



*Mission Permanente  
de la République Islamique d'Iran  
auprès des Nations Unies  
et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève*

*In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful*

N°2050/7440

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the note on Human Rights Council resolution 29/22, dated 2 September 2015, has the honor to submit herewith the response of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva 15 October 2015



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IN the Name of God

**Measures and Polices on protection of family and its members**

Based on

Human rights council resolution 29/22

Islamic Republic of Iran

September 2015

## **In the name of God**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The family as the fundamental unit of society and the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members particularly children and women, plays a crucial role in the human's future. The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the realization of the "future we want" and the achievement of the development goals for post-2015, are depending directly to the safety and stability of family environment. The chaotic family environment is a major risk factor that increases the vulnerability of its members. In such families, children and women are more exposed to family conflicts, verbal and physical violence and abuse.

Our Government is fully committed to protection and promotion of the institution of the family therefore family is an integral part of all national development plans. The national policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran has given a high priority to addressing the challenges and the vulnerability of family such as poverty, disability, maternal and infant mortality, drug abuse and other social hazards which affect the family and its members.

The present report is to emphasize the grand policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran on family and the tangible achievements regarding the main issues of human right council resolution 29/22 such as the women's social and economic contributions to the welfare of the family particularly those heads of household, protecting the right of child, person with disability and their family, health and integration of family.

## **I. Grand policy on family institution**

### **1. Constitution**

The family is a considerable issue in the Constitution of Islamic republic of Iran.

The Article 10 as it states:

“Since the family is the fundamental unit of Islamic society, all laws, regulations, and pertinent programmes must tend to facilitate the formation of a family ,and to safeguard its sanctity and the stability of family relations on the basis of the law and the ethics of Islam.”

### **2. Main document of “Objectives and principles and policies to strengthen families”**

This document is adopted by the Supreme “Council of the Cultural Revolution” in 2006 (proposed by the Women's Cultural and Social Council) and has defined the orientation of policies and objectives in family dimension. It is annexed to the present report as the annex 1.

## **II. measures and achievements**

### **1. Promotion of women’s contributions to the welfare of the family**

Women play decisive roles in individual, family and social spheres of life. Statistics globally prove the women’s high participation and its noticeable increase in various fields in recent years. Women in Iran are not an exception.

Our national policies of women’s empowerment pay a special attention to empower women specially those are heads of households due to their growing

number in recent years. 86 percent of single-parent and single-member families are run by women. Statistics also indicate that the share of women-headed households has increased from 8% in 1996 to 12/1% in 2011. It is anticipated that the number will increase to 15% of all at national level at the time of national survey in 2016.

Accordingly, the Vice Presidency of Women and Family Affairs took these below measures to strengthen women's contributions in the family institution:

**a. Economic perspective**

- Training 180 women with entrepreneurial ideas, the graduates in Agriculture and the rural development facilitators in 12 villages in three provinces of *Isfahan* and *Chaharmahal-o-Bakhtiari* and *Markazi*;
- Establishing 12 entrepreneurship Funds in 12 villages;
- Establishing stable business operations for 80 eligible rural women with priority on women headed households, graduated women in Agriculture, and female facilitators;
- Holding 12 workshops for 60 women with priority under the project, in total of 4,320 man-hours, on subjects of entrepreneurship and creativity;
- Establishing four entrepreneurship databank and four databank on business plans in four centers of the Ministry of Jihad- Agriculture;
- Introducing 30 career clusters to Mehr-e- Imam Reza Postbank to receive low interest loans;
- The recommendation to establish a working group to support women heads of households and the poor women to the Ministry of *Cooperatives, Labor and Social Welfare* and the agreement of the said ministry
- Training 64 rural women on facilitating skills in 31 provinces of the country

