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resolution 16/21**

Saudi Arabia

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies and special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and in other relevant official United Nations documents. It is presented in a summarized manner due to word-limit constraints. For the full text, please refer to the documents referenced. This report does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of OHCHR other than those contained in public reports and statements issued by the Office. It follows the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council in its decision 17/119. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the periodicity of the review and developments during that period.

I. Background and framework

A. Scope of international obligations¹

International human rights treaties²

	<i>Status during previous cycle</i>	<i>Action after review</i>	<i>Not ratified/not accepted</i>
<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>	ICERD (1997)	OP-CRC-AC (2011)	ICESCR
	CEDAW (2000)		ICCPR
	CAT (1997)	OP-CRC-SC (2010)	ICCPR-OP 2
	CRC (1996)		OP-CAT
	CRPD (2008)		ICRMW CPED
<i>Reservations, declarations and/or understandings</i>	ICERD (Reservations, general and art. 22, 1997)	OP-CRC-AC (Declarations, general and art. 3.2 on age of recruitment of 17 years of age, 2011)	-
	CEDAW (Reservations, general, art. 9.2 and art. 29.1, 2000)		
	CAT (Reservation, arts. 20 and 30.1, 1997)		
	CRC (General Reservation, 1996)		
<i>Complaint procedures, inquiry and urgent action³</i>	OP-CRPD art. 6 (2008)		ICERD, art. 14 OP-ICESCR ICCPR ICCPR-OP 1 OP-CEDAW CAT arts. 20, 21 and 22 OP-CRC-IC ICRMW CPED

Other main relevant international instruments

	<i>Status during previous cycle</i>	<i>Action after review</i>	<i>Not ratified</i>
<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>	Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide Palermo Protocol ⁴ Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols I and II ⁵ ILO fundamental conventions except Nos. 87, 98 and 138 ⁶ UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education ⁷		Conventions on refugees and stateless persons ⁸ Additional Protocol III to the 1949 Geneva Conventions ⁹ Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court ILO fundamental conventions Nos. 87, 98 and 138 ¹⁰ and Nos. 169 and 189 ¹¹

1. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women recommended ratifying ICCPR, ICESCR and ICRMW. She also recommended lifting the general reservation to CEDAW, ratifying OP-CEDAW, and amending national legislation accordingly.¹² The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) recommended lifting the reservation to Article 9 (2) of CEDAW.¹³

2. UNHCR recommended acceding to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, and to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness as well as taking steps to enact national legislation guiding prevention and reduction of statelessness or the protection of stateless persons.¹⁴

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

3. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted that the Saudi legal and judicial system was based on shari'a law and its commentaries, and was mostly unwritten. She indicated in particular that there was no written law governing cases pertaining to personal and family issues, and there was no codified penal code as well as no provision or code criminalizing violence against women, or legislation specifically criminalizing rape or other forms of sexual violence.¹⁵

4. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women recommended the adoption of a Penal Code that clearly defined and penalized criminal offences – including rape and the use of torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment; and a draft law on domestic violence, with clear guidelines on implementation mechanisms, a monitoring and coordinating body, and sanctions against perpetrators.¹⁶

5. In 2013, the Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders noted the Government's replies to communications stating, *inter alia*, that judicial proceedings taken were consistent with domestic legislation and in conformity with international standards. She indicated however, that the Repression of Cybercrime Act, under which several defenders had been prosecuted and condemned, contained a number of provisions which, in her view, were not in compliance with international human rights law and standards.¹⁷

6. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) noted that the 1992 Basic Law of Saudi Arabia provided no explicit principle about freedom of expression. The 2000 Press and Publication Act (amended 2011) continued to

contain provisions that penalized media outlets with high fines and closure for publishing any materials that damaged the reputation of the country’s grand mufti, members of the Council of Senior Religious Scholars and Government officials. A freedom of information law had not been introduced.¹⁸ UNESCO encouraged reviewing the pre-existing laws pertaining to media and the press, including the Press and Publication Act 2000, to bring them in line with international standards.¹⁹

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure and policy measures

Status of national human rights institutions²⁰

<i>National human rights institution</i>	<i>Status during previous cycle</i>	<i>Status during present cycle²¹</i>
--	N/A	N/A

7. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women indicated that no institution oversaw and addressed issues pertaining to women and gender equality. She noted that Cabinet Decree 63 of 2003 approved the creation of a Higher National Committee for Women’s Affairs but at the time of her visit in February 2008, no such Committee existed.²²

8. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reported that efforts were needed to further develop the systemic, institutional, and individual capacities within the Saudi National Human Rights Institutions, including the Saudi Human Rights Commission (SHRC) and the Saudi Human Rights Society. This should build on the new Memorandum of Understanding signed between the SHRC and OHCHR.²³

II. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

A. Cooperation with treaty bodies²⁴

1. Reporting status

<i>Treaty body</i>	<i>Concluding observations included in previous review</i>	<i>Latest report submitted since previous review</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CERD	March 2003	–	–	Fourth to fifth reports overdue since 2006
CEDAW	January 2008	–	–	Combined third and fourth reports due in October 2013
CAT	May 2002	–	–	Second to fourth reports overdue since 2002, 2006 and 2010 respectively
CERD	March 2003	–	–	Fourth to fifth reports overdue since 2006
CEDAW	January 2008	–	–	Combined third and fourth reports due in October 2013
CAT	May 2002	–	–	Second to fourth reports overdue since 2002, 2006 and 2010 respectively

