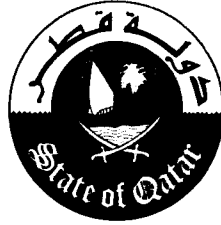


بِسْمِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Statement of the State of Qatar

Delivered by

Ms. Alya Ahmed Bin Saif Al Thani

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Before

The Third Committee of the Sixty Fourth Session of

The United Nations General Assembly

On

Agenda Item 62 "Advancement of Women

12 October 2009

Mr. President,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the State of Qatar on the item (62), entitled the Advancement of Women.

Mr. President,

The political will and wise leadership of the State of Qatar represented by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar, and the full support of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bin Nasser Al- Missned, Consort of His Highness the Emir of Qatar, has paved the way for progress and achievements in the field of empowerment of women in the State of Qatar. The State of Qatar deals with women's issues within a holistic framework that promotes her status and the status of all members of her family as the family is the basic unit of society, therefore, the Supreme Council for Family Affairs, the institutional machinery for the advancement of women in the State of Qatar, has conducted a general strategy for a family that contains of several aspects and most importantly the national strategy for the advancement of women.

Mr. President,

We have read with great interest the various reports of the Secretary-General relating to item 62 and commend the efforts made in their preparation. In the framework of international efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, we would like to welcome the new global campaign that has been launched for this purpose and the initiatives of numerous United Nations bodies. We understand the multiplicity of efforts at the United Nations in response to violence against women, and call to unite and coordinate efforts within the framework of efforts to promote a system-wide coherence, and to give the same impetus to the issues of great importance as education of women and economic empowerment of women. At the national level, the Supreme Council for Family Affairs conducted a comprehensive review of relevant national laws in relation of domestic violence. also the Supreme Council submitted information on the measures taken by the State to address violence against women to the database launched by the Secretary General of the United Nations on violence against women. In this framework, we would like to welcome the establishment of this Database, which will serve as a mechanism to exchange information and expertise between states in this area. In terms of protection and assistance, the hotlines provided by the Qatari Foundation for Child and Women Protection have proven successful over the years in the monitoring of cases and follow-up in coordination with the national health, social, criminal, judicial agencies, and The Foundation provides free of charge legal advice to victims and legal aid in courts. At

the international level, the city of Doha hosted the an international seminar on "Violence against women and its impact on the family". organized by the Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development, in collaboration with the Supreme Council for Family Affairs in November 2008, with the participation of Ms. Rachel Mayanja, Adviser to the Secretary General of the United Nations on gender issues, Ms. Yakin Erturk, Special Rapporteur of the United Nations on violence against women, Ms. Dubravka Šimonović, Chairman of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

In an effort to address violence against women migrant workers, the State of Qatar has provided information for the report of the Secretary-General on national actions taken in this field, including the strengthening of legal frameworks to address violence against women migrant workers and trafficking in human beings through the Qatari labor law and penal code, the State of Qatar also joined to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking. At the institutional level, both the Human Rights Department of the Interior Ministry and the Qatar Foundation to combat human trafficking, the National Commission for Human Rights represent the existing institutional mechanisms to address such violence in the State of Qatar in the areas of prevention, protection, assistance. In relations to areas of training and capacity-building, these agencies focuses on providing training for those working with victims by introducing them to relevant international conventions and the various forms of violence. The State of Qatar coordinates bilateral and international cooperation in this area through bilateral agreements on employment and continues to provide information to relevant United Nations organizations.

Mr. President,

the State of Qatar has acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against women last April, the State of Qatar will continue its efforts to highlight the issue of women's empowerment as a strategic objective at the national and international levels.

Mr. President,

The continuing conflict in different parts of the world is a major obstacle to the elimination of violence and abuse suffered by women. In this regard, we stress that reports of the Secretary-General should give special attention to the plight of women and their families living under foreign occupation, and to find urgent solutions to their plight.

I thank you.