

**WOMEN 2000**  
**IMPLEMENTATION**  
**OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION**  
**IN THE REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO**

**Report of the Government of San Marino submitted to the United Nations**

**Drafted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

**San Marino, April 2000**

## INTRODUCTION

This report, drafted on the basis of statistical data and specific information supplied by the competent national offices, illustrates the status of women in the Republic of San Marino five years after the Fourth World Conference on Women (the Beijing Conference), highlighting the aspects related to the key areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action.

The action taken over these five years by the Government of San Marino (the coalition government formed by the Christian Democratic Party and the Socialist Party ruling since 1995 has been replaced since 28 March 2000 by a new coalition composed of the Christian Democratic Party, the Democratic Progress Party and the Reform-Minded Socialists) has undoubtedly allowed women to play a more significant role in the field of education and training, employment, including high-ranking positions, favouring, *inter alia*, greater awareness of various health and social issues directly affecting women throughout their lives.

Undoubtedly, over the last decades the country's considerable well-being - as much can be inferred from the statistical data attached hereto - has increasingly allowed women to benefit from economic and social opportunities almost like men, to actively participate in the institutional, political, economic, social and cultural life of the country, and to make significant contributions, also by holding high-ranking positions. This, in turn, has further promoted the role of women in society and in the country's institutions, thus enhancing their status and favouring a general cultural change.

In this respect, the Government has paid greater attention to the condition of women in its recent programme. Here follows a detailed description of the measures adopted in the various critical areas of the Beijing Platform for Action.

As indicated in the report, there is no "Ministry for Equal Opportunities" in San Marino. It is the Government that ensures the necessary interventions aimed at promoting the advancement of women at all levels.

In this regard an important point of reference is the relevant parliamentary Commission, suggesting appropriate measures and mainstreaming a gender perspective into laws and regulations.

The data contained in the report clearly show the progress made since 1995 in terms of women's advancement in the various sectors of society, and hence the implementation level of the Beijing Platform for Action by governments and associations.

For all progress made in terms of legal equality between men and women, however, a great deal remains to be done, especially as regards citizenship and the possibility for San Marino mothers to transmit their nationality. In June 1999, a new law on citizenship would have become effective if confirmed by the referendum held on 12 September 1999. In fact, though by a narrow margin, the quorum was not reached and the bill rejected.

Therefore, the debate on such fundamental issue still remains open within political, institutional and cultural circles, while nationality continues to be on the Government's agenda.

The increased presence of women in the Government, with 2 female members out of 10 - and a female Captain Regent for the April-October term - is further evidence of the will of both men and women to co-operate and share responsibilities.

The participation of the San Marino delegation in the forthcoming UN special session will certainly give new impetus to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective, especially among younger generations, and to the consolidation of a culture based on mutual respect and solidarity between men and women, a precondition for the full achievement of equality.

**ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN IN THE TWELVE KEY AREAS OF CONCERN**

## A - WOMEN AND POVERTY

San Marino is an affluent country with a small population (approx. 27,000 inhabitants), therefore it is in a position to adequately assist, both economically and socially, those families temporarily faced with difficulties.

Such protection and assistance has been guaranteed in San Marino legislation as early as the 1600s, at the time of its first Statutes, revisited with the course of time.

Special attention is paid to single women with children, as they are granted special treatment, for example, in terms of council housing, employment, social assistance, nursery schools, etc..

## B - EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF WOMEN

The Government has recently reiterated in its programme that "the role played by education remains crucial and best safeguards democracy and civilisation... It is of paramount importance that the educational function accomplished by schools be closely intertwined with the educational role played by families, which shall be further consolidated, integrated and harmonised". The goals the Government wishes to attain include in particular: extending compulsory education to 18 years of age, with a view to providing all young people with adequate education; ensuring educational and didactic continuity; and assessing the school system on a regular basis.

Men and women in San Marino have equal access to all levels of education. Female representation in the various school grades is as follows: nursery schools: 47.3%; primary school: 48%; middle school: 47.6%; high school: 49%; university: 57.4%. The number of pupils and students has increased progressively, by 6.3% during the last year. It has been observed that young men and women tend to continue their studies, and this trend is partly due to the positive economic and social developments of recent years: the attendance rate has increased by approx. 4% at the high school level, and by 21% at the university level, with females outnumbering males. The education rate is equal to 93.3%.

Clearly, equal access to education is a precondition for women to subsequently participate in the decision-making process at all levels of society: while the majority of high school and university students in San Marino are females, the same does not apply to high-paid jobs and professional careers. This nonetheless, the situation has significantly changed over the last few years, with more and more young women - grown up in a culture of equality and equal opportunities - now having reached higher positions, both professionally and socially.

The Republic of San Marino is characterised by a very modern educational and training system. All schools are equipped with computers and other high tech devices.

The gender mainstreaming principle is fully respected at school and all classes are mixed: gyms and technical courses are attended by males and females together. Over the last few years elective subjects have been promoted in middle and high schools to increase awareness of a number of issues of modern society, including issues regarding women.

The competitiveness of all countries - and most of all of tiny countries like San Marino - increasingly depends on their investments in human capital.

Great attention has always been paid to ensuring that all groups of society have equal access to education: nursery schools, primary and middle schools are all free of charge, both in terms of enrolment fees and school texts. High school is also free of charge and contributions are granted to cover expenses for transport and books. Lastly, university students may also rely on scholarships and grants. The State Budget allocates considerable amounts of money to education: in 1998, expenditure per student was Lit. 17,366,059.

