



National Commission for Lebanese Women

Annual Report

2016



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INTRODUCTION

The National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) seeks to achieve gender equality in the Lebanese society in all fields and at all levels.

The issue of equality in the Lebanese society is a crucial issue since it concerns directly the achievement of human rights as stated by the different international conventions signed and ratified by the Lebanese State.

The NCLW is an official body that was formed in 1998 by Law 720, and is directly affiliated to the presidency of the Council of ministers.

As a national mechanism concerned with planning for the promotion of the situation of women and equal opportunities with men, NCLW undertakes essentially a consultative role with the Government and all administrations and public institutions on everything that concerns the situation of women and the gender issues. The main tasks of NCLW also include the development of strategies and the execution of plans in a participatory methodology with the civil society organizations and public administrations.

AT A GLANCE...

The National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) is an official body affiliated to the Council of ministers and established by virtue of Law 720/1998. The NCLW is constituted of a general assembly which is composed of 24 members appointed by decree for a renewable three-year term. Women members of parliament and ministers are considered ex-officio members of NCLW and are granted a consultative status during their term.

The general assembly elects 8 of its members to form NCLW's executive bureau. The President of the Republic appoints the President of NCLW.

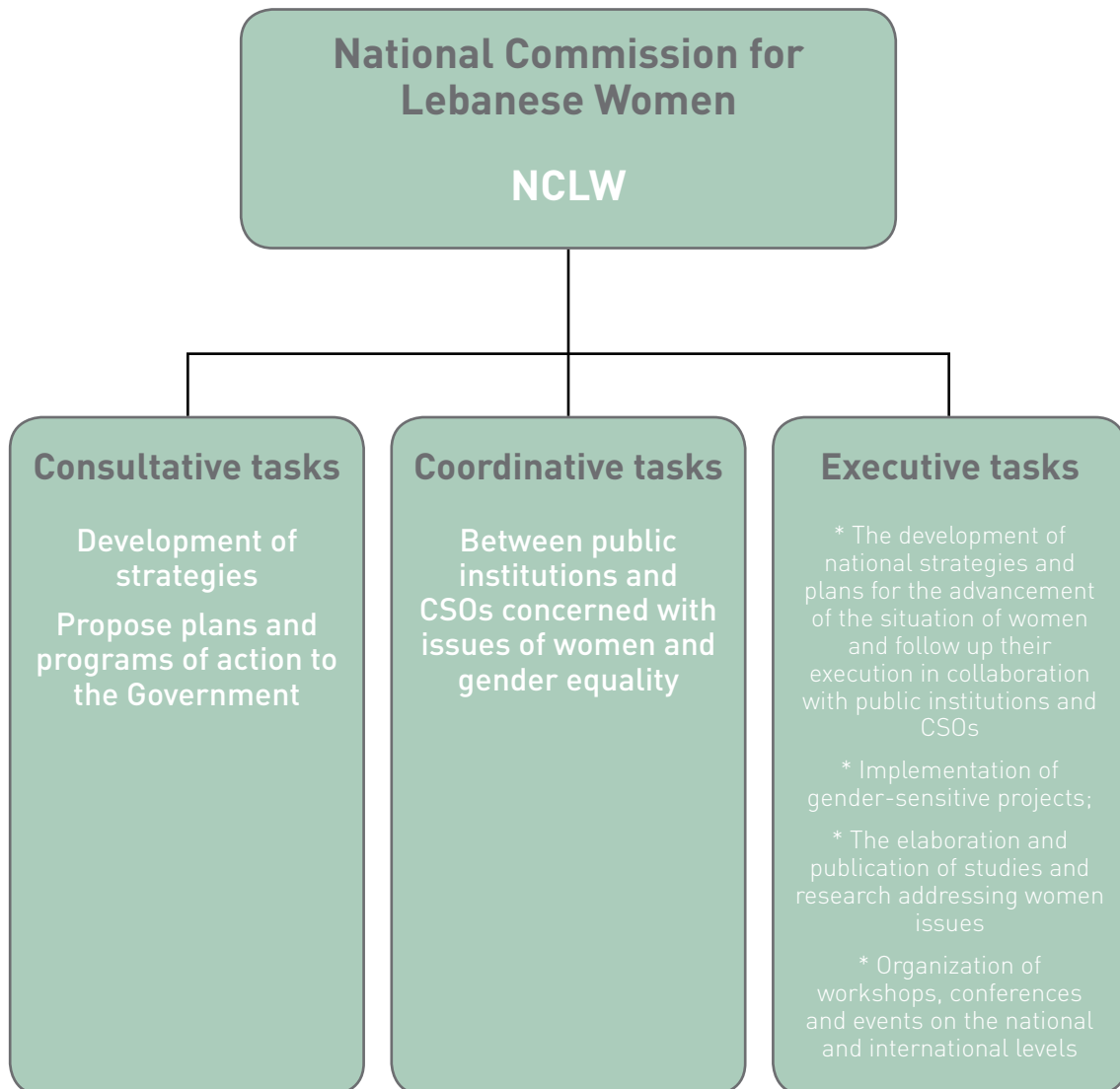
NCLW members work through permanent or ad hoc committees; they submit project proposals to the Executive Bureau, and follow up on implemented projects and programs.

The following represents the permanent committees: Legislative Committee, Economics and Labor Committee, Education and Youth Committee, Studies and Documentation Committee, Media and Public Relations Committee, Health and Environment Committee, and finally Committee for the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

The financial resources of the NCLW are allocated from the budget of the Presidency of the Council of ministers as well as from financial aid and donations received from local and international NGOs and from international organizations.

NCLW MISSION

The Law has defined consultative, coordinative and executive tasks for NCLW.



NCLW ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2016

A. Setting and following up the drafting and development of public policies

1. FOLLOW UP OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR WOMEN IN LEBANON 2011-2021

a. Overview of the achievements

Based on its fundamental tasks related to the development of national plans and strategies aiming at promoting the status of women, NCLW proceeded to the drafting and updating of a National Strategy for Women in Lebanon (2011-2021) in collaboration with UNFPA. This strategy was drafted thanks to a participatory work that involved representatives from civil society organizations, public institutions and international organizations operating in the field of human rights and women issues.

Following the drafting of the strategy, NCLW launched the national action plan 2013-2016 which foresees 4 levels of intervention to measure the degree of achievement of the strategic goals. The action plan also determined the objectives, indicators and sources of information in order to monitor the execution of the action plan by the ministries and public administrations as well as the CSOs.

MILESTONES:

2011: Updating the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon using a participatory methodology (12 strategic goals and fields of intervention)

2012: Initial approval of the Strategy by the Council of ministers

2013: Adoption of the National Action Plan and setting indicators to monitor progress in the implementation of the National Strategy

2014: Development of a software and electronic monitoring of activities for the implementation of the national action plan <http://www.nclw-applications.com/>

2015: Launch of the first national report on the execution of the national action plan by the organizations that are active in the field of women's rights for 2013

2015: Review of the indicators adopted in the national action plan

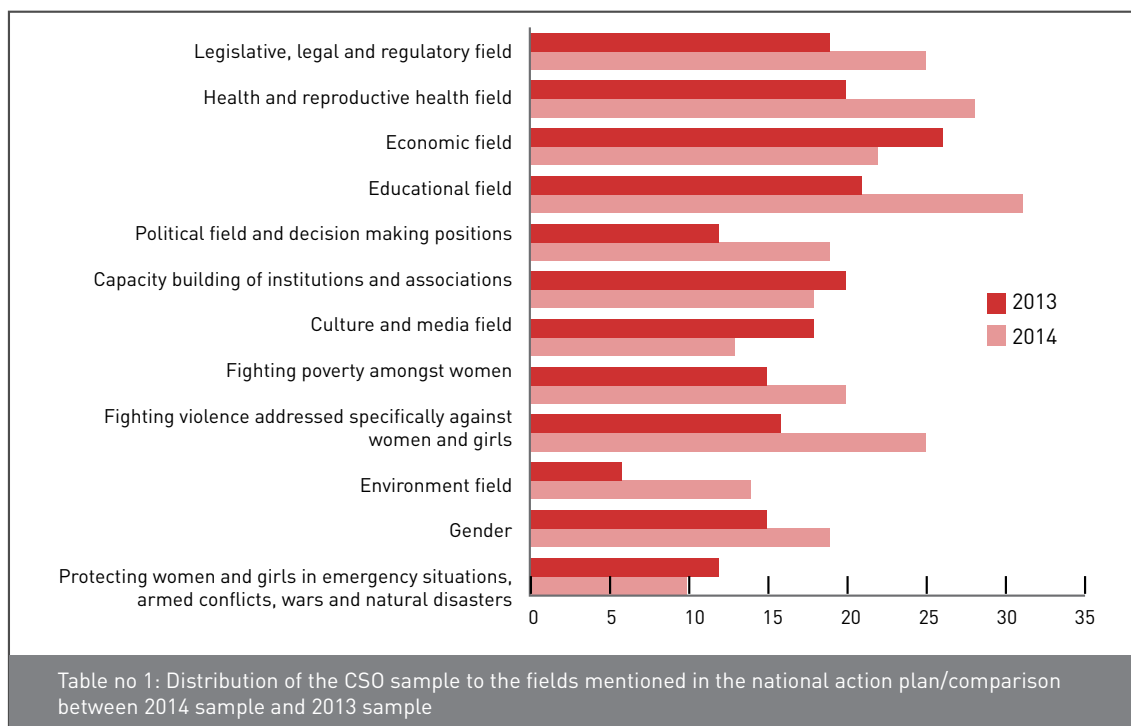
2015: Updating of the electronic forms by adding new questions for a better coverage of the programs and activities executed by the organizations

