

## **Annex (1)**

### **Recommendations**

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The National Council for Human Rights appreciates the state's responsiveness to the majority of its recommendations included in its annual reports. This report continues to emphasize the following recommendations:

#### **1. On the legislative front:**

- Amend Articles 126 and 129 of the Penal Code to align with Article 1 of the International Convention Against Torture (CAT.) Consider establishing an independent national mechanism for the prevention of torture, and grant this mandate to the National Council for Human Rights.
- Review legislation that includes the death penalty for a substantial number of crimes to ensure its application is limited to the most severe offenses.
- Repeal Law No. 121 of 1956 amending Article 63 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and enact legislation granting victims the right to bring direct claims before the Criminal Court in cases of assault on personal freedom or the sanctity of citizens' private lives.
- The necessity of establishing an independent commission to combat discrimination in line with Article 53 of the Constitution.
- Amendment of the provisions regulating early retirement conditions and rules specified in the Social Insurance and Pensions Law under Law No. 148 of 2019.
- Expedite the issuance of the Unified Building Code law to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities and the elderly are considered. In addition to revising the Law No. 17 of 2019 on reconciliation on building violations.
- Enactment of a comprehensive law to define and criminalize all forms of violence against women, and to promote measures to combat such violence.
- Revisiting the new Law on Non-Governmental Organizations to ensure alignment with the Constitution.
- Implementing anti-human trafficking laws to ensure protection for all trafficking victims, particularly women and children.

#### **2. On the civil and political rights front:**

- Reviewing the timeline and structure of the national dialogue to ensure prompt development of specific proposals for practical, implementable policies. Adopting and integrating these policies into legislative agendas, public policies, and related practices, with an emphasis on establishing mechanisms for gauging, monitoring, implementation, and evaluation.
- Developing procedural and objective guidelines for the pretrial detention system.
- It is imperative that all relevant state institutions engage in developing a multidimensional strategy involving legislative, administrative, and educational measures. This strategy aims to guarantee the protection and uphold the human dignity of detainees and all citizens while in police custody and detention facilities.
- Changing the stereotypical image of detention facilities and promoting the concept of reform and rehabilitation as a modern penal philosophy adopted by the state. This philosophy has significantly contributed to ensuring inmates' human rights during their sentence periods and works towards their evaluation and education, aiming to transform inmates into active and positive contributors to society.
- By continuously training officers and personnel responsible for managing new correctional facilities, ensuring the maintenance of infrastructure quality, and enhancing compliance with human rights-respecting practices, while firmly rejecting any unlawful practices.
- Facilitating visitation for inmates' families, particularly for those with chronic illnesses, and ensuring that visitation schedules accommodate their health needs.
- Equipping the entrances of correctional and rehabilitation center buildings to ensure compliance with the rights of persons with disabilities, the elderly, the sick, seniors, and wheelchair users, facilitating their entry and exit from these buildings.
- Agreement on a defined and transparent timetable for completing the review of detainees' files and statuses, releasing those eligible. Meanwhile, NCHR advises expediting presidential pardon decisions and broadening eligibility to include all detainees held in non-violent cases.
- Adopting a clear strategy within a defined timeframe to address logistical challenges facing the justice system, including enhancing the efficiency of technological infrastructure, electronic connectivity, and the skills of personnel to streamline procedures and communication. Increasing the number of judges to ensure swift and effective access to justice and addressing difficulties related to the enforcement of issued judgments.

- Enhancing citizens' legal literacy and adopting effective approaches to ensure citizens are aware of their rights during legal proceedings, including the right to remain silent for the accused.
- Reviewing the crimes that warrant the death penalty and restricting its application to the narrowest limits, in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- Continuously enhancing efforts to effectively combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling through regular monitoring and robust prosecution.
- It is essential to monitor the state's efforts regarding leprosy patients and their families, ensuring their protection from discrimination and facilitating their reintegration into society.

