



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

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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and has the honour to enclose the copy of the letter from H.E. Mr. Dime Spasov, Minister of Labour and Social Policy of the Republic of Macedonia, addressed to Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Macedonia would appreciate the forwarding of the above-mentioned letter to its highest destination.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women the assurances of its highest consideration.



New York, 30 March 2015

Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director
of the United Nations for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women
New York

РЕПУБЛИКА МАКЕДОНИЈА
РЕПУБЛИКЕ ТВОЈА ТИ ДА НЕ СЕ СТОЈАТ РАВНОСТА

РЕПУБЛИКА МАКЕДОНИЈА
МИНИСТЕРСТВО ЗА ТРУД И СОЦИЈАЛНА ПОЛИТИКА

26-10-2015			
Op. Broj	Strana	Tip	Podpis
19	303		

Ms. Phumzile Mlambo – Ngcuka
Under-Secretary General and Executive Director
UN Women
New York

Dear Ms. Ngcuka,

I would like to express the Republic of Macedonia's support to the United Nations gender equality campaign – Planet 50:50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action are part of the governing documents for creating equal opportunities and gender equality policies in the Republic of Macedonia. Therefore, the Government of Republic of Macedonia, through the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, regularly initiates and implements activities aimed at eliminating all forms of discrimination against women, whilst providing equal access and equal opportunities in all areas of social living at the same time.

The priorities of the Republic of Macedonia in the field of equal opportunities of women and men are included in the *National Strategy for Gender Equality 2013-2020* adopted by the Government and the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia.

It is with strong commitment and dedication that the Government of the Republic of Macedonia will continue its work in the field of gender equality and empowerment of women. The key priorities in the aforesaid field for the following years can be classified in several points:

- The Government of the Republic of Macedonia is committed to continue its efforts for prevention and protection against domestic violence via effective implementation of the National Strategy for Prevention and Protection against Domestic Violence 2012—2015 and combating violence against women via effective implementation of the new Law for prevention and protection of family violence.
- In the year of 2015, the efforts of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia will focus on enhancing the legal and institutional framework for countering all types of domestic violence by strengthening the rule of law, with a particular emphasis on strengthening the capacities of the judges and public prosecutors for identifying and working on cases of domestic violence.
- The Government of the Republic of Macedonia will continue to enhance the quality and access to services for providing support to domestic violence victims by

strengthening the capacities of the service providers and expanding the scope of the services providing care.

- Working towards this end, the Government will continue to conduct activities for prevention of domestic violence among parents and children in order to break the cycle of violence, as well as to provide support to the victims directly or indirectly witnessed violence.
- Promotion of the legislation and the compliance thereof with the *Law on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men*, for greater and more efficient protection of women and improvement of the position of women in all spheres of the social life. Efforts will also be made towards operationalization of the legal framework at the national and local level;
- The local self-government units and the state government bodies will be required to comply the acts for job positions systematization with the *Law on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men*, which should lead to better task performance;
- The next priority is related to the process of incorporating a gender perspective into the policies, budgets and programmes of the state government bodies and the local self-government units;
- Establishment of continuous inter-ministerial cooperation, support and coordination between the institutional mechanisms for gender equality at the local and national level, for maximum capacity utilization and efficient fulfilment of the tasks and obligations arising from the responsibilities of these mechanisms;
- Provision of increased financial assets within the state bodies and the local self-government units to support the activities directed towards promotion of gender equality;
- In addition to the fact that the State Statistical Office publishes statistical data for women and men, further efforts will be made for harmonized approach to the collection of data by sex, which will provide solid foundation for analyzing the conditions and creating policies that will lead to promotion of gender equality. For this purpose, the need for promotion of the statistical indicators and establishment of a harmonized system of indicators was identified, which will allow the participants to have access to the data for analysis of the situation, point out the shortcomings and provide appropriate and useful suggestions for further measures and activities.

Assuring you that the Republic of Macedonia will remain committed to the fulfillment of women and girl's rights please accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

