanism of science and efficient enhancement thereof,
- precise determination of the supreme directions of the development of priorities of state scientific-technical policies and science,
- implementation of the mechanisms of training of scientific staff with high qualification,
- enhancement of the level of technical and technological equipments in the scientific field,
- implementation of innovative active policy, including acceleration of the procedure of the development of technoparks,
- ensuring the active participation in the procedures of the development and implementation of the international and territorial projects of the development of science,
- formation and development of state assistance system of talented young scientists.

The development of the scientific field without doubt requires not only the guarantee of assistance to competitive scientific organizations by the State with all possible means, but also the immediate financial participations in their activity. In this regard, we believe that it is necessary to reach at least 3% of allocation of state budget expenses to the scientific field, which will ensure both the internationally-recognized minimal level of economic safety and will create opportunities for the acceleration of the rates of the development of science in the near future.

Spiritual-Cultural Sphere

“Prosperous Armenia” highlights the preservation of the national identity and cultural heritage of each citizen of the republic, as well as the protection of their rights with regard to the spiritual development. The following ought to be the paramount tasks of the state policy in the cultural development:

1. elaboration of “Cultural development conception” and implementation of the state program policy in regard to the spiritual, educational and ethical upbringing of the population,
2. guarantee of the conditions required for the preservation of spiritual-cultural heritage, national traditions, universal values and standards, as well as the implementation of the activity of the cultural organizations and creative work, enhancement of the role of accurate application of the Armenian language and speech,
3. preservation of historical-cultural heritage, preservation of the Armenian historical and cultural values situated in other states in compliance with the principles and standards of the international law, as well as assistance of the development of Armenian educational and cultural life,
4. protection of national, cultural and other rights of national minorities residing in Armenia, assistance of the preservation and future development of their mother tongue, religion and culture including the extension of the opportunities of communication by TV and radio due to the application of the state programs,
5. implementation of the projects of the preservation of historical and cultural monuments, museum and library funds and creation of state register book,
6. improvement of the museum system, reinforcement of academic affairs, prohibition of privatization of existing state museums, assistance of the activities of the established museums and exhibitions, technical equipments of museum, allocation of the means required for the stocking of museum funds, rebirth of other types of theatres, museum, arts, national workshops and creative independent activity,
7. development of local fine art, architecture, theatre and cinematography, assistance and promotion of professional creative activity, technical and information reformation of libraries, compulsory insurance of unique library funds.

We are convinced that the relationship between the State and the Armenian Apostolic Saint Church, which has an exclusive role in the spiritual life of the Armenian people and the development of the national culture and the preservation of the national identity, ought to be regulated by the law. It ought to have comprehensive opportunities to freely propagate the Christian values as well as the implementation of anti-propagation against dangerous and extreme sects on the whole territory of the Republic of Armenia, to support the teaching of the religious disciplines in the higher educational establishments.

By protecting the freedom of conscious, the State ought to build a strong barrier before the foreign religious and other organizations, religious extremity, as well as other sects engaged in the detrimental acts from the point of view of the national interests of the Republic of Armenia which threaten the life, health and dignity of the citizens.

Physical culture and sport

The party believes that it is necessary to attach a special attention to the enhancement of the level of the physical training of the population, development of the physical culture and sport, particularly, the Olympic sports, expansion of the network of physical culture school, creation of sports clubs and restoration of the national sports.

The principal problem of the development of physical culture and sport ought to be the expansion of the opportunities of the citizens to engage in physical culture and sport, the propagation of healthy mode of life and the promotion of the Olympic movement. We see the solution of these problems in the elaboration and implementation of the state programs of the development of physical culture and sport, raising of the qualification of specialists and improvement of professional training and retraining level, as well as reinforcement of the material-technical basis due to budget and other means.

6. STRATEGY OF PROTECTION AND NATIONAL SECURITY

“Prosperous Armenia” Party is convinced that the basic issues with regard to the protection and national safety security are as follows:

1. Ensuring territorial integrity and autonomy of the Republic of Armenia, implementation of the program and operative measures directed at the prevention and elimination of the foreign and domestic threats, formation of such a system of territorial security where Armenia will have a serious role and will be secured to the maximum.
2. reinforcement of the protection of the country, forecast, disclosure, prevention, reaction and neutralization of the national security domestic and foreign threats.
3. amicable, balanced, legally equal and mutually beneficial collaboration with other states and international organizations,
4. development of the economy of the country and implementation of the economic policy with social trend protection of economic interests, reduction of the scientific-technical and technological dependence, adjustment of demographic processes, improvement of the ecological and nature management situation of the country,
5. ensuring the safety of a human being and citizen on the territory of the Republic of Armenia, his/her constitutional rights and freedoms, updating of state and local self-governing systems, legalization and reinforcement of peace and order and guarantee of social-economic and political stability, unreserved observance of the legislation by citizens, officials, state and local self-governing bodies, parties, public unions, religious and other organizations.

