



**Women's Development Plan  
in  
the Eighth National Economic and Social  
Development Plan  
(1997 - 2001)**

*Adhoc Committee on the Formulation of Women's Development Plan  
in the Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plan  
National Commission on Women's Affairs  
THAILAND*

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## **FOREWORD**

The National Commission on Women's Affairs (NCWA) appointed an Adhoc Committee to formulate a regular five year Women's Development Plan for the implementation period of the Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plan (1997 - 2001).

In the formulation process of this five year Plan, the concepts and directions for the development of women have been "translated" from the long term Perspective Policies and Planning for the Development of Women (1992 - 2011), Beijing Declaration and its Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing as well as the Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plan. A seminar was held for representatives from both the public and private sectors to compile views and perspectives on the draft plan which has already been finalized.

This five year Women's Development Plan was formulated in the context of the eighth National Development Plan. It is meant to be used as a guide for the efforts for the advancement of women. Emphasis has been placed on strategies and approaches. It is hoped that related agencies in both the public and private sectors might be able to use it as a guideline for the formulation of their action plans so as to attain the target set.

**National Commission on Women's Affairs  
THAILAND**

# CONTENT

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Foreword</b>	
<b>Part 1</b> Background	3
Situation Analysis of the Status of Women	4
Future Trends and Their Impact on Women	17
<b>Part 2</b> Perspectives and Direction for Women's Development	21
Desirable Vision for Women	21
Features of the Plan	22
Content of the Plan	22
<b>Part 3</b> Strategies for the Development of Women	27
1. Strategies for the Development of Women's Potential and Quality of Life	28
2. Strategies for the Improvement of an Enabling Environment to Facilitate the Advancement of Women	31
3. Strategies for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women	34
4. Strategies for the Development of Disadvantaged Women	37
5. Strategies for the Improvement of Administration and Management systems for the Advancement of Women	41
<b>Appendix</b>	45

หน้าว่าง

# ***PART 1***

## **BACKGROUND**

### **SITUATION ANALYSIS OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

### **FUTURE TRENDS AND THEIR IMPACT ON WOMEN**

## **BACKGROUND**

After the United Nations declared 1975 as the International Women's Year and Thailand participated in the declaration of the Women's Decade in 1976, there was an effort to bring to attention the needs and concerns of women at the national level. That resulted in the formulation of the first long term Women's Development Plan (1982-2001). Based on the long term plan, a five-year Women's Development Plan was incorporated in the Fifth and Sixth National Economic and Social Development Plans respectively. Later on, a permanent office, the National Commission on Women's Affairs (NCWA) was established in the Office of the Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office. Considering that ten years have lapsed, the National Commission on Women's Affairs deemed it necessary to reformulate the first long term Women's Development Plan so that the content and the direction correspond to the changes in the society. A Committee was set up to formulate the second long term Women's Development Plan entitled "Perspective Policies and Planning for the Development of Women (1992-2011)". This plan provided the framework for the formulation of the five year Women's Development Plan which was included in the Seventh and Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plans.

During the period when the Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plan was being prepared, the United Nations organised the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. The outcomes of the Conference were the Beijing Declaration and its Platform of Action for the Advancement of Women. It was expected that member countries would incorporate the recommendations therein expressed into consideration when preparing their national plan.

The Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plan focuses on people-centered development. It aims at fostering and developing the potential of people from birth to death in terms of physical, intellectual and spiritual well-being to ensure that each individual is capable and healthy and has the opportunity to improve his or her knowledge and ability as well as to ensure his or her full participation in the national development process. Women, being half of the population, should thus be targets of the development.

Thus, this Women's Development Plan has been formulated by using the concepts and directions of the Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plan as guidelines.

# **SITUATION ANALYSIS OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

Opportunities and constraints can be summed up as follows:

## **1. Development of Women's Potential**

### ***1.1 Health***

The past years saw access to health services for women improving tremendously. During 1990 - 1995, life expectancy for women increased from 68.7 to 71.04 years of age (Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board, 1996). The maternal mortality rate from 1983-1993 dropped from 0.6 to 0.23 per 1,000 live births (Family Health Division, Department of Health, 1996). According to the report on the quality of life of the Thai people in 1995, 97.2 percent of pregnant women received prenatal care and 98 percent received delivery services and postnatal care. These are indices for the achievement of the Basic Minimum Needs (BMN) under the Health Education Section. The targets set at 75 percent and 80 percent respectively were achieved. In addition, in the BMN Section on Family Planning, 87.5 percent of the couples with the wife age between 15 - 44 years received family planning services. The target for the index was set at 77 percent. However, when statistics were analysed by region, it was found that of the couples in the South, 76.4 percent had family planning services. In terms of married couples having not more than two children, the overall target for the country was not achieved. The achievement was only 69.2 percent while the target set was 75 percent. Regional figures indicate that in the central region the percentage was 79.2 percent, i.e. the number of married couples with no more than two children exceeded the target set.

However, the economic and social changes resulting from globalisation affected women's health, particularly the hazards arising from employment, which are increasing both in agriculture and in industry. Moreover, there are also sexually transmitted diseases, particularly AIDS, which have infected women and infants. The figures from the Epidemiology Division of the Office of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health indicate that from 1984 to 31 May 1997, there were 3,386 AIDS patients being infected with the virus from the mothers. For the 15-19 age group, females infected with AIDS

outnumbered males (412 : 357). Among houseworkers, the number of female patients also exceeded that of male (77 : 5). In addition, there were problems associated with unsafe abortions.

## ***1.2 Education, Training and Skill Development***

Education and training are instrumental to the improvement of the quality of life of both women and men. The expansion of compulsory education from 6 to 9 years in 1994 enabled girls to have greater educational opportunities. However, the prevalence of old values and attitudes including the economic reasons of the family especially in rural areas still result in girls being enrolled in smaller numbers than boys. The census survey in 1994 shows that among illiterate population aged over 6, there were more females than males, the percentage being 59.43. At the compulsory primary education level in the age group of 6-11, girls enrolled in schools were fewer than boys. At the lower secondary education level, even if there is a policy to advocate schooling among youth, the chance for girls enrolling is less than that of boys. At the tertiary level, females have a greater chance and enroll in greater numbers than males. There are still some restrictions in the admission for males and females in some fields. This reflects traditional stereotypes on gender roles among educational administrators. That may lead to restrictions of educational opportunities among females or discrimination against females. To expand educational opportunities and provide more options, the government has provided non-formal education from the primary to secondary levels where credits can be transferred to the formal education system. Moreover, there is a promotion of education for life and development of skills, attitudes, knowledge and special abilities. Vocational training is also provided to women's groups in the agriculture sector. The activities however, still highlight the traditional roles of women such as sewing, cooking and hairdressing etc.

