Efforts by the State of Qatar in the field of Protecting Children’s Rights in the context of implementing GA Resolution 74/124

The State of Qatar attaches great importance to the protection of the right of the child and to the development and care of children. The State has taken various measures at the legislative, legal and administrative levels to implement children’s rights and to provide the means to assert, develop and update it within the framework of the integrated social development of the family and its members. The state of Qatar relied on many National references such as Qatar Vision 2030, the Strategy for National Development 2011 – 2016, and the strategies related to family and the community specifically the Strategy of Social Protection 2018 – 2022. These references constitute a solid and supportive environment for the implementation of the rights of the child and family according to the related international treaties and agreement in which the State of Qatar is party. Furthermore, the constitution of the State of Qatar asserts the fundamental role of the family in society and it also guarantees care for young people and children and the right to free and compulsory education for all.

Legislative Measures:

- Law No. (3) of 2016, regulating birth and death registration which guarantees in its articles (11, 12 and 13) the registration and issuance of birth certificates for all children, including children born partners not legally registered as married.
- Juvenile Law No. (1) of 1994, which includes provisions aimed at protecting children from delinquency and falling into the clutches of crime. It also includes precautionary measures in the event that they commit crimes aimed at rehabilitating to become productive individuals of the society.
- Labor Law No. (14) of 2004 which contains articles prohibiting the employment of children under the age legally prescribed.
- The Anti-Human Trafficking Law - Law No. 15 of 2011, which contains provisions according to which the state guarantees protection for the physical and psychological safety of victims, and the provision of health, educational and social care, rehabilitation and reintegration.
- Cyber Crime Law - Law No. (14) of 2014 which includes provisions to protect children from exploitation in producing pornographic materials and publishing them by means of information technology.
- Nurseries Law - Law No. 1 of 2014.
Executive Measures:

- The Family Affairs Department at the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs is concerned with raising awareness of society on the concept of social protection, preparing and implementing programs to prevent juvenile delinquency, and developing a strategy to protect children and secure them from harmful information and materials such as violence and pornography. The department also specializes in providing social care, setting and developing social development programs, following up on their implementation, supervising and licensing nurseries, and adopting educational curricula. The Department is involved in organizing training workshops for specialists and social workers in schools to protect against violence and sexual harassment, as well as implementing awareness-raising campaigns on human trafficking.

The state’s efforts to combat violence against children

1. Developing a comprehensive system to prevent and protect against domestic violence through:
   - Merging, reviewing current data and collecting data on violence, including the on the concept and definition of violence,
   - Adopting legislations criminalizing domestic violence through the Penal Code
   - Developing and adopting a legal mechanism to protect those who report cases of violence and its victims
   - Establishing integrated centers to provide protection services against domestic violence in different regions.
   - Launching programs / campaign to raise the awareness of the community on domestic violence
   - Establishing special units and providing a hotline to receive warning warnings in security centers in different cities, and forming a police team that understands family issues.

2. A system for early detection of child abuse and neglect through
   - Increasing the number of social workers in schools and developing their knowledge and skills in the area of child abuse, violence and neglect
   - Developing an awareness program for students about violence and its prevention.
   - Providing a hotline for schools to report cases of violence.
3. Developing procedures to promote children's rights and serves their interests through: -
   • Supporting the development and implementation of child rights legislations
   • Developing special measures for the benefit of the child that monitors the welfare and rights of the child
   • Encouraging children to be active citizens by strengthening children's participation in public life through student councils
   • Encourage the formation of a children's parliament and promote democratic ideas
   • Encourage and support intergenerational dialogue through awareness, counseling and educational programs on child rearing.