



**International Baby Food Action Network - IBFAN**  
*Red internacional de grupos pro alimentación infantil*  
*Réseau international des groupes d'action pour*  
*l'alimentation infantile*

**Geneva Infant Feeding Association - GIFA**

**1998 Recipient of the Right Livelihood Award**



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## **IBFAN-GIFA Recommendations to CEDAW regarding Maternal Health and Work-related issues,**

### **Uzbekistan**

#### **Session 45, January 2010**

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Members of the CEDAW Committee

Geneva, 11 January 2010

Dear Members of the CEDAW Committee,

For the very first time we would like to send your Committee a very brief report concerning information related to CEDAW articles 11 and 12 in **Uzbekistan**.

#### **1) Data (from UNICEF Breastfeeding indicators, State of the World Children, 2008)**

Exclusive breastfeeding:	Before 6 months:	19%
Timely complementary feeding:	6-9 months:	49%
Continued breastfeeding rate	20-23 months:	45%

Even if the breastfeeding situation in the country has been improving during the last years, these rates are still very low. They seem to indicate the lack of access of parents - mothers in particular - to information concerning optimal infant and young child feeding and the risks of not breastfeeding, including for their own health and child spacing.

#### **2) Data on Maternal mortality rate (from UNICEF Breastfeeding indicators, State of the World Children, 2008)**

2003-2008 reported	28
Adjusted	24
Lifetime risk of maternal death: 1 in:	1400

There is room for improvement as these rates are very low.

#### **3) Maternity Protection at work (Source: ILO, Conditions of work and employment programme)**

Maternity protection is provided for all women under the Labour Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan (1995). It guarantees 126 calendar days of maternity leave (70 before and 56 after birth). Women are guaranteed 100% cash benefits covered from the state social security scheme.

4) **IBFAN-GIFA's recommendations:**

- **Implement policies and regulations on breastfeeding promotion, protection and support;**
- **Provide reproductive health care and medication, including antenatal and post natal care as well as qualified assistance during delivery; Provide free access to these services for all women;**
- **Provide paid maternity leave for women working in all sectors of the economy, including the private sector and the informal economy.**

We thank you for your assistance and understanding, and hope that it will be possible to bring up these issues during the country review.

Yours sincerely,

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