



The Regional Human Rights Plan in KR-I

2021- 2025

Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA)

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Introduction

Kurdistan Regional Government (henceforth KRG-IRAQ) is diligently working to ensure the protection and respect for human rights as well as the rights and freedoms stated in the Constitution, the effective laws, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the two international covenants and the optional protocols annexed to them, and other charters and conventions related to human rights. KRG-Iraq has expressed its interest in fulfilling its obligations in the area of human rights, such as equality, women's rights, children's rights, components and religious freedoms, the freedom of press, freedom of expression and peaceful demonstration, IDPs and refugees' rights, persons with disabilities and special needs, foreign workers and local workers, correction and detention centers, prevention of torture, enforced disappearance, peaceful coexistence among the components in the disputed areas, rule of law, fair trial, prevention of human trafficking, equitable education, cases of genocide and crimes committed by terrorist organizations.

The Office of the Coordinator of International Advocacy (OCIA) in the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, being the entity in charge of communicating with partners, seeks to enhance the institutional performance, and referring relevant recommendations by using certain mechanisms which are harmonious with international standards to implement such recommendations. At the national level, the OCIA works as a leading member of the National Committee for drafting the commitment reports for the agreements in which Iraq is already a member, as well as the non-contractual reports. The OCIA also responds to the recommendations and remarks received in their regard, so to implement the obligations arising from such commitments, with the aim of providing deep assessments of the strategies and the level of the government's response to international obligations.

KRG-Iraq has assumed the responsibility of presenting the part related to the human rights record in the Region, within the framework of the Republic of Iraq before the international community. This is attained through the comprehensive and periodic review mechanism which works to provide an opportunity for all countries to declare their measures to improve the human rights situation in their countries and to fulfill their obligations in this regard.

After discussing and receiving the recommendations of the third round of the universal periodic review mechanism (UPR), the OCIA developed a draft of the regional plan under the guidance

of the national plan of the Republic of Iraq for the fourth round 2025, in part of the national mechanism for implementing the international recommendations, pursuant to the United Nations standards. This plan shall be a regional document, roadmap and plan of action with specific timeframes and priorities that related to the path of legislation and best policies to promote and develop the human rights. This approach may create a sense of collective responsibility to motivate all concerned parties to exert all possible efforts to ensure the protection of human rights. Therefore, it should be given enough attention by the legislative, executive and judicial authorities, and should be mainstreamed in their work plans, to ensure its implementation. The regional plan will be an initiative to establish a court specialized in human rights protection in KRG-Iraq, called “Kurdistan Court of Human Rights” which will be concerned with redressing and compensating the damages of the violations of human rights, and the damages related to those rights as stated in the constitution of Iraq and in the future constitution of the Region, as well as the international conventions to which Iraq has become a party.

Regional Human Rights Plan (RHRP) Implementation Phases:

1. Plan Development Phase: This phase includes collecting all recommendations and concluding observations related to KRG-Iraq within the recommendations referred to the Republic of Iraq; determining the measures taken in this regard, the implementing entities the timeframe for implementation. The draft was prepared with the participation of the legislative, executive and judicial authorities, along with of active partners such as UNAMI, in addition to civil society organizations concerned with human rights and the Independent Commission for Human Rights, as being key partners in providing feedback and consultations as part of the regional plan adopted by the KRG-Iraq. Hence, Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) consults the expertise it needs from the main partners, such as technical support, training and consultancy and financial support.
2. The Plan Implementation Phase: After the approval of the regional plan in KRG-Iraq, the concerned authorities shall implement the plan, in parallel with the federal authorities, and in coordination with Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA), and shall work with the main actors to implement the first phase of the plan, which is concerned with enhancing consultation and training of stakeholders.

3. Implementation and follow-up phase: This phase begins in parallel with the procedures for the actual implementation of the national plan, and the follow-up procedures with the concerned authorities in the institutions of the KRG-Iraq and collecting information and data.

Work plan strategy:

The draft of the action plan depends on several procedures and priorities in implementation, and they represent a strategic vision for a medium-term action plan. Such procedures and priorities include:

- Reviewing legislations and proposing amendments to them, if necessary.
- Providing a supportive environment for the independence of the judiciary.
- Developing training programs for law enforcement personnel in accordance with international standards.
- Working to ensure full equality and equal opportunities in practicing all rights.

The Objectives of the RHRP:

RHRP seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. Aligning the valid legislations, the Kurdistan Region with international conventions and treaties, and with the rights and freedoms stipulated in the Federal Constitution.
2. Strengthening the role of the Region in shaping the internal and external policy of Iraq in human rights.
3. Preparing and developing regional government programs for the protection and promotion of human rights.
4. Enhancing the accomplished work in the field of protecting and promoting human rights.
5. Building and strengthening the institutional and individual capacities.

Inacceptable or Inapplicable Recommendations:

Iraq has received many recommendations and concluding remarks during its presentation of its report within the mechanism of the Third cycle of UPR on November 11, 2019. The number of recommendations submitted to the delegation of the Republic of Iraq amounted to 298, during the interactive dialogue session that took place with the delegations of 111 member states and observers in the Human Rights Council. About 245 recommendations attained support; 48 recommendations received attention as being noted, and 5 recommendations got partial support, as being un-executable or unacceptable because they are contradicting social values, or the

principles of Islamic Sharia, or the legal directions of the State. KRG-IRAQ may consider how far the unacceptable recommendations can be implemented within the framework of the authorities' jurisdiction in its institutions, such as applying death penalty and some issues related to women's rights.

Training employees to implement and monitor the plan:

Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) of in the Presidency of the Council of Ministers is in charge of communicating with partners for the purpose of training the concerned parties in the ministries and institutions of the KRG-Iraq, supervising the implementation of the plan and following it up and reporting about it.

Funding the RHRP

RHRP puts the responsibility for implementing its items on the shoulder of the concerned authorities with the lowest possible spending, as it is not possible to allocate a specific budget under the current circumstances due to the financial crisis. Hence, the concerned authorities must take into account the necessity of sponsoring and organizing some activities related to the plan. Those ministries and agencies not affiliated to ministries shall set the requirements of the plan within the framework of their plans for the next five years. But this does not prevent some international donor organizations from sponsoring, directly organizing and sponsoring some activities of the regional plan.

Challenges:

RHRP takes into consideration encountering some expected and urgent challenges that may arise during the implementation phase, such as:

1. The regional plan seeks to make legislative and procedural changes and develop the SOPs of the relevant institutions working in related fields, which may be difficult to tolerate.
2. The process of passing any bill of law in the Region requires an unspecified time due to the length and complexity of legal consultations and the phases of discussion, whether in the legislative or executive powers.
3. The health crisis in the Region and Iraq, due to Covid-19 pandemic, affects the workflow in general in all institutions.
4. Failure to provide financial allocation to all institutions in light of fluctuating economic conditions.

Part I

Obligation: Accession to International Conventions

Objective: Instilling humanitarian and legal principles and contribute to building an international system that respects human rights

The current status quo: KRG-Iraq, through Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA), submitted dozens of reports to the National Report Writing Committee, including the measures taken by the region to fulfill the obligations of the international conventions and treaties Iraq has joined, including: International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Covenant Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; The International on Civil and Political Rights; International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and the two Optional Protocols; the Unified Basic Document of the Republic of Iraq and the Arab Charter on Human Rights. The following is a table of the agreements to which Iraq has acceded:

No.	Convention	Date of Accession
1	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	1970/1/14
2	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1971/1/25
3	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1971/1/25
4	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	1986/8/13
5	Convention on the Rights of the Child	1994/6/15
6	The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC)	2008/6/24

7	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography	2008/6/24
8	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	2010/11/23
9	The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2011/7/7
10	The Arab Charter on Human Rights	2012
11	the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)	2013/3/20

Many recommendations and concluding remarks were received from a number of international human rights entities through the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism. They represent the legal rationale for Iraq's accession to some international conventions within the plan, such as:

Constitution of Iraq	UPR Recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
	15		10		6/7/29a	
	28		32c	45	30/ 55a/	
	31		43		56	
			47			

These recommendations lead to the followings:

- Joining Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (Iraq has acceded to the Convention previously.)
- Joining the ILO conventions (Iraq has not yet become a party to them).
- Joining the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

- Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.
 - Expedite the review of the draft law ratifying the Marrakesh Treaty.
- Ratification of the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness of 1961.
- Ratification of 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons of 1954.
- Ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Workers, Migrants and Members of Their Families.
 - Ratification of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention 2011.
- Issuing the optional declaration stipulated in Article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.
- Ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and approving, as soon as possible, the amendment to Article 20/1 thereof, regarding the date of the committee meeting.
 - Considering the ratification of the Convention on Workers with Family Responsibilities 1981, issued by the ILO in order to promote equality in the sharing of domestic and family responsibilities between men and women.
 - Withdrawing the reservations made to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), in order to abolish all discriminatory laws and practices and to ensure equality in all matters relating to family and marital relations; and abolishing the legal provisions that exempt the punishment of perpetrators or rapists who marry their victims.

Implementing and supportive entities

- KRI Parliament
- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura (Regional) council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of Health
- Directorate of Disabled Persons' Affair - MOLSA
- High Council of Women Affairs.
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of the Council of Ministers

- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs.

Implementation Mechanism

RHRP sets the SOPs within the framework of human rights based on the active participation of the representatives of KRG-Iraq in the national committees, and considering the accession to the international conventions to express the KRI view of those conventions.

First: Individual Complaint Systems

1. Submitting proposals and projects for joining international conventions or lifting reservations by all institution of KRI.
2. Activating individual complaints systems in the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.
3. Developing and updating the individual complaints system in the law of Independent Commission for Human Rights No. (4) of 2010.
4. Creating an early reporting mechanism and developing the existing ones.

Second: International Convention:

1. Getting introduced to the opinion of the relevant government agencies regarding the nationality agreements.
2. Getting introduced to the opinion of the governmental institutions concerned with the conventions of the International Labor Organization.
3. Getting acquainted with the opinion of governmental institutions with regard to agreements concerned with the rights of persons with disabilities.

Implementation Period

Because of the nature of the procedures to be taken by States to be members of international conventions and treaties which require extensive studies to identify the legislative deficiencies in each State, the time available for implementing these recommendations must be within the timeframe of the **RHRP**. A specific period of time will be given for each party to distribute the tasks, based on the implementation framework annexed to this plan, taking into consideration the laws issued in the Region that are compatible with international treaties and conventions.

Part II: Passing or amending laws

Objective: Building a legal system that is compatible with international obligations and contractual duties to provide basic legal protection for human rights

Human rights conventions set some objective standards for States' actions and impose on them specific obligations towards the individuals to sanction human rights. Upon reviewing the legal systems of member States in the United Nations, such member States seek to use the literature of the United Nations contractual committees and the concluding remarks that they present when discussing the reports of the States parties, as a general framework for the formulation of a specific draft law. With regard to the legislation of laws in KRI, Kurdistan Parliament may enforce any federal law in the region, or pass its own law, away from exclusive jurisdiction of the federal authorities, as stipulated in Article 110 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Iraq.

The remarks of the convention committees, as well as the recommendations of the UPR mechanism, may also include the Constitution in the cases that contain provisions that contradict with the provisions of the agreements. This section will include the most important recommendations related to the Constitution and legislation.

Section 1: The Constitution

The constitution of Iraq (2005) focuses on many rights, all are placed under the title of “Rights and Freedoms”, and provided advanced articles in the field of human rights. These rights include: **civil rights**, which include personal safety, the right to citizenship and the right to litigation to ensure justice, and **political rights** which include the right to vote in elections and public referendums in the country, the right to run for elections to be member in public and regional parliaments, and the right to participate in establishing political parties and associations. As for **economic rights**, the Constitution gives these rights to individuals through three main ways; including *the right to work*, *the right to property and investment*, and the State's undertaking of economic reform. In addition to **social and cultural rights**, which include social care, health care, and sponsorship of scientific, cultural and sports activities.

Kurdistan Region of Iraq is in the process of ratifying a constitution of its own, provided that no law or any text in the Region’s Constitution that contradicts the Federal Constitution of Iraq, as stated in Article (13) shall be valid. The draft of the constitution consists of 122 articles. It also includes a chapter related to the definition of the Region, its borders, its political and social identity. Another chapter addresses the forms of authorities in the Region, as well as sections of the “Rights and Duties” the constitution guaranteed to the citizens of the Region, and the shape of the Region’s relationship with the central authorities. But this does not prevent making amendments to the articles of the Federal Constitution, whether at the national or international level, through recommendations received by Iraq to align all national laws with human rights conventions in which Iraq is a member.

- Making constitutional amendments to controversial articles, such as Article 41: “Iraqis are free to abide by their personal status, according to their religion, sects, beliefs, or choices, and this shall be regulated by law.”

- Passing a law that regulates the rights set forth in Article 125 of the Constitution concerning the local administrations: “This constitution guarantees the administrative, political, cultural and educational rights of different nationalities such as Turkmen, Chaldeans, Assyrians, and all other components, and this shall be regulated by law.”

