

Resolution
of
Seminar on the Elimination of Violence against Women

We, participants of the historic Seminar on the Elimination of Violence against Women, held on 24/11/2004,

Understanding deeply the social problems and anomalies, taking into consideration the past three decades of crisis in the country when the country's conditions did not improve and the past heritages were destroyed, regarding the many cases referred to the Ministry of Women's Affairs that have been caused by indecent traditions and erroneous perceptions of the religious laws and have infected all social aspects, have undermined the role of the country's effective laws and brought many miseries to the women in economic, political, social and legal fields,

are determined to develop a national plan and, to solve the above-mentioned problem, approve the following articles:

Article One

The senior officials of the Supreme Court and the General Prosecution Office shall issue orders that the lawsuits about violence against women should be timely tackled according to the effective laws of the country and the Islamic Shariah and, in case of procrastination, the perpetrators shall be punished.

Article Two

The Supreme Court, the Ministry of Justice, the Independent Human Rights Commission and the Ministry of Women's Affairs shall analyze the marriage conditions and their registration in the marriage documents and make suggestions compatible with the existing conditions of the country to the relevant authorities for endorsement. The

examples of other Islamic countries shall be used in drafting the engagement and divorce system and all marriage cases shall be officially recorded in especial books.

Article Three

Launching an organized and coordinated programme throughout the country, the Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs shall commit itself to inform the public about the indecent traditions such as marrying girls to settle a family or tribal dispute, exchange of girls between families or tribes, engagement of under-age children, forced engagement of the widowed women with the relatives of their former husband, the money taken from the husband's side in exchange for a marrying girl and deprivation of women from dowry and inheritance that are explicitly against the Koranic verses.

Article Four

The Ministry of Information and Culture shall commit itself to make especial programmes about indecent traditions for the mass media and broadcast it throughout the country.

Article Five

The Supreme Court, the Ministry of Justice, the Independent Human Rights Commission and the Ministry of Women's Affairs shall commit themselves to review those civil rights that concern families and make suggestions to the relevant authorities for amendments according to the Constitution and the Islamic Shariah.

Article Six

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall instruct all political representatives and Afghan consulates abroad to take serious measures and tackle the cases and legal problems of the Afghan nationals and refugees outside the country.

Article Seven

The Commission for Elimination of Violence against Women shall be formed to supervise and coordinate the implementation of the articles of this resolution. The

commission shall be formed from the date of the approval of this resolution and hold quarterly sessions to supervise the implementation of the aforementioned articles.

Note one: The secretariat of the commission shall be appointed by the Ministry of Women's Affairs.

Note Two: The Ministry of Women's Affairs shall start the necessary legal procedures and propose the formation of the Commission for Elimination of Violence against Women to the head of state.

Article Eight

The Ministry of Women's Affairs shall submit all the information gathered on the legal and social status of the women to the Commission for Elimination of Violence against Women and other relevant authorities.

Article Nine

The members of the Commission to Eliminate Violence against Women are as the followings: deputy of the Supreme Court, deputy of the General Prosecution Office, deputy minister of justice, deputy minister of endowment and Islamic affairs, deputy minister of interior affairs, deputy minister of foreign affairs, deputy minister of health, deputy minister of information and culture, deputy of the Independent Human Rights Commission and deputy minister of women's affairs.

Fazl Ahmad Manawi

Supreme Court Representative

Nurkhel Marastial

General Prosecution Office Representative

Sayd Ahmad Jamal Mobarez
Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs Representative

Abdol Ahad Eshrati
Justice and Judicial Reforms Commission Representative

Mohammad Rahim Daqiq
Ministry of Justice Representative

Shima Nasrati
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Representative

Brig Aziza Nazari
Ministry of Interior Affairs Representative

Gholam Rasul Yosufzai
Ministry of Information and Culture Representative

Dr Firuza
Ministry of Health Representative

Ahmad Shah Mirdad
Independent Human Rights Commission Representative

Dr Sorayya Rahim Sobhrang
Ministry of Women's Affairs Representative