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**COMPILATION PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 15(B) OF
THE ANNEX TO HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTION 5/1**

Jordan

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies, special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and other relevant official United Nations documents. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), other than those contained in public reports issued by OHCHR. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review. In the absence of recent information, the latest available reports and documents have been taken into consideration, unless they are outdated. Since this report only compiles information contained in official United Nations documents, lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to non-ratification of a treaty and/or to a low level of interaction or cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

I. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

A. Scope of international obligations¹

<i>Core universal human rights treaties²</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>	<i>Declarations /reservations</i>	<i>Recognition of specific competences of treaty bodies</i>
ICERD	30 May 1974	None	Individual complaints (art. 14): No
ICESCR	28 May 1975	None	-
ICCPR	28 May 1975	None	Inter-State complaints (art. 41): No
CEDAW	1 July 1992	Yes (arts 9(2), 15(4), 16(1),(c),(d), and (g))	-
CAT	13 Nov. 1991	None	Inter-State complaints (art. 21): No Individual complaints (art. 22): No Inquiry procedure (art. 20): Yes
CRC	24 May 1991	Yes (arts. 14, 20, 21)	-
OP-CRC-AC	23 May 2007	None	-
OP-CRC-SC	4 Dec. 2006	None	-
CPD	31 March 2008	None	-
<i>Core treaties to which Jordan is not a party: ICCPR-OP 1, ICCPR-OP 2 and OP-CEDAW, OP-CAT, ICRMW, CPD-OP (signature only, 2007) and CED.</i>			

<i>Other main relevant international instruments³</i>	<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide	Yes
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	Yes
Palermo Protocol ⁴	No
Refugees and stateless persons ⁵	No
Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols thereto ⁶	Yes, except Additional Protocol III
ILO fundamental conventions ⁷	Yes, except No. 87
UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education	Yes

1. In 2007, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) called upon the speedily withdraw of the reservations to the Convention.⁸ In 2006, the Committee on the Rights of Child (CRC) recommended that Jordan review the nature of its reservations with a view to withdrawing them.⁹ In 1995, the Committee Against Torture (CAT) recommended that Jordan review its position concerning articles 21 and 22 of the Convention.¹⁰ In 1994, the Human Rights Committee (HR Committee) recommended that Jordan become party to the Optional Protocol to International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR-OP 1)¹¹ and give consideration to acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (ICCPR-OP 2).¹²

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

2. The 2006 Common Country Assessment (CCA) noted that the Constitution of Jordan provides the primary framework for safeguarding basic freedoms, including equality among citizens in rights and responsibilities and protection of personal freedoms. It safeguards freedom of expression through peaceful means, and the right of assembly, of establishing non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and political parties and of addressing public authorities. It stipulates that no person shall be detained or imprisoned except in accordance with the provisions of the law.¹³ In 1995 and 1994 respectively, CAT and the HR Committee noted that the Constitution does not contain specific provisions as to the relationship between international

conventions and domestic laws.¹⁴ CAT recommended that Jordan undertake the necessary legal measures to ensure the incorporation of the Convention in national legislation and to ensure its prompt and effective application.¹⁵ The HR Committee expressed regret that the Constitutional Court had not yet been established, and recommended that Jordan continue its legislative review.¹⁶

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

3. The Jordan National Centre for Human Rights (NCHR) was accredited with 'A' status in October 2007, which will be reviewed in October 2010.¹⁷ In 2006, CRC recommended that Jordan ensure that the Centre be provided with adequate resources and facilities to monitor and evaluate progress in the implementation of the Convention and to receive, investigate and address complaints from children.¹⁸ It also recommended expanding the monitoring mandate of NCHR to include all agencies of the Government, including the police and the military.¹⁹ The 2006 CCA noted that the Centre aims at establishing a human-rights culture; promoting non-discrimination among citizens on the grounds of race, language, religion or gender; ensuring political pluralism, respecting the sovereignty of the rule of law and guaranteeing the right to economic, social and cultural development.²⁰

4. The ILO Committee of Experts noted in 2007 that the Government set up a National Coalition for Children, including representatives of international organizations, NGOs and official institutions.²¹ The Committee also asked the Government to provide information on the functioning of the Child Labour Unit, established in 1999 within the Ministry of Labour and the measures it has taken to monitor implementation of the provisions of the Convention concerning the worst forms of child labour.²²

5. The Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment stated that a Complaints and Human Rights Office has been established within the Public Security Directorate to address complaints against its personnel.²³

6. The 2006 CCA noted that in 1999 a Family Protection Unit was established as part of the Public Security Directorate, to deal with cases of domestic sexual and physical abuse.²⁴

