



The Prime Minister's Office
The Authority for
the Advancement of
the Status of Women



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The Authority for the Advancement of the Status of Women in the Prime Minister's Office was established by law in 1998, with the goal of advancing equality between the sexes in Israel, initiating coordination between bodies dealing with the status of women and promoting activities to prevent violence against women, education, legislation and enforcement in these fields, and providing the Government with the necessary tools and information to achieve the aforementioned goals.

Authorities Afforded the Authority for the Advancement of the Status of Women In the Following Laws:

1. Law for the Authority for the Advancement of the Status of Women of 1998
2. Equal Rights for Women Law of 1951 (amended in 2005, 2007)
3. Local Authorities Law (Adviser for the Advancement of the Status of Women) of 2000
4. Law to Correct the Statistics Order (No. 2) of 2008
5. Civil Service Law (Appointments) of 1959 (amended in 2005)

Roles of the Authority

- Formulating and advancing policies and activities to advance the status of women and equality between the sexes.
- Encouraging, coordinating and advancing the activities of government offices, local authorities and other bodies working in the Authority's fields of activity.
- Advising government offices about the enforcement of laws in the Authority's fields of activity.
- Acting to increase public awareness on matters under the purview of the Authority.
- Advancing proposed legislation on matters under the purview of the Authority.

- Providing a gender-sensitive perspective relating to all proposed legislation and secondary legislation.
- Collecting information and data, and initiating studies and surveys in matters under the purview of the Authority.
- Advancing the establishment of frameworks of action and services in matters under the purview of the Authority.
- Advancing the implementation of the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) of 1979.
- Preparing periodic reports in accordance with international treaties.
- Initiating and maintaining contacts with international bodies in matters relating to the status of women.
- Follow up on proper representation of women on public committees and on national policy shaping teams (paragraph 6c1 of the Equality of Women's Rights law).
- Training of advisors to heads of Local Councils (Local Councils law – Advisor on the advancement of the status of women).

Focuses of Activity

- Advancing proper representation of women in decision making at all levels.
- Implementing Gender Mainstreaming in the public service.
- Fighting against violence against women:
 - Raising awareness concerning domestic violence.
 - Implementing the inter-ministerial plans for dealing with victims of sexual assault and removing women from the cycle of prostitution.
- Preventing sexual harassment – follow-up on the implementation of the law, and awareness raising activities.
- Fighting trafficking in women – engaging in activities to increase public awareness, in cooperation with the Civil Service, local authorities, the education system, the Kibbutz movement and the Israeli Defense Forces.
- Fighting harmful depiction of women in publications.
- Advancing women in the minority sector - encouraging education, preparation for integration in the labor market, and promoting awareness.