

The national report of the State of Qatar on

The complete and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

2014 - 2019

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<u>First Section: Priorities, achievements, challenges and obstacles</u> <u>during the last 5 years and the new and future priorities</u>

First: The main achievements, challenges and obstacles of reaching gender equality and women's empowerment in the last 5 years

The state of Qatar continues its increasing concern about human rights through making the required legislative, legal, administrative and other arrangements to establish those rights and provide the means whereby to confirm and develop them in the context of comprehensive social development. such concern is based on the country's national standards, foremost, the permanent constitution of the state of Qatar, Qatar's national vision 2030, the first national development strategy (2011 - 2016) and the second national development strategy (2018 - 2022). These standards form a supportive and solid environment to implement the requirements of human rights in accordance with the platform of actions promoted by the international conventions and agreements. Among that progress towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women throughout the last 5 years are the following:

• Promulgating the gender concept in all levels of government policies and programs.

• Qatar spares no effort to provide dignified livelihoods to its citizens and residents of all nationalities. It developed the policies that ensure the achievement of sustainable development for the Qatari citizens, including the comprehensive national development strategy that aims to transform Qatar into a country capable of maintaining sustainable development and providing a high level of living for the existing and future generations.

• The national policies of the state reflect the humanitarian and social aspects of development, and places high in its priorities the required strategies that meet the basic needs of citizens and enhance democracy and human rights, all hand in hand with upgrading transparency standards in dealing with and combating all forms of corruption to achieve good governance.

• The state confirms its solid belief in the importance of the role of all the segments of the society in achieving development. It is particularly concerned about the wellbeing of women, and exerts continuous efforts to upgrade their standard, strengthen their contribution, encourage their initiatives and provide the favorable environment for their empowerment through its increasing care for human rights. It also works to promulgate the gender concept in its policies and government programs. Such policies and strategies include the following:

• Labor market sector strategy (2011 - 2016), which aims at preparing competent workforce that is capable of meeting the priorities of the national development.

• labor market sector strategy (2018 - 2022) which aims at establishing a competitive labor market through which all the residents of Qatar can contribute in development, building a prosperous society and meeting the requirements of the existing generation without compromising the needs and rights of future generations, all through an effective participation by the workers, the achievement of a high level productivity and attracting and preserving a highly-skilled workforce and a modern and transparent information system that provides the data of both sides of offer and demand in the field of employment and training.

• Family cohesion and women's empowerment strategy (2011 – 2016), which aimed at:

o Enhancing the cohesion of the family

o Rationalizing the use of domestic workface and minimizing its effects

o Reducing the rate of domestic violence and providing protection and support for violence-stricken families

o Establishing an effective support system for the families that are in special situations like the families caring for disabled or old persons

o Supporting and empowering economically and socially-weak families, encouraging more spirit of financial responsibility and reducing the indebtedness of the Qatari families

o Supporting women to achieve equilibrium between the responsibilities of the family and employment

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o Working to empower women in all fields, particularly politically and economically

• National health strategy (2018 - 2022), which aims at achieving better health, better care and better value in the field of health services. this strategy is closely connected to achieving a (better health) in confirmation of the principle that the health of the population is the responsibility of all. It is also closely connected to the objective of upgrading the health of all through enhancing preventive health measures. It cares for women through (healthy women leading to healthy pregnancies) segment of the priority population group program in which it provides high quality healthcare services at all pregnancy stages, birth giving and thereafter. This new strategy is connected to the goals of the national health strategy 2011 - 2016, which aimed at making changes in the healthcare system and providing comprehensive, effective, inclusive, high quality and reasonably-priced healthcare services, taking into consideration the needs of all the segments of the society including men, women and children.

• National primary health strategy (2013 - 2018), which aimed at facing and dealing with the future health challenges through establishing a comprehensive and high quality primary health system

• Education and training strategy (2-11 - 2016), which aimed at establishing a world-class educational system through providing educational curricula and training programs that respond to the present and future needs of the work market, in addition to high quality educational and training opportunities compatible with the aspirations and capabilities of each person, and inclusive continuous education programs.

• National social protection strategy (2011 - 2016), which aimed at renewing the commitment towards the Arab and Islamic values and principles in such a way as to preserve the Qatari family and make it the core objective of social development, encouraging the citizens to achieve all their potential through human development and ensuring fairness and respect of human rights.

• National traffic safety strategy (2013 - 2022), which aims at working to reduce the annual number of traffic accidents and traffic deaths, in addition to reducing the number of serious injuries resulting from traffic

accidents, as a step towards achieving the Qatari long-term traffic safety vision.

• National autism plan (2017 - 2021), which aims at developing a comprehensive and integrated plan to care for the persons suffering from autism in all ages.

• National human rights committee action plan (2017 - 2022), which aims at developing human right-related legislations and coordinating the efforts with regional and international governmental and nongovernmental organizations to establish and develop human rights protection mechanisms and arrangements, continue to promulgate human right culture in the Qatari society and educational curricula, provide support to protect the segments of the society most susceptible to violence and raise the executive competence and upgrade the performance of the committee.

• The State of Qatar's population policy (2017 - 2021), which aims at controlling population growth rate and reducing the rate and repercussions of population structure discrepancies. This policy includes an aspect about women and children that aims primarily to support women's social participation and set up the favorable circumstances to increasing their participation in the workforce while maintaining family cohesion and ensuring a healthy upbringing environment for children.

Second: Enacting legislations and laws to achieve gender equality in the rights to access economic and productive resources

Gender equality is an important developmental objective. It establishes suitable legal, social, economic and environmental rights that enable both sexes to participate effectively in the society to provide the basic requirements of living and benefit from the opportunities that development brings about.

No doubt that achieving justice among the citizens is one of the priorities of the general policies in the State of Qatar. The constitution stipulates basic rights and freedoms for all citizens. The State of Qatar is a party to many agreements including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). In addition, the legislative infrastructure that ensures constitutional rights and honors international conventions is available and is strongly reflected in public policies and life in this country. The gender aspect was duly incorporated in the national public policies with a view to reach an effective participation and a comprehensive, fair and permanent development for men and women to bring about the required positive changes.

The attention to the social status of women has intensified and deepened in the legislative context. Laws and legislations in the State of Qatar were developed to cater for supporting the cohesion of the Qatari family, protecting its members and preserving its basic values, while keeping pace They are with development and the spirit of the times, particularly with regard to updating human rights legislations and introducing and developing the legislations that protect the rights of women. The Qatari women enjoy all the following rights:

• The state's permanent constitution stipulates in Article (34) that "citizens are equal in rights and duties", and in Article (35) that "all persons are equal before the law; and there shall be no discrimination whatsoever on grounds of gender, race, language or religion."

• Article (23) of the permanent constitution prescribes that "the state shall foster public health, provide the means of prevention of disease and epidemics, and promote their cure in accordance with the law; and Article (25) provides that "education is one of the basic pillars of social progress; and that the state shall ensure, foster and promote education."

• The Qatari permanent constitution confirms in Article (42) that "the State shall ensure the right of citizens to vote and to be elected in accordance with the law ."

• The Qatari permanent constitution confirms in Article (49) that "all citizens have the right to education, and the state shall endeavor to make general education compulsory and free of charge in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations of the state."

Within the context of the Qatari legislator's keenness to preserve the best interests of women, several decisions and laws that guarantee the rights of women were introduced, including:

• The Amiri decision No (22) for 2017 that prescribes the appointment of 4 Qatari women as members in the Shura Council (advisory council),

confirming the state's belief in the importance of women's role in the legislative body of the state and supporting their rights established by the constitution .

• Civilian human resources law No (15) for 2016, followed by the decision of the council of ministers No (32) on the executive regulations thereof, which provides for gender equality in rights, duties and wages. Article (73) of the law prescribes a two-month maternity paid leave, while Article (83) of the executive regulations thereof offers a daily two-hour breast feeding time for two years. Article (74) of the law offers the Qatari female employee a leave with full pay to care for her disabled children or those suffering from diseases that require a special attention from the mother. Article (77) offers the Muslim widowed female employee al iddah leave (the period prescribed by Islamic law, from the date of the death of the husband, during which she may not remarry), for 4 months and 10 days or until she gives birth if she were pregnant. Such period shall not be deducted from the balance of her other leaves. The concerned female employees or whom she may authorize must notify her employer of the death of her husband and provide a proof for that.

• Law No. (1) of 2014 regulating the activities of nursery schools, which was issued to encourage the establishment of nursery schools for children under the age of 4 to facilitate the participation of women in the work market and provide the required protection for children during their mothers' work hours.

Third: The state's development plans to enhance women's right to employment

As a result of the state's developmental efforts and plans originating from its policies to encourage women's employment and open all avenues of wellbeing before them and the higher educational standards achieved by the educational policies, women were able to make great progress in the map of the workforce in the State of Qatar. Those efforts and plans include:

• Continuing the development of legislations in all fields, and confirming the rights of women through removing the provisions discriminating against women from the laws. The following are the most important provisions issued in this respect:

• Giving priority in employment in the public sector to Qataris and the sons and daughters of Qatari women and men from, respectively, non-Qatari husbands and wives in support of the of the Qatari woman who is married to a non-Qatari .

• Providing for gender equality in the wages of the same work in all fields including the private sector.

Social services and training:

In respect of the social services in relation to encouraging and supporting women to combine their family responsibilities and work requirements, efforts exerted by the state to encourage the establishment nurseries lead to increase the numbers of social services in addition to the establishment of multi centers to serve the working women.

- Rank of the State of Qatar in the international indexes "the international monitor for the entrepreneurship in 2016, and the Index of business practice issued by World Bank in 2017.

- The State of Qatar came first in the Index of equal business opportunities between gender, in the report of "the world Index of entrepreneurship in 2016, which materialize within a pioneer world initiative that monitor and compare the level of entrepreneurship between 65 countries and was issued by respectable universities of which, is Babson University, the State of Qatar also acquired the 12th. Grade in the earliest entrepreneurship between gender.

- For the second consecutive year, the State of Qatar came 83 internationally out of 190 countries and came 83 in the business practice index, which issued by the World Bank. The State of Qatar maintained the rank 83 of the previous year 2017, in spite of the economic and political challenges it has experienced after the imposition of the unjust diplomatic and economic blockade in 5th. June 2017.

Ensure the promotion and protection of women's rights

The State of Qatar is a partner in many international and regional agreements and conventions that enshrine the human rights of women, of these is the Agreement for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, which was ratified by the State of Qatar in 2009.

- The state has adopted a proactive and protective policy to protect the human rights in general and the human rights of women in particular; such has been represented in the formulation of Qatar vision 2030, where its pillars refer to the enhancement of women abilities and empowerment." Such policy also expresses the strongest faith of the state of Qatar that the enhancement of the human rights of women is connected to an active devotion to rights and duties of the family, the natural and basic unit of the society who contributes actively in realizing the sustainable development.

- The state has been working in realizing gender equality and women empowerment through giving priorities within the development program to the initiatives that aim to strengthen the social and economic empowerment of women and family empowerment. The state has achieved bigger steps in that direction especially, in the field of universalization of education and health care in addition to improving the living standard of the individual. All these translated when the state of Qatar occupied advance rank in the International Human Development Report of 2016, issued by the UN development program. Qatar achieved top rank of the Arab Counties and occupied the 33th. Of the World rank, it also got the 33th .

Qatar ranked twenty fifth in the world and the third in the Arab world in the competitive index of 2017-2018, the Index measures the variables that contribute in driving the cycle of production and prosperity for 137 countries around the world in accordance to various standards among these are the educational, infrastructure, training, competence and volume of the labor market, development of the capital market and business environment, technology and innovation.

