

Examination of the combined 4th and 5th Periodic Reports of Georgia on implementation of the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Dear Chairperson, members of the Committee,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honor and privilege for me to represent Georgian delegation in my capacity as a Head of the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia and the First Deputy Chairperson of the Parliament of Georgia at the 58th session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

Today, Georgian delegation is presented on the high-level as well as mid-level officials with an expertise in particular areas covered by the convention. Georgian delegation is quite large and it includes representatives nearly from all key agencies responsible for the implementation of the Convention. All those agencies, which are not represented here, have participated in the preparatory meetings that were organized in Georgia and already submitted relevant information to the members of the delegation. The fact that today Georgia is represented before the committee with wide-range agencies underscores not only importance that Georgia attaches to the reporting obligations under the convention, but also Georgia's willingness to enhance protection of the women's rights in the Country. To demonstrate this, as one of the example, I would like to proudly mention that on 19 June 2014, Georgia became the 24th member state of the Council of Europe to sign the Istanbul Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence which will enter into force on 1 August 2014.

Composition of Georgian Delegation:

1. Ms. Manana Kobakhidze, Head of the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia, First Deputy Chairperson of the Parliament of Georgia - Head of Georgian Delegation;
2. Ms. Guguli Magradze, Member of the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia, Member of the Parliament of Georgia;
3. Mr. Victor Dolidze, Chairman of the Committee on European Integration, the Parliament of Georgia;
4. Mr. Gocha Lordkipanidze, Deputy Minister of Justice of Georgia;
5. Ms. Ekaterine Kristesashvili, Deputy Minister of Corrections of Georgia;
6. Ms. Nestan Verulashvili, Director of semi-open and closed type penitentiary establishment N5;
7. Ms. Mariam Jashi, Deputy Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia;
8. Ms. Tamaz Tevzadze, Deputy Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia;
9. Ms. Tamar Zhvania, Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Georgia;
10. Mr. Nodar Tangiashvili - Head of Department for International Organizations and Legal Provision, Office of State Minister of Georgia for Reconciliation and Civic Equality;
11. Ms. Medea Gugeshashvili, Deputy Head of the International Relations Department, Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia;

12. Ms. Natia Lanchava, Main Specialist of the International Relations Department, Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia;
13. Ms. Sopio Chantadze, Head of Legislative Analysis and Research Division of the Legal Department, Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia;
14. Ms. Maka Peradze, Head of Project Management Division of the International Relations Department, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia;
15. Ms. Maia Kvirikashvili, Head of Human Rights Protection Unit, Chief Prosecutor's Office of Georgia;
16. Ms. Natia Mezvrishvili, Head of Department of Supervision Over Prosecutorial Activities, Chief Prosecutor's Office of Georgia;
17. Ms. Ana Kutateladze, Adviser to the Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia;
18. Mr. Gocha Kereselidze, Deputy Head of the International Relations Department, Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia;
19. Mr. George Amanatidze, Head of International Law Division, Ministry of Defense of Georgia;
20. Mr. Aleksandre Tsuladze; Head of the Department of Court Statistics and Analysis, Supreme Court of Georgia;
21. Mr. Tengiz Tsekvava, Deputy Executive Director, National Statistics Office of Georgia (GEOSTAT);
22. Ms. Marina Meskhi, Director of State Fund for Protection and Assistance of (Statutory) Victims of Human Trafficking;
23. Ms. Natia Gabitashvili – Chief Specialist, International Relations and Programs Department, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia;
24. Mr. Revaz Tchitchinadze, Georgian Public Broadcaster;
25. Ms. Irine Bartaia, Deputy Director of International Law Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia;
26. Mr. Giorgi Kobakhidze, Specialist at the International Law Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia;
27. Mr. Shalva Tsiskarashvili, Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
28. Mr. Irakli Jgenti, Deputy Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
29. Ms. Eka Kipiani, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva.

Now, I would like to summarize the most recent and important actions undertaken by Georgia in pursuance of its obligations under the Convention.

Legal Framework

I would like to start my presentation with one of the most recent and important development in the legislation of Georgia - the adoption of a comprehensive **anti-discrimination Law** on May 2, 2014 by the Parliament of Georgia. Elaboration of a new anti-discrimination law started in 2012. All line ministries, local and international CSOs actively participated in the drafting process of the law. Feedbacks and recommendations provided by the international organizations and experts have been reflected in the text of the draft law.