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
The basic principles of the constitution of Iraq.	17		14 a			Relevant international conventions

Implementing entities

- Presidency of the Republic of Iraq
- Council of Representatives
- KRI Parliament

- KRI Shura (Regional) council – Ministry of Justice
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of the Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights

Implementation Mechanism

- ❖ The mechanism is determined by the federal government in coordination with the Regions, as it is sovereignty issue.
- ❖ proposals for amendment proposals through the available constitutional channels, whether through the MPs from the Kurdish blocs, or through the Federal Council of Ministers, as well as advocacy mechanisms represented by civil society.

Implementation Period

- ❖ The timeframe of the constitutional amendments is determined by the implementing authorities by providing a schedule of deadlines according to the implementation mechanism annexed to this plan.

Section 2: Penalties

The Law in force: Iraqi Penal Code No. 111 of 1969 (Amended)

KRI has made some amendments to the aforementioned law, but these amendments are effective in the Region only. Articles 156 (related to the security, stability and sovereignty of Kurdistan Region institution); 157-189 (related to crimes against external security of the State); 195-190 and 198-219 (related to crimes against internal security of the State); 223, 224, 225, 227, 228 (related to crimes committed against the public authority); 204 (related to the use of the right of legitimate defense) have been suspended. Also, article 41 of the Penal Code regarding the husband's disciplinary measures against his wife was amended by Law No.7 of 2001, and the suspension of Article 409 of the Iraqi Penal Code in KRG-IRAQ by Law No. 3 of 2015.

-Expediting the process of revising the Penal Code and other effective legislations in order to align them with the international standards and conventions, especially CEDAW and the CRC, as well as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

- Restricting the death penalty to the most cardinal crimes.

- Revoking Articles 128, 130 and 131 related to honor crimes (mitigating excuses and the honorable motive).
- Amending Paragraph 4 of Article 495 / Releasing an insane person on a public road.
- Reconsidering Article (105/ Detention of the Insane).
- Augmenting the prohibition of violence and torture stipulated in paragraph 4 of Article 29 and in paragraph 1/c of Article 37 of the Constitution and regulating them by law, and Articles 333 and 421 of the Penal Code.
- Revoking articles 377 and 380 of the Penal Code (which discriminate against women.)
- Suspension of the provisions of Article 398 of the Penal Code (concerning the marriage of a rapist with his victim).
- Reviewing and amending the articles in the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedures, which discriminate against women and promote a culture of gender-based violence.
- Changing the law that allows honor to be used as a legal defense against women.
- Adopting laws to prevent and eliminate the traditional practices which are harmful to women and girls, especially early marriages, forced marriages and female genital mutilation.
- Repealing all provisions of the Iraqi Penal Code which tolerate domestic violence and amending the aforementioned law to include the penalty for rape, sexual assault and holding perpetrators accountable.
- Passing and implementing laws that prohibit all forms of GBV, and changing the provisions that would protect rapists had they married their victims.
- Legalizing abortion in cases of rape, danger to the life or health of the pregnant woman, or in case of severe deformation of the fetus.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 30/29	108/81/68/46 253/250/236	106/36	14b 34d		7/8/27a/ 28 a	- CEDAW - CRC - Arab Charter on HR

Implementing entities

- KRI Parliament
- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura (Regional) council – Ministry of Justice
- Prosecutor General - Ministry of Justice
- MOLSA
- High Council of Women Affairs.
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of the Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs.

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law if necessary.
- ❖ Presenting a draft law by the Prosecutor General Commission or amending the applicable law.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 3: Criminal Procedural Law

The Law in force: Criminal Procedural Law No. 23 of 1971.

There are many comments and remarks about this law as it represents the judicial guarantees for the protection of human rights during investigation, trial or implementation of penalties. Many international observations contradict the attitude of the Iraqi legislator regarding honor crimes (the honorable motive) and the issue of the period of detention, and there is no update on the submission of a draft integrated law to amend the Criminal Procedural Law, or at least to study those proposals.

- Expediting the process of revising the Criminal Procedure Law and the effective legislations in order to align them with international standards, particularly the CEDAW, CRD, as well as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.
 - Reviewing the rules of criminal law provisions to ensure that defendants do not continue to be held in pre-trial detention for long periods. Hence, this review may ensure that pre-trial detention is not the general rule and that detainees or defendants arrested on criminal charges are without delay before a judge, or before one of the officials who are duly authorized to exercise judicial functions, and without delay (according to the Iraqi Constitution of 2005, that bringing detainees or defendants accused of criminal charges must be before judges only, not before officials authorized by law to exercise judicial functions.
 - Reviewing and amending the articles in the **Criminal Procedural Law**, which discriminate against women and promote a culture of gender-based violence.
 - Amending Article 175 of the aforementioned law to ensure the right of each defendant to discuss the witnesses of the accusation, directly or through a lawyer (Charter/76). The articles on the subject of hearing the witnesses in the Criminal Procedural law stipulates appropriate provisions for the parties to discuss the witnesses, but the Arab Charter on HR Committee believes there is a gap in the law which allows giving testimony without the ability of the parties to the case to discuss the witnesses, and the committee requests the amendment of Article 175, to add a new provision which may address its interest.
 - Amending Article 287 of the Criminal Procedural law to ensure that the execution of the death penalty on a pregnant or breastfeeding convict woman shall be postponed for two years as of the date of birth.
 - The necessity of amending the anti-terrorism law in the KRI in a way that achieves a balance between the rights of the accused in arrest and the requirements of protecting society from the threat of terrorism.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
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Articles /19/15 37	108/81	76/72/70/50	20 a 20 b			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEDAW - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights - The Convention against Torture - Arab Charter on HR -
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Implementing entities:

- The Judiciary
- KRI Parliament
- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura (Regional) council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Bar Association
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of the Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs.

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law if necessary

Implementation period

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 4: Personal Status and Civil Actions

The Law in force: Civil Status Law No. 188 of 1959 and Civil Law No. 40 of 1951.

KRG-IRAQ has made some amendments to the aforementioned laws, and these amendments are applicable in the Region only. Some articles of this law were suspended by Law No. (15) of 2008, including the suspension of the following articles: 3, 5, 6/par.1, 7/ par.2, 8/par.1, 9/par.1-2, 10/par.2 and 2, 23, 24/par.1). 25, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 37/par. 2, 38/par.1, 93/par. 2 and 3, 40/F5, 43/par. 1, 44, 46/par. 1, 3, 50, 58, 74, 91).

- Expediting the process of revising the Civil Status Law and other effective legislations in order to align them with the international standards and conventions, especially CEDAW and the CRC, as well as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

-Amending domestic legislations to comply with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

- Abolishing the discriminatory legal exceptions to the minimum age of marriage for girls stated in the Personal Status Law.

-Amending Article 7 of the Personal Status Law regarding the eligibility for marriage— being rational and completion of eighteen years of age. The committee of convention believes that these conditions include discrimination against persons with disabilities.

-Amending Article 9 of the Personal Status Law with regard to forced marriage.

-Reconsidering Articles No. 108, 107, 94, 95, 7 of the Personal Status Law.

- Finding a real solution to the issue of children born to an ISIS father and a Yazidi mother, in matters of their religion and lineage.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 30/29/14 46/32 /	81 /16		36a		23/24/ i /41 42/53/ i 54 i	- CRPD - CEDAW -CRC

Implementing entities

- KRI Parliament
- Judicial Council

- KRI Shura (Regional) council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior
- MOLSA
- Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- High Council of Women Affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – council of ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs.

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law if necessary.
- ❖ Working on presenting a draft law of the civil status related to religious components.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work.

Section 5: Rights and privileges of persons with disabilities and special needs

The Law in force: Law No. 22 of 2011 on rights and privileges of the persons with disabilities and special needs of KRI.

Iraq has received many concluding remarks upon discussing its human rights reports before the convention committees at the United Nations, the Arab League and the Human Rights Council concerning the rights of persons with disabilities. Such remarks demanded that legislations to be amended to align with international standards, and give full access to the rights of persons with disabilities. KRG-IRAQ has passed Mental Health Law No. 8 of 2013 in order to protect the rights of mentally ill patients, ensure health care and social care for them, and rehabilitate them as a vital and active segment of society.

-Passing the necessary instructions by the Ministry of Health to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of Mental Health Law No. 8 of 2013.

-Aligning the legislation in the KRG-IRAQ, including the law of rights and privileges for the disabled and people with special needs No. 22 of 2011, in full compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

- Recognizing persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others before the law.
- Ensuring the right of persons with disabilities to exercise their rights to vote and run for elections.
- Abolishing corporal punishment as legal act under Article 41/paragraph 1 of the Penal Code when husbands may inflict corporal punishment on their wives, or parents and teachers inflict it on children, even if “within the limits of what is prescribed by law or custom.”
- Amending the Medical Professional Conduct Regulations of 1985, and ensuring that persons with disabilities shall give their free and informed consent before engaging them in any medical or scientific research.
- Enhancing the measures that aim at protecting the rights of persons with disabilities and special needs by creating appropriate legislations, infrastructure and facilities.
- Creating an appropriate environment to facilitate the movement of the disabled persons and people with special needs.
- Facilitating the access of children with disabilities to school buildings, qualifying teachers to deal with them, and taking care of providing targeted child development services that are appropriate for children with disabilities, pursuant to Paragraph 4 of Article 40 of the Charter.
- Increasing the percentage of fund allocation in the public budget based on the percentage of the disability as determined by a specialized medical committee, pursuant to special criteria issued by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.
- Participation of persons with disabilities, particularly women, in the process of decision-making on issues related to their rights.
- Considering preparing a comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date statistics for persons with disabilities, classified by age, gender, type of disability, and the percentage of persons with disabilities in the labor market.
- Increasing awareness campaigns with the participation of persons with disabilities with the aim of raising awareness on the rights of persons with disabilities, combating discrimination against them, and enhancing their participation in political and public life.
- Ensuring that all women and girls with disabilities have access to high-quality health services, including those of sexual and reproductive health, and providing them with reasonable facilitating arrangements.
- Amending the guardianship system for persons with psychosocial or mental disabilities as stipulated in Paragraph 2 of Article 46 and Article 104 of Civil Law No. 40 of 1951, as

well as the Articles 94, 95, 107 and 108 of the Civil Code and Article 7 of Law No. 188 of 1959 which do not recognize the legal eligibility of persons with mental or psychosocial disabilities.

- Increasing the quotas of persons with disabilities and special needs in the field of work, pursuant to Article 40 / Paragraph (4) of the Charter.
- Seeking to abolish the term “disabled” and replace it with the term “persons with special needs”, as it is less harmful on them and is more in line with human rights.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 14 /15 / 32	292	157/153/152 /159/ 165/163/161 166/	34/ e		7/ 8 9 a/ 10 a 23a /24a /27a/ 28a /29c 30d/ 35a /36a/ 47 / 48 /49 b/ 50b /53a /54a	- CRPD - Arab Charter on HR - The Two Covenants

Implementing entities

- MOLSA
- Ministry of Transportation
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Culture and Youth
- General Commission of Mine Action
- High Council of Women Affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – council of ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs.

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law if necessary.
- ❖ Expediting the pass of a proposed bill on the rights and privileges of workers in the field of mine actions submitted by the Public Authority for Mine Action to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.
- ❖ Submitting proposals to issue instructions within the abovementioned law as per increasing the percentage of participation of women with special needs in employment.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work.

Section 6: Racial Discrimination

The valid: Law of Protection of Components in KRI No. 5 of 2015.

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination requires State parties to amend their legislation so as to ban discrimination as stated and interpreted by the Committee concerned with monitoring the implementation of the above-mentioned Convention by means of having in place a range of appropriate complaint mechanisms for and ethnic and religious components protection methods. The Constitution of Iraq, in several articles, referred to to the prohibition of discrimination, in addition to the rights of components to enjoy their culture, use their language and contribute to the administration of

the areas in which they are located. Also, there are attempts to legislate some laws that cover the international obligations and constitutional texts. The Law on the Protection of the Rights of Components in the Kurdistan Region No. 5 of 2015 was legislated to protect and guarantee the political, civil, social, cultural and economic rights of the components pursuant to national and international laws to promote the spirit of respect, tolerance and coexistence among the citizens of KRI.

- Mainstreaming the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination Full and integrating it in the the legal system, provided that the convention have precedence over domestic legislation in case of conflict.
- Passing legislations to protect the rights of religious minorities to enable them to exercise their right to freedom of faith.
- Adopting laws which prevent and criminalize discrimination on the basis of religion, belief, or sexual orientation.
- Exerting intensive efforts to combat all types of discrimination against women with disabilities who belong to ethnic, religious or linguistic components.
- Intensifying efforts to combat the multi-faceted discrimination against women and girls with disabilities, and taking effective measures in this regard.
- Adequately enforcing the measures to combat multi-dimensional discrimination, particularly the discrimination against women with disabilities who live in rural areas, women with disabilities who are displaced, refugees or immigrants, and women with disabilities belonging to ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities (This recommendation is addressed directly to Kurdistan Regional Government).
- Promoting the culture of non-discrimination, respect for others and tolerance based on the principle of citizenship and respect for pluralism and diversity. This is to be achieved through increasing governmental programs, in cooperation with civil society organizations concerned with spreading the culture of human rights, including educational curricula development. Such programs must be implemented in partnership with national institutions and civil society organizations.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions

Articles 15/14/7/4/3 20/	98 , 29 289	33		10/8	13b /14b	-CEDAW -The Two Covenants -The Arab Charter on HR
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Implementing entities

- KRI Parliament
- Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Culture and Youth
- MOLSA
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent Commission on Human Rights
- Relevant CSOs.