D. Policy measures

7. In 2006, CRC welcomed the adoption of the Jordanian National Plan of Action for Children for the years 2004-2013 launched in October 2004²⁵ and recommended that Jordan, inter alia, ensure that all activities related to the Plan of Action are clearly oriented towards the implementation of the rights of the child.²⁶ A 2006 UNESCO report noted that the Plan of Action focuses on five components, including the protection of children in difficult circumstances.²⁷

8. A 2006 World Bank report noted that the Government was promoting a new religious curriculum and textbooks that would highlight human rights and democratic ideas within Islam, and eliminate negative references to adherents of other religions.²⁸

II. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE GROUND

A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

1. Cooperation with treaty bodies

<i>Treaty body</i> ²⁹	<i>Latest report submitted and considered</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Follow-up response</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CERD	1997	Aug. 1998	-	Thirteenth to sixteenth reports overdue from 29 June 1999 – 2005, seventeenth report due in 2007
CESCR	1997	Aug. 2000	-	Third report overdue since June 2003
HR Committee	1992	July 1994	-	Fourth report overdue since Jan. 1997
CEDAW	2006	Aug. 2007	-	Sixth report due July 2009
CAT	1994	May 1995	-	Second, third, fourth overdue since 1996, 2000 and 2004 respectively; fifth report due 2008
CRC	2005	Sept. 2006	-	Combined fourth and fifth report due Dec. 2011
OP-CRC- AC	-	-	-	Initial report due June 2009
OP-CRC- SC	-	-	-	Initial report due Jan. 2009

2. Cooperation with special procedures

<i>Standing invitation issued</i>	Yes
<i>Latest visits or mission reports</i>	Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (25 to 29 June 2006). Follow-up to recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur in the report of his visit to Jordan. ³⁰
<i>Visits agreed upon in principle</i>	None
<i>Visits requested and not yet agreed upon</i>	Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences (2007)
<i>Facilitation/cooperation during missions</i>	The Special Rapporteur on the question of torture expressed his appreciation for the full cooperation the Government extended to him during his visit.
<i>Follow-up to visits</i>	None
<i>Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals</i>	During the period under review, a total of 10 communications were sent to the Government. In addition to particular groups, these communications concerned seven individuals. During the same period, Jordan replied to eight communications (70 per cent).
<i>Responses to questionnaires on thematic issues</i> ³¹	During the period under review, Jordan has not responded to any of the 12 questionnaires sent by special procedures mandate holders ³² within the deadlines.

3. Cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

9. In cooperation with the UNDP Jordan and under the auspices of the Kingdom of Jordan, OHCHR organized the first regional seminar on Upholding Human Rights While Countering Terrorism, from 27 to 29 October 2008 in Amman. The discussion, aimed, inter alia, at promoting exchange of information and good practices on respect for international human rights standards within effective counter-terrorism laws, saw the participation of governments, national human rights institutions, NGOs, relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies.³³

10. In 2007, OHCHR participated in the Arab-European Human Rights Dialogue meetings organized by the Jordan National Centre for Human Rights and the Danish Institute for Human Rights aimed at establishing a regional platform for cooperation and exchange on human rights issues between Arab and European national human rights institutions.³⁴

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

1. Equality and non discrimination

11. The ILO Committee of Experts, in 2008, asked the Government to continue to look into the underlying causes of the gender segregation of the public sector and its impact on disparities in remuneration between men and women. The Committee also asked the Government to regularly review the list of work prohibited to women, so as to ensure that measures aimed at protecting women based on stereotyped assumptions, will be repealed.³⁵

12. In 2007, CEDAW reiterated its recommendations relating to the introduction of a constitutional amendment to incorporate gender equality and to undertake a review of all existing legislation and policy on polygamy with a view to eliminating that practice.³⁶ CEDAW also encouraged Jordan to enact a comprehensive gender equality law³⁷ and to modify or repeal discriminatory legislation, including discriminatory provisions in its Personal Status Act, Penal Code and Nationality Act.³⁸ It recommended taking temporary special measures to increase the representation of women in elected and appointed bodies.³⁹

13. The 2006 CCA noted that although the Constitution does not discriminate between men and women, tradition and social practice still limit women's progress and full participation in society.⁴⁰ In 2006, CRC recommended that Jordan continue to address the problems faced by the girl child and suggested that local, religious and other leaders should take a more active role in supporting the efforts to prevent and eliminate discrimination against the girl child.⁴¹

