



**STATEMENT BY**

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FOR FAMILY, WOMEN AND CHILDREN AFFAIRS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

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**Your Excellencies,**

**Distinguished participants,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

It's a great honour for me to greet you at this event on behalf of the Azerbaijani delegation. The problems raised are always essential for all nations and it's very important to pay special attention to the combating violence.

There is a global controversy all over the world - on the one hand the world is rapidly moving towards development, on the other hand, the world is still has to struggle with the problem of violence against women.

The government of Azerbaijan attaches high importance to the issue of combating violence against women. We have realised that it is not enough only to adopt the law on domestic violence there is a necessity to work on its implementation. In order to ensure that, amendments were made to seven legislative acts and five new normative and legal acts were adopted. Besides, special awareness raising campaigns have been started in order to improve coordination among state institutions engaged in combating domestic violence. Another campaign on "Strengthening internal culture as a factor against violence in the 21<sup>st</sup> century" is being hold in regions and educational entities.

Recently the State Committee in cooperation with the international organizations and NGOs started a new project "Empowering women victims of domestic violence with improved socio-economic capacity and gender awareness in the Republic of Azerbaijan".

Today one of the main goals is to integrate refugee and IDP women to the society. Half a million Azerbaijani women who became refugees and IDP's as a result of occupation of Azerbaijan territories by Armenia, are paid the priority attention by the government of Azerbaijan. Economic growth of the

country allows solving the problem of those groups of population who are under the strong psychological stress. Under The Complex Program on combating daily violence in democratic society, women refugees and IDPs are offered a comprehensive range of services, which include reduction of unemployment rate, the increase in access to, and level of education, as well as awareness- raising campaigns on gender equality and especially on the consequences of all forms of violence on the future of our society.

In the framework of the special 2 years project on “Eliminating gender-based violence among IDPs and shelter seeking persons/refugees” with the participation of international organizations and representatives of State agencies and NGOs a special hotline was launched in May 2012.

Shelters for the victims of violence have been created in the framework of the “XXI century without violence against women” project conducted by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation. Among the goals of the Project are creation of additional opportunities for women to use their rights, increasing women’s participation in the society and prevention of violence. In each region it is intended to open such centers according to the Law.

One of the important directions in addressing violence is an active involvement of women in the society. 10 state programs are carried out in this direction. Ensuring the employment of women, realization of their potential, improvement of their social conditions and other issues are reflected in these programs.

11 Children and Family Support Centres under the State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs work in the regions of Azerbaijan in the direction of dealing with social problems in remote regions and villages. Those centers also work to implement the special National Plan of Action on Increasing Effectiveness of Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (2011) and the Action Plan (2011-2015) of the

State Programme for Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development for 2008-2015.

I would like to draw your attention to one important idea. Modern world practice shows that it is impossible to get constant and social-economic development, without eliminating violence against women, and it is important to support collaboration and partnership among the countries for solving this problem.

We are thankful to the Commission on the Status of Women and welcome international exchange of information and close future collaboration.

Thank you for your attention.