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 7: GBV and survivors from ISIS crimes

Sexual slavery and sexual violence are some of the human rights violations committed by ISIS terrorist organization. During this crisis, international organizations and convention entities noted that there is a legislative gap in Iraq to address these crimes and some other types of

gender violence. In this context, the Yazidi Survivors Law No. 8 of 2021 was issued, within the context of the preparation of the present plan, by the federal government. Also KRG-IRAQ exerted efforts in this regard.

- Criminalizing sexual slavery and trafficking in persons for the purposes of sexual exploitation, in seclusion of abduction or detention.
- Approving and implementing the laws which prevent all forms of gender-based violence.
- Adopting a draft law on the survivors of ISIS crimes, and ensuring its compliance with international human rights standards and principles.
- Mainstreaming the disability perspective into the Regional Action Plan for the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 of 2000 on women, peace and security.
- Establishing special centers to provide legal services to facilitate the access of victims to information.
- Taking urgent measures to provide medical, psychological, material and other forms of aids to the victims, give them adequate reparation, which includes restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, reconciliation and safeguards against recurrence.
- Securing a safe shelter for accommodation to solve the problems of the survivors.
- Taking all necessary measures and procedures to rescue women and girls who are still under the control of armed terrorist organizations and presenting the perpetrators to justice.
- Providing assistance to women and children who are victims of violence, who are released or rescued from slavery or abduction, and simplifying the procedures for survivors' access to legal and humanitarian services.
- Mainstreaming the gender perspective in policies related to disability issues, and avoiding promotion of the disability perspective in the legislation and policies related to gender issues, such as the *National Strategy for Women Empowerment 2014-2018*, the *National Strategy for Combating Violence against Women 2013*, and the *National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Security Council Resolution 1325 of 2000 on women, peace and security 2014-2018*, and the *National Strategy of Women Empowerment in the Kurdistan Region 2013-2019*.
- Taking effective measures, with the active participation of the organizations representing women and girls with disabilities, to mainstream the perspective disability consideration in all policies and regulations related to gender issues, including the draft law of eliminating

domestic violence, and to integrate a gender perspective in all policies and regulations related to the disability issue.

- Promoting awareness about the draft law of eliminating domestic violence in the community.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 30/29	105/99/53	101 /97 /96	22a /22b	18/e	13a /14a/ 21b /22b	-CEDAW - CRC - The Two Covenants -The Arab Charter on HR -

Implementing entities

- Ministry of Endowment and Religious
- Ministry of Education
- Commission of Investigation, Evidence Collection and Treatment
- Rescue Office of Yazidi Abducted Victims
- High Council of Women Affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work.

Section 8: Health Insurance

- Passing the Law of Health Insurance of KRG-IRAQ to provide health care for all society. Also, Health Insurance Law No. 22 of 2020 was issued in the Federal Government.
- Raising the allocations in the public budget for the health sector.
- Testing imported medicines for compliance with the conditions of quality control and specifications.
- Reducing the excessive costs of medical treatment in private sector hospitals.
- Preparing SOP document for the purchase of medicines, supplies, medical devices and related services under the Framework Agreement by seeking guidance from international documents and using them in the open and limited competitive bids, whether national or international, in the purchases conducted by the contracting authorities in the Region.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Article 31		31				International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights -The Arab Charter on HR

Implementing entities

- KRI Parliament
- KRI Shura (Regional) council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Planning
- Ministry of Finance
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent Commission on Human Rights
- Relevant CSOs.

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law.

Implementation Period:

Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 9: Torture and enforced disappearance

International organizations, convention committees and the universal periodic review mechanism continue to give directions and provide recommendations and remarks on the need to amend Iraqi legislations in a manner that ensures the effective implementation of international conventions, including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, particularly adopting some legislative approaches to include the crime of torture as expressly as stated in the Convention, as well as a clear definition of the crime of enforced disappearance, as well as other provisions contained in the two Covenants and the Arab Charter on Human Rights.

- Passing a law which prohibit and criminalize all forms of corporal punishment pursuant to the conventions concerned with eliminating torture and enforced disappearance.

- Criminalizing enforced disappearance as a crime against humanity according to the criteria set forth in Article 5 of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.
- Setting a definition for the crime of torture in the national legislations pursuant to the International Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of 1987, considering the crime of torture as a cardinal crime, and imposing an aggravating punishment on perpetrators, and ensuring the victims' right to compensation.
 - Integrating the crime of enforced disappearance in the national legislations as a separate independent crime in accordance with the definition contained in Article 2 of the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Some acts are included in the Iraqi Penal Code under the category of enforced disappearance, such as arrest, detention or abduction. These acts are considered enforced disappearance when committed by non-state entities.
 - Establish monitoring mechanisms to eliminate torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in all contexts in which persons with disabilities are detained, and establishing a complaints mechanism that makes it easier for persons with disabilities to access.
 - Amending or revoking Article 41/paragraph 1 of the Penal Code; passing legislations that ban all forms of corporal punishment in all contexts; and enforcing the prohibition of violence and torture stipulated in Article 29, paragraph 4, Article 37/ 1(c) of the Constitution, and Articles 333 and 421 of the Penal Code.
 - Investigating all forms of torture (if any) at all phases of the criminal case as it violates the human rights of the individual.
 - Continuing to aligning the adoption of draft laws with the relevant international conventions related to combating enforced disappearance.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 19 /37	152 /37	52			29/ b 30 b /29 c	- Convention against torture

					30 c	-Convention against enforced disappearance -The Two Covenants
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Implementing entities:

- KRI Parliament
- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of martyrs and Anfal affairs
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Independent commission on human rights
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG-IRAQ security council
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law if necessary.

Implementation Period:

Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 10: International Crimes

- The draft law of the criminal court specialized in ISIS crimes KRG-IRAQ has been prepared. It was studied, reviewed and deeply analyzed by specialists and received its first reading in KRI Parliament. Crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes were included among the international crimes in said the draft law.

- Passing a law prohibiting international crimes, including genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 7 ,8	44					Enacting Security council resolution No. 2379 of 2017

Implementing entities:

- KRI Parliament
- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Peshmerga.
- Ministry of martyrs and Anfal affairs
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights

➤ Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law if necessary.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 11: Domestic Violence

The law in force: Combating Domestic Violence Act No. 8 of 2011 in KRG-Iraq.

In light of Iraq's accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and to combat the phenomenon of domestic violence, the special Act of combating domestic violence No. 8 of 2011 was issued in the Kurdistan Region - Iraq. It is the first law of its kind in Iraq. The law criminalizes 13 cases of domestic abuse and exploitation of women, and imposes deterrent penalties for each case. Courts specialized in combating domestic violence were also established.

- Spreading a culture of non-discrimination by increasing governmental programs in cooperation with relevant civil society organizations.
- Adopting the draft law on combating domestic violence and amending the law that allows honor to be used as a legal defense of violence against women.
- Protecting of women who report cases of domestic violence.
- Take effective measures, with the real participation of organizations concerned with women and girls with disabilities, to mainstream the perspective of disability in all policies and legislation related to gender issues, including the draft law on combating domestic violence, and to integrate the gender perspective in all policies and legislation related to disability.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 14 /15 /29 /30	/79 /76 /68 /61 /261 /66 /254 /90 151 /138 /80	101	14c		13a 14a	- CEDAW -CRC -The Two Convents

Implementing entities

- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Health.
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Ministry of Education
- High Council of Women Affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
 - Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.

Implementation Period:

Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 12: Freedom of expression and access to information

The Law in force: Right to Access to Information Act No. 11 of 2013 in KRI.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 38 of the Iraqi Constitution, the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the active remarks of the Human Rights Committee, the KRG-IRAQ issued the Right to Access to Information Act so as to establish the principle of transparency and effective participation in the democratic process, regulate the provision of accurate information and ensure a better climate for freedom of expression and publication.

- Adopting a draft law on the freedom of expression, assembly and peaceful demonstration, with full compliance with international human rights law and the articles of the Arab Charter on Human Rights.
- Raising awareness about the freedom of access to information from official sources and how to circulate it pursuant to the relevant international standards.
- Declaring the response to demonstrators' demands, whether to implement or not to implement them, with a clarification of the reasons.
- Official recognition of sign language, the insufficient number of specialized training programs on sign language translation, and the limited participation of persons with disabilities in teaching sign language and in adopting sign language interpreters.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 32 /38	187	88			39a /40a	CRPD The Two Convents - Arab Charter on HR

Implementing entities

- Prosecutor General – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Culture and Youth
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs

- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- KRI Journalist’s Syndicate
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
 - Independent commission on human rights
 - Directorate of NGOs
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law if necessary.

Implementation Period:

Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 13: Journalists Protection

The law in force: Journalism Act No. 35 of 2007 of KRG-IRAQ.

This law was issued to create a safe working environment for journalists and organize their work.

- Establishing a mechanism on how journalists can access information from original and official sources.
- Increasing efforts to protect journalists and investigating on those who exploit the profession of journalism for other purposes that may harm the national security of the State and prevent their impunity.
- Following-up on the activities of journalists by the Syndicate of Journalists on a regular basis.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions

Article 38	195 /71	92				-The Two Convents -Arab charter on HR
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Implementation entities:

- Prosecutor General – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- KRI Journalist’s Syndicate
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
 - Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- Finalizing the projects of visual, audio and digital (electronic) journalism by KRI Journalist’s Syndicate and KRI Parliament.

❖ Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 14: Nationality

Many international convention bodies submitted concluding remarks to amend the Iraqi Nationality Law in a way that guarantees equal treatment between men and women, and ensure equality to some groups of Iraqi society which have been subjected to discrimination in granting citizenship. This comes on the basis of the Iraqi Constitution, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Convention Child Rights and the Arab Charter on Human Rights. The Iraqi government submitted an amendment to the Iraqi Nationality Law and it was returned to the government again. Therefore, the proposals

submitted under the recommendations of international organizations can be considered to be integrated in the current draft law.

- Amending Nationality Law No. 26 of 2006 to guarantee equal rights for women and men in acquiring, transferring, retaining and changing nationality.
- Amending the discriminatory provisions in Article (4) of Law No. 26 of 2006 regarding nationality.
- Ensuring that laws and regulations related to the acquisition and transfer of nationality are applied to all persons without discrimination, and that all necessary measures are taken to prevent statelessness. The Committee also recommends that the State party may consider ratifying the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.
- The necessity of registering all children with disabilities and preventing them from falling into statelessness.
- Taking special measures to improve the process integration Roma people into society, as in firmly addressing the poverty they suffer from, and ensuring their access to health care and employment, in the light of its general recommendation No. 27 of 2000 related to the discrimination against Roma people, to take practical measures to eliminate discrimination and marginalization in the State party, in matters of education and housing. The Committee further recommends that the State party should grant one single uniformed official identity document to all Roma community members, without discrimination.
- Accelerating the process of restoring the citizenship to the Faili Kurds, by facilitating their acquisition of nationality, via several methods including eliminating all administrative obstacles at all stages of the process.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendation	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 14 /15 / 18	97		28 / a 28 b	36 /34 /30	34 /33	-Combating discrimination - CEDAW

						-CRC -The Two Convents
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Implementation entities:

- Iraqi Council of Representative
- The Supreme Judicial Council
- The State Council
- COMEC
- Ministry of Interior
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
 - Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
 - ❖ Submitting a draft law.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 15: Counter Terrorism

The law in force: Counter-Terrorism Act No. 3 of 2003 of KRG-Iraq.

KRG-Iraq has issued Counter-Terrorism Act No. 3 of 2006 in order to preserve the public order, and not expose the lives and freedoms of the members of society to risk.

The Kurdistan Region is still encountering the dangers of terrorism of all kinds which resulted in severe and immense damages to the lives of the people of the Region, their property and institutions. This Act is extended and supported by Law No. 7 of 2018, so it

does not need any further extension because the last amendment to the law did not specify a period of time.

- Ensuring a fair trial for the accused.
- Restricting the death penalty to the most serious crimes.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	EDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 7/ 19	132					-Prevention of Torture -Protection from enforced disappearance

Implementation entities:

- KRI Parliament
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Peshmerga
- Ministry of Labor and social affairs
- Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs
- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of culture and youth
- Ministry of Labor and social affairs
- Independent commission on human rights
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG-IRAQ security council
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights

- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 16: Social Insurance

In order to keep up with of developments and changes in the labor market in the KRI, to support workers to raise their standard of living and their social level, and to secure more rights and privileges for them in the private, mixed and cooperative sectors, some articles of this law have been amended by Law No. 4 of 2012 issued by KRI Parliament under the title of “Amending the implementation of the Workers’ Pension and Social Security Law No. 39 of 1971”.

