

Mission Permanente du Royaume  
d'Arabie Saoudite auprès  
des Nations Unies  
Genève



2 DEC 2010  
الوفد الدائم للمملكة العربية السعودية  
Recipients: ..... لدى المقر الأوربي للأمم المتحدة  
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The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the latter's note ref. CM/SL/is of 5 August 2010 concerning Human Rights Council resolution 13/11 on the subject of the human rights of persons with disabilities, has the honour to transmit the following information provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:

**"A. Key measures adopted at national level to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and relative budgetary allocations:**

- The following legislative measures have been taken:

1. Promulgation of a basic ordinance making provision for programmes for the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, and a number of subsequent implementing regulations therefor.
2. Approval of regulations governing the care of the disabled.
3. A National Plan to Treat Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorders.
4. A National Plan to Treat Autism and Growth Disorders.
5. An increase in the allowances granted to the 100% disabled.
6. A National Plan for the Early Medical Detection of Glandular Disorders and Diseases Affecting Independence in Newborn Infants.
7. Establishment of a national medical and social register of disabled children.
8. Approval of the development of a prenuptial ("healthy marriage") medical examination programme.

9. Exemption of persons with disabilities from fees in respect of entry, exit and re-entry visas and issuance and renewal of residence permits for personal drivers, servants and nurses.

**B. Challenges and obstacles to the full implementation at national level of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities:**

- Lack of social awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Lack of posts reserved for persons with disabilities.
- Inadequate training of persons with disabilities to meet local labour market requirements.
- Lack of awareness by male and female persons with disabilities concerning the governmental and charitable services available to them.
- Lack of appropriate access facilities in some public places.
- Low educational level of some families of disabled persons of both sexes.
- Insufficient research and studies on persons with disabilities.

**C. Scope and content of policies and/or guidelines adopted at national level:**

Government agencies, within their respective fields of specialization, are implementing numerous programmes to provide care and services for persons with disabilities and are coordinating their activities in this regard in order to avoid duplication of services. For example, the Ministry of Social Affairs administers social rehabilitation and vocational training programmes, while the Ministry of Health provides preventive health care and medical rehabilitation services and the Ministry of Education runs educational programmes, for persons with disabilities. The private sector also helps to provide services for the disabled through specialized centres, such as the national care centres which are licensed by the Ministry of Social Affairs for that purpose.

The Kingdom's policy in regard to its numerous programmes for persons with disabilities focuses on preparing them to participate in everyday social life on an equal footing with their normal peers and providing them all with access to employment consistent with their capabilities and training.

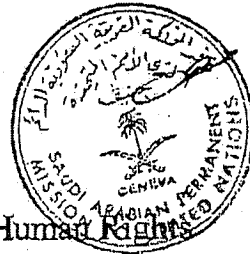
**D. Forms of international cooperation at bilateral and multilateral levels that can play a key role in assisting the realization of the Convention at national level:**

The Ministry of Social Affairs is cooperating with specialized Arab ministerial councils and some international organizations.

**E. Examples of engagement in international cooperation and assessment of their impact on promoting the realization of the Convention:**

- The Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs in the League of Arab States.
- The Council of Ministers of Social Affairs of the Member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council.
- The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).
- Rehabilitation International.
- The Executive Office of the Council of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs of the Member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council.”

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Palais des Nations  
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