

Joint NGO Submission Part 6.

(from ‘Women and Children’
To ‘Climate Crisis and Human Rights’)

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Submitted by

**South Korean NGOs Coalition (461 NGOs)
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Contact Details:

- People’s Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD), Eunkyung Cheon(pspdint@pspd.org +82 2 723 5051)
- Duroo - Association for Public Interest Law, Jeanie Kim (jkim@duroo.org, +82 2 6200 1914) & Dahye Jeong, dhjeong@duroo.org, +82 2 6200 1678)
- GongGam Human Right Law Foundation, Jirim Kim(rlawfla00@gmail.com)
- Catholic Human Rights Committee, Andy Kim(myoungrrang@hanmail.net)
- MINBYUN – Lawyers for a Democratic Society, Dasol Iyu(dlyu@minbyun.or.kr)

List of 461 members of the South Korean NGOs Coalition for the 4th UPR:

South Korean NGOs Coalition for Law Enforcement Watch(Catholic Human Rights Committee, Dasan Human Rights Center, Democratic Legal Studies Association, Human Rights Movement Space 'Hwal', Korea Progressive Network Jinbonet, Korean Lawyers for Public Interest and Human Rights, Sarangbang Group for Human Rights), **Advocates for Public Interest Law (APIL)**, **GongGam Human Rights Law Foundation**, **Korean Lawyers for Public Interest and Human Rights 'Hope and Law'**, **National Action to Abolish the National Security Act(112 NGOs)**, **International Child Rights Center(InCRC)**, **Center for Military Human Rights Korea**, **Korean Transnational Corporation Watch**, **KTNC Watch**(Advocates Law Public Interest Law APIL, GongGam Human Rights Law Foundation, Korean House for International Solidarity, MINBYUN – Lawyers for a Democratic Society- committee for International Labor Rights, Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, Corporate for All, Korea Committee For Overseas Community Organization, Friends of the Earth Korea, Korean Lawyers for Public Interest and Human Rights), **Join Action for Setting Right the Basic Livelihood Security Act(34 NGOs)**, **Refugee Rights Center(NANCEN)**, **Green Korea United**, **The Center for Historical Truth and Justice**, **MINBYUN – Lawyers for a Democratic Society**, **Supporters Health And Right of People in Semiconductor Industry**, **Duroo – Association for Public Interest Law**, **National Solidarity against Sexual Exploitation of Women**, **Rainbow Action Against Sexual-Minority Discrimination(43 NGOs)**, **Open Net**, **Joint Committee with Migrants in Korea**, **JCMK**(Namyangju Migrant Welfare Center, 1218 for All, Bucheon Migrants Welfare Center, Seoul Migrant Workers Cente, Suncheon Migrants Support Center, Asan Migrant Workers Cente, Solidarity for Asian Human Rights and Culture, The Association for Migrant Workers' Human Rights, Won Buddhism Seoul Migrant Cente, Uijeongbu EXODUS Migrant Cente, Migrant Center Dong Haeng, Incheon Migrant Workers' Center, Paju Migrant Worker Center Shalom House, Migrants Support Center of Pocheon Sharing House, Migrant Health Association in Korea WeFriends, Women Migrants Human Rights Center of Korea, Migrant Hansam, With Community), **Migrants Trade Union**, **Activists group for Human Rights 'BARAM'**, **South Korean NGO TF to monitor government human rights policy** (Korean House for International Solidarity, Dasan Human Rights Center, PINKS: SOLIDARITY FOR SEXUAL MINORITY CULTURES & HUMAN RIGHTS, Activists group for Human Rights 'BARAM', Catholic Human Rights Committee, Korean Lawyers for Public Interest and Human Rights, 'Hope and Law'), **Korean Council for Justice and Remembrance for the Issues of Military Sexual Slavery by Japan (Korean Council)**, **Korean Confederation of Trade Unions(KCTU)**, **Solidarity Against Disability Discrimination - committee for Labor Rights**, **World Without War**, **Korean Network for the Right to Housing**(People's Solidarity for participatory Democracy, Committee on People's Livelihood & Economy, MINBYUN – Lawyers for a Democratic Society, The Korea Center for City and Environment Research(KOCER), MINSNAIL UNION, Legal Assistance Center for Tenants (Tenants 114), Korean Union of Tenants (KUT), Sharing for Future, Korean Coalition For Housing Rights(KCHR), Community without Housing Problem(CHP), **Korean Progressive Network Jinbonet**, **South Korean Coalition for Anti-discrimination Legislation(168 NGOs)**, **People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy(PSPD)**, **Catholic Human Rights Committee**, **LGBTQ Youth Crisis Support Center DDing Dong**, **Solidarity for Child Rights Movement Jieum**, **Youth Housing Rights Network**, **South Korean Human Rights Network in Response to the COVID-19** (Activists group for Human Rights 'BARAM', Center for Health and Social Change, Dasan Human Right Center, Dongcheon Foundation, GongGam Human Rights Law Foundation, Gwang-Ju Human Rights Center 'Hwal JJak', HIV/AIDS Human Rights Activists Network Korea, Human Rights Movement Space 'Hwal', Human Rights Foundation SARAM, Korean Gay Men's Human Rights Group 'Chingusai', Korean Lawyers for Public Interest and Human Rights(KLPH), Korean People's Solidarity against Poverty, Korean Progressive Network 'Jinbonet', MINBYUN - Lawyers for a Democratic Society, People's Coalition for Media Reform(Media Reform), PINKS : Solidarity for Sexually Minor Culture & Human Rights, **Protesting against Poverty & Discrimination Solidarity for Human Right**, **SARANGBANG Group For Human Rights**, **Seoul Human Rights Film Festival**, **Solidarity Against Disability Discrimination**, **Solidarity for LGBT Human Rights of Korea**, **Solidarity for Peace & Human Rights**, **Women with Disabilities Empathy**), **Korean Unwed Mothers Support Network**, **Korea Cyber Sexual Violence Response Center**, **Korean Women's Associations United**, **Korean Womenlink**, **Migrant Health Association in Korea WeFriends**, **Women**