- Amending Social Security Law No. 39 of 1971 (Worker’s Pension and Social Security Law.)
- Amending the Labor Law to ensure the rights of working women in all fields.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Article 30		124				- Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. -Combating Racial

						Discrimination
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Implementation entities:

- KRI Parliament
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Labor and social affairs
- Ministry of Planning
- Ministry of Finance
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 17: Archeology and Antiquities

One of the top priorities of KRG-Iraq at the service level is to preserve the archaeological sites, as they have been included in the government program of the Ninth Cabinet, and have been considered an integral part of the heritage and historical resources which makes preserving them a national duty. KRG-Iraq encouraging the enhancement of effective mechanisms to make this heritage an attractive destination for tourists in accordance with the

required standards. KRI Parliament has also passed a law on the management and protection of antiquities which is about to be published it in the Kurdish Gazette.

- Issuing the necessary instructions to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of this law.

- Updating and completing the legislation and policies concerned with the rehabilitation, restoration and protection of cultural heritage.

- Strengthening effective mechanisms to make it a tourist destination in accordance with the required standards.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 3/ 35	65					-Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. -Combating Racial Discrimination - The Arab Charter on HR

Implementation entities:

KRI Parliament

- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of planning
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG-IRAQ security council

- High Council of Women Affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law of archeology and antiquities in the Region.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 18: Asylum

After the attacks of ISIS in 2014, large waves of refugees have fled into the Kurdistan Region, and this led to an increase in the population of the Region, to constitute a great pressure on the Region, economically and financially. In September 2014, KRG and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), with the participation of NGOs, developed a joint plan on the priority actions to be taken and how to meet the most urgent needs in the matters of shelter, food, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, and some other priority indicators were also included in the plan, such as basic education.

- Adopting and implementing the draft law of refugees, to ensure an appropriate legal framework for the protection of refugees and asylum seekers pursuant to the internationally recognized principles.
- Taking all necessary measures to ensure that all refugees and IDPs receive equal treatment without discrimination and enjoy equal protection under the law.
- Protecting refugees and IDPs and providing them with basic needs, including electricity, water, health care, adequate food and other services, by means of several ways including cooperation with the United Nations and other agencies concerned with refugees and humanitarian assistance.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Article 21			40 d	38 a, b		Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. -Combating Racial Discrimination - The Arab Charter on HR

Implementation entities:

- Iraqi Council of Representatives
- KRI Parliament
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Labor and social affairs
- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry Finance
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Education
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.

- ❖ Submitting a draft law.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work.

Section 19: Compensation

One of the top priorities of KRG at the level of services is to provide all services to the victims of war, the wounded, and the victims of genocide campaigns, and it has been included in the program of the Ninth Cabinet. The government reviews the lists of names of applicants to determine who are eligible to these rights. To compensate the families of victims of crimes committed against citizens in the Region in the past, a higher committee was formed in coordination with the universities of (Saladdin, Sulaymaniyah, Dohuk). Based on reliable evidence and international standards, including the 1958 census, they determined to compensate all those affected residents of the Region for the damages in period from 1961 to 2003. Law No. 15 of 2010 was issued in KRG to compensate detainees and those convicted upon acquittal and release.

- Enacting a special legislation that guarantees the right to compensation instead of the general regulation for requesting compensation.
- Ensuring that compensation covers to every person affected by the arbitrary or illegal arrest or detention after proving innocent by a final court judgment.
- The impact of the armed conflict and other acts of violence against the civilian population and their displacement in the State party on persons with disabilities more than other segments, and the increase in the number of persons with disabilities as a result of conflict-related injuries and the lack of medical and other basic services, particularly in the KRI.
- Managing the file of displaced persons in Iraq, which was approved by the Council of Ministers in its Resolution No. 414 of 2015, which did not state the need to provide individual support to persons with disabilities in the emergency situations.
- Enforcement of the Law of Compensation for Those Affected by War Operations, Military Mistakes and Terrorist Operations No. 75 of 2015.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	EDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
		74			21a /22 a	-Convention on Eliminating Torture. -The Two Covenants -Combating Enforced disappearance -Arab Charter on HR

Implementing entities:

- KRI Parliament
- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura (Regional) council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Martyrs and Anfal affairs
- Ministry of Finance
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant SCOs.

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law if necessary.

Implementation Period:

Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 20: Political Parties

The Law No. 17 of 1993 of Political Parties in KRG-IRAQ, and law No. 5 of 2014 of financing political parties were issued in the Region. All valid elections laws of Parliament, Provincial Councils and municipalities in KRG-IRAQ have adopted the women quota among the candidates, which is not less than about 30%.

- Full enforcement of the Political Parties law to ensure peaceful political practices.
- Abolishing discriminatory provisions that prevent persons with mental or psychosocial disabilities from exercising their rights to vote and to run for elections, and to ensure their participation in political and public life.
- Achieving equal representation for women and men in high-rank positions, the diplomatic missions, and the civil and judicial services.
- Passing laws and regulations binding political parties to have at least 25% of their candidates in elections from women.
- Activating the participation of persons with disabilities in the elections and removing the restrictions that prevent them from participation..

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	EDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 14 / 15 16 20 49		80	26 a / 26 b		53a / 54 a	-CEDAW - The Two Covenants - Arab Charter on HR

Implementing Entity:

- Ministry of Interior

- Ministry of Labor and social affairs
- Independent High Election Commission
- NGOs Directorate
- High Council of Women Affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent Human Rights Commission
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.

Implementation Period:

Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 21: Child Protection

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs in KRG-Iraq, in coordination and consultation with the relevant ministries and institutions, the United Nations and civil society organizations, developed a draft law on the protection of children's rights. Although the aforementioned law has not been issued, KRG-Iraq is working to guarantee children's rights by means of other legislations.

- Passing a special law for children to ensure their rights and taking appropriate measures to effectively implement this law.
- The necessity of reflecting all rights stated by the Convention for children with disabilities in the new child law, if passed.
- Mainstreaming and integrating the consideration of the rights of persons with disabilities in the legislation, strategies and regional plans of action concerned with children.
- Applying the best interests of the child as a basic criterion in all legal and legislative procedures.
- Criminalizing the recruitment and involvement of children in armed conflicts.

- Observing the rights of persons with disabilities in the National Policy for children's rights protection.
- Protecting children from violence and sexual exploitation and allocating the required resources for their rehabilitation in society.
- The Committee recommends that the State party should take all necessary measures to protect children from sexual violence and exploitation, and to free all children captured by the terrorist organization of ISIS, reunite them with their families, and provide them with all necessary medical and psychological support services. The Committee also recommends increasing the allocations of the necessary human, technical and financial resources to alternative care centers and other relevant child protection services, in order to facilitate the rehabilitation and reintegration of children in their families and into society.
- Strengthening the work of the Child Care Commission and enabling it to monitor the application of children's rights and to address their issues promptly and effectively.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	EDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 29 /30 / 32 /34	274 /271	/110 /62 112 /111			15a / 16 a	- CRPD - The Two Covenants - The Arab Charter on HR

Implementing and supportive entities:

- KRI Parliament
- KRI Shura (Regional) council – Ministry of Justice
- MOLSA
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Peshmerga
- Ministry of Culture and Youth
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a draft law.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

Section 22: Correction Centers Administration

KRG-Iraq has continued its program which seeks to improve the conditions in correction centers and provide necessary services in them, by establishing new detention facilities, in addition to creating rehabilitation programs. KRG-Iraq also follows up and investigates on allegations of torture and ill-treatment in its detention facilities. KRG-Iraq Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs prepared and submitted a draft law on reforming and rehabilitating the detained inmates.

- Passing a law on the management of correction centers and places of detention in accordance with the international standards.
- Addressing the problem of overcrowding in the correction centers and ensuring that people deprived of their freedom are treated in humane way.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 19/ 37		78			27b /28 b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Convention against Torture - Combating Enforced disappearance - The Two Covenants - Arab Charter on HR

Implementing and supportive entities

- KRI Parliament
- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura (Regional) council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Health
- MOLSA
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of the Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs.

Implementation Mechanism

- ❖ Presenting a study on the progress made with the proposals for amendments.
- ❖ Convening meetings with the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Submitting a bill of law that is related to the Region only.

Implementation Period:

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

PART III: Improving Institutional Work

Goal: developing and improving the work of the national institutions and the agencies assigned with protecting, promoting and observing human rights.

Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy

KRG established this office to be affiliated with the council of ministers for the follow-up of the international obligations in human rights and representing KRI in the international events to present KRI's commitment to the international principles within the conventions and agreements in which Iraq is a member country. The office works in coordination with all of the relevant governmental and non-governmental agencies besides communicating with the relevant international organizations regarding the rule of law and good governance.

The office follows up international recommendations, communicates them to the relevant agencies in order to execute the national commitments, and presents adequate proposals to the government. The office also participates in the international events along with the governmental representative.

KRI Independent Commission on Human Rights

The commission was established to improve, protect and defend human rights in all areas according to the international standards besides promoting human rights culture. Law No. of 2010 was issued for this commission in order to allocate its budget, to be affiliated and report to with the KRI parliament. The commission also observes and documents events and topic related to human rights.

- Strengthening the role of the commission in KRI.
- Evaluating commitment of KRI authorities to human rights provisions of the agreement on the civil and political rights and the agreement on the cultural, social and economic rights and reporting violation that might take place in the work of these authorities.
- Allocating sufficient human and financial resources for the commission to be able to work according Paris principles.
- Monitoring the conformity of KRI legislations with the principles of human rights and liberties and reporting on them to the relevant agencies.
- Receiving complaints from CSOs about human rights violations, verifying them and reporting them to the public attorney to take action.

- Drawing the attention of the government to the recommendation No. 31 of 2005 regarding preventing discrimination within the justice system. In its next report, it recommends that the member country lists information and statistics of discrimination complaints the commission and local courts receive and the results of such complaints including enforced convictions, penalties, disciplinary measures and reparations to victims. The commission also recommends that the member country should take all necessary measures to ensure justice to all groups, publish the discrimination legislation and inform KRI residents about the available legal proceedings and support.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 45 / 102	/43 /39 /35 /56 /51 /88 92 /91 /83 /89		16 e	16	64b	All international conventions

High Council of Women Affairs

This council monitors KRG-IRAQ's policies and strategies related to women's affairs in the political, social, economic and empowerment fields. The council aims at enabling women and girls and promote their effective engagement in building peace and stability and contributing to the economic, social, political and cultural development in KRI along with eliminating all form of gender-based discrimination and protecting the society from risks of conflict and terrorism.

- Promoting women's involvement in the public and political arenas including the fields of negotiation, peace building and ensuring women's access to decision-making positions.
- Creating supporting environment for women empowerment in the economic, social, political and cultural fields.
- Supporting organizations working on women/girls empowerment and protection in general and those with disabilities in particular.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
	263 /50	/108 /38 121	16b			All international Agreements

- Activities of Governmental Human Rights Agencies
- Supporting children’s commission and issuing a law to enable it to monitor promptly and effectively child-related issues.
- Ensuring the representation of disabled males and females and mentally and psychologically disabled people in the board of the commission of disabled persons and persons with special needs.
- Adopting a national strategy for the protection from torture and criminalizing and punishing torture without prejudice to any exceptional circumstances to justify torture, especially as the protection from torture is an unrestricted right according to Article 4, paragraph 2 of the agreement. The committee also recommends intensifying training programs for law enforcement personnel on the regulations of banning torture, the relevant international standards and detention rules.
- Increasing training of law enforcement officials on gender issues such as violence against women to be able to effectively combat violence on the principle “victim’s safety first”.
- Increasing awareness activities in the media about rejecting violence against women, its social repercussions and encouraging reporting it by providing survivors with available reporting channels.

Providing sufficient information on the authorities and jurisdictions of women empowerment department and its relations with the relevant ministries and women NGOs and the allocated resources from the government budget. .

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
	238 :54	/103 /55 /13 104	16 c		64 a	All international agreements

Implementation Method, Actors and Stakeholders

To enforce the recommendations above, consultation meetings should be held to identify the status of human rights institutions in KRI, methods of support them and enforce the relevant recommendations or alternatives that KRG-IRAQ chooses, such as:

- Holding consultation meetings with the relevant parties and proposing implementation methods.
- Proposing draft laws by the relevant agencies.
- KRG-IRAQ bureau of the council of ministers should run the activities of developing the relevant agencies.
- The office of the coordinator for international advocacy in the council of ministers monitors implementation and reports the progress.
- Involving CSOs in the discussions and proposals.

Implementation Period

- Implementing this section can be confined within the first two years of the plan with continuing the work in the third and fourth years in the program for support, training and consultations.
- Using the attached implementation methods to distribute activities over the plan.