New anti-discrimination Law explicitly prohibits discrimination on the ground of gender identity. It also prohibits discrimination in both, the public and private, sector and imposes responsibilities not only on public institutions, but also on any legal entity or individual.

The law envisages empowerment of Public Defender's Office. It will be authorized to monitor the implementation of law.

National Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan: On April 30, 2014, the Parliament of Georgia approved the National Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan. The National Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan prioritizes the main areas of activities and defines the countries policy in the field of human rights till 2020. The Strategy was developed by inter-agency council established by the Governmental Decree and it comprised the Government and NGO representatives.

One of the priorities emphasized in the strategy is ensuring gender equality, protection of women's rights and prevention of domestic violence. Strategy requires the Government to apply gender mainstreaming as the principle in the drafting of its policies and programs and in their monitoring and assessment. **2014-2015 National Action Plan for the Implementation of Human Rights Strategy was approved by Government of Georgia on June 6, 2014.**

The human rights action plan cover in part those fragmented action plans that exist in particular sectors, such as the Gender Equality, Domestic Violence, Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, etc.

Law on Gender Equality: On March, 27 2010, Law on Gender Equality was adopted by the Parliament of Georgia. In pursuant to the Law the Gender Equality Council has been established within the Parliament of Georgia , which is tasked to ensure regular and coordinated work on gender issues.

On December 27, 2011, in accordance with the National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2011-2013, the Parliament of Georgia approved **the 2012-2015 Georgian National Action Plan for the implementation of the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions (NN 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960) on "Women, Peace and Security"**.

Gender Equality Council monitors the implementation of the Action Plan. Relevant ministries in every 3 months represent the reports in terms of the implementation of their obligations.

On January 24, 2014 **National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2014-2016** was adopted by the Parliament, which is in compliance with Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017 and seeks to combat gender stereotypes, violence against women, integrate gender into all programs and policies, abolish negative traditional gender stereotypes, guarantee equal access to justice and balance participation of women in decision-making positions. Action Plan also envisages the gender analyses to the draft of legal acts.

In 2013 New position of **Human Rights and Gender Equality Advisor of the Prime-Minister** was created.

On March 2012, the Criminal Code of Georgia was amended and any action based on **gender identity constitutes a crime committed in aggravating circumstances.**

On December 28, 2011, in order to enhance women participation in politics, Organic law on Political Unions of Citizens was amended.

According to the amendment any political party will receive the supplementary funding with the amount of 10% if in the submitted party list (in all party list – for the local government elections) among every 10 candidate gender differences is represented by at least 20%.

Recent Amendment (which enters into force upon finishing 2014 local self-government elections) increased supplementary funding up to 30% if in the submitted list among every 10 candidate gender differences is represented by at least 30%.

Furthermore, on June 27, 2014 Georgia signed an Association Agreement with the European Union, which *inter alia* directly addresses the question of anti-discrimination and gender equality.

In 1995, at the Fourth World Conference on Women, Georgia was among the 189 Member States of the United Nations who adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA). Georgia is expected to fulfill obligations endorsed by the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, Peace and Security for increasing women's role in peace-building and conflict transformation and the Millennium Development Goal #3 (MDG) on Promoting Equality and Empowering Women by 2015.

Maternity rights

In December 2012 the Georgian Government started systemic and conceptual review of the Labor Code of Georgia with the aim to bring its labor laws to full compliance with the international labor conventions and incorporated best international practices significantly enhancing the protection of women's rights.

Starting from January 2014, Maternity Leave policy has been improved, both in terms of remuneration (from GEL 600 to 1000) and the lengths (from 4 to 6 months) as compared to 2013.

In addition, Labor Code guarantees that working overtime of pregnant women or women having recently given birth is prohibited.

Furthermore, Labor Code ensures maternity child care, newborn adoption and extra Maternity or child care leaves of absence.

Apart from this, terminating labor relations shall be inadmissible during the period from notifying the employer by a female employee about her pregnancy.

According to the draft of amendments the status and definition of single mother will be introduced to the Civil Code of Georgia. They will enjoy additional benefits in accordance with the draft of amendments to the Labor Code and Law on Social Assistance.

