



# GENDER and WATER in CENTRAL ASIA

Newsletter of GWANET Network

№ 6 November 2007

**Interview with  
Aliya Tuygunovna Yunusova,  
deputy of the Legislative  
Chamber of the Oliy Majlis  
of the Republic of Uzbekistan**



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**- Aliya Tuygunovna, what can you say about the status of women and realization of their potential in Uzbekistan?**

- I know the issue of gender and women rights protection firsthand, as I worked many years at the National Center for Human Rights.

After the Republic of Uzbekistan gained independence, more opportunities emerged for active participation of our women in decision-making. Uzbekistan is one of few states, which has ensured women participation in decision-making.

Certainly, of great importance are the Decrees of the President of Uzbekistan "On measures for enhancing the role of women in state and public construction in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (adopted in 1995), and "On additional measures for support to activities of the Women Committee of Uzbekistan" (adopted on 25 May 2004), which



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became a powerful spur to intensification of political activity of women, provided new opportunities for their functioning and determined ways for realizing women's potential.

According to the special recommendation of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, the critical threshold for women participation in decision-making should be no less than 30% of positions at national level. It is thought that achieving this figure is of very great importance, as it gives women an opportunity to influence the character of made key decisions and be equal partners with men. Understanding the significance of participation of women occupying leading positions in state and public construction, amendments have been made to the following laws:

- Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On elections to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan", re-edited with amendments, dated 27 August 2004;

- Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On elections to provincial, district and city Kengashs (Councils) of people's deputies", re-edited, dated 27 August 2004;

which stipulate introduction of a 30%-quota for women in nominating them as candidates for deputies of political parties.

It may be said that as compared to the previous elections, where about 8% of members to the Parliament were women, a considerable progress has been made as result of the active work of women organizations on promotion of women's rights and interests.

In 1994, 52 (8%) of 634 candidates for elections to the Oliy Majlis were women and only 15 (6%) passed; in 1999, 171 (14%) of 1242 candidates for deputies were women and 18 (7%) passed; and in the 2004 elections the number of woman candidates reached 159 (32%) out of the total number of nominated candidates.

According to the results of the 2004 elections, 21 women (18%) were elected to the lower chamber Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis. Senate upper chamber of the Oliy Majlis, where women account for 15% of 100 senators, was first founded in the Republic of Uzbekistan.\*

In early 2005, women accounted for 16% in higher bodies of state authority, 15.2% in legislative and representative authority, 3.4% in executive authority, and 22.7% in judicial authority.

The gender equality principle was also promoted in the national legislation, for example: in Family, Civil, Criminal, Labor and other codes. Furthermore, in such laws as "On nationality", "On health protection of citizens", "On education", "On elections of President of the Republic of Uzbekistan", "On guarantee of voting rights of citizens", "On courts", "On public prosecutor's office" and others.

In other words, the existing legislation does not stipulate any advantages or privileges according to gender. Since the laws say that everyone has right (access and so on), it implies that both women and men have equal rights.

The government takes all adequate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in all aspects of marriage and family relationship. For this purpose, Uzbekistan adopted on 30 April 1998 a Family Code, which is the main source for family legislation that particularly establishes equal rights and obligations between husband and wife in housekeeping, equal property rights, and equal rights to child-rearing. Its objectives are to strengthen family, build family relationship based on mutual love, trust and mutual respect, collaboration, mutual aid and responsibility to family of all its members, inadmissibility of arbitrary interference of someone in family affairs, ensuring of unhampered implementation and protection of own rights by family members.

Or take for example voting right: the legislation guarantees everyone aged 18 to participate in state or public administration independently or through his/her representatives, i.e. right to be elected or elect.

For the first time in the history of Uzbekistan, woman candidate for President of the Republic of Uzbekistan D.G. Tashmukhamedova has been nominated. She is the Chairman of the Fraction of Social-Democratic Party "Adolat" in the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis, and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Chamber. Is not this example evidence of high political maturity of women at the current stage of democratic society development?

Understanding well that “Woman is the face of the nation”,\*\* all measures are taken to improve women's status in Uzbekistan. Documents that recognize the significance of gender equality have been adopted such as:

“National action platform for improvement of women's status in the Republic of Uzbekistan” (1999), “National action plan for implementation of recommendations from the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women” (2001).



