## الممثلية الدائمة لحمهورية العراق لدى مكتب الامم المتحـــدة

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAO TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE

حنيـــف **GENEVA** 



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> The Permanent Mission of The Republic of Iraq to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva, presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and with reference to the its Note Verbale dated 17/09/2020 concerning human rights council resolution 44/7, has the honour to transmit herewith contribution of the Government of the Republic of Iraq on the abovementioned resolution.

> The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the assurances of its highest consideration.

> > Geneva, 19th November 2020

**Enclosed** 

6 pages

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.



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## Questionnaire on Human Rights and Climate Change

1- Mention the impact of climate change on the elder's enjoyment human rights, with examples if any :-

Answer:-Climate change is the critical issue of our time as the global impacts of climate change are massive and unprecedented in size from changing weather patterns that extend food production as well as increase the risk of catastrophic floods and that adapting to those impacts will be more difficult and costly in the future if not done by taking partial measures. A country began negotiations in order to strengthen the global response to climate change and was adopted protocol (Kyoto) and legally binds developed country parties to emissions reduction targets. In Paris 2015 they reached to a historical agreement to combat climate change and to accelerate and intensify measures to achieve a sustainable future and the intergovernmental panel on climate change affirmed that climate change is real and that the emission of anthropogenic burial gases is its main cause and that natural disasters, rising sea levels, floods, heat waves, drought, water shortage and the speared of diseases tropics as some of the harmful effects of climate change and these phenomena are directly and indirectly endangered and that the full and effective enjoyment of people including the elderly in the world, as set of human rights including the right to life , the right to water, the right to food, the right to health, the right to housing and the right to self- determination and the right to cultural and the right to development .

2- Mention if your country has any policies, legislations or strategies related to climate change and the right of the elderly in particular with any information related to designing, planning or taking measurement measures.

Answer:-the most important legal legislation related to the elderly and the Iraqi constitution 2015 stipulated:-

-According to article 29/first the state guarantees the protection of motherhood childhood and old age provides them with appropriate conditions and develops their statues and ability.

- Article (30)/ second: the state guarantees social and health security in case of old age or unemployment and works to protect them from ignorance, fear and jurisprudence providing them with housing and special approaches to qualify and take care of them.
- Social Welfare Law No.126 of 1980 amended no (28) of 2013 section five articles (66–67–68) of the above law. These articles aim to provide social, health, cultural and entertainment services.
- Old Age Home regulation No (4) of 1980 amended. There is by virtue of the work of department of care for people with special needs (policy making) several studies and proposal were put forward regarding protection of elderly and the enjoyment of their legitimate rights.
- Studying the separation of the elderly men for older women and it aims to take into account the sanctity of older women because of their physical and psychological formation, noting that the agreements take into account the conditions of each country in terms of religion, customs and social traditions in addition to what separated from many problems as a result of the mixing of both sexes.
- A social club program for the elderly. This club includes all social, cultural and entertainment activities and the program aims to develop and raise the level of services provided to this segment of the elderly.
- My experience counseling program aims to activate the role of the elderly and benefit from their long experiences by preparing a series of awareness lectures to educate future youth and integrate them with society and achieve social solidarity.
- 3- Mention a summary of the negative impacts of climate change on the rights of the elderly, taking into account the presence of any overlap with any form of discrimination (gender, race, color, disability, language, sex, and asylum). The negative impacts of climate change are borne disproportionately by people including the elderly and communities who live in deprivation situation due to geography, poverty, gender, age, disability or cultural background, and others reasons. There is equality between all groups in achieving protection and providing them full rights. Local people or people from the elderly to those in entire countries who depend on them for housing and survival are exposed to the most severe risks from climate change. The negative impacts of climate change are global, contemporaneous and prone to growing are liable