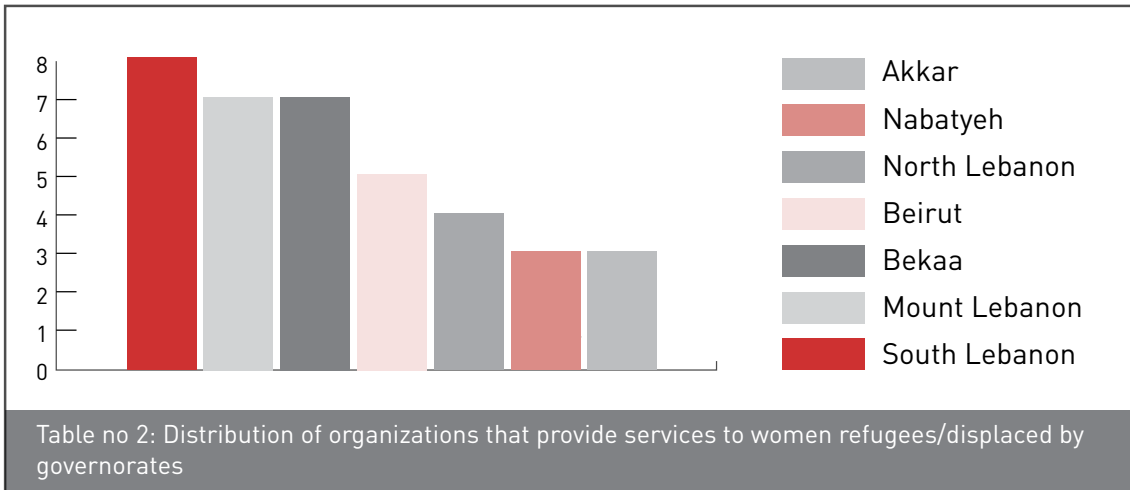
b. Achievements in 2016

With the completion of the first stage, i.e. the first national action plan (2013-2016) of the implementation of the strategy, NCLW has presented to the partners such as ministries, public institutions, CSOs, associations, trade unions, international organizations operating in Lebanon a draft action plan for 2017-2019.

The second national plan for 2017-2019 was prepared and the draft of the plan is being sent to the partners for their observations in writing based on their respective field of specialty. The second national plan included practical objectives for each strategic goal, as well as activities/interventions, results, expected outcome, indicators and the stakeholders for the execution of each goal.

During 2016, NCLW issued the second report (2014) for monitoring the execution of the national strategy, covering programs and projects executed by the international organizations, the ministries and the public administrations as well as the CSOs that are active in the field of human rights and discrimination against women.





c. Future prospects

- Following up the execution of the national strategy for women in Lebanon (2011-2021) by updating action plans every 3 years
- Following up the execution of the national strategy through periodic reports issued annually by NCLW



2. DEVELOPING A NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE UNSC RESOLUTION 1325 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

Within its cooperation with UNFPA, NCLW is drafting a national action plan on Resolution 1325 on Women, peace and security, as part of the follow up undertaken by NCLW of the implementation of the recommendations by the international commission on the execution of the Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW) as assigned by the Ministry of foreign affairs.

The methodology adopted in the drafting of the plan is the following:

- a. Review of the regional and international action plans on Resolution 1325 (Desk review)

The working team of NCLW collected the decisions, literature and all documents related to Resolution 1325 within the framework of the preparation of the action plan.

- b. Regional meetings on Resolution 1325 (Focus groups)

NCLW held five meetings in October-November 2016. The five meetings were held in the regions that witnessed wars and conflicts and are hosting currently a number of Syrian refugees: Bent Jbeil, Chiah, Baalbek, Jbeil, and Tripoli. During the regional focus groups the situation of women in Lebanon was discussed in the light of the four pillars of the Resolution. These focus groups aimed at developing the interventions that should be adopted.

These focus groups involved 96 representatives from: the Social Development Centers (MoSA), the municipalities, the educational institutions, the non-governmental organizations that deal with issues of women and gender, the political parties and the media.

- c. An expert meeting on Resolution 1325

An expert meeting was organized to describe the national situation in this field and develop the interventions that need to be adopted in order to take into consideration women issues when dealing with subjects related to security and peace, based on the four pillars of the UNSC resolution: prevention, protection, relief and participation.

This meeting involved 29 participants who are expert and specialized in policy making, as well as experts from different ministries and representatives of civil society organizations. The Jordanian expert Dr Salma El Nems, Secretary General of the Jordanian national commission for women's affairs also participated in the meeting; she presented the Jordanian experience in terms of drafting a national action plan on Resolution 1325.

d. A national conference on Resolution 1325

Based on the results of the consultative meetings held with partners and citizens in all areas, NCLW held a national conference aiming at disseminating knowledge on the importance of the Resolution. More than 125 representatives from the ministries, the public administrations, the international organizations, the CSOs, the universities, the trade unions and the political parties also participated in the conference.

During the conference, the NCLW presented the main recommendations that emanated from the different meetings and literature reviews. The conference included a description of the Resolution in addition to many presentations by academics concerning the role of the UN agencies, the civil society and the public administrations in the implementation of Resolution 1325.

Future prospects

- Building on the outcomes of the meetings in order to draw a roadmap for drafting a national action plan for Resolution 1325 and define the adequate interventions for achieving the goals set by the Resolution
- Discussing the plan with the decision makers in view of adopting it as a national working document to be adopted by the Government
- Cooperating with the Office of the Minister of State for Women affairs and the UN agencies especially the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for the Human Rights (OHCHR) in Beirut and UNWOMEN, in order to draft a strategy for the next stage, as a prelude to setting a national action plan within a participatory methodology in collaboration with the local partners such as ministries, public administrations and CSOs



3. THE LEGAL OBSERVATORY ON GENDER EQUALITY

Following up the proposals of laws and draft laws presented by NCLW and other parties to legislative authorities. NCLW has been reviewing since 2009 all legislations in order to monitor the provisions that contain discrimination against women. Based on that monitoring NCLW drafts amendment texts and submits them to the authorities concerned; it also follows them up in view of final adoption.

In this regard, NCLW undertakes the following:

1. Setting a draft law for the amendment of the Law on municipal elections, in order to avoid that the membership of a woman in the municipal council ends if she gets married after being elected
2. Following up the national campaign for reforming the laws that have an economic impact from discriminatory provisions against women
3. Following up the amendment of the Penal code
4. Following up the amendment of the nationality law
5. Following up the proposal of law submitted to the Parliament for regulating child marriage
6. Cooperating to support the adoption of a law that protects women from domestic violence
7. Claiming the adoption of a Parliamentary elections law that adopts the proportional system and foresees a women quota as a temporary measure
8. Working on the issuance of a decision from the part of the Bank association allowing the opening of a fiduciary account in the name of the minor by the mother

1. DRAW A DRAFT LAW FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS LAW IN ORDER TO AVOID THAT THE MEMBERSHIP OF A WOMAN ENDS IF SHE GETS MARRIED AFTER BEING ELECTED AS MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

a. Overview of the achievements in 2016

In preparation for the local elections that were held in May 2016, NCLW drafted a law proposal for the amendment of Article 25 of the Law No 665 of the 29/12/1997 which was amended by virtue of Legislative decree No 118 of the 30/6/1977 (Municipal code) by adding a text stipulating the following “the right

of married women whose register was automatically transferred by marriage to another municipal jurisdiction, to run for election for the municipal council of the constituency of their pre-marriage register”.

This initiative stems from the strategic goal set by the NCLW “to achieve full gender equality in all decision making positions and in all fields.”