- Training on producing organic fertilizers for healthy and non-chemical products to 1,920 rural women in 31 provinces
- Training 60 tribal women in three provinces of the country on facilitating skills
- Entrepreneurship and creativity training to 390 tribal women in four provinces and in district of *Jiroft-o-Kahnouj*
- Training on hand-woven carpets standardization to 1620 eligible rural women with priority on female-headed households at the headquarter and in nine provinces
- Training on hand-woven carpets standardization to 30 carpet weaving trainers/women members of the community based organizations/ women entrepreneurs in the headquarter and nine provinces, 10800 man-hours in total
- Training on Standardization of agricultural products to 900 women of target groups in 29 provinces
- Vocational trainings to 5220 women throughout the country
- Establishing 14 microfinance Funds with 1920 members in 31 provinces of the country and the district of *Jiroft-o-Kahnouj*
- Establishing 13 microfinance Funds for women in six provinces
- Conducting six regional exhibitions of women's homemade products and handicrafts;
- Support of holding an exhibition on women's roles in sustainable development with focus on resistant economy with participation of 400 entrepreneur women of private sector, cooperatives and community based organizations;
- Provide basis for entrepreneur women to elaborate issues and Problems;

- Mentioning the Government plans and capacities for promotion women's participation in development;
- Establish 30 career clusters at least with six members including carpet weaving trainees and women entrepreneurs in each province and 270 career clusters in total in nine provinces;
- Encourage and support of a provincial foundation in the form of an entrepreneurship Fund (180 individuals of 30 career clusters) in each of nine provinces and 1620 individuals in total throughout the country;
- Provide professional consultancy on networking, standard packaging, standardization of products, commercialization and rules, regulations and requirements on standardization in the field of import and export to members of career clusters by qualified experts, with amount of 2460 man-hours in nine provinces of the country
- Provide the basis for establishing at least one local community based organization specifically for women entrepreneurs in each province and nine community based organizations around the country
- Draft the executive- policy document on stable employment for women with an emphasis on women heads of households and the university graduated girls with priority in deprived areas, submitted for approval at the High Council of Employment
- Completion of database on 4,000 women heads of households in Rey area;
- Organizing 20 advocacy-training workshops;
- Development of microfinance Funds;
- Support of establishing ten microfinance Funds;
- Holding an exhibition of women heads of household products;

- Vocational training courses on tailoring, stone carving, and greenhouse products for 500 women heads of households in cooperation with the National Technical and Vocational Organization;
- Cooperation in holding the National Conference on introduction of the empowerment plan for women heads of households (pilot project in Rey area) with the title of “the Lady of Wisdom, the Ambassador of Hope” in the Week of Government.
- Support a three-day conference women’s affairs advisers to the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Mines nationwide;
- Support a national conference on Village Day;
- Support of holding the first national conference and exhibition on women's role in sustainable development;
- Cooperation in holding the first meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation among Eight Developing Islamic Countries in the field of rural women synergy;
- Support of holding women's entrepreneurship conference in Islamic countries

**b. Health perspective**

- Maternal mortality rate: 19 deaths/100,000 live births
- infant mortality rate: 11 deaths/ 1,000 live births
- Increasing maternity leave from 6 months to 9 months, and delivering men with paternity leave(14 weeks)
- Safe delivery indicator has increased to more than 97%



- 90.8% of the pregnant women in urban areas and 84.7% of the pregnant women in rural areas have been visited at least six times (the antenatal care coverage)
- The life expectancy of women has improved to 74 years

## **2. The child in family**

Safeguarding the best interests of children and prioritizing their welfare have always been the main goals in Islamic Republic of Iran. Therefore, particular attentions have been paid to their family, educational and social aspects of life. Every effort has also been made and different governmental organizations have been mandated to protect and support the institution of family as the fundamental unit of society which basically gives priority to children. In this regard, there are some measures taken by Ministry of Education, State Prison and Security and Corrective Measures, State Welfare Organization, the National Headquarter for Drug Control and Municipalities as follows:

