

Contributions of the Syrian Arab Republic on "National Activities to Support Preparations for the 30th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family"

Use new techniques to improve work-family balance and promote parental education:

- The Syrian Authority for Family and Population Affairs, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Labour, Health and Media and UNICEF, has launched the parental care campaign through all social media.
- Action plan against the worst forms of child labour with the aim of withdrawing and rehabilitating children involved in the worst forms of child labour, preventing children at risk of slipping into the worst forms of child labour, strengthening local and national capacities to address the problem of child labour, and providing vocational training opportunities for young people and working children with a view to eliminating child labour.
- A national plan to deal with children who are victims of recruitment by armed terrorist groups.
- A national plan to combat child begging included:
 - Activating anti-begging offices in the provinces, where they are patrolling to control cases of begging.
 - Voluntary monitoring and reporting campaigns on begging and displacement on the ground.
 - Expanding the capacity of the centers that provide services to this segment.
- A fully holistic approach to children separated from their families begins with the urgent tracing of families with a view to being able to quickly reunite them, or to place the child in the event of

separation in a supportive environment that ensures his or her protection.

- Providing alternative care to children without family care, including separated and unaccompanied children. To provide all forms of support and facilitate procedures for NGOs dealing with children with the aim of improving the quality and quality of services provided in care homes and providing these services to all children in need to protect them and achieve their best interests without any discrimination.
- Take actions and measures to promote the care of children with disabilities outside institutions, support families for their care and ensure access to comprehensive reconstruction in community schools, including psychological rehabilitation programmes and prosthetics.

Family-oriented policies and programmes that promote urbanization:

- Aspects of comprehensive urbanization and work to secure affordable housing during city planning have been considered within the directions of the National Housing Strategy.

Family-oriented policies in response to current demographic trends, including ageing:

Elderly:

- The Syrian Authority for Family and Population Affairs, in collaboration with national partners, prepared the National Strategy for The Care of Older Persons, raising demographic changes related to the increase in the older population, focusing on the provision of quality health, economic and social services. The subject of intergenerational solidarity was taken into account.

- Work is under way on the draft legal instrument for the protection of the elderly.

Child:

- The Passage of the Child Protection Act No. 12 of 2021, which is in line with the International Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- The Authority is working to update the National Early Childhood Strategy, which deals with health, nutrition, education, and social protection.
- A study on the family upbringing of the 0-3 age group is currently under way to provide the National Early Childhood Strategy with the necessary data and develop special programmes for this age group.

Women:

- The Syrian Authority for Family and Population Affairs has prepared the National Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, which included several strategic priorities: achieving the economic empowerment of women and men, reducing gender-based violence and domestic violence, participating in political decisions, promoting equal access to sensitive and high-quality health-care services for women, and creating more gender-equal education opportunities.
- The National Women's Support Programme, which covered several topics related to women and the economy, poverty eradication, education, health, violence, rural women, women in decision-making positions, the media, and the child, was prepared.
- The authority, in cooperation with the concerned authorities, has prepared a draft law on domestic violence. The Authority, in

cooperation with the relevant agencies, has prepared a draft law on domestic violence.

- The Syrian Authority for Family and Population Affairs has opened the Family Protection Unit as the first residence center to receive women and children survivors of violence and provides an integrated package of services related to safe accommodation, comprehensive psychological support and legal advice, as well as vocational training to ensure protection and promote family cohesion.
- A series of qualitative studies have been carried out on issues of early marriage, the economic cost of early marriage at the family and community levels, and youth participation issues.
- The Authority, in collaboration with the Ministry of Information, has launched a campaign (“don’t be silent”) against violence against women.
- A national campaign was launched in 2021 in collaboration between the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and the Syrian Authority for Family and Population Affairs to support and empower Syrian families and included various activities and activities (social, educational, service, economic).