### C - WOMEN AND HEALTH

San Marino legislation in the health and medical sector has always been extremely innovative. Since 1955 all citizens, with no distinction as to sex or age, may benefit - free of charge - from all health services provided on the territory. Equally, all citizens may accede - always free of charge - to health services provided outside the Republic, on request and prescription of their treating physician.

As regards health care, San Marino citizens are given assistance throughout their lives and can rely on high quality medical services. For particular diseases or surgical interventions which cannot be treated or carried out in San Marino, patients are free to choose the hospital or clinic they consider most appropriate outside the Republic.

Thanks to ongoing awareness campaigns conducted among women on their health and quality of life, and to larger female representation in a number of institutional bodies and non governmental associations, the concept of health has changed over the last few years. Indeed, health is no longer conceived as the mere absence of diseases or infirmities, but rather as a general condition of physical, mental and social well-being. Such new conception of health has led to plans and programmes specially devised for women and their health protection.

Health data on San Marino population have been disaggregated by sex. New health projects, centred upon information, prevention and freedom of choice, have been launched in the field of reproductive health, pregnancy, birth and puerperium.

In line with the recommendations contained in the Beijing Platform for Action, the State Hospital has set up a special out-patient's department for girls, with entirely female medical staff carrying out medical examinations and providing advice on contraceptives. To prevent potential complications in the future, all girls in pre-puberty age have been invited for several years to have themselves vaccinated against rubella.

Similarly, awareness campaigns have been conducted in schools on nutrition, hygiene, physical exercise, sexual education and contraception. Special attention has been paid to the prevention of drug addiction and AIDS.

Another programme has been devised for the prevention of cancer in women and to reduce the incidence of most serious pathologies. The female population has been divided into age groups and, for the purpose of preventing cervix and breast cancer, women are constantly screened and informed.

All the above-illustrated actions draw inspiration from the Beijing Platform for Action stating that the "women's right to the enjoyment of the highest standard of health must be secured throughout the whole life cycle in equality with men".

Women over 40 are contacted personally to perform periodical screenings for the early diagnosis of potential diseases.

In collaboration with the San Marino Oncological Association, a psychological department was set up in 1998 to support women who had undergone a mastectomy. In 1999 a group therapy project was launched for women in pharmacological menopause.

Over the last few years, women's access to adequate, inexpensive and high-quality health and medical services has been enhanced by means of appropriate awareness and information campaigns, especially as regards maternity, where efforts have been made to increase respect for women in line with the Beijing recommendations on reproductive health protection.

Currently, all expectant mothers are constantly monitored by a medical team composed of gynaecologists and midwives at the State Hospital. High-tech equipment is used for ultrasound and gynaecological diagnosis.

Moreover, the following courses are made available:

- information courses for pregnant women and puerperae;
- birth preparation courses;
- respiratory autogenous training and music therapy courses;
- gym courses in the swimming pool with trainer.

After having been appropriately informed and advised by the medical team, women in labour are free to choose how to give birth in the hospital structure.

New-borns are given special attention. The paediatric team promotes a series of information and training meetings for parents and follows minors up to the age of 16. A domiciliary paediatric service has been arranged since 1995.

As regards services for infants, improvements still have to be made in the number of nursery schools.

The current situation of nursery schools for children under 3 is the following:

		Total requests	Places available	Requests not accepted
October	1996	314	96	218
January	1997	268	96	172
April	1997	318	114	204
October	1997	1319	114	205
January	1998	295	114	181
April	1998	350	138	212
October	1998	374	138	236
January	1999	372	138	234
April	1999	403	138	265
October	1999	381	160	221

Considering the urgent need to provide families, where both parents work, with further support, as well as the need to promote women's professions and most of all allow women to freely choose whether to work or take care of their babies, a new legislation is being drafted to identify and redefine measures for family support and protection. In particular, nursery schools are being rethought so as to best meet the needs of both children and parents.

In the framework of the women's health prevention programme, and in line with the Beijing Platform for Action, the following initiatives have been implemented to help women acquire better knowledge of their health and hence make relevant decisions with greater awareness:

- annual gym courses for the elderly, arranged in co-operation with the Elderly Association;
- lectures on topics like nutrition, general health, alternative medicine, etc., in co-operation with the "Università del Sorriso";
- a Centre for the Protection of Women in Menopause, set up in 1998 at the State Hospital, the functions of which include information, research, clinical follow-up.

The Centre provides for the clinical, diagnostic and therapeutic follow-up of all female patients over 40.

The Centre is equipped with a densitometer and ultrasound scan for the early diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis, a disease typically affecting women in menopause.

Since 1998, approximately 2,000 clinical examinations (interviews and/or gynaecological examinations) have been conducted on 5,554 women aged 45-85 and over; hormonal therapies and phyto-hormones have been prescribed for 700 and about 50 women respectively; about 1,000 women have been included in the control scheme for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis.

*Resident female population by age group (1998)*

Age group	no.
45 - 49	900
50 - 54	870
55 - 59	743
60 - 64	695
65 - 69	674
70 - 74	358
75 - 79	521
80 - 84	308
85 and over	285



## D - VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Fortunately, the Republic of San Marino is not affected by certain forms of violence against women, like trade in women for sexual exploitation. Such practices are effectively thwarted thanks to a rigorous regulation of stay and residence permits granted to foreigners, as well as grass-root controls performed by the police authorities on the whole territory.

In this connection, Law no. 22 of 24 February 2000 has further strengthened security measures by expressly stipulating that foreigners not in possession of a regular stay or residence permit may be sent away by the police for reasons of crime prevention and protection of public order and security, and allowed to re-enter the country only in the presence of a prior authorisation.

