

Islamic Republic of I R A N

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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Statement by H. E. Mr. Eshagh Ali-Hajjiri Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative Of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations On the Agenda Item 28: The Advancement of Women

Third Committee

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In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Chairman,

The promotion of women's dignity and their empowerment constitute prerequisites for a society's progress. Consideration of the advancement of women provides us with an opportunity to exchange views on the progress and challenges that require empowerment of women at the national, regional and international levels.

Our purpose is served best when the intergovernmental work of this Committee focuses on the wide spectrum of challenges that affect both developing and developed countries.

Establishment of the UN entity for women could create a viable implementation of women's issues. The UN Women could only become a dominant and universal international approach and strategies of the entity are vast and comprehensive and respect the diversity, national and cultural diversities of different nations and societies.

The new entity should not follow a ready-made conception and neither a conceptual pattern of analysis. It should reach a cross-cutting and overall consensus in preparing strategies, plans and programs. For these reasons, we expect the UN Women to review the progress and challenges of the past 40 years of the long journey which has been started from 40 years ago.

While there are some fundamental principles that must be done in the new Entity, still there are core elements for effective functioning. Along with developing comprehensive human resources and management framework, the UN Women must develop a management for inclusion, distribution and technical expertise in its work and composition of the Office.

Moreover, an essential dimension of the UN-Women work must be the mobilization of necessary and additional resources from within the United Nations. This will tangibly ensure transparency and impartiality in the work of the new body for the empowerment of women.

Mr. Chairman,

Last December, the Islamic Republic of Iran hosted the 11th Ministerial Conference of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on the Role of Women in the Development of OIC member states. In Tehran, the conference aimed to promote the role of women in the family as well as to strengthen their role in economic development of the Islamic societies.

The conference emphasized that the advancement of women and the promotion of their role within the family and society is a major factor for the development and highlighted the importance of the involvement of women in inter-religious dialogue. It also invited OIC Member States to enhance the status of women based on shared knowledge and best practices as well as on sound mobilization of resources.

Furthermore, the conference adopted an endorsement of the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action for Women, Article 27 of the Tehran Declaration and urged OIC Member States to take concrete steps towards a human with a view to help initiate a universal movement seeking to revive norms of human beings, in particular women. It also recognized that this important measure requires cooperation and consultation among the civil and thinkers from all countries.

Mr. Chairman,

We took note of the informative report of the Secretary-General (document A/66/2/P1), on the measures taken and progress achieved in following up the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. The report was presented at the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly with an assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming, including information on key achievements, lessons learned and good practices. The report also makes a frank assessment of progress in addressing gender issues in the functioning and documents of the different bodies of the United Nations system. Based on the report, there has been more progress in the United Nations system.

Mr. Chairman,

Women play a key role in rural productivity, food security and environmental sustainability. However, rural women continue to be economically and socially disadvantaged throughout the world.

The High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) report on "Gender Equality and Sustainable Development" to be held in Brazil in 2012 provides an opportunity to review and appraise progress achieved and problems encountered by the rural women in different spheres and pave the way for the acceleration of progress on the empowerment of women in rural area.

Mr. Chairman

Elimination of violence against women, in all its forms, in all parts of the world is a priority. However, the situation of women living under foreign occupation as one of the critical areas of violence still falls short of attention which requires particular attention.

In combating violence against women, we are not only analyzing in a holistic manner. It must surpass the existing vertically segmented patterns of analysis and create a vertical and horizontal conceptual change. Vertical approach means to consider all situations with their entire dimension, national, regional and international. Horizontal approach means to consider roots and causes of violence in all its forms.

Unless and until there are ways of analyzing and making decisions against violence developed in this fashion, the current efforts, though intensive, will not yield expected fruits.

Mr. Chairman,

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has taken many initiatives, such as recognizing women issues as a priority or cross-cutting issue that are mainstreamed in all sectors of the policy process. Beyond awareness raising, capacity building and training activities, concrete actions are underway for the effective incorporation of gender perspectives into national development policies and strategies.

