DECLARATION

WOMEN LEADERS' CAUCUS OF CENTRAL ASIA

AWAZA NATIONAL TOURIST ZONE, Turkmenistan

6 August 2021

We, the representatives of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Republic of Uzbekistan express our gratitude to the Heads of State of Central Asia for supporting the Central Asian Women Leaders' Caucus, an informal platform committed to strengthening the role of all women in promoting sustainable development and maintaining peace and security in the region, established with the participation of UNRCCA and UNDP.

Noting the importance of the Consultative Meeting of Heads of State of Central Asia being held in Awaza National tourist zone on 6 August 2021, we underline the achievements of the countries in strengthening regional and international cooperation to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the Central Asian region during the 30 years of independence of our states;

Emphasizing the importance of the progress made in implementing the Joint Statement of the Consultative Meeting of the Heads of State of Central Asia (29 November 2019, Tashkent, Uzbekistan);

Considering that it is important to note the active joint participation of the Central Asian states in addressing important world problems and the initiatives they have taken in the areas of security, environmental protection, economic, social, scientific, technological, cultural and human development;

Emphasizing the important contribution of women in combating global threats such as climate change and environmental degradation;

Considering the particular vulnerability of women in the context of the pandemic;

Emphasizing the relevance of the activities undertaken in the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution proclaiming 2021 as the "International Year of Peace and Trust" at the initiative of Turkmenistan;

Welcoming the policies and progress made by the countries of Central Asia over the past 30 years in achieving gender equality and increasing women's participation in political, economic and social life.

Reaffirm our commitment to the Women, Peace and Security agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Decade of Action for the Global Goals and other normative frameworks developed under the auspices of the United Nations;

Declare that one of the priorities of the Women Leaders' Caucus is to develop effective ways to capitalize on the creative and peacemaking potential of Central Asian women and promote it to strengthen peace and stability throughout the region;

Consider the importance of strengthening the role of women in addressing environmental issues in the region and coordinating the efforts of the countries of Central Asia in this area;

Welcome the steps taken by the leaders of the Central Asian states in recent years to support women's entrepreneurship, ensure gender balance and create equal working conditions;

Support the development of effective ways to fully realize the creative and entrepreneurial potential of women in the Central Asia states and the continuation of efforts to increase the opportunities for women and young women in the entrepreneurial sphere;

Express support for efforts to strengthen comprehensive cooperation among women entrepreneurs in Central Asia and intend to make efforts to involve Afghan women in regional trade and economic projects that will advance peace processes;

Welcome steps to promote cooperation among women in the region in the fields of science and education, health, education, culture, arts and sports, youth empowerment and tourism development;

Propose to undertake continuous efforts and intensify regional cooperation to develop ways to contribute to overcoming the impact of the pandemic on women;

Stand ready to support policies of Central Asian States to further strengthen comprehensive regional cooperation and support innovative approaches to leadership, policymaking and social change in each of our countries.

Participants of the Central Asian Women Leaders' Caucus

Awaza National Tourist Zone, Turkmenistan

6 August, 2021