Although educational opportunities are wide open and there is a range of modalities, on the whole, the level of education of women is lower than that of men. At present, although the literacy rate is higher than 90 percent, two thirds of those who are illiterates are women. For the university educated group, at the bachelor degree level, there are more female than male graduates. At the master's degree level, the number is about the same but at the doctorate level, there are more men than women. Through the years, it could be seen that the

educational level for women has been higher and opportunities have also been wider.

### ***1.3 Employment***

Since the implementation of the First National Economic and Social Development Plan which focussed on industrial development, many industries emerged and many jobs were created. There was an increasing demand for labour leading to the migration of both men and women from the agricultural to the industrial sectors. Women who leave the rural to urban areas, in general, have a lower education than males. Once employed, they do not have the chance to develop themselves and thus are not included in the upgrading scheme. With inadequate skills, the employment options are thus limited and they are vulnerable to being exploited by employers or owners in terms of wages and benefits. Although there is a labour protection law, enforcement from the concerned authorities is weak.

### ***1.4 Values, Ethics and Morality***

The family, especially women, plays a vital role in the physical, mental, intellectual, emotional and social development of its members. The family is where its members develop values, morality and ethics through the socialisation process within the context of the Thai culture and religion. At present, the process for ethical development including socialisation within the family is not strong. Sexual biases are still seen in child rearing practices.

The development of human potential, particularly moral development through the family and religious institutions, is not sufficient to resist the changes resulting from the influence of consumerism in the society. The family has failed as an institution. Economic competitiveness, the media which reinforce sexual biases, promotion of or selling femininity in advertising media are commonplace in the Thai society. These have played an important part in demoralizing the society. Men and women do not have adequate options for activities which would directly or indirectly facilitate their aesthetic, mental and emotional development.

## **2. Development for the Better Quality of Life and Provision of Protection and Assistance**

Disadvantaged groups do not have access to the services provided by the state. They are not protected from the rapid changes in economic and social situations. Social problems have expanded and have become more complex. The judicial system and the protection of the safety of life and property are not adequately comprehensive. The result is that women who are economically and socially disadvantaged do not have access to the services provided by the state. They are not protected and are sexually exploited, particularly women in the informal sector. Despite their significant contribution to the economy, both at the family and the national levels, they are poorly educated, unskilled and have low income. There are no laws which protect their rights and welfare benefits. For poor women, particularly the elderly who are widows, they do not have any income and are not very well taken care of by the families, which have become more of a nuclear type. Provision of social welfare is not sufficient. The victims of rapes and violence have not been well protected by the judicial system. Law enforcers also lack understanding of the sexual crimes and violence against women and children. In the sex industry, there are those who have been lured or forced into this trade. The mechanisms, legal measures and procedures to protect them are not effective. After having been assisted from the sex industry, many are not capable of earning any income to support themselves and the family and, eventually, return to prostitution.

At present, the Protection and Suppression of Prostitution Act of 1996 has been in force and has introduced a few changes. In view of the fact that commercial sex is related to economic and social situations, the penalty imposed on the prostitutes has been reduced and protection is provided, considering that the majority of the prostitutes have little education and are intellectually disadvantaged. Opportunities should be given to them for career development, rehabilitation, medical treatment, vocational training and improvement of quality of life. At the same time, in order to curb prostitution and to protect children and youth who might be lured into prostitution, heavy penalties are imposed on clients, including the media who publicize and provide information in relation to prostitution. The Law also gives the authority to the courts to remove guardian rights from the parents or guardians who may be involved in making arrangements for those under their guardianship to enter prostitution. The Law has been in effect since 21 December 1996.

### **3. Equal Rights**

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand has explicitly guaranteed equal rights for both men and women since 11 February 1995. Moreover, Thailand has also been a signatory to the United Nations' Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. There have been efforts, at the same time, to amend certain laws to improve the status of women. However, in reality, there are still some problems related to gender equality in laws, regulations and rules. These include the Family Law on breaching an engagement contract, compensation called for on the event of violation of the engagement contract, marriage conditions, divorce, relations between husband and wife, the right to use the family name, and the duty to take care of the parents. The Penal Codes related to the abortion and Rape Law are still discriminatory. More importantly, there is discrimination as a result of double standards due to traditional attitudes, values and customs expected of men and women. In some cases, although the laws, rules or policies are not explicitly discriminatory; in practice, discrimination takes place because of sexual biases.

#### ***3.1 Equal Opportunities in Education and Training***

There are still discriminatory practices in education through imposing restrictions on the number of women to be admitted to the state universities. There are also rules and regulations barring women from studying in certain fields. Traditional values prevailing in the society have led to limited opportunities in education and training. This restrictions in opportunities rest on the traditional attitudes on the strict division of labour between men and women. The labour market also provided better opportunities in all aspects to men than women.

#### ***3.2 Equality in Politics and Administration***

At present, although many more women are entering politics, women are accorded lower priority as candidates for election than men. Having to be selected by the political parties makes chances for women slimmer. Women have fewer chances to participate in the Cabinet. Statistics show that since 1932, only 8 women have been appointed as cabinet ministers. In General Chaowalit Yougjaiyuth's government, there was no female minister (1996). In

the government service, rules and regulations were amended to allow women to assume certain posts which had been reserved for men. For example, the Ministry of Interior has appointed two governors, two deputy governors and eight provincial office chiefs. The Ministry of Defense has appointed 10 female generals. However, the proportion of women in the high ranking positions is rather low.

### ***3.3 Equality in Employment***

In the government service, by law, women are able to compete with men and are given equal opportunity with men in almost all jobs. On the average, women pass the entrance examination in a greater number than men. However, women still face problems in their career advancement. Discriminatory attitudes and values still prevail among managers. In the business sector, there is still discrimination. For example, the retirement age for some bank employees is set differently for men and women. Similarly, the retirement age for airhostesses and stewards of Thai International Airways is different.

### ***3.4 Equality in Religion***

For Buddhist women, they spend more time than men in practicing Buddhism but they do not have the chance to formally take up Dhamma teachings like men. As religious practitioners, many of them have been very successful and can be leaders in religious practices although they have not gone through the formal system. Female government officials are not allowed to take leave for religious study and practise Buddhism while their male counterparts are able to take leave for three months to enter the monkhood. Currently, there are about 10,000 nuns but they do not yet have proper legal status. Government agencies have conflicting views on the status of nuns. As nuns do not have the status of religious practitioners, they are unable to lead religious rites, nor do they enjoy certain privileges given to monks, e.g. studying in the university for monks or travelling on buses free of charge. But nuns do not have the right to vote in the elections as they are regarded as religious practitioners as interpreted by the Local Administration Department.