Developing capacity and awareness in all institutions as well as in national mechanisms for empowerment of women, gender equality, accountability, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, ensuring sufficient human and financial resources and promoting the participation of civil society in the national development planning process are priorities.

Gender responsive budgeting has been used as an effective tool that adequate resources are allocated for the achievement of women empowerment. Furthermore, gender sensitive indicators have been developed to support policymaking and national systems for monitoring and reporting on gender impacts.

The Presidential Center for Women and Family Affairs, with the interaction of various departments and institutions at different levels integrate a gender perspective into the design and implementation of national development strategies, which are typically multi-year documents. It also coordinates gender poverty reduction strategies, country coordination mechanisms and sectoral plans.

Recently, in implementing Article 330 of the National Five Year Development Plan, the Center for Women and Family with the participation of all ministries and organizations are formulating a comprehensive national development program on women and family. Strengthening of the family foundation, revision of the laws and regulations, prevention of substance abuse, economic development, health care, household, social security, empowerment of women and their participation in civil society, family of reunion or women's incentives are among the key elements of the program.

The indexes related to women have grown considerably in the areas of education and research, science and technology as well as in justice and health. It is noteworthy to mention that the main approach of Iran's development policy has been to support the family and its strengthening. Encouraging the development of the family is prerequisite for the employment of women.

In conclusion, Iran has managed to achieve some other significant achievements on the basis of the Islamic Republic of Iran's policies and programs.

- As part of a national policy planning, the National Five Year Development Plan has been able to meet the scientific and technological needs in the research and technology sectors.
- The President of the Islamic Republic of Iran has appointed a human competent woman as his deputy for science and technology.
- The considerable growth in the rate of human indexes and the decline in infant mortality and morbidity rate and eradicating HIV / AIDS have been registered.
- The rate of women's participation at senior level decision making and managerial levels has increased. As currently four women have been appointed as members of the Cabinet. There are also a number of women serving as deputy ministers.

Thank You, Mr. Chairman

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Mr. Chairman,

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has taken many initiatives, such as identifying women issues as a priority or cross-cutting issue that is transversal across all sectors, in all stages of the policy process. Beyond awareness-raising, capacity-building and training activities, concerted efforts are underway for the effective incorporation of gender perspectives into national development policies and strategies.

Developing capacity and expertise in all ministries as well as in national mechanisms for empowerment of women, strengthening accountability, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, ensuring sufficient human and financial resources and promoting the participation of civil society in the national development planning process are pursued.

Gender responsive budgeting has been developed as an effective tool to ensure that adequate resources are allocated for the achievement of women support, empowerment, gender equality and women have been developed to support policymaking and national systems for monitoring and reporting on progress and impact.

The Presidential Center for Women and Family with the participation of universities and research institutes at different levels integrates a gender perspective into the design and implementation of national development strategies, which are typically multi-year documents outlining national priorities for development, including poverty reduction strategies, county coordination mechanisms and sector plans.

Recently, in implementing Article 138 of the National Five Year Development Plan, the Center for Women and Family with the participation of all ministries and organizations are formulating a comprehensive national development program on women and family. Strengthening of the family foundation; review of the laws and regulations; prevention of social damage; economic development; creating jobs for women head of household; social security; empowerment of civil society; and the reform of women mechanisms are among the key elements of the program.

The progress related to women have grown considerably in the areas of education and research, science and technology, as well as justice and health. It is noteworthy to mention that the main approach of Iran's development strategy is to empower women and to integrate their perspectives into the national development strategy. The family is a perspective for the empowerment of women.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, allow me to state that the Islamic Republic of Iran is committed to the empowerment of women.

As part of a national policy planning, the National Elite Foundation has established a research center for the scientist including women in the research and technology sector.

The President of the Islamic Republic of Iran has appointed an female expert member as his deputy for science and technology.

The considerable growth in the rate of health indices and the decline in the mortality and morbidity rate and curbing HIV/AIDS have been registered.

The rate of women's participation in senior level decision-making and managerial levels has increased. At currently four women have been appointed as members of the Cabinet. There are also a number of women serving as deputy ministers.

Thank You, Mr. Chairman