

**The Rights of Disabled people  
in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
As Per the National Legislative System and International Standards**



المركز الوطني لحقوق الإنسان

The National Centre for Human Rights



**The opportunity for all**

**The Rights of Disabled people**  
**in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**  
**As Per the National Legislative System and International Standards**

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**Rights of Disabled people in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan according to the National Legislative System and International Standards**

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## Prelude:

The disabled people are Jordanian citizens enjoying the rights that all other citizens enjoy them, and bearing all obligations that all citizens bear, based on the principles of the Jordanian Constitution issued in 1952, whereas the sixth article stipulates that:

«Jordanians are equal in front of law without distinction in rights and duties whatever their race, language or religion».

It is understood that the Jordanian Constitution that is issued before 56 years, established the principle of equality among all citizens, and it doesn't distinguish between them according to different race, religion, sex, language or physical abilities.

Although of the existence of the aforementioned constitutional text, there are some negative behavioral conducts in the way society deals with the disabled people. One of its most important reasons, the low level of awareness of this category's rights and abilities and lack of institutions that practices the role of awareness and education among society's citizens.

Also, the absence of legislations that determines particularly - the rights of this category of society's citizens, played a prominent role in increasing and diversifying the negative conducts and behaviors in dealing with handicapped persons, whereas the period between 1952 and 1989 had no special legislations on the rights of disabled people.

And in 1989, the first law for disabled people was issued under no.(34) and in 1993, the disabled care law no.(12) was issued, and we will talk about them in more details in the first chapter of this book. Also, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan witnessed a significant development in the level of awareness on the rights of disabled people following the commencement of the international community represented by the UN - early in the current century - to prepare a draft international agreement to protect and enhance the rights of disabled people. The kingdom was among the twenty countries that ratified this agreement.

We should note that his Majesty King Abdullah II, God bless him, especially focused on the improvement of living conditions of the disabled people, whereas he issued his highness royal decree by the end

of 2006 to form a royal committee in order to set the national strategy for disabled people and the committee commenced its work since its formation by preparing the strategy document which is approved by his Majesty in 6 February 2007, and his Majesty ordered the implementation of its activities and programs, the most significant among which is establishing an institutional framework in the Kingdom to follow up the items of this strategy and to coordinate among institutions that concerned with disabled people.

The year 2007 witnessed the issuance of disabled people rights law no.(31) for 2007, and pursuant to this law, the Higher Council for Disabled People Affairs was established which is the institutional framework called upon by the strategy document.

From here comes the importance for preparing this study, it aims at demonstrating the rights of disabled people stated by the legislator for all institutions and society's members including disabled people. Also, the study indicates how much the state's institutions and civil society's institutions adhere to the implementation of applicable legislations related to the citizens of this segment of society.

My God grant us success,

Researchers

Shaman Al-Majali and Krestine Faddoul

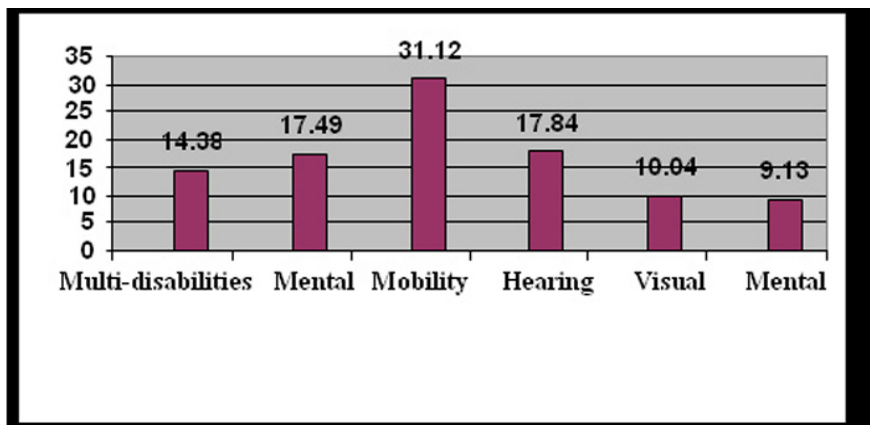


## First Subject: Disability in Jordan: Status Quo and Historical Development

### 1- Classification of Main Disabilities in the Kingdom:

The main disabilities in the Kingdom are classified into five categories- in accordance with the population census for 2004 issued by the Department of General Statistics: physical disability (17299) cases, hearing disability (9914) cases, mental disability (9724) cases, multi-disabilities (7991)cases vision disability (5580) cases and the cerebral palsy was added to this classification (5076) cases because it should be classified as existing disability, noting that some of those having this kind of disability suffer from either a physical disability or low mental abilities (mental disability) or multi- disabilities, which means that the Department of General Statistics was not successful in its aforementioned classification, and these numbers are beneficial as they are digital indicators that may be near from the real ones.

The following graph shows the distribution of each type of disabilities and its percentage as per the population census for 2004 issued by the Department of General Statistics as follows:-



The categories of disabilities are medically defined as follows:

- **Mobility (physical disability):** A partial or full loss of the person's ability to do different mobility skills (such as walking, standing or holding things) due to functional impairment or defect that forces the per-

son to use medical aids and tools such as the stick, the wheel chair or the industrial limb and others.

- **Hearing disability:** the loss of hearing ability partially or totally and may be accompanied by a partial or total loss of articulation due to defect in the hearing apparatus whereas the person may not be able to understand the speech or voices except by using hearing aids or using the signs language.
- **Visual disability:** The loss of vision partially or totally or a severe weak in vision which forces the person to use auxiliary aids and tools such as the stick, medical spectacles, talking computers or using «Braille» method.
- **Mental disability:** A defect in the natural functions of the brain such as weak concentration and memory, difficulty in communications and contact with others whereas this leads to difficulty in learning or behaviors and general conduct and the mental disability has degrees: simple, medium or severe. The International Agreement included the psychological disability to this classification for the purposes of expansion the framework of benefiting from its provisions and items.

The previous definitions summarizes the medical concept of disability, but as for the definition of disability from a legal point of view, The Universal Declaration of Disabled People presented the first definition of the disabled person internationally in 1975, where it defined it as « any person who is disable to ensure -partially or totally- the individual and/or social individual necessities due to inherent default in his physical or mental abilities».

This definition comes in line with the medical care perspective that was prevailing in the international community before adopting the legal concept of the disabled people which was adopted by the International Agreement for Disabled People when it defined them:» everyone suffering from long-term disabilities either physical, mental, rational, or sensual disabilities which may prevent them from dealing with different hindrances facing the whole and effective in participation in the society equally like others».



## **2. The legal concept of disability adopted by the International Agreement:**

The concept of disability - in general- relies on the culture, civilization and development of society, and on a special philosophy relating to the humanitarian, religious and societal values emerging from the legitimacy of disabled people right in equal opportunities with others in the different fields of life. It is noted that the level of care of disabled people represents one of the fundamental standards through which the civilizations and their levels of development are measured and the interest in this segment is regarded as civilized appearance as it enables the disabled person from serving and joining society.

Within this context, it is noted through the review of historical stations of work progress on the portfolio of disability on the international, Arab and national levels - that the caring look emerging from the mercy concept towards this category of society, however; it was prevailing at that time, which is felicitous in some aspects, it is insufficient to achieve their ambitions and transferring them from being marginalized to being effective and from the side of dependency in the society to production side that is relied on in the social developmental and from a merely persons or beings to citizens with rights and duties.. and so the legal view comes to aim at changing these concepts and to ensure the removing of hindlers that limit the practice of this category of society for their basic rights ad freedoms like others.

The care theory is represented by three dimensions as follows:

1- **Special dimension of the disability:** means identifying the type of disability and its specialty for each individual such as: a physically disabled person in the lower part or cutoff from the knee or hemiplegia.

2- **Individual responsibility:** It is the responsibility of the individual himself and/or his family to provide habilitation needs such as artificial appendage or wheel-chair.

3- **Special needs:**

Every disabled person shall provide the habilitation needs of type of disability with a view to integrating him in the society. And then the goal of obtaining the special needs of individuals is to ensure the maximum of habilitation to communicate with society.

### **Result: Providing personal care services for each case alone**

We may ask, if the special needs of each case are available, would the qualified disabled person enjoy his basic rights and freedoms like others with the existence of environmental, social or behavioral hinders? But, of course he will not be able to enjoy his rights and freedoms except if all hinders are removed.

As for the legal theory, it involves:-

1-The comprehensive dimension: it doesn't look at the type or classification of disability, but as a collateral dimensional matter.

2-The society responsibility: It is the responsibility of society with all its categories and levels to integrate the disabled people,

3-Removing obstacles: aiming at making disabled people enjoy the basic rights and freedoms without discrimination and equally with others.

The result: enabling disabled people from practicing their life on the basis of equally and equal opportunities.

From here comes the importance of supporting the international agreement that will make balances up-side-down and will create a balance world interested in setting measures that allow disabled people from getting better chances as other citizens. It is a comprehensive system for the international bill that many struggled fir it over the centuries and by it the puzzle in the UN agenda is complete.

### **3. The International agreement for Disabled People Rights and the importance of supporting and adopting it:**

If we reviewed the international texts and conventions, we find that the rights of disabled people have been protected since the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, and the declaration of disabled people rights issued by the General Assembly of the UN in December 1975, comes to renew the call for helping disabled people to develop their abilities in the different fields and activities of society and to encourage the integration of this category in the normal life as much as possible and everyone according to his ability.

The Universal care and interest in this category continues to confirm the pledge of human rights of disabled people in full, through the

committee concerned with economic, social and cultural rights in its eleventh round in 1994, whereas it allocated a special item for the disabled people stressed the interest of the international community represented by the following instruments:

1- The universal action plan related to disabled people which aims at rehabilitating and preventing from disability and achieving the full participation from disabled people in different areas of life.

2- Directive principles to establish and develop national coordination committees or similar organizations concerned with the disability adopted in 1990.

3- The principles for protecting people suffering from mental disease adopted in 1991.

4- The unified rules about the realization of equal opportunities for disabled people adopted in 1993 which is considered as a guiding reference in knowing the obligations of (parties) countries in this field.

5- The general comment no.(5) approved by the committee concerned with economic, social and cultural rights in its eleven round in 1994.

