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Dear Mr. Mhana Ibn Abdelkarim ALMHANA

President of the OIC-StatCom

AssalamuAlaykom Wa Rahmato Lahi Wa Barakatoh

Subject: United Arab Emirates' Proposal on the measurement of Violence Against Women

We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to Your Excellency, all members of the OIC-Statistical Commission and to our brothers in SESRIC, and on the occasion of the second meeting of Your Esteemed Committee held on May of this year 2012 in Izmir-Turkey, and regarding the above stated subject, we are pleased to **clarify the following**:

- The above subject submitted by an expert group formed in this regard was covered in the meetings of the United Nations Statistical Commission, generating a set of discussions and creating a number of views on the scientific possibility to develop international measurement indicators for this subject considering the cultures, systems and national legislation diversities.

In this context, the United Arab Emirates find that there are some aspects to be precisely required by no-statistical divisions such as legislative, cultural and medical relevant in the Countries, hence the United Arab Emirates divides this topic into three key aspects to be considered by the specialists before developing its measurement indicators. These aspects **are as follows**:

First: Legislative aspect

The legislation of the countries differs regarding the definition of violence, the identification of the phenomenon, its manifestations, and its measurement mechanism, but it also interconnects with a number of other relevant legislation.

Second: Medical aspect

Since the degree of physical and psychological injuries should be determined and measured, it requires recognition and a conceptual, procedural and material determination from medical specialists.

Third: Cultural aspect

Because in the communities, diverse cultures, customs and traditions exist on the different behaviors and practices, in this regard the relevant specialists must be contributors on the issue of violence and measure its indicators culturally.

- Based on the statement, the United Arab Emirates suggests on this subject **as follows**:

First: to form a group on this subject in every country to study the following:

- 1 - Defining the violence and its indicators from statistical aspect.
- 2 - Determining its definitions and indicators from legislative aspect.
- 3 - Determining its definitions and indicators from medical aspect.
- 4 - Determining its definitions and indicators from cultural aspect.

This requires coordination between statistical Organ and concerned authorities in every country, to have its vision in this regard.

Second: to develop a group at your Esteemed Commission's level to study the countries' views provided from the National Statistical Agencies in 2013.

Third: some members of the group should participate in the group of international experts 'works to study this subject in the light of the views of the Islamic group.

Fourth: the group submits its recommendations to Your Esteemed Committee in 2014 to review what has been accomplished.

Sincerely yours,

Rashed Khamis Al Suwaidi
Director General of the National Center for Statistics
United Arab Emirates

• copy to:

- Dr. Savaş Alpay: Director General of SESRIC
- Department of Government Communications.
- Department of Population and Social Statistics.