GANHRI Statement

29 September 2026

63rd session of the Human Rights Council

Annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective throughout the work of the Human Rights Council and that of its mechanisms

(HRC res. 6/30)

Mr. President,

GANHRI welcomes this discussion on gender stereotypes and their links to structural discrimination.

Gender stereotypes are not simply social attitudes. They can shape laws, policies, institutions and decision-making, limiting the equal enjoyment of human rights. They can also intersect with other forms of discrimination and be reproduced across public and private life, including through digital technologies.

GANHRI has made gender equality a priority. In 2025, its Annual Meeting focused on the human rights of women and girls and the role of NHRIs in advancing gender equality, providing a platform to share good practices and address persistent and emerging challenges.

National Human Rights Institutions have an important role in addressing these structural dimensions. Through their monitoring, investigations, complaints-handling and reporting functions, NHRIs can identify how discriminatory stereotypes are reflected in laws and institutional practices, bring these concerns to the attention of public authorities, and support measures to prevent and remedy discrimination.

GANHRI therefore calls on States to ensure that NHRIs have the mandate, resources and independence necessary to monitor gender equality and discrimination effectively; to engage NHRIs in the development and review of laws and policies affecting gender equality; and to strengthen mechanisms for documenting, preventing and addressing gender stereotyping, including in emerging digital technologies.

Transforming stereotypes requires addressing the systems and practices that reproduce them, not only individual attitudes.

GANHRI reaffirms its commitment to supporting NHRIs in advancing equality and non-discrimination.

Thank you.

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