IV: Cooperation with Human Rights International Mechanisms

Goal: Visible effectiveness in Human Rights international events

Iraq is one of the countries that have good record of timely submitting of reports to the international agencies and committing to having these reports discussed with such agencies. Iraq adopts a mixed mechanism in reporting and following up with its international obligations. A national committee was assigned to develop reports on the agreements in which Iraq is a signatory, non-conventional reports and respond to the comments on such reports. The office of the international recommendations' facilitator was assigned in KGR to follow up executing the international obligations and ad hoc committees were formed and assigned with reporting. Such committees consist of representatives from the relevant agencies.

- Developing regional action plan to execute the international recommendations.
- Renewing the regional human rights plan.
- Including specific information about the plan and other measures for execution.
- Developing periodic reports in consultation with the relevant agencies.
- Granting access to such reports to judicial, legislative, and administrative authorities and NGOs with the dissemination of the final notes of the committee on the reports.
- Submitting the reports on the specified deadlines with consideration to reporting guidelines.
- Improving cooperation with other countries, international organizations and human rights agencies.
- Keeping on submitting voluntary reports to the relevant international organizations.
- Working with the international partners, such as the UN investigation team, to promote accountability for crimes committed by ISIS, in order to indict perpetrators of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- Improving cooperation with the international agencies to handle displacement and mine removal issues to revive security in the affected areas.
- Developing an urgent plan to removes mines and prepare the affected areas secure return of life. The state recommends that partners cooperate with the relevant international and regional organizations.
- Coordinating with the international organizations and CSOs on human trafficking crimes.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Article and 8		10/44/60			47/89/59 63/60/74/67/64/86 /88/159/164 /183/207	All international agreements

Implementing and supportive entities

Implementation of the recommendation concerned with handling the relevant international instruments is assigned to the Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) in KRG-IRAQ in coordination with all relevant governmental and non-governmental agencies.

Implementation Mechanism

- Improving the work of the relevant institutions.
- Organizing workshops for the relevant parties and proposing improvements.
- Promoting human rights reporting instruments.
- Consulting NGOs in report developing work.
- Submitting the reports to the international agencies.
- Disseminating information related to the final notes and recommendations.

Implementation period

Reporting and cooperation with the international instruments is an ongoing process, so implementing the recommendations would go along the regional plan. Since the recommendations of the commitment committees and the periodic presentation mechanism define the existing gaps, implementation should be immediate and continuous.

PART V: Observing the International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

Goal: Total Respect for the Provisions of the International Law and Human Rights in Work of the Security Authorities In KRG-IRAQ

Terrorism is still threatening Iraq as a whole, and KRG-IRAQ is always keen to deal with this threat and to cooperate with the federal government and the international coalition to fight terrorism. Therefore, KRG-IRAQ security authorities always seek to protect civilian rights when conducting anti-terrorism operations, the last of which was the fight against ISIS and liberating the territories that were occupied after June 2014. Such authorities have ensured observing the international law and human rights in coordination with the relevant agencies. Human rights action regional plan sets a framework to improve the knowledge on the international humanitarian law and human rights rules and enforce them via effective action and monitoring tools.

- Coordinating and cooperation with the UN investigation team to promote accountability for crimes committed by ISIS (UNITAD).
- Speeding up trials of ISIS criminals to make them answer for their crimes against humanity by collecting evidence and e-archiving of such crimes with observance of the rules of the international and human rights.
- Protecting the families affiliated with ISIS, who are not involved in terrorist activities.
- Enforcing all necessary measures to save Yazidis and other people whose fate is still unknown.
- Supporting women/children survivors by developing ad hoc programs for their social rehabilitation and reintegration.
- Intensifying anti-discriminatory efforts for the benefit of disabled, refugee, displaced and rural women and girls.
- Ensuring that all physically and mentally disabled children enjoy their rights and fighting against stigmatization and discrimination against those who live in the conflict-affected and rural areas like lack of services and education.
- Improving the measures aiming at realizing the observance of the basic human rights and liberties for all, and investigating and punishing perpetrators of such privileges.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 7 and 8	134	10/44/60	22		13b/14b/15b/16b	All international agreements

Implementing and supportive entities

- KRI parliament
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs
- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of culture and youth
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Independent commission on human rights
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG-IRAQ security council
- High Council of Women Affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Holding technical meetings with the relevant agencies.
- Disseminating the recommendations to the relevant security and military authorities
- Improving training curricula of law enforcement
- Monitoring and reporting

Implementation period

Assignee agencies should develop adequate measures for this.

PART VI: Civil and Political Rights

Goal: Creating suitable environment for practicing rights and liberties.

KRI has taken considerable steps towards observing human rights principles in general by issuing laws, decrees, instructions and practical measures to create a suitable environment for all groups to peacefully coexist and enjoy the liberties guaranteed by international laws and conventions.

Section 1 The Right to Life

The Iraqi legislative system contains stipulations that protect the right to life and physical safety and severely punishes any violation to this right. Capital punishment represents one of the penalties Iraq applies against the most hazardous crimes according to the international standards. Noteworthy, KRG-IRAQ restricted death sentences since 2008.

- Confining capital punishment to the most heinous crimes.
- Urgently, inclusively and neutrally investigating cases of violating the right to life and physical safety that had been committed during the control of armed terrorist groups over some areas in the country.
- Speeding up the referral of the accused to the judiciary and redeeming the victims and their relatives.
- Continuing the efforts to secure inclusive human rights to all according to the international covenant on civil and political rights.
- Referring the accused to judiciary and redeeming the victims.
- Taking necessary precautions to protect civilians as the highest priority during military operations against armed terrorist groups with respect to recognition and proportionality principles.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 7/15/19/37	132/204	40/42				-The Two Convents * Eliminating Torture *Combating enforced disappearance * Arab Charter * Racist discrimination

Implementing and supportive entities

- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of peshmerga
- Ministry of martyrs and Anfal affairs
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Independent commission on human rights
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG-IRAQ security council
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Disseminating the recommendations to the relevant security and military authorities.
- Holding meetings and workshops with the relevant agencies.
- Proposing implementable measures.
- Monitoring and reporting.
- Developing progress report.

Implementation period

Since the matter is related to civil and political rights, implementation should be immediate. The period can be divided in relation to the period of the regional plan in cases without judicial urgencies, along with putting in motion relevant awareness and training programs.

1. Trials, Judicial Independence and Due Proceedings

The general lines of the governmental program of the Ninth KRG cabinet in terms of reform prioritize working on law enforcement and judicial independence. No citizen is allowed to exploit position, power or political and social status to violate or neglect the law.

- Intensifying efforts to ensure the independence of the judicial system and its protection from interference, pressure and threat.
- Taking practical measures to establish honest and independent judiciary system, which acts effectively on anti-impunity.
- Granting legal support to those who are financially unable to afford representation.
- Ensuring criminal prosecutions for violence against the disabled.
- Asserting criminal accountability of ISIS.

- Banning discrimination in the criminal justice system’s administration and process.
- Conducting effective and independent investigations including reports on crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 19/32/87	162/180	66/68			31a/32a	All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities

- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Public attorney – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG-IRAQ security council
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Proposing practical measures to improve the work and amending legislations if necessary.
- Monitoring and reporting and presenting comments to the judicial system and investigation authorities.
- Developing progress report.

Implementation period

Implementation should start through a plan to assess the status of legal proceedings, considering the recommendations, activating programs, proposing legislative amendments, and using implementation mechanism attachment along the plan period.

Section 2: The Right to Election and Nomination

Several notes from the relevant UN human rights committees and council, within the periodical presentation, are still coming in relation to the disabled and their involvement and

candidacy along with representation of religious and ethnic groups and women in the political process. Women candidacy in the elections within the political parties was determined to be no less than 30% according to Law 2 of 2009, the 4th amendment of the of the KRI parliamentary elections No. 1 of 1992. Also, women representation in electing councils of governorates, districts and sub-district was determined to be no less than 30% according to Law No. 4 of 2009.

- Aborting discriminatory provisions that prohibit mentally, socially and physically disabled individuals from practicing their right to voting and candidacy.
- Facilitating the involvement of disabled individuals in the electoral process, securing their access to electoral stations and casting their votes, and access to candidacy, access to electoral materials and information in accessible forms like Braille prints, sign language and facilitated reading systems.
- Stipulating provisions on the rights of the disabled people to full access to the public and political arena.
- Proper presentation of racial/religious minorities in all of the elected agencies and public employment by taking the necessary measures like amending electoral laws and representing the groups which cannot benefit from the quota system.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 14/15/1 6/ 19/32/1 25	162/180	80	38c	26	35a/54a/53b/54b/ 53c/54c	All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities

- Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- IHEC (Independent high electoral commission)
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights

- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Proposing suitable legislative amendments if necessary.
- Proposing, following up and discussing measures with the relevant agencies.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies.

Implementation period

The executive authorities should develop a plan to implement the recommendation upon the approval of the national and regional plans.

2. The Right to Free Expression of Opinion, Assemble, Protection of Journalists and Human Rights Advocates

Iraq has received several recommendations regarding the periodical presentation and several notes regarding commitment instruments about the rights to free speech and civil demonstration. The plan will include tools to ensure considering and implementing such recommendations and notes.

- Ensuring full accountability and due proceedings in relation to serious violations against human rights.
- Ensuring protection to journalists, reporters, media and human rights advocates and the right of civil society to free and independent involvement in the public arena.
- Ensuring deployment of solely trained security forces to interact with gatherings and holding such forces accountable for any use of excessive force against demonstrators.
- Conducting immediate, inclusive and honest investigations in torture claims and other forms of abuse.
- Promoting and respecting freedom of expression and peaceful assembly and ensuring accountability for violations related to the use of force and lethal weapon against gatherings.
- Protecting the right to peaceful assembly.
- Improving efforts of protection for journalists, reporter and human rights advocates.
- Conducting immediate, inclusive and transparent investigations in claims of breaking up gatherings by excessive force and holding perpetrators of physical assaults or human degrading practices during assembly break-ups.
- Taking interest in professional training in relation to translation and increasing numbers of sign language teachers for disabled people.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 19/37/3 8/ 39/45	71/156/1 57/1 61/1 90/2 01/1 67/1 81/1 73/1 91/1 76/1 77/1 82/1 83/1 85/1 86/1 89/1 93/1 94/2 02/1 88/1 97/1 98/2 00/2 03/2 05	84/92			39a, b, c 40 a, b, c	All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities

- Judicial Council
- Ministry of interior

- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG security council
- General security directorate – KRG security council
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Proposing suitable legislative amendments if necessary.
- Improving training skills for the relevant personnel.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies.

Implementation period

Judicial Council and Ministry of interior should present a progress report in relation to the measures taken in this regard and developing a plan with implementation schedule.

3. The Right to Nationality

Iraq has received several recommendations regarding the periodical presentation and several notes regarding commitment instruments about some provisions in the Iraqi Nationality law No. 26 of 2006 on the matter of the individual right to Nationality without discrimination. Therefore, a mechanism to communicate such international feedback to the relevant authorities for consideration should be in place. Noteworthy, the legal center for foreigners who enter through KRG-IRAQ-controlled border ports deals with this matter (the federal authorities do not recognize such control, which negatively influence the right of foreigners to asylum and Nationality. This evidently violates the relevant human rights agreements).

- Eliminating cases of lack of nationality and ensuring enforcement of Nationality laws and regulations.
- Facilitating and granting access to the basic services like civil documents to all.
- Issuing IDs to all members of ethnic and religious groups and the homeless due to conflicts.
- Ensuring registration of all disabled children, saving them from being unregistered and allocating human/technical/financial resources to register them.
- Speeding up the process of nationality restoration for Feili Kurds by facilitating their access to IDs and removing all administrative obstacles throughout this process.

Constitution Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 14/15/16/ 18	100/221			34	33/34	* The Two Convents * anti-discrimination * Arab Charter * Disabled individuals

Implementing and supportive entities

- Federal Judicial Council
- Federal Ministry of interior
- KRG-IRAQ Ministry of interior
- Federal ministry of migration and displaced
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Proposing amendment of Nationality law according to the constitutional procedures.

Implementation period

- ❖ Implementation of the recommendations starts immediately after the approval of the RHRP in conjunction with the national plan for human rights at the federal level, and the studies along with the draft law shall be completed during the first year of work

PART VII: Combating Trafficking in Persons

Goal: Eliminating organized crime, human trafficking and protecting and supporting the victims.

Iraq has received several recommendations regarding the periodical presentation and several notes regarding the international agreements on all kinds of human trafficking crimes. KRI parliament has issued law No. 6 of 2018 to enforce the federal parliament law No. 28 of 2012. Also, KRI established combating human trafficking directorate in 3/10/2018 as affiliate of KRG ministry of interior. This directorate has six offices now.