TEXT IN FORCE	TEXT AMENDED
<p>Item 2 of Article 25 of Law no 665 of the 29/12/1997</p> <p>“1- (no amendment)</p> <p>2- Shall only be accepted the candidacy of the candidate being a voter whose name is listed in the voter roll related to the municipality in the Council of which he is willing to become a member, having paid a deposit of five hundred thousand Lebanese pounds and having met the eligibility requirements related to the membership to Municipal Councils provided for in Decree-law no.118/77 (Municipal code).</p> <p>3- (No amendment)”</p>	<p>Item 2 of Article 25 of Law no 665 of the 29/12/1997</p> <p>“1- (no amendment)</p> <p>2- Shall only be accepted the candidacy of the candidate being a voter whose name is listed in the voter roll related to the municipality in the Council of which he is willing to become a member, having paid a deposit of five hundred thousand Lebanese pounds and having met the eligibility requirements related to the membership to Municipal Councils provided for in Decree-law no.118/77 (Municipal code).</p> <p>The condition of having the candidate’s name listed in the voter roll related to the municipality in the Council of which he is willing to become a member does not apply to women who wish to run for elections as members of the Council and whose names were delisted from the voter roll due to transfer of their personal status registers by marriage to another municipal jurisdiction”.</p> <p>3- (No amendment)”</p>

2. FOLLOW-UP ON THE “NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO AMEND PROVISIONS IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LEGISLATION THAT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST WOMEN”

a. Overview of achievements

In order to achieve gender equality in economic and social legislations (Labor Law, Social Security law, Public servants rules and regulations...), NCLW launched

in 2011 in collaboration with civil society organizations a national campaign to amend provisions in social and economic legislation that discriminate against women.

This campaign included presenting draft laws to the legislators for discussion and adoption. The National Commission also engaged in a close follow-up of the work of the parliamentary commissions in charge of draft laws review to check on the progress of the legislative reforms required.

This campaign was completed in 2014 with the preparation of an action plan (launched in 2015) in order to reach the reform of these laws. This plan included new legal texts that NCLW will be proposing in order to guarantee gender equality in the laws. NCLW presented this plan at a consultative meeting with the representatives of the CSOs and public administrations organized in collaboration with the UNFPA.


Below is a listing of the main reform requests and the legal amendments that were approved in the last few years.






	Articles to be amended	Proposed amendments	Current situation	Future steps
1	Income Tax Law. Article 31	To establish equality between the father and the mother by aligning the conditions for benefiting from the family abatement allowance.	The Parliament adopted this amendment in a plenary session on Wednesday 17/08/2011 (Official Gazette of the 3/9/2011, No 41-law n°180).	
2	Inheritance Law Article 9	To establish equality between male and female heirs to allow both of them to benefit from an exemption from duties on transfer of all rights and movable and immovable assets for her spouse and each of her minor children.	The Parliament adopted the amendment in a plenary session on Wednesday 17/08/2011 (Official Gazette of the 3/9/2011, No 41-law n°179).	
3	National Defense law Amendment of Paragraph 8 of Article 94	The spouse of a volunteer (regardless if he is a man or a woman) in the Lebanese Armed Forces in the event of a second marriage after the death of the first spouse, should benefit from the pension.	The Parliament adopted the amendment in a plenary session on the 25/10/2012 (Official Gazette of the 25/10/2012, No 45-law n°239).	
4	Social security Law (SSL) Sickness and Maternity chapter Article 14, paragraph C	To establish equality for employed female spouses who are covered by the SSL by granting them the right to unconditionally grant this SSL coverage to their unemployed male spouses. 	A law proposal was prepared by NCLW and submitted to the Parliament by MPs Gilberte Zouein and Michel Moussa on 26/7/2011. (the draft law was registered in Parliament under no: 479/2011) On 14 May 2012, the Board of Directors of the National Social Security Fund approved the recommendations of the NCLW to amend articles 14, 46 and 47.	Pending follow-up at the Parliament.





	Articles to be amended	Proposed amendments	Current situation	Future steps
		<p>Employed female spouses cannot grant this SSL coverage to their male spouses unless they are aged more than 60 years or in case they suffer from a disability.</p>	<p>The draft law was then referred to the parliamentary committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women and child committee • Finance and budget committee • Administration and justice committee <p>On 8/10/2012, the Women and Child Committee adopted the following amendments on items b and c of paragraph 2 of article 14 on the conditions for benefiting from the Social Security allowances:</p> <p>“Husbands if they do not have a waged profession or do not benefit from health services or sickness allowances from a compulsory public system, or are not registered in liberal professions unions, or are not registered in the commercial registry or professions’ registry.</p> <p>In case of polygamy, the insured benefits from the allowances due to the first legal wife”.</p> <p>On 15/5/2013 after a review of the amendment which was approved by the women and child committee, the NCLW requested from the President and members of the parliamentary committee to reconsider the proposed amendments as they entail even more discrimination against woman instead of eliminating it. The NCLW considered the exceptions mentioned in the proposal as unjust and requested their cancellation. These exceptions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Husbands registered in liberal professions orders; b) Husbands registered in the commercial registry as well as husbands who benefit from other health allowances. 	

	Articles to be amended	Proposed amendments	Current situation	Future steps
5	<p>Social security Law (SSL)</p> <p>Sickness and Maternity chapter</p> <p>Article 16, item 2</p>	<p>To cancel the condition for the insured to have joined the NSSF 10 months prior to any right to access to the allowances of the Maternity chapter.</p>	<p>The draft law was presented by NCLW through MP Gilberte Zouein to the Parliament on 17/4/2007.</p> <p>The draft law was transferred to the following committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration and justice committee • Finance and budget committee • Public health committee. <p>The 10-months waiting period was cancelled by the Administration and Justice committee in the text it proposed.</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament</p>
6	<p>Social security Law (SSL)</p> <p>Sickness and Maternity chapter</p> <p>Article 26</p>	<p>To increase maternity benefits by acknowledging the right of insured working women to full salary rights during the 10-week maternity leave period.</p>	<p>NCLW prepared a legal amendment text for Article 26 of the Social security law and presented it to Parliament on 17/4/2007 through MP Gilberte Zouein.</p> <p>The Administration and Justice committee amended article 26 to read as follows: "Each insured female employee has the right to maternity benefits that are equal to full salary for the whole 10-week period during which delivery takes place provided that she stops work and refrain from receiving any wage during that period".</p> <p>The law proposal is followed-up for discussion and adoption in the General Assembly of the Parliament so that the amendment is in line with amended articles 28 and 29 of the Labor Law (law no 267- Official gazette volume 17 dated 22/4/2014), knowing that this article of SSL is not implemented to the present date.</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament.</p>
7	<p>Social security Law (SSL)</p> <p>Family allowances chapter</p>	<p>To establish equality between the husband and the wife regarding benefitting from a family compensation plan, should their spouse be</p>	<p>The NCLW prepared an amendment text to Article 46 item 2 of the SSL and presented it to the Parliament through MP Gilberte Zouein on the 17/4/2007.</p> <p>The draft law was referred to the following committees:</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament.</p>

	Articles to be amended	Proposed amendments	Current situation	Future steps
	Article 46, paragraph 2	<p>unemployed and not insured</p> <p></p> <p>The SSL does not foresee any family compensation for the unemployed husband.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration and justice committee • Finance and budget committee • Public health committee. <p>The Administration and Justice committee approved the amendment of the draft law in such a way as “family compensation is granted for the spouse provided that he/she does not engage in a waged job”.</p> <p>On 14/5/2012, the Board of Directors of the Social Security Fund approved the recommendations of NCLW to amend articles 14, 46 and 47 of the SSL.</p>	
8	<p>Social security Law (SSL)</p> <p>Family allowances chapter</p> <p>Article 47 paragraph 1-a</p>	<p>To ask for the establishment of equality between the mother and the father covered by the SSL in the right to receive family allowances for their children.</p>	<p>NCLW prepared a legal amendment text to Article 47 item 1 of the SSL and presented it to the Parliament through MP Gilberte Zouein on the 17/4/2007.</p> <p>The draft bill was then referred to the following parliamentary committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration and justice committee • Finance and budget • Public health committee <p>NCLW requested that the allowances be granted as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To the father or the mother who declares taking responsibility for the children, provided that the spouse waives his/her right to family allowances from any other source. To the mother if the children are under her responsibility. To the adoptive parents or the guardians if they are like the father and the mother meeting the required conditions. Family allowances are granted up to five children only for every employee”. <p>The Administration and Justice committee approved the required amendments.</p> <p>On the 14/5/2012, the Board of Directors of the Social Security Fund approved the recommendations of NCLW to amend articles 14, 46 and 47 of the SSL.</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament.</p>

	Articles to be amended	Proposed amendments	Current situation	Future steps
9	Labor Law Articles 28-29	To ask for the right of the employed women in the private sector to a maternity leave of ten weeks, including access to full salary rights.	<p>Proposal of a legal amendment of Articles 28 and 29 of the Labor Law by the NCLW submitted to the parliament on the 26/7/2011.</p> <p>On the 15/4/2014, the Parliament approved the amendment to articles 28 and 29 of the Labor Law and decided to increase the maternity leave period for women working in the private sector to ten weeks with full salary rights (Official gazette No 17, date 22/4/2014, law no 267)</p>	
10	Labor Law Art. 7 Exceptions from inclusion under Labor Law	<p>To ask for the cancellation of the exception made for domestic workers and agricultural workers from benefitting from the Labor Law provisions.</p> <p>To ask also for the cancellation of the exception of the category of domestic workers from the right to benefit from the provisions of this Law.</p>	On the 14/9/2012, NCLW called upon the ministry of Labor to amend article (7) of Labor Law so that both categories of workers (domestic workers and agricultural workers) are added to Labor Law so that they can benefit from the provisions of the law that is being prepared by the Minister of Labor.	Pending Follow-up with the ministry of Labor.
11	Labor Law	To introduce an article penalizing sexual harassment in the work place.	NCLW called upon the Ministry of Labor to introduce an article that penalizes sexual harassment in the workplace to be included in the draft law that is being prepared by the Minister of Labor.	Pending follow-up with the ministry of Labor.