### ***3.5 Equality in Marriage and Family Relations***

At present, Thai women do not yet have the same rights and responsibilities as men in many respects. These include choosing spouses and divorce, making decisions on family planning, abortion, child rearing, use of family names, use of different titles for married women, and property management among others. For example, there is no indication of the marital status for the title of married men. Women have to change their title and use the husband's family name. The fact that women cannot pass on her name to her children makes their status lower than men. Other problems women are facing include polygamy and domestic violence-wife battering.

## **4. Participation of Women**

Women are valuable assets and are important for social, economic and political development. Participation of women means that opportunities are open for them and that they are accepted and supported to enable them to develop to their full potential for the benefit of the women themselves and for the men and the society as a whole.

Women have lower social, economic and political status than men in many aspects. The promotion and development of women, including opening up the opportunities for women to participate in decision-making, are principal strategies for development.

### ***4.1 Participation of Women in Family***

The Thai society as a whole has accepted and recognized the roles of women in family and household affairs. It is also recognized that women have equal rights with men in making decisions within the family. However, when the society has become more urbanized and modern, the family income is more in the form of salaries and wages. Once the financial and banking system has become more complex and modern technology has been applied, the power and participation in decision-making, financial management and control have gone back mainly to the hands of the husband who would provide an allocated sum to the wife to manage the household finance.

At present, Thai laws accept and grant equal rights to women to become involved in legal transactions which may be binding the family. This includes land buying and selling and ownership transfer and making loan contracts. All these transactions need to be concurred by the spouse. This has enabled women to have roles and take part in the legal transactions that the husbands make.

Although women have roles and participate in making family decisions, economic and social changes have transformed the family structure and some problems have emerged. For example, as women enter the workforce, the division of labour within the family between the husband and the wife has to be modified. This requires a shift in societal attitudes. Other problems are related to divorce or separation from the family which are major concerns for the family as an institution.

#### ***4.2 Participation in Community Development and Local Administration***

The laws provide the opportunities for women to participate in decision making at the local level which covers the village, sub-district and local administrative bodies. Only 1 percent of women are elected as village heads and sub-district chiefs. For comparison, the local administration statistics show that in 1989, the ratio of sub-district chiefs between women and men was 0.49 : 99.51 (33 women : 6,640 men). In 1995, the ratio was 1.42 : 98.58 (102 women : 7,059 men). In 1989, the ratio between female and male village heads was 0.76 : 99.24 (418 women : 55,180 men) and in 1989, the ratio was 1.79 : 98.21 (1,074 wome : 58,860 men). The statistics indicate that participation of women increased threefold from 1989 to 1995. At a higher level, that of the Provincial Council, in 1989 there were 82 women from the total number of 2,046 or 4 percent. In the Municipalities, there were 134 women among a total of 2,088 members or 6.4 percent. The discrepancy is still great.

#### ***4.3 Participation in Non-government and People's Organizations***

The level of participation of women in non-government organizations is satisfactory. Particularly, at the decision-making level, women count for half of the total (50 : 132, Computer Information System Project, 1990). The

implication is that women have a better chance in such kind of organizations and women are interested in social development work and are ready to sacrifice to work for the public within a facilitating management environment.

From the survey on the people's organizations such as cooperatives groups, farmer groups and labour unions, it was found that the data are not systematically sex-disaggregated. Apart from women's groups, it can be said that women have participated as members or are engaged in activities but the rate of participation is not quite clear.

#### ***4.4 Participation in the Government Service***

Women have participated in large numbers in the government service, i.e. 54.8 percent. Particularly in the Ministry of Public Health and the Bureau of the University Affairs, the participation is at 74.5 and 73.6 percent respectively. The high participation rate of women in the government service may be the result of the laws which allow for women to compete with men for almost all government jobs. The fact that in the past, men also had better opportunities to seek jobs in the private sector may be the cause for the rapid increase of women's participation in the government service. (From the Supplementary Documents for the Second Meeting of the National Women's Congress).

#### ***4.5 Participation in the Business Enterprises and Business Sector***

Women have been much better educated and can apply the knowledge they have gained to their work. They want to have their own income and need to be recognized by the society. The shortage of labour has resulted in competent women being better accepted particularly in the area of finance and banking where there are more than 38 percent of women in the decision-making positions.

In addition, there is a great number of women who are self-employed. The statistics of the OECD Development Center in 1992 indicate that of 503 entrepreneurs, 54.9 percent were women. In the clothing business, 67.2 of the entrepreneurs were women and in the restaurants and food business, 75 percent were women.

Women in the business and private sectors still face problems and constraints which are related to values and attitudes of the employers. There is discrimination against women in terms of career development and wages. Women have two thirds of the income of men. Sexual bias in management results in women being assigned unimportant tasks. Women have to work twice harder to be recognized for their ability.

#### ***4.6 Participation in Politics***

The roles and participation of women in politics are very marginal because in the Thai society, it is perceived that politics belongs to men.

No women were elected as MPs in the elections during 1932-1948. In the by-election of 1948 there was one woman elected. After that period women participated more through election or appointment. However, when compared to men the ratio was very low. The 1996 statistics indicated that there were 371 male MPs and 22 female MPs. Having few female MPs who belong to different political parties makes it difficult for them to work together systematically and continuously. They also had not enough power to push for legislation and policies on women.

Women were first appointed senators in 1946 (29 years after the Senate was formed). They are fewer in number when compared to men. Currently, there are 21 female senators.

In the selection of the members for the Constitutional Drafting Assembly in 1996, only 6 women were selected as against 93 men.

To enable women to participate more in politics, the starting point is at the local level, particularly in the Sub-district Administrative Organizations (SAO) which came into being as a consequence of the decentralization of the administrative power to the local people aiming to let people manage their own affairs and self-govern. At present there are organizations both in the government and private sectors which have attempted to push and promote women to participate in the SAOs by running for election. There has been training for women to have proper knowledge on the SAOs, to participate in these SAOs either as election candidates or as supporters. In 1997, the ratio of female to male SAO members is 5,543 to 57,998.

