

Introductory Remarks

By

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Head of Delegation of the People's Republic of China at the Consideration of China's Ninth Periodic Report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

中国代表团团长黄晓薇在中国参加《消除对妇女一切形式歧视公约》 履约审议会议上的介绍性发言

(2023年5月12日)

主席女士、各位专家,女士们,先生们:

很荣幸代表中国政府就执行《消除对妇女一切形式歧视公约》第九次履约报告作介绍性发言。首先,我谨代表中国代表团全体成员,感谢主席女士的卓越领导,感谢委员会各位专家为此次审议所做的充分准备。

作为《消除对妇女一切形式歧视公约》缔约国,中国政府始终恪守公约精神,履行公约义务,按期提交国家报告。此次派出由中央政府、香港特区政府和澳门特区政府组成的高级别代表团参加审议。中央政府代表团成员来自全国人民代表大会社会建设委员会、最高人民法院、中央组织部、国务院新闻办公室、中央统战部、外交部、教育部、国家民族事务委员会、公安部、民政部、司法部、人力资源和社会保障部、国家卫生健康委员会、国家统计局、国家疾病预防控制局、国务院妇女儿童工作委员会办公室等负责促进妇女发展与权益保障的主要部门,我们愿以坦诚、开放的态度与委员会各位专家开展建设性对话。

主席女士、各位专家,

为做好提交第九次履约报告工作,中国成立了由 29 个 部门组成的工作组共同撰写履约报告。报告起草高度重视非 政府组织参与,工作组吸纳研究机构、专家学者参与撰写,多次征询性别研究和妇女发展领域二十多家具有代表性的社会组织、研究机构和 31 个省区市妇女组织的意见,充分体现了中国政府在履约问题上开放透明、认真负责的态度。报告于 2020 年 3 月按期提交,全面反映了 2014 年审议以来中国促进男女平等和妇女全面发展的政策、实践和成就,提供了落实上次审议结论性意见的最新进展。2023 年 2 月,中国政府根据委员会初审问题单,按期提交了补充答复材料。其中,香港、澳门特区的履约报告和答复材料由两特区政府各自撰写。

主席女士、各位专家,

中国政府高度重视男女平等和妇女全面发展,习近平主席在2015年、2020年召开的全球妇女峰会和联合国大会纪念北京世妇会25周年高级别会议上,提出保障妇女权益必须上升为国家意志、推动妇女走在时代前列等重要主张。自上次审议以来,中国妇女事业取得历史性成就,妇女和经济社会同步发展迈上新台阶。

第一,持续完善全面保障妇女权益的法律体系。2016年《反家庭暴力法》实施以来,中国不断强化发现报告、告诫书、人身安全保护令等家庭暴力干预手段,建立多部门合作机制。2018年修订《农村土地承包法》,农村妇女在土地权证上"证上有名、名下有权"得到保障。2020年颁布《民法典》,明确夫妻共同债务范围,完善离婚经济补偿制度,细化防治性骚扰等条款。2022年修订《妇女权益保障法》,进一步强化政府主体责任,最大限度采纳上次审议意见,明确将"歧视"定义的"限制、排斥妇女"作为禁止性条款,规

定就业性别歧视等救济途径。中国建立了包括 100 多部法律 法规在内的全面保障妇女权益法律体系,国家和 31 个省区 市均建立法规政策性别平等评估机制。

第二,持续实施促进妇女全面发展的国家行动计划。中国在 2016-2020 年、2021-2025 年两个国民经济和社会发展五年规划中,设置促进男女平等和妇女全面发展专门章节,并将妇女发展重点目标任务纳入健康教育、民政事业、乡村振兴、法治建设等重大专项规划。中国人权行动计划设置妇女权益专节,保障阶段性目标实现。中国 56 个民族一律平等,少数民族妇女合法权益得到更好保障。在全面评估 2011-2020 年中国妇女发展纲要实施情况基础上,全面回应妇女发展新需求,制定新周期十年纲要,31 个省区市、260余个地市和 2000 多个县区结合本地实际制定妇女发展规划,政府各职能部门和社会组织协力推进实施。中国制定性别统计监测方案,设置 1300 余项直接反映妇女发展的指标和经济社会发展分性别指标,定期公布妇女儿童状况统计资料。

