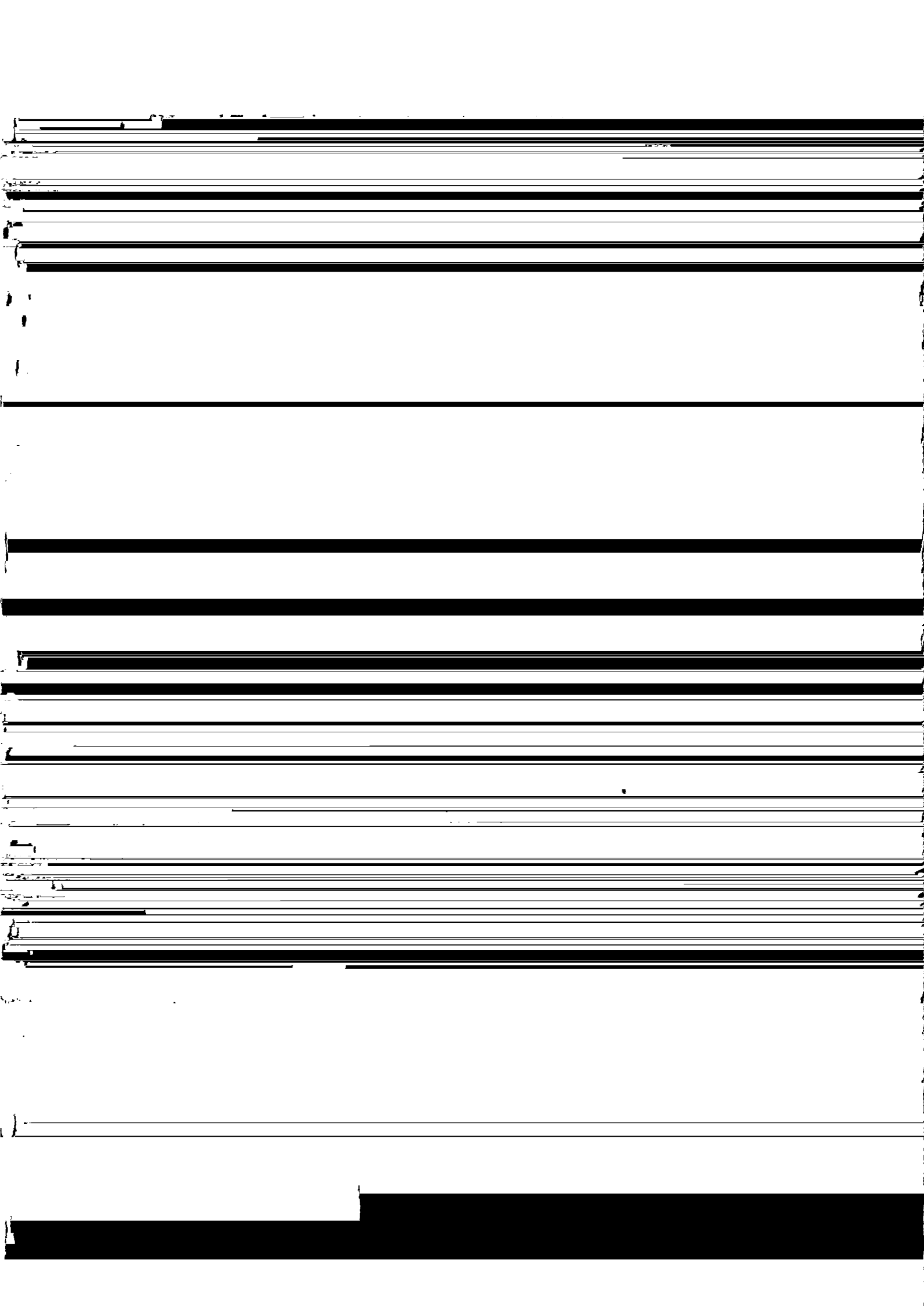


Statement
By Her Excellency Aksoltan Atayeva,
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan

in the Committee on Disarmament



Madjlis (Parliament). Women accounted for 30 percent of the participants of the 14th meeting of the Hulk Maskhalaty held on August 14-15, 2003. During the elections to local representative bodies (Gengeshy) held on April 6 2003 14 percent of elected representatives were women. Current composition of the Central Election Commission was determined by the Hulk Maskhalaty in its decision of August 30, 2004 and now women comprise 53 percent of its members.

Direct participation of women in central and local representative authorities

have children younger than 14 years of age (Article 176 of the Labour Law Code).

All citizens of Turkmenistan without any distinction to sex are guaranteed legal, including judicial protection from any manifestations of discrimination against them under the Constitution.

~~Citizens without any distinction to sex have the right to claim through courts~~

Turkmenistan's legislation contains administrative and criminal measures for involvement in and practicing of prostitution. In particular, criminal responsibility is envisaged for prostitution (article 138 of the Criminal Code) involvement into prostitution (article 139 of the Criminal Code)

establishment of brothels for prostitution (article 140 of the Criminal Code)

procurement of women for prostitution (article 141 of the Criminal Code) and trading in prostitution (article 142 of the Criminal Code).