## **5. Organization and Management**

### ***5.1 Mechanism/Organizations***

The scope of the work for the development of women is extensive and covers all aspects of development. Therefore, there are many organizations which work for women both directly and indirectly in the government and the private sectors. These also work at different levels from the grassroots to the national and international levels. In the past, various organizations set their own work targets and plans according to their own missions. This is due to the fact that the first Women's Development Plan (1982-2001) has not been well publicized and is not clear enough to establish a common understanding and to obtain acceptance from various organizations. In the implementation of activities for the development of women in the past, it was found that:

5.1.1 There is an overlapping of the missions among many organizations as there is a lack of coordination and cooperation to coordinate the planning which would lead to securing resources and consolidating the work.

5.1.2 The budget is insufficient for the work and there is a lack of qualified personnel who are well-versed in women's development work.

5.1.3 There is a lack of systematic data management related to women as well as a lack of research and evaluation.

5.1.4 There is no planning at the field level and there is no serious implementation of the action plans.

5.1.5 The target groups are unclear and the activities launched are not responsive to the needs of women. The target groups which should receive the greatest benefits turn out to gain the least, particularly disadvantaged women in the rural areas.

### ***5.2 Information Management System and Research Topics for the Development of Women***

Data on women are very important as they are instrumental to the formulation of policies and measures which will help close the gap in the economic and social status between men and women.

Data which are valuable for the improvement of the status of women have been compiled through the national statistics compilation system. They are also compiled and processed by various organizations. These may be organizations which directly work for women or which are related to women or organizations which provide basic services to the public or academic institutions. The compilation and processing are thus carried out according to the purposes of each organization. The target groups, the areas, ages, frequencies and times for collection of data all vary. The existing data are thus useful at one level but are impractical for comparison purposes.

The NCWA has put an effort to compile bibliographies on research on women periodically. It has developed indicators for the status of women by compiling economic and social data from related organizations which are categorized into 9 sections. Some data which are necessary for the improvement of women's status have not yet been compiled. In some cases, data are compiled but they are not sex-disaggregated. The information system as developed is thus not yet sufficiently complete to be indicative of the status of women as recommended by ASEAN and the United Nations. Although requests have been made to various organizations in the compilation of data, these organizations cannot comply with the request citing as a reason that work process and budget will be affected. There has been no serious advocacy at the policy level to ensure that all the organizations recognize the importance of statistics and advocate the collection and compilation of sex-disaggregated statistics.

Organizations that have data which can be used for the improvement of the status of women are scattered in many ministries, departments including non-government organizations. Coordination and systematic information networking are lacking. Support has not been well provided for the collection of sex-disaggregated statistics which could be used further for study, situation analysis, formulation for policies and curative measures, and monitoring and evaluation.

Personnel of various organizations both at policy and implementation levels mostly lack understanding on statistics. They do not see how sex-disaggregated statistics can facilitate in closing the gaps between the status of women and men in the society. Processing and use of sex-disaggregated statistics, are not adopted as a policy in the most organizations.

Moreover, these organizations still lack qualified personnel who have the knowledge and skills in collecting and processing information related to women and in applying information technology to facilitate the effective use of available data.

# **FUTURE TRENDS AND THEIR IMPACT ON WOMEN**

## **1. Globalization**

The telecommunication progress, especially in communication technology, is a major driving force in making the world “borderless”. The speed of communication has led to a fast pace of changes in terms of knowledge, attitudes, including ways of living, resulting in the following:

\* With higher competition in trade, the competitive edge of the country depends on the quality of the people who form an important labour force. The change in the economic structure which has shifted to industrialization has resulted in labour migration from the agriculture to the industry sectors. The majority of the labour force are women who lack knowledge, skills and experience.

\* The media, which reach the population very fast, has led to changing values where consumerism is valued highly in the society. Access to mass media create certain stereotypes of women. They do have a strong influence on the development of sexual behaviours. The limited portrayal of roles and status of women in the media has imposed constraints on the generation of ideas and on the awareness to utilize the potential and capability of women including the access to factual information.

\* International movements related to democracy, human rights, gender equality and natural resources and environment conservation have forced women to seek further knowledge and understanding and to actively participate in community activities as well as to learn to effectively use natural resources.

\* Increasing coordination and interrelatedness among countries in the world, particularly the prevalence of humanistic trends and human rights movements, have led to a call for the rights and participation for the advancement of women. In addition, the promotion of tourism among countries has expanded the network and the illegal business of the sex trade has been included in tour packages. Transboundary commercial sex trafficking has taken place.

## **2. Impact on Women**

Amidst economic competitiveness including that in the service industry, the quality of the people is of utmost importance. In Thailand, women account for 40 percent of the labour force. As women workers have a low education and are not able to advance in their careers, they have a low income. It is necessary to ensure that they receive higher education and have the chance to increase their skills and experience which is an education for life.

The improvements of all types of information technologies have made available a variety of the forms and methods to secure information. Self-learning is also introduced. These have forced women to be selective in processing the information reaching them for their own benefit.

While Thailand's economic development has been very rapid, social problems also occur and directly affect women, particularly the problems arising from violence in the family and the community. Examples include physical abuse, rapes, trafficking of women and children which all violate human rights. This latter case does not only cause physical injury but also psychological damage to the victims for the rest of their lives. Recently there has been an increasing trend in violence against women and children. Children are being lured into prostitution and although this is a crime, it has grown into a global network. Women need to be protected from these problems by all concerned agencies both in the public and private sectors, business enterprises and institutions dealing with social matters.

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## ***PART 2***

**PERSPECTIVES AND DIRECTION FOR  
WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT**

**DESIRABLE VISION FOR WOMEN**

**FEATURES OF THE PLAN**

**CONTENT OF THE PLAN**

## **PERSPECTIVES AND DIRECTION FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT**

The Women's Development Plan during the implementation period of the Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plan (1997-2001) was reformulated to improve the perspectives and direction to correspond with the Eighth National Development Plan, the Perspective Policies and Plans for Women (1992-2011) and the Platform of Action for the Advancement of Women in the Beijing Declaration. The perspectives and direction in the development of women feature the following:

1. The focus is on women and aims at developing women to their full potential for their physical, mental and intellectual well-being so that they become virtuous, capable and healthy. All women have rights and opportunities to improve their knowledge and ability and take part in all aspects of national development including decision-making.

2. An enabling environment for women has to be developed. The focus is on the development at family and community levels including the development of the social security system which could facilitate the advancement of women.

### **DESIRABLE VISION FOR WOMEN**

1. All women are being developed to their full potential for their physical, mental, and intellectual well-being to become healthy and valuable human resources as well as to be self-reliant and able to live with dignity in the society.

2. All woman have rights and opportunities to participate in decision-making at all levels. They have to be protected as equally as men against the violation of their rights and human dignity, as daughter, wife, mother or single woman.

