

A Written Report

from the Republic of Korea

Implementation

Regarding the Questionnaire

of the Beijing Platform for Action

August 1999

Republic of Korea

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women's advancement	
and institutional measures	27
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Platform for Action	
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Progress	

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achieving gender equality and women's

Overview
advancement

Conference on Women which was held in Beijing

The

out significant changes in the Korean society. This

in 1995 has

with the changes that have been taking place in the

report

d women's organizations as well as the Korean society as

Gov

the private sectors from 1995 through 1999 will be highlighted and due attention will be given to the persisting problems and future tasks.

Participating in various international gatherings to discuss

women's issues such as the 1st World Conference on 1975, UN Decade for Women, and the Nairobi Confer

women's organizations in Korea have sought to install

vehicles to enhance women's status. These efforts began to pay off

in the 1980s when the Government, recognizing their demands,

embarked on the development and promotion of policies benefiting

women. To administer and promote policies regarding women's

affairs, the Government established the Ministry of Political Affairs

in 1988 and has expanded related administrative bodies

in addition, greater authority has been given to the National Committee

on Women's Policies under the Prime Minister's Office. In 1994, the

Special Committee on Women was formed in the National Assembly

for the efficient and effective evaluation of women's policies.

Following suit, local autonomous governments have strengthened their administrative bodies for women's affairs and women's development efforts over the last two to three years.

As its first effort to follow up on the conclusions of the Beijing Conference, the Government drafted "The Ten Policy Priorities for the Advancement of Women" in 1995. The ten policy priorities aim to achieve the following four objectives: (1) to relieve the burden of housework on women; (2) to provide supports for the employment of women; (3) to fully develop the capacity of women; and (4) to reduce gender discriminatory perception and practices.

is to be implemented over the five year period from 1998 to 2002.

Plan for the advancement of women's

incorporates various public opinions gathered

discussions. The Plan was approved by

Women's Policies.

objectives which are

to reform regulations and practices

to ensure the equality and stability of

job-training programs

to provide service for women

to provide facilities for cultural and social activities of

to ensure the participation of women in the building of

to formulate a detailed annual

to formulate an annual action

to determine to whom the

to determine policy priorities to

to be carried out shortly after its

to include One is the

to include practices, and the other is

The Government has

to implement a number of concrete measures

As a comprehensive

status in the society

through open hearing

the National Committee

The Plan has

① to reform

② to increase

women's

③ to provide

④ to expand

⑤ to build

women,

⑥ To invite

The central and local governments are

to prepare action plans on the basis of the

plans must be approved by the

implementation results will be reported directly

The current administration announced

to be carried out over the following five-year

inauguration. Two issues on which

elimination of discriminatory systems

the promotion of equal employment

subdivision for disabled women is one such example.

Korea has placed special focus on two areas, namely, *F. Women and the economy* and *H. Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women*. These are also the areas that have demonstrated remarkable progress in Korea. As was delineated above, Korea has achieved considerable improvement in introducing

laws and regulations for the enhancement of women's status. In the

wake of the Beijing Conference, *D. Violence against women*

draws great attention in Korea. In addition, the administration, which has worked to

take a keen interest in *I. Human rights*

Financial and institutional measures

Budget Allocation for Women's Policies:

It is quite difficult to estimate exactly what proportion women-specific policies/programs take in the government budget because budget allocation is made on the basis of the functions of different government ministries. Without any gender implication. Therefore, only a rough estimate can be made by adding up the expenses paid by the Government for the implementation of the Master Plan on Women's Policies. In 1998, the Government spent a total of about 230 billion won or 3.8% of the annual budget for the Master Plan.

The Women's Development Act mandates the central and local governments to set up necessary programs and contains provisions on the formation, operation, and usage of the Women's Development Fund. The Government aims to raise a total of 100 billion won for the Fund. The Fund has to be used to support projects beneficial to women and activities of women's organizations, establishment and operation

of public facilities for women, international alliance for the women's pursuing gender equality. Many women's organizations are engaged in such cause, and others are up with creative projects and have applied to receive financial support from the Fund on the principal.

finances the programs and projects for the enhancement of women's interest.