	Articles to be amended	Proposed amendments	Current situation	Future steps
12	Code of commerce and Bankruptcy Articles 625 to 628 for the elimination of discrimination against the wife in case of bankruptcy	<p>To ask for the elimination of the restrictions as to the wife recovering her rights from her husband's bankruptcy.</p>  <p>Such restrictions are not imposed on the husband in the event of the wife's bankruptcy.</p>	<p>The legal amendment to Articles 625 to 629 was presented by the NCLW to the Parliament on the 17/4/2007</p> <p>Noting that the Code of commerce as a whole is now referred to the Law updating committee for full redrafting.</p>	Pending follow-up at the Parliament.
General code for employees in public institutions and civil servants				
13	General code for the public servants Decree law N° 5883/94 Article 15	NCLW requested an equal entitlement to a 10-week maternity leave period between female employees in public institutions and female civil servants.	<p>NCLW requested equal rights between female employees and female civil servants as to the duration of maternity leave, along with the following measures:</p> <p>NCLW called upon the President of the Council of Ministers on 2/8/2011, to amend the above mentioned article. (Reference registered at the cabinet on 3/8/2011 under n° 1571/2).</p> <p>The Council of ministers approved in a session held on 10/10/2012, the request of NCLW.</p> <p>The letter of approval by the Council of Ministers of the amendment of the article was referred to the Parliament on 25/4/2012 (Issue No 1508; Archive no: 40-42, 1056/7/2011).</p> <p>On the 1st of February 2013, Decree n° 9825 was promulgated and article 15 was amended as follows: "Upon delivery of her child, the employee shall be granted a fully paid salary leave for a duration similar to that granted to a female civil servant (...)".</p> <p>(Official gazette No 6, dated 7/2/2013, Decree No 9825).</p>	

	Articles to be amended	Proposed amendments	Current situation	Future steps
14	<p>Family compensation and assistance benefits regulations for civil servants-</p> <p>Decree Law N° 3950 promulgated on 27/4/1960/</p> <p>Family compensation chapter</p> <p>Articles 3, 5, 6 and 7.</p>	<p>Equality between husband and wife in terms of the entitlement to family compensation and assistance benefits for wife, husband and children, provided that priority is given to the civil servant (male or female) who is higher in rank.</p> <p> The husband who is a civil servant and who is used to benefit from family allowances for his wife and children (with priority over his wife who is a civil servant) and based on some conditions while the wife used to benefit from such family allowances for her husband and children but based on more severe conditions and does not have this equal right with her husband who is a civil servant.</p>	<p>Upon the request of NCLW the Council of ministers approved in a session held on 12/12/2012, the amendment of some provisions of Decree Law No 3950 as to equal access between husband and wife to family compensation for the spouse and the children . Entitlement to these family allowances shall be decided based on the higher rank of the civil servant, whether they are the husband or the wife. (Official Gazette No 14, 4/4/2013, Decree No 10110).</p>	
15	<p>Civil servants</p> <p>Decree Law 112 (12/6/1959)</p> <p>Amendment of Article 38</p>	<p>To ask for the right of the female civil servant to a maternity leave of 10 weeks.</p> <p> The female civil servant was granted a fully paid salary maternity leave for 60 days.</p>	<p>A law proposal was prepared by NCLW and submitted to the Parliament by MPs Gilberte Zouein and Michel Moussa on 26/7/2011. (Registered in Parliament under No 480/2011)</p> <p>On 15/4/2014, Article 38 of Decree Law No 112 was amended as to increasing maternity leave period for female employees to 10 weeks with full salary (Official gazette No 17 dated 22/4/2014 Law No 266).</p>	

The texts that were added to the executive plan are the following:

Articles to be amended	Aim of the amendment
<p>Labor law: Adopt a paternity leave</p>	<p>Acknowledging for the working father a paternity leave with full pay.</p>
<p>Labor Law: Amendment of article 27 of the Labor law and Annex 1</p> <p>“industries in which it is prohibited to employ children, juveniles and pregnant women”</p>	<p>Amendment of article 27 by including one exception regarding pregnant women:</p> <p>“industries in which it is prohibited to employ children, juveniles and pregnant women”</p>
<p>Labor law: Granting nursing mothers one hour for breastfeeding for one year starting from the delivery date (provided that it is in line with the conditions stipulated in Article 34 of the Labor law).</p>	<p>Addition of one hour for breastfeeding for one year starting from the delivery date provided that it is in line with the conditions stipulated in Article 34 of the Labor law</p>
<p>Code of commerce and Bankruptcy: Amendment of Article 629: The objective is to ensure equality between the bankrupt husband and wife vis-à-vis creditors.</p>	<p>Amendment of Article 629 in order to ensure equality between the bankrupt husband and wife vis-à-vis creditors.</p>
<p>Law regulating the teaching staff in private institutions promulgated on 15 June 1956:</p> <p>Amendment of Article 24 of the Law that determines maternity leave to less than what is determined by the Labor law, and with different conditions, with the objective of making it comply with the provisions of the Labor law.</p> <p>It is to be noted that Article 24 in its current form grants female teachers in private institutions maternity leave as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Two months with full pay; a. A third month with half pay. 	<p>Amendment of this article to make sure it is in line with Articles 28 and 29 of the Labor Law.</p>

a. Future prospects

- Pursue action in order to amend all remaining discriminatory provisions in social and economic legislations through a legal review to prepare for legal texts to be presented to the competent legislative authority;
- Follow up the preparation of many studies covering the following three subjects: creating a paternity leave; criminalizing sexual harassment in the work place; advancing the legal situation of the domestic workers;
- Follow up the execution of an action plan for monitoring legislative reforms for lifting discrimination against women in the economic and social fields.

1. THE PENAL CODE

a. Overview of achievements


In 2014, NCLW in collaboration with UNFPA conducted a study that compiled laws containing discriminatory provisions against women.

The following table lists the main amendments required or that have been adopted in the previous years. In 2015 and 2016 none of the discriminatory articles has been amended by the Parliament.



Articles to be amended in the penal code	Proposed Amendments	Current Situation	Future Steps
<p><u>Misdemeanors in violation of family morals</u></p> <p>Art. 487 Imprisonment of adulteress.</p> <p>Art. 488: Imprisonment of adulterer if adultery is committed in the marital home or if he takes a mistress openly and anywhere.</p> <p>Art. 489: Adultery is not action to be prosecuted unless the husband files a complaint as plaintiff.</p>	<p>Amendment of the text of law in such a way as to ensure equality between man and woman in sanctions provided for in case of adultery.</p>	<p>On the 7/5/2014, the Parliament adopted the law concerning the protection of women and other family members from domestic violence (law n° 293 published in the Official gazette n° 21 dated 15/5/2014). In this law, the misdemeanors in violation of family morals were amended (adultery provisions articles 487 to 489).</p> <p>Equality is established between men and women as to the sanctions foreseen in case of adultery.</p>	
<p>Crimes in violation of morals and ethics</p> <p>Art. 503: Sanctioning the person who forces a non-spouse by violence and threat to have intercourse to hard labor for five years at least.</p> <p>Art.504: Sanctioning a person who has intercourse with a non-spouse who is unable to resist either due to physical or mental incapacity or due to the fraudulent means used against him/her to hard labor for limited period.</p>	<p>Amendment of the text to ensure equality between the man and the woman in case of forced intercourse.</p> <p>Art. 504: Amendment of the text to sanction the spouse and non-spouse in case of forced intercourse.</p>	<p>All these articles are still under revision in the Parliamentary Committees</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament.</p>