To settle the existing problems in a coordinated manner, it is required to elaborate and adopt a conception about the main provisions of the National security.

Military protection system

“Prosperous Armenia” Party believes that the future enhancement, strengthening and modernization of fighting abilities of the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia depends on the

reforms built on the conceptual basis in the army-construction and within the international military integration in the interests of the Republic of Armenia.

As for the protection, one of the primary directions of the national security protection of the Republic of Armenia is the elaboration of “Military doctrine of the Republic of Armenia”. The creation of contemporary and professional army is the significant direction of the state policy of the protection and national security protection.

In order to resist foreign challenges, to continuously improve the technical equipments of the armed forces and other militarized units of the Republic of Armenia, as well as to enhance the fighting capacity of the army, it is also necessary to develop “the military reforms conception” which, particularly, will in the future reflect the approaches to smoothly shift to the professional army (after the settlement of the Karabakh issue), by simultaneously envisaging gradual reduction of compulsory military service period provided that it does not affect the issue of army recruitment.

Within the implemented reforms, the level of cash satisfaction of the employees ought to be essentially raised, as well as their social protection and apartment conditions ought to be improved due to the implementation of special programs.

We consider it indispensable to carry out coordinated and planned operations directed at the future growth of the fighting capacity of the armed forces, raising the patriotic spirit of the servicemen to the maximum, improving the moral-psychological atmosphere, as well as struggling against the negative occurrences, i.e. the violation of the rights and dignity of the servicemen, existing in the armed forces.

The image of homeland defender, according to our conviction, is formed not only due to the increase of the martial preparedness, but also assurance of respective conditions for decent service. The State ought to demonstrate a worthy attitude and attention to the participants of the Great Patriotic War and Artsakh freedom struggle. To this end, it is required to elaborate and adopt RA Law “On the status of the participants of the military acts” which will guarantee the benefits (privileges), pensions and other payments, apartment conditions and other social security guarantees to the individuals participated in the military acts, including the freedom fighters and the members of their families.

Energy security

The energy security, that is the protection of the State, citizens, the society and economy from the threats existing in the energy sphere, is one of the most important components of the national security of the Republic of Armenia.

The state policy conducted for the energy security protection ought to be based on the strategic plan of the development of energy and aimed at the solution of the following issues:

- forecast of the dangers threatening the country, the society and economy at the stage of raw supply, production, distribution and transfer with regard to all the types of energy, reduction of energy dependence and increase of the level of self-satisfaction of the sphere to the maximum, including diversification of energy supplies and utilization of production capacities to the maximum, building of new nuclear power stations in compliance with the modern requirements,

- efficient use of local energy supplies, energy alternative sources and application of the economic and legal mechanisms of its preservation, neutralization of foreign and domestic economic, technogenic and environmental threats, as well as alleviation of the negative consequences of diverse factors of destabilization,
- satisfaction of the domestic and foreign demand by the energy system at an acceptable value and in respective quality, efficient use of energy resources.

7. FOREIGN POLICY

The national interests with regard to the foreign policy are in the assurance of autonomy of the Republic of Armenia and territorial integrity, development of equal and mutual beneficial relations with all the states, international organization and unions, non-interference with the domestic affairs of other states, consolidation of the Diaspora, the protection of the rights and legal interests of the citizens of the Republic of Armenia residing outside it.

“Prosperous Armenia” Party regards the following important issues as a national security protection of the Republic of Armenia in the foreign policy:

1. development of amicable, mutually beneficial relations with all the countries in compliance with the principles and standards of the international law, building of a foreign policy upon this basis, formation of the staff training of the diplomatic service and retraining system,
2. observation of the international obligations assumed by the Republic of Armenia, implementation of an active course of the foreign policy, assurance of the favorable conditions for the development of the economic and social stability of the country, creation of the conditions directed at energy security protection, integration of world and territorial economic and political structures,
3. collaboration with other states and international structures in the struggle against terrorism and other crimes, where appropriate, participation in the peaceful activity of the international structures in the confrontation zones.