The Government has contributed a total of 5 billion won for three years since 1997. Despite the current economic difficulties, the Government allocated 5 billion won for the Fund in 1999.

All local governments have enacted ordinances for the formation of their own local Women's Development Funds and seek contributions. The Seoul Metropolitan Government and Kyunggi Province plan to raise a total of 10 billion won each for the Fund;

Chungcheong province, 5 billion won; North Cholla province, 6 billion won; and other local governments are also trying to raise 2 billion won, and other local governments are also trying to raise 2 billion won for their Funds. Although administrative and financial supports have been granted to some women's development programs, they are still in the process of raising funds.

Additional Measures for the Advancement of Women

Enhancement of Governmental Organizations on Women's Affairs

The Presidential Commission on Women's Affairs was

established in 1988, which replaced the Ministry of Political Affairs (Ministry of Women's Affairs).

The Presidential Commission on Women's Affairs is the

highest-level governmental organization on women's affairs. The Commission on Women's Affairs is under the direct supervision of the President.

With the dedicated support from the President and the

Commission has greatly contributed to the formation of policies to address urgent women's issues, such as the unemployment of women in the economic crisis in 1998.

The Presidential Commission on Women's Affairs, which has its own secretariat, is represented by 15 members including the Chairperson and Commissioner, deputy ministers from 6 Ministries, and non-standing members from the academia and NGOs. Major functions of the Commission include comprehensive planning and coordination of women's policies; development of measures to imply the Women's Development Act; provision of expert opinions to the President on Women's Affairs; and the monitoring of the implementation of the Act.

In 1998, the Gender Equality Offices were newly installed in five major Ministries (Ministries of Justice, Government

B. Women's Development Act

As an extension of the constitutional provisions for gender equality and women's advancement, the Government introduced the Women's Development Act in December, 1995. The Act was meant to strengthen the institutional and financial foundation for the development of women and to achieve tangible results in every sector of the society (i.e. political, economic, social, and cultural aspects). The Act requires the establishment of national basic plans for women's policies every 5 years. The Act ultimately provides a legitimate basis for the Government to give preferential treatment to women in areas where few or no women are engaged. The Act has further created the Women's Development Fund and has mandated the Government to support women's organizations.

C. Gender Discrimination Prevention and Relief Act

The Gender Discrimination Prevention and Relief Act was enacted in 1999. The Act is one of the most significant outcomes of women's movement since the Beijing Conference. This Act aims to achieve gender equality in all sectors of society by prohibiting gender discrimination in all sectors of society, by prohibiting gender discrimination in employment, education, use of goods, services, facilities, and the enforcement of laws and regulations. Under the Act, the Presidential Commission on Women

training, education, counseling, etc. The Government will provide financial resources necessary to build and operate the Center and

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Employment Act

E. Revision of the E

Act was revised in February, 1999 to

The Equal E

prohibition of indirect forms of sexual

incorporate demands

... affairs officer to intervene and resolve disputes in accordance with
the dispute settlement procedures as stipulated by the law. They can
also ask the Equal Employment Committee for mediation. |

Following the revision of the Act, the Ministry of Labour has
already distributed the Guidelines for the prevention of sexual
harassment. Corporations are also taking an active stance on this
matter, declaring a war against sexual harassment in the workplace,
reinforcing preventive measures, and executing employee training.
The establishment of the Equal Employment Act has drawn the
attention of the public to the issue of sexual harassment and the

total of
sexually
citizenship

half-million won are allocated for each person. As of
152 victims have benefited from this Act.

In 1997, the Nationality Law was revised to
discriminating elements. - Before the amendment, P

... was a
The revised law
parent is a citizen of
elements that had

... was given to a child of the
citizen of Korea at the time of the
grants Korean citizenship to a child
Korea at the child's birth. Mo

... initiated following the amendment of the Law the Government
as to remove the reserve position on Article 9 of the Convention
the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against
Women (CEDAW).