<p>Art.505: Sanctioning whoever has intercourse with a minor below 15 years of age to hard labor; the sanction is for five years at least if the minor is below 12 years of age. Whoever has intercourse with a minor who is more than 15 years of age but less than 18 is sanctioned to imprisonment from two months to two years.</p> <p>Art 506: The sanction becomes more severe if the person who had intercourse with the minor is someone who has a legal or an effective authority on him.</p> <p>Art 513: Sanctioning the employee who seduces the wife of a prisoner or detainee or any other person who is under his control and authority.</p>	<p>Art. 505: Amendment of the law to increase the age of the minor to 18 years and impose more severe sanctions on the perpetrator.</p> <p>Art. 503:rt. 506: Amendment of the text to make the sanction against the perpetrator more severe.</p> <p>Art. 513: Amendment of the text to ensure equality between the female and male employees who seduce the wife or husband of a prisoner or detainee or any other person under his/her control and authority.</p>	<p>All these articles are still under revision in the Parliamentary Committees</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament.</p>
<p>Art. 515: Sanctioning whoever kidnaps, by deception, a person, male or female, with the intention of fornication to temporary hard labor and if the act is committed then to seven years at least.</p>	<p>Amendment of the law to make the sanction for the mentioned crime more severe.</p>	<p>This article is still under revision in the Parliamentary Committees</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament.</p>
<p>Art. 522: The sentence of whoever marries the victim is remitted.</p>	<p>Amendment to the law in order to cancel this article</p>	<p>This article is still under revision in the Parliamentary Committees</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament</p>

<p>Art. 562: Killing the other for committing adultery in flagrante delicto or illegitimate intercourse</p>	<p>Art. 562 of the Penal code previously allowed the perpetrator of such a crime to benefit from an excuse that cancels punishment. In accordance with Law n° 7 dated 20/2/1999 this article was amended to read as follows: “shall benefit from an attenuating excuse he who surprises his spouse or one of his parents or children or sister in a state of adultery in flagrante delicto or illegitimate intercourse and kills one of the two or harms him/her unintentionally”.</p>	<p>This article was cancelled in accordance with Article 1 of Law n°162 dated 17/08/2011</p>	
<p>Art. 627: Punishment of the bar owner who employs in his bar young girls or women who are non family members and are below 21 years of age.</p>	<p>Amending the text of law to enlarge the category of persons covered by this article and to cancel the requirement of them being non-family members.</p>	<p>The article is still under review in the Parliamentary Commissions.</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament</p>
<p>Art.753 Protection of minors from being in places projecting films or performances prohibited to children.</p>	<p>Amendment of the law to secure equality between male and female children and teenagers in the protection provisions stipulated for in this article.</p>	<p>This article is still under revision in the Parliamentary Committees</p>	<p>Pending follow-up at the Parliament</p>

b. Future prospects

Pursue action in order to amend all remaining discriminatory provisions against women in the Penal code.

2. AMENDING THE NATIONALITY LAW

a. Overview of achievements

Overview of achievements

In 2012 NCLW conducted a study on the right of Lebanese women to grant their nationality to their children, a right that is enjoyed by their male counterparts

NCLW called for a meeting of peer experts to discuss the draft law for the amendment of the Nationality law

This study was reviewed by a committee of peer experts including members of the General assembly of NCLW

The draft law on the amendment of the Nationality Law was referred to the ministerial committee formed for this purpose

The ministerial committee rejected the proposed amendment and replaced it with a number of facilities for the husband and children of the Lebanese woman

b. Future prospects

- The draft law to be submitted to the Parliament

3. THE LAW REGULATING MINORS' MARRIAGE

a. Overview of achievements

In 2014, NCLW launched a national campaign to protect minor girls from early marriage which included the following goals:

- A study on the legal and sociological impact of early marriage entitled "protection of minor girls from early marriage: facts and prospects" prepared by a number of judges;
- a draft law to regulate child marriages in Lebanon was set in collaboration with lawyers specialized in the personal status field and judges from the field of juvenile protection as well as members from the legal committee at NCLW;
- the draft law was submitted by MP Ghassan Mukheiber to the Parliament and was registered at the Parliament's secretariat on the 29th of September 2014 under No 30/2014.

During a session held by the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee on the 14th of October 2014, with the participation of NCLW, the Human Rights Committee approved the provisions of the amended draft law and referred it to the Administration and justice committee for further review.

b. Future prospects

- Organize campaigns to mobilize support for the draft law;
- Pursue action to adopt the law regulating minors' marriage in other parliamentary committees as a first step to its discussion and adoption in a plenary session.

4. COOPERATION FOR SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF A LAW PROTECTING WOMEN FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

a. Overview

NCLW collaborated with the “National Coalition for the legislation of the Protection of Women from Family Violence” for the adoption of the draft law on the protection of women from domestic violence.

Since the issuance of the law, judges have been playing an essential role in its implementation; they realized the existence of loopholes in some of its provisions. Many rulings were pronounced expanding the interpretation of the Law.

b. Future prospects

- Requesting the development of the Law and the execution of the provisions stipulated by the Law and which have not been implemented yet.
- Pursuing action to depict legal loopholes in the Law and propose amendment texts.
- Monitoring the judicial rulings that are issued upon the implementation of this Law.

5. REQUESTING THE ADOPTION OF A PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORAL LAW THAT IS BASED ON PROPORTIONAL SYSTEM AND CONTAINS A WOMEN QUOTA AS A TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENT

a. Overview

Based on the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon, NCLW seeks to achieve gender equality in all decision making positions and calls for the adoption of an

election law that adopts proportional representation with a women's quota as a temporary arrangement, in order to bridge the gap existing between men and women in terms of political participation.

In preparation for the parliamentary elections that were supposed to be held in May 2017, the NCLW called for the creation of a "National coalition for women's political participation" in collaboration with the different civil society organizations. For this purpose, NCLW established, in collaboration with the partners, a unified request paper with the support of the European Union. The National coalition for women's political participation in Lebanon comprises, under the auspices of the NCLW, more than 150 civil society organizations such as coalitions, associations, institutions, activists that came together to achieve women's access to decision making positions in all appointed and elected councils. The Coalition calls for 30% quota for women as a temporary positive arrangement, in compliance with the principle of equality as in the Lebanese Constitution, and in application of the international conventions. Its goal is:

- To gain the support of the decision makers
- To involve the media and the public opinion in supporting the women quota claim
- To lift obstacles facing women's participation in political action.

b. Future prospects

Pursue lobbying for a 30% quota at least, as candidates and seats, as a temporary arrangement to motivate women to participate in elections.

6. FIDUCIARY ACCOUNT: PUSH FOR A DECISION BY THE ASSOCIATION OF BANKS TO ALLOW THE OPENING OF A FIDUCIARY ACCOUNT IN THE NAME OF THE MINOR CHILD BY THE MOTHER

a. Overview

NCLW prepared a study on the mechanisms that can be used in order to fix the Lebanese women's right to open a fiduciary account for the children. This study



was presented to the Association of Lebanese banks which issued a decision (on the 9/12/2009) stipulating that “there is no objection to the opening by a mother of a fiduciary account in a bank for which she may appoint her minor child as a beneficiary”. The decision also recommended that it should be circulated to all Lebanese banks. For the execution of this circular, NCLW pursues its efforts with all banks to allow women to open a fiduciary account in Lebanese banks for their minor children.

b. Future prospects

- Follow up the decision issued by the Association of Banks and urge the Lebanese banks to adopt it;
- Set a standardized special contract to be adopted by the banks regarding the opening of fiduciary accounts by women

4. GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

a. Overview

One of the main tasks of NCLW is mainstreaming gender in policies and programs of the public administrations and institutions. Amongst the means used for gender mainstreaming in public policies and mentioned in the Beijing platform, there is the appointment of gender coordinators (focal points) in public administrations and institutions.

In parallel, NCLW sought to constitute a gender training unit, to develop its capacities and empower it for providing training on gender and its relationship with development.

During 2016, the training unit held gender audit operations at the Ministry of culture and the Civil service council.

b. Achievements in 2016

- Capacity building of the training team in the field of gender audit in institutions within a participatory methodology.

The gender training team at NCLW participated in an intensive training session organized by the ILO on “How to hold participatory gender audit operations” in Turin – Italy.

Based on this training and within the program implemented with the support of the EU “Women empowerment in Lebanon and gender equality”, the gender training team contributed to the execution of a gender audit at the Civil service council and the Ministry of culture.

A working team was constituted of the NCLW training team and employees of the Civil service council and the Ministry of culture in order to start the audit. The primary results of the audit will be followed up by NCLW with the

two abovementioned administrations in order to set a gender mainstreaming strategy.

- Workshops on gender and its relationship with development

The gender training team of NCLW is active in ensuring training sessions to ministries and public administrations on the concepts of gender and its relationship with development. In this regard, NCLW collaborated with the Ministry of social affairs and the Ministry of agriculture within the project on “Enhancing gender mainstreaming in sustainable rural development and the food security measures between Lebanon, Tunisia and Egypt”, which is financed by the Ministry of foreign affairs of Italy – Italian Cooperation office. The Project included workshops on the concepts of gender addressed to the heads of departments and institutions as well as to the staff of the Ministry of agriculture in Deir el Qamar – Chouf.

