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FLASH REPORT

Country:	Bulgaria
Title:	Action Plan for People with Disabilities 2019-2020
Date:	14 January
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<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	New action plan to implement the National Strategy for People with Disabilities
Grounds of discrimination:	Disability
Field of application:	Employment
Source:	Policy development
Applicable law:	People with Disabilities Act, Promotion of Employment Act

Content

Policy development: On 6 November 2019, the government adopted an action plan to implement the National Strategy for People with Disabilities in 2020. The plan covers various measures outside of the scope of the Directive, as well as employment. In the employment field, the plan provides for funding to be spent on: establishing centres for protected employment of people with multiple disabilities, and monitoring such projects; supporting employers, including public ones, to make jobs accessible, secure reasonable accommodation and provide workplace equipment for people with lasting disabilities; job referrals and other support for job seekers with disabilities; oversight of employers' delivery under their disability quota legal duties; assisted employment in specialised working environments (separate enterprises for people with disabilities), including incentives for employers to introduce new technology in production processes, to enhance accessibility, healthy and safe working conditions, and social integration at the workplace; financial stimuli (partially recompensing specialised employers for social security payments for the benefit of employees with disabilities); stimuli for entrepreneurs with disabilities to start their own businesses; incentives for employers to hire people with lasting disabilities, as well as people with disabilities aged 29 or younger, among other especially vulnerable sub-groups.

In the field of higher education, the plan provides for: preferential treatment of applicants with disabilities for admission to universities (including fee waivers for students with lasting disabilities) and for access to scholarships. In terms of vocational training, the plan provides for training and re-training of employees and job applicants with disabilities, as well as monitoring of such projects.

Internet link source:

<https://www.misp.government.bg/index.php?section=POLICIESI&lang=&I=282> (in BG).