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Critical Areas of Concern

II. Education and Training of women

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Example of successful basic education projects to implement a national plan of the Beijing Declaration and also any targets for the next self-examinations

increased number of graduates in the educational field

Enlargement of programs intended for students

in the educational field

The number of female students has increased

in the educational field

The proportion in technical fields expanded from 10% in 1988 to 15% in 1993

in the educational field

Enlargement of science and engineering students

in the educational field

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Child

Examples of successful projects to increase concern of the community
(Indicate any particularly related achievement)

Gender eq:

Teachers

Gender eq programs

into the life

and the

programs h

to the work

gender teachers

Exhaustion

Protect and eq

capacities of female

of women

Examples of courses encountered/lessons learned

<p>Critical Areas of Concern</p>	<p>II. Education and training of women</p>
<p>Examples of achievement after critical areas of concern and projects (e.g., Beijing Platform for Action) of concern of the girls and of progress self and related achievement</p>	<p>Examples of achievement after critical areas of concern and projects (e.g., Beijing Platform for Action) of concern of the girls and of progress self and related achievement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strengthening of girls' education by using self-help groups/forums ○ Making social education schools for educating their centers ○ Establishing health centers and colleges

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and projects of concern of the related achieve

Article any related achieve

Establish

cities for participation

enhancement

- As of the report of the

00,888,000

○ Supportive educational

- Build the social issues

- Inker

(1988) III

Critical Areas of Concern

1

Examples of success stories for people (men & women) in the area of the ...

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II. Education and Training of women

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<p>Critical Areas of Concern</p>	<p>Examples of successful policies, programmes and projects to implement the critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action (Indicate any targets and strategies set and related achievements)</p>	<p>Examined the national health encounter, etc.</p>	<p>Commitment to further action/new initiatives</p>
<p>III. Women and health</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A 10-year program for the improvement of healthcare for women and children is under development.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The newly enacted national health insurance law provides for the coverage of pregnancy and delivery related medical costs as it incorporates disease prevention and rehabilitation into the areas eligible for recuperation of expenses.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Distribute family healthcare guidelines for maternal health.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Some of the expenses are of the national level (e.g. expenses for routine indicated diseases for highly susceptible diseases, etc.)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Support public health centers which will act as a focus for maternal and child health services; operate/supervise model public health centers for the development of women's health promotion programs.</p>

Critical Areas of Concern

IV. Violence against women

Examples of and projects of concern of (Indicate any related activities)

The Punishment of Victims of Sexual Violence (1998)

The Protection of Domestic Violence Victims of Sexual Violence (1998)

Laws on Violence against Women

Testa Punishing

Examples of obstacles encountered/lessons learned

Current

Answers

Violence against women

Sharing the burden for the protection of women

Lack of counseling

Absence of appropriate

Violence against women

Answers

Violence against women

Sharing the burden for the protection of women

Lack of counseling

Absence of appropriate

<p>Critical Areas of Concern</p>	<p>IV. Violence against women</p>
<p>Examples of projects and projects of concern of the related active (Dec. 1998)</p> <p>(July 1998)</p> <p>○ Insi... suo... Evel... and... (June... ○ Qui... crim... doun... 6, 10... ○ Spq... dram... (Sep...)</p>	<p>Examples of projects and projects of concern of the related active (Dec. 1998)</p> <p>(July 1998)</p> <p>○ Insi... suo... Evel... and... (June... ○ Qui... crim... doun... 6, 10... ○ Spq... dram... (Sep...)</p> <p>Baron/les of obstacles encounter/lessons learned</p> <p>Commitment to... action/new... the... police... institutions... counseling... service... emergency... service... Cross, and other... organizations... Development... medical...</p>

