

Islamic Republic of

**I R A N**

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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**Statement by**

**Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

**Agenda item 56: Advancement of women**

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**In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful**

**Mr. Chairman,**

The macro-economic and political factors such as poverty, globalization, migration, war and conflict present additional challenges to women's problem. Girls are particularly vulnerable when removed from familiar settings and support networks. When a society breaks down in the midst of war and conflict, girls are at an extremely high risk of violence both from the dangers and brutality of war and from the reinforcement of the ideas that treat girls and women as property to control or destroy.



Given the complex and multi-faceted nature of the problem, there is an urgent need for a more holistic, rights-based approach. Governments, the private sector, communities and families must be accountable for the protection of the women and girls' rights. Attitude change is an essential part of the solution. It is particularly important to engage men and boys in the process. Understanding how masculinity and femininity are defined by people in society is a step forward toward solving the problem of injustice and violence against them.

This is partly because the international legal and policy frameworks have not been adequately and effectively implemented at the local and grassroots levels. Key Conventions, such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and the ILO Conventions on the Minimum Age for Employment and on the Worst Forms of Child Labor have not yet been incorporated into national laws at global level. Or, national laws exist but enforcement is weak universally.

Effective policymaking and programming require accurate data. There is a need to increase support and funding to gender responsive research to identify groups of women and girl children being at high risk of injustice and violence, for instance using a life-cycle approach. Many groups of girls facing violence and discrimination are not properly counted especially in European countries. Often collected data are not properly disaggregated and not properly analyzed. This is in part due to lack of gender sensitivity among researchers. Research should be gender-responsive in design, methodology and data collection. To generate more gender and context- specific information, the data should be carefully considered by vital indicators such as age, sex, marital status, family characteristics, ethnicity, geographical origin, and so on.

Protection and empowerment are two sides of the same coin. Women and girl children's rights need to be prioritized and empowerment should be a critical facet of the protection of their rights. Education is among the most important investments for the empowerment of women and girls. Governments must ensure their access to education and training to acquire skills that will equip them for decent and dignified work and livelihood. The curricula should be gender-sensitive, and a safe and productive learning environment should be created for them.

In the light of the said notion, more work and investment are needed in fields such as quality education for girls nutrition for early growth and development, family planning services, mentorship programs, legal advocacy, and action against exploitative and child labor. Programming should build upon local capacities and ownership, and should take into account the particular needs of the specific group of girls. Investment in institutionalization and long-term programs has implications for sustainable interventions and eventual results. We urge countries to consider top-down as well as bottom-up approaches to see the sustainability in private and public sphere.

The purpose of gender planning, mainstreaming and monitoring is to build national capacities, both governmental and non-governmental in the areas of gender analysis, gender planning, implementation and monitoring. A primary concern by governments in this connection is to draw up a nation of strategy for the advancement of women and to work closely with line ministries in order to mainstream it in the National Development Plans. Among other things, this will ensure the inclusion of priority programs on women and the required funding for them. This includes training planners in line ministries in gender planning in order to mainstream gender in sectoral, regional and national development plans.

It is high time to adopt necessary measures to ensure social justice, respect for women's social status and dignity, respect for women's rights to social security and decent jobs and provide support for the women who are guardians for their families. In this regard, it is also recommended that the parliaments of the Member States ratify necessary laws to alleviate women's social and economic deprivation and improve their material and spiritual status;

**Mr. Chairman,**

At this juncture, I would like to introduce the Charter of Women's Rights and Responsibilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran which nearly all the said requirements are met. The forgo Charter has been emanated from divine values encompassing the socio-cultural and politico-economic sphere of Women's presence in the society.

**Mr. Chairman,**

One of the urgent needs of mankind today is dire need of considering and determining the sublime status of women and girl children which the cliché ideas of gender equality or gender equity can not depict the deserved position of them. Instead Mr. Chairman, Islamic Republic of Iran is intended to present the innovative notion of "Gender Justice" which delineates women are bestowed special capacities and upon their unique potentialities, merits and statures as a complimentary factor to men's inabilities should be honored.

**Mr. Chairman,**

We firmly believe that "Gender Justice" is a remedy to today's identity crisis.

**Thank you**