<i>Treaty body</i>	<i>Concluding observations included in previous review</i>	<i>Latest report submitted since previous review</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CRC	January 2006	--	--	Third and fourth reports overdue since 2011; initial OP-CRC-AC report due in July 2013; initial OP-CRC-SC report overdue since 2012
CRPD	–	–	–	Initial report overdue since 2010

2. Responses to specific follow-up requests by treaty bodies

Concluding observations

<i>Treaty body</i>	<i>Due in</i>	<i>Subject matter</i>	<i>Submitted in</i>
CERD	--	--	--
CEDAW	--	--	--
CAT	--	--	--

9. UNESCO noted that Saudi Arabia had ratified UNESCO's Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960) in 1973, but was yet to submit a report. It recommended that Saudi Arabia report on the measures taken for the implementation of the Convention.²⁵

B. Cooperation with special procedures²⁶

	<i>Status during previous cycle</i>	<i>Current status</i>
<i>Standing invitation</i>	No	No
<i>Visits undertaken</i>	Violence against women (4-13 February 2008)	
<i>Visits agreed to in principle</i>	None	None
<i>Visits requested</i>	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, requested in 2005 reminder in 2008 Trafficking in persons requested in 2005 Torture requested in 2006 and 2007 Freedom of religion or belief, requested in 2006 and reminder 2008 Arbitrary detention, requested in 2008	Torture reminder in 2010 Freedom of religion reminder in 2009 Human Rights Defenders request in 2012
<i>Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals</i>	During the period under review, approximately 45 communications were sent. The Government replied to some 20 communications.	

10. In a number of opinions, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) noted the lack of response to allegations of arbitrary detention presented to the group.²⁷ In 2012, the WGAD expressed its gratitude regarding the release of some persons subject to its opinions.²⁸

11. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women recommended issuing an invitation to the Special Rapporteurs on the human rights of migrants and on contemporary forms of slavery to comprehensively assess the situation of migrant domestic workers.²⁹

C. Cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

12. In 2012, a Memorandum of Understanding for Technical Cooperation was signed between OHCHR and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, represented by the Saudi Human Rights Commission, with a view to developing capacity-building projects and activities to enhance national capabilities for the promotion and protection of human rights.

13. Saudi Arabia's financial contribution to OHCHR in 2010 and 2011 was US\$ 150,000 per annum without earmarking. In 2012, the financial contribution was increased to US\$ 1 million per annum to be continued at that level for a period of five years.

III. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

A. Equality and non-discrimination

14. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted that Saudi Arabia was a sex-segregated society. The segregation was enforced in public institutions, private businesses, restaurants and cafés, and private homes.³⁰

15. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted that *Mahram*, or the legal guardianship of women by a male, was practiced in varying degrees and encompassed major aspects of women's lives. She indicated that guardianship severely limited women's autonomy, freedom of movement and the exercise of their legal capacity in relation to marriage, divorce, child custody, inheritance and property ownership/control, as well as decision-making in family matters, education and employment. In general, the guardianship system rendered women's legal position precarious. The Rapporteur noted that, in 2001, photo ID for women was instituted, yet many women still lacked an ID card, either because they lacked their guardian's approval or due to the woman's reluctance to appear unveiled in the photograph.³¹

16. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women recommended that Saudi Arabia (a) incorporate in law the principle of equality between women and men, and a definition of discrimination based on sex; (b) take measures to end the practice of guardianship and abolish existing legal provisions that require a guardian's authorization; and (c) facilitate the procedure for women to obtain an identity card and raise awareness in this regard.³²

17. UNESCO noted that some professions, in particular the legal and judicial professions, were still beyond the reach of women. And most workplaces were segregated by gender.³³

18. The International Labour Organization (ILO) Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations expressed its concern that provisions limiting women's access to certain sectors or jobs were due to stereotyped assumptions linked to gender. It urged the Government to take measures to ensure that workers and employers and their organizations were aware that the law no longer prohibited women and men from working together. It requested the Government to amend section 149 of the Labour Code, with a view to ensuring that any protective measures were strictly limited to protecting maternity.³⁴ The Special Rapporteur on violence against women indicated that although the new Saudi Labour Code, amended in 2005, no longer included a provision explicitly requiring sex segregation in the workplace, the fact that there had been no formal/public repeal or prohibition of segregation, left uncertainty as to its proper enforcement.³⁵ The ILO Committee and the Special Rapporteur also indicated that Article 149 of the Labour Law (2005) specified that women "shall work in all fields suitable to their nature", in accordance with shari'a provisions. They noted the restrictive criteria limiting women's access to employment.³⁶

19. The 2010 Resident Coordinator Annual Report noted as highlighted by ILO that the King and some high-ranking Saudi officials had been supporting the right of women to work and access business opportunities. The Saudi Council of Ministers adopted a resolution requiring all Government agencies that provided services related to women to establish women's sections, within one year.³⁷