In terms of an improved protection of women's social-economic rights the Livelihood State Strategy and Action Plan was worked out by the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia which encourages special support of female-

headed families and single mothers through improved livelihood opportunities, including the women in the ABL zone.

Survival and rights

National laws and regulations as well as State and donor-supported health programmes guarantee equal access to financial health protection for both men and women.

Within the framework of the Universal Health Care programme launched by the Government in 2013, every woman is guaranteed with a basic package of perinatal care services, including financial protection for both normal and C-section. Cost related to antenatal care as well management of pregnancy-related complications are also covered by the state health programmes. Since 2005 women are also secured with breast and cervical cancer screening services within relevant age groups.

Georgia made a significant progress vis-à-vis health-related MDG targets, including 54% reduction of maternal mortality rates (from 49.2 per 100,000 live births to 22.9 by 2013); scaling up of 4 antenatal care visits from 60% in 2001 to 84% in 2013; reduction of total abortion rates from 3.7 to 1.6 and reduction of unmet needs for family planning services from 27% to 18% in 2000-2010 period.

However, still the country needs to improve regionalization and standardization of perinatal care for further reduction of maternal losses and improvement of reproductive health outcomes.

Finally, Georgia is discussing the issue of selective abortion due to 1.09 gender ratio at birth and has already started a comprehensive analysis and programming in close partnership with UN agencies (UNFPA).

Human Rights situation in the occupied territories of Georgia

While the Government of Georgia spares no effort to ensure women's liberties in the country and strengthen women's role in security and peace building, we are facing major challenges in the occupied regions of Georgia. Concomitant to the installation of barbwire fences along the occupation line with the Abkhazia, Georgia and Tskhinvali region, Georgia heavy restrictions on the freedom of movement have been imposed extending even to the most vulnerable population - in need of urgent medical assistance - and expectant mothers. Unfortunately, such restrictions have even led to casualties, when four women died en route to hospital, including one pregnant, after being refused passage through the occupation line. Despite the numerous calls of international community, up to half a million internally displaced persons and refugees, among them several hundreds of thousands women, continue to be deprived of their fundamental right to safe and dignified return.

The Government of Georgia spares no efforts to cater for the needs of people on both sides of the occupation line. Our human-centric and pragmatic approach means putting humanitarian issues first.

Under the Engagement Strategy, the Government provides ambulance cars and totally free-of-charge medical treatment for any patients from the occupied regions, including for women, while with the help of international organizations the government provides medicines and vaccines for the residents of Abkhazian region of Georgia.

Through the special interagency commission set up in October 2013 we are trying to assist, together with the UN agencies and the donor community, with the basic needs of the population who live close to the barbed wires.

The Government of Georgia is highly committed to overcome the current impasse and to ensure that human rights and freedoms are adequately protected on its entire territory including occupied regions. We remain hopeful that the international community will adequately react to the illegal activities in the occupied regions of Georgia and the ongoing violations of human rights.

Domestic Violence: Law on Elimination of Domestic Violence, Protection and Assistance of the Victims of Domestic Violence was adopted on June 9, 2006.

National Action Plan for 2013-2015 on the Elimination of Domestic Violence was adopted by the Presidential Decree of July 17, 2013.

Government of Georgia prioritizes promotion of capacity building of law enforcements on domestic violence; since the criminalization of domestic violence, the law enforcements are regularly trained on the issues related to domestic violence.

Chief Prosecutor's office is starting a new wave of trainings for prosecutors in close cooperation with UN Women. By the end of 2014, around 200 inter-prosecutors and practicing prosecutors will be trained on gender equality and issues related to violence against women and domestic violence.

Trafficking Issues

Combating trafficking in Human Beings remains one of the top priorities for the Government. In order to proactively reveal facts of trafficking, effectively investigate and prosecute trafficking cases, several complementary measures were taken:

- Trafficking inspection mobile groups composed of representatives of law enforcements agencies were created;
- Special Anti-trafficking Unit under the Ministry of Internal Affairs was established in Adjara Region;
- Task Force consisting of acting investigators and prosecutors was installed;
- Guidelines for law enforcements was elaborated by Inter-Agency Council;
- Respective trafficking Article of criminal code of Georgia was amended which is now more unambiguous and clear.