第三,妇女生存发展状况显著改善。中国打赢人类历史上最大规模的脱贫攻坚战,提前十年实现 2030 年可持续发展议程减贫目标,4416 万农村妇女摆脱绝对贫困,国家表彰的 10 名 脱贫攻坚楷模中 5 名是女性,妇女是减贫贡献者,更是脱贫受益者。中国建成世界上规模最大的社会保障体系,妇女平等享有养老、医疗、生育、失业、工伤各类社会保险待遇,其中,包括少数民族妇女、残疾妇女、老年妇女在内的 6.6 亿妇女参加基本医疗保险,较上次审议时新增3.53 亿人。包括妇女在内的 8500 万残疾人在康复、教育、就业及精神文化方面获得全面支持,900 万困难和重度残疾妇女享受特殊补贴。

第四,坚持生命至上妇女健康水平大幅提升。中国妇女人均预期寿命已超过80岁。2022年,孕产妇死亡率下降到15.7/10万,较上次审议时下降了27.6%,农村地区降幅大于城市,提前实现联合国2030年可持续发展议程目标。三年疫情期间,中国针对孕产妇患者建立急诊急救绿色通道,孕产妇死亡率年降幅达4%以上。中国积极响应世界卫生组织倡议,重视妇女宫颈癌和乳腺癌防治,已面向农村妇女和城市低收入妇女开展免费宫颈癌筛查1.8亿人次,乳腺癌筛查近1亿人次,中央投入近25亿元救助贫困患病妇女。

第五,积极保障女童和妇女平等受教育权。过去十年,中国财政性教育经费支出占国内生产总值比例保持在4%以上,城乡免费义务教育全面实现,女童小学净入学率自2015年开始保持在99.9%以上,基本无性别差距,就学的残疾女生超过50%在普通学校就读。普通高中在校女生连续7年超半数,高等教育本专科、研究生在校生中女生占比均超过男生。西藏、新疆实现了从学前到高中阶段15年免费教育。2020年,全国11亿多15岁以上人口平均受教育年限性别差距缩小至0.6年。中国同联合国教科文组织合作设立女童和妇女教育奖,激励更多人投身公平教育事业。

第六,着力消除针对妇女一切形式的暴力。中国连续制定实施反对拐卖人口行动计划,坚持预防为主,开展专项打击行动,2013年至2022年破获拐卖妇女儿童案件1.8万起,十年间拐卖案件降幅达到86.2%。秉持"零容忍"态度,加重对强奸、猥亵等性侵犯罪案件刑罚力度,持续发布典型案例,规范法律适用标准,发挥震慑犯罪作用。组织城乡社区工作者、妇联工作者经常性入户走访,为包括精神和智力残疾妇女在内的困难妇女和家庭提供服务。开展妇女法律援

助、司法救助行动,积极为受害人提供心理康复和社工服务。上次审议以来,每年约有35万名妇女获得法律援助。

第七,积极推动妇女广泛参与决策和管理。中国的选举法明确规定全国和地方各级人民代表大会要逐步提高妇女代表的比例。今年,第十四届全国人大代表中女性占比26.5%,较上次审议时提高3.1个百分点,省、市、县三级人大代表中女性占比分别提高了5.1、6.8和7.4个百分点。企业职工董事、职工监事、职工代表大会中女性占比三分之一左右。村民委员会、城市居民委员会成员中女性占比26.8%、54.4%,较上次审议时分别提高4个和6个百分点。在城乡社区建立38万余个妇女议事会,成为妇女参与基层社会治理的重要载体。

第八,着力促进妇女参与高质量发展。中国女性就业人员占比保持在四成以上,互联网领域创业者中女性占 55%,数字贸易、电商、直播等新就业形态中的妇女从业者占比约三分之一。中国出台专项措施支持女性科技人才成长,女科技工作者占比达到 45.8%,国家自然科学基金专家库中女性评审专家超过 7.8万人,占比提升至 28.3%,女性在科技决策中的参与度不断提高。越来越多的中国女性成为各行各业的佼佼者,她们的独立精神和独特作用受到全社会广泛推崇,影响并激励更多女性走在时代前列,做伟大事业的建设者、文明风尚的倡导者、敢于追梦的奋斗者。

在促进中国妇女全面发展的同时,中国高度重视开展妇女领域的国际交流与合作,与140多个国家的妇女组织、机构保持友好交往,进行交流互鉴,开展务实合作。连续向联合国妇女署捐款,支持联合国在消除暴力、歧视、贫困等老问题上加大投入,在解决性别数字鸿沟等新挑战上有所作