On the Arab level, we find that the Arab agreement regarding the employment and habilitation for 1993 is the fruit of Arab Work Conference held in Amman/Jordan in its 21 round in April 1993, whereas the parties (countries) declared this agreement in an elegant style that»... due to the growing increase in the number of disabled people in the Arab Nation and in fear of becoming a non-productive segment in spite of their abilities « for the first time we have adopted an Arab agreement for disabled people to look after them from Arab legal and humanitarian perspective.

In 2001, the government of Mexico at the UN, suggested the need for an international agreement concerned with disable people, and the first meeting for the specialized committee was held and from Jordan attended by representative of civil society organizations. And in 2003, it was agreed on the need to assign a committee for agreement formulation where representative for the Jordanian government participated therein. Also, a committee was assigned to perform this task consisting of representatives from the countries of the world and NGOs.

Thereby, the subject of disability became a center point for exchange-

ing experiences in the World, and this drew the attention of Arab official and private institutions and organizations to the importance to raise this subject on the Arab level. Later on, specialized national and regional conferences, seminars, and workshops were held to discuss this subject. Among the most important conferences, the one held in Manamah/Bahrain which resulted in the Arab Document for Disabled People aiming at setting Arab vision for the international agreement reflecting the status quo of Arabic disabled citizen as well as supporting the participation of Arab official and private entities in the meetings of UN and educating the Arab countries of the importance of supporting this agreement in order to improve the conditions of Arab disabled people and Jordan participated effectively through senior official delegates.

In January 2004, a high-level meeting was held with the participation of Jordan to discuss the draft comprehensive and integrated international agreement on the protection and support of disabled people rights and dignity with a view to coronate the achievements realized on the global level.

The UN office - Department of social and developmental policy - in 2005 held four regional meetings in Latin America, Asia, west and south Africa in addition to the countries of the Middle East and Arab Gulf and the goal was to discuss the content of the International Agreement for Disabled People from a regional point of view and to identify the priorities of economic indicators and the basic problems facing the disabled people in these areas. These meetings were supported by the governments and NGOs for the purpose of discussing the formulation of the draft international agreement.

It is worth mentioning that the Princess Shekha Hossa Bint Khalifah Bin Ahmad AAI Thani the special decider concerned with the disability in the United Nations\* attended the meeting held in Morocco to discuss metrology and international cooperation. Also the National Center for Human Rights (Jordan) participated in the aforementioned meeting.

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\* The Princess Shekha Hossa was appointed as the special decider concerned with the disability in the United Nations for the sequent sessions (2003-2004) and (2005-2008), she has paid a special attention to the issue of disabled persons in the world in general and the Arab world in particular, provided a great deal in this area and in particular to monitor the application of the nations of the world of the standard rules on equal opportunities.

Over 5 successive years, these meetings and interviews led to the adoption of a comprehensive International Agreement concerned with the rights of disabled people in 13/12/2006 by the General Secretary of UN, Jordan signed this agreement on 30/3/2007 and ratified it on 31/3/2008 to become the first Arab Country that declares its adherence to the provisions of this agreement and its items.

#### **4- The historical Development of the Jordanian Law:**

The Jordanian legislations dealt with the rights of disabled people within a humanitarian framework built on the principle of equality in duties and responsibilities, these legislations linked the legal concepts with humanitarian and religious values of the Jordanian society, and the Jordanian Constitution protected the rights of disabled people since the establishment of the country, and the Jordanian Convention stressed on the enhancement of these rights, and other laws handled the rights of disabled people such as: customs law, labor law, traffic law, etc.

In 1989, A comprehensive law for the disabled people were adopted, which is regarded as one of the oldest Special Arab Laws but it was cancelled in 1993 and replaced by Disabled Care Law no. 12 for 1993 following the first arable agreement regarding the habilitation and employment of disabled people which is the fruit of the meeting of Arab Work Organization in its twenty round in the Jordanian Capital in Amman. One of the most important developments in the new law - that time - was the expanding of services scope, and providing the best through drawing up broader legislative policies within principles and rights adopted by the country stemming from the teachings of Islam. Jordan Constitution, National Convention and the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, in addition to adding three representatives of the disabled people in the National Council for Disabled People Care - headed by the Minister of Social Development.

To stress the principle of disabled people participation and expressing themselves in the national and international events and in 2006, with initiative from both the Ministry of Social Development and Ministry of Political Development, a specialized committee of

experts\*\* in the field of disability headed by Prince Ra'ad Bin Zaid (Head of Trustees) for the purposes of reviewing and analyzing Disabled People Care Law no.(12) for the year 1993 as amended and replacing it with Disabled People Rights Law no. (31) For 2007 in line with the provisions of comprehensive international agreement for disabled people, which was in its final phases to be adopted and published to the Public.

**The most important outcomes of this law:**

- Establishing a higher council for disabled people affairs interested in drawing up, reviewing and following up the implementation of the special policy of disabled people.
- Replacing the «legal» concept of disability instead of «caring» concept to move the disabled people from the isolation confined by individual dimension and providing the special requirements of each individual alone to a collateral dimension built on removing social and behavioral environmental hinders to enable them to practice their rights without discrimination.

**5- The National Strategy for Disabled People:**

The highness royal decree was issued to form a committee to set out the National Strategy for the Disabled People in 19 October 2006, as a response for the personal desire of His Majesty King Abdullah II, whereas his Majesty noted during his field visits for the institutions that are interested in providing services for the citizens in this segment, the low level of services and that they don't reach all the disabled people, and therefore the Royal Committee commenced its activities upon its formation and prepared the strategy document and raised it to his Majesty early in 2007, in a meeting between his Majesty and members of the Royal Committee and members of the technical team emerging from the committee- on 6 February 2007- He approved the strategy and issued his highness order to the government to commence the work.

The strategy in the first chapter deals with the status of services

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\*\* The committee of experts consists of representatives of concerned governmental bodies, and representatives of civil society organizations, and disabled person active in this area, and with the participation of the National Center for Human Rights, which had a distinctive role in the coordination of these efforts.

provided to the disabled people, whereas it indicates that there are (163) centers and institutions that assume the provision of services for these category, In spite of their number, there is lack and absence of many services in terms of quality and quantity and the obtaining of disabled people' rights suffer from some halt in the negative behavior types that requires strategic intervention and planning.

The strategy pointed at the non-availability of accurate data and statistics on the number of disabled people, whereas the data of population and housings census conducted by the Department of Statistics in 2004 indicates that the percentage of disabled people in the Kingdom reaches (1.23%) of the population, while the statistics of the World Bank indicates that the percentage of disabled people in Jordan ranges between (4-5%) of population, but the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates the percentage of disabled people at (8-10%) of the population. This difference in census is due to the difference in the definition of disabled person, the more extensive definition, and the more coverage of numbers of disabled people and vice versa.

In this chapter, the document explained the society's natural development phases in terms of its interest in the issue of disability, whereas this development passed through four phases: the first phase was represented in the appearance of organized services to educate and habilitate disabled people through the Sweden Organization for Individual Relief in Amman, Holy Lands Organization in the city of Sult, Al-Noor Institute for Blinds in Amman.

The second phase which was in the 1970s of the last century, appeared the voluntary organizations, training colleges and institutes such as Al-Hussein Society for Physical Disability and Al-Sadaqa Society for Blinds, Social Service College, Princess Rahama Center.

In the third phase which was in 1980s of the last century, a big shift was achieved in the interest in disabled people especially after the International General Declaration for the disabled people by the UN in 1981, this phase was not limited to habilitated and traditional educational services but it extended to cover the modern concepts and trends such as: Integration concept, principle of equality and equal opportunities, in addition to caring about entertainment and sport

activities, whereas the Jordanian Union for Disabled Sport has been established.

As for the fourth phase which began in the end of 1980s of the last century, it was represented by the change in how we view the disabled people to be from legal point of view instead of charitable view. Therefore, the law for disabled people care was issued in 1989 and then, Law No.(12) for the year 1993 and after 14 years of the application of the latter law , the experience showed that there are gaps and default in its context, which requires that it be studied and to issue a new law to conform with the current phase whereas the law of Disabled people Rights no.(31) for 2007, mentioned in details in the legislative summary, was issued.

In the second chapter of the strategy, the most significant pillars, objectives and vision of the strategy were identified:

- Observing the international covenants, most importantly the international agreement for protecting and enhancing the rights of disabled people.
  - The disabled people have the right to live independently.
  - The disabled people have the right to decide their fate.
  - Developing the abilities of disabled people reflect positively on the economic and social aspects in society.
  - The disabled person is both sides of the equation which needs habilitation and appropriateness.
    - Looking at the disabled person
    - Coverage of disabilities with services without partiality.
    - Heading towards privatization in the field of services provision due to their high cost.
    - Accepting disability as part of human diversity.
    - Giving the preventative program top priority and then come care and accommodation programs.

The strategy vision is to realize low disability rates in a society where the disabled people enjoying a decent life.

In the third chapter of strategy document, its ten pillars are explained in details, including the fields of intervention related to the life of disabled people and we will state each pillar in short.



### **First: Legislation:**

The document called upon revising the disabled people Law no.(12) for the year 1993, whereas the experience showed, after 14 years of application, that there is deficiency in its texts needs to be modified, especially in light of the issuance of international agreement to enhance and protect the rights of disabled people which requires that all national legislations shall be in accord with the texts therein in case of being ratified by the Kingdom , also, it called upon reconsidering all national legislations that involving the rights of disabled people.

### **Second: Protection, Health and Disability**

The document called upon detailing the protection programs as a strategic objective that will lead to protect disability rates and also it demanded to improve the health services and review the distribution of centers where these services are provided to cover all the kingdom's governorates.

### **Third: Education and High Education and Scientific Research:**

The document aims at improving the educational environment to enable the disabled people to get education without discrimination in the institutions of the Ministry of Education and High Education as well as in the private institutions and in case of inability to integrate after diagnosing the disabled people and defining their needs of the required fittings to facilitate their education.

### **Fourth: Family Enablement and Social Protection of Disabled people:**

The family is the most significantly keen and interested that their sons including the disabled people obtain their rights and that their needs be met. It is essential that the disabled person family receives material and moral support and care to continue its role especially that many of the families are poor and the burdens are many, it is necessary to train, educate, and qualify such families to ensure that disabled people inside them get the early intervention services, health services and basic aids.

