Brussels, 27 November 2002

NOTE FOR

Subject: Romania – progress in child protection

Attached you find a brochure on the progress in child protection in Romania, as produced as part of the public awareness campaign of the Phare 1999 Children Programme. The brochure is meant to inform the international community about the progress. Translations in German, French, Italian and Spanish are underway.

The results of the Phare 1999 Children First Fund are now visible. For example, the camin spital in Videle (judet Teleorman), which you visited in summer 2000, has been closed and with Phare support transferred into a treatment/day-care centre for disabled children. Teleorman is the first judet that has closed all large institutions, the last three as part of the Phare 1999 Children First Fund, by creating a number of family type homes (in average apartments), two day-care and treatment centres for disabled children, several day-care centres and a centre for abused mothers/children (13 projects/1.3 M€).

Under the Phare 1999 Children First Fund a total of 110 projects are being implemented, (19 M€). A total of 23 large institutions will be closed.

Last week the Phare 2001 Children First Fund has been launched and the contract for TA signed, thus the multi-annual programme will continue without interruptions. The same goes for the public awareness campaign.

Cc. (Cabinet Verheugen)