- Providing the disabled children with various services, including 24-hour care, as well as psychological medical, treatment, screening educational, rehabilitating and aiding services
- Providing financial, insurance and medical services to children in unsupervised and ill-supervised families
- Teaching parenting skills to parents
- Teaching prevention of violence and child abuse in kindergartens
- Establishing mother-child special centers

- Improving the public transport vehicles so as to help mothers who carry babies with them
- Providing social and counseling services for working and street children
- Covering nutrition of children under 6
- Helping to improve the nutrition of pregnant mothers
- Implementing various plans to identify reasons for preventing children from attending school and upgrading educational services especially in rural areas assisting families in this regard
- Instructing families on how to enliven educational setting especially in under –developed and rural areas
- More than 5000 case of service in paying the blood money on behalf of convicted children and teenagers and jailed mothers with children
- Providing counseling services and financial aid to jailed parents who have children
- Offering standard prevention packages including life skills and preventing addiction to drugs
- Inclusion of texts related to drug addiction in the curriculum;
- Holding certain events for raising students' awareness about addiction to drugs
- Life skills and social skills education in universities
- Making use of “National Organization for Youths” Affairs Potentials in prevention programs;
- Establishment of health NGOs among students to combating addiction
- Offering training via NGOs active in the field of student health
- Custody of children whose parents do not offer them proper care

### **3. Persons with disability in family**

The situation of disabled persons and the protection of their family have been of particular importance. The family is the most principal platform for growth and development of human beings, and thus the first element for having a healthy, dynamic and active society is to preserve the safety of the family. As the presence of a disabled person in a family makes that family different from others, extensive measures have been taken to educate such families to accept disability and the way they would deal with it. In the Islamic Republic of Iran creation of healthy and active family environment for disabled persons has received due attention. Activities in this regard include financial facilities, dowry, loan, counseling services and making camps for disabled persons and their families.

To address more effectively this issue, the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted "Comprehensive Law on the Protection of Persons with Disabilities" which has a family-friendly orientation:

- a. According to Article 6 of the mentioned law, one of the children of the disabled parents (both or one of whom may be disabled) or those with at least two disabled children are exempted from military service. Furthermore, husbands who are guardians of their disabled wives are exempted from military services, too.
- b. Under article 7 of the Comprehensive Law on the Protection of Persons with Disabilities, the Government is obliged to arrange the following facilities to provide job opportunities for the disabled persons:

-Assigning at least 3% of the employment permits (official, contractual, labor) of the Governmental and public entities including ministries, organizations, institutions, corporations, public and revolutionary institutions and other organizations which use public budget to the qualified disabled persons;

-Supplying the insurance premium of the employer by the SWO<sup>1</sup>, and paying it to those who employ the disabled persons;

-Paying credit facilities to the productive, service, constructive and retail units as well as to supportive workshops in reward for employing the disabled persons whose numbers are specified in the annual budgeting act;

-Paying credit facilities of self-employment (the managed funds) to disabled persons, the amount of which is specified in the annual budgeting rules;

-Paying credit facilities (the managed funds) to employment units where more than 60% of their share and capital is possessed by the disabled, in order to establish employment productive and service units;

-Assigning at least 60% of the organizational positions as a telephone operator, clerk and typist to the blinds, semi-blinds, physically-disabled and mobility-impaired people in Governmental organizations and corporations and public institutes;

c. According to Article 5 of the Comprehensive Law on the Protection of Persons with Disabilities, persons under the guardianship of disabled

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<sup>1</sup>. State Welfare Organization

persons, after being recommended by the SWO, are covered by both basic and complementary health insurance.