It should be noted that 12 women from Uzbekistan took part in the 4th World Women Conference held in 1995 in Beijing. Governmental and non-governmental organizations were involved in the implementation of the National Action Platform. The government secured equality of women with men in all fields of social life on a legislative basis.

According to article 46 of the Constitution, women and men have equal rights. It is also stated in article 18 of the Constitution of Uzbekistan, which stipulates equality of everybody before the law regardless of gender, race, nationality, language, religion, social origin, views, and personal and public status.

Article 44 of the Constitution guarantees everybody legal protection of his/her rights and freedom, right to appeal to court on illegal actions of state agencies, officials and public associations.

The Labor Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan contains a number of articles aimed at equal protection of working women's rights. For example, according to part 1 of article 6 in this Code, “all citizens have equal opportunities in enjoyment of labor rights. Setting any limits or providing advantages in labor relations subject to gender, age, race, nationality, language, social origin, property status and official capacity, religion, views, belonging to public associations, and other circumstances not related to professional qualities of employees and results of their labor is inadmissible and considered as discrimination”.

Part 3 of article 6 in the Labor Code stipulates that a person deemed to be discriminated in labor may appeal to court with an application for elimination of discrimination and recovery of material and moral damage. The trouble is the low awareness of women of their legal rights.

**- Can you give particular examples of women occupying leading positions?**

- A number of examples can be given: Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan S.T. Inamova; some of deputy khokims (mayors) of districts, cities and provinces are assigned from among women as well, who are entrusted with addressing issues related to maternity, childhood, female problems and other issues. In addition, the elected from among women are Deputy Chairman of the Senate F. Mukhitdinova, earlier mentioned Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Chamber D.G. Tashmukhamedova, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Ombudsman) S.Sh. Rashidova.

Today, in most cases leaders of non-governmental non-profit organizations are women. Women also work in a majority in systems of education, public health, judicial bodies and social protection agencies.

**- In what fields of social and political life in our republic do women least hold leading positions?**

- Unfortunately, there are still no women among ministers, chairpersons of the state committees (except the Women Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan), diplomats, ambassadors and khokims.

**- In your opinion, why are there fewer women that occupy leading positions? After all, many of them have high knowledge in their fields and managerial abilities.**

- In my opinion, it is also connected with the duties of wife and mother, i.e. routine affairs related to home and family. She has to account her time and forces so as to use them for housekeeping and child-rearing. Therefore, the career development of woman depends above all on:

- Her political maturity;
- Her activity;
- Understanding and assistance of her family members.

Therefore, in most cases woman is able to make career for herself at a more mature age, when she has a real opportunity to pass a part of household chores to other members of her family (for example, grown children). In this case, the acquired life experience and desire to be useful to the society help her significantly, when the capability to apply gained knowledge prevails over everyday life problems.

Maybe that is why it would be better to provide real conditions for effective realization of women's potential by extending public utilities networks, preschools and so on, taking into account the current circumstances and grown political and social activity among women.

Becoming a leader is not as difficult as being a leader, because it is a serious responsibility requiring making decisions independently, being able to communicate with subordinate staff, create a healthy working atmosphere for it, fulfill set tasks, and systematically work at self-improvement. In other words, leader should have organizing and managerial abilities and adhere to principles in asserting fundamental positions.

**- If women are given all legal rights to live and work on a par with men, why does gender inequality still remain in our country?**

- It is related to our mentality, customs and centuries-old traditions, religion of our people, which advocated humility and full subordination of woman to man. Some stereotype of disregard for women arose, being cultivated from childhood and transmitted from generation to generation. The discrimination against women comes above all from established traditions transformed to a special cult.

Despite the fact that the traditions and culture of present-day Uzbekistan always fostered respect to woman, mother woman, and therefore girls in Uzbekistan always had conditions for comprehensive harmonized, physical and cultural education, customs and traditions peculiar to many Muslim states remained for a long time in the society practicing Islam.

**- According to the results of the poll conducted by Non-governmental Center for Study of Public Opinion "Ijtimoiy Fikr", the main reason for inequality of rights is the nature of relationship between man and woman or gender-role stereotypes as well as economic reasons.**

**To question "If you think woman in our society has no equal rights, then in your opinion, how is it evident?", the following answers were given: \*\*\***

**What can you say about this?**

- As seen, women note the established stereotype that men have more rights, because they are major in all respects, women hold less high posts and depend on men in material terms.