14. In 2006, CRC recommended that Jordan abolish the discriminatory classification of children as "illegitimate", eliminate de facto discrimination on any grounds and against all vulnerable groups of children, and prioritize social and health services, and equal education opportunities for children belonging to the most vulnerable groups.⁴² CRC also recommended that Jordan prevent and prohibit all forms of discrimination against children with disabilities and ensure equal opportunities for their full participation in all spheres of life.⁴³

15. A 2006 UNDP report noted that paragraphs 3 and 4 of article 2 of the Jordanian Nationality Law, grant Jordanian nationality to children of a Jordanian father, or children born in Jordan to a Jordanian mother, if the father is unknown or stateless.⁴⁴ CRC recommended that Jordan review and amend the Jordanian Nationality Act (Law No. 7 of 1954) in order to ensure that a Jordanian mother married to a non-Jordanian man has the right to confer her nationality to her children equally and without discrimination.⁴⁵

2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

16. The HR Committee was concerned about the excessive number of offences punishable by the death penalty as well as the number of death sentences⁴⁶ and recommended measures to be taken towards the abolition of the death penalty.⁴⁷ CEDAW recommended that Jordan address all forms of violence against women and girls and enact, as soon as possible, legislation on violence against women;⁴⁸ amend, without delay applicable provisions of the Penal Code to ensure that perpetrators of "honour" crimes do not benefit from a reduction of penalty, and ensure that "honour" crimes are treated as seriously as other violent crimes in regard to investigation and

prosecution.⁴⁹ The 2006 CCA noted that the most extreme form of discrimination against women in Jordan is the officially deplored practice of “honour” killings – the murder of women (usually from within the family or clan) over accusations of “immoral” behaviour. Official figures indicate a decrease in the numbers of cases– from 21 reported in 2002, to 13 in 2003, 19 in 2004 and 5 cases up until May 2005. In 2000 and 2003, Parliament rejected efforts to repeal Article 340 of the criminal code, which provides legal protection for perpetrators of “honour” killings under certain circumstances.⁵⁰

17. The Special Rapporteur on the question of torture visited Jordan from 25 to 29 June 2006. In his report, he concludes that the practice of torture is widespread in the country, and in some places routine, namely the General Intelligence Directorate, the Public Security Directorate’s Criminal Investigation Department.⁵¹ Taken together, the lack of awareness and recognition, and the absence of any effective legislation to prohibit and criminalize torture create a system of total impunity that allows torture to be practised unchecked.⁵²

18. In 2007, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture brought to the attention of the Government information received regarding 2100 prisoners held at Swaqa correction and rehabilitation centre who were reportedly subjected to repeated beatings and other forms of torture and ill-treatment. As a result, two prisoners died in detention. Reportedly, no investigations into the allegations of the deaths in custody or torture were initiated and no perpetrators brought to justice.⁵³

19. In 1995, CAT was deeply concerned that a number of allegations of torture had been made since Jordan acceded to the Convention. Such allegations appear to be rarely subjected to independent and impartial investigations.⁵⁴ The Committee urged Jordan to consider making torture a specific criminal offence and suggested that Jordan further strengthen measures to protect the rights of detainees, especially their access to judges, lawyers and doctors of their choice.⁵⁵ In 1994, the HR Committee was concerned that torture and ill-treatment of persons deprived of liberty continue to be reported. Cases of administrative detention, denial of access of detainees to legal counsel, long periods of pre-trial detention without charges and incommunicado detention were also matters of great concern.⁵⁶

20. In 1995, CAT recommended that the detention and interrogation functions be separated and that the supervision of any detention centre be effectively carried out by officials rather than those in charge of the detention centres.⁵⁷ In 1994, the HR Committee was particularly concerned at conditions of detention in the General Intelligence Department headquarters⁵⁸ and recommended that they be placed under close supervision of the judicial authorities.⁵⁹

21. In 2006, CRC reiterated that corporal punishment is not compatible with the provisions of the Convention and recommended that Jordan prohibit by law all forms of corporal punishment at home as well as in all other settings, effectively enforce this ban and that the draft Child Rights Act be reviewed with a view to introducing an all inclusive ban on corporal punishment.⁶⁰

22. CRC recommended that Jordan prevent commercial sexual exploitation of children and combat trafficking in children, inter alia, by conducting a comprehensive study to assess the nature and magnitude of the commercial sexual exploitation of children and trafficking in children, develop and adopt a comprehensive national plan of action and review and amend the provisions of the Penal Code to provide equal protection to boys and girls below the age of 18 against commercial sexual exploitation.⁶¹

23. CRC noted a lack of comprehensive strategies and policies to address the root causes pushing children to the streets and recommended undertaking a comprehensive national survey of the number, composition and characteristics of children living and working in the streets.⁶² CRC also recommended continuing to take effective measures to prohibit economic exploitation of children, in particular in the informal sector and, inter alia, vigorously pursue enforcement of minimum-age standards.⁶³

3. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

24. In 2006, CRC recommended that Jordan urgently raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to an internationally acceptable level; strengthen its efforts to implement the Juvenile Justice Reform Programme; develop and implement a comprehensive system of alternative measures in order to ensure that deprivation of liberty is used only as a measure of last resort; establish juvenile courts with appropriately trained staff throughout the country; expand access to free legal aid and independent and effective complaints mechanisms to all persons below 18 years of age and ensure that both sentenced and released persons below 18 years of age are provided with educational opportunities.⁶⁴ A 2007 UNODC report noted it helped the Government draft a new juvenile law, leading to better conditions for juveniles in detention.⁶⁵

25. The Special Rapporteur on the question of torture stated that notwithstanding the provisions and safeguards laid out in Jordanian law to combat torture, in practice they are totally meaningless because the security services are effectively shielded from independent criminal prosecution and accountability.⁶⁶

26. In 1995, CAT recommended that the Jordanian authorities consider abolishing exceptional courts such as the State security courts and allow the ordinary judiciary to recover full criminal jurisdiction in the country.⁶⁷

4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

27. In 2007, CEDAW urged Jordan to eliminate the provision in article 5 of the Personal Status Act, which allows marriage of a person under 18 years, and to enforce the 18-years minimum age of marriage for both women and men, which was also subject of CRC's recommendation in 2006.⁶⁸ CRC recommended that Jordan consider revising domestic laws to ensure that men and women have equal parental responsibilities, regardless of their marital status.⁶⁹

5. Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

28. In 1994, the HR Committee noted the restrictions affecting the enjoyment by non-recognized or non-registered religious denominations of their right to freedom of religion or belief. Concern was also expressed about the practical limitations to the right to have or adopt a religion or belief of one's choice, which should include the freedom to change religion.⁷⁰

29. In 2007, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders and the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on arbitrary detention brought to the attention of the Government the situation of a former Jordanian parliamentarian and human rights activist who was prosecuted and detained on, inter alia, charges of defamation. The Government stated the Minister for Internal Affairs had filed a suit in

a personal capacity, because of allegations made against him personally, not because of matters pertaining to his ministerial work or the general policies of his Ministry.⁷¹

30. A 2006 UNDP report noted that professional unions led a campaign against a new bill on professional associations, which would require these groups to obtain prior permission from the Ministry of the Interior to hold public gatherings, and restrict discussion at these events to “professional issues”.⁷²

31. A 2006 UNDP report noted that the adoption of quota systems increased women’s parliamentary participation.⁷³ The 2006 CCA noted that as for women’s political participation, in 2003 6 seats in Parliament were reserved for women under a quota system adopted by the Government the same year. Also in 2003 and for the first time in Jordan, three women were appointed to the cabinet of ministers. In addition, seven women were appointed as senators or ambassadors. In the judiciary sector, only 2.8 per cent of employees were women.⁷⁴

6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

32. In 2007, CEDAW recommended that Jordan amend its Labour Code to prohibit discrimination against women and sexual harassment in both public and private sector employment, include mechanisms for redress of complaints of discrimination and sexual harassment, and ensure equal benefits for women and men.⁷⁵ The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) also emphasized that the right of trade unions to function freely shall be subject to no restrictions and that Jordan should ensure that restrictions contained in the Labour Code are fully in line with article 8 of the Covenant.⁷⁶

33. The ILO Committee of Experts noted that the Government has taken a number of measures in the area of vocational training as a means of increasing women’s employment opportunities. The Committee also noted that under the National Project on the Employment of Women, activities have been carried out to reach out to women in remote areas and to promote their employment opportunities. In particular, the Vocational Training Institution has organized awareness-raising campaigns to encourage young women to join vocational training programmes aimed at improving their economic situation. The Committee asked the Government to continue to provide information on the activities carried out under the National Project on the Employment of Women.⁷⁷

7. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

34. The 2008-2012 UNDAF noted that the poverty incidence in Jordan was reduced from 21.3 per cent in 1997 to 14.2 per cent in 2005 and there are clear indications that, by 2015, the country will achieve Millennium Development Goal 1 and targets at the national level. However, major findings of the 2006 CCA include wide regional and gender disparities and the potential risk for large segments of near-poor to fall below the poverty line. Large households, women and youth in rural areas with fewer opportunities are the most affected.⁷⁸ CRC was concerned at the very low standard of living of many children, especially in the governorates of Mafraq and Zarqa, north-east of Amman, some districts within the capital and certain municipalities along the Jordan Valley. CRC recommended that Jordan continue to implement, as a matter of high priority, its Poverty Alleviation Strategy and other programmes for poverty reduction.⁷⁹