## Annex 1

### Objectives and principles and policies to strengthen families

#### Principles:

1. The marriage of the pillars of the universe and the signs of divine and human unity of male and female aspects and differences in the human dimension of the masterpieces of creation and sustain and develop life in them.
2. Divine Wisdom with the differences between men and women based on their natural need of the human rights, social, economic and cultural are fair.
3. The family is the fundamental unit of society and is the focal point of human growth and development, regulations and programs in order to facilitate the formation of the family, to protect and safeguard its sanctity and the stability of family relations on the basis of the law and ethics of Islam.
4. The marriage of love, mercy and peace between husband and wife with respect and kindness and mercy by children and parenting continuity and evolves.
- 5 members of family to respect and protect the family from the impairments and the ability of members to guide them on the path to God cognitive and behavioral dimensions and are responsible for achieving the pure life.
6. Education and social emotions as the most important features of the human family stems and attention to the key role of women as the affection and education and the key role of women in education and livelihood and life management, is essential.

#### Goals:

- 1 realization of Islamic point of view on important issues, status and functions of the family in the Islamic Republic;
- 2 supporting the establishment, strengthening and development of the family and prevent instability and breakdown;
- 3 family members in order to promote cultural and educational role in health and culture;
- 4 convergence and coordination of all policies and programs to improve the situation of the family in establishing, strengthening and promoting the family;
- 5 family members about their rights and duties towards society and eliminate the wrong attitudes;

6 expansion and deepening of the noble values of Islam in family upbringing healthy generation, faithful, responsible, and contributing to its development, family and community;

7 Securing family from harm and social crisis and support the families affected;

**First goal:** realizing an Islamic perspective on the importance of the role, status and functions of the family in the Islamic system

**Guidelines:**

1. The pattern balancing family and explain the characteristics of an ideal family pattern in Islam;
2. Strengthening the foundations of faith and family empowerment in terms of cognitive and moral guidance in the family of God and the strengthening of Islamic culture;
3. Developing awareness of the importance of community and family members, functions and its impact on communities as important foundations of human development of children's personality and the transmission of culture and values;
4. The promotion of security and material needs, spiritual and cultural dimensions of protection of the family, psychological, economic and social;
5. material needs, spiritual, emotional, children in the family in order to increase the sense of belonging to their family members;
6. Providing and promoting mental health, physical, social and women at different stages of life and to create the conditions needed and provide the right services at these stages (pregnancy, nutrition, type of work, child custody, etc.);
7. strengthen the character and the real position of women and men as father, mother, wife and plays an important role in human development and education of the rising generation in the family;
8. Development of knowledge of women and family members on creating the right economic and regulatory costs and family income and its impact on the economy;

**Policy implementation:**

Introducing a model of successful men and women in society in terms of their success in the role of mother, father and wife;

Respecting and honoring the martyr families revolution, including the martyrs, veterans, prisoners and their material and spiritual needs;

Respecting and honoring family by designating the days of the year, the family and the introduction of sample households;

Lead women to accept social roles consistent with the role of mother and wife .

Construction of biological functions, educational, psychological and emotional family as the most important platform for cultural growth of the society through media and textbooks;

Representing the spirit of cooperation and mutual loyalty between men and women in marriage and family crises and promote the spirit of avoiding misandry and misogyny in the program;

Representing the need for parents to devote enough time to their children's education and emotional support and explain the consequences of inattention to this matter;

Women's awareness about the effects of proper nutrition, exercise, hygiene and health, physical and mental freshness and government planning to meet them;

Creating a spirit of saving and foresight in family-centered conservation and development of appropriate centers for their production activities and employment in the household duties to help the family economy;

**Second goal:** to support the creation, consolidation and promotion of the family and the prevention of insecurity and breakdown.

**Guidelines:**

1. facilitate marriage as a covenant God and encourage young people to families with adjusted expectations and reduction of self-preservation and the effects on health and wellbeing;
2. Development of youth awareness about the role of religious and cultural fit couple in promoting mutual understanding and strengthening the family and legal methods and criteria for partner selection;
3. Developing a constructive role, guidance and support parents in marriage and family culture balance;
4. Developing and directing the educational system due to common characteristics and specific roles and enabling women and men and girls and boys for the role of mother and wife to play the role of a father and educate their legal relationship to each other;



