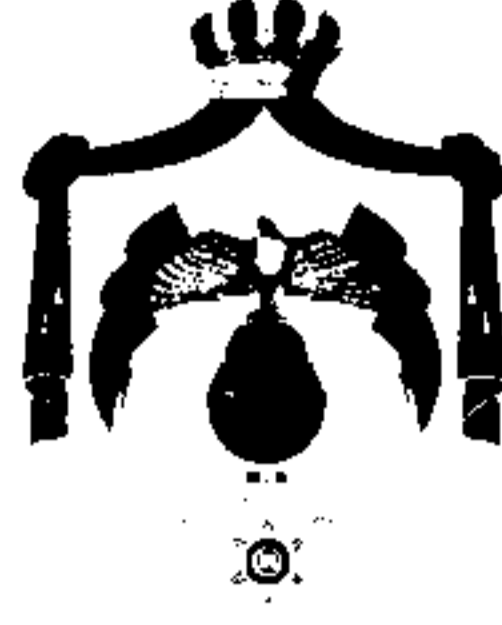


بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

THE PERMANENT MISSION OF  
THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM  
OF JORDAN  
GENEVA



البعثة الدائمة  
المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية  
جنيف

Ref: MD-2-8

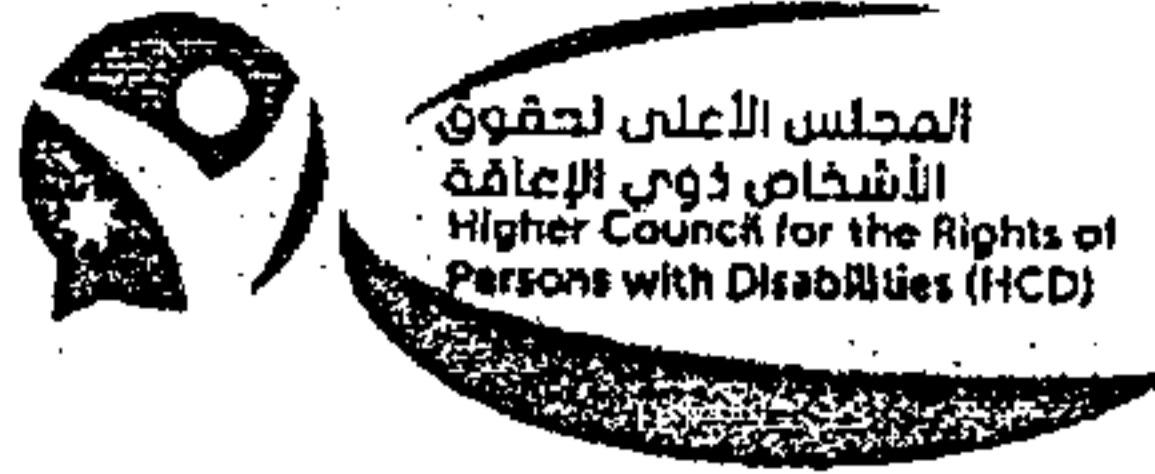
The Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva, and with reference to the latter's Note Verbale dated 30<sup>th</sup> August 2019, has the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the response from the competent Jordanian authorities to the N.V. of the High Commissioner regarding the questionnaire in relation to human rights council resolution A/HRC/RES/41/21 on Human Rights and Climate change.

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 United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva of its highest consideration.

/A.H.



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for Human Rights (OHCHR)  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland  
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**Questionnaire in relation to human rights council resolution A/HRC/RES/41/21 on  
human rights and climate change**

**Response of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan via the Higher Council for the Rights  
of Persons with Disabilities (HCD)**

- 1. Please describe the impacts of the adverse effects of climate change on the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities. Where possible, please share specific examples and stories.**

People with disabilities are part of the world's population, and so any adverse effect is very likely to affect everyone, including persons with disabilities. It will increase the already existing physical and environmental barriers to independent movement and mobility. Also, health-wise, the extreme weather conditions also heighten or increase the level of 'disablement' the person with a disability lives with, exacerbating already-existing allergies and adverse health conditions.

