AZ.270/19

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and with reference to the Secretary-General’s Note Verbale UNW/2019/003, dated 15 April 2019, has the honor to submit the national report prepared by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan relating to the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/RES/72/149 on “Violence against women migrant workers”.


New York, 17 May 2019

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)
New York
Information provided by State Migration Service regarding the implementation of United Nations’ General Assembly resolution A/RES/72/149 on “Violence against women migrant workers”


According to part three of Article 25 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the state guarantees equality of rights and liberties of everyone, irrespective of race, nationality, religion, language, sex, origin, financial position, occupation, political convictions, membership in political parties, trade unions and other public organizations. Rights and liberties of a person, citizen cannot be restricted due to race, nationality, religion, language, sex, origin, conviction, political and social belonging. Provision of Article 25 of the Constitution is reflected in Article 18 of the Labor Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan (unacceptability of discrimination in labor relations). Thus, in accordance with that Article in labour relations, no discrimination among employees shall be permitted on the basis of factors unrelated to the professional qualifications, job performance, or professional skills of the employees, nor shall it be permitted to establish privileges and benefits or directly or indirectly limit rights on the basis of these factors.

In line with Article 75 of Labor Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan except for cases provided for in the Labor Code (concessions for women, the handicapped, minors, and others in need of social protection), same conditions related with employment defined by legislation for the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan is applied to labour migrants and payments for their labor activities are carried out in a way defined by the legislation for citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In compliance with Article 13 of Labour Code foreigners and stateless persons while being in the Republic of Azerbaijan shall enjoy the same rights and have the same obligations as the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

According to amendment made on February 23, 2017 to the “Rules for reviewing application for “refugee” status”, unaccompanied minors, within the territory of the country, are equal to children who lost their parents and deprived from parental care and government provides their social protection, protect their rights and interest in accordance with the legislation.

In 2018, 41030 foreigners and stateless persons are issued temporary residence permits, 3220 foreigners and stateless persons are issued permanent residence permits within the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 15984 and 1831 out of them were women, respectively. At the same time, during last year, 766 work permits were issued to women out of total 6182 work permits issued to foreigners and stateless persons for carrying out paid labour activity in the Republic of Azerbaijan. Furthermore, since October 2016 the Training Centre of State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan has been organizing courses for foreigners and stateless persons free of charge for the purpose of teaching the Azerbaijani language, the history of Azerbaijan, its culture, legislation concerning the rights and obligations of foreigners and stateless persons. Thus, since the start date of the courses 2899 foreigners and stateless
persons from 47 countries, including **1387** women have attended the courses until the end of 2018.

Since 2015 a Public Council, members of which elected once in every two years, has been functioning under State Migration Service. Currently, 7 NGOs are represented at the Council (*3 of them are women*). The Public Council regularly conducts meetings with migrants, organizes migrants' receptions, hears their proposals, problems and resolves complaints in cooperation with the Service. Moreover, the Council also supports the activities of State Migration Service in raising awareness of foreigners and stateless persons regarding existing legislation, its requirements, and amendments to the legislation in the field of migration.

According to the national legislation and the Conventions ratified by the Republic of Azerbaijan, protection of labour and social rights of all migrant workers, including women migrant workers, is in the focus of attention. For this purpose, the effective protection of the rights of migrant workers is one of the main areas in the work on improving the legislation. Good examples is that the principle of equality of social and labour rights of the migrant workers with those of the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan is reflected in the national legislation, no form of restriction applies to their unification with the family members, as well as in respect of educational opportunities, the foreigners married to Azerbaijan citizens are employed on equal terms with citizens without the requirement of a permit. According to the legislation, any form of discrimination against migrant workers is strictly forbidden and their social and cultural rights are recognized. From this point of view, there was no case of violence or inequality recorded in any form especially against women labour migrant workers.

At the same time, together with international organizations, a series of events and seminars have been organized and awareness raising activities have been held on the protection of the rights of migrants, combating human trafficking and so on.