20. The ILO Committee urged the Government to ensure that those involved in dispute resolution and enforcement, including labour inspectors, labour dispute commissioners,

judges and members of the Human Rights Commission, receive appropriate training regarding non-discrimination and equality issues.³⁸

B. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

21. In 2013, the independent experts on extrajudicial executions, torture, and arbitrary detention urged the authorities to halt the execution of seven Saudi nationals. The Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions expressed concern that the individuals were convicted of crimes outside the category of “most serious crimes”, and after problematic trials. The Special Rapporteur on torture was concerned at allegations that the individuals had been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment in detention and were forced to sign confessions. The chair of the WGAD was concerned that the death penalty was imposed and was to be carried out following possible violation of the right to liberty and security of all seven individuals.³⁹ Mandate holders were outraged at their execution on 13 March 2013, despite repeated calls not to carry out the sentences.⁴⁰ The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights also strongly condemned the executions, viewing the executions as clearly violating international safeguards, repeating concerns as to the nature of the alleged crimes, confessions based on torture and the insufficiency of trials. The High Commissioner noted that they made brief appearances before the court, and were not given the opportunity to conduct their defence as the defendants claimed. The High Commissioner recalled that, during its first Universal Periodic Review, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia accepted a recommendation to “Protect the rights of those facing the death penalty, including through strengthened application of international safeguards in the use of the death penalty”. The High Commissioner noted that the death penalty applied to crimes not considered “serious” under international norms, including drug offences, apostasy, heresy, sorcery and witchcraft. At least 27 people were believed to have been executed so far in 2013.⁴¹

22. In 2012 the Special Rapporteur on summary executions was concerned by the number of communications dealing with imminent executions taking place. He was concerned at the reported and increasing number of executions.⁴² The High Commissioner urged the Saudi authorities to join the worldwide trend against the death penalty and, as a first step, establish a moratorium on its use.⁴³

23. During the period under review, the WGAD adopted several opinions where it was alleged, among others, that the person(s) concerned had been arrested/detained without a warrant and had not been informed of the charges or presented before a judge or had access to a lawyer, and/or were held incommunicado for varying periods of time.⁴⁴ In a number of cases, ill-treatment and/or torture or inhumane conditions of detention was alleged.⁴⁵ The WGAD noted with concern that a consistent pattern of arbitrary arrests and detention was emerging in Saudi Arabia.⁴⁶

24. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women indicated that the extent of domestic violence in Saudi Arabia was difficult to assess because of constraints on reporting and the lack of data.⁴⁷ She recommended that Saudi Arabia systematize the gathering of data and statistics on violence against women, disaggregated by type of violence and relationship with the aggressor.⁴⁸

25. The ILO Committee noted that the Government did not comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, especially because of its failure to prosecute those guilty of trafficking. The Committee urged the Government to take immediate and effective measures to enforce the law.⁴⁹ It noted with interest the promulgation by the Council of Ministers of Order No. 244 of 20/7/1430 H (2009) prohibiting trafficking in persons.⁵⁰ It urged the Government to strengthen the relevant monitoring mechanisms and effective and dissuasive penalties were imposed.⁵¹

26. The ILO Committee noted reported cases of children trafficked from a third country to work as camel jockeys, in addition to women under the age of 18 who were trafficked from another third country for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation.⁵² It urged the Government to ensure that legislation specifically prohibiting the use, procuring or offering of children under 18 years for prostitution and for the production of pornography or pornographic performances is adopted in the near future.⁵³

27. The ILO Committee hoped that the Government would take steps to adopt a law prohibiting and criminalizing forced or compulsory labour with adequate and strict enforcement.⁵⁴ It also observed that Order No.1/738 of 4 July 2004 prohibited child labour and the exploitation of children while it did not explicitly prohibit the forced or compulsory labour of children under 18 years. It noted that Ministerial Order No.244 did not prohibit forced labour that occurs independently of human trafficking.⁵⁵ The Committee requested the Government to take the necessary measures to ensure that persons who committed offences with regard to the forced or compulsory labour of children not linked to trafficking were prosecuted and that sufficiently effective and dissuasive penalties were imposed.⁵⁶

28. The ILO Committee noted that agricultural workers and domestic workers did not benefit from the protection laid down in the Labour Code. It requested the Government to take effective measures to ensure that children working in those sectors did not engage in hazardous work or work that was likely to harm their health, safety or morals.⁵⁷

29. The ILO Committee noted an absence of information on the Committee's concerns with respect to the imposition of penalties for the use, procuring or offering children under 18 years for the purposes of begging unrelated to the offence of trafficking. It requested the Government to take the necessary measures to ensure that persons who used, procured or offered children under 18 years for the purpose of begging were prosecuted and effective and dissuasive penalties were imposed.⁵⁸ It noted that it was officially estimated that there were over 83,000 children selling small goods and begging on the streets of major cities in Saudi Arabia.⁵⁹ It requested the Government to take measures that included repatriation, family reunification and support for former child victims of trafficking, in cooperation with the child's country of origin.⁶⁰

C. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

30. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women indicated that the non-codification of laws left the interpretation and application of shari'a to the competency of the courts and to a Council of Senior Religious Scholars, appointed by the King. In accordance with the Law of the Judiciary, judges were expected to be fully versed in Islamic law and jurisprudence (*Fikh*). There was an overall consensus that judges had significant discretionary power in adjudicating cases. Reportedly, judges applied guidelines drawn from customs and traditions, which often did not comply with obligations contained in the shari'a or in international instruments ratified by Saudi Arabia.⁶¹ She recommended that Saudi Arabia set up a training programme for judges with the Higher Institute for Judges, in cooperation with the Ministry for Justice, to address the international obligations the Kingdom had pledged to respect, including those pertaining to women's rights.⁶²

31. The WGAD noted, in a number of opinions, that persons in detention had not been afforded the possibility of contesting the legality of their detention.⁶³

32. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted information received where women were not able to file complaints because police or health-care professionals – or in some cases, women themselves – believed they needed authorization from their guardian and for other reasons too.⁶⁴

33. The Special Rapporteur recommended that Saudi Arabia (a) accelerate the establishment of family or personal status courts, staffed with female lawyers, counsellors and social workers and with specialized women's committees⁶⁵; (b) establish women's units within the police and the General Prosecutor's office; and (c) adopt guidelines for the police and the judiciary on how to investigate, prosecute and rule on cases of rape and sexual violence.⁶⁶

D. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

34. UNESCO noted that women were subject to greater restrictions than men regarding marriage to non-citizens and to non-Muslims. Men could divorce without cause, but women had to show cause.⁶⁷ The Special Rapporteur on violence against women indicated that child marriage was not prohibited and noted that in 2008, the Shura approved a law officially defining the age of adulthood as 18 years, although noting that whether this would also apply to the legal age for marriage was unknown.⁶⁸ Additionally, she observed that guardians also had the authority to dissolve marriages they deemed unfit.⁶⁹ The Special Rapporteur also indicated that judicial practices pertaining to divorce and child custody impacted on women's ability to escape abusive marriages.⁷⁰ In case of divorce, a Saudi woman could keep her children until the age of 7 for girls and 9 for boys.⁷¹ The Rapporteur recommended (a) standardizing the age of majority at 18 years in accordance with the CRC, and ensuring its application to the legal age of marriage; and (b) adopting a family law to regulate marriage and divorce, including the prohibition of marriage annulments against the will of both spouses.⁷²

35. UNHCR noted with concern that Saudi mothers were not able to pass their nationality on to their children at birth, if they were married to foreign nationals, as highlighted by CEDAW in 2008,⁷³ and recommended amending the Nationality Law to enable Saudi mothers to pass their nationality to their children, regardless of the status or nationality of the child's father.⁷⁴

E. Freedom of movement

36. UNESCO noted the lack of freedom of movement and restrictions emanating from the guardianship system for women and its impact on employment opportunities.⁷⁵

F. Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

37. The ILO Committee requested the Government to take concrete and proactive measures to address religious discrimination and to address this matter in the national equality policy.⁷⁶

38. The Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders was concerned about the physical and psychological integrity of human rights defenders in Saudi Arabia, following reports of arbitrary arrests and incommunicado detention, as well as instances of severe and lengthy sentencing of defenders. The Special Rapporteur was disturbed by several cases where it was alleged that human rights defenders had been tortured while in detention or serving prison sentences.⁷⁷ The WGAD noted with concern a consistent pattern of arrest and detention of persons exercising their basic human rights, in particular their right to freedom of opinion, expression and association.⁷⁸

39. UNESCO noted that, according to local, regional, and international organizations, journalists continued to face the possibility of prison terms for their work and were subject to a high level of censorship. UNESCO recommended developing a media self-regulatory

mechanism.⁷⁹ It encouraged the Government to introduce a freedom of information law that was in accordance with international standards. UNESCO noted that blasphemy was considered a criminal offence punishable by death and encouraged the decriminalization of defamation to make it part of the civil code in accordance with international standards.⁸⁰

40. UNDP noted that, since the first UPR, rising aspirations among vulnerable groups seeking a more inclusive and accountable form of development had been observed. This included increasingly vocal calls for women's rights.⁸¹

41. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women recommended that Saudi Arabia establish the facilities and mechanisms for women's equal participation in all public and private institutions, including law practices and the judiciary.⁸²

42. The 2010 Resident Coordinator Annual Report noted that the King had announced a decree concerning women's rights to vote and run in municipal elections, and to join the all-appointed Shura (consultative) Council.⁸³ A 2013 United Nations Statistics Division source indicated that the proportion of seats held by women in the national parliament was 0.0 per cent.⁸⁴

43. The ILO Committee requested the Government to provide information on any measures taken to increase the participation of women in a broad range of sectors and occupations and to higher level and decision-making positions.⁸⁵

G. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

44. The ILO Committee urged the Government to take measures to declare and pursue a national policy designed to promote equality of opportunity and treatment in employment and occupation, with a view to eliminating any discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin.⁸⁶ The Committee urged ensuring effective means of redress,⁸⁷ including those excluded from the scope of the Labour Code.⁸⁸