35. The 2006 CCA noted that by regional standards, Jordan has a well-developed health-care system, and has made great strides in health services over the past few decades. Still, Government spending on health amounted to only 2.9 per cent of gross domestic product in 2004

and accounts for only 8.5 per cent of the national budget.⁸⁰ In 2006, CRC recommended that Jordan, inter alia, ensure that appropriate resources are allocated to the health sector, and continue to develop and implement comprehensive policies and programmes to improve children's health.⁸¹ It also recommended that Jordan, inter alia, strengthen its efforts to implement the National AIDS Programme; prevent discrimination against children infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, and ensure that children have access to child-sensitive and confidential HIV/AIDS counselling.⁸²

8. Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community

36. The 2006 CCA noted that there is universal access to basic education and almost all children are in school.⁸³ By the time they reach the age of 20, however, the majority of young Jordanians, both men and women, are already outside the education system.⁸⁴ CRC recommended that Jordan, inter alia, to allocate adequate resources in order to continue taking measures to prevent children from dropping out of primary education and to increase enrolment and retention rates in secondary education.⁸⁵ It also recommended that Jordan provide access to early childhood education for every child, including children living in low-income families and families living in rural areas.⁸⁶ A 2008 UNHCR report noted that the Government allowed all Iraqi children access to Jordanian schools, regardless of their families' residence status.⁸⁷

9. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

37. With respect to domestic workers and migrants, CEDAW recommended that Jordan speed up the law reform effort to ensure that their employment is covered by the Labour Code and to monitor and effectively enforce regulations relating to employment for their benefit.⁸⁸

38. A 2008 UNHCR report noted that although refugees are not legally permitted employment, some work in the informal labour market and others enjoy the support of relatives abroad. However, many cannot meet their basic needs.⁸⁹ A 2007 UNHCR report noted that more than 500,000 Iraqis are also living in the country, many of whom left Iraq after the war in 2003.⁹⁰

39. CRC also noted the high number of Palestinian refugees and the increasing number of Iraqi refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in Jordan and expressed concern at the absence of a legal framework for the protection of refugee and asylum-seeking children in Jordan, and recommended that Jordan, inter alia, to accede to the relevant international legal instruments, develop a legislative framework for the protection of asylum-seeking and refugee children, particularly unaccompanied children.⁹¹

10. Human rights and counter-terrorism

40. In July 2006, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism expressed concern at the legislation applicable to crimes of terrorism, in particular that resulting from the Jordanian Penal Code and the Draft Terror Prevention Law. Primary concerns were the overly broad definition of terrorism and a number of procedural safeguards that appeared to have been compromised. Moreover, the draft law designates military courts, which may lack judicial independence and deny a number of procedural guarantees, as having sole jurisdiction of terrorism cases. The Special Rapporteur also regretted that Parliament passed this law and called for further debate and amendments before Jordan's Anti-Terrorism law enters into force.⁹² The Government replied that terrorist offences are subject to the general provisions of the Criminal Code, and it detailed the legal provisions to prevent and punish the use of violence to extract confession. The Government also

indicated that the State Security Court was an independent and impartial public court established by law, and informed that a number of amendments to this draft law were introduced increasing the number of safeguards, especially the possibilities to appeal decision.⁹³

III. ACHIEVEMENTS, BEST PRACTICES, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

41. The 2008-2012 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) noted that Jordan ratified most of the international human rights conventions and instruments thereby laying the ground for the fulfillment of human rights, which has been hindered by several factors including the lack of knowledge of rights and responsibilities. The country still needs technical support to shift towards concrete action at the national level and meet its reporting requirements.⁹⁴

42. A 2008 UNESCO report noted that despite the enormous challenges, Jordan has been successful in ensuring near universal primary education, as well as one of the highest literacy rates in the region.⁹⁵

43. The 2008-2012 UNDAF noted that the water challenge in Jordan stands as a major threat confronting human development and poverty alleviation. The 2006 Global Human Development Report classified Jordan as one of the ten most water scarce countries in the world. The enhancement of water resource management is featured as a high priority in the National Agenda.⁹⁶

IV. KEY NATIONAL PRIORITIES, INITIATIVES AND COMMITMENTS

A. Pledges by the State

44. In 2006, Jordan stated to be committed to working closely and cooperatively with Human Rights Council members and all other stakeholders.⁹⁷ It also noted that it has committed itself to implementing the object and purpose of the Rome Statute in fighting impunity, together with other obligations emanating from the Statute including cooperation with the Court.⁹⁸ Jordan also reiterated its commitment to fulfilling its obligations in accordance with the principles of international refugee law including those which are peremptory as well as international human rights law.⁹⁹

