

THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM
OF JORDAN
GENEVA



البعثة الدائمة
المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية
جنيف

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The Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, and with reference to the letter from the esteemed Independent Expert dated 10 November 2015, has the honour to enclose herewith the responses of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the questionnaire on *best practices in the implementation of existing law related to the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons*.

The Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 21 December 2015



Enclosure: Responses to the questionnaire

Cc: khassine@ohchr.org

Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte
Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons
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United Nations Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

10 November 2015

Excellency,

I have the honour to address you in my capacity as Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 24/20 of 27 September 2013.

With this letter, I transmit the questionnaire attached on *best practices in the implementation of existing law related to the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons*. I would be most grateful for your Government's response, ideally to be sent electronically, preferably in English, French or Spanish and no later than **18 December 2015**.

Kindly note that responses to the questionnaire should be addressed to the Independent Expert, Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte and sent to olderpersons@ohchr.org, with copy to Mr. Khaled Hassine (khassine@ohchr.org).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Kornfeld-Matte', written over a horizontal line.

Rosa Kornfeld-Matte

Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

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TÉLÉCOPIÉ - FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE: 10 November 2015

À: To all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva

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OBJET/SUBJECT: Questionnaire of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons on best practices in the implementation of existing law related to the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons

Mission of A.K. of Jordan
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Questionnaire

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Practice: The National Strategy for Senior Citizens

No.	Questionnaire Item	Description
1.	Name of the Practice	The National Strategy for Senior Citizens
2.	Area concerned	A national policy think-tank
3.	Type of practice	Strategy & action plan on ageing
4.	Level of implementation	National and Local
5.	Practice description	<p>The National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA), in cooperation with the Ministries of Health and Social Development, the Jordanian Nursing Council, the World Health Organization (WHO), and experts in the field from the various Jordanian universities and non-governmental organizations in 2008, has developed a comprehensive national strategy for senior citizens, considered the first document concerned with drafting of policies for senior citizens to be presented to decision-makers.</p> <p>The strategy addresses six directives, each of which comprises one aspect of an elderly individual's life. Each directive also puts forward issues that are considered priorities and require interventions in order to improve the quality of life and facilitate it for senior citizens; enable them to live independently; and provide them with the best medical, social and health care possible. It also aims at responding to opportunities, facing the challenges related to senior citizens in</p>

		<p>Jordan, and supporting an overall structure that caters to people in all various age groups. These directives included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Citizens and Development • Healthcare for Senior Citizens • Physical Environment to Support Senior Citizens • Social Care for Senior Citizens • Scientific Research, Studies and Database • Legislations. <p>In 2015 National Council for Family Affairs in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund prepared an analysis report that evaluates the Jordanian National Strategy for Senior Citizens (JNSSC) (2009-2013) with a view to determine the extent to which national legislation, policies, strategies, plans and implementing programs meet the rights of senior citizens in Jordan. In doing so, the report assesses whether they are in line with the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (2002) and its guiding principles; the United Nations reports pertaining to the protection of rights and dignity of human beings and the elderly; the Arab Plan of Action on Ageing (2000-2012); and the Islamic Religion the precepts of which were infused into the Arab Islamic culture that prevails in the Jordanian community whereby the principles of elderly care and respect were instilled within its national legislation.</p>
6.	Concerned actors	<p>NCFA worked to formulate the National Committee to follow up the national strategy for senior citizens (NC), which the prime ministry approved its formation in 2012, this committee worked to draft a Follow-up report of the implementation of the Plan of action for the National Strategy for seniors (Monitoring the institutions' achievements) to update the national strategy of Jordan for the seniors and to follow up on its implantation.</p> <p>To follow up the strategy and its action plan and any other elderly issues; a National Committee has been formulated, which the prime ministry approved its formation in 2012. The members of these committee consists from governmental and non governmental institutions, these institutions as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Council For Family Affaires ▪ Ministry of Health ▪ Ministry of Social Development

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ministry of Municipal Affairs ▪ Ministry of Education ▪ Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs ▪ Ministry of Transportation ▪ Ministry of Labor ▪ Royal Medical Services ▪ Department of Public Statistics ▪ Supreme Judge Department ▪ Social Security Corporation ▪ National Aid Fund ▪ Amman Municipality ▪ Jordanian Nursing Council ▪ Higher Council for Affaires of Person With Disabilities ▪ Higher Council for Population ▪ High Health Council ▪ National Center for Human Rights ▪ National Committee for Women's Affairs ▪ Society Guest House for Elderly ▪ Darart Samir Shamma
7.	<p>- Which rights of older persons does the practice promote and protect?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How does the practice promote or protect such rights? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jordan has made a tremendous constitutional achievement in the area of the elderly demonstrated in Article (6/5) of the Jordanian Constitution and its amendments for the year 2011 which stipulates that: "The law shall protect motherhood, childhood and the old-aged; and shall avail care for the youngsters and those with disabilities and protect them against abuse and exploitation". - The national strategy for senior citizens mentioned that the rights of senior citizens is the responsibility of each country to ensure they are implemented based on the needs of senior citizens, and pertinent national objectives. Additionally, enhancing the activities related to senior citizens, their safety and leisure should be a vital part of the comprehensive developmental efforts being exerted nationwide. The various legislations governing the rights of senior citizens in Jordan,

		such as the civil and military retirement laws, and the social security laws organize the retirement of individuals and all pertinent financial rights, thus ensuring the economic empowerment of senior citizens and providing them with the protection they need after leaving their jobs.
8.		
9.	What groups of older persons particularly benefit from the practice?	The National Strategy targeted all senior citizens in Jordan which their age 60+: urban person, rural person, Disabilities , older men and women.....
10.	How has the practice been assessed and monitored?	The national strategy and the analysis report which prepared the resources of data for the performance indicators was limited to the General Department of Statistics and relevant stakeholders. As for the information on legislation and policies, they were obtained from the concerned ministries and the electronic official website of the Jordanian legislation (www.lob.gov.jo). Other sectoral data were drawn from published research and field interviews with officials from relevant entities and members of the National Committee for Senior Citizens. International indicators on the other hand were collected from websites of the international bodies concerned with the evaluation of elderly issues.
11.	Lessons learned and improvement	The National Council for Family Affairs in 2016 will update the national strategy for senior citizens based on the results of the analysis report. We will prepare update with modern developments in society, and with needs of elderly in Jordan.
12.	How could this practice be a model for other countries?	The national strategy is a model as Jordan is one of the first in the Arab countries prepared a national strategy for the elderly, which depends on global strategies and international plans. We can dissemination our experience to other countries.