As regards female genital mutilation, there have been no cases linked to local or ethnic minority practices.

The forms of violence perpetrated against women and girls may include sexual violence and violence within the family.

Importantly, as early as 1974 San Marino penal legislation criminalised the violation of sexual freedom and sexual harassment on minors as **offences against personal freedom**. The Criminal Code has redefined the terms "rape" and "abduction for a lewd purpose or with intent to marry" replacing them with "violation of personal freedom" and "kidnapping for a lewd purpose or with intent to marry", thus attaching greater importance to the personal aspect. In other words, as opposed to the past, the above-mentioned crimes are now considered violations of personal freedom, and no longer violations of honour, morality or decency.

The criminal action is generally started on denunciation of a party, but takes place *ex officio* if the crime has been committed by the natural or adopting parent or the guardian or any other person having been entrusted with the custody of the victim.

Importantly, the crimes perpetrated within the family are prosecuted and punished by the state even more rigorously.

San Marino Criminal Code stipulates, moreover, that sexual intercourse - when performed with the use of force or deception - constitutes an aggravating circumstance in case of violation of sexual freedom.

While the effective response of the State, both in terms of prevention and repression of sexual violence - the victims being most of the times women - has been clearly illustrated, such response becomes even more resolute when victims are minors under 14. Sexual harassment or sexual intercourse constitute in all cases a violation of sexual freedom, even if committed without the use of force, threat or deceit. Ignoring that the victim was a minor is never admitted as a mitigating circumstance.

Certainly, criminal legislation alone is not an effective solution to the problem of violence against girls and women. The cases reported to the Court of San Marino raise a great deal of social concern, in spite of their limited number: only the most appalling ones are denounced, while many other subtle forms of violence remain undisclosed.

The State has the obligation to devise appropriate and effective laws, and undertake initiatives to support and assist women who have been the victims of violence, including psychological violence. Most importantly, the State ought to promote the dissemination of a culture based on respect for human beings and women's dignity.

Lastly, in situations that are particularly difficult or at risk, the Minor Service, in collaboration with the Court, the social and health institutions and schools, provides family advice and consultation, psychotherapy and clinical monitoring.

### **E - WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT**

Loyal to its long-standing tradition of neutrality, and hence in the absence of an army, San Marino has entrusted the safeguard of national security to the Police Department, composed on the one hand of two military corps (the Gendarmerie, which includes several women, and the "Fortress Guards") and, on the other, the Civil Police, where the presence of female staff is remarkable and the Commander in Chief is a woman.

Other Military Corps in San Marino are formed by male staff exclusively, such as the Council Guards and the Uniformed Militia. Such corps have a merely representation function and only on exceptional occasions are they used for public order purposes.

Article 1 of the "Declaration of the Citizens' Rights and Fundamental Principles of San Marino Constitutional Order", states that the provisions of general international law form integral part of San Marino legal system, rejects war as a means to settle international disputes, adheres to international Conventions on human rights and freedoms and reaffirms the right to political asylum.

In accordance with such principles, the Republic of San Marino continues to make its contribution to peace and co-operation between states, both in international fora and within special organisations like the UNHCR, the International Red Cross, UNICEF, etc., and also a number of volunteers' associations. When armed conflicts break out, San Marino often establishes special national solidarity committees to assist the populations affected (witness: the Pro Bosnia Committee and the Committee for Kosovo Refugees).

Such initiatives undertaken by San Marino fall within a long-standing tradition of solidarity and humanitarian assistance, demonstrated especially during World War II, when the Republic hosted on its small territory (approx. 61 square kilometres) over 100,000 refugees.

### **F - WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY**

The gender mainstreaming principle advocated in the Beijing Platform for Action with regard to wages and salaries, employment, working conditions and access to social security, has long been recognised in San Marino legal system, though the role of working women has become increasingly significant especially over the last decade.

In 1990 and 1999, 41.3% and 41.1% respectively of dependent workers were women.

With regard to the self-employed, women were 66.7% and 33.1% in 1990 and 1999 respectively.

In this connection, statistical data reported in the Table below show that the significant number of working women remained unchanged, in spite of the sharp increase in dependent workers by 63% in the 1990-1999 period.

The need to protect women and allow them to reconcile their jobs with the bringing up of children has led to the elaboration of special law provisions, that have been amended and integrated over the years with the aim of supporting both working mothers and families.

Law no. 24 of 19 February 1991 stipulates for working expectant mothers a mandatory maternity leave of 150 days.

Law no. 111 of 16 April 1994 regulating post-partum leaves allows working women to choose, after the mandatory 150 day leave, whether to extend parental leave to the first year of age of the baby, receiving 30% of the net wage, or go back to work with a permission to be absent from the work place for two separate hours a day, until the first year of age of the baby.

Law no. 112 of 16 December 1994 stipulates the right for either the mother or the father to be allowed to work part-time until the child is three years of age.

In addition to the law provisions protecting working mothers, other measures have been introduced to support and promote the employment of female labour force, like tax relief linked to the hiring of women in the textile and garment sector.

In consideration of larger development potentialities inherent in enterprises and self-employment rather than in dependent work, the female labour market, as much is highlighted by the statistical table, led to the adoption, in 1997, of a new law supporting young and female entrepreneurs. The aims of such law include:

- to promote, organise and streamline entrepreneurial resources;
- to promote enterprise training and enhance the professional skills of young and female entrepreneurs;
- to allow greater credit facilities to young and female entrepreneurs or enterprises with mainly young and female staff in the most innovative sectors.