45. The ILO Committee asked the Government to include a provision in the Labour Code defining and prohibiting sexual harassment and to address the issue of sexual harassment of domestic workers.⁸⁹

46. The ILO Committee urged the Government to take measures to ensure that those involved in dispute resolution and enforcement, including labour inspectors, labour dispute commissioners, judges and members of the Human Rights Commission, receive appropriate training regarding non-discrimination and equality issues.⁹⁰

47. A 2013 United Nations Statistics Division source indicated that employment-to-population ratio of women decreased from 15.3 per cent in 2008 to 14.6 per cent in 2009.⁹¹

48. UNDP noted that, since the first UPR, there had been seen a continuation of serious challenges for creating a more inclusive and accountable context for expatriate workers. Low-skilled expatriate workers in particular continued to face challenges of racism, social exclusion and lack of accountability from abuse of power.⁹²

49. The 2011 Resident Coordinator's Annual Report noted that the King had announced a series of royal decrees to help improve the welfare of the Saudi people. Those decrees included payment of unemployment benefits for job seekers, increase of the minimum wage in the public sector, and establishment of a National Commission on Combating Corruption.⁹³

H. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

50. A 2013 United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) source indicated that the proportion of undernourished population in 2012 was 5.0 per cent.⁹⁴

51. A 2013 UNSD source indicated that the total proportion of urban population living in slums in 2005 was 18.0 per cent.⁹⁵

52. The 2010 Resident Coordinator Annual Report noted the endorsement of the Ninth Five-Year Development Plan (2010-14), which allocated \$385 billion for various infrastructure and welfare projects, and the National Millennium Development Goals Report. The amount was 67 per cent more than the previous plan, focusing on achieving sustainable development, human resource development, natural resource development, and environmental protection.⁹⁶

I. Right to health

53. A 2013 UNSD source indicated that the children under-five mortality rate per 1,000 live births had decreased from 9.9 in 2010 to 9.0 in 2011.⁹⁷

54. The 2012–2016 United Nations Common Country Strategic Framework (UNCCSF) indicated that the health sector confronted important and complex challenges to improve health outcomes; this included not only continued expansion of services, but also particularly encompassed implementation of policies and mechanisms for structural transformation of the health system with special emphasis on awareness among youth, including reproductive health and for *planning* and delivery of quality health care and *prevention* services.⁹⁸

J. Right to education

55. The 2010 Millennium Development Goals (MDG) report indicated that, despite the relatively late start in education of girls, rates of enrolment of girls' at all educational levels had increased sharply.⁹⁹

56. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) reported that youth illiteracy was much more common among girls than boys in Saudi Arabia: 72.08 per cent of all the youth illiterates were women.¹⁰⁰ However, it noted that only 5 per cent of Saudi youth were illiterate.¹⁰¹ UNESCO noted that a number of positive developments had resulted in significant improvements in women's literacy rates within a relatively short period of time. However, concerns had been raised that the overall aim of girls' education which was to prepare them for their "roles" as mothers and wives has not changed over the past 40 years.¹⁰² UNESCO recommended ensuring that every area of study on higher education was accessible to women on the same basis as men.¹⁰³

57. UNESCO recommended Saudi Arabia to take further legislative measures, prohibiting discrimination in education. It recommended adopting measures and special laws to protect minority groups, and promote gender equality in education.¹⁰⁴

58. A 2013 UNSD source indicated that the net enrolment ratio in primary education for girls increased from 86.1 per cent in 2008 to 89.4 in 2009.¹⁰⁵

K. Cultural rights

59. UNESCO noted that in Saudi Arabia, although there were hundreds of civil society organizations working in various fields, the vast majority of Saudi non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were Government-affiliated, and there were few if any independent

organizations. Civil society remained underdeveloped, due in large part to a restrictive legal framework, a lack of transparency in NGO operations, and a lack of expertise in establishing effective and sustainable institutions. In response to these demands, the Saudi Ministry of Social Affairs proposed in 2006 a draft Law on Associations and Foundations. This law was revised and published by the Shura Council on 31 December 2007.¹⁰⁶

L. Minority groups

60. The ILO Committee noted that the State had started to encourage and promote the values of religious tolerance, and was attempting to address hatred and violence against non-Muslims, and asked for information on the specific measures taken to encourage and promote religious tolerance, and the results achieved to address discrimination based on religion in employment and occupation.¹⁰⁷ The 2011 Resident Coordinator Annual Report noted that the general political scene was stable except for small demonstrations that took place in March in mainly Shia'a-dominated areas located in the Eastern Region of the Kingdom, to which the authorities responded by banning and prohibiting public protests, and allowed the security forces to quell such protests.¹⁰⁸

M. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

61. The ILO Committee urged the Government to take measures to address the issues of discrimination and exploitation of migrant workers, including providing legal protection to migrant workers against discrimination on all the grounds enumerated in the Convention, as well as accessible dispute resolution mechanisms. It urged the Government to make addressing discrimination against migrant workers an important component of the national equality policy.¹⁰⁹ The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted regarding domestic workers, that there was no law guaranteeing a minimum wage and that migrant workers often faced delays or denial of salary.¹¹⁰ She noted reports that those women were victims of physical, verbal and sexual abuse, were sometimes locked up in the house with no possibility to make or receive phone calls, or were prohibited from leaving the house at will.¹¹¹ The ILO Committee hoped that the Government would take steps to promulgate new regulations under section 7 of the Labour Code, which was specially tailored to the difficult circumstances they faced, particularly in consequence of the visa sponsorship system.¹¹²