- The State of Qatar has taken all steps in all fields especially, in politics, economics, social and cultural fields to ensure the development and progress of women and guaranteeing their practicing of their rights, basic freedom and enjoy these in the same footing with men. Off course achieving any progress and development for women and guaranteeing the durability of such, in a manner that fulfill that women are practicing all their rights and basic freedoms in an equal footing with men is considered a matter of available driving mechanism for that progress with awareness to its requirements and data to implement and follow up its programs and to deal with its problems.

- The state has been keen in implementing the principle of equality among its citizens and works on integrating of women issues especial, in relation to decent work and enhancing the social protection for women in all strategies and national plans, of these is the common strategy for the family.

- In the framework of equality between gender and women empowerment, the State of Qatar has scored a big progress in achieving parity between gender in the field of education in all its stages.

- The state of Qatar has been able to achieve a bigger achievement in reducing infant mortality rates. For children below 5 years one third achieved. This achievement is attributed to social, economic and active health policies pursued by the state, by contributing in the provision of all forms of the basic health needs for children with ensuring a better standard by implementing of proper child clinic in most clinic centers around the country, as well as the fascination campaigns against endemic and infectious diseases which include all children, health awareness campaigns done by various child health authorities.

Fourth: Achievement of the state in the last five years in the field of strengthening of the participation of women in the public life and decision-making:

Policies and measures taken by the state to support the women participation in the public life through recognizing participation in work and parental responsibilities:

1. The state is seeking to achieve a balance between the professional and family responsibilities of women and taking care of the women workers situation in order to improve their performance by provision of a suitable work environment that fulfill their needs, understand their nature and enhance their role within the family .

2. Work to strengthen women role in the community by the provision of support to help them in achieving a balance between their family's roles and professional roles .

3. The importance of a better balance between the work and family responsibilities, that aims for improving the support provided to the

working family especially, women as well as implementing policies that help women to harmonize between family responsibilities and work.

4. Provision of the policies that are necessary to empower women to work to achieve the needed balance between the work and the family as well as enhancement of their role in general in the community through their participation in work .

5. Adoption of policies that help women to harmonize between work and family responsibilities as a main goal for empowering women. One of the proposed ways and mechanisms to achieve this goal is by expansion in establishing nurseries and child gardens at work places to help women to keep their jobs and build a family .

6. The state works to provide the education and higher qualification for women, which is contributing to the employment opportunities for women. Qatari women are given employment opportunities and higher qualifications training and are involved in the employment market in its various specialties, women occupies various leadership posts and all these goals and constitutional ingredients translated into special laws, the most important of which is Qatar labor law No.14 of the year 2004, and its amendment, which approved the principle of equality between a man and a woman in respect to job, remuneration and caring of a woman as a mother and as a labor in matters like equality and additional protection, and the civil human resources law No. (15) For the year 2016, this law does not discriminate between a man and a woman and it puts a unified standard for the choice, i.e. job occupation based on merit and through advertisement.

IN the framework of promoting, the participation of the Qatari women in the economic field there taken numerous legislative measures to protect the rights of women workers. The human resources law (applicable to both male and female workers in the private sector) and the labor law, which provides equal rights for a man and a woman in wages, training and the promotion opportunities .

The ministry of the administration development, labor and social affairs in the state of Qatar to empower women and the provision of the circumstances that help women to compromise between her role in the family and her work through cooperation with the competent authorities in this respect. The efforts of state have been fruitful in mobilizing the Qatar women to play their role in the development in various political, economic and social fields which is the thing that established Qatar pioneering role in caring of the women position and activating her role as an active citizen in the community.

In addition, Qatari women are - Thank to the efforts of the supportive state to activate the women's participation in various aspects of life including, the economic and investment aspects- not merely following-up the investment market but also one of the drivers of the investment where their presence accompanied by diversification in the fields and various activities which they practice .

Fifth: Priorities designated by the state in the last 5 years to further empower women in the field of free expression in the media including through ICT and participation in the decision-making

Among the achievements and priorities taken by the state to further empower women and their participation in the decision-making in the media and the leadership initiative in the State of Qatar to give the Qatari women the rights to vote and run for the local council at the end of the nineties, in line with the international commitments in empowering women and the public participation in the decision-making and so on. The most important of this was the result of the continuous investment in education social, economic and cultural development. Women follow-up and adapt to this change.

The community does not denounce the presence of women in any field even in the media, which is one of the fields in which women faced hardships in the beginning, like other women in the Arab countries. Women gone to spread awareness, on the local media pages or at the TVs. Women nowadays have an active and prominent role in the media and in the Press, by writing on the newspaper pages or in the media.

One can say, that the role of Qatari women in Qatar society is outstanding since older days, women work is not an emergency in our culture. For in the form of driving for pearl hunting which was a basic source of work in the Gulf states that necessitate men absence in the sea for months in search of their livelihood. Women at that time administer their homes as well did various handcrafts in trade and agriculture but, with the negative contemporary secretions of the modern development, we come to realize many unprecedented phenomena's that caused disorders in the social fabric likewise, the spread of the servants, their participation in the family life and the prevalence of some negative phenomena that led to family disintegration which the thing that reinforced the need to establish and build governmental and private voluntary institutions to address such problems and to work for achieving the stable and normal family life.

Women activist in social and voluntary fields in Qatar have reached a conviction of the importance for women to participate in the decisionmaking centers and issuance of the legislations to influence actively the problems, which they encounter. Establishing the organizations of the civil societies and the provisions of social clubs and other communal activities as well as the participation of women in them is considered one of the assistant indirect factors on level of the community, which lead to empowerment, and integration of women in the community to be educated and gain experiences through building social networks, acquiring information and participating in the development of their communit .

Sixth: New and future achievements and priorities of the state of Qatar in the field of enhancing gender equality and empowering women as part of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action

The state of Qatar has adopted a number of measures on the political and procedural levels to guarantee the promotion of women as the following:

• Establishing of national mechanisms to care with women issues, which contributed instituting the work to achieve equal opportunities and equality on the level of policymaking and the implementation of the programs .

• Reviewing the national legislation that discriminate against women and its amendment to become consistent with the international instruments as well as introducing proposals for laws that will achieve equal opportunity and gender sensitive. In this respect labor law was amended plus criminal, election and personal status laws, for example raising the marriage age and passports and nationality laws. New laws were adopted like, the elimination of trafficking in persons, suppression of family violence and family law. The national instruments concerned with the women issue in the state of Qatar still exerting the efforts to achieve more achievements in this field .

• The provision of free legal help, psychological rehabilitation and providing shelter for women and victims of violence.

• Increase interest in the provision of statistical selection based on gender, and this led to building capabilities of the institutional mechanisms concerned with the official statistic.

• Commitment to preparation of national periodical reports in relation to the international conventions and agreements which ratified by the state.

• Allocation of budgets to implement programs that aim to achieve equality and equal opportunities .

• Taking precautionary measures like quota in order to enhance women political participation in addition to increase the percentage of women appointment at the decision making sites, where the Qatari women participated in the local council election that began in 1998 by 47 pre-cent after the approval of the right of election and nomination for the Qatari women in 1997.

• The state incorporated gender in its general national policy in the framework of its permanent keenness to the equality between man and woman and the empowerment of women. Where the state policy based on the continuation in the economic reform and support of the activities. Where women participate in all fields in the government and private sectors. The state also encourages the regulation of cooperation and exchange of information and documents with all the concerned authorities about women, where the state of is part in it .

• Family department affairs at the ministry of the administrative development, work and social affairs have done many efforts and operational practices during 2017-2018, aiming to support and protect the women rights, of these we note:

• Achieving of programs and workshops for producing families in the field of developing the home projects.

• Participation in the local shows for the producing families within the traditional national celebrations.

• Supervising a number of sale outlets for the producing families given by supporting entities .

• Establishing the encouragement award (Qatari markets) for the productive families 2018, and the accompanying exhibition .

• Organization of programs on family cohesion aiming for the awareness of the family values .

- Strategy of the state of Qatar and national work plan enforce to achieve gender equality:

• Qatar National Vision 2030 drawn in accordance to the permanent constitution, which based on the values of justice, charity, freedom, equality, higher moral and equal opportunity for all citizens. The constitution defines the social justice as a base for regulation of economic institutions and the relationships between employee and employer as well defines the obligation of state to improve the quality of education, health and the active social protection in addition to women empowerment. The national strategy formulated on the same principles of the national vision. The National Strategy as the national work plans to achieve the national vision of Qatar 2030. This national strategy is only the national work plan enforced to achieve gender equality. The Second National Development Strategy 2008-2022, is consistent with the goals and the sustainable development agenda 2030 .

• There are four empowering factors constitute the social development pillars in Qatar vision 2030, that drew an integrated social policy for the state of Qatar. These main empowering factors represented in the sector of social protection strategy in the National Development Strategy 2018-2022. First, these are the social protection, family cohesion and women empowerment. Second, the public safety and security, third, culture, sport, and last is the international cooperation .

• The strategy of the social protection sector is a byproduct of an integrate efforts of the working team of the social protection led by the ministry of administrative development, work and social affairs. The national team include a wider level representation from the governmental

and private entities as well as the civil society institutes. The team been directed in its work by Qatar constitution, goals and ends of Qatar vision 2030, in the sphere of the social protection, the International declaration of human rights, Qatar ratification of the UN convention on the rights of child in 1995, the convention of the rights of persons with disabilities (2008) and the convention of elimination of all forms of discrimination against women 2009)

• On the intermediate result (2) in the strategy of sector of social protection within the second strategy of national development plan 2018-2022, (the intermediate result) a cohesive Qatari family, the definitive goal: 2,4 raising the level of achievement in the protection and preventive projects from violence with a yearly rate of range between 10% to 30% annually till 2022, where 2016 as the base year. Program1: Protection and prevention from violence, project1: Protection from violence and family disintegration, project 2: Rehabilitation and taking care of victims of violence and disintegration: project 3: children with violence, project 4: empowerment and education of women, project 5: social partnerships to combat violence.

- State of Qatar mechanisms and working plan to implement the recommendations of the committee of the elimination of discrimination against women, this considered within the positive discrimination for the women in the organization of the labor market .

- The legislation that regulates the labor market in Qatar adopted the same procedure of the permanent constitution and did not include any negative discrimination against women and not provide any differentiation between a man and a woman in salaries and job merits, on the contrary the discrimination is positive where the law No. (15) Of 2016, issued to issue the human resources and civil law and its executive regulation issue by a resolution of the council of ministers No.(32) of 2016, which regulates the provisions of public post in the state.

Features of the positive discrimination

- The legislator grant a female employee rights to get benefits and allowances given to the married male employee whereas her husband gets it on the group of the unmarried employee if the benefits for her are bigger than those decided to her husband (2 articles in the executive regulation).

- Grant the female employee a paid holiday if she have a child of disabilities or with diseases that require the mother accompanying her children (Art. 4 of the executive regulations).

- Grant the female employee a total wage to accompany her ill child during his stay in one of the public or private hospitals within the state (art. 88 of executive regulation).

- Grant the female employee birth leave with gross salary.

- Two hours daily under the name of two hours breastfeeding (art.83, executive reg.)

- Grand female employee whose husband died a 130 days leave, representing period of mourning in the Islamic law, this leave is not counted for from her other leaves (Art.77 of the law)

- Grand a woman who travel in an official mission or training mission the right to accompany one of the individual of her family, the employer bears the travel expense (art. 86 of the law).