The results of the poll show that despite taken legislative measures in the republic, there are no mechanisms for broader involvement of women in economy and protection of their interests within society. Moreover, among women themselves, especially it is typical for rural areas, the passive thinking still remains.

The data of the poll quite eloquently show the low level of legal culture. It turns out that the point is not absence of required laws, but inability to use laws in force in many cases due to legal illiteracy.

**- In your opinion, what measures can conduce to radical change of women's status?**

- The legal literacy and social activity of women should be raised, starting from the level of makhalla (local community), involving leaders of a women's council.

It is necessary to combine efforts of state and public women organizations and movements functioning at national level for development of a common position and strategy for joint action in the field of women rights protection.

It is necessary to show much patience in order that woman self-consciousness rises. The activity of women in assertion of their

rights should be promoted from below, resting on continuous education system. However, this problem cannot be solved without participation of men, which should not only realize the significance of gender equality, but also help secure it in different fields of social life.

***The interview conducted by National Project Coordinator I.A. Akhmedkhodjayeva.***

Reasons	Urban	Rural	Total
Woman depends on man in material terms	7,0	1,4	4,5
Man is considered as a head of family	54,7	61,4	57,7
Woman is considered to be beneath man in all respects	5,8	5,7	5,8
Women have to work more than men	4,7	4,3	4,5
Men occupy higher posts and, accordingly, get more salary	1,2	2,9	1,9
Women are treated unkindly in hiring and promotion	9,3	10,0	9,6
Other	3,7	2,9	3,9
Don't know/No answer	14,0	11,4	12,8

## Chronology of the International Events and Treaties Promoting Gender Equality

### 1945

Adopted UN Charter - the first international tool setting the principle of equality between man and woman

### 1946

Established Commission on Status of Women

### 1948

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights reflects discrimination against women (Article 2); International Labor Organization (ILO) adopted the Night Work (Women) Convention

### 1949

The UN General Assembly adopted the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution by Others. It calls for punishment for white slavery.

### 1951

ILO adopted the Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value

### 1952

Adopted the International Convention on the Political Rights of Women

### 1955

ILO elaborated Maternity Protection Convention

### 1957

The Convention on the Nationality of Married Women

### 1958

Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention

### 1960

The UNESCO's Convention against Discrimination in Education initiated equal opportunities for girls and women

ILO Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention took effect

### 1962

Convention on the Political Rights of Women obliged the country-members to ensure voting rights for women and their representation in public organizations on equal with men basis.

The adopted Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and

Registration of Marriages sets that marriage cannot take effect without consent of the both parties

### 1964

Convention concerning Equality of Treatment of Nationals and Non-Nationals in Social Security took effect

### 1965

UN Recommendations on consent to marriage, minimum age for marriage and registration of marriages

### 1966

Adopted International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that obliged the country-members to ensure civil and political rights of everybody within their respective jurisdictions irrespective of race, sex and other circumstances, including the right to life, the prohibition of torture, the right to freedom and privacy, the right to freedom of religion, expression, and conscience. Since 1995, the countries that ratified the Covenant were offered to present information about facts affecting equal exercising of women's rights under each article.

Adopted Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Adopted International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights that spelled out working conditions, social security, adequate standards of living, physical and mental health, education, and employment.

Employment Policy Convention entered into force.

### 1967

UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

**1972**

UN General Assembly proclaimed the year 1975 as the International Year of Women

**1974**

Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict

The Economic and Social Council (ESC) convenes a world conference on women's problems on the threshold of the International Year of Women

**1975**

The First World Action Plan adopted in Mexico.  
UN General Assembly proclaims the decade of 1976-1985 as Women's Decade

**1976**

UN General Assembly approved a decision of ESC to establish the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW), the most important objective of which was to study the ways how to monitor and evaluate the impacts of programs and projects for woman involvement in development activities.

UN General Assembly creates the UN Voluntary Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (transformed later into the UN Women's Fund for Development)

**1979**

UN General Assembly adopted Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), a first international bill on women's rights and on abolishing of any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the human rights and fundamental freedoms in all fields

**1980**

The UN Second World Conference for Women held in Copenhagen. Action Program adopted for latter half of the decade.

UN-INSTRAW became an autonomous body within UN

**1982**

First meeting of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

**1983**

ILO Convention concerning Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment for Men and Women Workers: Workers with Family Responsibilities came into force

**1984**

The UN Voluntary Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women has become an autonomous body within the framework of the UN Development Program and was renamed into the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

**1985**

The Third World Conference for Women was held in Nairobi. The Strategy of the Future for the Advancement of Women was approved.