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J. Women and Children

54. Rights of the Child

There is not enough child-rights education or training offered by the government. The child-rights education is generally conducted based on non-binding guidelines without proper legal ground. As a result, the operation of child-rights education varies depending on the budget allocation of local governments and public officials' degree of interest. Also, the quality of education cannot be guaranteed due to the educational institution's absence of management or supervision. There are compulsory education requirements for child-related workers on child abuse, domestic violence, and sexual harassment, however such education also deal with specific issues only. In addition, as there is no separate ministry dealing with the rights of the child, child-related statics which are essential for planning and budgeting for the enhancement of rights of the child, are segmentally collected by relevant ministries. **The government should enact laws and prepare comprehensive guidelines to provide child-rights education in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and**

implement compulsory education for those who work directly or indirectly with children. Also, the government should collect child-related statistics in detail by age, gender, disability, socioeconomic background, migration background, and others.

55. Child-friendly Child Justice System

The child justice system of the ROK is not child-friendly, and the right of the child to be heard is only limitedly recognized. Children under the age of 19 cannot file the lawsuit to the court without parents' or guardians' legal representation.¹ Despite the lack of evidence that raising the level of punishment would decrease the crime rate, the Ministry of Justice in 2022, announced that it would lower the criminal liability age to 12 to fulfill the presidential pledge of "response to violent juvenile crimes". Moreover, the current Juvenile Act has a provision regarding juvenile "may be prone to commit acts" of crimes which imposes protective measures on unclear grounds, such as those who may "cause uneasy feeling for people around them by roaming in groups".² Meanwhile, the Constitutional Court of Korea held that the provision of the Act on Special Cases concerning the admissibility of the statement of children victims of sexual abuse in investigation without the attendance of them at the court is unconstitutional in 2022, thus the infringement of right to be heard is highly expected. **The Government should guarantee the right of child to be heard and to access to justice, and secure sufficient resources to prevent secondary damage to victims of sexual violence and abuse. In addition, the government should abolish the "juvenile may be prone to commit acts" provision by amending the Juvenile Act and stop the attempt to lower the criminal age to implement a child-friendly child justice system.**

