GUIDING QUESTIONS EDUCATION

1. Public training centers and technical schools for girls (Maturity Institutes) affiliated with General Directorate of Life-Long Learning conduct activities in line with the Regulation on Life-Long Learning Institutions. The regulation does not envisage any restrictions except for "having turned 13 for vocational and technical courses and submitting an official document confirming the trainee's age for the general courses". All courses are available to all trainees.

2, 3. Strategy Paper on Life-Long Learning, which is deemed to be the guiding document in terms of life long learning activities in Turkey, puts a special amphasis on older persons. The section titled "Increasing Access to Life-Long Learning Opportunities" provides that access of disadvantaged groups (persons with disabilities, women, older persons, ex-convicts, minors and youth that have been involved in or under the risk of crime, long term unemployed persons, unemployed youth and temporary or migrant workers) to education shall be supported. The Paper also includes the measure of providing distance or open education services to these groups and thus it underlines this issue specifically.

4. As explained in answer to the third question, access of disadvantaged groups (persons with disabilities, women, older persons, ex-convicts, minors and youth that have been involved in or under the risk of crime, long term unemployed persons, unemployed youth and temporary or migrant workers) to education shall be supported. In this regard, various activities are carried out to provide distance or open education services to these groups.

5. In our country, including the old age area, there are cooperation between the government and the private sector and NGOs.

6. Within the scope of the priority of "Developing a Life-Long Guidance and Counseling System" that was embedded in the Strategy Paper on Life Long Learning, a web portal on life long learning was put into use not only for older persons but for all adults. This portal was prepared with the purpose of guiding adults with regard to life long learning. The Portal is open for access at <u>http://www.hbo.gov.tr/</u> and it provides career guidance and guiding about learning and employment opportunities.