- 2. Please describe any relevant commitments, legislation, policies and other measures that you have taken, in compliance with applicable international human rights law, in particular the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to promote an approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation that ensures the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities. Please also note and identify any relevant mechanisms for ensuring accountability for these commitments including their means of implementation.**

Jordan's Environmental Protection Law No. 6 of 2017 consists of 33 articles. It aims at protecting the environment providing that:

- a) the Ministry of Environment is the authority responsible for environmental protection;
- b) the Ministry together with the related parties shall develop the policies and prepare the plans and programs, work on forecasting climate change identifying the involved sectors, follow the implementation of international environmental agreements, and protect biodiversity, identifying areas that need special attention<sup>1</sup>

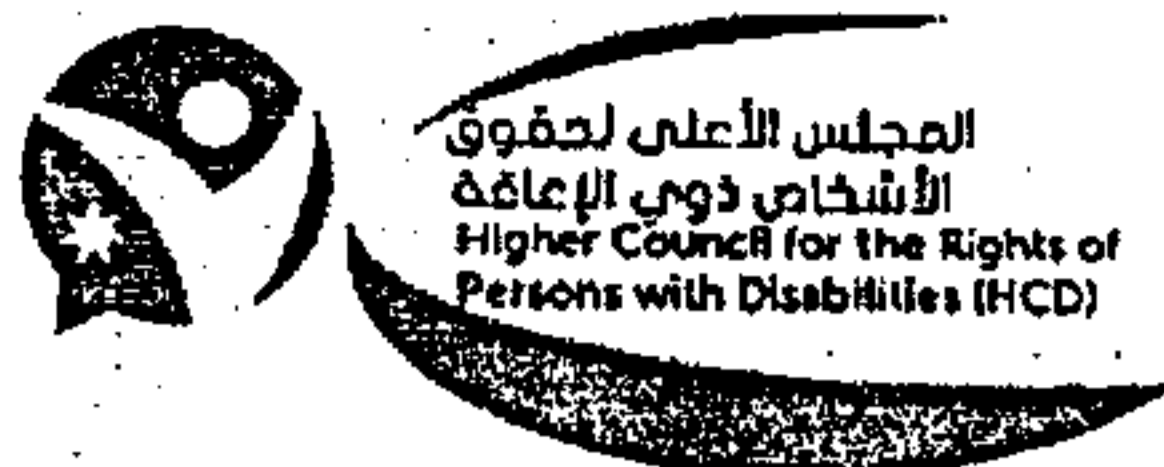
A corresponding by-law on climate change no. 79 of 2019 has also been developed.

In addition, the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities No. 20 for the Year 2017 entered into force in September 2017. It is:

- In line with CRPD.

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<sup>1</sup> Online review of the Environmental Protection Law No. 6 of 2017, available at:  
<https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/environmental-protection-law-no-6-of-2017-lex-faoc173241/>



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- Enables persons with disabilities to enjoy a barrier-free legislative environment, based on the principle of equal opportunity, equality and non-discrimination, including in relation to climate change protection.
- Adopts a new definition of disability that takes into account physical, technological and behavioural barriers.
- Is the first anti-discrimination law in the Arab region.
- Sets specific, time-bound roles and responsibilities for main stakeholders.
- Introduces a number of (other) progressive and anti-discriminatory definitions.

Specifically, the Law stipulated an article, article 34, on the roles and responsibilities attributed to the General Civil Defense Department in protection of persons with disabilities from the adverse effects of climate change. The article states<sup>2</sup>:

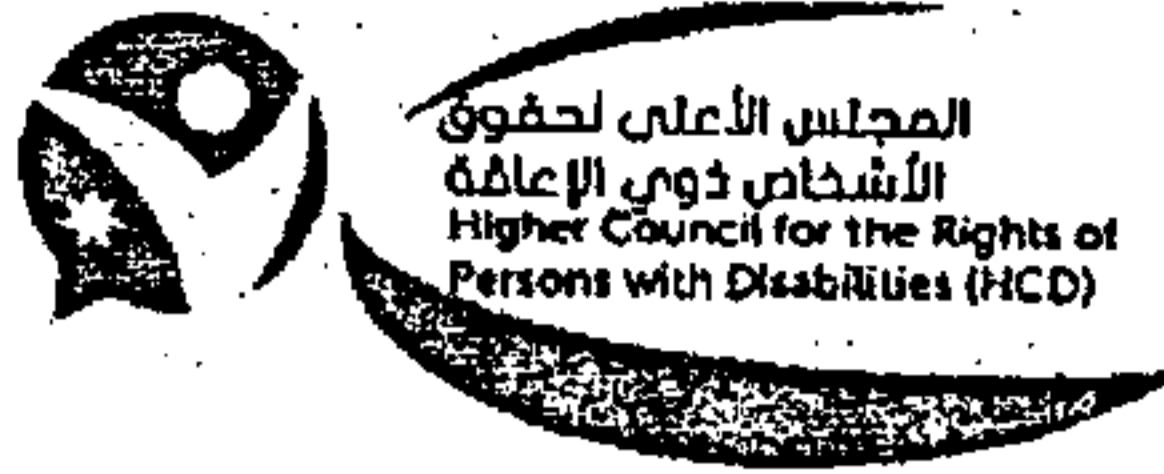
The General Civil Defense Department will in coordination with the Council execute the following:

1. Provide emergency, relief, aid, and related information in accessible formats for persons with disabilities.
2. Include into the security and safety instructions issued by the Civil Defense Department the standards related to accessibility.
3. Deliver training to aid and rescue teams in Sign language and on methods for assisting persons with different disabilities in cases of emergency and natural disasters.
4. Deliver training to persons with disabilities and their families on the principles and skills of public safety and first aid.