- Improving the work with the central committee on combating human trafficking and supporting it.
- Intensifying efforts to combat trafficking in women and girls, conducting immediate and transparent investigations and enforcing legal penalties against perpetrators.
- Redeeming, supporting and protecting human trafficking victims.
- Increasing the number of sheltering, physical/psychological rehabilitation and social reintegration centers in cooperation with the relevant international organizations and CSOs.
- Providing training for the relevant medical personnel.
- Banning underage, coercive and temporary marriages.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 19/29/37	208	59/60	24a/b/c/d/f/g/h			* CEDAW * Child's rights * Arab Charter

Implementing and supportive entities

- Combating human trafficking directorate - Ministry of interior
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs
- Ministry of education
- High Council of Women Affairs
- Federal ministry of migration and displaced
- Rescue Office of Yazidi Abducted Victims
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights

- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies.
- Proposing practical measures by the relevant agencies.
- Following up the progress.

Implementation period

The ministry of interior should present progress report and relevant executive measures and developing proper plan with implementation schedule.

PART VIII: Combating Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances

Goal: the prevention and protection of the public from the vices of drug abuse, raising awareness of the people involved in violating the relevant laws on drugs, encouraging them to quit such substances and reintegrating them socially.

Terrorism and drugs are two faces of the same coin. Reports of the international commission on drug control point out that the status in Iraq with regard to drugs could deteriorate due to the disintegration of the instrument on combating drugs because of its geography and political and economic instability. Moreover, KRI drug combating directorate points out the spread of drug abuse among young people for different reasons related to household issues, the environment and international and national policies. To combat drugs, KRG-IRAQ issued the law on drugs and narcotics No. 1 of 2020. Below are the relevant recommendations:

- Ensuring effective enforcement of the relevant international agreements.
- Developing adequate instruments to enforce valid KRI laws.
- Intensifying detection of drug smuggling through KRI borders.
- Enforcing severe penalties against drug traffickers.
- Coordinating with relevant drug and crime UN office.
- Establishing health centers to treat drug addicts and abusers.
- Developing adequate programs and intensifying efforts to raise the public awareness on the dangers of trafficking and abusing drugs and narcotics.
- Improving agencies assigned with combating drugs and narcotics.
- Separating drug traffickers in correctional facilities.
- Establishing law enforcement formations in the relevant ministries.

- Taking the necessary to combat drug abuse.
- Developing regulation for medical prescriptions and pharmaceutical dispense of drugs and narcotics.
- Drug addicts and abusers have to be treated as patients that need medical and psychological treatment and rehabilitation.
- Drug addicts and abusers should not be treated as prisoners.
- Training and qualifying physicians, pharmacists and medical personnel and providing them with financial incentives to treat addicts and rehabilitate them medically, physically, mentally and socially.
- Introducing topics on the harms of drug abuse to educational curricula.
- Developing preventive plans to all agencies.
- Developing rehabilitation programs.
- Supporting and orienting the professionals to conduct studies and research.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
						Relevant agreements

Implementing and supportive entities

- Ministry of health
- General security directorate – Ministry of interior
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs
- Ministry of education
- Ministry of higher education and scientific research
- Ministry of youth and sports
- Ministry of finance
- High Council of Women Affairs
- Independent commission on human rights
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Developing adequate instruments to enforce The Law in force: s.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies.
- Proposing practical measures by the relevant and responsible authorities.
- Monitoring progress.

Implementation period

The relevant ministries should present progress report and relevant executive measures and developing proper plan with implementation schedule.

PART IX: Anti Torture and Enforced Disappearance

Goal: protecting human dignity of all persons and prohibiting the use of torture and enforced disappearance.

KRG-IRAQ confirms absolute commitment to the principles and standards in ICPED and elaborating the legal consequences of enforced disappearance in terms of the search for the missing persons and mass graves and redeeming and protecting the victims. KRG also asserts the illegality of hiding the whereabouts of any person under any circumstances. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Taking due legal proceedings against police and security personnel who are proven to torture and abuse prisoners and detainees.
- Adopting protection, criminalization strategy against torture and penalize it proportionally.
- Conducting immediate, neutral and inclusive investigations of all claims of torture and abuse including enforced disappearance.
- Developing national independent instrument for preventing and investigating complaints of torture, abuse and degrading and cruel treatment.
- Developing general and central record for missing persons.
- Developing DNA database for relatives of the missing persons in the past years to facilitate victim recognition process.
- Intensifying efforts to discover mass graves.
- Developing monitoring instruments to prevent torture in any context where disabled persons lose their freedom including mental hospitals, correctional facilities, elderly homes, rehabilitation centers, etc.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
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Articles 19/37	159/169/172	55, 56			29b, 30b	- Civil and political Rights -Racial Discrimination -Eliminating Torture -Combating enforced disappearance
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Implementing and supportive entities

- KRI parliament
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of martyrs and Anfal
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG-IRAQ security council
- Independent commission on human rights
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Submitting a study on the progress.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies.
- Proposing a law if necessary.
- The Judicial Council is to present an assessment for the current investigations of torture and enforced disappearance claims.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Developing training programs.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Studying instruments of implementing other recommendations.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART X: Correction & Detention Centers Administration

Goal: ensuring that detainees have the rights stipulated in the international law and standards and preventing violations.

KRG-IRAQ is conducting considerable efforts to facilitate surveillance and inspection procedures and visits to correctional and detention facilities. Holding facilities are run by the ministry of interior, while detention facilities are run by anti-terrorism and general security directorates and correctional facilities are run by the ministry of labor and social affairs. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Enforcing measures aiming at observing human rights in correctional facilities.
- Ensuring detention of persons in supervised facilities, ensuring their access to relatives and legal representation and informing them of the detainees' legal whereabouts and proceedings.
- Improving bilateral/multilateral judicial cooperation on criminal issues by signing agreements on transfer of prisoners as necessitated by the balance between cross-national crime fighting and observing human aspects.
- Issuing the law on administrating correctional and detention facilities, taken the necessary measures to solve prison overcrowding problem and ensuring fair treatment of all detainees.
- Releasing all children who are detained without official charges, applying the international standards of juvenile justice and ensuring that children are treated according to provisions of child's rights agreement.
- Taken all necessary measures to enforce considering deprivation of reasonable facilitating arrangements as disability-based discrimination, ensuring that disabled criminal suspects have access to facilitating arrangements according to their individual needs during detention.
- Developing monitoring instruments to prevent torture and other kinds of cruel, degrading and inhuman treatment in all contexts when the detainee is disabled.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 19/37	140/175/184/267	78			27b/28b/29b/30b	* Civil and political * Discrimination * Eliminating Torture

						* Combating enforced disappearance
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Implementing and supportive entities

- KRI parliament
- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- General security directorate – KRG security council
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG security council
- Independent commission on human rights
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Submitting a study on the progress by the ministries of interior and labor.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies.
- Proposing a law if necessary.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Developing training programs.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Studying instruments of implementing other recommendations.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan’s schedule.

PART XI: National Reconciliation

Goal: All effectively share the administration of the state affairs.

The social structure in KRI is a mix of races and religions, which have been coexisting in the region for centuries. KRG has been working on enforcing non-discriminatory laws to ensure that all groups practice their rights. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Prioritizing the process of realizing the national reconciliation and transitional justice by developing a strategy to combat human rights violations committed by all parties of armed conflicts.
- Enforcing Article 140 of the federal constitution to promote peaceful coexistence, national reconciliation and security stability in the areas included in this article for solving problems in the hottest areas where several races and minorities live coexist.
- Promoting transitional justice measures to investigate, validate facts, redeem the victims and hold perpetrator of human rights and international law accountable.
- Taking more steps to promote full and feasible participation of women in the national reconciliation process.
- Consulting disabled persons and promoting their involvement through their representative organizations, by adopting a national strategy and organizing public awareness campaigns for promoting positive attitude toward disabled persons who are entitled to human rights that are recognized in this agreement.

Constitution Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 6/7/8/9/14/15/16	36/38/41/160/ 165/196	78				* The Two Convents * Arab Charter * Racist discrimination

Implementing and supportive entities

- Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of culture and youth
- Ministry of education
- Independent commission on human rights

- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Submitting a study on the progress.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies.
- Proposing implementation measures.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan’s schedule.

PART XII: Counter Terrorism

Goal: Observing Human Rights in Counter Terrorism Context.

One of the priorities of the 9th KRG cabinet’s government program is improving defense systems, neutralizing threats and protecting peace and security in the region against terrorism. Effectiveness period of anti-terrorism law No. 3 of 2006 has been extended in KRI by law No. 7 of 2018. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Intensifying efforts to fight terrorism.
- Ensuring that all existing and new anti-terrorism laws and the relevant measures completely follow the international laws concerning civil and political rights.
- Continuing the protection of people from terrorism as it became a major cause of violations against collective human rights.

Constitution Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 7/8/19/37	123/124/145					* Civil and political * Eliminating Torture * Combating enforced disappearance

Implementing and supportive entities

- Ministry of interior

- Ministry of culture and youth
- Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs
- Ministry of education
- Ministry of culture and youth
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG security council
- General security directorate – KRG security council
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism

- Submitting a study on the progress.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to improve work instruments.
- Proposing implementation measures.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART XIII: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Goal: ensuring the allocation of the state's capacities to secure Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in KRI.

Iraq has received several recommendations regarding the periodical presentation and several notes regarding the improvement of the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in KRI to ensure commitment to the international standards stipulated by human rights agreements. The Iraqi constitution sets stipulations regarding Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Articles 22-36. Iraq has joined the international arrangement of the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and KRI is working within the national framework to enforce such rights, especially to promote the rights to healthcare, education, labor, social security and culture persuasion. Each of these rights are considered separately in the following:

1. The Right to Healthcare

One of the components of the 9th KRG cabinet's government program is reforming health sector according to the valid international standards. Necessary legal measures will be taken to eliminate violations in this vital aspect. KRG will also work on improving the public health sector and providing access to quality health services to all citizens, along with proposing a law on the rights of patients and restructuring the works of physicians and protecting their rights. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Granting and facilitating access for all KRI citizens to the basic services such as health and social care.
- Improving coverage and access of health services throughout KRI including internal homeless and refugee camps by allocation adequate resources from the budget for hospitals and clinics to ensure efficient, accessible and affordable health service such as reproductive health service (e.g., safe abortion), especially in rural and remote areas.
- Adopting healthcare program for low-income population.
- Taking the necessary measures to ensure access for disabled women/girls to health services including sexual and reproductive health.
- Ensuring the issuance and enforcement of drugs and narcotics law, establishing rehabilitation center for addicts, raising awareness among juveniles on the damages and dangers of drug abuse by implementing school programs and media campaigns, and providing and ensuring access to addiction treatments.
- Working on improving healthcare for mothers, newborns, children and adolescents.
- More work on to improve child wellbeing in terms of education, healthcare, potable water and protection from all kinds of violence.
- Providing clean water, environmentally-adequate sanitation and affordable food and supporting health units inside refugee camps by providing medicine, vaccines and medical necessities.
- Prioritizing the development of an action plan for rebuilding health infrastructure in the areas that are liberated from the control of the armed terrorist groups, to construct and rehabilitate health institutions and supply them with staff and medical requirements.
- Legalizing abortion in cases of rape, incest and if pregnancy is life-threatening to the mother in terms of health and potential fetal deformity, and ensuring access of women to safe abortion and post-abortion services by trained medical staff.
- Ensuring access of disabled women/girls to quality health services facilitating arrangements including sexual and reproductive health.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 29/30/31/32	221/225/226/ 228	31/138/139/143/145/147/149	34a/34b/34c		45/46	All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities:

- KRI parliament
- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of municipality and tourism
- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of finance
- Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs
- High council on women’s affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made on the enforcement of the ratified policies.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to improve work instruments.
- Proposing implementation measures including coordination with the relevant agencies on the relevant aspects such as ministry of interior, commission of disability care and High council of women’s affairs including tools to enforce the recommendations by distributing them over the plan categories with the involvement of CSOs.
- Forming professional team in the ministry of health to monitor and report the enforcement of the recommendations due to the particularity of health sector.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.

- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

2. The Right to Education

One of the components of the 9th KRG cabinet's government program is to improve public education sector, take measures to attract national and foreign capital to be involved in building schools wherever needed and reviewing curricula to incorporate universal standards. The regional plan will provide opportunities to study the relevant recommendations and propose practical implementation tools. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Incorporating human rights education in school and university curricula including aspects such as gender equality and child's rights.
- Improving the employment of young people by use of technical and vocational education and training (TVET).
- Providing access for KRI citizens to basic services such as education.
- Providing access to education for children, especially in rural areas.
- Improving education system by increasing budget financial allocations for this system to accommodate all cultures.
- Handling the problem of out-of-school children and increasing the number of enrolments in all levels of education.

- Providing access for marginalized groups, immigrants, refugees and displaced people to education.
- Ensuring access for disabled children to free education in all levels and enforcing “inclusive education” for disabled children and increasing their share in university education.
- Allocating sufficient human, technical and financial resources for individual support of disabled children including mentally, physically, socially disabled children and those with autistic, hearing, and sight disabilities, to have access to quality inclusive education and removing obstacles that are keeping them from having education such as long distances to schools, poor transportation, lack of teachers who are skilled in sign language, Braille system and reading aids.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 2/3/4/14/15/16/22/29/ 30/32/34/ 35/36	49/55/57/210/ 221/230/231/ 234/279/233	169	30a/b/c/d/e		43a, b/44a, b	All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of education
- Ministry of higher education and scientific research
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made on the enforcement of the ratified policies.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to improve work instruments.
- Conducting studies on implementation tools for the recommendations (education for disabled children, education in rural areas, internally displaced people, minorities, incorporating human rights principles in school curricula, awareness on human rights,

education budget, adapting education to needs, technical education, etc.) in coordination with the relevant agencies supporting the ministries of education and higher education.