62. UNHCR was concerned that there were currently no procedures through which a person in need of international protection could seek asylum. UNHCR recommended the adoption of national refugee legislation and an asylum procedure in accordance with international standards, providing safeguards against refoulement and promoting durable solutions for refugees. UNHCR highlighted the need for promoting the integration of refugees and to facilitate the resettlement of refugees to third countries. UNHCR recommended ensuring that the detention of asylum-seekers be used as a last resort, and where necessary, for as short a period as possible, and apply alternatives to detention.¹¹³

63. The 2012–2016 UNCCSF indicated that numerous rights and empowerment issues also remained to be addressed, including issues of juvenile justice, of various forms of abuse, violence and neglect, such as trafficking, with regard to refugees.¹¹⁴

64. UNHCR noted with concern that non-Saudi nationals and those in rural areas were having trouble accessing adequate health care. It recommended promoting access to the highest attainable standard of health by identifying the specific needs of asylum-seekers as early as possible after arrival, and by granting asylum-seekers and refugees full access to preventive health care.¹¹⁵

N. Right to development and environmental issues

65. UNDP noted that in the years since the first UPR round, voices had arisen in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for greater accountability, equity and inclusion in the process and results of development. Despite the overall positive trends in aggregate socio-economic indicators of development, gaps existed in moving to a more rights-based model of development. As noted by UNDP, the 2012–2016 UNCCSF stated that a human rights-based approach in the Kingdom could move development policies and results from the realm of charity to a more measurable and enforceable realm based on accountability.¹¹⁶ The UNCCSF indicated that citizen calls for more transparent, accountable and participatory governance were on the rise, as were concerns for more inclusive development.¹¹⁷

66. UNDP noted that other key natural resources of critical implications for the future of development in Saudi Arabia were water and arable land.¹¹⁸ UNDP noted the need to address issues of land use and balance of growth opportunities between regions and between urban and rural communities, through formulation of a new National Spatial Strategy and a new National Rural Development Strategy.¹¹⁹

Notes

¹ Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed in the table may be found at the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, <http://treaties.un.org/>. Please also refer to the United Nations compilation on Saudi Arabia from the previous cycle (A/HRC/WG.6/4/SAU/2).

² The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD
CPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

³ Individual complaints: ICCPR-OP 1, art. 1; OP-CEDAW, art. 1; OP-CRPD, art. 1; OP-ICESCR, art. 1; OP-CRC-IC, art. 5; ICERD, art. 14; CAT, art. 22; ICRMW, art. 77; and CPED, art. 31. Inquiry procedure: OP-CEDAW, art. 8; CAT, art. 20; CPED, art. 33; OP-CRPD, art. 6; OP-ICESCR, art. 11;

- and OP-CRC-IC, art. 13. Inter-State complaints: ICCPR, art. 41; ICRMW, art. 76; CPED, art. 32; CAT, art. 21; OP-ICESCR, art. 10; and OP-CRC-IC, art. 12. Urgent action: CPED, art. 30.
- ⁴ Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
- ⁵ Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.
- ⁶ International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- ⁷ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960).
- ⁸ 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.
- ⁹ Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.
- ¹⁰ International Labour Organization Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively and Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment.
- ¹¹ International Labour Organization Convention No. 169, concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries and International Labour Organization Convention No. 189 concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers.
- ¹² A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para.95 (e).
- ¹³ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 4.
- ¹⁴ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 pp. 2, 4.
- ¹⁵ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, paras. 47 and 74.
- ¹⁶ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 95 (b).
- ¹⁷ A/HRC/22/47/Add.4, paras. 360, 361 and 368.
- ¹⁸ UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 pp. 7, 11.
- ¹⁹ UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 11.
- ²⁰ According to article 5 of the rules of procedure for the International Coordination Committee (ICC) Sub-Committee on Accreditation, the different classifications for accreditation used by the Sub-