**1988**

UN's Database on Women Indicators and Statistics acts as a coordinating framework for the collection of the world statistics on women

Adopted Convention on Employment Promotion and Protection against Unemployment (Convention 168)

**1989**

Adopted Convention on the Rights of the Child

**1990**

The Commission on Status of Women reviewed implementation of the Strategy of the Future for the Advancement of Women and recommends the Fourth World Conference for Women

Adopted International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

Adopted Protocol to ILO's Night Work (Women) Convention

**1991**

UN issued publication Women of the World: Tendencies and Statistics

**1992**

UN Conference on Environment and Development was held in Rio-de-Janeiro and adopted the Agenda 21.

**1993**

The UN World Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna, Austria.

The UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women.

UN recommends standard rules for ensuring equal opportunities for disabled

**1994**

Commission on Human Rights appointed a Special Rapporteur on the problem of violence against women for the collection of data and the development of recommendations for the elimination of violence and its consequences

UN International Conference on population and development held in Cairo

**1995**

The Fourth World Conference for Women held in Beijing, China adopted the Beijing Declaration and Action Platform

UN World Summit on social development held in Copenhagen

Issued second publication Women of the World: Tendencies and Statistics

UN Secretary General appointed Deputy Secretary General Rosario Grin as Senior Adviser for Secretary General on gender issues

**1996**

Meeting of the UN Expert Group for the development of guidelines on gender mainstreaming in programs and measures for human rights

The first UN International Agencies Meeting on Women and Gender Equality (IAMWGE).

**1998**

Adopted UN General Assembly's Resolution on measures for the prevention of crime and the criminal justice in order to eliminate violence against women

**1999**

Adopted Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. ILO adopted Convention of the worst forms of child labor

**2000**

UN Commission on Human Rights adopts the Resolution on Land Ownership for the first time,

the resolution on women's rights was adopted within an agenda of the UN Commission on Human Rights

UN General Assembly's Resolution 55/2 approved the Millennium Declaration, which obliged the Governments to advance gender equity as an effective way for the eradication of poverty, feminine and diseases.

Adopted Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child regarding children traffic, child prostitution, and child pornography

Campaign Beijing+5 for the equality between men and women and the improvement of women's status

Twenty Third UN General Assembly Special Session held on gender equality

**2001**

UN's Asian-Pacific Symposium held on integration of gender approaches

**2002**

Came into effect Charter of the International Criminal Court that set violent use as weapon of war as an outrage upon humanity.

**2003**

Adopted UN General Assembly's Resolution 58/146, report of the Secretary General on various aspects of the advancement of rural women, including an impact of macroeconomic policy on their conditions

**2005**

10 years after Beijing: review of progress made in gender equality 49th session of UN's Commission on Status of Women adopted a statement confirming obligations made in Beijing in 1995 and calling the government for taking necessary actions for their implementation

UN set the Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to Legal Protection and Damage Compensation for Victims of Gross Violation of International Rules in the Field of Human Rights and of Serious Violation of the International Humanitarian Right

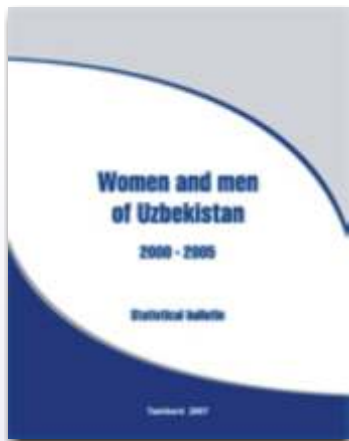
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UNIFEM



## Bookshelf

We would like to present to you  
a number of UNDP-Uzbekistan publications on gender



<http://www.undp.uz/ru/publications/publication.php?id=87>

### Statistical bulletin «Women and Men of Uzbekistan»

The statistical bulletin “Women and Men of Uzbekistan” is published on a regular basis (no less than once in two years). The given statistical collection is the regular publication of Goskomstat of the Republic Uzbekistan, devoted to gender development in Uzbekistan. This statistical bulletin presents data on demography, healthcare, education, employment and unemployment, social security, criminality, etc., broken down by sex. This year’s bulletin is enriched with a new chapter on the usage of free time by men and women in connection with their economic activity, education, age, urban and rural areas.