On the other side the labor law issued by law No. (14) 2004 adheres to text of article (35) of the constitution, which is provisions do not contain any negative discrimination because of gender, it was positive in the following:

- Grant women equal pay for men when doing the same job, provide them with chances for training and promotion (art. 93)

- Grand women birth leave with full salary (art.96)

- Grand women 2 hours daily under the name on hour breastfeeding, with full salary.

- The project prohibit employing women in risky works, arduous or harmful to health or other work, defined by a resolution issued by the minister(art.94)

- Restriction to employ women in different times other than those specified by the minister (art.95).

- The law No. (15) Of 2017, had been issued on behalf of house servants, where the law puts this group under the protection of umbrella of

the law, and prohibits employers to appoint any employee without a contract and without getting approval from the department. The law also forbids employing the under age or those their age exceed sixty years from both sex .

Seventh: Achievements of the state of Qatar in the last 5 years in the field of strengthening national institutions concerned with gender equality

The state of Qatar enjoys a number of government national institutions that work to enhance and protect the human rights through exchange of information, consultation and material support, such are the following:

- The National Committee for Human Rights established in 2002, as an independent national institution to strengthen, respect and protection the human rights.

- The Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs, which was established in 2014 after the transfer of the powers of the Supreme Council for Family Affairs The Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Administrative Affairs is responsible for studying and following up on issues affecting the rights of children, women, persons with disabilities and the elderly.

- The Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Interior, which was established in 2005 as an intermediary between the National Human Rights Commission and the Ministry of the Interior on the one hand and between the public and the ministry on the other.

- Human Rights Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that was established in 2003 to follow up the human rights issues regionally and internationally.

- The Qatar Foundation for Social Work, established in July 2013 as a supervisory and coordinating body, aims to empower civil society organizations working under its umbrella to sustain family and community cohesion and human development. Its affiliated organizations include: Qatar Foundation for Protection and Social Rehabilitation - Senior Care Center (Ihsan), Orphan Care Center (Dreama), Family Counseling Center, Center Shafallah and Social Development Center. The Qatar Foundation for Social Work aims to contribute to the provision of the necessary social protection and awareness and rehabilitation of violence and social deviations in the State of Qatar.

Eighth: Priorities designated by the State of Qatar in the last 5 years in the field of building and keeping peace and encouraging the maintenance of peaceful and inclusive communities to achieve sustainable development and implement the agenda of women, peace and security

Measures taken to ensure an effective participation of women the peace operations:

The State of Qatar believes that gender equality, the empowerment of women and the protection of women's rights are essential elements of sustainable development and conflict prevention, and that women's effective participation in conflict resolution, humanitarian efforts, peacebuilding and political processes are essential to maintaining peace.

The State of Qatar is committed to continuing efforts to enhance the role of women in peace-building and supporting initiatives to provide security for the country.

The State of Qatar is keen to include the agenda of women and peace and the mediation efforts in resolving conflicts that are carried out by many region and that have been internationally welcomed.

The State has continued to support the empowerment of women to equality with men without discrimination in the representation of government at the international level. Qatar Vision 2030 supports the acquisition of the skills necessary to enable the full participation of society, including participation in the economic and political fields. Significant progress has been made in this area as the number of women in positions of leadership and decision-making positions has increased at the international level. Recently, the number of women working in the diplomatic corps has increased between 1996 and 2003, there were 18 women diplomats in the diplomatic corps. While this figure rose to 38 by 2010 and 83 in 2017. To date, the total number of women in the diplomatic corps is 90, of whom three are diplomats with the rank of ambassador.

Qatari women also hold diplomatic posts abroad, as well as women's membership in many international organizations, especially those working in the field of human rights and social development.

Women also hold senior leadership positions in institutions and organizations in civil society. Many women participate in the Board of Directors of the Supreme Councils, institutions and governmental bodies, in addition to their participation in the standing committees that formulate policies and strategies such as the Standing Committee for Science and the committees that are responsible for drafting the various legislations.

It is clear from the above that the march of the past years clearly shows a supportive political will to empower Qatari women and enhance their participation at the decision-making level in government.

The State of Qatar and the achievement of the United Nations goals for sustainable development 2030 for women's affairs

- Under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser, the Qatar Foundation for Social Action organized the Arab Conference on the Role of Civil Society in a Plan for Sustainable Development 2030 in Doha on 20-21 April 2016 in cooperation with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia), The United Nations Fund for Plagiarism and the Arab States and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Representatives from 21 Arab countries participated in the conference. One of the most important outcomes of the conference was the Doha Declaration on Civil Society in the Implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Plan.

- The conference aims to raise innovative ideas and listen to voices from various sectors of civil society and stakeholders from the Arab region on the challenges and opportunities facing the agenda of sustainable development plan 2030 and to work on the preparation and implementation of the road map at the national level. In which the responsible partnership between the various development actors is adopted as an approach to planning, implementation, monitoring and auditing.

- In line with the Doha Declaration of the Arab Conference on the Role of Civil Society in Implementing the Sustainable Development Plan

of 2030, and based on Articles 6 and 10 of this Declaration, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Qatar Foundation for Social Action and the United Nations Population Fund - Regional Office for Arab States on the promotion of joint cooperation and as detailed above, and the planned procedures for the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Foundation and the League of Arab States are underway. "Supporting Technical Cooperation to Implement the Objectives of the Arab Decade for Civil Society Organizations" to support the implementation of sustainable development goals.

Ninth: Achievements achieved by the State of Qatar in the past five years to increase the leadership and representation of women and the measures taken to assume leadership positions and participation in the development of solutions and the establishment of peace and humanitarian work

- The State of Qatar supports women to assume leadership positions and participate in the public administration of the State. This includes direct political rights, including the right to vote and stand for office in the municipal council, in accordance with international standards and in particular the international conventions ratified by the State of Qatar on women. All forms of discrimination against women.

- Where the Qatari women held many senior leadership positions and other leadership and supervisory positions in the State, where she held ministerial positions in the ministries of health, education and information systems, and the positions of deputy ministers and assistant secretaries and directors of departments in ministries and other government agencies, the public.

- In 2017 Four women were appointed, for the first time, as members of the Qatari Shura Council.

- Qatari women also hold other diplomatic posts in State missions abroad, as well as the membership of women in many international organizations, particularly those working in the field of human rights and social development, for example:

o Special Rapporteur on disability in the United Nations – former

o Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States for Humanitarian Relief.

o Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

o Member of the International Monitoring Committee for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - The State of Qatar.

O Member of the committee of The UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

- Qatari women also hold senior leadership positions in civil society institutions and organizations.

- Many women participate in boards of directors of higher councils, institutions and government bodies. They also participate in the permanent committees that formulate policies and strategies such as the Standing Committee for Population and the temporary committees that draw up various legislations.

- The march of the past years clearly shows a supportive political will to empower Qatari women and enhance their participation at the decision-making level in government.

Tenth: Achievements of the State of Qatar in the last 5 years in the field of enhancing judicial and non-judicial accountability in the violations of the international humanitarian law and women's and girls' human rights in armed conflict situations and other humanitarian and crisis response operations

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Qatar's national legislation issued in recent years reflects the state's increasing interest in promoting and protecting women's rights, eliminating discrimination between men and women and establishing equality between them in various fields, as well as empowering the State of Qatar and its

role in women's participation in the judiciary, the public prosecution and the diplomatic corps.

The State of Qatar also reaffirms its full commitment to the implementation of its obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to cooperate fully with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and other international and regional mechanisms. Women have exceeded national frameworks at the regional and international levels, and the State of Qatar has supported the Declaration of "Charlovaa" on the provision of quality education for girls by 2021 and pledged to provide education

The State of Qatar has also played an active role at the international level in the promotion and protection of women's rights and empowerment. The State of Qatar has provided financial support to several international initiatives in this area, including the support of the main resources of the United Nations Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the study on women, peace and security.

Eleventh: Achievements of the State of Qatar in the last 5 years in the field of eliminating discrimination against and violation of the rights of female children

- Among the achievements of the State is the establishment of the Department of Family Affairs in the Ministry of Administrative Development and Labor. The Department of Family Affairs and Social Affairs, which works to promote the rights of the child, has developed a hotline to provide special services for female children as follows:

First: For female children "child protection line", The Child Protection Line aims to:

1- A safety valve for the protection of children, in coordination with key partners (police, prosecutors and the judiciary) within an integrated system to facilitate the reporting of cases of child abuse or suspected cases of child abuse or neglect by their parents or others in home, street, school, and in society as a whole. After it has become clear from studies and research that violence leads to instilling violence in the child and helps to create a semi-gap between them and their family. 2- Provide safety, security and protection for all children by submitting phone calls, if a program is placed on the phone through a protection application, through which the report is communicated, as well as by e-mail via the Ministry's website.

3- Contribute to the solution of many problems and the treatment of social phenomena related to children such as school drop-outs and child labor (if any) and street children (if any)

Protect them from any threat to them while ensuring the rights of children with disabilities and children at risk, violence or exploitation.

4- Through the Hotline, the Department is engaged in greater cooperation with different sectors of society as an important step in preventing or stopping violations of children's innocence and protecting them from harm by communicating with the hotline, advising, supporting and taking appropriate action in this regard

5- To activate the role of the awareness campaigns carried out by the administration, which is considered to be supportive of the hotline and has an important role in preventing child abuse and neglect in order to prevent them from delinquency and committing crimes. These campaigns encourage all members of society to interact with them in order to prevent Child abuse and to prevent abuse or neglect.

6- The child protection line also includes the provision of protection for the disabled child and the realization of the right of the disabled child to develop his or her abilities to reintegrate into society and ensure that he or she has access to education, health and other benefits.

Second: the line of protection and empowerment of family and women, which aims to:

1- Respond to family and women inquiries and work to guide them and increase their awareness of the challenges and family issues and methods of prevention.

2- Coordinating with the competent authorities on the face of family and women violence.

3- Responding to inquiries regarding the economic and social empowerment of women

4- To inform women about the concept of microenterprises as a tool for empowering women

5- To develop women's capacities by listening to them and providing psychosocial and social assistance to them through 3 telephone calls by the listening team composed of women employees of academic and field trainees in this regard.

6- To sensitize the family and women about the importance of participating in projects and programs for developing women's capacities and empowerment implemented by the administration in coordination with competent governmental and non-governmental bodies

7- Engagement of family and women in development projects aimed at empowering individuals and families economically, and encouraging them to self-reliance.

8- Respond to the inquiries of the elderly and persons with disabilities through specialists, and contribute to meet their requirements

The Department shall also:

1- Work to add hotline and apply protection in the list of important numbers in the country and circulate it to all embassies of Arab and foreign countries in the state to identify the communities and the electronic reporting service.

2- Implementing a plan to organize specialized workshops for families and women as well as for students at various stages of introducing hotline and electronic reporting. This plan will continue annually

3- Dealing with issues related to the family, women and children in particular and accepting their reporting, whether by contacting, writing or speaking with people, from different segments of the public from all Arab and foreign nationalities and taking the necessary measures.

4- Provide legal, psychological and social counseling in the field of protection of the family, women and children through a specialized and qualified staff trained to deal with such cases, and some cases are referred

to the concerned authorities to take care of confidentiality and privacy: cases requiring quick response to be coordinated with the concerned authorities to provide the necessary support in the fastest response time and cases that require the implementation of investigative procedures and provide social and psychological support.

5- Take care of call archiving for reference when needed.

