

“শেখ হাসিনার বারতা  
নারী-পুরুষ সমতা”

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Women and Children Affairs  
Policy Leadership and Advocacy Unit (PLAU)  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka  
[www.mowca.gov.bd](http://www.mowca.gov.bd)



No-32.00.0000.092.16.002.12.49

Date-06-04-2023

**Subject:** Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Technical Working Group meeting of the Local Consultative Group on Women's Advancement and Gender Equality (LCG Gender).

Chairman : Ms. Nargis Khanam, Joint Secretary  
(Planning and Statistics), MoWCA

Date and Time : 27 November 2022, Time: 10.00 am

Place : Conference Room, (Department of Women  
Affairs, 37/3 Eskaton Garden Road, Dhaka.)

Attendance : Note to Appendix "A".

The Chairman welcomed all participants and started the Proceedings of the meeting with a round of introduction. The Chairman requested the Deputy Secretary (PLAU) to brief background and details on Technical Working Group meeting of the Local Consultative Group on Women's Advancement and Gender Equality (LCG Gender).

02. After the introductions, Mr. Md. Shohel Rana gave a brief background of the Technical Working Group and outlined the three (3) areas of cooperation identified in the 11<sup>th</sup> LCG Gender meeting, namely gender-based violence (GBV), capacity strengthening, and the National Action Plan on the National Women Development Policy. It was highlighted by participants that LCG Gender is a resource to support MoWCA. Discussions explored MoWCA's mandate, current priorities, and scope of work, noting their focus on strengthening a nation-wide GBV prevention and response programme, prevention of child marriage, social norm change, and presence at the grassroot level. Two (2) key National Action Plans (NAPs) were discussed, namely the NAP to Prevent Violence against Women and Children and the NAP for the Implementation of the National Women Development Policy. In relation to the National Action Plan for the Implementation of the National Women Development Policy, chairman of the meeting outlined the need to map the NAP against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) targets, and later, integrate it with the new national system of the Ministry of Planning. Meeting participants also noted the challenge of LDC graduation, coupled with the shift to automated processes and their impact on women's economic empowerment (siting examples of the RMG sector). Chairman also mentioned MoWCA's interest in the care economy. Participants echoed the need to be able to monitor and measure progress. Gender Responsive Budget (GRB) was also mentioned, with the caveat that it is not always done according to guidelines.

03. According to observation following discussions and decisions were taken in the meeting.

S L	Decision	Responsible Person/ Ministry / Division
1.	<p>The Technical Working Group will suggest the following activities to LCG Gender for the 2023-2024 Work Plan. It was suggested by MoWCA to prepare a work plan for the group to share in the upcoming LCG Gender meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support consultations/workshop with relevant ministries, divisions for the roll-out of the National Action Plan to Prevent Violence against Women and Children (NAP VAW). LCG Gender to provide technical support to MoWCA for the monitoring of NAP VAW.</li> <li>• Support consultations/workshops for the roll-out of the National Action Plan (updated) for the Implementation of the National Women Development Policy 2011.</li> <li>• Identify 1-2 pilot areas under which LCG Gender and MoWCA can support a selected Ministry to implementing specific actions for gender equality (need to identify the ministry and issues).</li> <li>• Coordinate/conduct a presentation of the legislative gaps, followed by concrete discussions to identify key pieces of legislation to prioritize and advocate for, particularly focusing on existing discriminatory laws</li> <li>• Coordinate/conduct a study on the challenges and opportunities of LDC graduation from a gender perspective</li> <li>• LCG Gender and MoWCA to identify issues related to gender statistics (data).</li> </ul>	Technical Working Group
2.	<p>The Technical Working Group will suggest the following topics for the quarterly LCG Gender meetings in 2023 (at least 4 meetings on a quarterly basis):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantive discussion on care economy with follow up actions</li> <li>• Discriminatory laws and legislative gaps in relation to gender equality</li> <li>• LDC graduation from a gender perspective; opportunities and challenges in pre and post LDC graduation and in the context of 4<sup>th</sup> industrialization</li> <li>• The Ninth Periodic Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).</li> </ul>	
3.	<p>The Technical Working Group will meet in advance of each LCG Gender meeting. The following agenda was proposed for the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of LCG Gender to be held in December 2022 (to be confirmed):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the 11<sup>th</sup> LCG Gender meeting</li> <li>• Presentation of the Preliminary Technical Assistance Project Proposal (PTAPP) for 'Strengthening Institutional Capacity of Department of Women Affairs under the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence and Child Marriage'.</li> <li>• Endorsement of the LCG Gender 2023-2024 Work Plan.</li> </ul>	
4.	Establish a WhatsApp Group for the Technical Working Group	

As there was no further discussion the meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the chair.

Sd/-  
 06-04-23  
 Nargis Khanam  
 Joint Secretary  
 (Planning and Statistics)  
 Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.

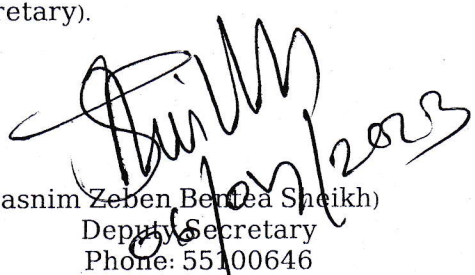


Distribution to : (Not according to Seniority):

1. Joint Secretary (Admin), Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Dhaka.
2. Joint Secretary (Budget & Audit), Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Dhaka.
3. Social Development Advisar, Governance & Political Team, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) Bangladesh.
4. Paola Castro Neiderstam, Second Secretary, Program Specialist-Human Rights, Democracy and Gender Equality.
5. Asif Kashem, Senior Program Manger, Gender Focal and Social Protection Lead Australian High Commission, Bangladesh.
6. Shamima Pervin, Program me Specialist, UNFPA Bangladesh.
7. Sharmin Islam, Gender Analyst, United Nations Development Program me (UNDP).
8. Mushfiqua Zaman Satiar, Senior Policy Advisor, Social Sector Focal Point for SRHR and Gender.
9. U S Rokeya Akhter, National Gender Specialist, Food and Agriculture Organization Of United Nations (FAO)
10. Programme Officer, PLAU UNIT, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Dhaka.

Copy for kind information (Not according to Seniority):

1. PS to the Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka (for kind information of the honorable Secretary).
- ✓ 2. Programmer (ICT), Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka (for publish in website).
3. PO to Joint Secretary (Planning and Statistics), Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Dhaka.(for kind information of the Joint Secretary).

  
(Tasnim Zeben Bentea Sheikh)  
Deputy Secretary  
Phone: 55100646

E-mail: policyleadership2023@gmail.com