56. Universal Birth Registration

The current birth registration system in the ROK requires parents with Korean nationalities to report the birth of their child.³ The government amended the Act on the Registration, etc. of Family Relationship to allow prosecutors or heads of local Governments to register a child's birth,⁴ However, the Act does not provide for any monitoring mechanisms to determine the parents' compliance with their birth registration obligations. In this regard, the government proposed an Amendment Bill to mandate all healthcare providers to notify births to the government,⁵ but there are concerns as the government has also tried to introduce the system allowing anonymous birth which violates the right of children to know their parents and be looked after by them. Also, there is no way for the children of foreign nationals to be registered. Parents may register through the embassies of their nationalities; however, refugees are often reluctant to approach to register their children's births at embassies of the government which in many cases have persecuted them, leading to their refugee status. **The government should provide a universal birth registration system that guarantees all children born within the jurisdiction of the Republic of Korea to be officially registered regardless of parent's nationality, race, religion, legal status, and origin.**

¹ Article 55 on the Civil Procedure Act

(https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=55220&lang=ENG), Article 8(2) of the Administrative Litigation Act (https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=45101&lang=ENG), Article 40(2) of the Constitutional Court Act (https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=55845&lang=ENG).

² Article 4(1) of the Juvenile Act (https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=51556&lang=ENG).

³ Article 46 of the Act on the Registration, etc. of Family Relationships
(https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=56258&lang=ENG)

⁴ Article 46(4) of the Act on the Registration, etc. of Family Relationships
(https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=56258&lang=ENG)

⁵ The Amendment Bill of the Registration, etc. of Family Relationship, Bill No. 2114860, proposed on 4 March 2022,(Korean)

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=ARC_I2N2C0K3K0U4T1R5P3T1I4K9N2C4H8

57. Adoption

ROK is one of the countries that have sent large numbers of children overseas,⁶ but entrusted the international adoption to private institutions. The Committee on the Rights of the Child has made recommendations to the Korean government to consider ratifying the Hague Convention on International Adoption and enact a bill on international adoption, however the recommendations have not been implemented yet. In the cases of domestic adoption, private adoption exists which is adopting a child under the Civil Act by entering into an adoption agreement between individuals. The eligibility requirements under the Civil Act are less strict than those of institutional adoption. The adoptive parent following the private adoption procedure is not required to have prerequisite training, nor subject to the follow-up management procedure. It leads to the high rate of dissolution of adoption and abuse of adopted children. **The government should ratify the Hague Convention on International Adoption and enact the domestic laws to implement the Convention. The government also should take all necessary measures to monitor and manage both institutional and private adoption procedures, based on the principle of best interests of the child.**

58. Child Protection System

The number of reports of child abuse in Korea is increasing every year, the rate of repeated abuse in the past five years (2016-2020) is about 10%, and 201 children died from child abuse⁷. In January 2021, parents' disciplinary rights regulations were removed to prohibit corporal punishment at home,⁸ and criminal penalties for perpetrators of child abuse have been strengthened. The current child protection system of ROK, however mandates immediate separation of children from their families of origin with only two reports of child abuse which is contrary to the principle of children to be protected and looked after by parents. Also, if a child victim of abuse is placed in welfare facilities for people with disabilities or a protection facility for victims of sexual violence, the responsible ministry is changed resulting the child protection system being cut off. In the absence of a housing policies for children who ranaway due to family abuse and neglect, many homeless children who refuse to be accommodated in institutions are exposed to crimes, such as sexual exploitation or fraud.⁹ **The government should establish a system for early detection of child abuse, regular management and supervision, and prevention of recurrence of child abuse, and secure resources for family-based childcare or alternative housing with support. In addition, a consistent child-rights based support system should be established by introducing deinstitutionalization policies¹⁰ with comprehensive plans and prepare policies for youth housing rights in accordance with the housing priority principle.**

⁶ 168,098 children have been sent for adoption from 1953 and 2020: ISS(International Social Service) IRC(International Research Center) Monthly Review No.257 December 2021

⁷ The Statistics of Child Abuse & Neglect Korea 2018; The Statistics of Child Abuse & Neglect Korea 2020.