B. Specific recommendations for follow-up

45. The Special Rapporteur on the question of torture made specific recommendations in relation to impunity, safeguards, condition of detention and prevention. In particular, he recommended that: the absolute prohibition of torture be considered for incorporation into the Constitution; the special court system within the security services be abolished, and their jurisdiction be transferred to the ordinary independent public prosecutors and criminal courts; an effective and independent complaints system for torture and abuse leading to criminal investigations be established; the power to order or approve arrest and supervision of the police and detention facilities of the prosecutors be transferred to independent courts.¹⁰⁰ In reply to the Special Rapporteur's recommendations, the Government sent, on 22 March 2007, a note verbale to OHCHR, which was subsequently published as Human Rights Council document.¹⁰¹

46. In accordance with the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, the definition of torture contained in the CAT was reflected in the penal code.¹⁰² Additionally, the Public Security Department drew up a comprehensive plan for the development and modernization of correction and rehabilitation centres and training of staff¹⁰³. In the report

on the follow-up of the visit issued in 2008, the Special Rapporteur indicated that, in spite of some improvements, he remained concerned at the reported continued use of torture, in particular in the General Intelligence Directorate, and at continued impunity, as evidenced by the continued existence of the special court system.¹⁰⁴

V. CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

47. In 2007, CEDAW recommended that Jordan develop training on the provisions of the Convention for judges, lawyers and prosecutors in order to establish firmly in the country a legal culture supportive of women's equality and non-discrimination and to conduct training programmes on leadership and negotiation skills for current and future women leaders.¹⁰⁵ In 2006, CRC recommended that Jordan continue to strengthen its efforts to provide adequate and systematic training on children's rights for professional groups working with and for children;¹⁰⁶ provide special training to law enforcement personnel with a view to protecting girls who are in danger of "honour killing";¹⁰⁷ and provide teachers with appropriate training to improve the quality of teachers as well as the quality of teaching methods.¹⁰⁸

48. In 2006, CRC recommended that Jordan continue to seek technical assistance from, inter alia, UNICEF,¹⁰⁹ UNAIDS,¹¹⁰ ILO/IPEC,¹¹¹ and from the United Nations Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice.¹¹²

49. In 2004, OHCHR offered training to the National Centre for Human Rights in Jordan in the area of complaints handling and human rights education through the New Zealand Human Rights Commission. OHCHR also provided a preliminary training course to the Jordan United Nations Country Team (UNCT) concerning the Paris Principles applicable to national human rights institutions.¹¹³

Notes

¹ Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed in the table may be found in *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2006* (ST/LEG/SER.E.25), supplemented by the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, <http://untreaty.un.org/>.

² The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CPD	Optional Protocol to Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

CED

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

³ Information relating to other relevant international human rights instruments may be found in the pledges and commitments undertaken by Jordan before the Human Rights Council, as contained in the note verbale dated 20 April 2006 sent by the Permanent Mission of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly. <http://www.un.org/ga/60/elect/hrc/jordan.pdf>

⁴ Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

⁵ 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

⁶ Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.

⁷ International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour, Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organize and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

⁸ Concluding Comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, (CEDAW/C/JOR/CO/4), paras 11 and 12.

⁹ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, (CRC/C/JOR/CO/3), paras. 10 and 11.

¹⁰ Report of the Committee against Torture, A/50/44, para 172.

¹¹ Concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee, (CCPR/C/79/Add.35), para 13.

¹² CCPR/C/79/Add.35, para 14.

¹³ See the Common Country Assessment 2006 for Jordan, p. 58, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7224/CCA%20Report%20Full2.pdf> (accessed on 29 September 2008).

¹⁴ A/50/44, para 165; CCPR/C/79/Add.35, para 6.

¹⁵ A/50/44, para 173.

¹⁶ CCPR/C/79/Add.35, paras. 6 and 12.

¹⁷ Report of the Secretary-General on National Institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, A/HRC/7/69, p.46. For the list of national human rights institutions with accreditation status granted by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC), see A/HRC/7/69, annex VIII, and A/HRC/7/70, annex I.

¹⁸ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, para 20.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ See the Common Country Assessment 2006 for Jordan, p. 58, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7224/CCA%20Report%20Full2.pdf>.

²¹ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, 2007, Geneva, Doc. No. 092007JOR182, para. 2.

²² Ibid., para. 7.

²³ A/HRC/4/33/Add.3, para. 22.

