

**Topic: Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on achieving equal enjoyment of the right to education for girls**

With reference to the above topic, we report to you the efforts of the State of Kuwait during the COVID-19 pandemic to achieve equal enjoyment of the right to education for girls.

• Article 40 of the Kuwaiti constitution stipulates that education is a right for Kuwaitis, guaranteed by the state and is mandatory until the completion of secondary school, while the following stages are optional, not mandatory. Here the legislator did not differentiate between male and female in the right to education.

• Kuwait's constitution established in Article (29) the principle of equality on the basis of sex, stipulating that “People are equal in human dignity, and they are equal before the law in public rights and duties, without discrimination between them in that because of gender, origin, language or religion.”

• Gender equality and women's empowerment have always been among the constitutional and development priorities in the State of Kuwait, and in accordance with Law No. 16 of 1990 of the Penal Code, all people are equal in rights, rights, rights, and freedoms. The constitution of the State of Kuwait in 1962 stipulates full equality in rights and duties in Articles No. 7 and 29, and Article 7 states that “justice, freedom and equality are the pillars of society....” While Article 29 affirms that “People are equal in human dignity, and they are equal. regarding public rights and duties, distinguishing between them in that on the grounds of gender, origin, language or religion.” In addition, the Ministry of Justice issued Ministerial Resolution No. 463/2016 establishing a committee aimed at eliminating all obstacles and obstacles faced by any woman working in the Ministry, and all recommendations and challenges must be submitted directly to the Minister. It is important to note that all members of this committee are either civil servants or representatives of civil society, and these rights and development priorities on the basis of equality were reflected in a number of strategies and plans for the national development, including the development of Kuwait35 and the 20 national development plans.

• The State of Kuwait has put in place several laws to protect maternity and women, including the Law on the Protection of the Family, Maternity, Childhood and Child Care (Articles 9 and 10). It has taken great care of the rights of Kuwaiti women, and worked hard to meet their requirements to ensure that they enjoy all the rights and ingredients that secure them a decent life and active participation in building Kuwaiti society. Kuwait has acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by Emiri Decree No. 24 of 1994.

During the Corona pandemic, a decision was issued for distance education and distance education plans for both males and females alike.

• The Ministry of Education decided to adopt “distance education” for both sexes without discrimination in the 2020-2021 school year for all levels, which began on October 4, due to the Corona crisis. His Excellency the Minister of Education and the former Minister of Higher Education, Dr. Saud Al-Harbi issued a decision that all educational levels be taught through "distance education" for the academic year 2021/2020 AD, and the current Minister of Education, Dr. Ali Al-Madhaf issued a decision to complete the study remotely for the second semester of all educational levels for the academic year 2021/2020.. (QR code 1)

• The decision stated, "This applies to public education schools, religious education, adult education centers, private (private) schools, and special education schools that apply the general education curriculum." Unisex male and female.

• Then a ministerial decision was issued regarding the list of distance education policies and controls, which includes in the eighth and ninth chapters the mechanism and controls of education. (2QR code)

• University education was also implemented remotely for both sexes without discrimination.

• The learners were sent to study abroad for both sexes without discrimination.

Procedures taken within the Kuwait Schools Committees to return to paper exams:

On the extent of the application of health precautionary measures and measures to prevent exposure to infection with the COVID 19 virus to hold paper exams for the academic year 2021/2020, the Higher Committee of the Ministries of Health and Education has circulated and implemented the following procedures in all school facilities for both sexes: -

1- Forming an investigation team from the educational and administrative staff.

2- Establishing a check point at the entrance to the school (for all teachers and learners who enter).

3- Measuring the temperature (providing the necessary equipment to carry it out).

4- Availability of sterilization tools for hands.

5- Availability of sterilization tools for the various facilities of the school.

6- Availability of adequate ventilation for the teaching rooms and facilities.

7- The presence of a mechanism for inter-cleaning (repeated during the school day).

8- Availability of a sufficient number of covered trash bins that open by foot pressure.

9- Not to allow people in contact with people who have symptoms to attend.

10- Emphasis on wearing a mask as a condition of attendance.

11- Confirming and activating the physical distance between the learners each other in the exam rooms (two meters between each staircase and another).

12- Confirming and activating the physical distance between teachers in the scientific departments.

13- Identifying areas of congestion in school corridors and regulating traffic with directional panels.

14- Emphasizing students to bring their own water and food from home and closing school restaurants

15- Availability of rooms for the injured and suspected of being injured and private clinics equipped for this.

16- Confirming the priority of self-delivery of learners by their parents.

17- Emphasis on the safe and healthy use of the electric elevator in schools and the appropriate disinfection of elevators.

18- Emphasis on taking advance appointments in case any review is requested by parents.

19- Availability of sanitary facilities for the educated (in the most guaranteeing of non-transmission of infection).

20- Emphasis on regulating the entry of students to health facilities.

21- Adequate sanitary facilities are provided for teachers (in a way that is most guaranteed not to transmit infection).