⁸ Article 915 of the Civil Act (https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=55222&lang=ENG)

⁹ Only about 30,000 children use youth shelters among the 270,000 "Runaway youth" per year (as of 2018) estimated by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family. (<https://korea.stripes.com/community-news/invisibility-homeless-youth>). In addition, sexual minorities experienced discrimination because of their Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, and it is difficult for transgender teenagers to enter shelters divided by gender binary in accordance with the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family's guidelines(<https://www.bbc.com/korean/news-57620792>).

¹⁰ According to the statistics provided by the Ministry of Health and Welfare, facility protection refers to measures to deploy child care facilities, temporary care facilities, disabled child facilities, and joint living families. As of 2020, 66% of child protection measures are provided by facility protection.

59. Political Rights of Children

According to Article 60 (1) 2 of the Public Official Election Act, the election campaigns of children and teenagers are prohibited in ROK. Also, since the “election campaign” in the Article includes all acts supporting or opposing a specific political party or a candidate, it infringes on the right to participate in public affairs, freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly of children. There have been cases where a child is being investigated by the police because of his participation in the election campaign.¹¹ In addition, children under the age of 16 are prohibited from joining political parties, and children under the age of 18 can join political parties only after submitting the consents of their legal representatives.¹² Though the legal age limit for election campaigns and party membership has been lowered, political activities in schools are mostly restricted by principals and school administrators in the name of “maintaining order” in schools and guaranteeing the right to study and the right of education. Furthermore, school rules banning political activities that existed before the lowering of the voting age, still remain in many schools.¹³ **The government should abolish the laws limiting children from active participation in election campaigns and joining political party membership and guarantee the students’ civil and political rights which have been restricted by school rules. Furthermore, the government provides education to promote the children’s right to participate in public affairs.**

60. Rights of Children in Schools

Direct corporal punishments in schools are prohibited by the Student Human Rights Ordinance in some regions, the Enforcement Decree of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the Child Welfare Act across the nation. However, as the relevant provisions of the Enforcement Decree of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act have been interpreted as only prohibiting direct punishment, indirect corporal punishments that force students to take painful actions or feel humiliated are still occurring. The government does not explicitly prohibit or apply sanctions against such indirect corporal punishments and disciplinary punishments. In addition, the dress codes that students should follow in schools are still dependent on the arbitrary decisions of the principals. Most of the middle and high schools enforce uniforms, and the schools regulate clothing and overcoats according to the season and period.¹⁴ ¹⁵ Though the rules infringe on students' human rights,¹⁶ the current

¹¹ Hankyoreh, ‘Don't laugh at the name of the law... 14 years old, the perfect age for politics’, 08 November 2020.(Korean) <https://www.hani.co.kr/arti/society/schooling/968976.html>

¹² Article 22(1) and Article 23(1) of the Political Parties Act
https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=49487&lang=ENG

¹³ Ohmynews, ‘18-year-old high school student election campaign, shouldn't it go against the will of the principal?’, 21 February 2022 (Korean)

http://m.ohmynews.com/NWS_Web/Mobile/amp.aspx?CNTN_CD=A0002812136

¹⁴ Hankyoreh, ‘From head to toe, ‘the principal’s discretion’... Where are student rights?’, 18 January 2022.(Korean) <https://m.hani.co.kr/arti/society/schooling/1027734.html>

¹⁵ For example, at a private middle school in Busan, long down coats that fall below knees are prohibited, and another public industry-specialized high school in the same area prohibits certain hairstyles, even hair claws and curling irons.