to increase dramatically with the degree of climate change that ultimately occurs then the climate change and its effect on elderly you need to face a global confrontation on the right of elderly. The counsel of human right and its special procedures mechanisms have sought to redirect attention to human right and climate change through a series of decisions and activities on the topic and by calling for older person's rights-based approach to climate change. A number of observed and projected impacts of climate change will pose direct and indirect risks to human lives in increasing the number of death, diseases and injuries caused by heat waves, floods, storms and fires likewise, climate change will affect the right to life by increasing hunger, malnutrition and related disturbances affecting people including the elderly. And in cases of infection of cardiovascular disease and death climate change will exacerbate the severity of weather - related disasters that have already devastating effects on people and their enjoyment of the right to life. It is also referred to in the international convention on economic, social and cultural rights and the convention on the right of persons with disabilities, the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and the international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and how the threat of severe climatic events increases the source of livelihood and food security, and in the context of addressing this danger calls for special attention for vulnerable groups, the elderly and disadvantaged. Likewise the right to health includes and this right enjoyment and access to adequate health care as well as the right to adequate housing as the right to live in a safe place, peace, dignity availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructures and to create an appropriate place and its suitability in terms of location and cultural aspects and taking into account his old age and the state is responsible about providing those places through the opening of government institutions represented by nursing homes for elderly who have no shelter and from the disadvantaged groups and building adequate housing that falls to the state. The impacts of climate change the most sever impacts on groups of people who are already living in vulnerability caused by factors such as poverty, gender, age and disability and state are obligated to address vulnerabilities in accordance with the principle of equality and non- discrimination and women are more vulnerable to climate change risks due to gender discrimination and inequality. Research shows that women

especially (older women) are more severely affected and exposed to gender risk during all stages of weather and mortality related disasters. Women are significantly higher than men's mortality rate during natural disasters and this related to reasons likely to care for children and less likely to swim and women are vulnerable to violence based on physical consideration during natural disasters and during migration.

- 4- Mention the mechanisms or tools used in your country to monitor and report climate change to the full enjoyment of older people:-
- The state has paid attention to this category of people by providing them cash assistance by granting the social protection network subsidy to those under poverty line as well as granting social security salary to ensured elderly, medical insurance, and rehabilitative services, providing care, psychological and social stability and providing all forms of necessary assistance.
- Exercising basic rights and freedoms by taking all necessary means and measures and has the right to enjoy these rights that are approved by constitution or applicable law.
- Support and strengthening the family and financially assisting it that accommodates the elderly with disabilities by granting the person who takes care of him a monthly salary (a full time employee).
- Provide health policy guidelines to maintain the health of the elderly.
- Granting small and large loans to the unemployed and those suffering from climate change for the purpose of investing in projects that generate income for the family and one family especially those housing the elderly.
- Emphasis on audiovisual media on caring for the elderly with regard to the health aspect (infectious and communicable diseases)that may occur as a result of climate change and its impact on the elderly.
- The adoption of tools and means appropriate to the surrounding environment for the elderly would enable the elderly person to practice his daily life and his rights.
- Dusting the institutions of nursing homes on an ongoing basis to preserve the health aspect for the elderly and conducting regular medical examination to prevent them from contracting the corona pandemic due to the effects of climate change.
- 5- List good practices or examples of cooperation with the international and multilateral organizations to provide advice on the enjoyment of human rights by older persons.

- There is cooperation with some civil society organizations by encouraging organizations to contribute to opening private homes for the elderly care in Iraq to accommodate the largest possible number of cases and provide social care that requires placing the elderly in the homes for the elderly and securing their requirements, as Iraqi laws and regulations allow the establishment of private homes where the ministry of labor and social affairs undertakes the formation of a technical committee to be located in the department of care for people with special needs and this is done by monitoring cases of elderly people by social researches who do not have shelters or financial resources, and they entered in those civil homes through coordination with civil society organizations and the readable media through social media for the purpose of securing protection and care for them.
- Organizes awareness training courses in cooperation with international organizations or civil society organizations by providing consultations for caregivers on elderly issues on how to take care of them and protect them from climate change risks and how the elderly can enjoy all their legitimate eights.
- Providing scientific researches studies that are responsive to elderly in all fields.
- 6- Mention any additional information you expect will be useful to support the full enjoyment of older person's rights.
- Caring for the elderly person in Iraq is one of the pillars of humanity as the official sponsor for this segment. The state has designated homes for the elderly in Baghdad and the governorates and operates according to the elderly care homes system no (4) in 1985 and amendment no (9) in 2010.these homes aim at providing shelters ,social and health services and allocating a subsidy(pocket money) of 60 thousand dinars for every elderly and elderly woman and other services for the purpose of guaranteeing them a decent and calm life and giving them their legitimate rights through overcoming the effects of their condition and their harmony with themselves and with the social environment in which they live in it, a compatibility is considered a fundamental factor in the formation of the individual's life as well as the elderly enjoy their rights of both sexes to live well without exclusion or discrimination and all Arab societies must provide the foundations for a decent living for the elderly persons and age, poverty eradication and their empowerment in economic, political and society life. Human rights are

considered ethical principles and social norms that describe a model of human behavior that understands basis rights that may not be violated by every person regardless of their identity, location, language, religion and customary origin and its protection is within the framework local and international laws.