

# Measuring Violence Against Women in Kazakhstan

**Ainur Dossanova**

**Committee on Statistics, Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan**

## **Abstract:**

Kazakhstan, as many others UN member states, joined almost all main international commitments regarding gender equality, including the Goals of Sustainable Development 2030, where one of the main tasks of the 5th goal is the elimination of violence against women.

Prevention and combating the phenomenon of violence in Kazakh society is one of the most important priorities in public policy and refers to the obligations taken by Kazakhstan and currently being implemented at national level.

Kazakhstan has taken a number of important legislative documents that contribute to achieving gender equality in the country, including adoption of actions to eliminate violence. These include the Strategy of gender equality in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2006-2016, approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan № 1677 dated 29 November 2005, The Law of RK "On state guarantees of equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women" and the Law of RK "On Prevention of Domestic violence" adopted in 2009.

As part of the process in combating violence against women every state is obliged to ensure regular collection and dissemination of needed official statistics.

After the adoption in 2009 of the Law "On Prevention of Domestic Violence" The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Kazakhstan has been collecting the administrative data related to cases of the women's complaints due to domestic violence and measures of the government on this issue.

According to data of internal affairs bodies annually more than 30 thousand women being victims of domestic violence turn to subdivisions for protection of women from violence, and appropriate actions are taken according to all received complaints and statements.

Starting from 2007 in the framework of joint project with UNECE and the World Bank, Committee on Statistics have launched activities for implementation of statistical indicators on violence against women, to improve the gender sensitivity of the statistical system.

One of the main topics of this project was implementation of indicators on violence against women in national statistical practices, as a result two solutions to this issue have been identified: special survey or including an additional module in current statistical surveys.

Considering the suggested ways for implementation of indicators on violence against women, as a first step Committee on Statistics included an additional module "Domestic violence" in the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey Round 4, which was conducted by Statistics Committee in cooperation with UNICEF and UNFPA during 2010-2011. In the development of this module the questionnaire of Demographic and Health survey of the World Health organization was used, also study interviewed more than 9000 women aged 15-49 years and obtained indicators for physical, sexual and psychological violence against women.

After summarizing the results of this survey, Statistics Committee decided to allocate the necessary government resources for conducting separate special survey on violence against women in 2015.

Currently, the results of this survey are summarizing and Statistics Committee in cooperation with UN Women, UNFPA and WHO will present it at the end of November of this year to general public including policy makers, civil society and international organizations in order to take further measures to improve the prevention and elimination of violence in Kazakhstan society.