	1990			1999		
	TOTAL	women	%	TOTAL	women	%
DEPENDENT WORKERS	9,665	3,993	41.3	15,332	6,308	41.1
<i>Private Sector</i>	6,581	2,698	40.9	11,129	4,082	36.7
Directors and Managers	332	54	16.3	1,058	248	23.4
Employees	1,405	526	37.4	2,919	1,726	59.1
<i>Public Sector</i>	3,084	1,295	41.9	4,203	2,226	52.9
High-ranking officials	387	158	40.8	981	571	58.2
Employees	1,425	898	63.0	1,647	1,085	65.9
INDEPENDENT WORKERS	2,557	1,706	66.7	2,590	856	33.1

The Law provides for the following benefits: financial and capital incentives, subsidised loan, technical assistance and vocational training, tax exemptions and 50% reductions on social security contributions for all employees during the first five years of activity.

The weakness of such innovative Law - aimed at promoting the economic and social progress of the country - is represented by the delay in operating a special "agency for promotion and economic development", to which applications for the above-mentioned facilities are to be addressed.

## **G - WOMEN IN POWER AND DECISION-MAKING**

The last decades of the XX<sup>th</sup> century marked a significant turning point in the century-old history of the Republic (which will celebrate its 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2001), as they saw the adoption of a number of legislative provisions affirming women's civil, political, social and economic rights.

In this regard, it is worth recalling that women in San Marino were recognised the right to vote by Law no. 17 of 29 April 1959 - such right having been exercised for the first time in the 1964 General Election - and only by Law no. 29 of 10 September 1973 were they recognised the right to run for elections. In practice, women in San Marino were allowed to be elected to the Great and General Council (Parliament) and the Congress of State (Government) only after the 1974 General Election.

In San Marino, women's effective participation in the institutional bodies of the country is therefore rather recent. While in 1995 - year of the Fourth World Conference on Women - after the 1993 General Election, female Members of Parliament amounted to 7 (out of 60 MPs), that is 11.66%, they increased to 8 (13.33%) after the 1998 General Election.

In accordance with Law no. 42 of 21 May 1995, the Great and General Council conducts part of its activity through "standing parliamentary commissions". In 1995, female representation in such commissions was the following:

- Commission I (responsible for: Constitutional and Institutional Affairs; Legal System and Public Administration; Civil Protection; Internal Affairs; Relations with Local Authorities): 3 women out of 15 members (20%);
- Commission II (responsible for: Foreign Affairs; Migration; Information; Transports and Telecommunications; Public Order and Security): 2 women out of 15 members (13.33%);
- Commission III (responsible for: Finance, the Budget and Planning; Handicraft; Industry and Economic Co-operation; Commerce; Labour and Co-operation): 1 woman - acting as chairperson - out of 15 members (6.66%);
- Commission IV (responsible for: Social Security; Social Affairs; Health and Sanitation; Territory; Environment; Public Works and Utilities; Agriculture): 1 woman out of 15 members (6.66%);
- Commission V (responsible for: Justice; Education, Culture and Cultural Heritage; University and Scientific Research; Sport; Tourism): 1 woman out of 15 members (6.66%).

Subsequent to their appointment by Parliament during its sitting of 17 April 2000, female representation within the current standing commissions is as follows:

- Commission I: 4 women out of 16 members (25%)
- Commission II: 3 women out of 16 members (18.75%)
- Commission III: 2 women out of 16 members (12.50%)
- Commission IV: 2 women out of 16 members (12.50%)
- Commission V: 3 women out of 16 members (18.75%)

In 1995, the ten members forming the Congress of State included 1 woman as Minister of Territory, Environment, Agriculture and Relations with the National Public Works Corporation. At present, 2 women (20%) are in office respectively as Minister of the Interior and Justice and Minister of Education, University, Social Affairs, Cultural Institutions and Information.

As regards female representation within local authorities - the territory of San Marino is subdivided into 9 townships - the 1994 local elections saw the election of 2 women as mayors (22.22%) and 10 women (14%) out of 71 local councillors.

Subsequent to the latest local elections, the number of female mayors and councillors increased to 3 (33.33%) and 14 (19.71%) respectively.

Moreover, one of the two Captains Regent in office - the two joint Heads of State, elected from among the Great and General Council for a 6-month mandate - is a woman.

The election of a woman as Head of State occurred for the first time in 1981. Up to the present day 4 other women held that office, though only twice since 1995, namely for the terms 1 April - 1 October 1999 and 1 April - 1 October 2000 respectively.

The gender mainstreaming principle affirmed in the Beijing Platform for Action has been effectively implemented in San Marino as regards access to and participation in the political activity and freedom of association - including membership in political parties and trade unions. In spite of a slight increase in the number of women in politics, however, no significant increase can be observed in the number of female candidates, nor have special measures been adopted by parties to promote and raise the number of women in the lists of candidates or in Organisations.

In this context, it is worth noting that while the "Declaration of the Citizens' Rights and Fundamental Principles of San Marino Constitutional Order" - Law no. 59 of 8 July 1974, that is San Marino Constitution - sanctions important and innovative principles, besides those already affirmed in the legal system, it does not expressly mention the principle of legal equality of citizens "without any distinction as to sex".

In July 1998, the Great and General Council approved a petition addressed to the Captains Regent by a women association calling for the introduction of the principle of non discrimination as to sex in article 4 of the above-mentioned Declaration.

As a consequence, in June 1999 the Great and General Council approved an agenda - also in the light of the above-mentioned petition - whereby it committed all political forces and parliamentary groups to considering, within two years, all issues with a gender mainstreaming perspective.

