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Date:

الرقم: ٦-٦/٢٠٢/٢٤

التاريخ: ٢٠١٥/٤/١٥

H.E. Mr. Joachim Rücker
President of the Human Rights Council

The Jordan National Center for Human Rights (JNCHR) presents its best compliments to the Human Rights Council.

I have the pleasure to present to Your Excellency the Center's response on the questionnaire made by the Special Rapporteur on human rights and hazardous substances and wastes on the issue of the right to access to information with respect to hazardous substances and wastes.

The JNCHR avails it self of this opportunity to renew the Human Rights Council the assurances of our highest considerations.


Commissioner General

Mousa Braizat

The Ministry of Environment Response on the Questionnaire:

- 1- The Ministry of Environment categorizes and regulates the information related to the hazardous materials and wastes according to the provisions of the Jordanian Access to Information Law no. (47) (2007). The Law provides for the right to access such information as per the categorization stated therein and in accordance with a designated form to be completed by the interested person.
- 2- Information related to the hazardous wastes and materials are available at the official website of the Ministry at (hsms.org), which contains information on both the restricted and the banned substances categorized in accordance with the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. The Ministry also publishes the Material Safety Data Sheet and cites the reasons behind restricting or banning materials. In addition to that the Ministry published a guidance manual on the website indicating the services it provides about how to deal with the hazardous materials in addition to the information and statistics on the amount of hazardous wastes being sent to the landfill.
- 3- Information on the hazardous wastes is available for all through the Ministry's website.
- 4- Many measures were taken in order to monitor, protect and enhance the environmental conditions in addition to preventing the occurrence of environmental violations. This information is then being use, by the Ministry for drafting environmental

legislations and their applications. The Ministry also conducts an environmental impact analysis on all projects in order to mitigate their adverse negative effects of hazardous materials. It also conducts economic and social studies on the projects that use chemical materials. It also has established monitoring stations all over the Kingdom for the proper air and water quality assessment, and in the vent of the occurrence of any violation, the Ministry takes the appropriate procedures. The Ministry also prepares annual reports based on the outcome of the monitoring and launches awareness raising campaigns accordingly.

- 5- Businesses which are required by its mandate to provide information on the hazardous materials and wastes are: the used mineral oils, car batteries, the electronic wastes, the used tires, the plastic bags, the factories that use alternative fuels. It is worth mentioning that there are special legislations have been enacted in order to regulate the hazardous wastes and materials management that take into account the environmental considerations (concerns) and thus guarantees the right to a sound environment.
- 6- There are restrictions under the Jordanian Access to Information Law no (47) (2007).
- 7- There are written procedures in order to get access to the information regarding the hazardous materials and wastes. These procedures are available for all concerned parties in a manner that ensures the secrecy and confidentiality of information.