- Workshops for the gender coordinators in ministries and public administrations

In the framework of the program implemented with the support of the EU “Women empowerment in Lebanon and gender equality”, the training team of the NCLW participated in the preparation and organization of a TOT for the gender coordinators in ministries and public administrations. The participants were trained on all training techniques and approaches.

c. Future prospects

- Seek to promote the network of gender focal points appointed in ministries and public administrations as one of the tools of gender mainstreaming and encourage the ministries to create gender units
- Communicate with the presidency of the Council of ministers and cooperate for setting criteria for the appointment of gender focal points as well as gender units at the ministries and public administrations
- Build on the primary results of the gender audit operation that was executed at the Ministry of culture and the Civil service council in order to complete it



- Follow up the execution of the participatory gender audit in the rest of ministries and public administrations in order to evaluate their state and their needs, and set the adequate recommendations for mainstreaming gender in their structures and programs

5. MONITORING AND REPORTING THE STATUS OF WOMEN

a. Achievements in 2016

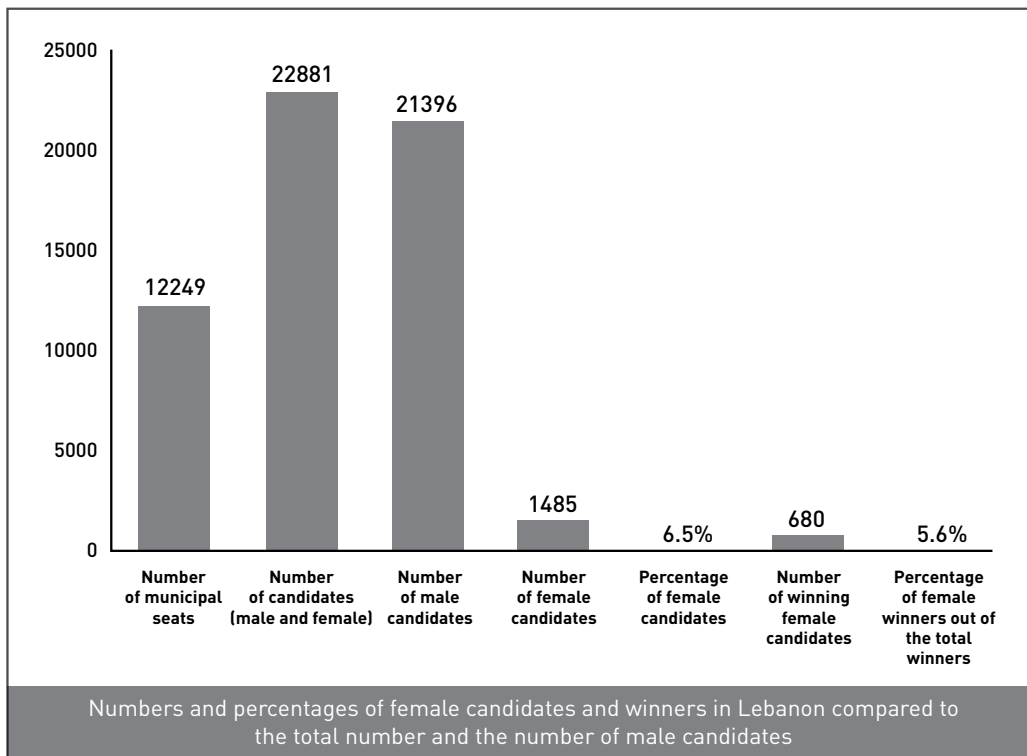
According to its bylaws NCLW prepares studies and research that contribute to the monitoring and improvement of the status of women.

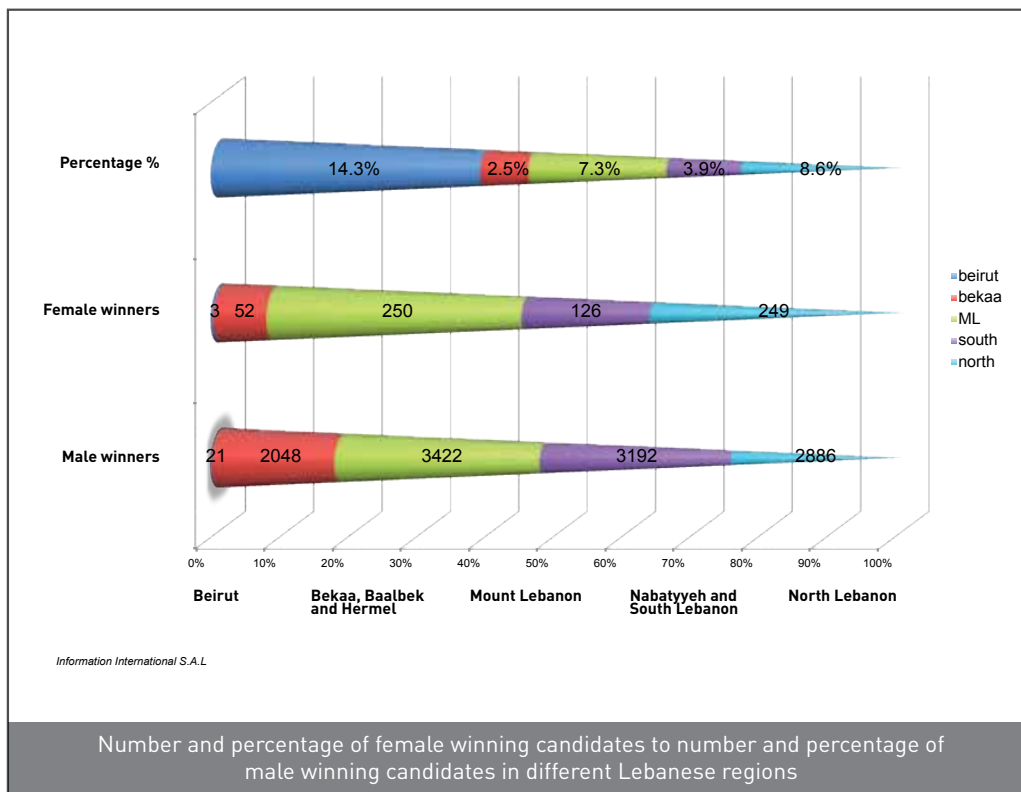
NCLW has produced the following studies:

1. STATISTICAL STUDY ON WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

After the local (municipal and mokhtar) elections, NCLW issued in collaboration with *Information International* a study on the results of women's participation in municipal elections and the results were launched in a press conference.

This study showed that women candidates represented 6.5% of the total candidates, and the female winners represented 5.6%, with an increase of 1.05% only compared to 2010 elections. This study also showed that most of the women candidates who won in the municipal elections were in North Lebanon and Akkar (8.7% and 7.9% respectively).





2. STUDY ON ADVOCACY FOR THE ADOPTION OF WOMEN QUOTA IN THE ELECTORAL LAW

NCLW led a study on “Advocacy for the adoption of women quota in the electoral law” within the execution of the EU supported Project on “Gender equality and women empowerment in Lebanon”, in which it has presented the possible proposals for the implementation of the women quota in the electoral law in order to promote women participation in the parliament and overcome the obstacles that women have long faced in this field.

This study concluded that the people’s claims are not enough for achieving the women quota claim in the electoral law; all partners, i.e. the NCLW and all CSOs, should however unify their claims by forming a coordination committee that is active in the field of advocacy for women quota in the electoral law as well as adopting one unified message in this regard.

3. EVALUATION STUDY ON MATERIALS ISSUED SINCE 2000 AND AIMING AT DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CEDAW

Following the recommendation made by the international committee on the CEDAW to spread knowledge about the convention, NCLW prepared a study aiming at collecting and evaluating all the materials issued by all public administrations, CSOs and international organizations which aim at disseminating knowledge about all the rights foreseen by the Convention.

4. A TRAINING MANUAL ON ISSUES OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

NCLW has developed in collaboration with UNFPA and the University of Balamand – Faculty of public health and sciences – a manual aiming at disseminating information and training on subjects such as “family planning”, “prevention during pregnancy”, “prevention of breast cancer”, “prevention of HIV/AIDS”, through short stories to facilitate the assimilation of information by the beneficiaries.



a. Future prospects

- Follow up on the preparation of legal studies and national and international reports on women issues in Lebanon in all fields
- Execution of programs and activities of awareness raising on fundamental rights as foreseen by the CEDAW.