Over the last few years, moreover, a number of NGOs were established to foster female participation in all sectors of society, like the "Associazione sammarinese Sant'Agata, donne, arti, professioni, affari", while the "Futura" Association mainly deals with education for politics. As regards the principle of legal equality, the "3DS" Association is active together with the "Confronto" Association, set up recently.

## H - INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

The institutional reform planned by the Government, formed on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2000, includes among its priorities the incorporation, at a constitutional level, of all principles and rules concerning human and citizens' rights enshrined in the international treaties to which San Marino is a party, starting from the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights".

This commitment is in line with the Beijing Platform for Action calling upon "Governments and other actors to promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes".

In this connection, the Government also underscores in its programme:

- the intention to establish an "Agency for the promotion of economic development", so as to fully implement the existing law on youth and female entrepreneurship and consequently to guarantee access to the financial incentives envisaged by law;
- the determination to further strengthen, integrate and harmonise the fundamental link between the educational function of the school and that of the family, while preserving and mutually respecting their distinctive functions;
- the need for a law redefining and improving all measures supporting and protecting the family, including the development of a comprehensive project and of a new law on nursery schools so as to better meet the actual needs and fulfil the educational purpose of this service;
- the introduction of personal pension schemes and of redemption of long-term maternal leaves or other periods of absence from work due to family reasons, as well as the possibility also for housewives to receive a contributory pension.

Special attention is devoted to all citizenship-related issues, in consideration of the need to develop a bill having as its main objectives the moral and legal equality between spouses and the safeguard of the family. The new law shall regulate transmission of citizenship, legal equality, naturalisation and the relations with citizens abroad, also taking into account its potential implications in the electoral law.

This commitment stems from a series of past initiatives concerning gender equality with regard to citizenship, which ended with the presentation by the past Government (replaced in March 2000) of Law on Citizenship n. 66 of 16 June 1999. This law introduced a number of changes to reflect the greater social attention and meet the demand for an increasing equality among citizens of both sexes, in particular the possibility for San Marino mothers to transmit their nationality.

On 12 September 1999 a referendum was held to confirm this law which would have had significant impact on the Republic. However, though the majority of votes cast was in favour of this law, the quorum was not reached. Therefore, this issue still remains crucial in the political and institutional debate.

The Beijing Platform for Action provided for a wide range of activities going from information collection to problem evaluation and progress reporting to the competent legislative bodies. Already in 1976, San Marino established a Parliamentary Commission responsible for considering the integration of legislative provisions necessary to put women on an equal legal footing with men. This Commission, elected by the Great and General Council, is made up of ten members representing all parliamentary groups and political forces on a proportional basis.

The Commission meets at fixed dates and, as recommended by the Platform for Action, it regularly submits to the Parliament a report on its activity containing data and information collected, together with its own suggestions. This is not an ad-hoc Commission for equal opportunities like those established in other countries, but rather an evaluation instrument, with an advisory function within the Parliament, for the integration of those legislative provisions not expressly providing for legal equality between men and women.

This Commission is extremely active also in the field of public information and, on the occasion of the recent referendum, it requested that all citizens could receive all necessary information on the Citizenship Law by calling special telephone numbers in public offices.

Among the objectives of the Commission is the promotion of gender mainstreaming principle in school programmes, in the awareness that this key concept is to be taught starting from primary education.

The Commission also participates through its Chairperson - a woman - in the works of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men, and maintains regular contacts with other international organisations dealing with the advancement of women, as recommended by the Platform for Action.

Over the last few years, the Government of San Marino launched a number of initiatives aimed at enhancing co-operation and exchange of information on this fundamental issue. Particularly relevant was the Seminar "The Republic of San Marino: the identity of a people", held on 12 June 1996 and promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the aegis of Their Excellencies the Captains Regent. This Seminar depicted the situation and role of San Marino women, including those who emigrated.

Another important event was the Conference "Women and Men - Citizens as of right in a democratic state", held on 20 March 1998 and promoted by the Ministries of Foreign and Internal Affairs, with the participation of many experts, among whom Mrs. Olof Olafsdottir-Ergun, Head of Equality Section of the Council of Europe and Maria Grazia Gianmarinero, Head of the Legislative Office of the Italian Department for Equal Opportunities.

A San Marino Delegation also participated in the 4th European Ministerial Conference on Equality between Women and Men organised by the Council of Europe in Istanbul on 12-14 November 1997.

Another enriching opportunity in terms of information and suggestions is represented by the participation in the works of the Interparliamentary Union of a national delegation composed of 13 members, including 3 women (23.07%). In 1995 this delegation included 2 women (15.38%).

The State Office for Economic Planning and Statistics regularly collects, analyses and disseminates data on the number of women and men holding responsibility positions at all levels in the public and private sectors. Such data are periodically published in a Statistical Bulletin. Recently, this Office carried out and published a detailed research work on the situation of women in San Marino which is herewith enclosed.

## 1 - HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN

In the fulfilment of the commitments envisaged by the Platform for Action, which reiterates the universality of human rights and fundamental freedoms, these issues are receiving an increasing attention in San Marino, which also seeks to offer its own contribution at an international level. For example, in 1998, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Republic offered a financial contribution to a UN project concerning the translation and dissemination of the UDHR in over 250 languages, thus allowing the achievement of a specific goal set forth in the Platform for Action.

A diplomatic delegation, which regularly follows the works of the Human Rights Commission at the UN Office in Geneva, took part, last January, in the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 2000 Reviewing of the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action convened by the UN Economic Commission for Europe.

Since its admission to the United Nations in 1992, San Marino has actively followed the activity of the Third Commission entrusted with human rights and social issues participating in the drafting and voting of its resolutions and cosponsoring the most important ones.

