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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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Gender is the socially used definition of women and men. This concept does not mean the biological characteristics of women and men. On the contrary, the concept of gender is based on the idea of the tasks and functions of women and men in society, public and private life.

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The concept of gender represents the social aspects of relations between men and women in all spheres of life and activity of society, including politics, economics, culture, education and science. It follows that the concept of gender does not only represent the interests of women. Perhaps this suggests that both sexes need to be given equal opportunities to achieve their dreams and goals and improve their quality of life. One of the requirements of a developed society is to ensure equal rights for men and women. Uzbekistan was one of the first countries in Central Asia to implement a number of measures to equalize women's rights with men. In 1995, Uzbekistan ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (SEDAW). In Uzbekistan, which has entered a new stage of development, the issue of gender equality is being deeply reformed. President Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed a number of laws on equal rights for women and men in our country.

In fact, the empowerment of women is considered one of the important factors in accelerating the process of sustainable development. As a result of the adoption by the UN in 2000, together with the entire world community, of the concept of gender equality as one of the basic principles of human activity, a number of positive shifts were achieved in this direction. In Uzbekistan, over the past 5 years, significant steps have been taken to strengthen the position of women in the socio-economic and political spheres. In particular, in order to further improve the legal framework, ensure and protect the rights of women, in September 2019, a number of laws "On Guarantees of Equal Rights and Opportunities between Women and Men" were adopted. In addition to laws, new structures were created under the Government, such as the Hatin Center for Women's Entrepreneurship and the Family Scientific



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and Practical Research Center, which protect the labor rights of women, provide assistance to victims of domestic violence, carry out their rehabilitation and adaptation, and are also engaged in suicide prevention.

As part of the implementation of the Fifth Sustainable Development Goal, nine targets have been developed related to "Ensuring gender equality and empowering all women." In October 2020, the national contest "Gender Equality Activist" was announced. Also, in order to prevent gender discrimination against women in the Republic of Uzbekistan, a commission for ensuring gender equality has been established. All these newly created institutional mechanisms, together with the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan, became the basis for the creation of a single comprehensive mechanism for women's rights, gender equality and the elimination of discrimination against women in accordance with the UN Convention.

Of particular importance was the adoption of the Law on the Protection of Women from Harassment and Violence. This Law was adopted after many years of discussions. Important changes have taken place in the field of monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of gender policy through the introduction of additional gender indicators on the website www.gender.stat.uz. In addition to these efforts, steps are being taken to stimulate women in education and science, as well as to attract them to the natural and technical sciences through the creation of STEM laboratories (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). This, in turn, contributes to increasing the employment and competitiveness of women in the modern labor market. In this regard, active cooperation is being carried out with the Center for Development Strategy and other public organizations.

In June 2019, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, in his speech at the Senate of the Oliy Majlis, said: "I am very concerned about the stereotype that has developed in the minds of our people. Usually we respect a woman, first of all, as a mother, the guardian of the family fortress. This is undoubtedly true. But today, every woman should not be an ordinary observer, but an active and proactive participant in the democratic changes taking place in the country." At this meeting of the Senate, at the invitation of the President, for the first time in the history of the country, a woman, Tanzila Norboeva, was elected as the Chairman of the Senate. It is known that T. Norboeva worked as Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Chairman of the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan.

In continuation of our opinion, we note that women governors operate in many regions of our country. Speaking at the first plenary session of the Senate on January 20, 2020, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev said that he was looking for women for the







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position of khyakim of the district and would test suitable candidates in practice. "Why? I want to say again and again that our women can be an example for everyone with their deep understanding of problems, selflessness, heightened sense of responsibility and diligence," the head of state said.

The government's attempt to implement such changes in state and public administration is another expression of the desire for gender equality. Attention is drawn to the importance of laws aimed at ensuring gender equality and improving the social conditions of women's lives in the country. Here is a list of legal documents adopted in this regard: Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated March 7, 2019 "On measures to further strengthen the guarantees of women's types of labor and support for entrepreneurship" Decree of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated March 30 No. 192 "On approval of the Regulations on the procedure for conducting gender -legal expertise of normative legal documents and their drafts". Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated June 23, 2020 on recommending women to participate in the competition and organize their admission to higher educational institutions within the framework of admission indicators based on additional state grants. Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated November 20, 2019 No. 919 "On measures to further improve the system for ensuring the employment of women and the development of entrepreneurship among them." Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 12, 2018 for women and girls in difficult social situations, for disabled mothers, low-income mothers raising children in single-parent families and in need of improved housing conditions Decision No. 285 on approval of the Regulation on the procedure for allocating housing. Summing up, we can say that gender equality is not a modern feature, but it has existed in all times and in all eras. Today, the main issue of gender processes is determined by the self-expression of a person. This means that in order to improve his standard of living, to meet his needs, he maximizes all his capabilities (resources), abilities and talents. The recognition that gender relations are socially organized in society means that there is hope to reorganize established power relations and establish a social order based on gender equality.

Resources

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