### **Fifth: Economic Enablement**

It aims at enabling the disabled people to realize their economic independence and self-reliance through obtaining job opportunities that

are appropriate to their abilities after getting their training in specialized centers or providing easy loans to conduct economic projects that generate incomes. Also it highlighted the non-compliance with the application of Law no.(12) for 1993 in terms of the percentage of disabled people to be employed, statistics of the Ministry of Social Development for 2004 indicate that the number of disabled people employed till 2004 amounted (1685) persons.

#### **Sixth: - Communication and Environmental Facilities**

This aims at changing the inherited negative behaviors in dealing with the disabled people as well as changing the surrounding environment, in order to enable these persons to reach facilities easily, such as modifying the entrances of the buildings so as to enable the disabled person to enter them, and introducing sign language and «Braille» method in all facilities with a view to get all disabled people all their rights and public services just as all citizens.

#### **Seventh: Media, Awareness and Communication**

The media in its visual, audio, readable bodies occupies a significant place due to its broad capabilities to reach all society's segments of all their cultural and social levels and therefore, the media is considered to be the most influential on society and the most capable to change and direct behavior through knowledge transfer and public opinion. The document seeks to make change which led to minimizing disability occurrence through health precaution programs.

#### **Eighth: - Habilitation and Re-habilitation**

The document here aims at upgrading the level of disabled people independence and enabling them to perform jobs and regain lost jobs through several measures and activities including programs that focus on society habilitation.

#### **Ninth: Equal Opportunities and Interest in the Public Life:**

The document confirmed the importance of providing decent life and sustainable care and accommodation services for all different disabilities especially the mental disability, also it concentrated on the degree of required care for disabled infant, woman and elderly.

#### **Tenth:-Sport, entertainment and culture:**

The document seeks to realize physical, psychological, social and

cultural growth for disabled people, build their self-confidence and give them the physical skills through cultural and sport activities.

In the fourth chapter of this document, an institutional framework was proposed to assume the task of linking and coordinating among all elements and components of this sector which constitute a set of overlapping activities, programs and projects funded and operated through multiple managements, and accordingly, the document called upon establishing the Higher Council for Disabled People to play several roles, most importantly, proposing legislations that ensure that the disabled people can get their rights.

The council plays a role in setting policies and plans as well as building databases to achieve good planning in addition to its role in supporting some activities and services through the proposed National Fund for Supporting Disabilities. Moreover, it supervises on all entities that assume services provision for disabled people. The strategic document was keen to expand the participation of disabled people and their families in the membership of board of directors of the institutional framework to have a role in making decisions related to them. Also, the document suggested the establishment of a qualitative for all voluntary organizations working in the field of disabled people with a view to coordinate their efforts and reach integrated and distinguished services.

As for the fifth chapter of the strategy, it handled the mechanism of its implementation, whereas this document covers the medium-term period between 1/1/2007 and 1/1/2010 and the long-term period till the end of 2015. The document included two kinds of programs, activities and policies to be implemented and the first kind begins with the beginning of the first phase or preceded it but continues till its end, and other programs and policies continue till the end of second phase of the strategy and have the nature of continuation and renewal. As for the second kind of policies and programs, they begin practicing their activities in the long-term period from early 2010 and till the end of 2015, and their work plans and programs will be determined after the end of the first phase by the end of 2009. During the period of this document either medium-term or long-term, each government institution or department is assigned to implement an activity or program and to set

up the necessary plans for its implementation including the allocation of the required money, also the Higher Council for Disabled People has to set up control and evaluation mechanisms in order to ensure the implementation of this document.

The document stated in the sixth chapter the mechanisms of follow-up, observation and evaluation, and these mechanisms established with a view to know to what extent, it achieved success within the priorities ladder of follow-up and feedback needed by specialists working in this sector which transfer to them the achieved results and the difficulties and negatives facing the sector in order to tackle them before they accumulate.

**The strategy document involved three appendixes:**

1. Disabled People Law no.(12) for the year 1993 as amended.
2. Indicators of observation measurement and performance evaluation.
3. Participants who participated in its preparation.

## **Second Subject: The Rights stated in Law no. (31) for the year 2007**

### **1. Communication and material and social environmental facilities:**

The environmental facilities are intended to remove the architecture hinders surrounding the environment in which the disabled person is living through the requirements of «Code» of national building in all existing buildings if possible as well as those still under construction in order to enable those people to live independently and with self-reliance and to ensure their effective participation in the different aspects of life.

In addition to conducting modifications in the material environment surrounding the disabled person such as the buildings, pavements and streets and providing special transportation means, it is necessary to provide means that enable them to communicate with all society's segments as providing IT(special computers and programs)and providing book printed in «Braille» method in the public libraries in all the kingdom's governorates for the purpose of educating the disabled

people and merging them in all aspects of life. This right was treated in Article (4/E) of Disabled People Rights Law, whereas it obliged with a view to facilitate the environment surrounding the disabled person - the application of National Building «Code» requirements in buildings of both public and private sectors available to the public. Also, it stated the application of «Code» on the existing buildings as much as possible.

On the other hand, the law didn't permit obtaining a construction license except after ensuring the adherence to the requirements of building «Code» and as a result, Greater Amman Municipality and the municipalities realize the goal by imposing their control on the buildings through the geometric sketches presented to them prior to commencing the construction.

However, we see many cases of obvious violations of national building «code» requirements related to disabled people after obtaining a construction license. After finishing the construction, the violated person only will be fined and this didn't lead to facilitating the material environment, and so we hope from all entities not to get satisfied of imposing financial fines only, but to intensify control on building under construction and giving no one a works permit except after ensuring the application of construction «Code».

The same Article obliged the public transport companies, tourism offices, and car renting offices to provide one transport means that enables the disabled people to use it and recently some texts of the law were put into effect with the purpose of making domestic public transport services available for disabled people and to use them easily.

On the other hand, the law stipulated to provide the technological means and enabling the disabled people to reach them including the Internet and the obliged entities are all the country's departments. Also, it stated the need for providing interpreters of sign language for the deaf people and «Braille» for blind people with a view to merging them in the society and enabling them to reach all facilities of public services.

It is worth mentioning that the law didn't involve any penalties on the violation of the provisions of this article, also, there is ignorance and

lack of knowledge in the requirements of National construction «Code» which needs special awareness and education programs. Greater Amman Municipality issued the National Construction Requirements Manual for disabled people as well as a circulation on 29/5/2008 for this end. However, there is no information on the implementation as the circulation is new and there is still no mechanism for follow up and evaluation.

The training on National Construction «Code», the usage of «Braille» method in the public libraries, the introduction of necessary modifications on the existing buildings and conducting awareness campaigns are of the most important programs and action plans of priority as per the National Strategy for disabled people.

As for the International Agreement of Disabled People, the item «definitions» stated that it is necessary that the parties (countries) take the appropriate measures to ensure that disabled people can reach equally like others - to the surrounding environment, most importantly:

- Public facilities and services available for the Public, especially the buildings, roads, transportation means, schools, housings, medical facilities and places of work.
- Information, communication, and other services including e-services, IT services, and emergency services.

Also, the agreement highlighted, under item 20, on the freedom of persons in their personal mobilization with as much independence as possible, the provision of auxiliary equipments including techniques and forms of human assistance and making them at hand in terms of material cost. As for Article (9) of the International Agreement, it stressed on setting lower standards and directive principles to facilitate the access to facilities and services available for the Public.

In terms of challenges and problems, we can mention the most significant as follows:-

1) Non-adherence to the National Construction Code for Disabled People due to the lack of knowledge and awareness of its requirements.

2) Non-availability of environmental facilities that enable disabled people to move easily and benefit from the available services.

3) Most of material environment components are not originally designed to be used by disabled people.

#### **1. The right in Exemptions:**

Providing disabled people with material and immaterial support by the country and society, could help them in practicing their lives, getting their rights and performing their obligations and whether it is material or immaterial support, it can reduce the burden on their families and thereby encourage these families to support their disabled sons to practice his life normally as other citizens.

The disabled person needs some special tools and equipments, such as: wheel-chairs, medical earphones, developed computer software, etc. these additional requirements are very expensive and there should be an entity that can bear even part of their cost. More accurately, the aim of exemptions stated by law is to cover the additional requirements needed by the disabled person and all that is to achieve the principle of equality and equal opportunities among all citizens.

The Jordanian Legislator handled the matter of disabled people right in exemptions in the fourth article of disabled people rights law, it stated that all reasonable fittings shall be exempted from custom duties, the general tax on sales and imports stamps fees, etc. The reasonable fittings are: the necessary fittings to fit with environmental circumstances in terms of place and date, provision of auxiliary equipment, tools and means, when necessary, to ensure that disabled people can practice their rights to achieve equality with others.

The legislator didn't limit these fittings but he mentioned some of them for example due to his desire to add flexibility to the context in order to accommodate the huge development in the industry of auxiliary tools and machines for this category of disabled people.

The law exempted one transportation mean - only once - of custom duties and general tax on sales, imports stamps fees, and any other duties and taxes. All disabled people regardless of their disabilities will benefit from this exemption and will not be confined to one category in contrary to what is stated in the Disabled Care Law no.(12) for the year 1993 which confined the exemption in Article (5/A) to vehicles

that are especially designed to be used by the disabled people and these vehicles are suitable for those who are physically disabled. This text is different from the text of Article (58/G) of customs law no.(20) for the year 1998 which is regarded as letter for letter as the text of Article (5/A) of Disabled Care Law no.(12) for 1993.

The one who reads the text of Article (4/F/2) of Disables People Rights Law notes that the legislator stated in the beginning the exemption of one transportation mean for one time and at the end stated the possibility to replace the means of transportation as per principles and conditions issued upon a regulation, and the question that poses itself here, is it permitted that the disabled person replace the mean of transportation? The answer is that the text is vague and doubtful and doubt is a legal rule explained in favor of weak party in the legal relationship and the weak party is the disabled person, the statistics of Department of General Customs and Ministry of Social Development indicate that the number of disabled persons benefiting from customs exemptions amounted (989) persons in 2007 and the number of vehicles exempted for the disabled people between 1/1-1/8/2008 around (254) vehicles.

