

Statement

**of the Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations,
H.E. T. Kydyrov on the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, of
the United Nations on "The Elimination and Prevention of all Forms of Violence
Against Women and Girls"**

(New York, March 11, 2013).

Mr. Chairman,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen!

The problem of the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women in the view of the world economic crisis, is becoming more and more acute and global in nature. Of particular concern is the continued increase in the level of domestic violence, polygamy and early marriage, gender-based violence, and trafficking in women for sexual and labor exploitation. Therefore, we agree with the UN Secretary General that each state must develop its own strategy to combat this global issue and we also fully support the global campaign "Unite to End Violence against Women."

Kyrgyzstan is strongly committed to strengthening international cooperation in joint efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including the development of a new and integrated approach, legislative and regulatory measures and timely medical and legal assistance to victims. We believe that these issues should be included in the agenda of the international community after 2015.

Mr. Chairman,

Improving the status of women and gender equality is one of the priorities of the state policy in Kyrgyzstan. It is reflected in the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Kyrgyz Republic for the period 2013-2017, which was approved by Presidential Decree of 21 January 2013. In line with this strategy measures will be taken to reduce the number of early marriages and violence against women; encouragement will be given to the development of positive traditions, family support, and others.

It should also be noted that in recent years Kyrgyzstan approved the Third National Plan of Action for Gender Equality for 2012-2014. In addition, the National Strategy for Gender Equality till the period of 2020 has been elaborated. This is our first long-term document in this area. The main purpose of this strategy is to enhance the

economic and political empowerment of women, the establishment of functional education, increased access to justice for women and promotion of gender parity in decision-making.

In the past 2012, significant amendments have been made to the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic, aimed at strengthening penalties for forced entry into de facto marital relationship with a person under sixteen years of age" and for "forcing a woman to marry or creating an obstruction to marriage." Certain measures have been taken to improve standards of government and municipal services to prevent gender-based and domestic violence and to assist victims of domestic violence. In order to identify the main trends and ensure the implementation of gender policy, the National Council for Gender Development under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic was established in May 2012.

Mr. Chairman,

In accordance with its international obligations, Kyrgyzstan presented in 2012, the fourth periodic report of the Kyrgyz Republic for the implementation of provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women for the period from 2008 to the first half-year 2012. In addition, in order to effectively implement the decisions of the Security Council on the role of women in peace and security, on February 18, of this year the Government for the first time approved the National Plan of Action for the implementation of Resolution 1325 of the UN Security Council. It is important to mention that the plan also includes a number of measures against violence and will be provided with appropriate resources.

The above results have been achieved largely due to the efficient operation of the office of "UN Women" in Kyrgyzstan, which opened in 2012, and the establishment of multi-sectorial collaboration and support from major donors. But still much remains to be implemented. In this regard, we call for further support of the program activities of "UN Women" representation in Kyrgyzstan and strengthening of international cooperation to prevent and end violence against girls and women.

Thank you for your attention.