B. Implementation of Programs for capacity development of women in all fields

1. EXECUTION OF A CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR NCLW

a. Overview of the Project

In 2016, NCLW executed in collaboration with the EU delegation in Lebanon a program entitled “Gender Equity and women empowerment in Lebanon” which aims at supporting and building the institutional and human capacities of the NCLW. This project has the following objectives:

- Offering technical support to develop the institutional capacities of NCLW in order to help it accomplish its tasks as foreseen by its bylaws;
- Ensuring support for the development of a network with partners from the civil and public sectors;
- Ensuring support for the development of a network with the media as well as activities of advocacy and lobbying.

b. Achievements in 2016

In the framework of the Program on “Gender Equity and Women empowerment in Lebanon”, NCLW organized the following activities:



IN TERMS OF INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF NCLW

- Updating the website and adopting a new design for its sections in order to make it more user friendly
- Transferring the email server of all the working team members to gmail in order to facilitate communication inside NCLW as well as with partners
- Reviewing the internal regulations of NCLW (establishing a job description for each task and function practiced by NCLW as part of the tasks foreseen in the bylaws, developing an evaluation system for the work and performance of the working team, developing the capacities of the working team in terms of time management...)
- Establishing a study on the possible creation of a legal observatory that would contribute to ensuring the information needed for preparing studies and research
- Setting an information and communication strategy for promoting communication between the NCLW and its partners
- Setting an external fundraising strategy
- Setting an action plan for promoting training centers in the regions

IN TERMS OF CAPACITY BUILDING OF NCLW WORKING TEAM

- Organizing a TOT on the concepts of gender to develop the capacities of NCLW working team
- Producing a booklet on the training techniques in the field of gender and its relationship to development as well as on the gender mainstreaming mechanisms in the programs and administrations and, putting it at the disposal of the training team
- Developing the capacities of the working team in the field of project writing
- Developing the capacities of the working team in the field of fundraising
- Developing the capacities of the working team of NCLW, the gender network and the CSOs in the field of setting quantitative and qualitative indicators for measuring the progress achieved in terms of women status in all fields
- Developing the capacities of the working team in the field of execution of projects (project cycle: writing proposal, executing the project, time management, follow up and evaluation...)
- Developing the capacities of the working team in the field of planning and execution of advocacy and lobbying activities

IN TERMS OF BUILDING THE CAPACITIES OF PARTNERS AND BENEFICIARIES OF NCLW SERVICES

- Organizing capacity building workshops for gender coordinators in the ministries and public administrations
- TOT on the concept of gender and its relationship with development for some gender coordinators in the ministries and public administrations
- Organizing workshops for the media on the role and tasks of NCLW, the concepts of gender and the international legal mechanisms
- Supporting the national coalition that was constituted by NCLW for supporting women's participation in politics (developing a media action plan for the Coalition, an advocacy and lobbying plan)

c. Future prospects

- Build on what has been achieved within the EU funded project "Gender Equity and women empowerment in Lebanon" in order to develop the national capacities and the capacities of the working team to empower them to undertake their tasks as a national mechanism that deals with issues of women and gender in public policies

2. EXECUTION OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

- International women day "Women in municipal councils supporting local development"

In preparation for the municipal and mokhtar elections, NCLW celebrated the International Women day under the title of "Women in municipal councils supporting local development". The campaign included many activities:

1. Presenting a proposal of law to the Parliament that would allow women who were elected as members of the municipal council to avoid losing their membership if they get married and their personal register is transferred to the register of the husband
2. Organizing workshops in the regions in order to spread knowledge about the importance of women participation in the municipal councils as a support to the local development. In this regard, many sessions were organized in the regions on the means to support women's participation in the municipal elections.

- "The National coalition for supporting women's political participation"

In preparation for the parliamentary elections, NCLW communicated with the CSOs that are active in the field of advocacy for the women's quota in the electoral law in order to examine the possibility of forming a coalition for supporting the

unification of claims for the inclusion of this temporary arrangement in the electoral law that is being discussed in the Parliament.

NCLW has supervised the establishment of the “National coalition for supporting women’s political participation” which is composed of 150 women and development associations and active individuals.

UNIFIED CLAIM FOR WOMEN IN LEBANON

Deciding the representation of women citizens in the Parliament with at least 30% of the total number of seats, as a temporary arrangement, while waiting for legal amendments to be made and necessary measures to be taken, whatever is the electoral system used and whatever is the size of the constituencies.

ELECTIONS	NUMBER OF FEMALE CANDIDATES	NUMBER OF FEMALE WINNING CANDIDATES
1992	6	3
1996	11	3
2000	18	3
2005	14	6
2009	12	4
2013	38	No elections were held

Number of female candidates and number of winning female candidates in the parliamentary elections 1992-2013 (Official CEDAW report-NCLW 2014)

- Intensive training in the field of political empowerment in collaboration with the Arab Women Organization

NCLW organized in collaboration with the Arab Women Organization an intensive training session for female trainers in the field of enhancing women’s participation in the political life. This TOT was executed based on a training manual that was prepared by the Organization. Female activists from civil society organizations (CSO) (political parties, associations...) participated in this training.

The subjects covered by the training are the following: emergence of the notion of participation in public life and the issue of gender: the power relations in society, the development of the notion of power sharing, the Arab woman and the issues of discrimination and gender, the reasons for which the Arab woman is late in joining the civil and political life: monitoring reality and the reasons of women’s abstention from participation, as well as inclusion of women issues in the political agendas.



3. EXECUTION OF CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN AND MEN IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES

a. Overview of the project

NCLW executes in collaboration with partners a capacity development program for women and men in local communities. NCLW cooperates in this regard with municipalities and federations of municipalities where it established and equipped training centers in collaboration with the Waleed Ben Talal Foundation.

NCLW undertakes networking with all partners concerned with issues of development in order to organize workshops and training sessions on all issues that are of concern for all categories of people (women, men, youth) in the local communities.

b. Achievements in 2016

- Training of trainers sessions (TOT) on reproductive health

Within its cooperation with UNFPA and the University of Blamand – Faculty of public health and sciences, NCLW organized TOT sessions on issues related to reproductive health.

These sessions were held at the Municipality of Chiah – Primary Health care center and the Federation of municipalities of the coast and middle region of Qayteh – Akkar. These TOTs addressed 60 midwives, nurses and social workers.

In these sessions, the trainers used a manual prepared by NCLW and the Faculty of public health and sciences – University of Balamand with the support of UNFPA.

c. Future prospects

- Printing and layout of a training manual to be put at the disposal of specialists and workers in reproductive health field
- Completing activities in the regions after the drafting of an annual action plan in consultation with the municipalities and the local communities.



4. EXECUTION OF A PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

a. Overview of the subject

On the 5/5/2011 a decision was issued by the governorate of the Central Bank of Lebanon (Banque du Liban) authorizing NCLW to grant micro-credits through the banks.

2011: Launch of “Najah” (Success) loan, which allows women to have access to loan facilities for the purpose of financing economic, industrial, agricultural, tourist, service and technical activities.

2014: Signing of a cooperation agreement with the “Lebanese Association for development – Al Majmoua” which included the execution of the “Sewa” project in order to support women beneficiaries of technical services to improve the production and marketing of their products.

In addition to this project, NCLW is executing in collaboration with a number of partners activities of economic empowerment of women.

b. Achievements in 2016

- *Sewa Project*

NCLW is pursuing the execution of Sewa project in collaboration with the Lebanese Association for Development – Al Majmoua” which aims at offering technical services to women who wish to benefit from the loans granted by NCLW: ensuring training sessions on how to establish and develop businesses, inventing new concepts for business, elements of production, marketing, networking, business management.

- Roundtable on time management

NCLW participated in the organization of a meeting on time management in collaboration with the Ministry of social affairs, within the project on the enhancement of gender mainstreaming in rural development and food security measures, that is implemented with the support of the Italian embassy in Beirut – Italian cooperation office for development. The goal of this meeting is to shed the light on the primary results of the study that was accomplished within this project and which shows how women divide their time between non quantified and unpaid care work and paid jobs.

c. Future prospects

Pursuing the implementation of the program in order to promote economic participation of women.



C. Activating the Lebanese women information center and the website and creating social media pages

1. THE LEBANESE WOMEN INFORMATION CENTER

NCLW library always seeks to update its assets such as books, research studies, academic dissertations, conference papers, and press clippings in order to provide students and researchers in the field of women and gender with the most recent information. The Library also uploads these references on the website of NCLW under the electronic library address.

The e-library allows researchers in women and gender issues access to bibliographic references that are available at NCLW library as well as the Library of the Lebanese American University. The e-library also houses all editions of the Al-Raeda magazine that is specialized in women issues and that is published by the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World- LAU.

2. THE WEBSITE

NCLW publishes all publications and studies that it prepares on its website and on all social media platforms. In addition to studies and publications, NCLW also publishes material that aim at spreading knowledge about the different issues that contain discrimination against women.

www.nclw.org.lb

3. THE SOCIAL MEDIA

The two pages created by the social media working team of the NCLW on Facebook and Twitter allow male and female activists as well as the associations to have access to information and follow up on the activities of the NCLW, the training sessions, the workshops and the latest issues and references related to the status of women and gender in Lebanon.