6- There is a working group for the protection of the family and children (the child - the disabled - women - the elderly) in the administration. This committee includes partners from the concerned parties and representatives of civil society, and its mission is to contribute to the formulation of family and childhood policies.

7- The child protection team receives complaints about cases of child endangerment and has direct coordination with the competent authorities to summon the child, his or her parents, or his / her guardian, to listen to their statements, to examine the complaints submitted and to work on their removal.

8- Addressing the problem of violence against the family and women through conducting research and studies to uncover the extent and causes of these problems and provide protection for their victims, train their employees and carry out public information campaigns to raise awareness of these problems

9- Implement a program to sponsor and support productive families and provide outlets to market their products permanently in exhibitions and seasonal events

Twelfth: The achievements made by the state in the last 5 years to include gender-related concepts and considerations in environmental policies

The State of Qatar affirms that it has made significant progress in achieving the goals of achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls and working towards gender equality and the realization of women's human rights and empowerment through all elements of the sustainable development agenda. The State of Qatar has made significant progress in achieving the goals of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. The State of Qatar, based on the constitutional foundations of promoting gender equality, has provided women with access to education, access to health, In various fields of work as well as political participation.

A State has worked to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women by giving priority to development programs for initiatives to promote women's economic and social empowerment and to strengthen and empower the family. The State of Qatar has taken great strides towards achieving these goals, especially in the area of universal education, health care and the environment, and improving the standard of living of the individual.

As part of its efforts to promote the integration of gender perspectives and concerns into environmental policies, the State of Qatar has:

- Development of capacity to adapt to climate change - Support climate change adaptation planning and mitigation; regional and national impacts, including disaster risk reduction and urban-based adaptation planning, through comprehensive consultations, planning and gender analysis processes.

- Energy Efficiency - Ensuring equal access to training and innovation in energy renewable, technology and skills development.

- Chemicals and waste management - To enhance planning for the management of chemical waste and grazing waste for a gender perspective, through socio-economic impact assessments and vulnerability analysis of the needs and capacities of men and women.

- Maintain biodiversity - promote greater understanding and consideration of the different roles, needs and capacities of men and women in biodiversity conservation planning and overall integration into social and economic activities.

- Knowledge management - narrowing gender gaps through the provision of tools and resources, such as the Gender Toolkit.

- Access to funding - Strengthen the gender budget to ensure equitable access to finance and promote gender considerations in environmental and development projects, including global climate funds such as adaptation funds, the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility.

- Monitoring and evaluation - support M & E and gender-inclusive adaptive management through strong baseline and gender indicators, and ensure participation and mainstreaming of successes in gender mainstreaming.

- Gender awareness - awareness raising and involvement of partners, stakeholders and local institutions to exchange knowledge and experience, to demonstrate best practices in gender equality and inclusiveness, and to involve gender experts in national and global dialogue.

- Gender Equality and Human Rights – Adoption of a gender and human rights- based approach regarding the adaptation efforts with climate change, mitigation of its impacts, the promotion of comprehensive initiatives for green growth to ensure equal rights in pure water, energy and air as well as the access to natural resources.

Second Section: Measures taken in the last 5 years to enhance gender equality in the 12 critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform of <u>Action</u>

First: Measures taken by the State of Qatar in the last 5 years to enhance gender equality in the 12 critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform of Action, including the role of women in paid work and employment

National legislations issued in recent years have focused on promoting the rights of women, eliminating discrimination between women and men, as well as establishing the rules of equality among them in various fields. The texts of national laws have all used the general form when it comes to the determination of rights or the identification of obligations placed on those to whom such provisions are addressed, so that there will be no possibility of discrimination between men and women. Qatari women have held many senior leadership posts and other leadership and supervisory positions in the country, such as the ministerial positions in the ministries of health, education and information systems, as well as deputy ministers, assistant

deputy ministers, heads of departments in ministries and other government agencies. Women have also assumed positions in the judiciary and senior posts in the Public Prosecution as well as the membership.

-The Amiri Decree No. (22) of 2017 included the appointment of four Qatari women as members of the Shura (Consultative) Council, affirming the State's belief in the importance of women's role in the state's legislative apparatus and in supporting their rights enshrined in the Constitution.

On the level of measures and action:

-The Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs was established under the Amiri Decree No. (4) of 2016, reflecting the official interest in the need for a higher national governmental body to be concerned with the family and women in particular as well as their future needs and aspirations in accordance with the overall vision of development "Qatar National Vision 2030."

-The Department of Family Affairs is the body responsible for all matters related to women's affairs. It aims to strengthen the status and role of women in society, advance women, maintain a strong and cohesive family that cares for their children and is committed to ethical and religious values and ideals. The Department of Family Affairs also contributes to the implementation of national strategies, plans and policies related to women. It is responsible for providing social welfare, preparing and developing social development programs and following-up their implementation in coordination with the competent authorities. To achieve this, it is entitled to exercise all the necessary powers and competencies, including:

The development of strategies, policies and programs that contribute to the welfare of women and achieving their interests, ensuring their social security and stability, and working to achieve the objectives set forth in the international instruments on women's affairs.

□ Follow-up all efforts aiming to implement the international conventions on women's affairs and rights to which the State is a party.

Sharing opinions on the draft agreements concluded in the field of women's protection, working to strengthen the capacities of women, empowering them to participate economically and politically, especially in

matters related to decision-making as well as increasing employment opportunities for women and supporting them professionally.

Proposing draft legislative instruments relevant to women's affairs, as well as cooperation with international and regional bodies and organizations concerned with women's affairs.

□ Representation of the State in conferences and regional and international committees concerned with women's affairs, in addition to holding conferences, seminars, panel discussions, and conducting research on issues related to women.

Efforts and practical practices carried out by the Department of Family Affairs on women during 2016-2017:

• The completion of the training program and training workshops for productive families in the area of developing home projects; (5programs).

• Participation in local exhibitions of the productive families within the national and heritage celebrations; (6 exhibitions).

• The Department oversees a number of sale points for the productive families donated by the supporting bodies: 7 points, 15 outlets and 6 kiosks.

• The establishment of promotional prize for the productive families 2017 and accompanying exhibition (Qatari markets).

• The organization of programs on family cohesion aimed at raising awareness over the role of values in the family, (7 programs during the year).

As part of the work to develop the participation of Qatari women in the economic sphere, several legislative measures have been taken to protect the rights of women workers, where the Human Resources Act (which applies to workers of both gender in the public sector) and the Labor Code (which applies to workers of both gender in the private sector) provide equal rights for men and women in wages, training and promotion opportunities.

In the area of work, the economic empowerment of women is considered to be an effective means of promoting the economic level of the family and society, and the State works to support women in the formal and informal sectors, especially a woman who sponsors a family.

In the area of decision-making and political empowerment, the active participation of women in decision-making circles has been promoted through expanding the opportunities, options and alternatives available to them. Such participation requires the development of women and the development of their capacities and potentials in order to possess the elements of power that enable them to bring about change in their society.

Second: Enhancing the favorable environment to finance gender equality efforts and women's empowerment

The State of Qatar has adopted a number of measures at the political and procedural levels to ensure the development of women, as follows:

• The establishment of national mechanisms on women's issues, which have contributed to the institutionalization of equal opportunity and equality at the policy-making level and the implementation of programs.

• Reviewing and amending national legislation that is discriminatory to women in order to be in line with international instruments, as well as submitting proposals for laws that will achieve equality of opportunity and gender-sensitive aspects. In this respect, Labor Code, Penal Code, Election Code and Personal Status Code have been amended, such as raising the age of marriage, laws on passports and nationality, and new laws have been adopted, such as the fight against human trafficking, domestic violence and family law. National mechanisms for women's issues in Qatar continue to exert efforts towards further achievements in this area.

• Provision of free legal assistance, psychological rehabilitation and shelter for women victims of violence.

• Increasing attention on the provision of sex-disaggregated statistics, which has led to capacity-building of institutional mechanisms concerned with official statistics.

• Adherence to the preparation of periodic national reports relating to international treaties and conventions ratified by the State.

• Allocating budgets to implement programs aimed at achieving equal opportunities and gender equality.

• The state has incorporated gender into its national public policies in the context of its constant concern for equality between men and women and the empowerment of women. The policy of the State is to continue the policies of economic reform and support of activities, and the Government is integrating gender into economic and social reform programs, where women participate in all spheres of the public and private sectors. The State also encourages the organization of cooperation and the exchange of information and documents with all women's stakeholders to which the State is a party.

• The Department of Family Affairs of the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs has carried out numerous efforts and practical practices during the years 2017-2018 to promote and protect the rights of women, including inter alia:

- Delivery of programs and training workshops for productive families in the field of home-based project development.
- Participation in local exhibitions of productive families within the heritage and national celebrations.
- Supervising a range of sales outlets for productive families granted by the supporting entities.
- Establishment of the promotional prize (Qatari markets) for the productive families in 2018 and the accompanying exhibition.
- Organizing programs on family cohesion with a view to raising awareness of the role of values in the family.

Third: Measures taken by the State of Qatar in the last five years to recognize the unpaid care and domestic work and to enhance the compatibility between the family and work

One of the measures taken by the State in this regard is the promulgation of Law No. 13 amending the provisions of Law No. 21 of 2015 and Act No. 1 of 2017, which guarantees the freedom of movement of migrant workers by revoking exit permits for most migrant workers in the State of Qatar, where the International Labor Organization (ILO) has welcomed the promulgation of this Law by His Highness the Amir. The State of Qatar's legislation and operational procedures aimed at providing an empowering environment for women's employment, ensuring their participation in public life and balancing work and family requirements have also contributed to supporting Qatari women to demonstrate their ability and success by taking a leading role in all walks of life, where she has held ministerial positions, presided over universities, successfully engaged in the diplomatic corps, and assumed positions in the judiciary and the Public Prosecutor's Office ; thus setting an example to be followed in the region. Qatari women also participate in decision-making in the Shura Council, which is empowered to legislate, approves the general budget of the State and supervises the executive authority, after appointing four distinguished women to the Legislative Council through a decision issued by His Highness the Amir.

Qatari women have been able to represent their country aptly in many regional and international forums and have been elected to several committees concerned with the implementation of international conventions, including the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

The State of Qatar has also made important strides in the process of intergenerational solidarity, the promotion of social integration and sustainable development, whereby the following:

• Qatar has been investing in Qatari nationals since the 1950s.

• The state has developed a comprehensive strategy to provide a high standard of living for present and future generations.

• Qatar is committed to fulfilling its obligations to the international community to achieve development.

• The state has paid special attention to young people and has made continuous efforts to promote them.

• The family is at the hub of sustainable Development.

• The state cares for the elderly and persons with disabilities and adheres to all their requirements.

• Qatar considers culture to be an essential component of development and the promotion of human rights.

• Sport; as a tool to promote social cohesion and accelerate development.

One of the important policies to promote the role of women is the establishment of the Department of Family Affairs in the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs, pursuant to the Amiri Decree No. (6) of 2016, on the organizational structure of the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs, where the State has established a department to take care of family affairs, meet their needs, and to support and promote the empowerment of women and their full rights. The Department also contributes to supporting Arab women's issues by attending important conferences and meetings dealing with issues of women's affairs regionally, in the Arab world and internationally. The Department also plays a major role in developing and enhancing the role of women, caring for their families, providing all their requirements and providing the necessary support for their advancement.