Also, the legislator exempted those with severe disabilities from the fees of work permits if they want to bring only one non-Jordanian worker for the purpose of housekeeping and this right is stipulated in the Jordan Labor Law no. (8) for the year 1996. And the number of disabled people benefiting from this exemption in accordance with the statistics of Ministry of Social Development for 2007 amounted (14945)persons but they reached (8038) between 1/1-1/8/2008.

Moreover, the legislator exempted the schools, centers and institutions affiliated with the charitable societies from custom duties, general tax on sales, buildings and Mosaqafat and knowledge tax, imports stamps fees, real-estates registration fees and any tax or other improvement proceeds. Also, he exempted the schools, institutions and centers of disabled people affiliated with the private sector from types of duties and taxes if provided free services for the disabled people.

It is worth mentioning that the legislator linked the implementation of the provisions of Article (4/F) of the law with special regulations issued by the Cabinet upon the recommendation of the Higher Council for Dis-



abled People Affairs before one year, however no regulation has been issued thereof. The weak point in Disabled People Care Law no (12) for 1993 is that its texts which need the issuance of some regulations and instructions in order to be effective were not put into effect. And the weak coordination between agencies that provide auxiliary equipment, tools and means for the usage of disabled people is regarded as the most significant challenges and problems facing the effecting of this right.

On the other hand, the International Agreement didn't determine a special item for exemptions but it encouraged upon the text of article (4) taking all suitable measures to put into effect the recognized rights among which is the necessity for meeting specific requirements for the disabled people at the lowest costs and providing auxiliary devices and equipments to help them in mobilization. It considered them general obligations and the countries shall assume the mechanism of their implementation and activation. In both Article (19) and (20), the agreement encouraged the necessity to provide support services in houses and places of residence in addition to other societal services such as the necessary personal assistance to facilitate their life and mobilization as well as human assistance and making them at available in terms of cost.

## 2.The right in vocational training and working

In accordance with the constitution and laws stipulated by the Jordanian Legislator, which stressed on providing the appropriate job opportunities for every individual in the society without any discrimination, this law ensured the right of disabled people to work as they are capable to perform their assigned duties which contribute to reaching fairness between them and the society's members. However; as we mentioned above, the cultural level of the society is still not accepting the abilities of those people in addition to the non-availability of reasonable fittings that enable them to perform jobs assigned to them as other individuals in the society.

In 1989, the Disabled People Care Law no.(34) which is a special law dealt with the right to work, was issued whereas the Article (3/A) stated

that: «The Ministry shall provide special services in the fields of care, education, training, habilitation, and environmental constructions and shall create job opportunities for the qualified ones each one as per his abilities».

The weak point in this text is its flexibility makes its existence or non-existence the same and also it didn't define the percentage of disabled people to number of employees in firms which are obliged to provide job opportunities, moreover, it limited this task to the Ministry of Social Development and didn't oblige any other entity whether in public or private sector.

In the disabled care law no.(12) for the year 1993, the legislator treated the right of disabled people to work, whereas Article (4/B/F/2)states that: «The institutions of public and private sector and companies that their staff are not less than (25) and no more than (50)one of them is disabled. And if the number of workers in any of them exceeded (50) workers, then a percentage not less than (2%) of the number of workers shall be allocated for the disabled people, provided that the type of disability shall not conflict with the nature of work in the institution».

By reviewing this text, it is noted that the being obliged is not limited to one department or ministry but it obliged public and private entities to provide job opportunities for those persons, and pursuant to this text, each institution or company is obliged to employ one person if the number of its workers ranges between (25-50) workers and if this number exceeded (50), it will be obliged to employ (2%) of the number of its workers from disabled people which means that the legislator specifies in this text the percentage of disabled people to be employed, but he didn't impose fine on institutions and companies that don't adhere to its provisions.

In spite of this text, the disabled people remained suffering from non-availability of job opportunities due to the fact that the country's institutions primarily and the institutions of private sector secondly don't adhere to the provisions of the law and also the mercy look is the final word in this regard and the evidence is the establishment of human cases division in the Civil Service Bureau and the employment of disabled people through this division without abiding with the percentage

determined by law no.(12) for 1993.

In 2007, The Disabled People Rights Law no.(31) was issued, and the right to work was handled in Article (4/C), it stated in the second item, that it is obligatory that the disabled people get equal opportunities in the field of work and employment in line with their scientific qualifications, also, the third text of the same paragraph that the institutions of both private and public sectors are obliged to have not less than (25) workers in any of these institutions and not exceeding (50) workers among them one disabled worker and in case then number of workers exceeded (50), a percentage not less than (4%0 of the number of workers shall be allocated for disabled people, provided that the nature of work in that institution shall allow that.

This text is different from the text stated in Law no.(12) for the year 1993 in terms of the percentage allocated for disable people, if the number of workers exceeded (50) workers, then the percentage to be allocated is (4%) of the number of workers in contrary with the percentage we mentioned in the Disabled Care law no.(12) for the year 1993, which is (2%).

Add to that, the law in the fifth item of same paragraph - obliged work places to provide reasonable fittings that enable the disabled person to practice his work, such as preparing the workplace for the access of disabled people through equipping the entrances to allow the entry of the wheel-chair of the physically disable person and providing a special computer with the software that enable the blind person to use it in his field of work, etc. All that shall not lead to cause damage to the employer.

And to ensure the implementation of its texts, the law obliged the institutions of private sector that refrain from employing disabled people to pay a fine equal to double the minimum limit of wages for the number of disabled people that the entity is obliged to employ annually, the minimum limit of wages is (110) JDs as determined by the Wages Authority in the Ministry of Labor.

In an unprecedented step, the Cabinet approved with the recommendation of the Higher Council for Disabled People Affairs to allocate a percentage of (4%) of jobs listed on manpower table for 2008 for the

disabled people which is equivalent to (400) jobs.

As per the National Strategy for Disabled People, the unemployment rate among disabled people amounted (40%) and therefore, it stressed on the significance of economic enablement for the disabled people and to qualify and train them to become able to work and be self-reliance and to enable them to participate in the economic development. However, many of employers refuse to employ disabled people whereas the statistics, according to the National Strategy for Disabled People indicate that (4.80%) of them working against a certain wage while (3.12%) have their own business, and (3.12%0 of them working to the family against no wage).

Regarding the employment, the number of disabled people employed till 2004 amounted (1685) among them (785) persons in the private sector and nearly (900) persons in the public sector. In 2008, (9) persons holding the doctorate degree were employed in Tafila University, Balqa' University, Yarmouk University and University of Jordan.

The vocational training is one of the springs of nonacademic education for disabled people and a suitable source for learning a craft, profession or occupation to acquire skills and gain money. There are two institutions affiliated to the Ministry of Social Development one in Irbid and the other in Rusaifa and these centers are for habilitation and vocational employment to train the disabled people on different careers. In addition to programs implemented by many charitable and voluntary organizations and institutions and civil society organizations but the problem is that the employers don't employ them.

There are (46) centers for vocational training affiliated to the Vocational Training Corporation in the Kingdom prepared for all types of disabilities, and there are (90) specialized centers for those using wheel-chairs. In 2007, the number of trainees of disabled people in VTC amounted (350) persons and (650) trainers for the purposes of dealing with disabled people in northern, southern and center regions.

As for the International Agreement for Disabled People, the Article (27) stated that it is necessary that the parties (countries) admit the right of disabled people to work equally like others, and this right shall include giving them the chance to gain money in a job they choose or

accept freely in a labor market and work environment where they can join easily, also it encouraged the suitable vocational training without discrimination provided that the parties(countries) shall provide the reasonable fittings through taking the suitable steps including enactment of the appropriate legislations to achieve a number of objectives:

1. Prohibiting discrimination based on disability such as: employment, recruitment and career progress conditions.
2. Protecting the rights of disabled people within fair and suitable work circumstances equally like others.
3. Enabling disabled people to practice their labor and union rights and enabling them to receive vocational training and having free businesses.
4. Encouraging the work in the public sector and providing reasonable fittings.

Regarding the challenges and problems, we mention the most important are as follows:

- 1) Low level of wages paid to disabled people in comparison with others.
- 2) Employers' concerns from employing disabled people.
- 3) The environment (place of work) is not designed for disabled people and non- availability of the lowest general safety conditions.
- 4) Lack of means of transportation that are designed for disabled people.

#### **4. Right to Education**

The Jordanian Legislator has persevered the rights of the disabled to education in different fields, whether public, professional or higher education. For that purpose, it has obliged the organizations supervising this Sector, as the Ministry of Education and public and private educational institutions, to provide all the requirements necessary to educate the disabled, including certain educational supplies as Braille curriculums for the blind students, computers, and verbal software and touched programs for the blinds.

Moreover, such organizations are also obliged to provide interpreters using the sign language to enable the deaf students to learn. Trained

and highly qualified personnel, (as, teachers, educational experts and supervisors) should be provided because they are the best to deal with the disabled.

The Law has stipulated that an educational diagnosis should be carried out to identify the degree of disability, and its needs. However, no educational diagnosis center has been established yet for that purpose. In addition, the Law has also obligated the Ministry of Education to teach Mathematics and Computer skills for the blind students in schools. These two materials were taught only in special schools for the blind. Mathematics was taught to the sixth grade in the elementary school. This is considered an unprecedented episode made by the new Law. But, unfortunately, we, did not notice any practical and real steps in that regard yet. The Ministry of Education did not yet applied the Law that stipulates the necessity to provide the proper conditions to teach these materials. Moreover, the Law has also stipulated that integration programs should be adopted to teach the disabled in the educational institutions, and avoid separating them, if possible, in order to help them to participate in every aspects of life. However, in some cases, the disability would not allow such integration. For that reason, the government must provide special institutions to rehabilitate and educate the persons with severe disabilities.

