



MONGOLIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

6 East 77th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021

Tel: (212) 861-9460, (212) 472-6517

Fax: (212) 861-9464

e-mail: mongolia@un.int

STATEMENT BY MR.D.NYAMKHUU, VICE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE AND LABOUR OF MONGOLIA AT THE FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

**New York
3 March, 2010**

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,


On behalf of the Government of Mongolia, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the organizers for convening this important event to discuss the achievements and lessons learned since the Fourth World Conference on Women, which took place 15 years earlier, drawing the attention of world community to the issues of women and gender equality.

Since its accession to the United Nations as a Member State in 1961, Mongolia has been taking active participation in activities of the world community, initiating a number of UN resolutions including that on Improvement of the Situation of Women in Rural Areas and on Universal Literacy for All. In addition, it is a great honour for our country that it has been elected as a member of the UN Economic and Social Council for the second time representing the countries of the Asia Pacific Region and has been appointed to work at the "Commission on the Status of Women". The Government of Mongolia is practicing explicit policies in regard to equal participation of men and women in development processes and provision of gender equality, as well as making significant efforts to join the key international and UN conventions, declarations and treaties related to protection of the rights of women and provision of gender equality and to fulfill successfully the obligations.

In line with the concept of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action agreed by the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Government of Mongolia approved a number of national programmes, namely "National Programme on Advancement of Women's Situation" (1996-2002), "National Programme on Gender Equality" (2002-2015) and "National Plan of Action on Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Children and Women" (2006-2014) and succeeded considerable achievements.

Moreover, "National Committee on Gender Equality" headed by the Prime Minister and composed of Cabinet Members and leaders of relevant state and civil society institutions, was set up in 2005 in order to strengthen the national machinery responsible for gender equality and ensure intersectoral coordination on gender issues. Following the establishment of the National Committee, in 2006 all ministries have appointed an officer responsible gender equality issues in their respective sectors.

One of the latest achievements is the development of the Draft Law on Gender Equality based on the needs to pursue comprehensive gender sensitive policies in all sectors, increase gender sensitive decision making, ensure gender equality at all levels, provide everyone with an opportunity to enjoy equal participation in development processes, as well as in allocation of empowerment and social wealth. The Law was drafted by the Government with financial and technical support of international donor organizations and submitted to the Parliament for approval last year.



It is expected that the approval of the Law on Gender Equality will create a favorable legal environment for our efforts to eliminate gender based discrimination, thus to accustom equal relations between men and women in all spheres of society, including political, economic, cultural and family relations. Furthermore, the Legal Act on Gender Equality is anticipated to contribute in reduction of gender based violations, and related physical, mental and health deterioration, in decrease of divorces, in prevention of children from a number of negative consequences due to family separation and unpleasant relations between parents, thus to have positive impact on creation of healthy society on the whole.

However, despite the above mentioned achievements in relation to creation of favorable legal environment and national institutions, there are still constrains in forming gender sensitive approaches in policy and decision making at all levels, and in assessing the existing situation of gender equality due to lack of proper sex aggregated data and information. To be frank, Mongolian women still face a number of challenging gender based problems, such as poverty, human right violations, domestic violence, divorces, sexual exploitation and human trafficking.

Currently, our country is experiencing severe winter disaster. It is expected that we will have to cope with additional challenges related to worsening of lives of herders, increase of domestic migration towards the city and raise in environmental degradation. These challenges will have negative impacts on our fight against gender based violations and affect our efforts to fulfill the Millennium Development Goals and overcome successfully the financial crisis.

We emphasize the cooperation with and support of world community in order to learn from experiences and lessons of other countries. We are eager to closely cooperate with United Nations to ensure provide equality and protect the rights of women by ensuring the policy and decision makers see the world through 'gender lens'.

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to conclude my speech by re-affirming, on behalf of the Government of Mongolia, our commitment to successfully fulfill the assignment as the member of the "Commission on the Status of Women" and to make every efforts to achieve the objectives of this meeting.

Thank you for your attention.