3. There is no gender-based bias and no discrimination of any forms against women in the society.

4. The society is free from violence against women.

## **FEATURES OF THE PLAN**

1. This is an indicative perspective plan which provides perspectives and direction for the advancement of women during the implementation period of the Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plan. In light of the focus which is on the individual and its environment, the development approach is holistic and all aspects have to be systematically integrated - the National Development Plan, Health Development Plan, Educational Development Plan, Labour and Social Welfare Development Plan and the Platform of Action for the Advancement of Women in the Beijing Declaration.

2. This Plan adopts the interdisciplinary approach for the development of women. The focus is to have all parties concerned - the public and private sectors, business, non-profit charitable organizations, social institutions, families and communities - participate at every stage from conceptualizing, planning, up to implementing, monitoring and evaluation.

## **CONTENT OF THE PLAN**

### **Objectives**

1. To develop women's potential in physical, intellectual, social aspects including values and awareness by increasing the opportunities for access to economic and social services which will lead to a better quality of life.
2. To ensure equality by eliminating all forms of de jure and de facto discrimination against women.
3. To protect women on a basis of equality with the full dignity of human beings, in their capacity as daughter, wife and mother.
4. To advocate the participation of women in the economic, social and political development at all levels including the development of the family, community, country and the international community.

## **Targets**

- 1. Women are physically and mentally healthy, having the opportunities to develop intellectually and develop vocational skills. They are capable of being self-reliant and of having appropriate employment.**
- 2. Women participate in all levels of decision-making and in shaping the direction of national development which includes economic, social, political, administrative, environmental, religious, cultural, media and family aspects.**
- 3. Elimination of discrimination against women in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.**
- 4. Amendment of the laws and legal procedures to protect women who are sexually exploited or suffer from violence against them both in the family and at the workplace.**

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***PART 3***

**STRATEGIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
WOMEN**

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# **STRATEGIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN**

To ensure that the development of women achieve the set objectives and goals, strategies have been formulated for the advancement of women during the implementation period of the Eighth National Development Plan as follows:

1. Strategies for the development of the potential and the quality of life of women
2. Strategies for the improvement of an environment to facilitate the advancement of women
3. Strategies for the elimination of discrimination against women
4. Strategies for the development of the disadvantaged women
5. Strategies for the improvement of management system for the advancement of women

## **Focus**

1. Strategies for the development of the potential and the quality of life of women highlight the development of the potential of women in the areas of health, intellectual and mental capacity, skills as well as employment.
2. Strategies for the improvement of an enabling environment to facilitate the advancement of women underline the strengthening of the family and the community, and the creation of non-biased social values. It also reinforces the provision of quality information through the media to eliminate discrimination against women.
3. Strategies for the elimination of discrimination against women feature the promotion of equality in laws, safety protection and provision of welfare. It also advocates economic, social, political participation of women and conservation of the environment and of natural resources.
4. Strategies for the development of the disadvantaged women aim at providing opportunities to the disadvantaged women to develop themselves to their full potential including the protection of their basic rights. They should be equitably accessible to the services provided without any discrimination.
5. Strategies for the improvement of the management system for the advancement of women focus on the reform of the management system in an interdisciplinary manner with effective networking, monitoring and evaluation. It also includes the development of the information system, of indicators, research as well as the application of communication technology for the development of women.

# **1. Strategies for the Development of Women's Potential and Quality of Life**

## **Objectives**

1. To develop the physical, intellectual, mental, social capacity of women to achieve the goals that have been set.
2. To develop the economic, social, political and administrative potential of women and to improve their quality of life and that of the family members.
3. To encourage women to be interested in life-time development.

## **Targets**

1. Women have knowledge, understanding and awareness of the importance of disease prevention, take care of their own health and of that of the family members and modify their health behaviours.
2. The female literacy rate is increased along with the expansion of all types of schooling opportunities at all levels without discrimination against women.
3. Women in the labour force are provided with knowledge and skill training according to their attitude and interests in accordance with the demand of the labour market. They are able to perform according to the standards set for skilled labour and are provided with wider coverage of protection.
4. The ratio for women in the skill standards testing and the number of women participating in a greater variety of skill competitions are increased.
5. Women have knowledge and understanding and participate in the promotion of religions and in the conservation of the Thai culture and art heritage.

## **Target Groups**

1. All women in both rural and urban areas.
2. Women in both the formal and non-formal school systems.
3. Women in different occupations such as agriculture, industry, service and in the informal sector.

## **Approaches**

### **1. Health**

1.1 Advocate health-screening procedures for couples planning marriage and for pregnant women.

1.2 Advocate health services for a better quality of life for mothers and for child development, e.g. health and reproductive health care, vaccination, nutrition and supplementary food.

1.3 Campaign and disseminate for health information among women, especially employment hazards and long term effects on health.

1.4 Advocate provision of counselling and guidance including basic health services and participation for women in the process.

### **2. Development of Intellectual Capacity and Skills and Employment Access**

2.1 Campaign for women to increase their educational level, particularly to complete the 12 years compulsory education. Offer a wider opportunity for women to choose more non-traditional areas of study. Eradicate female illiteracy.

2.2 Encourage and stimulate women to pay more interest in science and technology and other subjects perceived to be for men. Provide women with opportunities for education and training so as to facilitate their work performance and daily living.

2.3 Abolish restrictions on women to study in universities or to study in certain subjects. Support institutions which produce graduates with specific skills to admit women.

2.4 Modify the curriculum, textbooks and supplementary readings and teaching methods to be free from sexual bias. Add knowledge on family studies, life skills and human rights in the school curriculum at all levels particularly the secondary and tertiary levels. Strengthen the capacity of the teachers to have full knowledge and understanding in these matters and be able to transfer such knowledge to wider and larger target groups.

2.5 Create opportunities for women to undergo different kinds of vocational training so as to acquire skills according to the standards set at both the national and international levels. This includes all groups who are in agriculture, industry and services. Support women to engage in different types of occupations. Eliminate all forms of discrimination in employment and in career advancement.

2.6 Campaign for women to undergo skill standard testing and enter skill competitions. Strengthen the capacity of the female skill development teachers in various technologies to facilitate the transfer of their knowledge.

2.7 Encourage women to become interested in the service industries in which women are perceived as lacking ability.

2.8 Formulate measures for the protection and welfare of female workers in agriculture, in the services and in the informal sectors. This includes women who are at risks from working in dangerous environments which may cause harmful effects on their health and safety.