Fourth: Measures taken by the State of Qatar in the last five years to reduce and eradicate poverty among women and girls

Guided by the objectives of the Qatar National Vision 2030 and the directives of the state senior leadership, and consistent with the goals of the Nations for sustainable development 2030, the social protection strategy 2022-2017, which will work to achieve social development requirements through the implementation of strategic policies, has been developed. The programs and mechanisms that will contribute to the promotion of social protection for all citizens, the empowerment of different groups of society, the requisite skills and the voices of freedom from need and fear, and the enjoyment of their rights to lead a healthy, dignified and safe life while preserving the value system and community culture. Social protection is an integrated and systematic component of sound social development aimed at the well-being of the State of Qatar and its citizens. We believe in a safe, secure and stable society from all the social risks and diseases that threaten its entity. The framework of the social protection strategy is based on three pillars: social welfare, Social capital and the foundation of the Qatari family, on the basis of which, by consensus, representatives of sector-related stakeholders determined the strategic priorities of the sector to achieve results:

1. Establishing an integrated, effective and sustainable social welfare system.

2. Building a strong, cohesive and empowered Qatari family.

3. Increasing the scope and effectiveness of social capital.

The state has incorporated gender into its national public policies in the context of its constant concern for equality between men and women and the empowerment of women. The policy of the State is to continue the policies of economic reform and support of activities where the Government is integrating gender into economic and social reform programs and women participate in all spheres of public and private sectors. The state also encourages the organization of cooperation and the exchange of information and documentations with all women's stakeholders to which the State is a party, in particular the ESCWA women's division, where information, good practices and lessons learned are exchanged in the context of women's empowerment and gender equality.

Empowerment programs, including the following:

• Existing projects and programs for economic empowerment: These include the following: The Sponsoring Women's Project, the Small Grants Project, The Working Women's Program, the Multi-Purpose Development Project.

• Existing projects and programs for social empowerment: which include, Projects of Medical and Health care, Project of supporting Efforts of Education of the Elderly and literacy, and the Office of Women's Complaints.

• Existing projects and programs for political empowerment: Which include women's political rehabilitation.

• Existing projects and programs to emphasize women's awareness and access to their legal rights, including the Ministry's activities in the area of legislation, follow-up the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and followup the Beijing Platform for Action 1995.

• Existing projects and programs for the cultural development of women: Which include, Women; the Keepers of Heritage and Media Monitoring Project.

• Existing projects and programs for gender mainstreaming in development plans: National Plan for the advancement of Qatari women, Project on the Integration of Women into the State Economic and Social Development Plans, Gender Equality Measurement Project by using Gender disaggregated Statistics, The project on Economic Policies Responsive to Gender needs.

Fifth: Measures taken by the State of Qatar in the last 5 years to improve access to social protection for women and girls

Comprehensive social protection systems observing gender differences

Qatar National Vision 2030 embodies the principles of Qatar's permanent constitution and envisions an effective social protection system that guarantees civil rights for all Qataris, values their contribution to the development of their society and ensures adequate income for them to maintain a healthy and dignified life.

Qatar National Vision 2030 sets several goals for social protection, namely:

• Building an effective social protection system for all Qataris, that takes care of their civil rights, values their active participation in the development of their society and guarantees sufficient income for them in order to maintain a decent and healthy life.

• Developing a sound social structure with effective public institutions and active civil society organizations.

• Qatar National Vision 2030 also aims to foster a just and cohesive society based on high ethical standards.

As the social policy of the State of Qatar aims to ensure that government and civil society activities are aimed at promoting social and human development in an economically and environmentally sustainable welfare society, the development of an integrated social policy should ensure that all elements of Qatar National Vision 2030 are aligned and directed towards achieving the general objectives, gender equality and the empowering of all women and girls, through establishing the following:

• Elimination of all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.

• Elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls in both public and private sectors, including human trafficking, sexual exploitation and other forms of exploitation.

• Elimination of all harmful practices, such as child marriage, early marriage, forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

• Recognition and appreciation of unpaid care works women do as well as domestic work through the provision of public services and infrastructure, the development of social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and family, as appropriate at the national level.

• Ensuring the full and effective participation of women and equal opportunities for women to lead on a par with men at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

• Ensuring that everyone has access to sexual and birth giving health services as well as to birth giving rights, as agreed in accordance with the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Platform for Action and the final documents of their review conferences.

• Undertaking reforms to grant women equal rights in economic resources, as well as access to the right of ownership and disposition of land and other property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.

• Promoting the use of enabling technology, particularly information and communication technologies, in order to promote the empowerment of women.

• Adopting sound policies and enforceable legislations as well as strengthening the existing policies and legislations in this respect to promote gender equality and empower all women and girls at all levels.

Sixth: Measures taken by the State of Qatar in the last 5 years to improve the results and skills gained by women and girls through education

Measures and actions taken in the field of education:

Education is the most important means of empowering women through providing them with the knowledge and skills necessary for effective the participation in the development process.

• Qatar's commitment to achieving equality and gender parity in education and benefiting from its opportunities in all its forms is clearly reflected in the legislations and laws issued by the State, which are free of discrimination and its forms, such as the Qatari Constitution which has established Qatar's full commitment to the principle of gender equality.

• The objectives of Qatar Vision 2030 support the empowerment of Qatari women in all professional fields without any discrimination. In the same context the Amiri Decree No. (25) was issued, in September 2001, on compulsory education for all children in the State of Qatar from the beginning of the primary stage to the preparatory stage or the age of 18 years whichever is earlier. This Decree was followed by the Amiri Decree No. (28) of 2009, which included the approval of Qatar's accession to the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

• Women at Qatar University have taken leadership positions as men, which constitutes a clear indication of gender equality in this regard.

Seventh: Measures taken by the State of Qatar in the last five years to integrate gender equality concept in the policies and programs to control disaster risks and mitigate climate effect:

The Government of the State of Qatar has given particular attention to the humanitarian perspective in formulating strategies for sustainable development, as well as in all government programs and policies, including the labor market sector strategy and the social protection sector strategy. The Government of the State of Qatar is also keen to take into account gender and equitable representation of women in the formation of national committees, boards of directors and task forces in ministries and public institutions. Heeding for women's social conditions has also witnessed an increase in the legislative context where the Permanent Constitution of the State stipulates that "All persons are equal before the Law and there shall be no discrimination whatsoever on grounds of gender, race, language or religion". The Constitution also guarantees the right to health, education, election and candidacy, where several resolutions and laws guaranteeing women's rights have been issued. In a short period, the State of Qatar has achieved a remarkable social and economic transformation towards the advancement of women's status. The Government Sending Abroad Program and Job Seekers Program of Both Sexes are among the most important programs launched to enable women access the labor market.

The Government has paid great attention to the economic and professional empowerment of women, the promotion of their right to work, the provision of decent work and the promotion of social protection for them in all national strategies and plans. The participation of Qatari women in the labor market is about 37% for women between the ages of 25 and 29, 49% for the age group of 30 to 34 years, and the representation of women in decision-making positions is 30%, according to official statistics.

Qatari women have become a key partner in economic development where the State of Qatar is ranked first in the index of gender equality in business accessibility in the 2016 Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Report. The report pointed out to the creation of an annual award for businesswomen to be given to the most prominent businesswoman who has contributed more to the Qatari society and the national economy.

Qatar ranked third in the Human Development Report, ranked first in the Arab world, ranked 25th in the world, ranked second in the Arab countries in the Global Competitiveness Index of 2018-2017, ranked first in the Arab world and fourth in the quality of education in 140 countries According to the Education Quality Index issued by the World Economic Forum in

Davos 2017. The State of Qatar has also been able to close the gender gap in relation to different educational stages, according to the report of the Forum.

The State of Qatar also affirms its commitment to the political and administrative empowerment of women. It has appointed Qatari women to the positions of minister, ambassador, director and private sector and civil society organizations, as well as judge and attorney, and members of the Shura Council, the Legislative Council of the State of Qatar.

The State of Qatar has undertaken national and international efforts in the field of education and the advancement of women to promote peace and security in societies and has contributed to the global study on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325/2000 on women, peace and security, which has been welcomed by the international community and the State of Qatar has taken a number of policies and measures to support women's participation in public life by recognizing partnership in work and parental responsibilities, including balancing women's professional and including the harmonization of family responsibilities and work as one of the most important goals of the empowerment of women. The planning and statistics organization of Qatar implements the latest internationally recognized methodologies to measure progress in the implementation of the goals of sustainable development and the aims of each goal.

Eighth: Integrating gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls as a main priority in the national strategic plan to implement the agenda of sustainable development

The fifth objective of "gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls" is a key priority in Qatar's 2030 sustainable development agenda. Women's issues and gender equity have been at the heart of sustainable development concepts and have linked the status and well-being of women to the level of sustainable development. The development agenda addressed women's issues within ten goals, including the fifth target, which was devoted to women's empowerment, gender equality, and nine other goals that address the different developmental and life perspectives. This underscores the special importance attached by the agenda to women's issues and gender equality. The objectives and outcomes of sustainable development will not exclude anyone, and that the issues and aspirations of women should not be confined to the fifth goal, but must be among the other sixteen goals of the Plan. The global goals on gender equality illustrate the relationship and interdependence of both the goals of sustainable development and the Beijing Platform for Action.

Third Section: National operations and mechanisms of monitoring the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action with regard to sustainable development agenda 2030 action plan

First: Enhancing women's assumption of leading positions and full participation on a par with men in decision making in all the fields of sustainable development agenda 2030

-Temporary special measures and the positive action measures such as Quotas (for political participation in parliamentary elections and membership in boards of directors in the public and private sector).

-The State of Qatar supports women to assume leadership positions and participate in the public administration in the State, that includes directly political rights, the right to vote and nominate for office in the municipal council, in accordance with international standards, in particular the international conventions ratified by the State of Qatar on women. Foremost among which is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against women. Decree No (17) for the year 1998 concerning the system of election of members of the municipal council guaranteed the full equality between women and men in the right to vote for municipal council membership. The law ensured women on a par with men in the right of registration, voting and nomination. Thus, women's participation in voting was 47%, with 6866 votes for women. The women

also participated in the nomination of the Central Municipal Council membership. Two women won the membership in 2015.

Promoting greater participation of women in public life through recognition of partnership in work and parental responsibilities.

Policies and actions taken by the State to support women's participation in public life through recognition of partnership by work and parental responsibilities:

1. The State seeks to achieve balance between the professional and family responsibilities of women and to pay attention to the status of working women in order to improve their performance by providing an appropriate working environment that meets their needs, understands their nature and enhances their role in the family.

2.To promote the role of women's in society by providing support to achieve balance between their family roles and their professional duties.

3. The importance of achieving a better balance between work and family responsibilities, which aims to improve support for the working family, especially women, and to adopt policies that help women to harmonize family and work responsibilities.

4 .Provide the necessary policies to enable women to work and achieve the required balance between work and family and enhance their role in society in general through their participation in work.

5 .Adopting policies that help women to harmonize family responsibilities and work as one of the most important goals of women's empowerment. Among these mechanisms and means to achieve this goal are: "Expanding the establishment of kindergartens and kindergartens in the workplace,

6.The State works to provide education and higher qualification opportunities for women, thus contributing to the provision of employment opportunities for women. Qatari women have received high education and vocational training opportunities. They have penetrated the labor market in various fields and have assumed leadership positions. The most important of which is the Qatari Labor Law No 14 of 2004 and its amendments, which adopted the principle of equality between women and men in relation to employment opportunities and pay, attention to women as mothers and

workers in matters such as equality and additional protection for women, in addition to the Civil Human Resources Law No 15 of 2017. This law does not differentiate between women and men, and the development of a uniform standard of selection, that posts should be filled on merit and by advertising.

The Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs in the State of Qatar seeks to empower women and provide conditions that help women reconcile their role in the family with their work, through cooperation with the competent authorities in this regard.

The efforts of the State have resulted in the mobilization of Qatari women to play their role in development and in various political, economic and social fields, which has established Qatar's leadership in taking care of the status of women and activating their role as an active citizen in their society.

The Qatari woman, today, thanks to the efforts of the State in supporting women's participation in various aspects of life, including economic and investment aspects, is one of the engines of the investment market and not just a follow-up, so that the attendance of women in diversity in the various fields and activities they pursue.

Second: Encouraging, following up and reviewing all the data of gender concepts-compatible operations

Including gender concept approaches to national review and follow-up to the Sustainable Development Plan 2030:

-Qatari women are an important component of development and an active partner in their journey. Their participation depends on the society's opportunities to participate in development efforts. The integration of women in development is to enable both males and females to participate fully in the economic and social development process to maximize the benefit of the family and society as a whole.

Elements to include gender in development

1 .Integrate the empowerment of women into all programs and projects of the plan through clarity of the quality and nature of the problems facing women and their integration into the objectives and operational policies. 2 .To support and develop the role of women in economic, social and political activity as producers and decision-makers, which requires focusing on areas related to women's capacity for education, training and health.

3 .Increase opportunities for women's participation in economic activity to achieve sustainable economic development.

4 .The need for mechanisms to follow up and implement the component of women in the plan and evaluate the performance and suitability to address the discrimination and inequality where:

-Article 23 of the Qatari constitution states that the State is concerned with "public health and provides means of prevention and treatment of diseases and epidemics in accordance with the law." Law No 7 of 1996 on the regulation of medical treatment at home regulates the issues of appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of health care.

-The State takes great care of the health status of the citizens and the health status of women in particular by improving the quality of health services and facilitating women's access to these services. Women's health care is considered one of the pillars of the comprehensive development of women.

-The State of Qatar has achieved the goal of reducing child mortality, for children under the age of five and by two thirds.

-The State of Qatar has surpassed the goal of reducing the maternal mortality rate by three quarters .

-The National Health Care Strategy for 2013-2018 was launched in June 2013. The strategy is in line with Qatar National Vision 2030 and Qatar National Health Strategy 2011-2016. The strategy is designed to address and address future health challenges through the development of primary health care at the center of the health system. The strategy focuses on eight objectives: improving care, health promotion, screening, urgent care, chronic non-communicable diseases, mental health, Children and adolescents.

Third: Mechanisms of consolidating national organizational arrangements

Promoting and supporting the visibility of national machineries for gender equality

Comprehensive gender concept social protection systems

Qatar National Vision 2030 embodies the principles of Qatar's permanent constitution and envisions an effective social protection system that guarantees all Qataris their civil rights, appreciates their contribution to the development of their society and ensures adequate income for them to maintain a healthy and dignified life.

Qatar National Vision 2030 sets forth several goals for social protection:

•Building an effective social protection system for all Qataris, who will take care of their civil rights and value their active participation in the development of society and provide them with sufficient income to maintain a decent and healthy life.

•Develop a sound social structure with effective public institutions and active civil society organizations.

•Qatar National Vision 2030 aims to foster a just and cohesive society based on high ethical standards.

Fourth: Social policies related to sustainable development agenda 2030 in the State of Qatar and the extent of their association with the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

The social policy of the State of Qatar aims to ensure that government activities and civil society activities are aimed to promote social and human development in an economically and environmentally sustainable welfare society. The development of an integrated social policy ensures that all elements of Qatar National Vision 2030 are aligned and directed towards achieving the general goals, gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls, as:

•Eliminating all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.

•Eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including human trafficking, sexual exploitation and other forms of exploitation. •Eliminating all harmful practices, such as child marriage, early marriage, forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

•Recognizing and appreciating the unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services and infrastructure, the development of social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and family, as appropriate at the national level.

•Ensuring the full and effective participation of women and equal opportunities for women to lead on an equal footing with men at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

•Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health services and reproductive rights, as agreed in accordance with the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Platform for Action and the final documents of their review conferences.

•Undertaking reforms to grant women equal rights to economic resources, access to land and other property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.

•Promoting the use of enabling technology, especially information and communication technologies, to promote the empowerment of women.

•Adopting sound policies and enforceable legislation and strengthen existing policies and legislation to promote gender equality and empower all women and girls at all levels.

Fifth: Mechanisms of expediting the development of women and girls in the State of Qatar in the last 5 years, and the extent of their association with the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

Planning to address these priorities:

Promoting coherence and coordination among inter-institutional mechanisms for gender mainstreaming coordination and decision-making.

Efforts to strengthen cooperation with all relevant stakeholders to promote family issues and develop partnerships.

The State of Qatar, through its governmental, institutions and private institutions has made a strong effort to build the Qatari family. The State has adopted policies, initiatives and legislation aimed to protect family building and family members. It has encouraged initiatives aimed to develop them and enable them to adapt to changes in their surroundings. Without affecting the structure or loss of their functions, these efforts have been pursued year after year, reaching the Qatari family to advanced levels in the health, education, economic and social aspects, and the levels of progress reflected on its members of children Youth, the elderly, women and people with special needs.

In the context of achieving family cohesion, the State provides preventive, educational and educational services in order to raise family awareness in society and support families in facing all the challenges that target them, weaken their structure and affect their cohesion, stability and role in society.

Developing partnerships:

The promotion of cooperation and participation in development is an important component of the right to development. In this context, the participatory approach of development must be accompanied by a culture that considers development to be not the responsibility of the Government alone, but the result of a joint effort at the community level. The progressive development of such a culture requires concerted action to promote family issues and develop partnerships. Responsibility for this is shared between government agencies and the private sector and their awareness of their role in national development, reflecting the achievement of Qatar's 2030 "right of development."

Therefore, the State of Qatar is interested in enhancing the role of partnerships at the level of government agencies and the private sector to achieve family development, in order to enhance its role in sustainable development and provide the best services to the family and society, according to Qatar National Vision 2030.

Through its policies, programs and initiatives, the state works to strengthen partnerships and promote the establishment of healthy relationships among individuals within the same family, as follows: 1.Maintaining a strong cohesive family that cares for its children and is committed to moral and religious values and ideals.

2.Building an effective system of social protection for all Qataris, who cares for their civil rights and values their effective participation in the development of society and provides them with sufficient income to maintain dignity and health.

3.Building effective public institutions, active and strong civil society organizations that contribute to providing quality services that respond to the needs, desires of individuals and economic enterprises.

4.Building a secure and stable society guided by the principles of justice, equality and the rule of law.

5.Enhancing women's capacities, enable them to participate economically and politically, especially those related to decision-making.

6 .Instilling and develop a spirit of tolerance, constructive dialogue and openness to others at the national and international levels.

7.Consolidating the values and traditions of Qatari society and preserve its heritage.

8. Encouraging young people to innovate, innovate and develop capacities.

9.instilling the spirit of belonging and citizenship.

10 .Independent and well-managed educational institutions that are selfadministered, centralized and subject to a system of accountability.

The State also hosts a number of important seminars and conferences dealing with most issues and developments related to the family, with the aim of developing partnerships, enhancing joint cooperation, creating channels of communication and communication among the participants in the framework of achieving sustainable development.

Sixth: Promulgating the gender concept within the context of the sustainable development plan 2030 to ensure the integration of gender equality aspects throughout the implementation of all the agenda of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action 2030

Gender equality and the empowerment of women:

The issue of gender equality and the empowerment of women has received an attention and support of the international community, which in turn contributes to many achievements in many regions of the world. The fifth target of the sustainable development goals for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls emphasizes the international community's commitment to make further efforts to achieve this goal on a global scale. It underlines the pivotal role of gender equality and the empowerment of women in achieving other sustainable development goals, such as the eradication of poverty, health and education.

1. The State of Qatar emphasized the importance of empowering women, providing support and an environment that would enhance their political, social, economic and cultural rights. This concern is reflected in Qatar's National Vision 2030 and national development strategies. Direction of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

2 .The State of Qatar renews its commitment to empowering women to exercise all their rights and participation in all aspects of life. The advancement of women is one of the priorities of the State of Qatar and the continuation of its efforts in the field of international cooperation to achieve the goals of sustainable development.

3. The State of Qatar is one of the leading countries in the field of promoting women's rights, empowerment and enhancing their participation in public life. It was one of the first countries to provide education for girls in the Gulf region, based on the belief of Qatar and its wise leadership that education is a human right. One of the most important means to promote women's rights in all fields.

4 .His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Amir of Qatar, announced the commitment of the State of Qatar to provide quality education to one million girls by 2021, in support of the Declaration of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani. Which was launched at the G-7 Summit in June 2017, during his speech at the "Leaders Dialogue: Together for Girls Education in the Context of Conflict and Fragile Conditions" held during the High-Level Week of the 73ed Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Seventh: National mechanisms set up by the State of Qatar in the last 5 years to eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls, and work priorities to implement Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action:

The State has given priority to combat domestic violence. The State has adopted a number of measures at the political and procedural levels to ensure the protection and promotion of women's rights, including, but not limited to:

•Establishment of national machineries on women's issues, which have contributed to equalization of opportunities, equality at the policy-making and program implementation levels.

•Review and amend national legislation specific to the women in accordance with international conventions, as well as submit proposals for laws that would achieve equality of opportunity and respect for gender.

•Providing free legal assistance, psychological rehabilitation and shelter for women victims of violence.

•Increased attention to gender-disaggregated statistics.

•Allocating budgets to implement programs aimed to achieve equality of opportunity.

•Increase the percentage of women in decision-making positions.

•Gender mainstreaming in economic and social reform programs.

•Cooperation and exchange of information and best practices within the framework of women's empowerment and gender equality with all women's stakeholders such as the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA).

•Establishing a government unit specifically for women.

The family unit was modernized at the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor, and Social under the Amiri decree No. (4) for 2016,

which reflects the official importance that is the necessary presence of a high government national authority that cares for the family, and more specifically women.

The Department of Family Affairs carried out many efforts and operations during the years (2016, 2017, 2018) with the goal of protecting and promoting women's rights, like accomplishing programs and training workshops for productive families in the fields of developing home projects, and participating in local exhibitions as part of cultural and national celebrations, and overseeing a group of sales outlets for productive families granted by the supporting bodies, and participating in outside events of relevance, and establishing encouraging prizes for productive families in 2017, as well as organizing programs regarding family bonds with the goal of raising awareness for the role of values in the family.

Eighth: National operations and mechanisms introduced by the State of Qatar in the last 5 years to combat violence against women and girls, and extent of their association with the implementation of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

The safekeeping and protection of families is considered one of the dangers (and most importantly family violence) one of the props that the Qatari society is carrying out in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, specifically article (21) which states that the family is the basis of society based on religion and morality and love for country, and the law organizes the means of protecting it, supporting its entity and strengthening ties and safekeeping motherhood, childhood, and aging, and article (22) which states that "The State sponsors young people, and protects them from causes of corruption and protection from manipulation, characterized by gross physical, mental, and spiritual neglect, and provides the suitable conditions to develop them in various fields, on the basis of peaceful upbringing." The State of Qatar joining the Agreement for eliminating all forms of discrimination against women, boosted mechanisms for protecting women and girls from violence, and laying out the appropriate strategies for that. Therefore, the State was concerned with providing psychological, legal, and financial support for victims of domestic violence and helping them, just as centers and institutions have been established to put an end to this phenomenon, under the supervision of the Qatari Institution for Social Work:

-Center for Protection and Social Rehabilitation: It is a leading institution for promoting protection and social rehabilitation which strives to raise awareness and educate, and provide the necessary protection and social rehabilitation to put an end to violence and family rifts.