Guidelines of “Prosperous Armenia” Party in the sphere of foreign policy

1. Artsakh main issues

The regulation of the Artsakh main issue in a peaceful and political way with a guarantee of the recognition of the international right of self-determination of the Artsakh nation based on the mutual compromise made by the two confrontation sides, i.e. Artsakh and Azerbaijan, with the establishment of security international guarantees is one of the supremacy of the foreign policy of the Republic of Armenia.

We consider it necessary to support the Artsakh security protection, democracy, social-economic development and territorial integration in parallel with the comprehensive and direct negotiations held within the OSCE Minsk group.

“Prosperous Armenia” party finds the regulation of the Artsakh main issue acceptable during the negotiation procedure of which the Nagorno Karabakh Republic will appear as a competent party, whereas any solution of the Artsakh situation will be excluded without the consent of Arstakh nation. According to our conviction the independence of Nagorno Karabakh Republic has no other alternative.

2. Guidelines in Armenia-Diaspora relationships

2.1 The relationship with the Diaspora, particularly the coordinated development of Armenia-Diaspora relationship and further deepening thereof, the protection of the legal rights and interests of the Armenian Diaspora in compliance with the standards of the international right is one of the supremacies of the foreign policy of the Republic of Armenia.

2.2 To use the political, intellectual, material potential of the Diaspora, investment and professional opportunities in the development of the Republic of Armenia and Artsakh, implementation of the joint programs on the integration into the world and territorial economy of Armenia, settlement of public main issues, consolidation of the Armenian Diaspora around the Motherland, preservation of spiritual and cultural values during the Armenia-Diaspora relationship proceeding from the leading role of Armenia. Simultaneously, the Republic of Armenia ought to undertake practical measures to establish close contacts with the Armenian Diaspora lobbying organizations, enliven the national life of the Diaspora, to create opportunities for the complete participation of the Armenian Diaspora in the political, social-economic, educational, spiritual-cultural, sport and social life of the motherland, to realize the educational-cultural, spiritual, sport and other kinds of manuals in a planned manner, to promote the activity of the Armenian experts in educational, cultural, spiritual colonies and sport structures, preserve the Armenian language in Diaspora, to teach the native language and history of the Armenian Nation, to provide the educational-cultural establishments with necessary textbooks and methodological manuals, to implement the coordinated procedure of training and retraining of the teachers and specialists from the Diaspora for the history of Armenian Nation, expand the opportunities of the studies of the Diaspora in the Higher and Secondary professional educational establishments of Armenia, to plan the activity of the “Armenia” Pan-Armenian Foundation, collect the financial means directed at the transparency, publicity and target use of the expenses not only for the settlement of Pan-Armenian matters, the prosperity of Armenia and Artsakh, but also granting respective means for the settlement of the main issues of Diaspora.

2.3 The Armenia-Diaspora relationship ought to embrace the idea that the Pan-Armenian spiritual-cultural center is the Republic of Armenia which is to be assumed by the head of the Armenian union around the motherland and guarantor of the national preservation.

3. Other guidelines of the foreign policy

3.1 The size of the participation of the Republic of Armenia in the international recognition of the Armenian Genocide is the stipulation based on national and state actual interests. The Party believes that the condemnation of the Armenian Genocide and the international recognition has no other alternative.

3.2 The establishment of amicable relationship with the immediate neighbor of Armenia, contribution to the establishment of stable and long-term peace on the territory and involvement of Armenian in the procedure of the implementation of territorial projects, conversion of Armenian into territorial development center,

3.3 Coordinated development and further deepening of the Armenia-Diaspora relationship.

3.4 An efficient collaboration of the Republic of Armenia with UNO, OSCE, European Union , WTO, BSEC ad other European and international organizations and structures.

3.5 Implementation of the strategic plans with the countries and international structures supporting the development, safety protection and prosperity of the Republic of Armenia.

3.6 It is necessary to maximally develop and deepen their partner strategic collaboration with the Russian Federation in the political, military, economic, cultural, scientific, humanitarian spheres. It is necessary to exert efforts to preserve and develop the historically-formed common values.

It is necessary to deepen the collaboration within the CIS for the purpose of forming a common economic and cultural territory.

It is necessary to have a constructive participation in the activity of Collective Security Contract Organization proceeding from the common principles of security.