为。力所能及向发展中国家妇女儿童提供物资捐助和能力建设培训,为全球妇女事业进步作出积极贡献,推动妇女目标成为 2030 年可持续发展议程的早期收获。

主席女士、各位专家,

中国作为发展中大国,消除性别歧视仍面临诸多挑战。比如,妇女城乡区域群体间发展不平衡不充分问题仍然存在,对妇女的隐性就业歧视未完全消除,妇女参与国家和经济文化社会事务管理的水平有待提升,侵害妇女人身财产权益的个案仍有发生,妇女发展的社会环境需要进一步优化,实现男女平等还需要付出更大努力。

中国共产党第二十次全国代表大会擘画了以中国式现代化全面推进中华民族伟大复兴的宏伟蓝图。前不久,习近平主席发出全球文明倡议。推进中国式现代化建设,共建一个文明和谐的世界,都离不开妇女的广泛参与,也将为妇女全面发展开辟更加广阔的前景。我们将进一步保障妇女平等依法行使民主权利、平等参与经济社会发展、平等享有改革发展成果。在此,我代表中国代表团全体成员,欢迎主席女士和各位委员提出建设性意见,中国将认真研究采纳。中国也将继续与国际社会加强交流、深化合作,共同促进全球妇女事业发展。

主席女士、各位专家,

根据《中华人民共和国香港特别行政区基本法》和《中华人民共和国澳门特别行政区基本法》,两特区因适用《公约》有关规定所产生的国际权利和义务由中国政府承担,其执行《公约》情况的报告由两特区撰写,涉及特区履约的情

况由特区代表作阐述。下面,请来自香港特别行政区的林雪丽秘书长和澳门特别行政区的韩卫局长分别作介绍性发言。 谢谢主席女士和各位专家。

Introductory Statement by H.E. Mme. Huang Xiaowei, Head of the Chinese Delegation, at the Consideration of China's Ninth Periodic Report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Madam Chairperson, Members of the Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I'm greatly honoured to make this introductory statement on behalf of the Chinese government at the consideration of China's Ninth Periodic Report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women(hereinafter referred to as the Convention). First of all, I would like to thank Madam Chairperson for your outstanding leadership and all members of the Committee for the conscientious preparations for this consideration.

As a State Party to the Convention, the Chinese government adheres to the spirit of the Convention, fulfills its obligations and submits State Party reports on schedule. For this consideration, China has sent a high-level delegation consisting of the central government, the governments of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) and Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR). Delegates of the central government are from major departments and ministries responsible for promoting women's development and protecting

their rights and interests, including the Social Development Committee of the National People's Congress, the Supreme People's Court, the Organization Department of the CPC Central Committee, the Information Office of the State Council, the United Front Work Department of the CPC Central Committee, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, the National Ethnic Affairs Commission, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Civil Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, the National Health Commission, the National Bureau of Statistics, the National Administration for Disease Prevention and Control, and the Office of the National Working Committee on Children and Women under the State Council. We are ready to engage in constructive dialogues with the Committee in an open and candid manner.

Madam Chairperson, Members of the Committee,

To prepare for the State Party report, China set up a working group composed of 29 ministries and departments. In drafting the report, we highly value the participation and inputs of NGOs. Academics and experts from research institutes participated in the drafting. We also solicited opinions from over 20 social organizations, institutions on gender studies and women's development as well as women's organizations in 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities on many occasions. This fully demonstrates China's openness, transparency and a responsible approach on the implementation

of the Convention. The report was submitted in March 2020 on schedule, providing a comprehensive reflection on China's policies, practices and achievements in promoting equality between men and women and women's all-round development, as well as the latest developments and progress on implementing the concluding observations of the last consideration. In February 2023, the Chinese government submitted replies to the Committee's List of Issues. In the meantime, the government of Hong Kong SAR and the government of Macao SAR drafted and submitted their respective implementation reports and replies to the Committee's List of Issues.

Madam Chairperson, Members of the Committee,

The Chinese government attaches great importance to equality between men and women and women's all-round development. While attending the Global Leaders' Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in 2015 and the UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women in 2020, Chinese President Xi Jinping put forward important propositions including making the protection of women's rights and interests commitment at the national level and promoting women to advance at the forefront of the times. Since its last consideration, historical achievements have been made in China women's cause which has embarked on a new stage in tandem with economic and social development.