### **3. On the economic, social and economic rights front**

- The "Haya Karima" initiative requires a comprehensive set of procedures for the operation and maintenance phase to ensure that the extensive projects and facilities being developed enable rural residents to access and sustainably enjoy their economic and social rights.
- The "Takaful and Karama" program is of substantial importance given the current economic conditions. However, additional support is necessary to meet the increasing demand and reduce the number of eligible individuals on waiting lists. Furthermore, more robust governance measures are needed to ensure that the program effectively reaches those who are entitled to its benefits.
- Given the challenges the state faces in accessing clean water and nearing a phase of water scarcity with an allocation of approximately 500 cubic meters per person annually, it is imperative to achieve a binding agreement for the operation of the Ethiopian Renaissance Dam. Furthermore, efforts should be directed towards preserving water resources and educating the public on efficient water consumption practices.
- Increasing private investments in seawater desalination projects and providing incentives to companies engaged in this activity.
- Revisiting the timeline for expanding Universal Healthcare System coverage to governorates to address delays in completing the first phase and initiating the second phase.
- It is imperative to enhance the technical skills and health conditions of the workforce to meet market demands, attract domestic and foreign investment, amend labor laws to protect the rights of both workers and capital owners, and support the competitiveness of human

capital and Egyptian products at national and international levels. Ensuring compliance with the law and its spirit by both private and public sector institutions is essential.

- The majority of beneficiaries under the "Housing for All Egyptians" program are concentrated in cities adjacent to Greater Cairo, while their numbers are notably lower in Upper Egypt, the Delta, and border areas. Hence, it is essential to expand program implementation in accordance with the expansion requirements and demographic demand of each governorate.
- Alignment of urban development policies with the principles and values of human rights.
- Enhancing the compensation amounts for citizens concerning their properties and residences during the implementation of projects for public benefit.
- Resuming state efforts to develop unplanned areas, focusing on the quality of public utilities, environmental regulations, and building codes.
- Enhancing environmental and climate aspects (developing environmental protection legislation, biodiversity conservation measures, sustainable resource management, waste management, and mitigating the impacts of climate change).
- Addressing the critical necessity to reformulate the support system, which exceeds an annual allocation of EGP 100 billion , through strategic planning and direction, aiming to enhance its contribution to fulfilling the food requirements of supported households.
- Improving educational quality by ensuring adequate human and financial resources, reviewing educational outcomes and policies to enable each student to reach their fullest potential. This prepares them for effective participation in a democratic society that upholds equal rights and responsibilities, fostering a competitive workforce on both national and international scales.
- Addressing extremist religious discourse by improving educational quality, implementing active learning, fostering logical reasoning, encouraging children to express themselves while respecting others' views, promoting thoughtful consideration of issues, and cultivating a culture of human rights and respect for diversity within the bounds of legal respect.
- Addressing the challenges concerning the accessibility of integrated service cards for persons with disabilities, particularly in light of recurrent complaints regarding the current procedural routines.

- Exempting residents of care homes (of unknown lineage) from obtaining a family registry record as a prerequisite to access services provided by national projects, such as obtaining housing units, and working to provide employment opportunities for these residents upon reaching the legal age to leave the facility.
- Allocate financial resources to non-governmental organizations that care for children in general and those with mental disabilities in particular. This is intended to bolster their ability to consistently deliver services to this segment of disabled individuals, as existing resources, primarily donations, fall short of covering staff salaries within these associations.
- Provide effective training programs aimed at local administration personnel responsible for citizen interactions, as well as employees of administrative offices in hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, and addiction treatment centers.
- Implementing the National Human Rights Council's study titled "Frameworks for integrating human rights issues, concepts, and values in school textbooks at the primary education level," to contribute to enhancing the role of textbooks in human rights education.
- Conduct training sessions for the regional media network nationwide, focusing on using media and social media platforms to disseminate a human rights culture to maximize citizen outreach.
- Organize specialized training courses in the field of human rights for personnel across various directorates.
- Prioritize the training and awareness of natural resources personnel in various governorates, acknowledging the distinct characteristics of each region, where leaders are most effective in communicating with community members across all governorates.
- Enhancing the capabilities of personnel in associations and non-governmental organizations through specialized training sessions to enable them to effectively promote a culture of human rights nationwide.

#### **4. On Egypt's international obligations front:**

Encouraging the government to uphold and enforce human rights, urging it to continue fulfilling its international obligations as stipulated by the Egyptian Constitution, and in accordance with treaties and international conventions it has ratified. This includes reconsidering accession to the optional protocols related to individual complaints mechanisms under the International Covenant

on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention against Torture, and other forms of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.