¹⁶ According to a survey in 2022 by the Solidarity for the Candlelight Youth Human Rights Law Enactment, it was reported that 53 cases of human rights violations were collected from 38 schools in 13 metropolitan cities and provinces across the country. For instance, a person in a boarding high school in North Gyeongsang Province has filed a complaint with the National Human Rights Commission of Korea, claiming that the school rule violates the students' freedom because it prohibits students from carrying cell phones in the dormitory and allows seizing other electronic devices for one month if they are used outside the designated area. There exist some school rules that infringe on the freedom of students' privacy, ones that permit disclosing personal information including grades or inspecting personal belongings without the students' consents and other rules that violate students' freedom of speech on the ground that they are immature and some limitations of the freedom are needed for their education.

legislation states that the school rules should be enforced according to the judgments and discretion of the principal. The government should monitor and actively intervene in schools' violation of the rights of students by enacting and amending laws to guarantee students' human rights.

61. National Machineries for Gender Equality

President Yoon pledged to abolish the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (MOGEF) during his presidential campaign, saying that there is no systemic gender discrimination in society, and therefore, the MOGEF is no longer necessary. Despite strong and consistent criticism from many CSOs, women's groups and citizens¹⁷ at national and international levels, he has not yet withdrawn his promise¹⁸. Meanwhile, the statistics show that women are still marginalized in public areas and experience various gender-based discrimination and violence in daily lives.¹⁹ Based on the recognition of "such systemic gender inequalities", the government has its obligation to take the proactive lead to transform gender-discriminatory social structure and ensure that all laws/policies are applied equally to everyone, including by closely assessing the gendered impacts of laws/policies. The MOGEF, mandated to play such roles, however, operates with extremely inadequate budget (0.24% of the nation's annual budget)²⁰ and human resources (277 officials, 2021). **The government should immediately withdraw its pledge to abolish the MOGEF and take measures to strengthen the capacity of national machineries for gender equality, in line with the Beijing Platform for Action in 1995 and the 65th Agreed Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2021, including by reinforcing the mandate and the role of the MOGEF and creating a department exclusively dedicated to gender equality policy in all ministries.**

62. Gender Wage Gap

Gender wage gap in RoK is the highest among the OECD countries (31.5%, 2020). Research has shown that discrimination based on gender, whereby a job done by a woman is perceived as worth less than a similar job done by a man, which cannot be explained by objective reasons, accounts for 66.5% of the factors of gender wage gap in RoK²¹. The new president Yoon made 'Gender Wage Disclosure System' a pledge during his presidential campaign but there is a limitation as it relies on voluntary participation by companies. Gender wage gap is driven by multiple factors, including discrimination in recruitment; job allocation; promotion processes, types of employment and years of service. **The government should adopt a gender wage disclosure system in a comprehensive manner not only in public institutions but also in the private sector; and take active policy actions based on such**

¹⁷ Various local, national and international CSOs, as well as individuals have so far released statements and signed petitions to express strong concerns about the president Yoon's position on women's rights and call on him to withdraw his pledge to abolish the MOGEF, including 1) the Joint statement of 116 global CSOs 3 April 2022, (Korean) <http://women21.or.kr/statement/19468>; 2) the joint statement of 643 Korean women's rights groups and CSOs 25 Mar 2022 (Korean) <http://women21.or.kr/statement/19436>; and 3) the petition signed by 10,791 Korean citizen as of 12 May 2022 (Korean) http://women21.or.kr/index.php?mid=statement&page=3&document_srl=19361)

¹⁸ Amid continuing controversy over the existence of the MOGEF, the president Yoon appointed the head of the MOGEF on May 17. Kim Hyun-sook, a new minister, said that she agrees with Yoon's position on the abolishment of the MOGEF, which brought much criticism from the public.