CJ	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Index <input type="checkbox"/> public <input type="checkbox"/> practices <input type="checkbox"/> the investigation <input type="checkbox"/> the issue a </p>		
<p> VI Adapted from technology </p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Index <input type="checkbox"/> public <input type="checkbox"/> practices <input type="checkbox"/> the investigation <input type="checkbox"/> the issue a </p>	<p> Commitment for further action/new initiatives </p>	
<p> VI Adapted from technology </p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Index <input type="checkbox"/> public <input type="checkbox"/> practices <input type="checkbox"/> the investigation <input type="checkbox"/> the issue a </p>	<p> Commitment for further action/new initiatives </p>	
<p> VI Adapted from technology </p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Index <input type="checkbox"/> public <input type="checkbox"/> practices <input type="checkbox"/> the investigation <input type="checkbox"/> the issue a </p>	<p> Commitment for further action/new initiatives </p>	
<p> VI Adapted from technology </p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Index <input type="checkbox"/> public <input type="checkbox"/> practices <input type="checkbox"/> the investigation <input type="checkbox"/> the issue a </p>	<p> Commitment for further action/new initiatives </p>	

Critical Areas of Concern

VI. Women and the economy

Executive Summary

China's economic growth has been rapid, but the benefits have not been shared equally. Women are particularly disadvantaged in the labor market and in the household. The government has implemented various policies to improve women's status, but more needs to be done.

The government has implemented various policies to improve women's status, but more needs to be done. The government has implemented various policies to improve women's status, but more needs to be done.

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The government has implemented various policies to improve women's status, but more needs to be done. The government has implemented various policies to improve women's status, but more needs to be done.

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I. Women in power and decision-making

introduce laws for women participation in the

Establish

Increase of women

in public sector

to preserve

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participation in

die

The law... participation in the... part of efforts of... participation in... die

participation in... part of efforts of... participation in... die

and 11... Councils

and 11... Councils

and 11... Councils

Critical Art. Jr. III

Cancel

Examples of success

and projects to imple-

ment of the Beijing

(Indicate any targets

related achievements)

the major target

policies.

Expand the

Target percent

1989)

The percenta

30% by the

also cover both

Establish Go

Gender-based
Management b
Toward the
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The Plan rev
enhance wou
public sector

VII Women and

power

Decision-making

1989

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Critical Areas of Concern	X. Women and the media
---------------------------	------------------------

Examples of and
 Headlines in the
 or describe any bias
 (Label achievement
 1985) Article
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 and
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Examples of obstacles
 encountered/lessons learned
 action
 Add notes
 the first impetus to, for the
 gender equity initiatives
 interrelated
 Act
 contents
 regulations
 Knowledge

<p>Critical Areas of Concern</p>	<p>X. Women and the media</p>
<p>Examples of success and projects to include in the report (indicate any target related achievement):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Published a ...</p> <p>Media Leads in ...</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Generate and disseminate ... (e.g. movies, videos) ... improvement of work ...</p>	<p>Examples of success and projects to include in the report (indicate any target related achievement):</p> <p>Street ...</p> <p>Sexually ...</p> <p>Examples of obstacles ...</p> <p>Contributors ...</p>

<p>Women and the environment</p>	<p>Key Areas of Concern</p>	<p>Examples of successful policies, projects and projects to implement the critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action (Indicate any targets and strategies, and related achievements)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Carrying out research activities to provide education on the relationship between women and the environment</p>

XI

if area

Examples of obstacles encountered/lessons learned

Carrying out the project action/very initiatives.

<p style="text-align: center;">Critical Areas of Concern</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">XII. The girl child</p>
<p>Exam and conce Ondk relate</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">C C C</p>

Critical Areas of Concern	
<p>Ex III</p> <p>cc</p> <p>II</p> <p>PC</p>	<p>XII. The girl child</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Examples of successful projects to implement in the region of the Basin include: any large-scale school (e.g.,) Developmental projects after school program</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Provide resource which provide after school relief for the children in rural areas</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Expand day care centers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Provide after school programs in rural areas</p>

1. Population and fertility

1.1 Total Population

Year	Census Enumeration	Estimated Mid-Year	Sex		Annual Growth Rate (%)
			Male	Female	
1995	22,905,142	22,388,000	11,010,000	11,378,000	0.6
1996	22,939,142	22,606,000	11,010,000	11,596,000	0.6
1997	23,170,142	22,821,000	11,010,000	11,811,000	0.6
1998	23,396,142	23,035,000	11,010,000	12,025,000	0.6

