



سفارت و نمایندگی  
جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان  
ژنیو - سویس

EMBASSY & MISSION of  
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC of AFGHANISTAN  
Geneva - Switzerland

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت  
سفارت او نمایندگی  
ژنیو - سویس

To the Member of the United Nations  
Avenue de la paix 8-14  
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

11/12/2023

**Subject: Inclusion of "Gender Apartheid" as a Crime Against Humanity in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court**

Dear Esteemed Member of the United Nations,

As the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations, I am pleased to inform you that the Government of Afghanistan has submitted an essential amendment to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to include "Gender Apartheid" as a Crime Against Humanity.

Afghanistan, like many nations, has witnessed the harsh realities of what is known as "Gender Apartheid" imposed by the Taliban. This phenomenon, unfortunately, is not unique to Afghanistan but a global issue that violates the principles of equality, dignity, and human rights that all civilized communities stand for.

"Gender Apartheid," as we propose it to be recognized, involves the systematic segregation, discrimination, and denial of equal access to education, work, freedom of movement, and economic life, by another gender group.

Recognizing "Gender Apartheid" as a crime against humanity is the right direction for global legislation. It would not only offer a framework for international accountability but also serve as a deterrent. This amendment would also align with the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goals 5 and 16, which aim to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls and peace, justice, and strong institutions.

The inclusion of "Gender Apartheid" in the draft treaty would also send a powerful message to the international community that gender-based discrimination and violence will not be tolerated and that the global legal framework is a comprehensive list of crimes.

I urge the Commission of women and children who are currently suffering as a result of the Taliban's governance in Afghanistan. The United Nations is to ensure that international legal instruments are subject to ratification and reflection of the challenges faced.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to your response and the possibility of working together to make a world where the rights and dignity of every individual is respected.

Sincerely,



Dr. Nasir A. Ahmad  
Ambassador  
United Nations and Other International Organizations