Since 1995, the Permanent Mission of San Marino has also followed the works of the Commission on the Status of Women and of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It is now taking part in the meetings of the preparatory committee for the special session of the UN General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century".

Over the last few years, the Republic of San Marino has clearly promoted the role of women also in its international relations, by appointing nine women as Ambassadors to other States or International Organisations.

As regards solidarity, the contribution of women within the San Marino Red Cross, the National Commission for UNICEF, presided over by a woman, and other voluntary groups is particularly significant. Some female associations are actively engaged in social and humanitarian issues. San Marino Soroptimist Club, for example, is carrying out a project in Rwanda in favour of war widows who, despite the serious situation, have adopted many orphans. The project also includes the opening of a pharmacy and the shipping of humanitarian aid. The Mutual Aid Society, which celebrated its Centenary in 1999, is also particularly active.



With regard to international solidarity, State interventions are often directed to women and families. Some recent examples are: the rehabilitation of a primary school on one hand and the rehabilitation and equipment supply of two health centres on the other in Bosnia-Herzegovina; the participation in a Council of Europe-UNICEF joint programme of assistance for children with refugee, displacement and war traumas in Kosovo; a number of health initiatives in Mitrovica, still to be defined, with the support of the United Nations; and the construction of a centre for the education of minors in Palestine, in the framework of the UNESCO project "Bethlehem 2000".

In this context, the Law on international adoption of minors, approved by Parliament on 20 September 1999, is worth mentioning. This Law was adopted to receive a popular petition, but most of all to implement the provisions contained in International Conventions on the protection of children (UN, The Hague). The primary objective of this Law is to provide minors with the best possible family, thanks to a series of controls, also during pre-adoption custody, by a number of public bodies and offices such as the Judicial Authority, the Minor Service, the Government Authorities and other entities. All controls provided for to guarantee a successful adoption do not impair the rapid settlement of all necessary bureaucratic procedures.

Aware of its social and human relevance, San Marino has always paid great attention to adoption, also providing for adoptions by single parents.

The new provisions of the above mentioned Law are the following:

- shifting to 14 years the age of minors to be adopted;
- greater flexibility in the age difference between adopters and adopted children;
- recognition of a foreign sentence of "consensual" adoption, provided that the natural parents have given their consent freely, expressly and without any valuable consideration.

In this regard, the next step is the implementation of the already established Juvenile Court. In fact, the legislator has provided that, within a year from the entry into force of this Law, all attributions and procedures of the Juvenile Court shall be disciplined.

## **J - WOMEN AND THE MEDIA**

In San Marino, women's overall share of jobs in the media is high, including high-ranking positions. The policy adopted intends to promote women in a "balanced and non-stereotyped" manner, as indicated in the Platform for Action.

Within the State broadcasting company, "San Marino RTV", for example, one of the two editors-in-chief responsible for news services is a woman; also the position of head of the editorial office is held by a woman, while 7 out of the 13 members of the editorial office are women. Moreover, until two years ago, the company's Board of Directors was presided over by a woman.

The news broadcasting supervising commission is chaired by a woman; also her predecessor was a woman.

With regard to the local press, in one of the three newspapers - relying on a number of female collaborators - the person responsible for news on San Marino is a woman.

In addition, a recently established telematic information service is under the responsibility of a woman.

Information on the services and activity of the 10 State Departments is guaranteed by a considerable number of female professionals and a woman is in charge of the City Link, an office providing general information to the public.

Moreover, the fact that the present Minister of Information is a woman is worth mentioning.

## K - WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT

In San Marino, environmental protection is not dealt with according to a gender-based approach, nor are female resources particularly favoured. However, a growing awareness of the need for environmental protection and promotion has recently stimulated the establishment of some non-profit associations mainly led by women.

The recently approved Government programme, where sustainable development is a priority, provides for a thorough revision of legislative and administrative instruments in order to:

- draft a "Charter" of environmental rights;
- establish an "Authority" responsible for environmental issues;
- strictly protect natural areas;
- safeguard water resources and surface waters;
- guarantee air quality;
- prevent noise and electromagnetic pollution;
- preserve the landscape heritage;
- create the green areas envisaged in the General Town Plan, in compliance with the framework law on environmental protection;
- promote, organise and develop environmental information, training and education activities, through appropriate initiatives and an ad-hoc legislation ensuring environmental associations and the public at large free access to information and full participation in decision-making.

## L - THE GIRL-CHILD

In compliance with the principles stated in the Declaration of the Citizens' Rights and Fundamental Principles of San Marino Constitutional Order, the Republic promotes the full development of youth personality, without any distinction based on sex, protecting and supporting the young in the legal, health, educational and social context.

Law n. 49 of 26 April 1986 "Reform of Family Law" specifically protects minors, born in or out of wedlock, also in case of custody, adoption, separation or divorce, from a civil, juridical, economic and educational point of view.

Under Law n. 83 of 28 October 1992 on the Judiciary, an ad-hoc Juvenile Court was established, while since 1978, a Minor Service follows cases of psychological and social malaise of minors (from 0 to 18 years) and disabled. Its areas of activity include prevention, rehabilitation and social integration.

Nursery schools for children under 3, the seaside holiday home and the centre for disabled "Il Colore del Grano" are under the responsibility of the Minor Service.

In 1997, the Government launched, under the aegis of the Captains Regent, a comprehensive "Youth Project" directed to young people aged 14-24 who participated in the organisation of some cultural events such as: shows, acting courses, film projections, concerts, round tables, road-safety awareness campaigns, debates on youth malaise and problems like drug and alcohol addiction with the participation of famous experts, and sports events. All these initiatives have been widely covered and promoted by the media.