Source: 1) National Statistical Office, *Population & Housing Census*, includes foreigners (1997); 2) National Statistical Office, *The Future Estimated Population* (1996)

1.2 Population by Age

Year	0-4	5-14	15-59	60+	Total
1995	1,608	3,267	14,833	2,486	22,196
1996	1,342	3,092	14,633	2,486	21,553
1997	1,022	2,876	14,433	2,486	21,817
1998	676	2,660	14,233	2,486	21,055

Note: Foreigners are excluded. Source: National Statistical Office, *Population & Housing Census* (1997)

1.3 Population by Area and Sex

Area	Female			Male			Total	Year
	4 years Old and Under	5 to 14 Years Old	15 to 64 Years Old	15 years Old and Under	15 to 64 Years Old	65 Years Old and Over		
Whole Country	100.0	22.9	71.5	100.0	22.8	71.8	22,388	1995
Urban	100.0	22.7	71.5	100.0	20.5	65.9	17,110	1995
Rural	100.0	23.0	71.5	100.0	25.1	73.9	5,278	1995
Whole Country	100.0	22.7	71.5	100.0	22.8	71.8	23,445	2000
Urban	100.0	22.7	71.5	100.0	20.5	65.9	16,360	2000
Rural	100.0	23.0	71.5	100.0	25.1	73.9	7,085	2000

Note: 1) Foreigners are excluded. 2) Estimated population. Source: National Statistical Office, *Population & Housing Census* (1997); National Statistical Office, *Population Projection* (1996)

4 Total fertility rate and fertility rate for women aged 15-19

Year	Total fertility rate	Fertility rate for women aged 15-19
1996	1.7	3.6
1996	1.6	3.3
1997	1.6	2.9

Source: National Statistical Office, *Annual Report on the Vital Statistics (1996, 1998)*

2. Mortality

2.1 Life expectancy at birth

In years

Year	Male	Female
1997	69.5	77.4

Source: National Statistical Office, *Life Table (1997)*

2.1.1 Trend of life expectancy at birth age

Year	In years			Difference
	Total	Male	Female	
1995	69.5	69.8	77.4	7.8
2000	74.9	71.0	78.6	7.6
2005	76.1	72.8	79.7	7.4
2010	77.0	73.3	80.7	7.4

Source: National Statistical Office, *The Future Estimated Population*

2.2 Infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate

Year	Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	Maternal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	Per 1,000	
			Year	Rate
1995	3.6	2.0	1995	2.0
1996	3.3	2.6	1996	2.6

Source: National Statistical Office, *Annual Report on the Vital Statistics (1998)*

National Statistical Office, *Annual Report on the Cause of Death Statistics (1998)*

2.3 Under-ten mortality rate by sex

per 1,000 persons

Year	Age	Male	Female
1995	0-4	2.2	2.0
	5-9	0.4	0.3
	10-14	0.2	0.1
	15-19	0.1	0.1
	20-24	0.1	0.1

Annual Report on the Vital Statistics (1998)

Source: National Statistics

3. Health

2.1. Legislation with...

National Health insurance Coverage in Korea is 100%.

4. Reproductive health

4.1. Practice rate of contraceptive method

4.1. Practice rate of contraceptive method

In Percent

1997
80.5
80.5
80.7
34.6
46.3

45.2

60.6

30-34	31.3	82.6
35-39	89.6	91.1
40-44	87.4	89.9

Method		
Sterilization	37.0	29.9
Vasectomy	15.0	15.8
Intra-uterine devices	13.6	16.4

Whole Country
Urban Area
Rural Area

Sex Ratio
Male
Female

Age
15-24
25-29

5. Economic activity

6.1 Unemployment ratio

In 1,000 Persons, %

	Unemployed		Unemployment ratio
	F	M	F/M*100
1995	139	280	49.6
1996	134	290	46.2
1997	204	352	58.0