<http://www.undp.uz/ru/publications/publication.php?id=72>

### Sister speaks with sister, or Women about women

“...Sister speaks with sister, or Women about Women” is a collection of articles compiled through countrywide competition announced by UNDP in January 2007 among journalists writing on gender issues. The best works in the forms of essays, interviews, and poems of more than 30 authors that describe women of Uzbekistan: scholars, actresses, teachers, business-ladies, sportswomen, artists and many other personalities are included in the book. Each article reveals the image of modern women of Uzbekistan, describes their achievements and success, dreams and goals in life, and talks about the role of women in society, politics and family.



<http://www.undp.uz/ru/publications/publication.php?id=75>

taking place in the republic and is aimed at students, post-graduates, teachers, as well as at those who are interested in gender problems.

## Introduction to theory and practice of gender relations

A book "Introduction to theory and practice of gender relations" includes articles on theory and methodology of gender studies in various scientific directions: economy, education, rights, history, politics and culture. The book comprises of two sections. The first section covers gender theory, including origin and essence of sustainable human development, main issues of gender theory, gender stereotypes, gender equality, etc. The second part of the book devoted to gender in theory and practice and uncovers gender aspects in economy, rights and management, as well as social sector. The book is relevant in context of socio-economic reforms

## REGIONAL NEWS

### BAZARBAEVA G.A.: SOCIAL POLICY AND GENDER ASPECTS OF POVERTY IN KHAZAKHSTAN

In the President's Message to Kazakhstan's Nation "New Kazakhstan in the New World" in February, 2007, the President N. Nazarbaev has emphasized one of the conditions for the effectiveness of modern social policy: «The governmental social assistance to people can be effective only if it is purposefully addressed to everyone». The aim of that assistance is to support the most vulnerable groups of people. Commonly, children, disabled persons and the aging people belong to those vulnerable groups. Also women can be related to the same social groups because their social status becomes vulnerable as a result of gender inequality. The women status is the most complex index on their position in the framework of social relations in the Society. It is variable, active, and there are no strict/strong limits finally for it.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/01-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/01-11-2007.htm)

### ACTIVITIES TO GAIN THE GENDER EQUALITY BEING CONDUCTED IN THE SOCIAL FUND

The Social Fund of Kyrgyzstan included events promoting gender equality in its agenda. It was reported by Elmira Temiraliyeva, Head of Administration on Public Relations: "The Decree of the President of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan "About the National Action Plan to achieve Gender Equality during 2007-2010" is treated with full responsibility within the Social Fund. Therefore the Action Plan was developed in the Social Fund".

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/03-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/03-11-2007.htm)

### WOMAN HAS BECOME THE HEAD OF MUNICIPAL PARLIAMENT IN KYRGYZSTAN

Woman - Saltanat Turdumambetova - has been elected as the Head of Parliament of Karakol City. It was reported in the press centre of the public organization "Voice of Freedom". After three attempts were made, Saltanat Turdumambetova

became the Head of Parliament, with more than 2/3 voices of Parliament's delegates.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/03-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/03-11-2007.htm)

### **REVIEWING THE PROJECT ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN FOR PARTICIPATION IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN OSH CITY**

The finalizing round table on the project "The Advancement of Women for Participation in the Osh Municipal Council Elections" implemented by the Public Fund on Promotion of Civic Initiatives "Kovcheg" and by Centre of Women Initiatives "Ayalzat" under the auspices of OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) was held on 7th November in the Osh State University.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/07-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/07-11-2007.htm)

### **THE PRESIDENT OF KYRGYZSTAN: WOMEN ARE MORE RESPONSIBLE AND ACCURATE**

Kurmanbek Bakyev has promised to take special care on women. As it was reported in the President's Press Service he has expressed his opinion about Gender Policy during the meeting with women-officials in his office.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/08-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/08-11-2007.htm)

### **IN SOGD, NGO "SHAKHRIYOR" IS GOING TO RAISE THE EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF RURAL GIRLS**

On December this year, NGO "SHAKHRIYOR" will held meetings with girls, who finished school, and their parents in order to increase a number of the higher educated girls. It was reported by Mavjuda Shodieva, Director of NGO "SHAKHRIYOR". According to her in order to achieve equality between men and women it is needed to raise an educational level not only of women but of men too.

