

Unofficial Translation

**«Approved»
By Head of the Taskforce,
Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on
Investment and State Property Management of
the Republic of Tajikistan, Nigina Anvari
Signed «16» of May 2017**

MINUTES

of the 6th Session of the Taskforce on Women Entrepreneurship Support May 16, 2017

The Session was attended by Taskforce members and the invited responsible person (list is attached).

Session Agenda:

1. Presentation of the Action Plan of Taskforce on Women Entrepreneurship Support for 2017-2018 years;
2. Issues of Developing the Methodology and Improvement of Gender Statistics of Entrepreneurship;
3. Promotion and Providing Support for Handcrafts Development;
4. Current issues

The Head of the Taskforce – the Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Investment and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan, Nigina Anvari opened Session and remarked that members of the Taskforce has gathered today to consider draft Action Plan of the Taskforce for 2017-2018, to discuss issues of improvement of business gender statistics' methodology as well as promotion and support for handcrafts development in the country.

Regarding the first issue of the session agenda, including the presentation of the draft Action Plan of the Taskforce on women entrepreneurship support for 2017-2018, Manuchehra Madjonova – Economic Consultant of the Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of the Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan made a report. It has been noted that Action Plan of the Taskforce has been developed through the close coordination of its members' activity and includes measures, planned by the Taskforce members for 2017-2018, focused on coordination of the policy and programs on women entrepreneurship support in Tajikistan, improvement of analytic base for revealing problems and challenges on development of women - led business, raising awareness and increasing the women's access to the necessary skills and knowledge, development and support of handcrafts, widening the access to finance and land, supporting the women in agriculture, improvement of coordination among the women business association in Central Asia and Afghanistan, public relations and mass media as well as Taskforce capacity development.

With the aim of coordination of the Taskforce members' activity it is necessary to update three matrixes of projects and programs, researches and reforms on support of women entrepreneurship.

Also during the subsequent two years main attention will be paid to summarizing the recommendations of conducted researches and submitting them for consideration of the Government of the country, development of new indicators of gender business statistics,

conducting jointly events on strengthening technical and vocational education and training, increasing the finance and legal awareness of women, competitiveness of domestic products in local and foreign market with development partners.

Head of the Taskforce asked consultant to send final draft Action Plan to all members for consideration and further approval.

Regarding the second issue of the session agenda, Nigina Rajabova - Head of Department of “One Stop Shop” on state registration of business entities of the Agency on Statistics presented development and current state of business statistics in the country as well as necessity of its improvement according the point 14 of the Action Plan on improvement of the statistic accounting for 2016-2021 adopted by the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan dated 29.10.2015, #614.

Particularly it has been noted that improvement of business gender statistics is envisaged in the Program of Midterm Development of Tajikistan for 2016-2020 as well as gender indicators were introduced into the Doing Business report of the WBG. This emphasizes the importance if improvement of monitoring and evaluation of the policy on entrepreneurship support including the women entrepreneurship.

Based on this Nigina Rajabova asked development partners – members of the Taskforce for support in regard with development of capacity of Agency on Statistics, particularly on improvement of methodology of introduction of business gender statistics.

Concerning this issue Viloyat Mirzoeva –Consultant of UN-Women expressed high appreciation on regular publication of collections of statistics data “Women and men” as well as “Gender indicators in farms” which were developed in the result of collaboration with UN-Women. Consultant asked to prepare concept on improvement of methodology of development of business gender statistics’ indicators and to send for consideration of all development partners.

In regard with this issue Deputy Chairman of National Bank of Tajikistan – Lola Salimova noted that there is no single database in Tajikistan. Each ministry and agency has its own database that creates a burden for statistics authority. Therefore it is highly important to streamline, systematize and centralize all databases.

Relating to the third issue of the session agenda Abdurauf Juraev - Economic Consultant of the Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of the Investment Climate made a report. He delivers a presentation on importance of comprehensive support for handicrafts, creating favorable conditions for its development, reducing the cost of products and increasing competitiveness of domestic handcraft products in local and foreign markets, improvement of legal framework on handicrafts, particularly in accordance with instruction of President of the country, the Chairman of the Consultative Council in the 17th Session of the Council on development of draft Law “On handicrafts” and submitting it for consideration of subsequent Council’s sessions.

At the same time, the consultant expressed a request to development partners and business associations to actively participate in drafting the law.

Chairwoman of Association on Small and Medium Entrepreneurship – Matluba Ulchabaeva and Chairwoman of Association of Women Entrepreneurs “Kadbonu” expressed their willingness on

collaboration in regard with this issue jointly with Union of Handcrafts of Tajikistan and CESVI organization on development of draft Law “On Handcrafts”. It has been noted that in line with development of draft law it is necessary to prepare a complete package of relevant documents.

Deputy Chairman of the National Bank of Tajikistan – Lola Salimova, Chairwoman of the NAWE “Kadbonu” – S. Rahimzoda, Chairwomen of NASME – Matluba Ulchabaeva, Consultant of UN-Women – Viloyat Mirzoeva, Zaitunbibi Naimova - UN-Women Programm Meneger and Nigina Rajabova - Head of Department of “One Stop Shop” on state registration of business entities of the Agency on Statistics have taken active part in discussion of the issues of the session agenda.

Discussion results have been summarized by the Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Investment and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan, Head of the Taskforce - Nigina Anvari and following decisions have been made:

1. Members of the Taskforce to consider final draft Action Plan of the Taskforce for 2017-2018 and send it to Secretariat of the Taskforce for further approval;
2. Secretariat of the Taskforce in collaboration of the Agency on Statistics to prepare concept on improvement of methodology of development of business gender statistics’ new indicators and send it to development partners for consideration and further support;
3. Members of the Taskforce to revise and update the list of Taskforce members and to suggest proposals to Secretariat of the Taskforce relating the including new members;
4. Members of the Taskforce to consider draft Law “On handcrafts” and to send suggestions and comments to Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate.

Taskforce Secretary *Signed* **Madjonova Manuchehra**