Source : National Statistical Office, *Comprehensive Time Series Report on the Economically*

Active Population National Statistics

6.2 Employment-population ratio

In 1,000 Per

Employment-population ratio

F M F/M*100

6.4 % of labour force by employment status

In 1,000 Persons(%)

	1995			1996			1997		
	Total	F	M	Total	F	M	Total	F	M
Total	20,377	8,224 (40.4)	12,153 (59.6)	20,764	8,434 (40.6)	12,330 (59.4)	21,048	8,639 (41.0)	12,409 (59.0)
Employer	1,530	276 (18.0)	1,254 (82.0)	1,614	300 (18.6)	1,315 (81.4)	1,643	317 (19.3)	1,326 (80.7)
Self-employed	4,162	1,335 (32.1)	2,827 (67.9)	4,183	1,377 (32.9)	2,807 (67.1)	4,308	1,447 (33.6)	2,861 (66.4)

8.2 Recipients of Livelihood Protection Benefits

In Person

	Total Population	Recipients of Livelihood Protection Benefits			
		Total	Domiciliary Protection	Institutional Protection	Self-reliant Protection
1995	144,851,000	1,754,904	307,401	77,671	1,369,832
1996	145,248,000	1,506,010	295,767	76,001	1,134,242
1997	145,991,000	1,413,685	296,988	76,769	1,039,908

Source: National Statistical Office, *Korea Statistical Yearbook* (1996, 1997, 1998)

8.3 Poor Household under Public Aid by Sex of Household Heads

	Total	Domiciliary Protection			Self-reliant Protection	
		Total	In Household (%)		Total	Male
			Male	Female		
1995	175,542(100.0)	61,165(34.8)	114,377(65.2)	319,503(100.0)	172,370(54.0)	
1996	179,484(100.0)	62,218(34.7)	117,266(65.3)	285,140(100.0)	149,051(52.3)	
1997	171,207(64.9)	257,364(150.4)	130,723(76.3)	136,641(68.1)	122,503(89.7)	118,627(97.1)

Source: Institute, *Statistical Yearbook on Women* (1998)

Source: Korean Women's

Age 5 underweight

8.4 Proportion of child

N/A

9. Education

9.1 Adult Literacy rate = 98%

Source: UNDP, *Human Development Report* (1998)

9.2 Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds = N/A

9.5 Net secondary enrollment ratio

In percent

	Total	Female	Male
Middle School	99.9	99.9	99.9

High School 95.5 95.3 == 95.9

Source : Ministry of Education, *Statistical Yearbook of Education* (1998)

9.6 Average no. of years of schooling completed

In year

	Total	Female	Male
1990	9.54	8.58	10.55
1995	10.25	9.37	11.18

Source: National Statistical Office, *Population and Housing Census Report* (1995)

10. Human security and social justice

10.1 No. of victims of violence per 1000 people

N/A

10.2 No. of persons in prison per 100,000 people

In Person

	No. of persons in prison per 100,000 persons
1997	129

Source : National Statistical Office

10.3 No. of Criminal Offenders by Sex and Female Delinquency Rate

	No. of Offenders			No. of Offenders per 100,000 population	No. of Male Offenders per 100,000
	Total	Male	Female		
1997	6,774	5,248	1,526	92.59	156.2
1998	6,882	5,192	1,690	96.25	162.1

Source: National Statistical Office, *Analytical Report of Crime*

Source : The Supreme Court (1991-1998)

11. Housing and environment

11.1 Floor area per person

N/A

11.2 No. of persons per room excluding kitchen and bathroom

N/A

N/A

In 1,000 Persons, %

Supply Rate
82.9
83.6

	Population with Y
1995	138,107
1996	138,823

Source: Ministry of Environment, Statistics of water works

11.5 % population with access to electricity

99.99%

11.6 % population reliant on traditional fuels for heating use

N/A

11.7 Arable land per capita

In ha

1995	1,985,257	0.045
1996	1,945,480	0.043
1997	1,924,000	0.042

Source: Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry, Statistical Yearbook of Agriculture and Forestry (2000)