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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by Women and Development Association in Alexandria, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[11 February 2019]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



People with special needs in Egypt “Achievements and Challenges”

In 1992, the United Nations announced that December 3 of each year would be designated as a World Day for People with Special Needs, with the aim of increasing understanding of disability issues and ensuring the rights of the "disabled." This day also calls for raising awareness of the inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of life from politics, economy, culture, and others.

And has paid Egypt great attention to special needs, ensure that the Constitution "2014 Constitution" a ten clear and explicit material for people with special needs, including "Article 53", which states that citizens have the both the law and they are equal in rights and freedoms and duties without discrimination between them, and "Article 60" of the same and the Constitution concerning children, where they were placed special paragraph care of children with disabilities, as well as "Article 37" on discrimination, and article 81, in which the State is committed to ensuring that the rights of only persons with disabilities, and thus within the Constitution for this category of rights and freedoms and to provide employment opportunities Enabling them to be equal and integrate into education.

In December 2017, the Parliament passed a law on persons with disabilities. The law included many clauses and texts on the rights of this group and its participation in the fields of work. In February this year, President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi issued a decision approving this law and applying it As of February 21, 2018. The law required all employers to appoint 5% of jobs for disabled persons, as well as to remove all obstacles to their enjoyment of these rights.

In addition, 500 million pounds have been allocated from the Lifeline Egypt Fund to serve the project and 5% for persons with disabilities within the framework of social housing projects. The project includes a million and a half housing units, as well as a dignity pension, and to provide 5 thousand jobs for disabilities can within the state organs.

Figures and Predictions:

The most important figures, statistics and information about people with disabilities in Egypt, and their status, according to official data available issued by the Bureau of Statistics, which was confirmed in the census conducted by the year 2017 results, that people with special "disabled needs" make up about 10.67% of the total population, "starting of 5 years or more."

The number of "disabled" urban countryside, where the proportion of people with disabilities attended the Republic representing 12.2% of the total number of the population of "5 years or more", compared to 9.71% rural, and at the provincial level, occupies the province of Minya, the first place, in terms of high numbers of disabled out of the total population of the province, as of people with disability rate in Minya 3.14%, followed by the Cairo governorate by 3.05% of the total population, "the capital", and in the third place, the province of Assiut came to 2.86%, and Kafr El-Sheikh governorate 2.85%, according to statistical data, the percentage of people with disabilities in Alexandria governorate 2.83% of the total population of the province, while the Bam Wards off the lake 2.77%, while in the rest of the governorates of Egypt, ranging from a ratio of (1.36% - 2.73%).

Challenge:

There are still some officials refuse to implement the provision of 5% of the work force in any institution with special needs, which requires international support for the Egyptian government and civil society organizations to provide them with employment opportunities for this category and special assistance and the figures indicate that in each family Egypt has a disabled person and the international community must provide medicines and health supplies because they are expensive and can not be provided by the government or families, which requires the activation of the principles of international solidarity in this field.

Despite the existence of comprehensive health insurance for them all at the level of the Republic, the provision of mental health services in comprehensive health clinics, primary health clinics, attention to occupational therapy and speech therapy, with the provision of

compensatory devices, but this is insufficient and requires the support of the world, which is currently increasing awareness level The issue of persons with disabilities in the context of development and the promotion of the United Nations conventions on the rights of persons with disabilities and their full integration into their societies.
