

## Item 7 – Preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls

Thank you Moderator, Distinguished Participants,

Turkey runs its activities and efforts with a belief and decisiveness that violence against women and girls is a violation of women's human rights. As one of the preliminary countries to sign and first to ratify the Istanbul Convention in its parliament, Turkey has adopted the Law on Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women" in line with the Convention and came into force in 2012 right now the impact assessment of the Law is being carried out. The Law sets forth the establishment of "Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers", which provide support and monitoring services to actively monitor the implementation of preventive and protective orders.

The number of women shelters and their capacity has been doubled since 2011. In addition, while the number of First Step Stations was 3 in 2011, it rose to 25 by 2014.

"The National Action Plan on Combating Domestic Violence against Women (2007-2012)" was updated for the years 2012 and 2015 and put into force.

71.000 police officers, 65.000 health personnel, 21.000 religious officials and 336 Family Court Judges and Public Prosecutors have been provided awareness raising trainings on violence against women and methods of approach to victims of violence since 2006. Moreover nearly 450.000 the private soldiers and non-commissioned officers from the troops have been trained on violence against women every year.

The National Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey, first of which was run in 2008, is now being renewed for the year 2014.

Ministry of Family and Social Policies conduct a response program in cooperation with UNFPA on combating violence against women amongst Syrian population in Turkey. Program aims the syrian women to access existing institutions such as first step stations and shelters. Within the program service providers to syrian population in the camps have been trained.

Combating violence against women necessitates a dynamic and coordinated approach. As the Republic of Turkey, we will continue this struggle protecting our dynamism both in the legal and political field with decisiveness and determination.

Finally; my delegation is very much pleased to see the cooperation among un entities and pertinent governance institutions as stated by Madam Diaz. And we would like to reiterate our position to sustain the stand alone goal 5 on gender equality in post 2015 development agenda as came out in the sustainable development goals outcome document where it covers; Eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, eliminating all harmful practices, such as early and forced marriages.