²⁴ See the Common Country Assessment 2006 for Jordan, p. 8, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7224/CCA%20Report%20Full2.pdf>.

²⁵ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, para 3 (a).

²⁶ Ibid., para. 15 (a) and (b).

²⁷ UNESCO, EFA Global Monitoring Report 2007; *Strong foundations: early childhood care and education*, Education for All, Paris, 2006, p. 170, available at <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001477/147794E.pdf>.

²⁸ World Bank, World Development Report 2007; *Development and the Next Generation*, New York, 2006, p. 174, available at <http://www->

wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSCContentServer/IW3P/IB/2006/09/13/000112742_20060913111024/Rendered/PDF/359990WDR0complete.pdf .(

²⁹ The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
HR Committee	Human Rights Committee
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CAT	Committee against Torture
CRC	Committee on the Rights of the Child

³⁰ A/HRC/4/33/Add.3; A/HRC/7/3/Add.2, paras. 238 - 295.

³¹ The questionnaires included in this section are those that have been reflected in an official report by a special procedure mandate holder.

³² See (a) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (A/HRC/4/29), questionnaire on the right to education of persons with disabilities sent in 2006; (b) report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (A/HRC/4/24), questionnaire on the impact of certain laws and administrative measures on migrants sent in 2006; (c) report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (A/HRC/4/23), questionnaire on issues related to forced marriages and trafficking in persons sent in 2006; (d) report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders (E/CN.4/2006/95 and Add.5), questionnaire on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms sent in June 2005; (e) report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (A/HRC/6/15), questionnaire on the human rights of indigenous people sent in August 2007; (f) report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children (E/CN.4/2006/62) and the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2006/67), joint questionnaire on the relationship between trafficking and the sent in July 2005; (g) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (E/CN.4/2006/45), questionnaire on the right to education for girls sent in 2005; (h) report of the Working Group on mercenaries (A/61/341), questionnaire concerning its mandate and activities sent in November 2005; (i) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/HRC/4/31), questionnaire on the sale of children's organs sent on July 2006; (j) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2005/78), questionnaire on child pornography on the Internet sent in July 2004; (k) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2004/9), questionnaire on the prevention of child sexual exploitation sent in July 2003; (l) report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises (A/HRC/4/35/Add.3), questionnaire on human rights policies and management practices.

³³ Middle East and North Africa region to discuss the upholding human rights while countering terrorism, OHCHR media advisory, 27 October 2008, p.1.

³⁴ A/HRC/7/69, para. 44.

³⁵ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, 2008, Geneva, Doc. No. 092008JOR111, para. 2.

³⁶ CEDAW/C/JOR/CO/4, paras 9 and 10.

³⁷ Ibid., para. 14.

³⁸ Ibid., para. 18.

³⁹ Ibid., paras. 28 and 30.

⁴⁰ See the Common Country Assessment 2006 for Jordan, p. 7, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7224/CCA%20Report%20Full2.pdf>.

⁴¹ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, para 32.

⁴² Ibid., para 30.

⁴³ Ibid., para 34.

⁴⁴ UNDP, The Arab Human Development Report 2005; *Towards the Rise of Women in the Development World*, New York, 2006, p. 196, available at <http://www.pogar.org/publications/other/ahdr/ahdr2005e.pdf>.

⁴⁵ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, para. 45.

⁴⁶ CCPR/C/79/Add.35, para. 8.

⁴⁷ Ibid., para 14.

⁴⁸ CEDAW/C/JOR/CO/4, para 22.

⁴⁹ Ibid., para. 24.

⁵⁰ See the Common Country Assessment 2006 for Jordan, p. 8, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7224/CCA%20Report%20Full2.pdf>.

⁵¹ A/HRC/4/33/Add.3, para. 64.