-Center for Family Consultation: a leading institution for supporting stable marriage and family life that aims to build and strengthen marriage and family ties, providing advice, and putting an end to the negative effects for family rift.

-The State is carrying out efforts to convince and raise awareness on the dangers of family violence and why it is necessary to combat it, and it has been noted that there has been a decrease in the number of victims of this violence in a notable manner as public awareness campaigns for these institutions have played an effective role in promoting awareness for the general public.

<u>The Role of the Department of Family Affairs at the Ministry of</u> <u>Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs in opposing</u> <u>family violence (child-family-women):</u>

The national domestic mechanisms for your state, and which the state uses for equality between the genders and to empower women:

The Department of Family Affairs at the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor, and Social Affairs was established under the Amiri decree No. (6) for 2015 under the organizational structure of the Ministry. The Department of Family Affairs specializes in:

1-Implementing strategies and plans, and national policies related to family.

2-Raising awareness for society on the family and social challenges, cases, effects, methods of prevention.

3-Implementing development projects and programs for developing the potential of women, the creativity of children, and youth culturally, educationally, and leisurely, in coordination with government authorities and relevant non-government authorities.

4-Orgnaizing and implementing awareness programs for deflection of events, rehabilitating perverts and facing social problems in all manners, and supervising the role of social guardianship that specializes in caring and rehabilitating them.

5-Taking necessary measures for caring and protecting children abandoned by their parents.

6- Helping newly released prisoners, addicts and their families in adapting and merging in society, and to work towards providing a good environment and a suitable social climate, and job opportunities for those newly released in order to prevent their return to deviation, in coordination with government authorities and relevant non-government authorities.

7-Suggesting and implementing strategies and plans, and national policies and programs related to the elderly and people with disabilities.

8-Directing the efforts of authorities relevant to women and families, with the goal of establishing development projects to economically empower members and families, and to encourage them to rely on themselves.

9-Developing and implementing projects that support the development of productive families through training and providing helpful services.

10-Providing means to market products of productive family programs.

11- License for nurseries, supervising and watching them.

12-Organizing conferences, forums, and workshops to discuss all relevant family issues.

<u>A hot line has been established (a hotline for protecting and empowering families and women) and it aims at:</u>

1-Responding to queries from families and women, and working to guide them, and raising awareness on the challenges and family issues, and ways to prevent them.

2-Coordinating with relevant authorities on the matter of facing violence directed towards families and women.

3-Responding to queries about economically and socially empowering women.

4-Informing women about the concept of specific small projects like tools for empowering women.

5-Developing the abilities of women through listening to them and providing psychological and social help through receiving phone calls by a team made up of female employees that have been trained academically and in a civilized way for this purpose.

6-Raising awareness of the family and women on the importance of participating in projects and programs that develop the abilities of women and empower them, that the Department carries out in coordination with government authorities and relevant non-government authorities.

7-Informing families and women on development projects that aim to economically empower members of the family, and to encourage them to rely on themselves.

8-Responding to queries and requests from elderly people and people with disabilities through specialists in order to meet their requests.

The Department of Family Affairs carries out many efforts in this field, like the following:

1-Working to add the hotline and implementing protection to a directory of important numbers in the State and implementing such a method in all embassies in Arab and Western states so that expats become aware of it, and the service of electronic acknowledgment.

2-Implementing a plan to organize a workshop for families and women, as well as students in different stages to know about the hot line and electronic reporting, this plan will continue annually.

3-Dealing with subjects related to families, women, and children and reporting on them whether by calls or in writing or speaking with people and various audience from all Arab and Western nationalities, and carrying out issues of concern to them.

4-Providing legal, psychological, and social consultations in the fields of protecting families, women, and children, through specialized staff who has been trained to deal with cases like this. Some cases will be referred to relevant bodies to do decide on supporting them, while taking into consideration the need for confidentiality and privacy and assessing cases, therefore if a quick reply didn't occur then there would be coordination with other relevant sides to provide the necessary support as soon as possible. As for cases that require undertaking investigative measures and providing social and psychological support, the Department will provide aid to all callers and to take the necessary measures in this respect, through coordinating with the relevant entities.

5-Taking into consideration the archive of calls in order to refer back to it in times of need.

6-A working group has been formed to protect family and childhood (child-women-disabled people-elderly people) at the department, and this council is made up of members from relevant sides (and members of the civilian community will be the mission of this contributing council in drawing up relevant policies specific to families and childhood.

7- A working group has been formed to protect children that will receive complaints in cases of children being in danger, and it will have direct coordination with the relevant bodies to invite the child alongside his parents or his guardian or the person responsible for him/her and to listen to what they have to say, and to investigate the complaints provided, and to work to resolve them.

8-Addressing the problem of violence against families and women through carrying out the necessary research and studies to uncover the volume of those problems and reasons behind them and provide protection to the victims, training employees and carrying out media campaigns to raise social awareness about these problems.

9-Implenting a program to supervise and support productive families and providing windows to market products in a long-term manner during exhibitions and seasonal events.

Ninth: National Strategies that the State of Qatar used in the past 5 years to prevent violence against women and girls and the relevance thereof with implementing the Beijing Platform

The strategic goals that the State accomplished during the past five years:

-Providing legal protection to women so that violence against them is prevented.

-Applying international agreements on women's rights and prevention of violence against them.

Achievements:

Constitutional and legislative protection for women in the State of Qatar:

-The Qatari constitution affirms the principle of equality among all citizens regarding rights and duties, and regardless of gender, and protection of women from all forms of discrimination. They are given equivalent opportunities that enable them to build their capacities, and protect and promote their rights, as well as engage positively in developing society.

-Just as the constitution affirmed in the Second Chapter on "the basic constituents of society," as Qatari society comprises pillars of justice, decency, freedom, equality and lofty morals.

- The national legislations issued during the past years have been concerned with promoting women's rights, and erasing direct discrimination between them and men, and laying out regulations for equality between them in all fields. The texts of the laws used all the formulations of the general rule when determining the rights or determining the obligations placed on the interviewees by themselves, so that there is no distinction between the man and the woman.

<u>Criminal Protection for women against violence (especially domestic violence-sexual harassment)</u>

-The Law of Penalty number (11) for 2004: where the articles (308, 309, 310, 311) dealt with the penalties prescribed against those who harass a woman against her will, whether through coercion, threats, or by trickery. Article (320) from the fifth chapter specific to blatant acts, where it stipulated the penalty of imprisonment and fine or one of them for anyone who intrudes on a woman's privacy. The articles (223 and 325) stipulated punishment for adultery and prostitution. This includes articles (345, 346, 346) specific to punishments for abortion. The law also prescribes punishments for all who commit rape, where the penalty ranges from execution to imprisonment for seven years, and to protect women the

penalties are heavier if the accused is a relative or one who attends for the victim, and also for the commission of acts that include slander or seduction of a female to engage in prostitution or to commit acts contrary to morality, and for sexual assault occurring at home against a pregnant woman leading to abortion.

-The law toughened punishment on the culprit relating to crimes of adultery and prostitution in case the victim is a child, whether male or female, also in articles (279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 296, 297).

-The Penalty Law number (11) for 2004 enshrines many provisions that forbid infringement on human freedom and prevention of torture and abuse.

-Just as the Law of Penalty in its provisions (318) and (322) the occurrence of crimes that infringe on the freedom of a human being, including kidnapping, arresting, or imprisoning someone or depriving him/her of their freedom by any means that goes against the law, or forcing someone to work whether against payment or otherwise.

The Strategies that the state applied during the past five years

As for the level of strategies to oppose family violence, the 2030 National Vision for the State of Qatar prioritized the importance of strongly holding family together, empowering women, and stressing the necessity of safekeeping Qatari culture in the face of various changes and challenges that affect all segments of society. The national vision provides a general and comprehensive framework for consistent sectoral strategies that encompass plans, programs, and projects that are developed and formulated to help achieve that vision. Under that framework, the strategy of holding the family together and empowering women outlined eighty key development outcomes with three axes that include family cohesion, social welfare, empowering the women, as a means to achieve the goals of Qatar's 2030 National Vision effective. The desired results will be investigated through twelve connected projects whose goals are represented by:

1-Promoting the role of the Qatari family as a basic pillar of society.

2-Increasing the responsibility of parents and decreasing reliance on domestic workers.

3-Decreasing the rate of family violence, and establishing an organization for protecting and supporting victims.

4-Providing organizations that support families with special situations, like families of disabled people and juvenile delinquents.

5-Reducing the rate of Qatari families being affected by economic and social dangers, and improving their financial affairs.

6- The health and welfare of children and the protection thereof.

7-Increasing support for working families, specifically women.

8-Increasing the number of women in leading positions, and centers of decision-making.

9-Reducing the prevailing stereotypes about the roles of women and their responsibilities.

The sectorial strategy of holding families together and empowering women (2011-2016), which aims to:

-Promote family cohesion.

-Rationalize the use of domestic staff and reduce its effect.

-Establishing means to support families that live in special situations, like families that care for disabled people or the elderly.

-Supporting and empowering vulnerable families, economically and socially, instilling the spirit of financial responsibility and reducing the level of indebtedness among Qatari families.

-Adopting a holistic approach to realize the welfare and safety of children.

-Supporting women to struck the balance between the responsibilities of work and family.

-Working to empower women in all fields, especially in the political and economic fields.

The national strategy for health (2017-2022) which aims to achieve: better health, welfare and values. The strategy of Qatar for public health 2017-2022 is connected closely with the dimension of health (better health)

affirming that the health of the population is the responsibility of all and with the goal of raising the quality of health for all, and that is through promoting health and prevention of diseases. The new strategy is connected with the goals of the national strategy for health (2011-2016), which aimed to effect changes in the sector of healthcare, and providing comprehensive and effective healthcare that is realistic in terms of cost on a world level, and which is available for all by taking into consideration the needs of different segments of society and men, women, and children.

The national strategy for prioritizing healthcare (2013-2018) which aims to redress and come up with solutions for future health challenges through providing a structure of comprehensive healthcare of high quality, presenting a comprehensive model in terms of healthcare services that focuses on the patient and facilitates easy access to the most suitable healthcare.

Education and Training Strategy (2011-2016), which aims to achieve a world-class education system through providing education curricula and training programs that respond to current and future labor market needs, high quality educational and training opportunities that suit the aspirations and abilities of each individual, as well as continuous education programs available for all. The strategy also seeks to provide advanced, independent, efficiently self-managed educational institutions in accordance with central guidelines and accountability system, as well as and effective system for funding scientific research based on the principle of public-private partnership in cooperation with competent international bodies and prestigious international research centers. In addition, the strategy seeks to create an active role internationally in the fields of cultural, intellectual and scientific research activities.

Social Protection Sector Strategy (2011-2016), which aims at renewing the commitment to Arab and Islamic values and principles in a way that preserves the Qatari family and makes it the center of social development. The strategy also encourages citizens to realize their full potential through human development, in a way that ensures equity and human rights.

The National Traffic Safety Strategy (2013-2022), which aims to reduce the number of traffic fatalities, number of deaths resulting from these accidents annually and the number of hazardous injuries resulting thereof as a step towards realizing the long-term national vision for road safety. The strategy focuses on a common shared vision among the stakeholders as it represents a framework for identifying the required commitments and a reference to the implementation of the high priority and most effective traffic safety initiatives. This strategy is considered to be complementary to other existing strategies in the State of Qatar, such as the Comprehensive Planning Strategy, Sustainable Transportation and Transportation Demand Management.

