Dear Conference Participants, Colleagues!

Kazakhstan under the leadership of the President, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, within several years has achieved huge progress in combating violence against children and ensuring their well-being.

This year Kazakhstan has adopted a law on women's and children safety addressing violence by creating infrastructure to support families and protect children. This law imposes stricter punishment for any form of violence or abuse, including only life imprisonment for rape of a child, and only criminal offense for any bodily harm.

We make this pledge to the children of my country – Republic of Kazakhstan.

To implement all preventive measures that were introduced by law on woman's and children safety, especially:

First, continue expanding the network of Family Support Centers and child victim support services across the country;

Second, strengthen Psychological and Parental Support Centers for children in each region in order to prevent and respond to violence against children;

Third, further **strengthen** the unified "111" help line opened last year to provide psychological, legal and social support to woman and children;

Forth, enhance the institution of the Ombudsperson for Child's Rights with its national network in the regions and to develop dialogue with children;

Five, continue protecting children from online harm and abuse.

Six, expand and strengthen children's social services to create a stronger infrastructure that protects children.

Kazakhstan's efforts in combating violence against children have been recognized and supported by the UN and we are eager to share our experiences globally. Together, I believe we can create a world where every child is safe and thrives.