On 26 and 27 March 1998, San Marino hosted the Council of Europe Pompidou Group, the works of which centred on the consumption of ecstasy and other drugs in discos and entertainment places. Some international experts and representatives contributed to this initiative, which also saw the participation of many young people.

Besides the activity of public institutions favouring the young (see sections B on education and C on health), also social centres, lay or religious associations, the National Olympic Committee and its different sport federations pay great attention to youth problems.

# Statistical Appendix

**By the Office of Economic Planning and Statistics**

**Population and fertility**

Age distribution of resident population:	0-4 years	0-14 years	15-49 years	60+ years	Total
	1,391	3,889	13,685	5,484	26,232

**Population**

	urban	rural	Total
Population:	23,160	3,072	26,232
Population growth rate:			1.19%
Fertility rate:			1.225
Fertility rate of women between 15 and 19:			1.49

**Mortality**

	M.	F.	Total
Life expectancy at birth:	76.4	82.6	
Infant mortality rate:			8.8%
Mortality rate under 5:			
< 1 year	13.20‰	14.80‰	13.90‰
1-4 years	0.00‰	0.00‰	0.00‰
Maternal mortality rate (during delivery?):	n.a.(not available)	n.a.	n.a.

**Health**

Total population having access to health services: 26,232 (all resident population)

**Reproductive health**

Contraceptives used:	n.a.
Births attended by qualified health staff (%):	Health services are free of charge for all residents
Adult population affected by AIDS (or HIV positive) (%):	n.a.
Pregnant women between 15 and 24 affected by AIDS (or HIV positive) (%):	n.a.

**Gender equality and education**

Boys/girls ratio in primary schools:	0.92
Boys/girls ratio in secondary schools:	0.99
Boys/girls ratio at university:	1.35

**Economic activities**

Unemployment rate:	4.1%		
Employed/total population ratio	65.7%		
Percentage of labour force by sector	agriculture	industry	services
	1.4%	42.3%	56.3%
Percentage of labour force by working situation:			n.a.
Percentage of working children aged 10-14:		Compulsory school is up to 16	

**Economy = 1997**

GDP (in thousands of lira):	1,331,818,929 lira
Per capita GNP (in thousands of lira):	45,667 lira

**Income and Poverty**

Per capita family income:	n.a.
Percentage of population under the poverty threshold	n.a.
Proportion of underweight children under 5:	n.a.

**Education**

Adult literacy rate:	99.3%
Literacy rate between 15 and 24:	100%
Primary school enrolments:	485
Average number of school years completed:	14-15 years

**Human Security and Social Justice**

Number of victims of violence per 1000 population:	n.a.
Number of people in prison per 100,000 population:	n.a.

**Housing and Environment**

Space (square meters) per person	n.a.
Number of people per room, excluding kitchen and bathroom	n.a.
Percentage of population having access to adequate sanitary measures	100%
Percentage of population having access to drinking water:	100%
Percentage of population having access to electricity:	100%
Percentage of population using traditional fuels for energy purposes:	100% (estimate)
Per capita arable land surface:	0.1 hectares

---

**POPULATION BY EDUCATIONAL LEVEL, AGE AND SEX**


---

1998

Educational level	Males	Females	Total	% females
University degree	702	567	1269	44.7
University diploma	89	170	259	65.6
Secondary school certificate	2321	2457	4778	51.4
Professional school certificate	620	1390	2010	69.2
Middle school certificate	3877	3036	6913	43.9
Elementary school certificate	2265	2370	4635	51.1
Illiterate/almost illiterate	987	1688	2675	63.1

---

---

**POPULATION BY CIVIL STATUS, AGE AND SEX 1998**


---

**CIVIL STATUS**


---

Age groups	Unmarried		Married		Divorced		Widower		TOTAL	
	<b>MALES</b>									
	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.
Under 15	38.5	2,031	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	15.9	2,031
15-24	29.0	1,531	0.3	24	0.0	0	0.0	0	12.2	1,555
25-34	20.0	1,054	15.5	1,100	12.2	18	0.0	0	17.0	2,172
35-44	5.9	310	24.5	1,742	35.8	53	1.2	3	16.5	2,108
45-54	3.0	159	21.3	1,516	37.2	55	4.4	11	13.6	1,741
55-64	1.9	101	17.9	1,276	10.8	16	12.7	32	11.1	1,425
65-74	1.0	55	13.3	946	4.1	6	23.1	58	8.3	1,065
75+	0.6	34	7.1	507	0.0	0	58.6	147	5.4	688
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,275</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7,111</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12,785</b>
	<b>FEMALES</b>									
	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.
Under 15	42.3	1,858	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	13.8	1,858
15-24	31.3	1,372	1.6	122	0.0	0	0.0	0	11.1	1,494
25-34	15.9	698	22.1	1,643	19.3	41	0.4	5	17.8	2,387
35-44	4.6	201	24.8	1,845	41.0	87	1.5	21	16.0	2,154
45-54	1.9	85	21.2	1,576	23.6	50	4.2	59	13.2	1,770
55-64	1.0	46	16.1	1,198	10.8	23	12.2	171	10.7	1,438
65-74	1.2	54	10.0	746	4.7	10	30.0	422	9.2	1,232
75+	1.7	75	4.2	310	0.5	1	51.8	728	8.3	1,114
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,389</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7,440</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,406</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,447</b>
	<b>MALES AND FEMALES</b>									
	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.	%	abs.v.
Under 15	40.2	3,889	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	14.8	3,889
15-24	30.0	2,903	1.0	146	0.0	0	0.0	0	11.6	3,049
25-34	18.1	1,752	18.9	2,743	16.4	59	0.3	5	17.4	4,559
35-44	5.3	511	24.7	3,587	38.9	140	1.4	24	16.2	4,262
45-54	2.5	244	21.2	3,092	29.2	105	4.2	70	13.4	3,511
55-64	1.5	147	17.0	2,474	10.8	39	12.3	203	10.9	2,863
65-74	1.1	109	11.6	1,692	4.4	16	29.0	480	8.8	2,297
75+	1.1	109	5.6	817	0.3	1	52.8	875	6.9	1,802
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,664</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,551</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,657</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>26,232</b>