National Autism Strategy (2017-2021), which aims to develop a comprehensive and integrated approach to caring for individuals with autism of different ages.

The Second National Development Strategy (2018-2012), which comes in line with the objectives of the sustainable development agenda.

• There are four factors of empowerment which form the foundation of social development in the Qatar National Vision 2030, which has developed an integrated social policy for the State of Qatar. These main factors of empowerment in the social protection strategy sector of the National Development Strategy 2018-2022 are namely: first, social protection, family cohesion and empowerment of women; second, public safety and security; third, culture and sport and finally the international cooperation.

Tenth: Measures taken by the State of Qatar in the last 5 years to prevent and respond to the violence facilitated by ITC against women and girls, including (sexual harassment through the internet and uninvited sharing of obscene images)

• The State of Qatar affirms that the advancement of women and exercising all their rights are of great interest at all levels. The State of Qatar has acceded to the international protocols on combating violence against women in all its forms, the fight against trafficking in human beings and has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). It has also agreed to accede to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention, Suppression and Punishment of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, 2009.

- The State also works through its institutions to combat discrimination and violence against girls and women, focusing on experiences and good practices, assessing achievements, identifying current challenges and seeking ways to speed up implementation of the existing commitments and measures on ending violence against women.
- The State of Qatar has undertaken to protect both girls and women through the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the exchange of experience, interaction and dialogue, as well as access to other states' experiences and lessons learned.
- Articles (34-35) of the Qatari Constitution of 2004 emphasize the principle of equality before the law for all citizens in the rights and duties regardless of their sex. In the field of national legislation, the State has enacted a number of laws which focused on the protection of women from harm, violence and trafficking, and has reviewed, as well, a number of other laws, the most important thereof being the Family Law and the Law against Trafficking in Human Beings.
- The State of Qatar was also has succeeded in integrating the social gender issues, of these are violence against women in policies and national plans and adopted practical policies in confronting it by establishing competent government organs and support of the NGOs. The ministry of administrative development, labor and social affairs form the institution instrument that concerned with integrating family issues in general and women in particular in the national strategies and the basic driver for it through the partnerships with the concerned institutions.
- Given that integration was developed from a mere axes and classes attributed to women to integrating all issues in all sectors in Qatar vision 2030, and the national development strategy with its two sectors, family cohesion and women empowerment, the social protection as well as the general strategy for the family in addition to this the civil societies institutions concerned with women issues, women affairs in awareness, limiting violence against women and girls- family counseling center, Qatar institution for child and women protection in addition to Qatar institution for combating trafficking- also contribute. These institutions witnessed expansion and diversification in their services and increasing turnover from the group targeted is an indication of success to the institutions in having the community truth and effectiveness of its tools. Executive measures were put to lessen violence against women as well as the expansion in the number and distribution of asylum and protection

centers and the establishment of sub-offices in the institutions that integrate with it in the services. Of these, the establishment of offices belong to the institution of child and women protection in every department, of these are the department of capital security of the ministry of Interior, Hamad medical corporation and the offices of social rehabilitation at the Public Prosecution, another one for the family counsel at Courts building, the national committee of human rights, the department office of the human rights in the ministry of interior and department of human rights in the ministry of foreign affairs aim to implement and follow-up the programs and activities of the strategies and the appropriate international Protocols and the national legislations that concerned with the human rights in general and women in an integrated manner.-

- The state of Qatar launched a number of initiatives and partnerships in respect to combating violence against women, the ministry of administrative development, labor and social affairs reviewed and promoted legislations that were relevant to family violence and others and to promote family violence statistics with the partnership of the government and non-government agencies, in addition a number of memorandum of understanding were signed with institutions and competent authorities of these, are the national committee of human rights that aims to disseminate SEDAW convention and Agreement of persons with disabilities and to organize a qualitative activities like specialized workshops and media campaigns.
- The state of Qatar has gone a long way in combating violence against women and was keenly acceded to the international protocols, it also issued the respective national legislations and promote the effective legislations.

Eleventh: Measures taken by the State of Qatar in the last 5 years to address the way women and girls are depicted and / or discriminated against in the media

The state of Qatar has witnessed a number of initiatives and partnerships in respect to combating violence against women, where legislations and laws were promoted in respect to violence against women and another to develop statistics of the family violence with the participation of the relevant government and government agencies. In addition memorandum of understandings were signed with competent state organs like, the national committee of human rights aims to disseminate SEDAW, convention of the rights of the persons with disabilities, organization of qualitative activities like, forums, specialize workshops and media campaigns like "stop salience" which addresses the sexual harassment and targets gender and integrates the religious discourse through mosques platforms as well as executes a public march for awareness of violence against women by using different social communication techniques to disseminate awareness against family violence.

Twelfth: Mechanisms especially designed and introduced by the State of Qatar in the last 5 years to combat violence against a particular group of women who suffer various forms of discrimination

The State of Qatar has adopted practical policies in addressing the problem of violence against women through the establishment of specialized independent institutions to address this phenomenon, as the Family Affairs Department of the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs, and the Qatar Foundation for the Protection of Children and Women and the Qatar Foundation for Combating Human Trafficking, and it also established the shelters for women subjected to violence, the Qatari shelter and humanitarian shelter for victims of trafficking, protection and care, and a safe home for women and children who are victims of violence. It also was opened the office of Qatar Foundation for the Protection of Children and Women in the Emergency and Accident Section of Hamad General Hospital.

The Ministry of Inferior has opened a special office to deal with cases of domestic violence and violence against women that go beyond traditional security frameworks to deal with such situations and provide social, educational and psychological support to the victims.

A number of survey studies have been conducted on the problem of violence against women: (violence against women in Qatari society) 2014 (and violence against married women - the case of Qatar) in 2016, carried out by the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs) 2017, and it is been implemented by the Department of Family Affairs in the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs, and Qatar Foundation for Combating Human Trafficking has also prepared a study of domestic employment (reality and problems - effects solutions).

Thirteenth: Priorities of implementing the agenda of sustainable development and their association with the implementation of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

The State of Qatar affirms that the goals of comprehensive and sustainable development play an important role at the top of its priorities. Qatar National Vision 2030 has defined the country's main economic, social. In its effort to build an efficient system for monitoring the implementation of the goals of the 2030 Sustainable Development Plan, the State of Qatar affirmed that it has aligned the objectives of this Plan with the objectives of the Second National Development Strategy 2018-2030 of the State and has developed a monitoring and follow-up system.

The State of Qatar has been able to achieve most of the objectives of sustainable development and its goals, especially those related to eradicating poverty and hunger, ensuring good health and education, providing affordable water and clean energy, decent work opportunities, reducing inequalities, achieving justice and peace and building cities and sustainable societies free from marginalization and crime. The report also states that the State is making efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change, reduce unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, as well as its efforts to protect ecosystems, revitalize the global partnership in development and enhance the means of its implementation.

With the responsibility to achieve the goals of sustainable development 2030 in accordance with the established goals, and to ensure the desired economic and social progress of the State of Qatar in a participatory and joint responsibility between the three sectors of government and private and civil society organizations responsible for the implementation of the Second National Development Strategy (2018-2022) and the Third National Development Strategy (2023-2027).

Fourteenth: Existing formal mechanisms for the participation of the State of Qatar in implementing and monitoring the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Sustainable Development Plan: • The Planning and Statistics Authority has a working group called the Sustainable Development Indicators Working Group which monitors the indicators of the sustainable development agenda and is now working on the "Common System of Sustainable Development Indicators" project. This system will be a national platform for monitoring and pursuing the achievement of sustainable development goals 2030.

• The Planning and Statistics Organization issued a report on "Sustainable Development Goals in Qatar 2016." The report aims at monitoring the progress achieved in achieving the goals and objectives of sustainable development 2030, updating the national data in the rules of international organizations and bodies, as well as preparing a reference for decision makers and development policy makers to help them to identify the actions required to make progress in the areas of sustainable development and to prepare an assessment of the achievements made in the various indicators. The report addressed the 17 sustainable development goals and assessed the achievement of the goal and targets through the indicators adopted by the United Nations. The report is based on the data for the period (2012-2016) through the General Population and Housing Census, and surveys of annual labor force, family's expense and income surveys, scientific research and development, as well as data from the annual economic statistics.

Fifteenth: Monitoring the progress made in the implementation of sustainable development plan 2030 in the state of Qatar in the last 5 years

- The Sustainable Development Indicators Working Group has been established with specialized working groups to develop a framework for a set of key national indicators used to measure the progress of the National Development Strategy 2018-2022, in particular the sectoral strategies of the National Development Strategy 2018-2022. The NDI framework includes several indicators of the sustainable development agenda 2030.
- National indicators have been identified based on the social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainable development in the State of Qatar in consultation with partners in all sectors.
- The Planning and Statistics Authority issued a report on sustainable development goals in the State of Qatar 2016. The report aims at

monitoring the progress achieved in reaching the goals and objectives of sustainable development 2030, updating the national data in the rules of international organizations and bodies, in addition to preparing a reference for different decision and development policy makers required to make progress in the areas of sustainable development and prepare an assessment of the achievements in various indicators. The report addressed the 17 sustainable development goals and assessed the achievement of these goals through the indicators adopted by the United Nations. The data are based on the data collected for the period 2012-2.16 through the general population and housing Census, annual labor force surveys, household expenditure and income surveys, scientific and development research, as well as annual economic statistics and administrative records from relevant government and private agencies.

Fourth Section: Progress achieved on the data sorted by genderrelated items during the last 5 years, and relating the implementation of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action to the gender equality concept-compatible implementation of the sustainable development plan 2030:

The fifth objective of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is a major priority in Qatar's 2030 sustainable development agenda. Women's issues and gender equity have been at the core of sustainable development concepts and have linked women's status and well-being to the level of sustainable development. Women's issues were addressed within ten goals, including the fifth target for women's empowerment and gender equality, and nine other goals that address the different developmental and living aspects. This underscores the special importance that the agenda places on women's issues and gender equality.

The goals and aspirations of women should not be excluded or confined to the fifth goal, but must be among the other 16 goals of the plan as well. The global goals on gender equality illustrate the relationship between development goals, Sustainable Development and the Beijing Platform of Action.

The State of Qatar has adopted a clear policy to promote and empower women in all fields, as referred to in Qatar National Vision 2030, which emphasizes the empowerment of women and the enhancement of their economic and political participation, especially in decision-making field. It also emphasizes the need to increase employment and professional capacity building for the Qatari women. With regard to statistics, the State of Qatar paid special attention to the fifth goal of sustainable development (Goal 5: Achieving gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls), and issued a report called the Sustainable Development in the State of Qatar 2016 containing the statutes covering all the aspects of the fifth goal. The State of Qatar, in all its statistical reports, is concerned with the monitoring of data on women, including population censuses, health surveys, annual publications on education, health and vital services, births, deaths, marriages, divorce, etc. All the goals of Qatar's fifth priority aim to promote national gender statistics over the next five years, which is the ratification by the State of Qatar of the CEDAW convention and the sectoral strategy for social protection as part of the second national development strategy 2018-2022.

Data on the MDG 5 indicator are collected from the Qatar 2016 Sustainable Development Goals Report, and data are being updated for 2019 issue of the report.

The main surveys are carried out routinely in the country, including but not limited to, the general census of population, housing and annual labor force surveys, expenditure and household income surveys, scientific research and development, as well as data of annual economic statistics and administrative records from relevant government and private agencies.