All these efforts brought tangible outcomes and since last year investigations increased by 60%, we have 3 times more prosecutions and 6 times more convictions than during 2012. We also pay particular attention to expanding international cooperation in combating cross-border trafficking - the recent extradition of the perpetrator to Republic of Turkey is the case in point.

When it comes to the protection and assistance of the victims of trafficking, the efforts of the State Fund for the Protection and Assistance of the Victims of trafficking should be noted, as it continuous to provide: a) Shelters; b) Legal aid; c) Physiological and medical assistance; d) Rehabilitation and

reintegration measures to the victims since 2006. State Fund is equipped with relevant services and staff to meet the special needs of women and girls.

Representation of women in the different fields of public life

Today women hold four key Ministerial portfolios in Justice, Education and Science, Foreign Affairs and Environmental Protection. Women also lead the National Security Council and the Central Election Committee of the country.

2012 General elections resulted in 11% representation of women MPs (17/150 MPs), thereby surpassing for the first time the 10% threshold. It should be noted that during the last 2 decades proportion of women MPs varied from 5 to 9%.

According to the Central Election Commission's results for the 2014 Municipal Elections, the increased number of the positions in all local councils as well as possibility of independent candidates to run for the elections resulted in increased number of elected women. While 96 women by proportional and 73 women by majoritarian system were elected in 2010, number of elected women in 2014 amounts to 158 proportional lists and 83 on the majoritarian tickets.

It is also worth noting that number of women candidates for 2014 elections was also larger compared to the 2010 Municipal Elections. In 2010, from 6,448 candidates total, running for proportional seats, 1,306 (20.25%) were women; and among the 3,878 candidates running for single mandate seats 408 (10.52%) were women.

While in the 2014 Municipal Elections, there were total of 13,709 candidates running for proportional seats, and 4,132 (30.14%) were women; there were 6,015 candidates running for single mandate majoritarian districts and 912 (15.16%) were women.

It should be noted that the number of women candidates on the proportional lists has increased by 10% (9.89%) and number of women candidates on the majoritarian ticket has increased by 5% (4.64%) compared to the 2010 Municipal Elections.

Economic empowerment of women has been also visible since 1994 with 30% of women being primary breadwinners and 20% heading business enterprises.

Participatory Gender Audit Methodology: In November 2012, jointly with the International Labor Organization (ILO), UN Women introduced the Participatory Gender Audit Methodology (PGA) to integrate gender issues in all areas. PGA was conducted within the Parliament of Georgia by a group of one international and two local experts, which started collecting data in September 2013 and finally the report brought together both findings and recommendations. The recommendations presented by the audit correspond to the "List of issues" designed by CEDAW, adopted by Georgia after the fourth and fifth initial hearing of the consolidated report, this is a pointer for Parliament to take priority steps forward in achieving gender equality.

Institute of Advisor on Gender Equality: All self-Governing cities and municipalities in the country received a recommendation from the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure to appoint

an advisor on Gender Equality one to support implementation of the Law on Gender Equality and the action plan.

The gender advisors were appointed (At this time 45 person) on gender mainstreaming which included training for staff and villages representatives and the establishment of Women's Rooms; resource centers for women located inside the municipality building and funded and staffed by the municipality. This laid the basis to the new institution of gender advisor in self-governing institutions which currently is at an early stage of development.

The Central Election Commission (the CEC) has emerged as a leader in the field of gender programming. Throughout the reporting period, the CEC was active in delivering programs aimed at empowering women in elections and particularly targeted three groups of women: women voters, women candidates and women election administration workers.

The CEC has a Gender Equality Commission launched in 2011 comprised of the CEC members and senior staff tasked to support the implementation of the gender policy at the election administration.

In addition, the CEC employs an advisor to the chairperson, also female, who is responsible for the creation and implementation of the CEC's gender programming and coordinating CEC's gender work with other stakeholders.

Financial support

In order to improve access to financial resources for agricultural activities government introduced the Preferential Agro Credit programme – step forward to the improved access to the financial resources for farmers and entrepreneurs engaged in agro processing industry, (credits from GEL 5 thousand to GEL 1 million)

Since the launch of the programme (03.2013), approximately 16 000 farmers/producers, both men and women, have benefited from the Preferential Agro Credit. The sum of the preferential agro credit amounts 340 mln GEL.