---



## LABOUR

Employed and unemployed by sex						
	1994	Employed 1997	1998	1994	Unemployed 1997	1998
<b>TOTAL</b>						
Males	9,075	10,014	10,468	144	132	131
Females	5,864	6,496	6,760	436	436	422
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,939</b>	<b>16,510</b>	<b>17,228</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>553</b>
<b>16-24 years</b>						
Males	1,137	967	963	60	45	47
Females	775	667	675	145	137	117
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,912</b>	<b>1,634</b>	<b>1,638</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>164</b>
<b>Over 24</b>						
Males	7,938	9,047	9,505	84	87	84
Females	5,089	5,829	6,085	291	299	305
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,027</b>	<b>14,876</b>	<b>15,590</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>389</b>

### Main labour market indicators by sex

#### SAN MARINO

Years	Activity rate			Unemployment rate		
	M	F	MF	M	F	MF
1994	63.3	45.8	54.9	2.1	7.9	4.7
1997	66.2	48.1	57.6	1.9	7.3	4.4
1998	66.2	48.7	57.9	1.8	6.9	4.1

**Percentage of female employees by economic sector and professional level**

Position	Agriculture		Industry		Commerce		Transports, communications		Public administration		Other services		Total	
	1994	1998	1994	1998	1994	1998	1994	1998	1994	1998	1994	1998	1994	1998
<b>Independent work</b>	40.2	42.5	11.2	11.2	53.4	51.2	8.2	5.5	0	0	28.7	28.5	34.8	33.0
<b>Dependent work</b>	14.3	16.6	27.9	24.8	49.4	51.8	36.9	41.4	50.3	52.3	68.8	68.2	40.2	40.3
Managers	0	0	12.8	23.5	40.4	60.0	2.3	2.1	29.9	32.0	21.4	22.2	21.9	23.4
White collar workers	66.7	50.0	55.8	43.3	58.8	53.9	49.5	53.4	60.7	63.7	65.9	67.9	55.3	56.1
Blue collar workers	5.5	10.0	23.8	18.6	48.6	51.0	17.2	3.7	34.8	35.3	75.2	70.3	31.6	29.0

**Employees by sex and economic activities**

Years	Agriculture		Industry		Total	Other activities					Overall total	
			Manufacturing	Building and installations		Commerce	Transports and communications	Credit and insurance	Services	Public administration		Total
<b>MALES</b>												
1994	19		3,178	967	4,145	749	135	226	231	1,879	3,220	7,384
1995	17		3,348	1,104	4,452	801	149	234	273	1,867	3,324	7,793
1996	19		3,469	1,126	4,595	851	167	245	274	1,874	3,411	8,025
1997	22		3,605	1,092	4,697	847	172	265	324	1,935	3,543	8,262
1998	20		3,851	1,158	5,009	889	172	276	356	2,012	3,705	8,734
<b>FEMALES</b>												
1994	3		1,558	51	1,609	730	52	159	510	1,900	3,351	4,963
1995	3		1,572	58	1,630	788	69	167	536	1,965	3,525	5,158
1996	3		1,529	70	1,559	848	75	174	594	2,029	3,720	5,322
1997	5		1,575	69	1,644	847	84	193	678	2,141	3,973	5,622
1998	4		1,572	67	1,659	956	95	221	762	2,208	4,242	5,905
<b>MALES AND FEMALES</b>												
1994	22		4,736	1,018	5,751	1,479	187	385	741	3,779	6,571	12,347
1995	20		4,920	1,162	6,082	1,589	218	401	809	3,832	6,849	12,551
1996	22		4,998	1,196	6,194	1,699	242	419	868	3,902	7,131	13,347
1997	27		5,180	1,161	6,341	1,724	256	458	1,002	4,076	7,516	13,884
1998	24		5,443	1,225	6,668	1,845	267	497	1,118	4,220	7,947	14,639

## SEPARATIONS AND DIVORCES

## Legal separations

Years	N.	With children in custody	Average age of separation		Average age of marriage	
			M	F	M	F
1994	42	23	37	35	24	21
1995	35	25	36	34	26	23
1996	39	24	38	34	27	24
1997	55	36	38	36	24	20
1998	48	28	41	38	29	26

## Custody of children after separation

Years	Father	Mother	Both
1994	0	92	8
1995	0	100.0	0
1996	4	96	0
1997	7.3	87.8	4.9
1998	0	100.0	0

## Divorces

Years	N.	With children in custody	Average age of divorce		Average age of marriage	
			M	F	M	F
1994	31	15	34	33	24	22
1995	28	10	38	34	25	23
1996	42	11	36	34	26	23
1997	34	17	36	33	26	23
1998	36	14	37	35	23	22

## Custody of children after divorce

Years	Father	Mother	Both
1994	5.9	88.2	5.9
1995	23.1	76.9	0
1996	0	100.0	0
1997	10.5	89.5	0
1998	0	100.0	0