2.9 Set up a management system to deal with illegal female immigrants to ensure that opportunities for employment for Thai female labour are not affected.

2.10 Amend labour protection and work safety laws for men and women who work in the country and those who work overseas. Strict legal measures must be adopted to prevent luring workers to work illegally overseas. Provide better protection of rights of women working overseas.

2.11 Encourage women to be educated and trained in management and administration so that they can be effectively self-employed.

2.12 Ensure that female workers both in the formal and informal sectors, including women in agriculture, have equitable access to the social security system.

### **3. *Mental development***

3.1 Encourage religious institutions to target women in providing moral education and training in religious principles so that the principles can be practised and the knowledge transferred.

3.2 Support, through organizational and management development, the roles of the institutions for nuns in mental, moral and ethical development so that they can impart Buddhist precepts and ethics for women and youth both in and out of the institutions.

3.3 Promote the role of the family in mental development by providing training for women to enrich knowledge and understanding related to the conservation of good traditions and customs and to be able to impart such knowledge to family members.

## **2. Strategies for the Improvement of an Enabling Environment to Facilitate the Advancement of Women**

### **Objectives**

1. To strengthen family and community ties for self reliance which will facilitate the advancement of women. Provide opportunities for women, family and community to work together and jointly develop their community.
2. To raise public awareness on the importance of family as an institution and strengthen the family institution. Eradicate violence against women in the family, the community and the society in general.
3. To foster better understanding of women's issues, establish proper values and eliminate gender-based biases.
4. To disseminate up-to-date information on women to women's groups and the public and provide access to useful information.

### **Targets**

1. Advocacy launched on the greater role the community should play to strengthen the family.
2. Children, youth and married couples are encouraged to enrich knowledge and understanding on family life, roles of parenting and good parenting, responsibilities within the family and close and warm child rearing.
3. Increase the production and dissemination of quality media on women's issues and control of inappropriate media which have a negative impact on morality and good traditions as well as control of gender-based biases.

### **Target groups**

1. Community
2. Family members
3. Mass media

## **Approaches**

### ***1. Strengthening of Family and Community Ties***

1.1 Launch public campaigns to recognize the importance of the family. Disseminate knowledge and understanding to the public widely and continuously. Newly married couples should be exposed to family life studies which include mental and physical readiness, guidelines on how to live together and how to establish good relations among family members as well as participation in the development of family, community and the society.

1.2 Create proper awareness about the roles, responsibility and gender equality in the family and the society, the roles of fathers and mothers in child rearing to ensure appropriate development commensurate with the children's age and in eliminating gender-based biases in child rearing practices.

1.3 Support and stimulate the media for constructive presentations related to family life and community, e.g. roles of a good father, mother and good children, establishing relationships between men and women, problem solving and overcoming obstacles etc.

1.4 Promote the role of the family and community in providing welfare and surveillance for the family and community members, particularly those at "risk" and the disadvantaged, e.g. poor families which do not have access to the services provided by the state, HIV infected patients, the elderly and abandoned children.

1.5 Accelerate the setting up of Youth and Family courts in every province.

1.6 Amend laws and regulations which inhibit the consolidation of family ties. Accelerate the effective enforcement of such laws and regulations. Disseminate information to the public extensively especially in cases where parents or guardians physically and emotionally abuse children and youth, and in cases of sexual exploitation as well as domestic violence.

1.7 Advocate the eradication of violence in the family and abuse of children and women, by providing knowledge and understanding so that the public is aware of the problems and their impact and by expanding the hotline services for families facing problems.

## **2. *Development and Control of Communication Technology for the Development of Women***

2.1 Promote extensive use of communication technology linking organizations in the public and the private sectors. Improve information sources and media appropriate to users so as to increase the effectiveness in the administration and service of the public sector and to enable the public to have the opportunity to receive information on the advancement of women.

2.2 Find measures to control communication technology to prevent the presentation of negative images of women.

2.3 Encourage the media, the journalists, radio and television anchorpersons, writers including people who are involved in the process and production of the media to have a proper understanding of women's issues and to cooperate in featuring such issues in the media. Form new values to eradicate discrimination against women in the media and entertainment programs.

2.4 Encourage the media to play a role in campaigning and disseminating to the public, knowledge and understanding on women's issues and changes in values related to gender-based biases as well as in disseminating information which is useful for the development and impacts on the potential of women.

2.5 Support every organization to publicize work on the development of women to the public on a regular basis.

2.6 Encourage the media to be focal points in the development of the quality of life for women by providing accurate information, withholding presentations which lead to sexual assault or which relate to unethical matters and those which have a negative impact on the status of women as well as gender-based biases. Launch campaigns for greater involvement of women in all types of media and ensure that women have chances to produce and choose items which are useful to them.

2.7 Arrange for regular meetings where concerned parties from the government and the private sectors can share their views and perspectives. Such meetings should include those who have been affected by the media so as to widen their knowledge and understanding related to the advancement of women.

### **3. Strategies for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**

#### **Objectives**

1. To promote legal equality and to eliminate de jure discrimination.
2. To provide safety and welfare for women.
3. To provide opportunities for women to utilize their potential for the development of the community, society and country and for the conservation of environment and natural resources.
4. To enable women to equally share responsibility with men in shaping the direction for a prosperous, secure and peaceful society.
5. To reflect women's perspectives in economic, social, political and administrative development and other related matters concerning the community and society.

#### **Targets**

1. Incorporation of gender equality principles in the family and other related laws.
2. Adoption of appropriate measures to amend or abolish laws, regulations, traditions, or practices which discriminate against women.
3. Setting up an agency with the authority and responsibility in dealing with discrimination against women.
4. Formulation of legal and other measures to ensure that equality principles are truly enforced.
5. Increase in the number of women in decision-making at all levels including their participation in prevention and solving community problems and in conservation of natural resources and environment.

## **Target groups**

1. Women and men
2. Concerned parties in the judicial system
3. Politicians

## **Approaches**

### ***1. Promotion of Legal Equality, Provision of Safety and Welfare for Women***

1.1 Amend laws and regulations to eliminate sexual bias and all forms of discrimination against women in accordance with the United Nations' Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Prohibit specification of sex in the recruitment process of organizations in both the public and private sectors. Accelerate the effort to change the values of both men and women which are sexually biased and discriminatory.

1.2 Provide different types of legal counselling services for disadvantaged women and produce training aids for information dissemination.

1.3 Promote legal training particularly on the rights and responsibilities related to women's well-being and their career.