5. Develop awareness of safe sex couples with respect to the effect of strengthening the emotional, mental freshness and increase their satisfaction with life and marital ties to a spouse;
6. awareness of rights and responsibilities between spouses, marital and family law, soothing the legal relations associated with good mood and socialize;
7. Improving the Pattern of participation and roles of cultural, social and economic roles of women according to their family while maintaining the value and dignity of women;
8. promoting morality, love and intimacy in relationships of family members;
9. appropriate measures for the reform of laws and legal structures, economic and cultural fields to prevent divorce;
10. measures for prevention of acts of violence against family members;

**Policy implementation:**

- Support the creation of NGOs and people with a focus on scientific and religious institutions and figures of women's participation in these organizations to support a family;
- Cultural activities and promotions to facilitate the marriage of a cultural approach, with the participation of all cultural systems and display advertising and disadvantages of living in celibacy and loneliness;
- Facilitating financial and spiritual support, especially from young families and military school;
- Promoting family participation and action in economic and material needs of young couples for marriage;
- Promoting the views of the community in order to reduce costs, such as dowry-style marriage, dowry and wedding costs, proportionate and avoid heavy costs;
- The development of formal educational and family counseling centers before and after the marriage with government support;
- Enabling family members through the essential skills to meet the basic needs of families through the formal education system and culture;
- Culture and education about the spread of the culture of chastity and moral commitment to family bonds and prevent social ills;

- Preventing corruption, moral, social and legal battle with the main factors Mfsdhangyz to preserve family honor;
- The development of guidance and help centers in the family courts and strengthen them;
- Proportionate representation of the diverse roles of women in attitude and an effective balance between their family and social roles and responsibilities;
- Encouraging families to their own judgment and advice to family disputes and the provision of impartial judgment between spouses;
- Increasing dangerous diseases and genetic counseling and medical tests before marriage to know the physical condition and mental;
- Police and judicial system to deal decisively with offenders and the main factors threatening the family stability;
- Assessment and revision of existing laws and legislation supportive measures necessary for supervising the implementation of laws to consolidate the foundation of the family;
- Introduce complications and negative consequences of divorce to couples and families with emphasis on widows and orphaned;

**Third goal:** the promotion of cultural and educational family members in order to fulfill its role in health and culture

**Guidelines:**

1. The look of determination on the status of women in family and religion systematic emphasis on promoting the role of women in education and culture, and the strength and dynamics of family and community;
2. Quantitative and qualitative coordination and development activities and production of all cultural institutions and groups to enhance the role of the family;
3. research on the problems of the family and its functions and reflect its findings to the community and planning authorities;
4. Develop family awareness to preserve the sanctity of family members, especially the administration, maintenance and remuneration of parents with disabilities and disabled;
5. develop and promote the positive aspects of national and local customs and traditions associated with the family in order to promote a culture of family and community;

6. The development of simple life, contentment, self-reliance, production and consumption in order to correct an appropriate model of economic culture of the family;

**Policy implementation:**

- Educating women and men about the importance of their role in the upbringing of children in accordance with the requirements of the different stages of their development;
- The proposed models of women and families in a variety of movies, newspapers, books and other media and their impact in enhancing the cultural and moral aberrations and appropriate to amend the reference group;
- Identifying the problems of cultural, economic, legal and family members;
- Representation and cultural gap between the generations identify the correct cause of the national comprehensive research and use of findings, especially in the cultural and artistic products;
- To explore and restore the culture of respect for parents and their appreciation and support for the elderly with dignity in media programs;
- Ensure optimal utilization of facilities for leisure and cultural promotion of family members;
- A decrease in advertising and media consumption in order to stop the promotion of the spirit of consumerism;
- Encouraging women to the efficient use of assets and personal savings in the economic cycle and the family;

**Fourth goal:** integration and coordination of all policies and programs to improve the situation of the family in establishing, strengthening and promoting family

