



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

UK Government and UN Women event on "Transforming Economies: Empowering Women and Girls"

New York, 25 September 2015, 17.30 hrs.

Bulgaria commits to:

1. Adopt and implement a Gender Equality Act
2. Adopt and implement the National Strategy for the Promotion of Gender Equality for the period 2016 – 2020
3. Mainstream gender equality in all policies and programmes at national and local level
4. Make further efforts to combat negative stereotypes about women and their role in the social and political life, and in the family
5. Promote the increased participation of women in decision-making processes
6. Establish a legal framework that favours the political and economic participation of women on equal terms with men
7. Ensure wider employment opportunities for women by adopting special legislation and amending the existing legal framework related to labour and employment
8. Integrate a gender perspective in all policies and programmes related to labour and employment
9. Lift the national minimum wage and ensure that any future welfare changes do not disproportionately impact women
10. Further improve policies to ensure equitable life chances for women and men in education, work and health as stipulated in the Constitution of Bulgaria
11. Take special measures to ensure better balance between professional and family life for women, including through special incentives for men to take paternity leave
12. Promote fatherhood and the role of the father in the family and in child care through special legislation, targeted funding, quality social services in the community, opportunities for flexible employment and professional mobility of the work force

13. Adopt and implement further measures to support working women, including by introducing flexible working hours to enable them invest more time in their family, in education, and the professional advancement
14. Adopt a policy on part-time house helpers
15. Implement special regulations for introducing integrated health-and-social services, including in the home environment, which would be of particular help for women taking care of dependent family members at home
16. Fully abolish the gender pay gap by eliminating all forms of hidden discrimination as regards women's wages and ensuring equal pay for equal work for both women and men
17. Elaborate more measures to further reduce gender inequality with particular focus on the protection of women and girls belonging to the most vulnerable and marginalised groups, older women, women and girls with disabilities, etc.
18. Adopt special legislative measures, as well as all other types of measures, for the prevention of all types of violence against women and girls
19. Continue developing policies to fight domestic violence
20. Create a system of collection of statistical data on gender-based violence and encourage reporting
21. Enhance the control on the implementation of all policies and programmes related to gender equality
22. Continue sharing experience and good practices regarding the promotion of gender equality
23. Remove all remaining barriers to equality and help build a fairer society