- Committee are: A: Voting Member (fully in compliance with each of the Paris Principles), B: Non-Voting Member (not fully in compliance with each of the Paris Principles or insufficient information provided to make a determination); C: No Status (not in compliance with the Paris Principles).
- 21 For the list of national human rights institutions with accreditation status granted by the International Coordination Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC), see A/HRC/23/28, annex.
- 22 A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, paras. 89-90.
- 23 UNDP submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 5.
- 24 The following abbreviations have been used for this document:
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| CERD | Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination |
| CESCR | Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights |
| HR Committee | Human Rights Committee |
| CEDAW | Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women |
| CAT | Committee against Torture |
| CRC | Committee on the Rights of the Child |
| CRPD | Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities |
| CED | Committee on Enforced Disappearances |
- 25 UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 7, 8, 10 and 11.
- 26 For the titles of special procedures, see www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Themes.aspx and www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Countries.aspx.
- 27 Working Group on Arbitrary Detention Opinion No. 8/2012. See also Opinions on Saudi Arabia No. 21/2009; No. 10/2011; No. 11/2011; No. 17/2011; No. 18/2011; No. 19/2011; No. 30/2011; No. 31/2011; No. 33/2011; No. 41/2011; No. 42/2011; No. 43/2011; ; No. 44/2011; No. 2/2011; and No. 8/2012. Available from <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Detention/Pages/WGADIndex.aspx>.
- 28 A/HRC/22/44, paras. 18 and 19 regarding opinions .
- 29 A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 95 (e).
- 30 A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 15.
- 31 A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, paras. 33, 34, 37 and 38.
- 32 A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 95 (a).
- 33 UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 3. See also A/HRC/11/6/Add.3. In some firms, women have been working as legal clerks or researchers without interacting with clients or going to court.
- 34 ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2008, published 98th ILC session (2009), seventh paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2304345.
- 35 A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 15.
- 36 A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, paras. 29, 95 (a) and ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), sixth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2699480.
- 37 UNDG, 2010 Resident Coordinator Annual Report, available at <http://www.undg.org/rcar2010.cfm?fuseaction=RCAR&ctyIDC=SAU&P=1507> (accessed on 31 July 2013). See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), fourth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2699480.
- 38 ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), ninth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2699480.
- 39 United Nations Human Rights, country page – Saudi Arabia: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/MENARegion/Pages/SAIndex.aspx>.

- ⁴⁰ United Nations Human Rights, country page – Saudi Arabia:
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/MENARegion/Pages/SAIndex.aspx>.
- ⁴¹ United Nations Human Rights, country page – Saudi Arabia:
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/MENARegion/Pages/SAIndex.aspx>.
- ⁴² A/HRC/20/22/Add.4, para. 70.
- ⁴³ United Nations Human Rights, country page – Saudi Arabia:
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/MENARegion/Pages/SAIndex.aspx>.
- ⁴⁴ Opinions on Saudi Arabia No. 21/2009; No. 10/2011; No. 11/2011; No. 17/2011; No. 18/2011; No. 19/2011; No. 30/2011; No. 31/2011; No. 33/2011; No. 41/2011; No. 42/2011; No. 43/2011 and No. 8/2012. Available from <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Detention/Pages/WGADIndex.aspx>.
- ⁴⁵ Working Group on Arbitrary Detention Opinions No. 8/2012; No. 44/2011; No. 42/2011; No. 30/2011; No. 2/2011; No. 17/2011; No. 11/2011.
- ⁴⁶ Working Group on Arbitrary Detention Opinion No. 8/2012, para. 28. See also Opinions on Saudi Arabia No. 21/2009; No. 10/2011; No. 11/2011; No. 17/2011; No. 18/2011; No. 19/2011; No. 30/2011; No. 31/2011; No. 33/2011; No. 41/2011; No. 42/2011; No. 43/2011; ; No. 44/2011; No. 2/2011 and No. 8/2012. Available from <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Detention/Pages/WGADIndex.aspx>.
- ⁴⁷ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 40.
- ⁴⁸ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 95 (b).
- ⁴⁹ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), fifth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2310424.
- ⁵⁰ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Forced Labour, 1930 (No. 29) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), third and fourth paragraphs, available at:
http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO::P13100_COMMENT_ID,P11110_COUNTRY_ID,P11110_COUNTRY_NAME,P11110_COMMENT_YEAR:2309889,103208,Saudi%20Arabia,2009. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), thirteenth and fourteenth paragraphs, available at:
http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2310424.
- ⁵¹ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), eighth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2700662.
- ⁵² ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), thirteenth and fourteenth paragraphs, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2700662.
See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), ninth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2310424.
- ⁵³ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the worst forms of child labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), third and fourth paragraphs, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2700662, see also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), third paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2310424.
- ⁵⁴ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Forced Labour, 1930 (No. 29) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), second paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2309889.
- ⁵⁵ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), first paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2700662.
- ⁵⁶ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), second paragraph,

- available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2700662. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the worst forms of child labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), second paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2310424.
- ⁵⁷ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), fifth and sixth paragraphs, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2700662 and ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the worst forms of child labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), fourth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2310424.
- ⁵⁸ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the worst forms of child labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), sixth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2310424.
- ⁵⁹ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), fifteenth and sixteenth paragraphs, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2700662.
- ⁶⁰ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), twelfth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2310424.
- ⁶¹ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 75.
- ⁶² A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 95 (c).
- ⁶³ Working Group on Arbitrary Detention Opinions: No. 42/2011; No. 41/2011; No. 33/2011; No. 31/2011; No. 18/2011, No. 11/2011.
- ⁶⁴ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 38.
- ⁶⁵ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 95 (c).
- ⁶⁶ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 95 (b).
- ⁶⁷ UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 5.
- ⁶⁸ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 52.
- ⁶⁹ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 53.
- ⁷⁰ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 79.
- ⁷¹ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 81.
- ⁷² A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 95 (b).
- ⁷³ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 3. See also CEDAW/C/SAU/CO/2, 40th Session, 8 April 2008, para. 27–30.
- ⁷⁴ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 4. See also the Committee on the Rights of the Child CRC/C/SAU/CO/2, 41st Session, 17 March 2006, paras. 38 and 39.
- ⁷⁵ UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013, p. 5. A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 34.
- ⁷⁶ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2008, published 98th ILC session (2009), eighth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2304345.
- ⁷⁷ A/HRC/22/47/Add.4, para. 369.
- ⁷⁸ Working Group on Arbitrary Detention Opinion 44/2011, para. 17. Also opinions: No. 2/2011, No. 30/2011, No. 33/2011, No. 41/2001, No. 42/2011, No.43/2011.
- ⁷⁹ UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 7, 11.
- ⁸⁰ *Ibid.*
- ⁸¹ UNDP submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 3.
- ⁸² A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 95 (a).
- ⁸³ UNDG, 2011 Resident Coordinator Annual Report, p. 1, available at <http://www.undg.org/rcar2011.cfm?fuseaction=RCAR&ctyIDC=SAU&P=1625>, fourth paragraph (accessed on 2 August 2013).
- ⁸⁴ United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, available at: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg> (accessed on 2 August 2013).
- ⁸⁵ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2008,

