



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

119 East 36th Street, New York, New York 10016  
Tel: 212-686-9079 Fax: 212-686-3934 Email: armenia@un.int

UN/3101/446/2016

*17 September, 2016*

Dear Ms. Puri,

I have the honor to enclose herewith information on the implementation of announced commitments by Armenia.

I look forward to working with you and continuing to support the work of the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

*Encl.: 1 pages*

Zohrab Mnatsakanyan,  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Ms. Lakshimi Puri  
Assistant Secretary- General  
Deputy Executive Director  
UN Entity for Gender Equality  
And the empowerment of women  
*New York*

## **Armenia**

### **Information on implementation of announced commitments**

The main tool for achieving gender equality in the Republic of Armenia is the Law **“On Ensuring Equal Rights and Equal Opportunities for Women and Men”** adopted 20 May 2013.

The Law **“On Equal Rights and Equal Opportunities for Women and Men”** defines main directions of the state policy aimed at ensuring gender equality, including gender equality guarantees within the state governance and public service, clarifies the forms of gender discrimination, policy development.

Based on provisions of the Law, the Government has initiated the development of a new Strategy on Providing Equal Rights and Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for 2017-2021.

**The new Constitution was adopted through a referendum on 6 December 2015.**

According to its Article 210, **the new Electoral Code** has entered into force on 1 June 2016. It provides clearer mechanisms for protection of women’s rights in the political sphere which will contribute to their more active participation in the political life of the country. More effective quota for women’s representation has been prescribed (25% representation of women in elective bodies instead of 20%). At the same time, a gradual approach has been stipulated, and a higher quota has been prescribed for 2021 (30%).

Moreover, the rotation mechanism is also applied, according to which in case a female deputy quits her position or assumes another one, the latter should again be replaced by a woman.

As a result of implementation of Action Plan **“On Promoting Gender Balance among Candidates for Judges”** the tangible results targeted at increasing the level of involvement of women in the judicial system of the Republic of Armenia are already noticed.

As of May 2016, 170 out of 234 staff positions of judges are occupied by male representatives, 56 — by female representatives; whereas 8 staff positions remain vacant. Thus, the number of female judges amounts to nearly 25% of the total number of practicing judges.

Currently the Ministry of Justice of Armenia has set up a working group comprising of the representatives of relevant executive bodies which will study the best international practices related and elaborate a draft law **“On Domestic Violence”**.

**Armenia attaches importance to signing of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and accordingly the internal preparatory work for its signing has already commenced.**