



**Statement of Lebanon**

**by**

**Ms. Maya Dagher  
Counsellor**

**at the  
Third Committee**

**Item 27: “Advancement of Women”**

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Madam Chairperson,

Allow me first to congratulate you on your election and wish you and other members of the bureau every success in your work.

My delegation would like to thank the Secretary-General for the reports under agenda item 27, and to express its deep appreciation to UN Women and CEDAW for their contributions and their significant role in promoting the advancement of women and girls worldwide.

Madam Chairperson,

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development affirmed the centrality of gender equality and the empowerment of women for the achievement of sustainable development, with the elimination of violence against women and girls as a crucial component and a set alone target under Goal 5.

As shown in the Secretary-General's report, this inclusion confirms that violence against women and girls is not only a barrier to gender equality, to women's empowerment and to overall sustainable development, but it is also an impediment to the achievement of all other Goals.

Indeed, discrimination against women and girls and violence against them which continues unabated in several parts of the world impedes the realization of all other fundamental rights and, firstly the right to life.

Violence against women and girls further affects every aspect of their basic rights from the social, economic, and political rights to the cultural, educational, and financial, as well as sexual and reproductive rights, all of which are necessary for their participation as full and equal citizens in their societies and communities.

Madam Chairperson,

Lebanon has enshrined its commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in its Constitution which states that "All Lebanese shall be equal before the law and shall enjoy civil and political rights without any distinction".

Based on that, the Lebanese authorities continue working in close cooperation with civil society and the private sector as well as with numerous regional and international actors, in order to advance women and girls rights at all levels. The adoption of the law on domestic violence in 2014 was a significant progress in this regard.

Furthermore, Lebanon continues to engage with regional and international partners in combating human trafficking, mainly women and girls, and in exerting efforts to enhance the protection of migrant workers from all forms of violence.

In collaboration with civil society and the private sector, new economic and financial incentives are put in place in order to encourage women entrepreneur initiatives and to facilitate women's participation in the workplace and business.

The Municipal elections held this summer registered record levels of participation for women as both electors and candidates. Moreover, Lebanon continues to place education as a priority to ensure full and equal participation of all citizens at all levels.

Madam Chairperson,

Needless to remind that the most important challenge Lebanon is facing today remains the presence of more than 1.5 million registered Syrian and Palestinian refugees more than 70% of whom are women and children.

Lebanon with its outstretched infrastructure and public services is without any doubt unable to face alone a humanitarian crisis of such a scope and reminds of the necessity for the international community to fulfill its burden and responsibility sharing commitments.

Finally, advancing women and girls and protecting them from all forms of violence and discrimination is not only a human right that Lebanon is firmly committed to, but also a necessity in order to leave no one behind and to achieve sustainable development and just and peaceful societies.

Thank you.