1.4 Encourage women to make demands on the protection and serious law enforcement for women.

1.5 Launch campaigns for Thailand to remove the reservations on the United Nations' Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

1.6 Proceed for legislations on the protection of social welfare for women including children and the elderly, particularly protection of women in the informal sector and in working conditions considered dangerous and having a negative impact on health.

1.7 Campaign for responsible agencies and individuals such as senators, members of parliament, investigators, prosecutors, judges, attorneys or legal officers, to understand women's development issues.

## ***2. Participation in Economic, Social, Political Development and Conservation of Natural Resources and Environment***

2.1 Support women to have equal rights and opportunities with men in all aspects by opening up opportunities to participate in decision-making and participate in economic, social, political and administrative development at all levels. Strengthen the potential for networking among women and support equal opportunities for women in education, training and skill development including employment.

2.2 Support women in both rural and urban areas to have roles and participate in social activities and voluntary work, particularly those of people's organizations, in order to prevent problems in the areas.

2.3 Strengthen and establish the mechanisms to increase the ratios of women as decision-makers in project planning for resources management and conservation of environment. Support social, economic and political institutions in reducing negative environmental impact on women.

2.4 Support for an increase in training for women to build up confidence so as to enable them to accept major decision-making roles in economic, social and political matters in greater numbers.

2.5 Encourage women and women's groups to express more their political views and form an alliance as important pressure groups for political development of the country.

2.6 Launch campaigns for political parties to have policies on women and support women to become members of political parties and run for elections. Encourage political parties to reserve equal numbers of seats for women in both elected and appointed positions. Encourage women to use their voting rights in all levels of elections and focus on the increasing roles of women in ensuring fair and free elections.

2.7 Support women to participate in local administration and in community leadership more effectively.

## **4. Strategies for the Development of Disadvantaged Women**

### **Objectives**

To provide the opportunities for disadvantaged women to develop themselves to their full potential according to their abilities and to be provided with assistance and protection according to their basic rights.

### **Targets**

1. Decrease in the number of female sex workers and of children below 18 years of age being engaged in commercial sex.
2. Disadvantaged women are provided with better welfare, care and protection.

### **Target groups**

Disadvantaged women

### **Approaches**

#### **1. *Women Engaged in Commercial Sex.***

1.1 Campaign for young girls to continue their education, at least to complete compulsory education. Provide guidance and counselling related to study or employment for “risk” groups which include the young girls themselves, the parents and guardians.

1.2 Launch campaigns to publicize knowledge and understanding on commercial sex problems and to change the values which condone commercial sex and values which aggravate violence against women and children.

1.3 Reinforce values and cultures which promote love, responsibility, unity, warmth and fidelity within the family. Change beliefs and attitudes in child rearing which constitute obstacles to proper formation of life skills and attitudes. Withhold materialistic support but focus on the closeness, love and time given to the children by the parents.

1.4 Promote networking of people’s organizations at all levels, particularly at the village level, which is committed to surveillance, to monitoring, guarding and assisting children and women from being persuaded or deceived into commercial sex.

1.5 Provide opportunities for non-government organizations to serve as plaintiff in court cases related to child prostitution and pornographic entertainment, production of all forms of pornography through the media and arrangement for a venue for pornographic exhibitions/shows.

1.6 Amend laws, rules, regulations and accelerate speedy enforcement of the amended laws. Intensify efforts for effective law enforcement and at the same time ensure the formation of new attitudes and provision of proper understanding.

1.7 Provide knowledge and understanding for those engaged in commercial sex in health care so as to avoid sexually transmitted diseases, e.g. venereal diseases and AIDS through the application of appropriate communication means with the target groups and specified areas.

1.8 Provide counselling and vocational training including employment and funds for those who want to abandon commercial sex.

1.9 Support assistance and protection of victims in commercial sex from being physically and mentally abused including those being violated of their rights.

## ***2. Poor Women in Rural and Urban Areas***

2.1 Provide opportunities, particularly to young girls in rural and urban areas, to receive basic education by offering scholarships and promoting skill development for employment through the non-formal education system.

2.2 Extend loans for occupational development to women's groups; organize training to upgrade skills for employment through collaboration among the public and private sectors and factory owners.

2.3 Support income generating activities of women's groups, particularly those in the agricultural sector so that they will not leave agriculture and engage in other occupations.

2.4 Expand social services for women and provide information about the prevention of diseases prevalent in urban areas such as AIDS.

## ***3. Elderly Women***

3.1 Provide social welfare for elderly women particularly those who are poor and are abandoned. Expand free health services in appropriate modalities

and disseminate widely and extensively information on health care and prevention of illnesses related to women.

3.2 Encourage the family to recognize the importance of care for the elderly by providing welfare for poor families which take care of the old parents aged over 75. Reduce income tax for the children or relatives who take care of the elderly and at the same time provide proper understanding on how to take care of them.

3.3 Encourage organizations in the public and private sectors, religious organizations and the community to take part in caring for the elderly, employing different modalities of assistance, e.g. establishing seed funds, offering financial assistance, arrangement of venues for physical exercises and recreation, entertainment and dissemination of information useful for living and arrangement for religious teachings.

3.4 Advocate compilation of sex-disaggregated information and data related to the elderly who are poor and are abandoned in all areas on a continual basis. Promote research work on the elderly.

#### ***4. Girls in Difficult Situations***

4.1 Improve the assistance procedures for poor girls who are in difficult situations in the rural areas to have the opportunities to further their study or undergo vocational training in accordance with their needs and capacity as well as local resources available.

4.2 Improve the attitudes and work process of government officials so as to better facilitate the assistance provided to girls in difficult situations, e.g. the modality and procedures in investigating and prosecuting when these girls are victims or they themselves commit offences.

4.3 Advocate up-to-date information/data related to girls in different categories of difficult situations to ensure a wider application.

4.4 Promote systematic vocational training for girls in rural areas by providing information related to employment opportunities and analytical skill development for making appropriate decisions for choosing a career.

#### ***5. Disabled Women***

5.1 Advocate special education both general and vocational for disabled women so that they have opportunities to study through the formal and

non-formal schooling system. Provide opportunities for the disabled to study with the able-bodied persons to facilitate their leading a normal happy life.

5.2 Support organizations in both the public and private sectors to take part in improving the quality of life of disabled women through education.

5.3 Provide rehabilitation services in occupational skills, focussing on preparedness for entering the labour market for self-employment.

## **6. *Minority Thai Women of Different Ethnicity***

6.1 Accelerate the improvement and upgrading of the quality of life of Thai women of different ethnic groups by granting them nationality and legal rights. Provide adequate basic services which include those related to education through both formal and non-formal education systems, public utilities and health. Accelerate efforts in family planning and AIDS prevention.