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- ⁵² Ibid., para. 67.
- ⁵³ A/HRC/7/10/Add.1, paras. 137-139.
- ⁵⁴ A/50/44, para.167.
- ⁵⁵ Ibid., para. 174.
- ⁵⁶ CCPR/C/79/Add.35, para 9.
- ⁵⁷ A/50/44, para. 176.
- ⁵⁸ CCPR/C/79/Add. 35, para. 9.
- ⁵⁹ Ibid., para 16.
- ⁶⁰ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, para 47.
- ⁶¹ Ibid., para. 93.
- ⁶² Ibid., paras. 90 and 91 (a), (b) and (c).
- ⁶³ Ibid., para. 89 (a), (b) and (c).
- ⁶⁴ Ibid., para. 95 (a) – (e).
- ⁶⁵ UNODC, Annual Report 2007; *Making the world safer from crimes, drugs and terrorism*, Vienna, 2007, p. 27, available at http://www.unodc.org/documents/about-unodc/AR06_fullreport.pdf.
- ⁶⁶ A/HRC/4/33/Add.3, para. 52.
- ⁶⁷ A/50/44, para. 175.
- ⁶⁸ CEDAW/C/JOR/CO/4, para. 36; CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, para. 28.
- ⁶⁹ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, para. 50.
- ⁷⁰ CCPR/C/79/Add.35, para. 10.
- ⁷¹ A/HRC/7/28/Add.1 paras. 1257-1263.
- ⁷² UNDP, The Arab Human Development Report 2005; *Towards the Rise of Women in the Development World*, New York, 2006, p. 31, available at <http://www.pogar.org/publications/other/ahdr/ahdr2005e.pdf>.
- ⁷³ Ibid., p. 9.
- ⁷⁴ See the Common Country Assessment 2006 for Jordan, p. 8, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7224/CCA%20Report%20Full2.pdf>.
- ⁷⁵ CEDAW/C/JOR/CO/4, para. 32.
- ⁷⁶ Concluding observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/C.12/1/Add.46), paras. 34 and 35.
- ⁷⁷ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, 2008, Geneva, Doc. No. 092008JOR111, para. 3.
- ⁷⁸ See 2008-2012 UNDAF for Jordan, p. 6, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7123/Jordan%20UNDAF%202008-2012.pdf>.
- ⁷⁹ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, paras. 71 and 72.
- ⁸⁰ See the Common Country Assessment 2006 for Jordan, p. 34, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7224/CCA%20Report%20Full2.pdf>.
- ⁸¹ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, para. 61.
- ⁸² Ibid., para 67.
- ⁸³ See the Common Country Assessment 2006 for Jordan, p. 29, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7224/CCA%20Report%20Full2.pdf>.
- ⁸⁴ Ibid., pp. 29-30..
- ⁸⁵ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, paras. 73 and 74.
- ⁸⁶ Ibid., para. 76.
- ⁸⁷ UNHCR Global Appeal 2008-2009, Geneva, 2008, p. 203 available at <http://www.unhcr.org/home/PUBL/474ac8d70.pdf>.
- ⁸⁸ CEDAW/C/JOR/CO/4, para. 34.
- ⁸⁹ Ibid., p. 203.
- ⁹⁰ UNHCR, Global Appeal 2007, Geneva, 2007, p. 196, available at <http://www.unhcr.org/static/publ/ga2007/ga2007toc.htm>.
- ⁹¹ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, paras. 79 and 80.
- ⁹² A/HRC/4/26 Add.1, paras. 33 and 36.
- ⁹³ Ibid., para. 35.
- ⁹⁴ See 2008-2012 UNDAF for Jordan, p. 11, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7123/Jordan%20UNDAF%202008-2012.pdf>.
- ⁹⁵ UNESCO, Country Programming Document for Jordan, Amman, 2008, BSP/UCPD/2008/JOR, p. 8, available at <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001592/159201e.pdf>.
- ⁹⁶ See 2008-2012 UNDAF for Jordan, p. 14, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/7123/Jordan%20UNDAF%202008-2012.pdf>.

⁹⁷ Pledges and commitments undertaken by Jordan before the Human Rights Council, as contained in the letter dated April 20, 2006 sent by the Permanent Mission of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary- General, p. 1, available at <http://www.un.org/ga/60/elect/hrc/jordan.pdf> ..

⁹⁸ Ibid., p. 2.

⁹⁹ Ibid., p. 1.

¹⁰⁰ A/HRC/4/33/Add.3, para. 72.

¹⁰¹ Note verbale dated 22 March 2007 from the Permanent Mission of Jordan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, A/HRC/4/G/17. See also A/HRC/7/3/Add.2, paras. 238 and 239.

¹⁰² A/HRC/7/3/Add.2 para. 240.

¹⁰³ A/HRC/4/33/Add.3, para. 70 (4).

¹⁰⁴ A/HRC/7/3/Add.2 para. 240.

¹⁰⁵ CEDAW/C/JOR/CO/4, paras. 14 and 28.

¹⁰⁶ CRC/C/JOR/CO/3, para. 26 (b).

¹⁰⁷ Ibid., para. 39 (c).

¹⁰⁸ Ibid., para. 74 (d).

¹⁰⁹ Ibid., para. 26 (d).

¹¹⁰ Ibid., para. 67 (d).

¹¹¹ Ibid., para. 89 (d).

¹¹² Ibid., para. 95 (f).

¹¹³ OHCHR 2004 Annual Report, pp. 188 and 189.