In addition, Jordan's first National Adaptation Plan (NAP), expected to be launched in 2020, includes information relating to 'vulnerable groups', of which the Ministry of Environment considers persons with disabilities to be a part. "The Plan comes with a specific communication strategy to improve interdepartmental knowledge and awareness on climate risk and resilience. The NAP that will feature measures to enhance the country's capacity to adapt to climate change in different sectors, according to experts in the field..."<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities No. 20 for the Year 2017, available at: <http://hcd.gov.jo/en/content/law-rights-persons-disabilities-no-20-year-2017>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.jordantimes.com/news/local/kingdom-drafts-national-adaptation-plan-climate-change>.



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3. Please share a summary of any relevant data that captures how the adverse effects of climate change have affected persons with disabilities, taking into account multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination (i.e. discrimination based on a combination of multiple grounds, including disability, gender, race, colour, sex, language, religion, nationality and migration status).

While no specific data on the topic is readily available, the Kingdom recognises that more needs to be done to quantify and qualify the adverse effects of climate change, and the Ministry of Environment is currently working to that end.

4. Please describe mechanisms and tools that can be used to measure and monitor the impacts of climate change on the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities.

Jordan established an MRV – Monitoring, Reporting and Verification – System for all sectors. The Ministry of Environment also includes a Monitoring Department which monitors the status quo and reports to the UN Secretariat on the extent to which the Government is committing to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which Jordan signed in 1992 and ratified it in 1993.

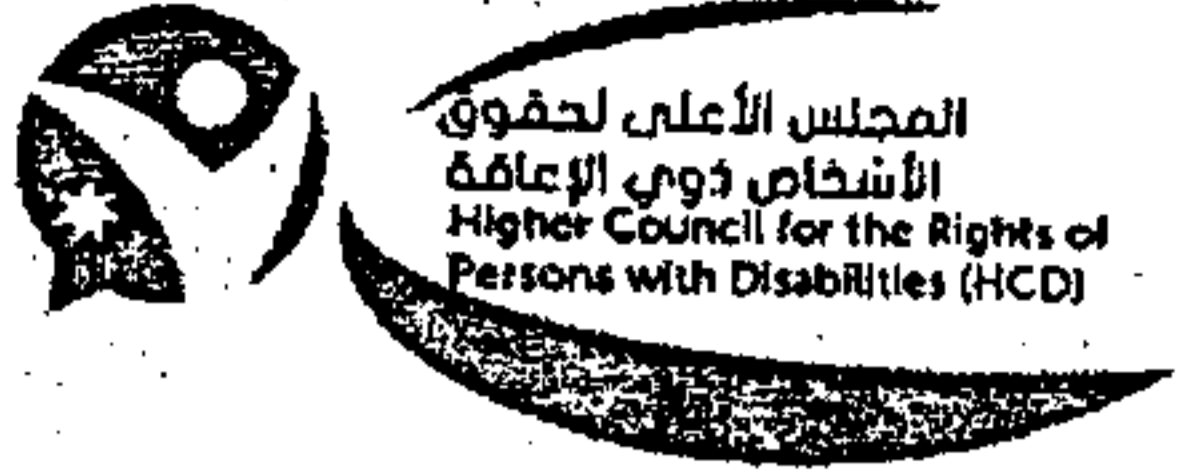
The Ministry of Environment also brings together all relevant stakeholders in its National Climate Committee on Climate Change (NCCC), including the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI), and the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (MEMR), alongside participants from civil society, the private sector, and academia.

5. Please identify and share examples of good practices and challenges in the promotion, protection, and fulfilment of the human rights of persons with disabilities in the context of the adverse effects of climate change. Please include examples that highlight multilateral cooperation and approaches that are implemented in close consultation with and with the active involvement of persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organizations.

1) Good practices:

- a) Jordan's National Committee on Climate Change as stated above.
- b) Jordan's first National Adaptation Plan (NAP) as explained above.

2) Challenges:



**Questionnaire in relation to human rights council resolution A/HRC/RES/41/21 on  
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- a) Demographical growth and the influx of refugees, many of whom are persons with disabilities.
- b) The dearth of resources within the host communities that are overwhelmed with the additional burden of hosting refugees in communities that are initially impoverished and remote with little or no services.
- c) The limited awareness and knowledge of persons with disabilities, their families and organisations, in relation to climate change.