Nearly all agreements related to loan financing of investment projects in public sectors include Gender Component. This in some cases envisages preparation of Gender Action Plan for Investment program/project.

In 2013 and 2014 the new government prioritized social expenditures over other objectives and increased its social obligations. We have already increased public spending on healthcare, education, and pensions. In 2012 expenditures directed to social sector amounted to 7.1% of GDP, in 2013 it was 8.6% of GDP and in 2014 it is estimated 9.6% of GDP.

The Action Plan for 2014-2015 on Measures on Implementation of Gender Equality Policy envisages Gender Equality aspects during formation of the State Budget. It means, that the spending institution shall foresee gender aspects during planning budget for implementation of the specific programme.

Educational Activities

Education represents one of the rarest spheres of the public life in Georgia, where the problem of discrimination against women is less.

Nevertheless, the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) assumed an obligation to take appropriate measures to ensure that gender-responsive legal and policy framework in education system of Georgia is in place.

The process of revising the National Curriculum for 2011-2016 is underway. Considerable part of it will be devoted to civil education component with an emphasis on gender equality and fight against all forms of discrimination.

The MoES is committed to take appropriate awareness-raising measures at all levels of education in Georgia. Furthermore, gender-responsive training modules for civil education teachers have been prepared; teachers of civil education have been trained. Civil Education Trainers and school teachers of social sciences were trained on issues of gender equality.

In 2014, the Psychological Center operating under the MoES conducted specialized Training of Psychologist Trainers (TOT) in interviewing techniques for effectively identifying the victims of violence (bullying at schools, domestic violence etc.) and especially sexual violence.

In 2013, with a view to enhance gender equality in Georgia, several projects were implemented at various vocational educational institutions in the regions of Georgia. According to the latest statistical indicators on female participation in vocational education in Georgia, there is a positively increasing trend.

The MoES conducts a number of activities for teachers, as well as school girls residing in the regions of Georgia densely populated with ethnic minorities, in two directions: (1) awareness-raising on discrimination and domestic violence; (2) human rights and freedoms, including gender rights.

The MoES implements the program aimed at strengthening general education within the penitentiary establishments in Georgia. The given program provides female juvenile convicts an opportunity to receive General Education at the Women's Fifth (5th) semi-open and closed penitentiary establishment.

The MoES have prepared program "Scientific Research Grant for Georgian Women". The given joint program intends to promote talented female PHD students to carry out their PHD and facilitate the enhancement of female participation in scientific researches.

The Institute for Gender Studies has been recently established at Tbilisi State University. It offers interdisciplinary Master's program in Gender Studies, which is the first and the only graduate level program in Gender Studies throughout the Caucasus region.

Information on Military Service

Gender Equality Strategy: In 2014, Ministry of Defense adopted the document on gender equality which in accordance with the Constitution of Georgia defines the main guarantees to provide equal rights, freedoms and opportunities of men and women and takes into account international obligations of Georgia.

Tests on Military Service: Georgian legislation has determined different physical test requirements for men and women at the time of the recruitment in the armed forces and periodical testing. Georgian legislation has established lighter physical test requirements for women in order to stimulate their recruitment and service in the armed forces. Moreover, according to the strategy, Legal Entities of Public Law of the Ministry of Defense of Georgia and structural subdivisions of General Staff shall support women's participation in the decision-making process via their involvement in deliberative bodies, commissions and working groups.

Eradication of Violence: According to the strategy Sexual violence, more specifically sexual contact via violence, menace of violence, making use of the victim's weakness, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization and any type of sexual activity that contradicts to the will of the victim and can harm him/her physically, morally, physiologically, represents inadmissible action and is the object of punishment in accordance with the Georgian legislation, thus complying with the international obligations.

Educational Programs: Educational institutions existing in the MOD system and Human Recourse Management and Professional Development Department provide educational modules on Gender Equality and UN Security Council Resolution N1325. They also craft study materials and organize courses in various educational institutions accordingly (There is special training program on Gender Equality and on UN Security Council Resolution N1325 within the National Defense Academy).