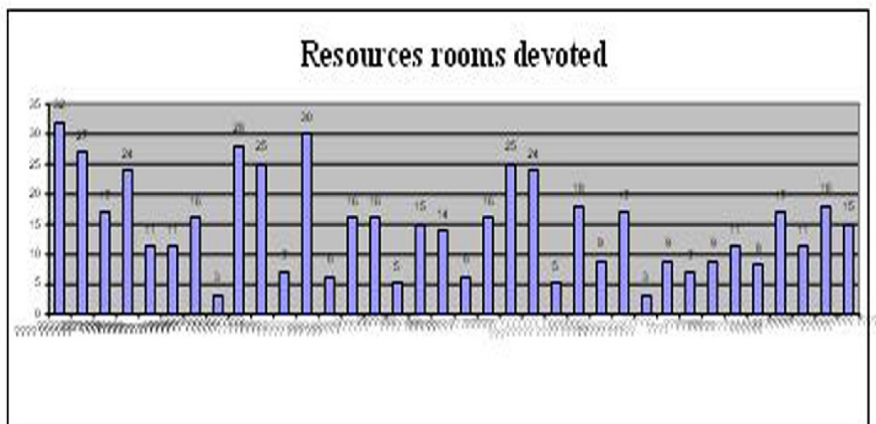
Providing the necessary facilities to educate the disabled is not restricted to the elementary and secondary education, but it continues to the Higher Education as well. The Law has obligated the universities to provide the proper environment that is accessible by the disabled. And, also obligated them to admit the disabled students who have successfully passed the Baccalaureate (high school examination) as per the conditions agreed upon by the Higher Council for the Disabled and the Higher Education Council.

In line with the articles of the Law, the Higher Education Council has also issued its resolution no (10\1\2539) on 2 October 2007, to enable the disabled to reach to the Higher Education Institutions. This resolution has considered providing the proper environmental facilities part of the standards of the Jordanian Universities. It has also exempted the disabled (whose disability is above 40%) from the tuition fees for the ac-

credited hours by 90%. While the exemption given to the Masters and PhD>s students has reached to 50%.

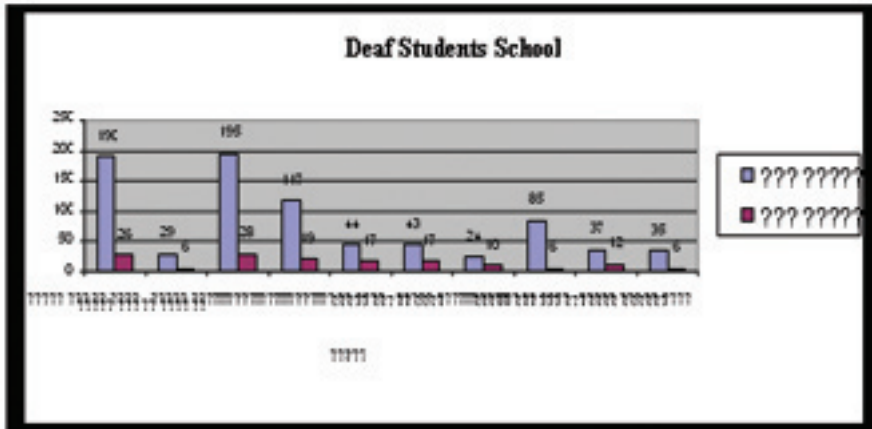
In this regard, and in accordance with the Royal directions, the Education Sector has recently witnessed tremendous developments regarding its information technology. We sincerely hope that the disabled will benefit from the special programs that enable them to use the computers. In addition, the Higher Council for the Disabled Affairs has contributed to provide Sign Interpreters for the deaf students attending the universities. We have noticed that there are (531)# recourse rooms in the schools distributed all over the Kingdom. These rooms assist the children with learning difficulties. But, these rooms are not effective enough to serve the purposes they were established for. The below chart demonstrates the number of resources rooms devoted for learning difficulties in all over Jordan:

**Resources rooms devoted for learning difficulties**



# This number is in growing, when needed.

The ten schools for the deaf students (which are distributed in different parts of Jordan) include around 799 students. The below chart demonstrates a comparison between the number of students and number of teachers in these schools:



As for the blind students, they are usually educated in two schools: First, Abdullah Bin Um Maktoum School. Which provides the basic (elementary) education from 1st Grade to 6th Grade. Second, The Blind High School, which provides education from 7th Grade to the Second Literary Secondary Grade. Both schools are in Amman. The following chart demonstrates a comparison between the number of students and number of teachers in these two schools:

**The Blind Students Schools**





As concerning the students with minor and medium disabilities, they can join special schools run by the Ministry of Social Development. These schools are called «al-Manarat», and there are 14 of them distributed all over the Kingdom. In 2007, the number of beneficiary children has amounted to (1447), with (470) employees working in them. The below chart shows these facts:



Moreover, the «Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities» recognizes the rights of the disabled to education on the basis of equal opportunities and without any discrimination. It also focuses on the development of the disabled personalities, skills, creativities, and mental and physical potentialities to the maximum. The Convention enables the disabled to obtain free elementary and secondary education, and provides individual support procedures that enable the disabled to

realize the optimum level of his/her academic and social growth.

### **Challenges and problems:**

1- Non-utilization of the qualified educational expertise to assist the disabled children

2- Non availability of specialized programs for eradication of illiteracy for the disabled who don't have the simplest levels of knowledge and education

3- Non availability and/or inadequacy of the transportation proper to transport the disabled children

4- Difficulties in providing sign language teachers, or Braille materials, or verbal devices and other means of communication

5- Insufficiency to provide secondary education for the deaf students

#### **1. Right to Litigation**

The right to litigation is guaranteed to every one under the Jordanian Constitution. Article (101\1) of the Constitution stipulated that: «The courts shall be open to all and shall be free from any interference in their affairs». Since the Constitution has stipulated this right, it will not be allowed, under the bases of the legislative gradation, that a law can deprive a Jordanian citizen from his right to litigation due to his disability or for any other reason. The laws must include clear texts to enable the citizens to access justice, as in the *Handicapped Law Number 31 for the Year 2007*.

The Handicapped Law Number 34 for the Year 1989, and the Handicapped Welfare Law Number 12 for the Year 1993, did not tackle the methods that enable the disabled to litigation. Moreover, the Jordanian Jurisdiction did not experience such judicial case that concerns the rights of the handicapped persons to litigate. For example, none of the disabled asked any court for his right to work or his right to customary exemptions, or right to health or education. Thanks to the elasticity of the texts of the Handicapped Welfare Law Number 12 of 1993, that they were easy to apply. Besides, this Law did not state any sanction or fines for the violation to any of its provisions.

The Handicapped Law Number 31 for the Year 2007 has devoted some laws that give the handicapped access to jurisdiction, and also,

provide them with proper places, if jailed. Article (4\ 1) of this Law stipulated the following: 1. The health conditions of the Persons with Disabilities, the places of detention and the circumstances of detention shall be taken into consideration in case the disabled person is to be detained for a certain case. 2. Assistive devices shall be provided for Persons with Disabilities, including sign language translation.

According to the above, the Courts are bound to jail the handicapped in proper places that conform to their special health case. These places should be provided with protection to protect the handicapped from any assault or violation. In addition, the Courts are also bound to provide the proper methods that enable the handicapped to be acquainted with the court proceedings. The Law has mentioned providing sign language translators for the deaf persons.

Moreover, the Judicial authority is bound to enable the handicapped to access the judicial buildings, for example: provision of parking lots to their vehicles, provision of slope entrances to enable the handicapped wheelchair in or out of the building, or elevators to access the court room or higher stories. Elevators must also be equipped with signs written in Braille or verbal programs to enable the blind persons to use them. According to the above, we have investigated the buildings of the Jordanian Courts, and we have found the following: Lack of proper environment facilities that assist the handicapped, although it is compulsory to abide by the conditions of the National Construction Code. This problem can be attributed to the fact that most of these buildings are either rented or not owned by the State. Therefore, it is necessary to review the conditions of these buildings in order to achieve the principles: Equality, Justice, and Equality of Opportunities for all citizens. Article (15) of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, has ensured effective access to justice for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others. The Article has also given them the legal eligibility in all aspects of life, provided that the States Parties shall take all proper measures that provide the support to the handicapped when practicing their legal eligibility, in addition to providing all effective and proper guarantees that prevent abuse of this right. While Article (13) of the said Law has confirmed their right to access justice through the pro-

vision of procedural and age-appropriate accommodations, in order to facilitate their effective role as direct and indirect participants, including as witnesses, in all legal proceedings, and in all stages of the trial, including at investigative and other preliminary stages. The Convention has suggested training the workers to access justice, including police officers, detention officers, etc.

#### **Challenges and problems:**

1- *It is necessary to provide proper detention places for the handicapped.*

2- *Lack of proper environmental facilities in the courts all over the Kingdom*

#### **6) Right to Public and Political Life:**

The Jordanian Legislator has devoted a special text in the Handicapped Law Number 31 for the Year 2007 to assert the effective participation of the handicapped in the public and political life. We have demonstrated in many places of the Law, the emphasis on the rights that apply to citizens on equal foot. For example, the Election Law did not stipulate any item that may be understood as deprivation of the right of the handicapped to nomination and election. The handicapped have the right to elect the members of the municipal councils and take part in the administrative and public administrations of the non-governmental organizations and other.

According to the Handicapped Law, the reason behind repeating such texts is to prepare the convenient material and environmental conditions to enjoy these rights, or, to be precise, to guarantee practicing these rights. Paragraph (g) of Article (14) of the Law, has clearly tackled the methodology of exercising these rights, including provision of proper and suitable facilities that enable the handicapped to practice their rights and to vote in the secret ballots to help the illiterate handicapped to overcome this difficulty. Usually in the case of illiterate handicapped, the election committees insist that they write or vote in a loud voice.

As concerning the participation in the public life, the handicapped is considered part of the community. He affects the others and influenced by them as well. Therefore, suitable facilities should be provided for

the handicapped to enable them to participate effectively in the community in all their life stages, namely, childhood, through daily living with his family, brothers and sisters, and people in his neighborhood, and through out his academic life and the activities he practices in the community, as the recreational , educational and sport places. Such facilities should be accessible by the handicapped.

The handicapped are part of the human variation. They can play a significant role in the community if they were given the chance to practice the social, political, and economic aspects of life. Otherwise, they would become a burden on the community. Among the suitable methods: provision of educational integration programs, which are one of the best methods of learning provided for the handicapped since their early years; provision of proper public places to practice different activities. For example, during the recent Parliament Elections, the Government equipped several ballot centers with certain tools that enable the handicapped to practice their right to elect.