6.2 Protect and prevent these ethnic Thai women from being sexually exploited and from entering commercial sex.

6.3 Strengthen their capacity to live and work in a sustainable manner in their community without negatively affecting natural resources and environment. Promote the role of the private sector, non-government organizations and charitable foundations to take part more in developing Thai women of ethnic minorities.

## **7. *Women under Parole and in Custody***

7.1 Promote the opportunities for continuous self-development using appropriate modality and approach in education, vocational training, employment and income earning while under and after parole.

7.2 Support the private business sector, people's organizations and community to take a greater part in improving the working system and rehabilitation process for women under and in custody parole.

## **8. *Poor Female Household Heads***

8.1 Advocate for financial institutions to provide loans to female household heads without or with low interest.

8.2 Strengthen the capacity of female household heads through education, skill development, vocational training for employment and earning income to support the family.

## **5. Strategies for the Improvement of Administration Management Systems for the Advancement of Women**

### **Objectives**

#### **1. *Organization***

1.1 To strengthen the organizations and personnel who work for women within both the government and private sectors for more effective and efficient performance.

1.2 To strengthen the mechanisms of both the government and the private sectors in the areas of policy and planning including monitoring and evaluation.

1.3 To ensure close collaboration among the public, private and business sectors in the advancement of women.

1.4 To mobilize appropriate resources for the advancement of women on a continual basis.

#### **2. *Research and Data on Women***

2.1 To study and conduct research related to the development of women so as to widen the knowledge base and to facilitate the search for solutions to the problems and approaches for the advancement of women.

2.2 To understand aspects of women's situations which will facilitate the formulation of policies, plan, programs and activities for the advancement of women.

2.3 To establish an effective data system and information network on women.

### **Targets**

1. National mechanisms, mandated to work for the advancement of women, are established or upgraded.
2. Comprehensive network from the grassroots to local, regional and national levels for both the public and private sectors is established.

3. Set up data systems, including development of bibliographies and indicators, for the status of women and for effective and modern networking are set up.

## **Target groups**

1. Organizations and individuals working for women in the public and private sectors.
2. Focal points in ministries and departments and related organizations.
3. Business enterprises.
4. Committees, sub-committees and working groups related to the advancement of women.
5. Women's groups and all women.
6. General public.

## **Approaches**

### ***1. Development of Mechanisms and Network for the Advancement of Women***

1.1 Improve the administrative system and mechanisms and provide training to personnel of both the public and private sectors to ensure effective performance in advancing the status of women.

1.2 Strengthen understanding in the direction, policies, goals and mechanisms in the advancement of women and inculcate desirable attitudes on women in the personnel who work in both the public and private sectors.

1.3 Encourage organizations in the public and private sectors and people's organizations to integrate women's issues in policies and plans of the organizations in an interdisciplinary manner, taking into consideration the roles and responsibilities of such organizations. Allocate budget according to programs and projects to organizations in the public and private sectors, non-government organizations and people's organizations.

1.4 Strengthen the capacity of organizations at the local and regional levels for initiating alternatives in problem solving suitable for the locality and culture and tradition by promoting formation of alliances and groups among women of different professions.

1.5 Ensure a joint collaboration among organizations in the public and private sectors to solve women's problems as well as set up networks with a clear mandate on coordination among organizations in the public and private sectors.

1.6 Support decentralization of resources mobilization, decision-making power and administration to local organizations and community by promoting local bodies to participate in shaping the direction for the advancement of women.

1.7 Set up a system for the monitoring and evaluation of women status on a continual basis.

## ***2. Development of Systems on Indicators and Bibliographies of Research on Women***

2.1 Support the setting up of data and information center which will serve as the central agency in promoting and coordinating the compilation of data and development of data systems necessary for the advancement of women. Establish and link networks in the collection of gender information so as to serve as data base for the analysis of the situation, seeking of new solutions and disseminating information and statistics on women in all aspects of internationally accepted standards.

2.2 Support the setting up of a data base to compile relevant information and data for the advancement of women and of a computer system for networking.

2.3 Provide training on collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data in various organizations which either compile or use such data. Advocate at the policy level, the compilation of sex-disaggregated data and statistics among various organizations.

2.4 Promote study, research and compilation and dissemination of research findings in various aspects related to the advancement of the status of women so that users of research statistics which may include policy makers, planners, researchers and development workers can fully use the obtained data.

2.5 Strengthen the capacity of personnel in organizations to use information technology as an instrument for improving the administrative mechanisms.

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# **APPENDIX**

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**Adhoc Committee  
on the Formulation of Women's Development Plan  
in the Eighth National Economic and Social  
Development Plan**

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| 1. Mrs. Saisuree Chutikul  | Advisor          |
| 2. Khunying Supatra Masdit   | Advisor          |
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| 4. Miss Srisavang Phuavongsephatya   | Vice-Chairperson |
| 5. Chairperson or Representative,<br>National Committee on Health and<br>Environment                               | Member           |
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| 7. Chairperson or Representative,<br>National Committee on the Social and<br>Political Participation               | Member           |
| 8. Chairperson or Representative,<br>National Committee on the Development<br>of Women's Information System        | Member           |
| 9. Chairperson or Representative,<br>National Committee on Laws and Regulations                                    | Member           |
| 10. Chairperson or Representative,<br>National Member Committee for the<br>Elimination of Involuntary Prostitution | Member           |
| 11. Chairperson or Representative, National<br>Committee on International Cooperation                              | Member           |

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| 18. Director-General or Representative,<br>Department of Non-formal Education  | Member |
| 19. Director-General or Representative,<br>Public Relations Department   | Member |
| 20. Representative, Ministry of Health   | Member |
| 21. Representative,<br>Ministry of University Affairs  | Member |
| 22. Chairperson or Representative,<br>National Council of Women<br>of Thailand under the Royal Patronage<br>of Her Majesty the Queen | Member |
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| 31. Mrs. Sriwatana Chulajata,<br>Director, Office of the National Commission on<br>Women's Affairs                                   | Member                             |
| 32. Mrs. Rangsee Phanthumchinda,<br>Office of the National Commission on<br>Women's Affairs  | Member &<br>Secretary              |
| 33. Mrs. Narumol Ungullvibool,<br>Office of the National Commission on<br>Women's Affairs  | Member &<br>Assistant<br>Secretary |
| 34. Miss Vallabha Saradaprabha,<br>Office of the National Commission on<br>Women's Affairs   | Member &<br>Assistant<br>Secretary |

## **The Editorial**

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