

Statement by the KRG Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA)

September 19, 2022

Head of OCIA Meets with the Head of the Judicial Council

The KRG Coordinator for International Advocacy, Dindar Zebari on Tuesday was received by Mr. Judge Abduljabar Aziz Hassan, the President of the Kurdistan Region's Judicial Council.

In the meeting, the KRG Coordinator highlighted the active participation of all institutions of the Kurdistan Regional Government in the implementation of the regional plan and emphasized that it is a comprehensive plan and one of the main institutions that is involved in embodying international standards is the Judicial Council.

Zebari said that UN agencies, consulates and international organizations support the plan and expressed their readiness to advance its implementation.

The KRG Coordinator stated that the Office of the Coordinator for International Advocacy (OCIA) will supervise and coordinate with the institutions of the Kurdistan Region to implement the plan and that they have proposed to address the recommendations that have not yet been implemented.

For his part, Judge Abduljabar Aziz Hassan expressed his readiness to coordinate in order to implement the plan and emphasized that the plan is an important step to show compliance with human rights principles. In terms of gender equality, the Judicial Council have 25 women judges, which is an exemplary step in the region. Regarding human rights issues, the Judicial Council has called on Iraq to join several international human rights agreements.

Regarding the rejection of the bill to establish a special court to try ISIS terrorists, the President of the Judicial Council said that the Kurdish people are victims of ISIS crimes and the crimes have been committed on Kurdistan territory, so the region is trying to establish a court, which is a fair step towards ensuring that justice takes its course.

At the end of the meeting, both sides stressed the importance of active participation of all institutions of the region according to their expertise and characteristics in the implementation of the Kurdistan Regional Plan for Human Rights.