3.7 Strengthening of collaboration with the European Union with the context of which it is required:

- to undertake necessary measures to accord the Legislation of the Republic of Armenia with the standards of the European Union, as well as the European structures,

- to contribute to the development of mutually beneficial relationship with the EU countries in all the spheres, expand and strengthen the collaboration with the main structure, i.e. NATO, ensuring the European security.

3.8 To deepen the amicable and mutually beneficial relations with the USA, to essentially enhance the level of collaboration in political, economic, military, safety, spiritual-cultural, social and other spheres, it is necessary to comprehensively involve the country in the implementation of the democratic, social-economic reforms in Armenia, the settlement of man issues on the territorial security, establishment and reinforcement of stable and long-term peace in the South Caucasia, participation of the Republic of Armenia in the territorial and international diverse programs and structures implemented or coordinated by the USA.

3.9 It is necessary to deepen the mutually beneficial, amicable and traditional relations with Iran in the implementation of joint programs of the energy system creation, cultural and other spheres, the communication means in the transport and energy spheres. It is necessary to continue building “Iran-Armenia” gas and other communication means (particularly the building of “Iran-Armenia” railway in the future).

3.10 It is necessary to develop traditional, amicable, mutually beneficial relations with Georgia in the political, economic, energy, territorial security, communication means, spiritual-cultural, humanitarian and other spheres. In the Armenian-Georgian relations we also highlight the guarantee of the security and autonomy of the rights of the Javakhk Armenians residing in Georgia, the subject and program approaches of the Georgian authorities in the settlement of the social-economic, spiritual-cultural main issues. Within this context, Armenia ought to constantly support the measures undertaken by Georgia directed at the settlement of the Javakhk issues with the Georgian authorities in a mutually-agreed manner.

3.11 Regulation of the Armenian-Turkish interstate relation and establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries ought to be implemented without the proposal of preconditions. The rejection of the Armenian Genocide by the Turkey negatively affects the Armenian-Turkish relations. Within the establishment of the regular mutual relations between Armenia and Turkey, the subject of discussion can embrace particularly the matters regarding the territorial, safety and collaboration, the demonstration of balanced, constructive and non-ideological positions by the Turkey in the peaceful regulation process of the Artsakh main issue, opening of the Armenian-Turkey frontier, communication means, including reoperation of Gyumri-Kars railway, preservation of the Armenian cultural values in Turkey. Affiliation of Turkey to the European Union, in our opinion, does not contradict the national, state interests of the Republic of Armenia, since under the circumstance of affiliation, Turkey can undertake predictable and controllable measures directed at the protection of actual democracy and human rights, collaboration with Armenia, removal of blockage and recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

3.12 It is necessary to undertake constructive measures directed at the regulation of the relations with Azerbaijan. The intricate main issues existing in the Armenian-Turkey and Armenia-Azerbaijan relations may be settled not only in the atmosphere of hatred, but also indulgence proceeding from the historical facts, contemporary reality, standards of international right and principles. The circumstances of affiliation to the European family, immutability of the democratic processes in the world and being immediate neighbors presumes that the Armenian Nation can coexist peacefully side by side with Turks and Azerbaijan nation.

3.13 It is also necessary to develop bilateral relations with other post-soviet countries. It is necessary to undertake respective measures directed at the implementation of the collaborations in economic relations existing in the past, restoration of raw and consumers markets, spiritual-cultural spheres.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

In order to settle the main issues existing with regard to protection of the environmental protection and reasonable use of natural resources, “Prosperous Armenia” Party considers it necessary to create ecological safe living conditions for decent living of people, develop an ecological policy, including “Environmental protection security concept”, ecological long-terms, comprehensive state programs, as well as update the ecological and nature management legislation. In regard to the implementation of the state policy for the reasonable use of natural resources, “Prosperous Armenia” Party will strive to conduct an active policy in the following directions:

1. precisely determining the sphere of the use of natural resources, including the issues on the rational use and preservation of land, water, foreign and other natural resources, including the matters of raising the level of preservation of the air pond and its concessionality in the program.
2. attaching special attention to the settlement of the Sevan Lake issue as an ecosystem with ecological, economical, social, scientific, historical-cultural, aesthetical, health care, climatic and reaction value, developmental and implementing the comprehensive, annual and target programs with regard to the restoration of the natural level of the Sevan Lake, reproduction, preservation and the use of the natural reserves of its ecosystem.

LET US TOGETHER BUILD A PROSPEROUS COUNTRY!