First, we have continuously improved the legal system for the comprehensive protection of women's rights and interests. Since the implementation of the Anti-Domestic Violence Law in 2016, China has intensified its intervention against domestic violence such as introducing a compulsory reporting mechanism, issuing warning papers and personal safety protective orders, and has established a multi-sector cooperation mechanism. With the Law on Rural Land Contracting amended in 2018, women are guaranteed their names on the land rights certificate and corresponding rights. The Civil Code, promulgated in 2020, explicitly defines the scope of couple's joint debt, improves economic compensation mechanism in divorce, and specifies clauses on the prevention and penalty of sexual harassment. In 2022, the Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Women was amended, which emphasizes major responsibilities of the government. The amendment adopted the CEDAW committee's recommendation of defining "discrimination" in its last concluding observations to the largest extent by introducing a prohibitive clause as "restricting or excluding women". Means of remedy for employment discrimination are also included. China has now put in place a complete legal system comprising over 100 laws and regulations on protecting women's rights and interests. China has also ushered in an assessment and evaluation mechanism on gender equality policies and regulations at the national level as well as in 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities.

Second, we have implemented national action plans for promoting women's all-round development on a continued basis. In the Five-Year Programs for National Economic and Social Development for the years 2016 to 2020 and 2021-2025, there are chapters specifically on gender equality and women's all-round development. Major goals and tasks have been incorporated into department-specific programs for health, education, civil affairs, rural revitalization, the rule of law and etc. The National Human Rights Action Plan of China sets a special section on women's rights protection to ensure the realization of phase-specific goals. With all the 56 ethnic groups in China being equal, the legitimate rights and interests of women of ethnic minorities are even better protected. Based on the outcome of the comprehensive monitoring and evaluation of the China National Program for Women's Development (2011-2020) and in response to new requirements for women's development, China has formulated a new ten-year program for women's development. All 31 provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities, over 260 cities and 2000-plus counties and districts have formulated respective programs accordingly in line with local realities. Various functional departments of the government and social organizations have collaborated in their implementation. China has developed a gender statistics setting over 1,300 indicators, monitoring mechanism, including those directly reflecting women's development and other gender-based indicators for economic and development. Statistics and data concerning women and

children are published regularly.

Third, we have significantly improved the livelihood and status of women. China has won the battle against poverty of the largest scale in human history, achieving the poverty reduction goal of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ten years ahead of schedule with 44.16 million rural women out of poverty. Among the ten national role models for poverty alleviation endeavours, five are women. Women both contribute to and benefit from poverty reduction. China has built up the largest social security system in the world. Women enjoy equal benefits and social insurances including old-age, health care, child-birth, unemployment and work-related injury insurances. 660 million women, including women of ethnic minorities, with disabilities and the elderly, are covered by basic health care insurances, an increase of 353 million compared with that of the last consideration. 85 million people with disabilities, including women, enjoy full support in rehabilitation, education, employment and intellectual-cultural needs. Nine million women in difficulties or with serious disabilities are entitled to special government subsidies.

Fourth, we have put people's lives first and improved the health of women remarkably. Chinese women's average life expectancy has exceeded 80. In 2022, maternal mortality rate declined to 15.7 per 100, 000, down by 27.6% compared with that of the last consideration, with the drop in the rural areas larger than in the urban areas, achieving the goal of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ahead of schedule.

During the three years of COVID-19 pandemic, green channels for emergency treatment of pregnant women were established, and annual drop of maternal mortality rate remained at above 4%. In active response to the initiatives of the World Health Organization, China attaches high importance to the prevention and treatment of cervical cancer and breast cancer and has provided 180 million cervical cancer and nearly 100 million breast cancer screenings free of charge for rural women and urban women with low-incomes. The central government has put in nearly 2.5 billion RMB yuan in assistance for poverty-stricken women diagnosed.

Fifth, we have guaranteed the equal right of girls and women to education. Over the past decade, the fiscal expenditure of China on education has maintained at above 4% of GDP. Free compulsory education has been realized in both urban and rural areas. Net primary school enrollment rate for girls has maintained at over 99.9% since 2015, with gender gap largely closed. More than 50% of female students with disabilities go to ordinary schools. Girl students in senior high schools have exceeded half of the total for 7 consecutive years. Girl students also outnumber boys in both undergraduate and postgraduate studies. Fifteen-year free education from preschool to senior high school is provided in Tibet and Xinjiang autonomous regions. In 2020, among the 1. 1 billion population of over 15 years old, the gender gap in terms of years of education was narrowed down to 0.6 year. China has worked with UNESCO in setting up the Prize for Girls' and Women's

Education to encourage more people to engage in equitable education.