### **THE GENDER INEQUALITY INDEX PRESENTED IN GENEVA**

Secretariat of the World Economic Forum has presented the Gender Inequality Index in Geneva. Addressing the briefing in Geneva Saadi Zahidi, a member of Secretariat's Governing Body and co-author of index, have reminded that until now none country achieved equality between men and women. However, the gender inequality appears in different ways in each individual case.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/09-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/09-11-2007.htm)

### **THE EXHIBITION DEVOTED TO ACTIVITY OF BUSINESSWOMEN**

In Tashkent, the exhibition devoted to activity of businesswomen has been held.

Samples of embroidery, gold sewing, carpet weaving, ready-made garments prepared by women from different regions of the country were presented at the exhibition.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/10-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/10-11-2007.htm)

### **WOMEN FROM THE SOGD PROVINCE ARE DISCUSSING THE TADJIK CUSTOMS AND FAMILY TRADITIONS**

On November 9, the meeting of the leading women from cities and provinces of the Sogd Province began in the Khudjand city, where the customs and family traditions of the Tadjiks would be discussed. This was reported by Uguloy Umaralieva, Head of the Department on Women Affairs at the Regional Branch of the National Democratic Party of Tadjikistan.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/10-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/10-11-2007.htm)

### **THE REPUBLIC OF KYRGYZSTAN TAKES 70<sup>TH</sup> PLACE IN THE RATE OF GENDER EQUALITY**

On November 8, the World Economic Forum published the Global Report on Gender Equality in the World. Kyrgyzstan has taken 70-th place among 128 countries included in the list. The report states that in Kyrgyzstan women marry at

the age of 22 years old in average, and 10 of them give birth to 26 children on average during their life. Women average 25 % among delegates, the principal officers of the country, and the top managers, but they earn less than men: while the per-income for men is 2464 \$/year, the same one for women is only 1422 \$/year.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/13-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/13-11-2007.htm)

### **THE ADVISORY BOARD ON GENDER POLICY ESTABLISHED IN THE OSH REGIONAL PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

The Advisory Board on Gender Policy at the Osh Regional Public Administration was established by order of Mayer of the Osh Region. The aim of the Advisory Board is the improvement of institutional arrangement to achieve gender equality.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/13-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/13-11-2007.htm)

### **MORE THAN 28 THOUSANDS WOMEN HAVE BEEN PLACED IN A JOB FROM THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR IN THE FERGANA PROVINCE**

In Uzbekistan a large work on the comprehensive advocacy of the women interests, strengthening their role and social activity, is conducting. Their employment is under special attention. In this context, specific activity are set and it is planned to create more than 31 thousands of the new work places by the end of this year in the Fergana province. The Centers on Promotion of People Employment [The Resource Centers] have been established with the purpose of expanding of such an activity.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/14-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/14-11-2007.htm)

### **TWO MILLION DOLLARS FOR COUNTRY-WOMEN**

The Asian Development Bank allocated 2 M\$ to the project in Kyrgyzstan that enabled to raise the living standard of women in rural area and engage them in handicraft. Centers on the craft development will be opened in 9 northern regions and in 21 southern regions of the Republic.

It is expected that after finishing work on this program the new work places will be created, the income of women participating in this project will increase by 20%, and the people wellbeing will be improved in the country.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/19-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/19-11-2007.htm)

### **GENDER APPROACHES DISCUSSED IN KOSTANAY**

Policy aspects directed to preserve the family values and gender equality were discussed at the workshop "Gender Approaches" in Kostanay.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/20-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/20-11-2007.htm)

### **ISSUES ON STRENGTHENING STATUS OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED**

In the Kashkadarya Province, special actions are undertaken in the framework of implementing tasks provided for in the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "About additional measures on promotion of activities of the Committee of Women of Uzbekistan".

Such tasks have been discussed at the meetings of the standing commissions on coordination of work carried out by the municipal administrations [hokimiyats] of the Nishan Province and of Karshi City. The results achieved in 2007 have been analyzed in depth.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/21-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/21-11-2007.htm)

### **CONTEST "WOMAN OF YEAR" RESUMES**

Today the finalist of the National annual contest "Woman of The Year» announced by the public association "Women's Assembly" will be appointed. The ceremony with the participation of 14 finalists from all around Uzbekistan will take place at the Tashkent Center of National Arts.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/22-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/22-11-2007.htm)

## **KAZAKHSTAN'S POLICY DOES NOT INCLUDE GENDER EQUALITY BUT ONLY TEMPORARILY**

Recently, "School of young woman-leaders" has begun to work under the leadership of the successful ladies in Almaty.

