



**Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Azerbaijan
to the UN Office and other
International Organizations**

GENEVA

Ref: 0449/12/19/23

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan 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 request of Felipe González Morales, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, has the honour to transmit the reply by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the questionnaire on “good practices and initiatives of gender-responsive migration legislation, policies and practices”.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan 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.

Enclosure: 2 pages



Geneva, 22 May 2019

**Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights
GENEVA**

Information provided by State Migration Service regarding the questionnaire on good practices and initiatives of gender-responsive migration legislation, policies, and practices

For the purpose of ensuring equal opportunities for women and men in the political, economic, social, cultural and other spheres of public life and elimination of all forms of discrimination on gender basis Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "on guarantees of gender (men and women) equality" was adopted in October 10, 2006. According to Article 2 of the Law gender equality means the equality of rights of women and men and equal opportunities for the realization of these rights and their equal social status in society. Furthermore, the Law covers articles on the prevention of gender based discrimination, the main directions of state policy on provision of gender equality, the state's obligations to ensure in labour activities, employer's obligations in labour activities, employer's obligations for elimination of discrimination on the grounds of gender, the equal payment of labour, inadmissibility of any pressure against workers exposed to sexual harassment, the equal opportunities for the right to education, discrimination based on sexuality in the activities of educational institutions, gender equality guarantees in economic and social relations, gender equality in non-governmental organizations and trade unions

Since regaining its independence the Republic of Azerbaijan joined almost all essential international documents on the protection of women rights. The Republic of Azerbaijan signed the UN Convention on the Political Rights of Women in August 1992 and in 1995 became a party to the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and signed its Optional Protocol in 2000.

According to part three of Article 25 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the state guarantees equality of rights and liberties of everyone, irrespective of race, nationality, religion, language, sex, origin, financial position, occupation, political convictions, membership in political parties, trade unions and other public organizations. Rights and liberties of a person, citizen cannot be restricted due to race, nationality, religion, language, sex, origin, conviction, political and social belonging.

In line with Article 75 of Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan (<https://migration.gov.az/content/pdf/5b83f1dc9236e> Migration Code EN.pdf) except for cases provided for in the Labour Code (*concessions for women, the handicapped, minors, and others in need of social protection*), same conditions related with employment defined by legislation for the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan is applied to labour migrants and payments for their labour activities are carried out in a way defined by the legislation for citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In compliance with Article 13 of Labour Code foreigners and stateless persons while being in the Republic of Azerbaijan shall enjoy the same rights and have the same obligations as the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The migration legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan is based on the principles of respect to human and civil rights and freedoms, lawfulness, equality before the law and justice, ensuring compliance of the migration legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan with generally accepted international legal norms, application of innovative methods and ensuring transparency in regulation of migration processes. According Article 74 of Migration Code irrespective of their social and property status, race and ethnic origin, sex, language, religion, nature and type of activities and other circumstances foreigners and stateless persons shall be equal before the law and courts in the Republic of Azerbaijan. In 2018, **41030** foreigners and stateless persons are issued temporary residence permits, **3220** foreigners and stateless persons are issued permanent residence permits within the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, **15984** and **1831** out of them were women, respectively. At the same time, during last year, **766** work permits were issued to women out of total **6162** work permits issued to foreigners and stateless persons for carrying out paid labour activity in the Republic of Azerbaijan. Furthermore, since October 2016 the Training Centre of State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan has been organizing courses for foreigners and stateless persons

free of charge for the purpose of teaching the Azerbaijani language, the history of Azerbaijan, its culture, legislation concerning the rights and obligations of foreigners and stateless persons. Thus, since the start date of the courses 2899 foreigners and stateless persons from 47 countries, including 1387 women have attended the courses until the end of 2018.

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