¹⁹ According to the 2021 Global Gender Gap Report of the World Economic Forum, RoK ranked 102nd out of 156 countries on the gender equality scale. It also has the highest gender wage gap among the OECD countries at 31.5% (2020). The rate of women public officials at senior managerial levels is 10%, and women make up merely 5.2 % of boards in companies (MOGEF, 2021).

²⁰ BBC, "Why misogyny is at the heart of South Korea's presidential elections", 9 Mar 2022, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-60643446>

²¹ Kim Nan-joo (2022), Presidential Committee on Ageing Society and Population Policy, (Korean) <http://www.betterfuture.go.kr/front/notificationSpace/columnDetail.do?articleId=178>

information on wages with a view to addressing the gender wage gap.

63. Gender Discrimination in Hiring Process

Gender discrimination in hiring is a prevalent and persistent issue in ROK. It is reported that companies often manipulate the scores of women applicants to exclude women in favor men in their hiring process or ask sexist questions to women candidates at job interviews²². However, such companies are mostly acquitted or receive very light penalties. Since the recently revised law²³ includes the relief procedures regarding gender discrimination in workplace, the employees concerned now are able to request corrective measures. This is a step forward as compared to the past where the law only imposed penalties on employers, but it is still not a preventive but a reactive action in that an individual has to file a claim once discrimination has taken place. **The government should take proactive measures to prevent gender discrimination in hiring process, including by adopting a disclosure system of gender-segregated data on applicants in all phases of the hiring process.**

64. Emerging Forms of Cyber Sexual Violence

In the recent years, new forms of cyber sexual violence on online platforms have become highly prevalent in ROK. The online platform operators are earning massive profits by committing organized crimes of sexual exploitation on cyber space, and the number of victims and victimization scales are unimaginably large. However, they are mostly not punished or receive extremely mild punishments due to the absence of legislation.^{24,25} The forms of cyber sexual violence without using exploitative materials are expanding widely: sexual abuse and stigmatization of victims of sexual violence, including by disseminating personal/fake information on and creating false SNS accounts of them, cyber-stalking, verbal sexual harassment on online chat rooms. However, most of them are not regulated by current law. Article 13²⁶ of the Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment, etc. of Sexual Crimes is the only legal provision which deals with online sexual harassment as a form of sexual violence, and there is a limitation in that it only covers the acts of sending victims materials (word, pictures, or video clips) that may cause a sense of sexual shame or aversion. **The government should take active measure to eliminate cyber sexual violence through online platforms, including revising legal provisions on sexual violence to deal with the online sexual exploitation platform operators. Also, the government should provide legal provisions to deal with online sexual harassment as a form of sexual violence, with**

²² CNN, "South Korea's glass ceiling: the women struggling to get hired by companies that only want men", 2 Feb 2019, <https://edition.cnn.com/2019/01/31/asia/south-korea-hiring-discrimination-intl/index.html>

²³ The Equal Employment Opportunity and Work-Family Balance Assistance Act (https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=57051&lang=ENG)

²⁴ The Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment, etc. of Sexual Crimes. (Article 14, para. 3) deals with the acts of circulating sexual exploitation materials for the purpose of profit-making against a victim's will; and the Act on the Protection of Children and Youth Against Sex Offenses (Article 11, para. 2) criminalizes the acts of selling child or youth sexual exploitation materials for commercial purposes. However, the acts of operating online platforms where sexual exploitation materials are being circulated and sold are not punishable by such laws.

²⁵ For instance, as there were no suitable criminal charges which can be applied to the infamous cyber sexual crime perpetrators in ROK, including 1) Yang Jin-ho (center of a so-called "Webhard Cartel"); 2) Son Jung-woo (host of the "Welcome To Video", the world's biggest child sexual exploitative website); and 3) Cho Ju-bin and Moon Hyung-wook (main perpetrators of the "Telegram Nth Room" case), they were not appropriately punished.