Article (29) (Participation in political and public life) of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, emphasized the importance to ensure that voting procedures, facilities and materials are appropriate, accessible and easy to understand and use. In addition to protecting the right of persons with disabilities to vote by secret ballot in elections and public referendums, and to stand for elections, to effectively hold office. The Convention also highlights the importance of engaging the handicapped in non-governmental organizations and associations concerned with the public and political life of the country, and encourages the establishment of associations and organizations and joining their activities.

Admitting the handicapped by the members of the community and its public and private organizations is one of the principle challenges and problems the State faces in protecting the basic rights and freedoms.

#### **7- Sport, Culture, recreation:**

The handicapped persons have the right to exercise various sport activities through sport and recreation clubs and unions. Therefore, the Jordanian Sport Union for the Handicapped was established in 1981, where the handicapped can practice various sport activities, and take

part in local and international championships. It should be noted that some handicapped champions were rewarded at higher levels. In addition, number of clubs were established for that purpose, but they are not distributed evenly on the provinces.

At the cultural level, the blind persons in Jordan are deprived from Braille books, and suffer from the lack of suitable software that enable them to use the computers, due to high cost and they personally cannot afford them. Therefore, the government authorities related with the handicapped must provide all the necessary supplies to enable these people to learn. In addition, Greater Amman Municipality and provinces municipalities must provide the public libraries with Braille books. It should be noted that all the public recreation places are designed to welcome normal people, and they are not prepared to welcome the persons with handicaps.

Article (30) (Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport) of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, emphasized that the persons with disabilities should take part in various recreational and sport activities and take part on an equal basis with others in the cultural life. It also encouraged the State Parties to take all appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities to enjoy access to television programs, films, theatre and other cultural activities. In addition, the Convention also encourages the handicapped persons to enjoy access to places of cultural performances or services, such as theatres, museums, and cinemas, to enable them to have the opportunity to develop and utilize their creative and intellectual potential, not only for their own benefit, but also for the enrichment of society.

#### **Challenges and problems:**

- 1) Low encouragement of the persons with handicapped to participate in the handicapped sport programs
- 2) Low participation of the women with handicapped in the sport activities
- 3) Necessity to integrate the persons with handicapped into the public sport centers, parks, libraries, and public cultural centers.

## **8- Right to Health:**

The persons with handicaps, like all the members of the community, have the right to access high quality health services near to their houses. Therefore, it is necessary to spread the health services for the handicapped all over the Kingdom. The Government must follow-up the accelerated scientific progress in this regard, to offer the best health services to this group. The Ministry of Health, The Royal Medical Services, the hospitals and the Medical Centers are all responsible for the above. Article (4\A) of the Handicapped Law Number 31 for the Year 2007, stipulated that the authorities in charge should carry out preventive programs and spread healthy awareness, including carrying out the necessary surveys for the early detection of disabilities, establish a Diagnostic Center to issue the medical reports that identify the type of handicap and the handicapped needs. Accordingly, these persons can benefit a lot from the services offered by the State.

Moreover, the above authorities are responsible for providing the medical and psychological rehabilitation and therapeutic services of different levels and making them easily accessible, including a medical rehabilitation, to train the persons with difficulties in speaking and hearing, physical therapy and functional therapy. In addition, participation in the community rehabilitation programs should be encouraged to pay visits to the persons with disabilities in their own houses to identify their medical needs, educate their families on how to deal with the handicap. The Psychological rehabilitation includes treatment of depression, schizophrenia, addiction, and other disorders, through admitting the ill person into one of the centers of the Ministry of Health. The aim behind the health rehabilitation is to increase the self-confidence of the handicapped person, and that would facilitate integrating him\her into the community. The above authorities are also responsible for providing the primary care for the women with disabilities during pregnancy and delivery, and post delivery period, to maintain the health of the embryo and prevent him from any disability.

The above Article also stipulated that the Ministry of Health must provide the persons with disabilities with free medical insurance. However, this text has restricted this advantage to the handicapped

person only excluding his family members who don't have the right to benefit from his/her medical insurance. The Ministry of Health distinguished the medical insurance card of the disabled by writing (H.L) which means (Handicapped Law), which provides the handicapped with various health services. In 2007, the Ministry has issued (1056) medical insurance cards.

At the level of the services provided by the concerned authorities in the Public Health, the Ministry of Health provides the service of early diagnosis of handicaps through three main handicaps diagnosis centers: The first center is located in Amman and owned by the Ministry of Health. The second is in Kerak province and belongs to the projects of Royal Highness Prince Raad bin Zeid, and the third center is in Deer Ola, and was established under the initiative of King Abdullah the Second. The last Center belongs to the Ministry of Social Development, but runs by the cadres of the Ministry of Health. Early diagnosis of handicaps is quite important because it will contribute to lower the rate of disabilities in the present and in the future.

In 2007, around (2094) patients visited the Early Diagnosis Center, in Amman. However, this Center suffers from the lack of certain tests as modern intelligence test to evaluate the mental capabilities, lack of adequate and qualified medical cadres to evaluate the mental handicaps, lack of movable or portable hearing devices, and technicians. In addition, the Center lacks the muscles and nerves diagnosis devices that can diagnose the kinetic handicaps accurately, and lack of optic clinic. For the above reasons, the patients had to visit other centers to obtain the medical reports.

In addition, the Ministry of Health provides the service of early diagnosis of handicaps, as infant's hip dislocation. It also updates infants' records in the maternity centers to diagnose such handicaps. It has also provided the Comprehensive Health Centers all over the Kingdom, with Cochlea Tension device that detects the hearing problems. In addition, the Ministry of Health provides services for the persons suffering from weak hearing through its National Hearing Center, in which the patients are trained to utterance by providing them with the hearing aids. However, this Center is located in Amman, which makes it unable



to provide the suitable training from the patients with hearing problems due to work pressures.

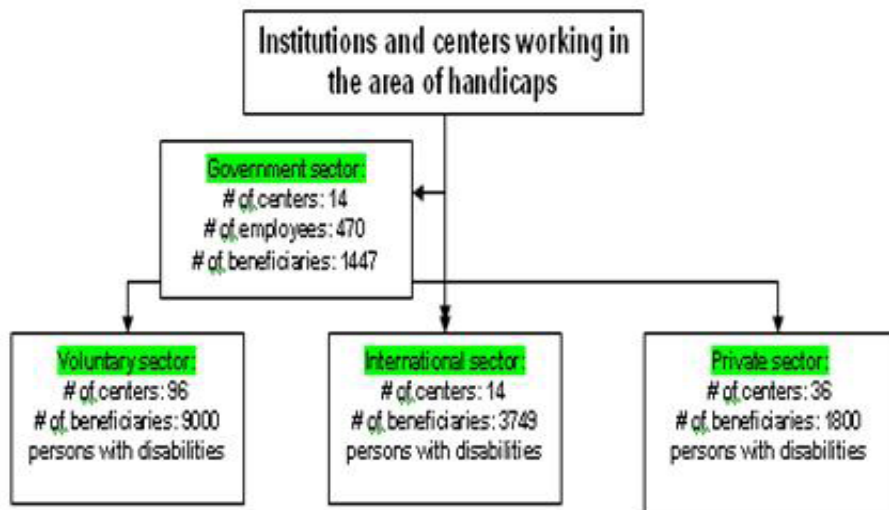
The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities admits in Article (26) that the persons with disabilities should enjoy the maximum health levels without any discrimination as to disability. Moreover, the Convention urges the State members to take all the proper measures that ensure that these patients receive the proper health services, including the habilitation and rehabilitation services and programs, particularly in the area of health.

#### Challenges and Problems:

- 1) Lack of Handicaps Diagnosis Centers of the Ministry of Health in many parts of the Kingdom
- 2) Inadequate medical staff working in this area

#### 9. Right to Institutional Protection and Social Protection

The Ministry of Social Development supervises the centers and institutions providing services for the persons with various types of handicaps and for any age group. This is divided into four main sectors: Public Sector (direct supervision), private sector, voluntary sector, and international sector. Number of beneficiaries of the services of these centers and institutions amounted to 15.996 persons in 2007, as in the below chart:



The family is the natural place to raise children, whether healthy or handicapped. However, there are some cases that need institutional care because there is no one to take care of them or that the parts have to go to work. Thus, it is quite necessary to provide the institutional care provided by various community sectors.

**The following provide handicaps centers:**

- **International Sector:** Includes: The Holy Lands for the Deaf in Salt, Swedish Association for Individual Rescue, and the Saudi Center for Habilitation and Teaching Blind Females

- **Private Sector:** This service is provided by 17 organizations spreading all over the Kingdom.

- **Voluntary Sector:** Includes: Al-Amal for Special Raising in Amman, and Dar Al-Mahaba in Ruseifa that welcomes difficult and chronic cases.

- **Government Sector:** This service is provided by three centers: Jerash Center for Welfare and Habilitation, Kerak Center for Welfare and Habilitation, and Al-Amal Al-Jadeed Center for the Persons with Multiple Handicaps in Ruseifa. Around 400 handicapped benefit from these centers.

There are around 1200 persons with disabilities registered on the waiting lists. The cost of each child in any of the above centers would not be less than 400 JD per month. As concerning the financial aids, the National Subsidies Fund provides the financial subsidies based on the number of the handicapped family members and its income. (Please refer to the details stated in Article (3) of the Instructions issued under the National Subsidies Fund and decision number (3\2\2008) on 6 July 2008). Under these instructions, the subsidy would range from 35 to 80 JD per month for the handicapped family.

The Community Habilitation of the persons with disabilities is included within the strategy of the local community development, and it aims at improving the life quality, development of services, and provision of the best opportunities for equality and community integration. This strategy can best be achieved through the coordinated efforts of the handicapped persons themselves, their families, their local communities, and the social, health, occupational, and educational organi-

zations. It should be noted that in 2007 the number of disabled persons who benefited from these programs amounted to 11596. Around 24 programs were implemented by state bodies, non-government organizations, and international organizations all over Jordan.