 NationalCommissionForLebaneseWomenNCLW

 @NclwOrg

LIST OF INSTITUTIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS THAT COOPERATE WITH NCLW

PARTNERS	FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND ADMINISTRATIONS	
Basil Fuleihan Institute for Economy and Finance	Organize training sessions for Gender Focal Points at ministries and public administrations.
Lebanese Parliament	Follow up on the laws being reviewed by parliamentary committees for their adoption.
ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS AND RESEARCH CENTERS	
St Joseph University	A cooperation memorandum specifying the common program framework (legal, environmental, economic and health)
Institute of Political Sciences (ISP) at St Joseph University	Joint cooperation between ISP and NCLW regarding awareness raising activities on Human Rights issues
Lebanese American University	A cooperation memorandum to activate the cooperation between the libraries of LAU and NCLW as well as in other fields.
MINISTRIES	
Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA)	<p>Cooperation between MOSA and NCLW regarding the enhancement of women participation in politics and decision making positions.</p> <p>Cooperation for feeding the NCLW with necessary information for the elaboration of national reports for the follow up of the execution of the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon.</p>
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Cooperation between the ministry of Foreign affairs and NCLW for the preparation of all reports on the status of women in Lebanon.

Ministry of Public Health (MOPH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation between MOPH and NCLW during the national awareness raising campaign on early detection of breast cancer through workshops in all training centers that were opened by the NCLW in the regions in collaboration with municipalities and federations of municipalities. • Cooperation for feeding the NCLW with necessary information for the elaboration of national reports for the follow up of the execution of the national strategy for women in Lebanon.
Ministry of culture, Ministry of education and higher education, Ministry of interior and municipalities.	Cooperation for feeding the NCLW with necessary information for the elaboration of national reports for the follow up of the execution of the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon
Ministry of Labor	<p>Cooperation for feeding the NCLW with necessary information for the elaboration of national reports for the follow up of the execution of the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon</p> <p>Participation in the work of the National steering committee for migrant domestic workers in Lebanon</p>

CSOs AND WOMEN ASSOCIATIONS

<p>-The Institute for Women’s Studies in the Arab World - LAU - Lebanese Council of Women - National Committee for the Follow up of Women’s Issues - League for Lebanese Women’s Rights - National Coalition for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women - Working Women League in Lebanon - Association of the House of women In the South - Lebanese Democratic Women Gathering - Women’s Committee of the Beirut Bar Association - Lebanon Family Planning Association - Association of the Lebanese women in Universities - Commission to encourage the role of women in the National decision making process - Women Rights Club at St Joseph University - Lebanese Center for Human Rights - Kafa (enough) violence and exploitation - Amel Association - Armenians Relief Cross - As-Safadi Foundation - ALEF - Association for mother and child care - Abaad - Al Azm wal Saada Association - CRTDA Center for Research and Training for Developmental Action - Forum for Development Culture and</p>	<p>NCLW cooperates with CSOs through the following frameworks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the national campaign to amend the provisions in legislation that discriminate economically against women ‘The Long Road Ahead’ (“wein Badna”)as well as in the consultative gathering for the adoption of a plan of action to amend the above-mentioned provisions; • Cooperation for feeding NCLW with necessary information for the elaboration of national reports for the follow up of the execution of the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon.
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Dialogue - Imam Sadr Foundation - Social Movement - SMART Center - YWCA - Network of Arab NGOs for Development - Lebanese League for Women in Business - LLWB - Women League of Deir el Ahmar - Fe-male - National Committee to fight violence against women - Makhzoumi Foundation - Al Nahda gathering - YMCA - Avenir Liban - Lebanese Association for Development - Al Majmoua - Jabal Amel Women Association - Social Welfare Institutions - Women In Front - Muslim Young Girls Association - ACT Advocating Communities for tomorrow - Beirut social development association - Mothers Committee -PRODES - René Mouawad Foundation - Maryam and Martha - Caritas Lebanon - Lebanese women's affairs Association - Al Mabarrat charity association - The Progressive women union association - Women researchers - Beyond for Reform and development	
Abaad	Workshops on child marriage in different training centers that were opened by NCLW in all regions in collaboration with the municipalities and federations of municipalities
Lebanese Council of Women	A cooperation memorandum to implement programs aimed at improving the situation of women.
Yadouna Association – Women Heart Health Center	Cooperation with the Women Heart Health Center for the awareness on the importance of heart disease prevention in different training centers that were opened by NCLW in all regions in collaboration with the municipalities and federations of municipalities.
Chronic care center	Awareness raising activities on diabetes and thalassemia in different training centers that were opened by the NCLW in all regions in collaboration with the municipalities and federations of municipalities.
DEVELOPMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS	
CRTDA	Cooperation aimed at the adoption of a draft law recognizing the right of the Lebanese woman to grant her nationality to her family.
Alwaleed Bin Talal Foundation	A memorandum of cooperation aimed at equipping training centers in the regions.

UNIONS	
Bar Association of Beirut	A cooperation memorandum to organize projects on the legal situation of women in Lebanon.
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY & AGRICULTURE	
Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Beirut and Mount Lebanon.	<p>A memorandum of cooperation to promote the participation of women in the economy.</p> <p>Gender equality award for economic institutions that are supportive of women's participation in the economic activities.</p>
BANKS	
Fransabank	A cooperation memorandum to finance small and medium loans in the context of the 'Najah Loan' program.
MICRO FINANCE INSTITUTIONS	
Al majmoua	A cooperation memorandum to provide technical assistance for women who wish to benefit from NCLW's micro and middle size loans.
REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	
Arab Women Organization	<p>Cooperation through projects and training provided by the AWO to members.</p> <p>In 2016 an intensive training session for female activists in the political parties and CSOs on political participation.</p>
UN AGENCIES	
United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA)	<p>GEM Project: Gender mainstreaming project (to include a gender perspective in projects and policies):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation for the development of the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon (2011-2021); • Cooperation for drafting the National Action Plan to implement the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon; • Launching of two comprehensive studies on "Women's rights in Lebanese legislation" • Cooperation for the printing of Lebanon's official report on CEDAW

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing and publishing a legal study on the “Legal status of Syrian refugees in Lebanon” • Preparing an evaluation study on the material used in 2000 to spread knowledge on the rights as stipulated in the CEDAW convention • Offering support to prepare a national plan to apply the UNSC Resolution 1325 • Cooperation for organizing workshops on sexual and reproductive health in the regions and elaborating a manual for health service providers on these subjects
United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR)	Organization of training courses for trainers on gender related issues and development.
UNDP – Lebanese Elections Assistance project LEAP	Cooperation for the organization of meetings on political participation in all training centers that were opened by NCLW in the regions in collaboration with the municipalities and federations of municipalities.
UNDP – Disaster management unit	Cooperation for holding awareness raising meetings on disaster management in all training centers that were opened by NCLW in the regions in collaboration with the municipalities and federations of municipalities.
Escwa	<p>Organizing workshops on women’s political participation</p> <p>Cooperation in the field of dissemination of knowledge on UNSC Resolution 1325</p>
EU	
EU Delegation in Lebanon	Execution of the Project on “Equality and women empowerment in Lebanon” aiming at supporting the gender mainstreaming process in policies and programs
INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES	
GIZ	Implementation of a project aiming at: supporting women’s participation in the political field

LIST OF NCLW BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Wafa Sleiman President	Dr. Lara Karam Boustany Member of Legislative Issues Committee
Mrs. Randa Assi Berri Vice President	Dr. Fadia Kiwan Executive Board Member
Mrs. Lama Salam Vice President	Mrs. Hana Labib Abou Dhahr Member of Education and Youth Committee
Mr. Fady Karam Secretary General and Executive Board Member	Mrs. Aida Naaman Head of Studies and Documentation Committee
Mrs. Sossi Boladian Treasurer and Executive Board Member	Dr. Leila Nehmeh Tabchouri Member of Studies and Documentation Committee
Mrs. Mirna Azar Najjar Head of Legislative Issues Committee	Mrs. Najwa Noueiry Ramadan Executive Board Member
Dr. Leila Azoury Jamhoury Head of CEDAW Committee and Executive Board Member	Mrs. Afife El Sayed Executive Board Member
Mrs. Carol Chammas Kareh Member of Health and Environment Committee	Mr. Ghassan Cheet Member of Public Relations and Media Committee
Mrs. Wafa Dika Hamze Executive Board Member	Dr. Hind Soufi Head of Economy and Labor Committee
Mrs. Hayat Erslan Head of Public Relations and Media Committee	Mrs. Faika Turkia Head of Health and Environment Committee
Mrs. Ghada Hamdan Hodeib Executive Board Member	Dr. Najwa Nasr Member of Public Relations and Media Committee
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