Union of Turkmen Women's Union

Work through hire is the prevalent form of employment of economically active population. Among men this category of employees comprises 84

percent and among women 81 percent. 60 or more percent of employed women work in such areas as public health, social security, education and other service sectors. Construction, transport, communications and mining industries are traditionally dominated by men and their share exceeds 70 percent.

Secure legal and social conditions have been established in Turkmenistan, which enable women to fulfill their right to share an occupation sector of

Wages and salaries of employees of public institutions and organizations are set by the state and it does not establish any differences in wages for equal work for men and women. The system of fundamental rates, salary scales and

bonuses are determined by the enterprises on the basis of collective bargain agreements between the employers and employees with the participation of trade unions. Those agreements provide for improvement of work organization, honorable work pay and its timely distribution (Article 81 of the Labour Law Code, para. 14 of the Statute of Turkmenistan Trade Unions).

The Law of Turkmenistan on State Benefits of 17 July 1998 establishes the

Equal access to education and equal conditions for getting education are guaranteed in Turkmenistan through equality of men and women. Women on an equal par with men are integrated into the system of education and vocational training. According to the Constitution of Turkmenistan the right to education is given to every citizen regardless of sex. General secondary education is mandatory. Education in secondary schools and state vocational institutions and higher educational establishments of the country is free (Article 35 of the Constitution).

As of the beginning of the 2003/04 school year 1705 general education schools functioned in Turkmenistan. They catered for over 1 million students (1,018,600) and girls accounted for 49.1 percent.

According to the data of random census of the population conducted in 2000 literacy of the population of 15 years and higher equaled 98.9 percent.

Among 1000 persons of 15 years and higher 99 have higher education, 0

have incomplete higher education, 166 have special secondary education, 477 have general secondary education, 183 have incomplete secondary education and 48 have primary education.

As of January 1, 2004 16 secondary vocational and 16 higher education

establishments functioned in Turkmenistan. Young boys and girls are taught

vocational and higher educational establishments receive state stipends on a monthly basis.

Physical training and sports are considered an integral part of the nationwide Presidential Health Programme aimed at improving the health of the

Unprecedented social support, free education, use of public health network, access to the system of benefits and preferences provided to women by the state create real opportunities for women enabling them to realize their creative potential and enjoy their rights. It is noteworthy that education and especially higher education continues to remain high among the social values of young girls.

Employment in the formal sector of economy (especially the state sector) in

Subsidies and transfers provided by the state to the population have a

positive impact on ensuring equal status of women in the family and society. Thanks to the free provision of such public utilities as natural gas, water, electricity, very low rates for housing and related services, low fares for communications and mass transit proportion of expenditures on life supporting services is relatively low in household budgets. In Turkmenistan monetary expenditures of population on all types of services amounted to 5 percent in 2002 which is many times lower than in any other country.

sacrificed their health in defense of state and public interests receive additional assistance and benefits from public funds.

The Code of Marriage and Family of Turkmenistan envisages that "Motherhood in Turkmenistan is surrounded by universal honour and respect. It is protected and promoted by the State"

The country has in place a comprehensive system for protection of motherhood and childhood which provides for mandatory care of women during pregnancy, child-birth and post natal period as well as care for children especially during first five years of their life. Numerous awareness activities are carried to provide information on nutrition, breast feeding and health care.

Breast feeding mothers in addition to the general lunch break receive every three hours additional time of up to half an hour for feeding their infants.

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In accordance with the Labour Law Code it is prohibited to use women labour in difficult and harmful jobs and underground jobs excluding some jobs not involving physical work or sanitary and catering services. It is also prohibited to use women for carrying and moving heavy loads exceeding maximum limit loads allowed for them.

Use of women on night jobs is not allowed. This rule does not apply to some branches of the national economy where such work is justified by special

As of January 1 2002 4367 family sectors have been established in the country where 3137 family doctors, 1061 family paramedics and 6237 nurses are employed. Medical insurance covers 93.1 percent of the population.

The Health programme of Turkmenistan envisages the implementation of the National Strategy of Reproductive Health of Turkmenistan for the Period up to the Year 2020 which was developed and is implemented jointly with the UN Fund for Population Activity and World Health Organization. Reproductive health strategy includes such programmes as Family Medicine, Combating Anemia in Turkmenistan, Protection and Support for Breast Feeding, Reproductive Health Protection Service, Immunoprophylactics etc.

Turkmenistan was one of the first countries in the world and the first country in the Commonwealth of Independent States that announced

recognition for fulfilling its obligations in combating iodine deficiency diseases.

During the five year period from 1995 to 2000 incidence of major infection diseases has been reduced two and more times.

In 2002 92 percent of pregnancies resulted in successful child birth. As compared to 1995 infant mortality (children under one year of age) was reduced two times.

Turkmen women have equal access with men to agricultural loans and credits in accordance with the Law of Turkmenistan on Commercial Banks