Police sector

Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia has elaborated **2014-2016 Gender Action Plan** within the institution, with the objective of increasing the number of and strengthening the role of women in Police. Ministry also undertakes efforts to ensure the equality and development opportunities for female employees, whether by specially targeted capacity building activities for them or awareness raising measures on gender equality issues. MIA annually conducts needs assessment analysis, based on which capacity building activities for employees are planned/organized, including in the areas of gender equality and responding to gender based violence, in particular domestic violence. Since 2007 Domestic Violence course is a part of the mandatory curriculum for the students of patrol police and district police faculties of the MIA Academy. Within the framework of awareness raising activities, MIA representatives actively participate in TV and Radio shows dedicated to women's rights and informs public about existing legal mechanisms. MIA has also initiated cycle of short documentary films, inspired by real cases of domestic violence and other gender based violence.

Penitentiary system

Women deprived of liberty are protected from gender-based discrimination in the Georgian penitentiary system. Both, pre-trial and sentenced female prisoners are located in a separate from male penitentiary institution of a mixed – semi-open and closed type - regime. Pregnant female inmates and those with children up to 3 years are located in a separate "Mother and Child Unit" of the same penitentiary establishment and are provided with a specialized treatment including specific food ratio, medical care, hygiene and etc. All female inmates are entitled to 4 m² and those in pre-trial detention to 3 m², similar to the entitlements provided to male prison population. Female inmates are entitled to the higher number of short-term visits and phone calls than male inmates. Since May 2014, a separate Parole Board for the consideration of the cases of female inmates has been

established and Individual Sentence Planning methodology was piloted after being successfully tested in juvenile establishment.

From 2013 general healthcare service came in line with the standard available in civil healthcare sector and is equally accessible to all female and male prison population without any discrimination but also taking into consideration specific healthcare needs of female prisoners. In concrete, the Primary Healthcare Unit containing ambulatory, lab, gynecological, dental and other services is functioning on the territory of the female penitentiary establishment and referral services are available in 64 different civilian hospitals. Various program for prevention of breast cancer, medical and rehabilitation services for drug dependents are accessible to female inmates. During 2013-2014 death rate of female inmates equaled zero.

The Ministry of Corrections is currently in the process of finalizing the development of the comprehensive strategy (2015-2020) and Action plan (2015-2017) drafted in line with the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial measures for Women Offenders (Bangkok Rules). Training modules on the application of Bangkok Rules are being developed with the technical assistance of the UN Women.

Cultural Activities: Within the frames of the Gender Equality action plan 2014-2016, Ministry of Culture and Monument protection of Georgia (MoC) has an obligation to promote gender equality through encouraging projects dedicated to gender issues.

Besides this obligation during the recent years MoC supported different projects concerning gender issues such as funding of the translation and publication of books written by feminine Georgian writers on gender-related issues.

Moreover Ministry of Culture and Monument protection of Georgia provides support to the cultural life of National Minorities, through several organizations like museums, theatres and culture centers. Moreover, since 2009, MoC has developed “National Minorities Culture Support Program” in the framework of which many initiatives have been financed. With the help of the program MoC annually supports project of Azeri tapestry and carpet weaving technology, which has been revived in the communities of Kvemo Kartli densely populated by Azerbaijani nationalities and master classes for women.

The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia - takes into account international obligations of Georgia and assumes obligations to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in order to ensure Gender Equality in the field of education.

The Ministry is implementing and considering the articles of the CEDAW - PART II, Article 7(c) regarding the participation the public and political life; PART III, Article 10 (g) about the same opportunities to receive sport and physical education.

The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia works for raising awareness on gender equality and promotes anti-discrimination policy, encourages Sport Federations to provide “sport for all”.

Public Broadcaster: In accordance with the *Law of Georgia on Broadcasting* Broadcaster must reflect in its programs ethnic, cultural, language, religious, age and gender diversities, existing in society;

According to the data of the Public Broadcaster “Radio 1” in the second quarter of 2014, 4,6% of the whole broadcasting time is used to cover women issues. Various programs in the Public Broadcaster First Channel program net use a large part of their time to cover an issue of women’s rights aim to hinder strengthening gender stereotypes in the society, show equality in the society and a role of a woman. Women and politics, women’s rights were systematically publicized in the television as well as in the radio projects.

I have summarized the actions taken by the Georgian authorities for the fulfillment of CEDAW obligations. In conclusion of my presentation, I would like to reiterate the firm commitment of my Country to strengthening the implementation of the CEDAW convention and the protection of the rights of women.

Thank you for your attention.