**Guidelines:**

- (1) giving priority to families as basic social institution and society according to its interests in policy, legislation and effective family planning and related;
2. The need for a systematic look at the country's development programs to strengthen the family institution and optimizing its functions based on Islamic patterns;
3. strengthening the scientific and religious perspective in the planning of the country with women's affairs and an effective approach to the family;

**Policy implementation:**

- Use appropriate mechanisms by government for the purpose of planning and coordination between different agencies on the implementation of policies and programs related to the family;
- Define criteria and qualitative and quantitative assessment of country development plans and measure performance and progress of executive agencies and based on consistent look to balance family and desirable;

**Fifth goal:** awareness of the rights and duties of family members together and eliminate the wrong attitudes of society

**Guidelines:**

1. The participation of family members in decision making and strengthen the spirit of responsibility, cooperation of family members;
2. The development of public awareness of the requirements of social and family roles and their flexibility than mutual expectations in order to strengthen the family;
3. Awareness and correction of family and community attitudes about women's rights and responsibilities;

**Policy implementation:**

- Modification of textbooks, educational texts and productions of popular culture to teach Islamic moral principles and explain the duties and rights of family members to each other;
- Draw negative effects due to lack of knowledge about the rights and duties of family members, their family and society and their impact on inefficiency and family instability;
- The transfer of culture, creativity and commitment to family and moral condemnation sloth and unemployment among them;
- Due to the positive and negative effects of globalization on the family.

**Sixth goal :** expanding and deepening the noble values of Islam in family upbringing healthy generation, faithful, responsible, and contributing to its development, family and community

**Guidelines:**

1. The guidance and encourage couples to strengthen religious faith and Islamic culture, familiar with duties and customs before pregnancy, during pregnancy and the correct ways of educating children in various age levels;

2. Development of awareness of parents to ensure children's rights in the field of nutrition, physical and mental health, parent education and their access to justice;

3. to help parents prepare their children to grow up and accept and fulfill responsibilities towards individual, family and social;

4. attention and proper role model for parents in children;

**Policy implementation:**

- To explain the positive effects of religious education of children in the development of society;

- Representation of the positive effects of equity between the children and the need to avoid any discrimination based on gender;

- The symbols of the behavior, conduct and behavior of religious parents and their impact on education and religious concepts to children;

- Increasing the awareness of women and girls to practice their faith and act on the basis of deep understanding, intentionally and consciously and showing the effects of adherence to it by refraining from providing artificial rites and rituals;

- Strengthen family relationship with education institutions and coordination among them in order to play better role in raising children;

**Seventh goal:** immunization of vulnerable families and social crisis and to support the affected families

**Guidelines:**

1. Promote awareness of the family about the norms, disorders and injuries in order to deal properly with the problems and crises of social and family life;

(2) protect and prevent vulnerable families through a comprehensive fight against social abnormalities and disorders (addiction, divorce, escape, etc.);

3. adopt appropriate measures to support the families of the injured and reduce the complications of family and social crises;

4. The protection of women and children against any violation of their rights by family and behavioral abnormalities;

**Policy implementation:**

- Training to girls and boys in choosing a spouse with regard to health, religious, intellectual, physical and mental together to prevent social pathologies in life;
- Investigate the causes of cultural and moral disorders among family members and provide solutions to overcome it;
- Teach family members to solve their problems before visiting the organization's logical and legal authorities;
- Full coverage insurance legislation and the development of social and economic support for unemployed women, widows, the elderly, households and children orphaned and housewives;
- Material and spiritual needs of needy and orphaned families, especially women-headed households;
- Tackle social delinquents, gangs, corruption, prostitution and protests in honor of the people and promoters of the culture of banality with the aim of securing and maintaining the integrity of families.

With the approval of the project: objectives and principles and policies to strengthen families and excellence in meeting dated 07.04.84 564 SCCR all concerned executive agencies and entities will be obliged to prepare within its jurisdiction, regulations, guidelines and implementation plans It is based on the aforementioned action plan and annual report to the board of supervision and inspection activities carried out to provide the SCCR.