²⁶ Article 13 (Obscene Acts by Using Means of Communication) A person who sends another person any words, sounds, writings, pictures, images, video clips or other things that may cause a sense of sexual shame or aversion by telephone, mail, computer, or other means of communication, with intent to arouse or satisfy his/her own or the other person's sexual urges, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than two years or by a fine not exceeding twenty million won.

a view to prosecuting perpetrators and bringing them to justice, as well as treating victims as those of sexual violence and providing appropriate support to them.

65. Decriminalizing Women in Prostitution

The Act on the Punishment of Arrangement of Commercial Sex Acts defines prostitution as a form of violence against women and stipulates assistance for those in prostitution to recover and exit the sex trade. Yet, the law continues to penalize them for participating in prostitution. Most women are not regarded as victims of prostitution because the investigative authorities interpret the immunity clause for the victims in an excessively narrow manner.²⁷ However, the government has yet to make an effort to amend the relevant legislation. Despite the 2019 legislation of the Framework Act on Prevention of Violence against Women, which also declared prostitution as a form of violence against women, prostituted women continue to make up the most significant number of those penalized based on the anti-prostitution law rather than sex buyers and intermediaries. According to the statistics published by the National Police Agency in 2020, the number of those arrested for prostitution was 339, consisting of 254 prostituted women and only 63 sex buyers (22 unknown).²⁸ **The government should reaffirm its view on prostitution as a form of exploitation and violence against women and amend the penalty clause to fully decriminalize those in the sex trade while deterring procurement and demand.**

66. Pregnant Women outside Marriage

In ROK, many women who get pregnant outside marriage face conflicts with their family members, and housing and financial difficulties. According to the statistics, approximately 80% of all unwed mothers suffer from postpartum depression due to such hardships.²⁹ In 2019, the Constitutional Court ruled that the punishment of abortion under the Criminal Act was unconstitutional, however the relevant laws have not been amended yet. While the provision of a support system for pregnant women is particularly necessary for single mothers, the government has failed to provide sufficient support for non-marital pregnancy or childbirths. As the children's birth registration and social support are provided on the premise of marriage relationships of their parents in ROK, women who get pregnant outside marriage experience systematic and legal difficulties. Children born to unwed parents, especially children from unwed fathers and children born outside marriage, face difficulties in birth registration and the community of unwed parents are excluded from a social support system which largely relies on family support. The unwed parents are even excluded from support for single-parent families. **The government should provide practical services for mothers expecting children, including supports for abortion, information on child rearing and housing, and medical support. The government also should improve its birth registration system to allow children born to unwed parents to be registered without difficulties. Additionally, the government should revise the law to ensure a comprehensive social support system covering health care, social welfare and housing for the community of unwed parents.**

²⁷ CEDAW recommended that the state prohibit penalizing prostituted women and specifically mentioned in its 49th report that the Republic of Korea "review its prostitution policy and relevant legislation, including the Criminal Code, with a view to decriminalizing women's involvement in prostitution and ensuring that women involved in the sex trade are not punished." (CEDAW/C/KOR/Q/7)

²⁸ The Statistics on crimes and following arrests:

https://kosis.kr/statHtml/statHtml.do?orgId=132&tblId=DT_13204_2011_211 (Korean)

²⁹ Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs, Childbirth and Child-Rearing in Unwed Mothers' Families and Policy Implications, 2019. p113