It is a new project of the Kazakhstan's business ladies' association that will help to realize a long standing dream of Kazakh women to dilute the male politicians company with ambaddresses of the fair sex of the Society. The women's association together with the Fridrih Naumann Foundation will train women to be a leader.

Detailed information on:

[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/23-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/23-11-2007.htm)

## **THE MAJILIS' PARLIAMENTARIANS TO TAKE PART IN 5<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE OF WOMAN-PARLIAMENTARIANS AND WOMAN-MINISTERS OF ASIA**

Tomorrow the Majilis delegation of the Republic of Kazakhstan will leave for the People's Republic of China to take part in the 5th Conference of woman-members of Parliament and woman-ministers in Asia during the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)

Detailed information on:

[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/26-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/26-11-2007.htm)

## **THE TRAINING-SEMINAR TO POPULARIZE GENDER POLICY TOOK PLACE IN ALMATY**

The public association "Central Asian Information Network on Sustainable Development" encouraged by the public association "The young people's choice" has conducted the training-seminar on the gender policy popularization in Almaty.

During the event the ceremony of rewarding winners of the competition "Gender policy by the young journalists' eyes" took place as well.

Detailed information on:

[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/27-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/27-11-2007.htm)

## **THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE IS IN PROGRESS IN KYRGYZSTAN**

The international campaign "16 days of activity against gender violence" which began yesterday and will end on December 10, 2007 is initiated in Kyrgyzstan.

Today, during an action, the consultative meeting of the law machinery leaders of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan and of Austria's police with the assistance of UN and OSCE has been held. At the meeting, partners from Austria have shared their experience on prevention and combating violence with the Kyrgyzstan's national security colleagues.

Detailed information on:

[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/27-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/27-11-2007.htm)

## **UN APPEALS THE COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD TO PARTICIPATE MORE ACTIVELY IN THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

According to UN, every third woman worldwide suffers from violence or inhuman treatment at least once during her life. All the countries in the world face such problem, and violence against women takes various forms as stated in the UNFPA's appeal on the occasion of the International Day on combating violence against women on November 25.

Detailed information on:

[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/28-11-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/28-11-2007.htm)

## **GENDER PROBLEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN PAVLODAR**

III international theoretical and practical conference "Gender equality of rights and opportunities" as reported by a correspondent of Kazinform to be opened tomorrow in Pavlodar. It is devoted to the Tenth anniversary of the Pavlodar branch of the public association "Kazakhstan Business Ladies' Association".

Detailed information on:

[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/29-09-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/29-09-2007.htm)



## WORKSHOP UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF UN

Ad hoc seminar starting today in the Turkmen capital under the umbrella of UN is devoted to awareness of general public on the gender issues. The representatives of Medjlis, Ministry of Justice, Turkmen National Institute of Democracy and Human Rights at the President of Turkmenistan, and a number of other concerned ministries and departments were invited to participate in the meeting organized jointly by the State Committee on Statistics of Turkmenistan and the UN

Population Fund. The seminar became a presentation of results of the joint selective survey of 1500 households in the capital and 5 provinces [veloyat-s] of country. The aim of the survey was to evaluate a level of people's awareness about problems connected with gender equality in society, reproductive health, etc. It was marked that 5183 respondents took part in the polling.

Detailed information on:  
[www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/30-09-2007.htm](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/news/30-09-2007.htm)

## Forum of the GWANET network's participants

A new section "Gender and Water in Central Asia" has been opened with the to support activity of the GWANET network at the forum of the Central Asian Regional Water Information Base (CAREWIB)

[www.forum.cawater-info.net](http://www.forum.cawater-info.net)

The network's participants may register and take part in the discussion on issues of the day.

Compiled by G.V. Stulina, D.R. Ziganshina

Edited by I.F. Beglov

Designed by D. Abdurakhmanov

If you have any message or material you wish to post in the Newsletter or on the project web-site, please, send it on the following address:

Scientific-Information Center SIC ICWC, B-11, Karasu-4, Tashkent, 700187, Republic of Uzbekistan  
Tel. (998 71) 166 50 95, Fax. (998 71) 166 50 97  
e-mail: [info@icwc-aral.uz](mailto:info@icwc-aral.uz) [www.gender.cawater-info.net](http://www.gender.cawater-info.net)