- Forming professional team in the ministry of health to monitor and report the enforcement of the recommendations due to the particularity of health sector.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

3. The Right to Food

Economically and financially, KRG supports domestic products, farmers and the suitable conditions for domestic and international marketing of national products. The right to food is one of KRI 9th cabinet program's priorities. The regional plan will provide opportunities to study the relevant recommendations and propose practical implementation tools. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Working within PDS project to enforce the right to food for all, especially deprived and marginalized groups.
- Continuing the work to realize the strategic goals of economic recovery and food security 2018-2022.
- Continuing the work to realize the strategic goals of food safety 2018-2022.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 31	72	132				* Social, economic & cultural * Children * CEDAW * Anti-discrimination

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of trade
- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of agriculture
- Ministry of finance
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made on the enforcement of the ratified policies.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to improve work instruments.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Developing technical staff training programs.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan’s schedule.

4. The Right to Property

Iraq has received several recommendations regarding the periodical presentation and several notes regarding The Right to Property, as this right was seriously threatened during ISIS’s control over parts of the country, especially the properties owned by the people living in these parts. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Ensuring the enforcement of the instruction of real-estate directorates to suspend all registration procedures related to the areas formerly controlled by ISIS.
- Suspending all real-estate procedures in the areas formerly controlled by ISIS to protect the right to private property.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
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Articles 7/8/23		86				Social, economic & cultural
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Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of municipality
- Property registrar in the Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of finance
- Ministry of planning
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to improve work instruments.
- Proposing implementation measures.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan’s schedule.

5. Protection of Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage in general has undergone serious threat in the areas that ISIS had control over, as many archeological and religious site had been destroyed. KRG sought to protect the cultural heritage that belongs to various groups of endogenous population, refurbish and rebuild these sites. KRG also urges to improve protection endeavors and make tourist attractions out of these sites according to the universal standards. The regional plan will provide opportunities to study the relevant recommendations and propose practical implementation tools. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Protecting cultural heritage sites and preventing the destruction of culturally important antiquities.
- Protecting the religious, heritage and material properties of the Yazidis.

- Developing awareness campaigns and programs on the importance of cultural heritage.
- Protecting cultural heritage sites.

Constitution Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 5/43	70/235	171/173				* Social, economic & cultural * Arab charter * Anti- discrimination

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Judicial Council
- Ministry of municipalities and tourism
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of culture and youth
- Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs
- Ministry of finance
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG security council
- General security directorate – KRG security council
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments to recover smuggled antiquities and prosecute perpetrators abroad.
- The Judicial Council assesses the ongoing investigations and legal proceedings.
- Proposing implementation measures.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.

- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

6. The Right to Work and to Social Security

Iraq has received several recommendations regarding the periodical presentation and several notes regarding The Right to Work and to Social Security including social security law, which has to include the most deprived groups of legal protection such as disabled persons, elders, etc. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Intensifying efforts to enforce economic, social and cultural rights by improving social security procedures.
- Improving the enforcement of the rights of foreign workers according to the relevant agreements.
- Increasing the share dedicated to the disabled persons in the public employment sector.
- Securing jobs for disabled men and women and people with social and mental disability in labor market by enabling them to practice private businesses, providing vocational training, allocating soft loans, providing incentives for employers to hire disabled persons.
- More enforcement for labor law in relation to the minimum work age and the conditions of juvenile labor.
- Adopting policies to develop the private sector for increasing jobs and developing classified statistics on corruption.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 14/16/29/31/30/32	117/220/298	117/119/123			49/50/51/52	* Social, economic & cultural * Arab charter * Anti- discrimination * Children * CEDAW * Disability

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of education
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of finance
- KRI labor syndicate
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Developing technical training programs.
- Enforcing laws that do not need legislative intervention.
- Proposing implementation measures.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART XIV: Development and Eliminating Poverty

Goal: Eliminating poverty as one of development goals and creating decent living standard for people to practice their rights.

Several recommendations regarding the periodical presentation and several notes have been received regarding including the rights of certain groups in the development program such as disabled persons and women and creating jobs. KRG is working on adopting plans and measures to eliminate poverty via special strategies and policies. The regional plan will provide opportunities to study the relevant recommendations and propose practical implementation tools. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Continuing with the reforms to improve the institutional capacities according to the UN sustainable development plan 2030.
- Effectively implementing poverty elimination strategy 2018-2022 and the national development plan 2018-2022, and providing the necessary resources to better the lives of the population and achieve SDGs.
- Promoting urban planning policies to ensure inclusive development for all.
- Adopting development policy that activate the private sector and investment to enforce and protect human rights.
- Allocating sufficient resources for the effective implementation of development and poverty elimination plans and strategies.
- Developing strategies to control poverty in the areas that were formerly under ISIS dominance.
- Enforcing and implementing poverty elimination policies and strategies by developing social programs to achieve maximum development and welfare.
- Improving economic and social development and quality of life.
- Improving living conditions, increasing resources for displaced persons and prioritizing their issues within social relief programs.
- Continuing efforts to eliminate poverty, especially in rural areas.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
Articles 22/25/26	52/69/75/116/ 119/217/222/ 111/118/120/ 211/212/214/ 215/216/223/	129/130	6/16a, d		13/14/51/52/61/62	* The Two Convents * Arab charter * Anti-discrimination

	224/218/219					* Children * CEDAW
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Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of labor and social affairs
- Ministry of education
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of finance
- Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Developing technical training programs.
- Enforcing laws that do not need legislative intervention.
- Proposing implementation measures.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Studying other implementation instruments.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan’s schedule.

PART XV: Combating Corruption

Goal: Eliminating corruption for better recovery.

Regarding reform, anti-corruption effort is one of the top priorities of KRI 9th cabinet’s program, as KRG set out 13 broad lines as main goals for reform and corruption combating. KRG also developed anti-corruption strategy for 2017-2022 and it is working transparently on combating administrative and financial corruption and preventing waste of public funds.

The parliament and the state audit and administrative control bureau are the implementation instruments for such measures. The regional plan will provide opportunities to study the relevant recommendations and propose practical implementation tools. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Improving efforts for combating administrative and financial corruption according to the international law to achieve equality of access to public services.
- Continuing measures of eliminating administrative and financial corruption.
- Categorizing corruption levels and prioritizes them according to their threat to national security.
- Enforcing the rule of law and justice in an honest and independent manner by combating corruption and impunity.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
	113/114/121/ 168					All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Judicial authorities
- Integrity committee – KRI parliament
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of finance - state audit and administrative control bureau
- Commission of integrity
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation

Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made corruption indices such as judicial and financial indices.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Developing technical training programs.
- Raising public awareness on combating corruption.
- Proposing implementation measures.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Studying implementation instruments for other recommendations.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART XVI: The Right to Clean Environment

Goal: clean environment without pollution.

One of the priorities of the 9th KRG cabinet is to utilize surface water resources and deliver potable water to all citizens without wasting groundwater and to protect the environment to ensure the right to clean environment. Wars and anti-terrorist operations led to pollution increase caused by landmines, explosive remnants of war (ERW), human wastes and sewage dumped in rivers and water streams. The relevant recommendations are the following:

- Taking measures to protect the environment through the sustainable development plan.
- Amending KRI law on the protection and improvement of the environment No. 3 of 2010.
- Amending KRI law on the protection and improvement of the environment No. 8 of 2010.
- Amending instructions on the protection and hunting of fauna and avifauna.
- Establishing special court for the protection of the environment.
- Enforcing the right to clean environment as a constitutional individual right stipulated in

Article 33 of the Iraq constitution.

- Ensuring sustainable and effective development of water resources and the use of modern irrigation techniques.
- Controlling and overconsumption of plastic products and promoting recycling.
- Returning of expired materials to the country of origin instead of disposing them in KRI.
- Cooperating with the relevant national authorities on activities regarding landmines to ensure safe living conditions for host and returnee communities.
- Working relentlessly on removing all landmines and ERWs, educating about them and taking measures to provide the best healthcare to children who become injured or ill because of them.
- Providing quality services to victims and survivors of explosive ordinances.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
31/33	78/112/115/ 130/227	139/145/147				* Social, economic & cultural * Arab charter * Anti

PART XVII: Women Rights

Goal: Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women according to Iraq’s international obligation.

Concerns about women’s rights, gender equality and elimination violence against women is still an international focus. In this regard, Iraq has received several recommendations and notes from the committees in the United Nations and the Arab League, and as follows:

- Conducting legislative amendments to ensure justice, support sexual abuse survivors and hold the perpetrators accountable, including criminalizing sexual enslavement and human trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes as separate crimes from abduction and detention.
- Adopting national empowerment policy for rural women and improving their economic and social roles.
- Ensuring the involvement of disabled women and children in developing legislations and programs in relation to the risks of climate change and environmental disasters.
- Developing strategy to prevent discrimination, stigmatization and marginalization of

displaced women and children who are affiliated with ISIS and women and children returnees and reintegrating them in society.

- Enforcing gender balance in employment and assignment for minister and high positions.
- Ensuring women’s involvement from all religious, racial and sectorial backgrounds in processes of international peace, transitional justice and national reconciliation.
- Adopting inclusive strategy to eliminate discriminatory stereotyping and harmful practices against women such as underage and temporary marriages.
- Adopting Beijing declaration and action plan to enforce true gender equality.
- Developing inclusive policy to rehabilitate women/girls who were forcibly married, enslaved, raped and physically and sexually abused by ISIS fighters, such as providing medical, social and psychological support to integrate them in society, and shelters and homes for the victims with providing such shelters and homes with the necessary requirements.
- Enforcing national polices to prevent domestic violence and protecting the victims.
- Improving the enforcement of the laws of preventing and eventual eliminating female genital mutilation practices.
- Improving efforts to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women by the inclusive enforcement of the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and to take more measures to eliminate harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, underage marriage and coercive marriage of children.
- Combating discrimination against disabled, rural, refugee, displaced and minority-affiliated women and children and taking effective measures in this regard.
- Creating jobs for disabled persons in the open labor market and providing them with access to soft loans for private businesses, TVTE, incentives for employers to hire disabled persons.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
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2/3/7/14/15/16/18/1 9/ 20/22/29/ 30/31/32/ 34/35/36/ 39/44/45/ 49	40/45/58/260/ 77/79/84/ 241/ 251/93/94 /96/ 264/240/2 47/ 248/256/2 59/ 97/101/10 2/104/106 /107/148/ 154/174/2 37/ 239/246/2 42/ 243/244/2 45/ 258/252/2 55/ 17/266/26 5/270/272	38/104/108/ 121	12 a, b, d 18 a 22 e 32 a, d, e 36 b, c 44/46	24	13/14/45c/ 46c/49b /50b/ 53c/54c /63a/ 64a	All relevant agreements
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Implementing and supportive entities:

- KRI parliament
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of higher education
- Ministry of natural resources
- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of municipalities
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of labor
- Ministry of culture and youth
- Ministry of education
- High Council of Women Affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Coordination with the federal government
- Coordination with the relevant national and international organizations

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Studying implementation instruments for other recommendations.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART XIX: Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs

Goal: Full integration and securing the rights of Disabled Persons and Persons with Special Needs.

In spite of the conditions and challenges KRI faced previously, KRG was and still is keen and trying its best to commit to its obligations in relation to equality such as the Rights of Disabled Persons and Persons with Special Needs. Law No. 22 of 2011 on the rights and privileges of Disabled Persons and Persons with Special Needs has been issued and KRG has taken measures to provide the basic services for this group. Therefore, KRG issued several instructions to ensure such rights and privileges. The relevant recommendations and notes are as follows:

- Ensuring that disabled children enjoy the rights stipulated in the convention and combating stigmatization and discrimination against them, especially multiple discrimination and stereotyping.
- Developing strategy to provide technologies and aids of immediate support, smartphone apps, sign language translators, easy access to buildings, facilities and transportation, and to ITC services.
- Allocating human, technical and financial resources to rehabilitate disabled children and providing them with psychological health services, sanitation, safe shelter and TVET.
- Providing access for mentally, psychologically and socially disabled persons to legal proceedings on equal grounds with their peers and in terms of age and gender.
- Taking necessary measures to enable all persons with mental, psychological, social, hearing and sight disabilities to have access to the judicial system by removing all obstacles to that end to practice their legal rights and have easy access to information by providing Braille reading aid, easy reading systems, touch aids, sign language applications and providing sign language translators to help them.
- Creating monitoring instruments to prevent torture, abuse and cruel and degrading treatment in contexts where disabled persons lose their freedom such as mental and psychological hospitals, correctional facilities, elderly homes, shelters and rehabilitation centers.
- Creating complaint instrument to provide easy access for disabled persons to legal proceeding regarding torture and abuse claims, providing legal support and easy access to information.