K. Official Development Assistance (ODA) / International Development Cooperation and Human Rights

The government announced that it would accept the third UPR recommendation, 'human rights based approach (HRBA) in development projects', but there is no vision and strategy for realizing the HRBA throughout international development cooperation projects. Although the government confirmed that it would strengthen the 'consideration of gender and human rights in project planning' in the 3rd Basic Plan for International Development Cooperation (2021-2025) and also KOICA, a governmental agency dedicated to providing grant aid programs, has promoted the implementation of the HRBA, human rights issues including environmental destruction, involuntary migration, and violations of the indigenous people's human rights has occurred frequently in large-scale development projects such as concessional loans. **The government should introduce a project implementation system based on human rights-based approach and implement the human rights assessment system to prevent human rights violations by expanding these to all concessional loans and grant aid.** Meanwhile, The Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) of the Korea Exim bank(Export-Import Bank of Korea), which provides concessional loans, and KOICA require partner countries to set up windows for receiving complaints from local residents in accordance with the 'Safeguard'. However, if the partner country ignores or fails to resolve the complaints from the locals such as objections, grievances or violations of safeguards, a feasible mechanism to supplement or resolve them does not exist. **The government should establish a system, which allows residents affected by international development cooperation projects to raise objections directly to aid agencies, and an accountability mechanism that covers the entire process of investigation, deliberation, and problem resolution.**

L. Climate Crisis and Human Rights

In 2020, ROK declared '2050 carbon neutral' and enacted the 'Framework Act on Carbon-neutral Green Growth' in 2021. The law stipulates that the country will achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and reduce national greenhouse gas(GHG) emissions by more than 35% compared to 2018. This GHG reduction goal of the government has been criticized by various stakeholders from youth to farmers as it is not enough to prevent the global average temperature from rising by 1.5 degrees.^{30,31} The government continues to build coal power plants at home and abroad and is pushing forward with the construction of new airports in Gadeok Island in Busan, Saemangeum in Jeollabuk-do etc. All these projects emit large amounts of GHG, thus accelerating the climate crisis. The building process of '2050 Carbon

³⁰ In October 2021 and February 2022, civil society organizations such as Korea Climate Crisis Emergency Action Network and Youth 4 Climate Action filed a constitutional complaint stating that 'Carbon-neutral Green Growth Framework Act' violates the Constitution.

Youth 4 Climate Action, Press Release, 16 Feb. 2022 (Korean)

<https://youth4climateaction.org/climate-litigation/?q=YToxOntzOjEyOiJrZXI3b3JkX3R5cGUiO3M6MzoiYWxsJt9&bmode=view&idx=10566006&t=board>

Korea Climate Crisis Emergency Action Network, Press Release, 12 Oct. 2021 (Korean)

<http://climate-strike.kr/4022/>

³¹ In December 2020, 41 citizens, including farmers, fishermen, delivery workers, construction workers, residents of areas with rising sea levels, and patients of climate depression, filed a complaint with the National Human Rights Commission of Korea for human rights violations caused by the climate crisis. It states that the right to life, health, the freedom of work, and to pursue happiness have been infringed because the government did not establish concrete climate policies (mitigation or adaptation) for the goals suggested by the Paris Agreement.

Green Korea United, Press Release, 22 Dec. 2020 (Korean)

<https://www.greenkorea.org/activity/weather-change/climatechangeaction-climate-change/86044/>

Neutral Scenario’, established by the government in 2021, was not democratic nor transparent. The participation of workers, farmers and other climate crisis frontline people was not guaranteed. The government has not established a proper “just transition” plan that secures workers’ right to work in the process of industrial transformation. 11 group companies in Korea which account for 64% of the country's total GHG emissions are substantially responsible for the climate crisis.³² However, the newly launched government is making moves to ease the private companies’ responsibility for GHG emissions. In addition, the government is planning to promote the construction of nuclear power plants that could threaten people's right to life and health rather than expanding renewable energy. **The government should establish a new GHG reduction goal that meets the 1.5 degree target in accordance with climate justice. The government must stop the ongoing constructions of domestic and foreign coal power plants as well as building plans for new airports. A switching policy from nuclear to renewable energy should be established. A “just transition” policy for the frontline communities should be developed in the industrial transformation process and a climate policy must guarantee the basic rights of citizens affected by the climate crisis.**

³² Hankyoreh, “Top 10 groups emit 36% of national greenhouse gas... 64% including KEPCO”, 26 Oct 2021 (Korean) <https://www.hani.co.kr/arti/society/environment/1016677.html>