Sixth, we have made unremitting efforts in eradicating all forms of violence against women. China has formulated and implemented programs against trafficking in persons. With focus on prevention, special campaigns have been carried out. From 2013 to 2022, 18,000 cases of trafficking in women and children were cleared up. Human trafficking cases in the past ten years reduced by 86.2%. With a zero-tolerance attitude, severe penalties were meted out in criminal offenses involving rape and sexual assault. Typical cases have been publicized to raise public awareness, and specific standards have been set to define the application of laws to deter potential crimes. Community workers in urban and rural areas and staff of women's federations at various levels have been organized to visit relevant households on a regular basis to provide services to women and families in difficulty, including women mentally or psychologically challenged. Campaigns have been launched to provide legal aid and judicial assistance and to help victims with psychological rehabilitation and social services. Since the last CEDAW consideration, around 350, 000 women received legal aid every year.

Seventh, we have actively promoted women's extensive participation in decision-making and management. China's Law on Elections includes explicit provisions on the gradual increase of the percentage of women at the National People's Congress and people's congresses at various levels. Women

deputies to the 14th National People's Congress this year account for 26.5%, an increase of 3.1 percentage points compared with last consideration. Women deputies to the people's congresses at the provincial, city, and county levels increased by 5.1, 6.8, and 7.4 percentage points respectively. In enterprises, women account for around one third of employee directors at the board of directors, employee supervisors at the board of supervisors, as well as in the workers' congresses. Women make up 26.8% and 54.4% at rural villagers' committees and urban residents' committees, increase of 4 and 6 percentage points respectively compared with last consideration. More than 380, 000 women's councils have been established in urban and rural communities, through which women serve as important forces in grassroots governance.

Eighth, we have greatly supported women to participate in high-quality development. Women account for over 40% of the workforce and 55% of internet start-ups. In emerging employment sectors such as digital trade, e-commerce, and live-streaming, women account for about one third of the total. China has unleashed special measures to support women in science and technology, who now make up 45.8% of the total. Women expert reviewers have exceeded 78,000, making up 28.3% of the total of the National Natural Science Foundation of China. Women are becoming increasingly prominent in science-related decision-makings. More and more women have their respective in Their become pace-setters sectors.

independence, unique role and contributions have been fully acknowledged, which inspire more women to advance at the forefront of the times and to become builders of the great cause, advocates of civic virtues and followers of their own dreams.

While promoting women's all-round development nationwide, China attaches high importance to international exchanges and cooperation, and maintains friendly exchanges with women's organizations and agencies in over 140 countries for mutual learning and practical cooperation. We have continuously made contributions to UN Women and supported UN in increasing input on eliminating violence, discrimination, poverty and other old problems, and making new strides in addressing new challenges such as the gender digital divide. We have provided, within our reach, material support as well as capacity-building for women and children in developing countries, contributing to the progress of worldwide women's cause and promoting women-related goals among the early harvest results of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Madam Chairperson, Members of the Committee,

As the largest developing country in the world, China still faces many challenges in eliminating gender discrimination. For instance, there is still the problem of imbalanced and inadequate development among women in rural and urban areas and from different regions. Implicit discrimination against women in employment has not been eliminated. Women's

participation in the management of state and economic, cultural and social affairs is to be improved. Individual cases violating women's personal and property rights still happen. Social environment for women's development needs further improvement. Greater efforts need to be made to realize gender equality.

The 20th National Congress of the CPC has drawn the grand blueprint for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation through a Chinese path to modernization. Not long ago, President Xi Jinping put forward the Global Civilization Initiative. Women's extensive participation is indispensable in promoting the Chinese path to modernization and building a civilized and harmonious world, which in turn create new prospects for the all-round development of women. We will further guarantee women's equal exercise of democratic rights in accordance with the law, their equal participation in economic and social development, and their equal sharing of the outcomes of reform and development. Hereby, on behalf of delegation, welcome the Chinese constructive we recommendations from Madam Chairperson and members of the Committee, which we will study and consider carefully for adoption. China will also continue to enhance exchanges and cooperation with the international community and promote the development women's cause worldwide.

Madam Chairperson, Members of the Committee,

According to the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special

Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, while the central government is responsible for the international obligations and duties arising from the application of the Convention in the two SARs, their implementation reports were drafted and will be presented by their own representatives. Now with your permission, I would like to give the floor to Ms. Shirley LAM Shuet-lai, Permanent Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs of the Hong Kong SAR, and Mr. Hon Wai, Director of Social Welfare Bureau of the Macao SAR to make their introductory remarks.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson and members of the Committee.