**Challenges and Problems:**

- 1) High cost of services offered by the private sector to the persons with handicaps, in addition to the limited capacities of the private sector's institutions to admit the handicapped
- 2) Some families are not quite aware of the importance of engaging their handicapped children in the family

**10. Rights of the handicapped women**

The Public Opinion should be educated with the position of the handicapped women to correct the negative opinions on the abilities of these women. For that reason, the role of the handicapped women in the community should be strengthened and promoted to engage these women in the Women Unions and Institutions. Moreover, we must educate these women with their legislative, civil and social rights, and educate their families with the important participation of the handicapped woman in the decision-making process. The Community plays a significant role in the formation of the image of the people towards the persons with handicaps. In most cases, people look at the handicapped as a human species without an identity; and women suffer the most of this negative image. The women suffers from double discrimination because she is a woman, and handicapped. The problems of the handicapped women start at home first, when she is, intentionally, ignored due to shame or, unintentionally, ignored due to fear and embarrassment of facing the people.

Based on the above, the Government is responsible for raising the awareness and education the family and the community on the rights of the women with disabilities. The Handicapped Law Number 31 for the Year 2007- which provisions were derived from the international Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, on which Jordan has ratified- has focused on allowing the women with handicaps to share the same rights and duties with the man. We are looking forward to activate the international Convention and apply it at both the na-

tional and international levels, as in the following:

a- **Right to Work:** rate of working persons with handicaps is low in Jordan. According to the figures of the Public Statistics Department, for 2007 Census, we have found that there are 566 working handicapped women, and 4725 working handicapped males, i.e. around 10.5% of working handicapped women have jobs.

b- **Right to Education:** Women with disabilities are less educated than men. According to the figures of the Public Statistics Department, there are (6747) of handicapped women, who made it from the elementary school to the PhD in 2004, and (15323) for men, which means that 30% of handicapped women were able to complete their education. One of the main reasons for that is the preference of men over women in the area of education, and depriving the women with disabilities, in particular, from their right to education.

c- **Right to Raise a Family:** Figures on the marital status of the persons with handicaps, show that the numbers of married males reached to (11771), against (3452) females. There reason behind this huge difference is the feeling of shame which made the males refrain from marrying handicapped women, thinking that they cannot bear the responsibility of raising a family or their inability to have children due to their disabilities.

If we look closely to the conditions of the handicapped women, we find that has many challenges to face, most important of all is proving herself as a capable woman with distinctive identity. However, handicapped women can surmounts these challenges through:

- Participation on Women Unions and Organizations to enable them to claim their legal rights under the national and Arab legislations and the international Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

- Educating the family and the community with the needs of the handicapped woman and habilitate her, to enable her to be independent with high work performance.

- Provision of proper job opportunities for the handicapped women by engaging her in different realms if life. Recognizing her right to work under the unified principles on the equal chances given to the handi-

capped persons, which were approved by the General Assembly in its Resolution dated 20 December 1993, which stipulates the provision of work opportunities for persons with handicaps (males and females, with particular emphasis on women.

#### **11. Rights of the handicapped child**

Article (3\E) of the Jordanian Handicapped Law, has emphasized the rights of the disabled children to receive their rights and build on their abilities, develop their skills and integrate them in the community. This Article also reflects the strong desire of the Jordanian Legislator to develop and encourage the persons with disabilities since their early years. And he considered these rights as obligations that the State has guaranteed for the welfare and development of its handicapped people.

Right to educations is one of the main methods to integrate the handicapped children in the community. (To read the Right to Education, please refer to Item 4, in order not to repeat the previous concepts).

On the other hand, the international Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has emphasized the importance to take all the necessary measures to ensure that the children with disabilities enjoy their legal rights on equal foot with the healthy children, provided that the best interest of the child should be put into consideration in all the measures taken and adopted by the States Parties.

## **Appendix No.(1)**

**The law for Disabled people Rights No.(31) for 2007 Published in  
the Official Gazette No.(4823) on 1/5/2007 and Came into Force on  
1/5/2007**

### **Law Articles**

#### **Article 1-**

This law shall be named (The law of disabled people rights for 2007) and shall be put into operation as of the date of its publication in the official gazette.

#### **Article 2-**

The following words and phrases shall have wherever mentioned in this law the meanings assigned to them under unless the context indicates otherwise:-

**The Council:** The Higher Council for disabled people Affairs.

**The President:** The president of the Council

**The General Secretary:** The General Secretary of The Council

**The Fund:** The National Fund for Supporting the disabled people

**The disabled person:** Every person who has full or partial disability either in any of his senses or physical, psychological or mental abilities to the extent that limits his capability for learning, habilitation or working whereas he becomes unable to meet his life ordinary requirements under the same conditions of the non-disabled people

**Discrimination on handicapping basis:** Every limit or restriction or disqualification or cancellation or denial due to the handicapping for any of rights or freedoms determined in this law or any other law.

**Reasonable fittings:** the necessary fittings to fit with environmental circumstances in terms of place and date and provide the helpful equipment, tools and aids where appropriate to ensure that those disabled people could practice their rights equally like others provided that no serious damage is caused to the concerned entity.

**Habilitation:** A multi-elements service system aims at enabling the disabled people to recover or realize his physical or mental or job or social or economic abilities to the level as much as his abilities allow.

**Rehabilitation:** measures, programs and plans aiming at recover or enhance or preserve abilities and skills in addition to developing them in the health, job, education or social sector or any other field to achieve equal opportunities, full integration of the disabled people within society and to practice all his basic rights and freedoms equally with others.

**Societal habilitation:** A number of programs in the field of society development to achieve habilitation and equal opportunities and social integration of the disabled people.

**Integration:** measures, programs, plans and policies that aim at realizing the full participation of the disabled people in different areas of life without any form of discrimination and equally like other people.

### **Article 3-**

The philosophy of Kingdom towards the disabled citizens emerges from Arab Islamic values, Jordanian Constitution, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Principles and provisions stipulated in the international agreements related to disabled people rights and it confirms the following pillars:-

A- Respecting the rights, dignity, and freedom of disabled and respecting their private life.

B- Participating in setting up plans and programs, and decision making related to the disabled and their affairs.

C- Equal opportunities and non-discrimination among persons on disability basis.

D- Equality between disabled woman and man in rights and duties.

E- Ensuring the rights of disabled children and building their capacities, developing their skills and enhancing their integration in society.

F- Providing reasonable fittings to enable the disable person to enjoy any right or freedom or to enable him to benefit from a certain service.

G- Accepting the disabled people as part of the human diversity na-

ture.

H- Integration in all life aspects including the coverage of disabled people and their issues with the comprehensive developmental plans.

I- Encouraging and enhancing scientific research, exchanging information in the field of disability and collecting information, data and statistics related to disability that come in pace with the developments in this field.

J- Disseminating awareness and education on the issues of disabled people and their rights.

#### **Article 4-**

With observance to the applicable legislations, the concerned authorities shall as per their specializations provide the disabled people the rights and services indicated in accordance with the provisions of this law in the following fields:-

##### **A-Health:-**

1- precautionary programs and health education including conducting the necessary surveys for the early detection of disabilities.

2- Diagnosis and scientific classification and issuing medical reports for the disabled people.

3- Medical and psychological habilitation services and remedial services at their different levels and to receive them easily.

4-Primary health care for disabled woman during pregnancy, delivery, and post-delivery.

5-Granting free health insurance for the disabled people as per a regulation issued for this purpose.

##### **B-Education and High Education:-**

1-Public education, vocational education and high education opportunities for disabled people as per the disability categories through integration method.

2-Adoption of integration programs between the disabled students and their colleagues of the non-disabled students and implementing them within the framework of educational institutions.

3-Reasonable fittings that help the disabled people to learn,



communicate, train and move freely such as Braille Language for the blind people and sign language for the deaf people in addition to other necessary fittings.

4-Conducting educational diagnosis within the total diagnosis team to define the nature of disability and explaining its degree and needs.

5-Creating qualified technical staffs to deal with disabled students.

6-Programs in the field of guidance, awareness and education for the disabled students and their families.

7-Modern techniques in teaching and learning disabled students in both private and public sectors including teaching mathematics and computer.

8- Accepting the disabled students who passed the general secondary exam as per conditions agreed on between the Council and the High Education Council for admission in the official universities.

9-Deaf people communication means through providing kinds of assistance including the provision of sign language interpreters.

#### **C- Vocational training and work:-**

1-vocational training suitable for disabled people and developing their abilities as per labor market requirements, including training and qualifying trainers working in this field.

2-Disabled people obtaining equal opportunities in the field of work and employment in line with scientific qualifications.

3-Obligating public and private sector institutions and companies of not less than (25) workers and no more than (50) workers to employ one worker from disabled people and if the number of workers exceeded (50), it shall allocate a percentage not less than (4%) of the number of workers where the disabled people working except if the nature of work in the institution.

4-Reasonable fittings by the employer.

#### **D-Social Protection and Institutional Care:-**

1-training the families of disabled people on how to properly deal with the disabled person in a manner that does not infringe his dignity or humanitarian nature.

2-Integrating the disabled child and taking care of him within his family and if failing to do so, a substitute habilitation care shall be

presented.

3-Social and vocational habilitation services and re-habilitation as well as support services of all kinds, and may be realizing effective integration and participation for disabled people and their families.

4-Day or lodging institutional care for disabled people in need of that.

5-monthly aids for disabled persons of those unable to produce as per the provisions of applicable National Aid Fund law provisions.

6-Social habilitation programs as per policies defined by the Council.

#### **E-Environmental facilities:**

1-Appling the «Code» of official national construction requirements related to disabled people issued by the concerned entity in all buildings in both private and public sectors and available to the public and this applies to existing buildings if possible.

2-Granting no construction licenses for any entity except after verifying the adherence to the provisions stated in item (1) of this clause.

3-providing the public transportation companies and tourism offices and car rent offices at least one transportation mean with specifications ensure for the disabled people its usage easily.

4-The disabled people reach Information systems and technology including the internet and the different audio, video and readable media and emergency services including the provisions of sign language interpreters.

#### **F-Customs and tax exemptions:-**

1-exempting reasonable fittings of disabled people including educational, medical and sport materials as well as helpful tools, means and equipments and exempting them from customs duties and general tax on sales, imports stamps fees any from any other taxes or duties as per a regulation issued for this end.