- Activating direct communication line to report domestic violence for disabled persons.
- Increasing social services that the commission on disability and special needs provide such as adequate housing, and regular collecting of updated information about such services.
- Taking immediate measures to provide access for disabled persons to free education.
- Increasing employment share of disabled persons in the public sector.
- Facilitating the participation of disabled persons in the elections and securing them access to electoral stations for easy voting process.
- Improving the social, cultural and economic rights of the disabled persons.
- Providing free healthcare services to the disabled persons.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
2/3/14/ 15/ 16/ 18/ 19/ 20/ 22/ 31/ 32/ 34/ 35	292/293 /294 /295 /296	152/153/1 57/159 /161/1 63/165 /166	38 a, b, c		8/9/10/13/14/15/16/ 17/18/19/20/21/ 22/23/24/25/26/ 27/28/29/30/31/ 32/35/36/37/38/ 39/40/41/42/44/ 45/46/47/48/50/ 51/52/53/54/57/ 58/61/62/64	All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of higher education
- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of municipalities
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of labor
- Ministry of education

- High Council of Women Affairs
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Developing training programs.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Studying implementation instruments for other recommendations.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART XX: IDPs Rights

Goal: safe return for displaced people, prevention of discrimination against them and securing their rights.

KRG saves no effort to support the disabled persons and provide them with the basic services such as water, electricity, education and secured rights. KRG adopts voluntary return policy and stands against coercive return of the displaced people to their original communities. KRG is keen to provide safety and economic stability in the liberated areas before the return. Recently, terrorist attacks and abductions prevent the return of the displaced people and they continue to live safely in KRI camps. The relevant recommendations and notes are as follows:

- Improving cooperation with the relevant regional and international organizations in the immediate handling of the issues of the displaced people and inviting the actors in the international community to provide technical and financial support to rebuild the liberated areas to secure safe and voluntary return.
- Providing protection and humanitarian relief to the displaced people due to internal conflicts, especially women and children within the framework of human rights and

international law.

- Providing psychological and social support and services to the camps.
- Providing full support to the victims who fled conflict zones such as potable water, sanitation, food and healthcare inside the camps.
- Securing access to education for the displaced people.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
All rights and liberties stipulated in the constitution	100/102/133/213/229/297	10/12/134/ 138	40 a, b, c	38 b, c	13b/14b/15b/16b/21a/22a	All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of higher education
- Ministry of municipalities
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of labor
- Ministry of education
- Ministry of trade
- Ministry of electricity
- Ministry of housing
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Developing training programs.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.

- Studying implementation instruments for other recommendations.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART XXI: Reparation

Goal: facilitating access to achieve fair reparation for human rights violations.

Reparation is one of the priorities of the KRI 9th cabinet's program through providing all services to the families of martyrs, Anfal victims and persons with special needs due to wars, terrorism, genocide and political imprisonment. The relevant recommendations and notes are as follows:

- Taking immediate action to provide medical, psychological and financial support for the victims along with fair reparations such as restoration of property, compensation, rehabilitation, reconciliation and deterrence, especially for disabled persons.
- Providing opportunities for effective and channels to report crimes to achieve reparation for torture survivors.
- Encouraging survivors to report violations through multiple channels and securing reparation and protection for them.
- Securing access to reparation and justice for victims from ISIS-dominated areas.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
				18c	11a/12a/27a/28a/29b /30b	All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of martyrs and Anfal
- Ministry of finance
- Ministry of planning
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Developing training programs.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.
- Developing training programs within three months.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART XXII: Rights of Components and Banning Discrimination

Goal: equality before the law without discrimination due to gender, race, origin, color, religion, opinion or economic and social status.

Iraq has received several recommendations regarding the periodical presentation and several notes regarding the international agreements on the rights of minorities and anti-discrimination, especially after such minorities had been exposed to crimes against humanity, genocide, coercive displacement, sexual enslavement, confiscation of properties and deprivation of religious freedom. KRI parliament issued law No. 5 of 2015 for the protection of religious, ethnic and racial persuasions and the law of official languages, established directorates and missions for religious minorities such as the directorate of religious coexistence. The relevant recommendations and notes are as follows:

- Speeding up the legal and political process of solving the issue of the disputed areas to secure the rights of minorities and involving the indigenous religious and ethnic groups in this process.
- Collecting information and data on discrimination complaints that the high commission on human rights and local courts receive, and on the results of such complaints including convictions, disciplinary measures and reparations.
- Taking all necessary measures to ensure observance of human rights and basic liberties for people from all backgrounds.
- Enforcing Durban declaration and program of action with respect to the final statement of Durban conference.

- Ensuring religious freedom in Iraq in legal and practical terms on equal grounds for all religions.
- Improving reintegration and protection of religious and ethnic groups and displaced people due to conflicts and securing access to legal services such as official documentation.
- Taking measures to investigate human rights violations against Yazidis to enforce legal penalties against the perpetrators and protecting the religious and cultural diversity.
- Promoting tolerance and dialogue in order to protect the lingual, religious, ethnic and cultural diversity.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
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				Racial Discrimination		
2/3/4/7/8/ 9/10/14/15 / 16/17/18/ 19/20/21/ 22/31/32/ 34/35/42/ 125	95/154/192/ 291/199 /281/28 2/ 283/284 /285/ 286/287 /288/ 290	33/82	12c/20d/2 6c/32b	16/20/22/24 /28/30	13b/1 4b	All agreements

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of Peshmerga
- Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs
- Ministry of culture
- Ministry of education
- Ministry of higher education
- Ministry of municipalities
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers

- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Developing training programs.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within six months.

PART XXIV: Human Rights Indicators

Goal: statistics are the valid indices for measuring human rights prevalence and their enforcement is the assignment of the member country.

Human rights indices represent the real language through which the progress made in relation to rights and liberties can be understood. Such statistics should come from quantifiable and analyzable indices according to various categorizations set by the relevant agencies. The relevant international instruments always provide statistics whenever human rights reports are discussed, especially in relation to the rights of disabled persons, women and children and in contexts of Eliminating Torture, Combating enforced disappearance, the rights to education and health and other statistical figures required by the relevant bodies.

The relevant recommendations and notes are as follows:

- Collecting and categorizing data on internal and cross-border human trafficking, number of the filed lawsuits and court convictions against perpetrators.
- Providing categorized statistics on unemployment.
- Developing inclusive, accurate and updated census of disabled persons by age, gender, disability and the rate of disabled people in labor market.
- Collecting data on all kinds of gender violence against women by age, location, disability and victim-perpetrator relation.
- Considering the questions issued by the United Nations Children’s Fund and Washington team assigned with disability statistics in the next population census.
- Taking measures to build the capacities and developing a program to fund gender-related activities in the collection of data categorized by gender and other components that are

necessary for impact and effectiveness assessment of gender equality and women’s rights policies and programs.

- Collecting and categorizing gender-related data on cases of HIV/AIDS and STDs with complete confidentiality of patients’ information and securing access to the relevant and age-appropriate services and treatments in relation to sexual and reproductive health.
- Collecting and analyzing data on education sector by gender, age and location in order to conduct policy impact assessment.
- Achieving huge increase in the availability of high quality, valid and categorized data in terms of social and economic status, gender, age, ethnicity, race, immigration, disability and location.
- Improving capacities and resources of the relevant agencies in order to collect disability statistics and data.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
		13/55/103	22/42		59/60	

Implementing and supportive entities:

- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of education
- Ministry of higher education
- Ministry of labor
- Ministry of health
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study by the ministry of planning on the progress made.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Developing ad hoc training programs.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within three months.
- Studying implementation instruments for other recommendations.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART XXV: Training and Promoting Human Rights Culture

Goal: tasks are performed in a manner that ensures the protection of human rights and the development of work methods via improving human capacities and continuous and professional training.

Training is an important part of the member countries' obligations in terms of the general practice of human rights, because capacity building, work improvement and understanding the legal stipulations are key factors in dealing with the groups to be protected. Many of the relevant international agreements stipulate the member country's commitment to train all groups of the teams dedicated to enforce such agreements.

Iraq has received several recommendations and notes requiring the dissemination of the final comments to all of the relevant parties, use of social media to publish information on training, work methods and communication with the stakeholders. The relevant recommendations and notes are as follows:

- Educating and training law enforcement personnel on the relevant human rights standards whether they work on transitional justice, human trafficking, detention, gender, domestic violence, human rights observance, educational curricula, security forces, cultural heritage, etc., provided that the national institutions and CSOs are involved in this effort.
- Conducting capacity building programs for government officials on the anti-discriminatory nature of the relevant measures and their importance for achieving gender equality.
- Providing training for the judicial staff, law enforcement personnel and border police on methods of identifying human trafficking victims, referring them to the proper agencies to be provided with services, and the strict enforcement of the relevant criminal law.
- Educating and training of law enforcement personnel on the international standards of human rights and humanitarian law in relation to their military or security missions.

Constitution of Iraq	UPR recommendations	Arab HR Committee Remarks	CEDAW Remarks	Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination	CRPD Remarks	Relevant Conventions
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	48/85/62/73/82/ 90/206/249/ 262/270	13/55/103	7/18b/20 c/ 22c/ 45			All agreements
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Implementing and supportive entities:

- Judicial Council
- KRI Shura Council – Ministry of Justice
- Prosecutor General – Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of interior
- Ministry of planning
- Ministry of health
- Ministry of education
- Ministry of labor
- General security directorate – KRG-IRAQ security council
- Counter Terrorism Directorate - KRG-IRAQ security council
- Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) – Presidency of Council of Ministers
- Independent commission on human rights
- Relevant CSOs

Implementation Mechanism:

- Submitting a study by the relevant agencies on human rights training programs.
- Holding meetings with the relevant agencies to develop instruments for enforcing the recommendations and proposing implementation tools.
- Proposing implementation measures.
- Developing ad hoc training programs.
- Involving CSOs in the implementation of the training programs.

Implementation period

- The recommendations should be implemented upon the approval of the federal and regional plans on human rights and the studies should be completed within three months.
- Implementation continues along the period of the plan.
- Adopting the attached implementation instrument to distribute activities over the plan's schedule.

PART XXVI: Relations with the Partners

Goal: creating encouraging environment for cooperation among partners in implementing and monitoring the plan.

Joint work is key to the success of the regional plan because the responsibility of human rights protection and promotion is on all. It is necessary refer to cooperation tools of the Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) in the Presidency of Council of Ministers with the following agencies in enforcing the commitments of the regional plan and future measures in the next five years:

- The national committee on reporting to the international agreements of which Iraq is member, unauthorized reports, and responding to the relevant incoming recommendations and comments.
- KRI ministries, departments and agencies.
- Relevant CSOs.
- Partner international organizations in the development and implementation of the plan.

PART XXVII: Monitoring the Regional Plan Implementation

The Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) in the Presidency of Council of Ministers is assigned with monitoring the plan and implementing the following tasks:

- Continuation of updating the plan's database.
- Communications with ministerial focal points, relevant agencies and relevant contact information.
- All correspondences related to implementation and monitoring.
- Holding meetings related to the plan and its monitoring.
- Developing and presenting reports related to the relevant meetings.
- Developing annual report on implementation to be submitted to the Presidency of Council of Ministers.
- Developing and presenting reports to the national reporting committee in the periodical meetings with representatives of the relevant agencies to study progress, assessment of activities and implementation scope.
- Cooperation with human rights office in the UNAMI to be represented in the meetings.

- Implementation period is 2021-2025 and completed upon discussing and approving Iraq's report in the fourth round.

Integrated Implementation Method of the Human Rights Regional Plan 2021-2025

To translate the plan into practical reality, it is necessary to develop unified method for implementation that involves all relevant ministries and institutions. Therefore, the following questions have to be answered:

- What is the difference between strategic goal and target?
- How can goals be achieved?
- Which are the agencies responsible for the achievements of the goals?
- What is the scope of responsibility and when can the goal be achieved?

The following table of the Action Plan shows the responsibilities and tasks of each agency and the period of implementing each task to achieve the goal of the plan and facilitate E&M process:

Table 1: Strategic goals, targets, implementing agency and responsibility scope

Subject of the international recommendation and comment	
Main sectoral agency that is responsible for implementation	
Supporting agencies	
Relevant CSOs	
Relevant international organizations	

Table 2: implementation measures of each goal

Recommendation	Implementation study	Workshops & meetings	Training programs	Law proposals	Plans & strategies	Progress reports

Table 3: goal achievement schedule (timetable of recommendation enforcement)

Plan approval	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Measure					
Measure					
Measure					

Periodic and Final Reports

The relevant agencies submit their reports to the Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) in the Presidency of Council of Ministers to ensure the realization of the vision and general goals of the plan and to measure the gap between the current status and the strategic vision. Report submission schedule is as follows:

- Quarterly and biannual report on implementation measures submitted by implementing agencies.
- Annual report submitted by implementing agencies.
- Final report submitted by implementing agencies.