2-Exempting one transportation mean for the usage of disabled person and for one time from customs duties and general tax on sales, imports stamps fees, any other fees, and the principles and conditions of granting such exemptions and replacement of the transport mean

including the degree of disability as per a regulation issued for this end.

3-exempting the severe-disabled people from paying work permits fees for one non-Jordanian worker with a view to serving them in their houses as per a regulation issued for this end.

4-exempting the schools of disabled people, their centers and institutions of charitable societies of all customs duties, general sales tax, buildings tax, Mousaqfatt, knowledge tax as well as imports stamps fees and registration fees of these real-estates and any other taxes or improvement proceeds as per a regulation issued for this end.

5-Exempting the schools, centers, and institutions of disabled people from duties and taxes stipulated in item (4) of this Article if free services are presented for disabled people transferred to them from the Council or the Ministry of Social Development provided that it should define the principles and conditions that should be available in order to grant such exemption as per a regulation issued for this end.

#### **G-Public and political life:-**

1-The right of disabled people to practice nomination and election in different fields and prepare appropriate and easy-to-use places and facilities that enable them to practice the right of voting in secret polling in elections.

2-the suitable environment to effectively participate in all public issues without any discrimination including participation in NGOs interested in public and political life.

#### **H-Sport, culture and entertainment**

1-establishing and supporting sport and culture institutions with a view to open the door to disabled people to practice their different activities and by this they can meet their needs and develop their abilities.

2-Supporting the participation of distinguished disabled people in the fields of culture and sport in international and national activities and conferences.

3-Introducing the sport, culture and entertainment programs and activities within the programs of the institutions, centers and schools working in the field of disability and providing specialized staff and

reasonable fittings.

4-Usage of public libraries and parks and sport facilities before the disabled people and providing reasonable fittings.

#### **I-Prosecution**

1-The medical conditions of the disabled person shall be considered in terms of places allocated for detention if the nature of case and the conditions of his detention require that.

2-Providing auxiliary techniques for disabled people including sign language interpretation.

#### **Article 5-**

With observance of the applicable concerned legislations, any competent entity shall take into consideration the point of view for the Council before granting the licensing for any society, social organization, club, school, center, or institution working in the field of disability.

#### **Article 6-**

A-a Council shall be established in the Kingdom (Higher Council for Disabled People Affairs)and the council shall enjoy a legal personality and financial and administrative autonomy and accordingly it shall perform all necessary legal actions to achieve its objectives including concluding contracts, owning movable and immovable property, borrowing, selling, mortgaging, accepting donations, fund raising, subsidies, and it enjoys the right of prosecution and a general attorney or any other lawyer represents him for this end.

B-The head office of the council will be in Amman and it can open branches and offices in the centers of kingdom>s governorates.

C-The president of the council shall be designated by a highness royal decree.

D-The secretary general of the Council by the decision of the cabinet upon the council>s recommendation

E-The council shall be formed headed by the president and the membership of the following:-

- 1-Secretary General of the Council
  - 2-Secretary General of the Ministry of Social Development
  - 3-Secretary General of the Ministry of Labor
  - 4-Secretary General of the Ministry of Finance
  - 5-Secretary General of the Ministry of Health nominated by the Minister of Health.
  - 6-Secretary General of the Ministry of Education nominated by the Minister of Education
  - 7-Deputy of Greater Amman Municipality nominated by Amman Custodian
  - 8- Secretary General of Higher Council for Youth
  - 9- Head of the Fund
  - 10-Secretary General of the Jordanian Paralolympic Committee (Paralympics)
  - 11- six representatives for the disabled people two of them are visually disabled, two of them are physically disabled, two of them having hearing disability, to be employed by a decision of the cabinet and upon the recommendation of the council provided that one from each disability shall be represent the societies working with such disability.
  - 12- One representative of the families of mentally disabled people nominated by the president.
  - 13-Three persons from the distinguished people in the field of disability and who presented services for the disabled people to be employed by a decision of the cabinet and upon the recommendation of the Council.
- F-The council shall select in its first meeting from his members a deputy for the president to assume his tasks when absent.
- G-The period of membership for the members stipulated in items (11),(12)and (13) of paragraph (E)of this Article shall be three years(renewable once only)

**Article 7- :**

The Council shall assume the following tasks and powers:-

- A- Drawing up, reviewing and following up the implementation of the

policy related to disabled people in coordination with the concerned entities in order to unify all efforts aiming at improving the living level and conditions of disabled people and facilitating their integration in society.

B- Participating with all concerned authorities in setting up a comprehensive national plan for awareness and prevention to put an end of disabilities, alleviate their extremeness and do everything to prevent them from getting worsen.

C- Following up and supporting the implementation of national strategy for disabled people and the plans, programs and activities that arise thereof.

D- Suggesting the modification of legislations related to disabled people as well as regulations and instructions necessary to implement the provisions of this law.

E- Setting up the necessary standards for the quality of programs and services provided for disabled people in coordination with the related authorities.

F- Participating in the efforts aiming at achieving the goals of international accords and agreements related to the issues of disabled people ratified by the Kingdom.

G- Setting up the necessary plans and policies to invest the council's money.

H- Cooperating with national, regional and international institutions and authorities concerned with the goals of the Council

I- Creating pioneer national centers for training and conducting studies and researches as well as establishing databases related to the affairs of disabled people

J-Participation in representing the Kingdom in Arab, regional, international institutions and organizations concerned with the issues of disabled people.

K-Forming permanent and temporary committees to assist the council in performing its tasks and identifying their powers and remuneration.

L-Approving the annual estimated budget and raising it to the cabinet for approval.

M- Approving the closing audited annual statement.

N- Issuing the executive instructions related to financial, administrative and technical affairs in the Council.

O- Determining the organizational chart of the council and describing functions, tasks and responsibilities.

P- Any other matters transferred by the president.

#### **Article 8-**

A-The Council shall assemble once at least every three months or whenever necessary convened by its president or his deputy when absent and the quorum of its meetings with the attendance of not less than the absolute majority for its members provided that the president or his deputy shall be among them and to take his decisions with the majority of his attending members> voices at least.

B- The President shall nominate one of the council>s employees to be the secretary to assume the preparation of council>s meetings and writing down the minutes of its sessions, decisions and keeping its entries and records.

C- The president shall have the right to call anyone with experience and competence to attend the meetings of the council to... his opinion in the matters without having any right to vote on his decisions.

D- The remuneration of the Council>s members shall be determined against attending its sessions by a decision from the Prime Minister and upon the recommendation of the president.

#### **Article 9-**

The president shall assume the following tasks and responsibilities:-

A-Following up the general policy set by the council and supervising the implementation of decisions issued by the council

B-Following up the reports related to the council>s work

C-Representing the Council before others

D-Any other powers authorized to him by the council provided that

the authorization shall be in writing, defined and timely.

#### **Article 10-**

The secretary general shall assume the following tasks and responsibilities:-

A-Implementing the council's decisions

B-Raising periodic reports on work progress in the Council to the president to submit to the council

C-Supervising and managing the council's employees and workers.

D-Preparing the draft annual estimated budget and submitting to the council not less than two months before the end of the fiscal year

E-Preparing the audited closing statement and raising to the council within three months in maximum from the date of the end of the fiscal year.

F-Any other powers assigned to him by the president provided that authorization should be written, defined and timely.

#### **Article 11-**

The council shall constitute a body of employees and workers where as they are recruited and their salaries are defined as well as any other issues concerned them as per a regulation issued for this end.

#### **Article 12 -**

A-Each institution in the private sector, proved that it refrain from implementing the provisions of item (3) of Article (c)of article (4) of this law, shall pay financial fine not less than double the monthly wage for the minimum number of disabled people to be employed during the year and in case of re-violating, the fine will be doubled.

B-Fines stipulated in paragraph (A) of this Article shall be accrued to the Council. .



### **Article 13-**

A-A fund shall be established in the Council and shall be named (The National Fund for Supporting the Disabled People) in liaison with the President with a separate financial account.

B- The Council shall assume the provision of necessary financial resources to support programs and activities related to disabilities and to distribute these resources on different areas in accordance with principles, standards and decisions issued by the Council for this end. The provisions and procedures related to how to form the Fund's committee, head of the fund, its workers and holding its meetings as well as responsibilities, powers and all other matters related to the fund as per instructions issued by the Council for this end.

### **Article 14-**

The Council shall have a separate budget and the fiscal year of the Council shall commence in the first day of January of each year and shall end in the 31 of December of the same year.

### **Article 15-**

A-The financial resources of the Council consist the following:-

- 1-Appropriations allocated in the general budget of the state.
- 2-(10%) of net profits of Jordan Charitable lottery issued by the General Union of Charitable Societies.
- 3-One additional Dinar over the annual licensing for each vehicle excluding the agricultural vehicles.
- 4-Five Dinars for each sale contract for immovable property conducted in the Department of Lands and Survey other than the contracts that conducted either between predecessors and successors or between the spouses or between brothers and sisters.
- 5-0.0005 of the fees of each construction license issued by the competent authorities.
- 6-Donations, fundraising, grants, gifts, and legacies presented provided that the Cabinet's approval is obtained if from a non-Jordanian

source.

7-Allowance imposed by the Council as per special instructions on the usage of its facilities.

8-The proceeds of its funds investment.

9- Fines accrued to it as per the provisions of this law.

10-Any other sources approved by the Council.

B-The bases and conditions for collecting fees stipulated in items (3), (4), and (5) of paragraph (A) of this Articles shall be defined as per instructions issued by the Minister of Finance for this end.

#### **Article 16-**

The Council enjoys exemptions and facilities as government ministries and departments.

#### **Article 17-**

The funds of the Council shall be subject to Audit Bureau control

#### **Article 18-**

The Council's funds and equities with others shall be regarded public funds to be collected in pursuant with the provisions of applicable public money collection law.

#### **Article 19-**

The Cabinet shall issue the necessary regulations in order to execute the provisions of this law.

#### **Article 20-**

Disabled Care Law No. (12) for the year 1993 and its amendments shall be revoked.

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**Article 21-**

The Prime Minister and Ministers are responsible for applying the provisions of this law.