- published 98th ILC session (2009), fourth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2304345.
- ⁸⁶ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2008, published 98th ILC session (2009), first paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2304345 and ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), first paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2699480.
- ⁸⁷ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), second paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2699480.
- ⁸⁸ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), second and third paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2699480. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2008, published 98th ILC session (2009), third paragraph, available at http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2304345 and ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2008, published 98th ILC session (2009), second paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2304345.
- ⁸⁹ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), fifth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2699480. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2008, published 98th ILC session (2009), sixth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2304345.
- ⁹⁰ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2008, published 98th ILC session (2009), tenth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2304345.
- ⁹¹ United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, available at: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg> (accessed on 26 March 2013).
- ⁹² UNDP submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p.2.
- ⁹³ The 2011 Resident Coordinator Annual Report para 4, available at: <http://www.undg.org/rcar2011.cfm?fuseaction=RCAR&ctyIDC=SAU&P=1625> (accessed on 17.6.2013).
- ⁹⁴ United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, available at: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg> (accessed on 26 March 2013).
- ⁹⁵ United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, available at: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg> (accessed on 26 March 2013).
- ⁹⁶ Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Millennium Development Goals, 1431H 2010G, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/11553/Saudi-Arabia---MDG-Report---2010.pdf>.
- ⁹⁷ United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, available at: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg> (accessed on 26 March 2013).
- ⁹⁸ UNDAF, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 2012-2016, Riyadh, July 2012, p. 17 §1, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/12689/Saudia-Arabia---CCSF.pdf>.
- ⁹⁹ Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Millennium Development Goals, 1431H 2010G, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/11553/Saudi-Arabia---MDG-Report---2010.pdf>, p 52, para 1.

- ¹⁰⁰ E/ESCWA/SDD/2011/2, available at http://www.escwa.un.org/information/publications/edit/upload/E_ESCWA_SDD_11_2_e.pdf, p. 26.
- ¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*, p. 27.
- ¹⁰² UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 4, 5. See also A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para. 22. Available online at: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/docs/11session/A.HRC.11.6.Add.3_en.pdf. See also: 2000 Demographic Survey.
- ¹⁰³ UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 10.
- ¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*
- ¹⁰⁵ United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, available at <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg> (accessed on 26 March 2013).
- ¹⁰⁶ UNESCO submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 pp. 9, 10.
- ¹⁰⁷ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), eighth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2699480.
- ¹⁰⁸ UNDG, 2011 Resident Coordinator Annual Report, p. 1, third para., available at <http://www.undg.org/rcar2011.cfm?fuseaction=RCAR&ctyIDC=SAU&P=1625> (accessed on 2 August 2013).
- ¹⁰⁹ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2011, published 101st ILC session (2012), seventh paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2699480. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) adopted 2008, published 98th ILC session (2009), eighth paragraph, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2304345.
- ¹¹⁰ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, paras. 58 and 64.
- ¹¹¹ A/HRC/11/6/Add.3, para.59 and 95 (d).
- ¹¹² ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning forced labour, 1930 (No. 29) adopted 2009, published 99th ILC session (2010), fifth and sixth paragraphs, available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:2309889.
- ¹¹³ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 pp. 2, 3.
- ¹¹⁴ UNDAF, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 2012-2016, Riyadh, July 2012, P.17,para 3, available at <http://www.undg.org/unct.cfm?module=CoordinationProfile&page=Country&CountryID=SAU&fuseaction=UN%20Country%20Coordination%20Profile%20for%20Saudi%20Arabia>.
- ¹¹⁵ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 pp. 4, 5. See also CEDAW/C/SAU/CO/2, paras. 33 and 34.
- ¹¹⁶ UNDP submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 2.
- ¹¹⁷ UNDAF, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 2012-2016, Riyadh, July 2012, p. 4, third para., available at <http://www.undg.org/unct.cfm?module=CoordinationProfile&page=Country&CountryID=SAU&fuseaction=UN%20Country%20Coordination%20Profile%20for%20Saudi%20Arabia>.
- ¹¹⁸ UNDP submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p.3.
- ¹¹⁹ UNDP submission to the UPR on Saudi Arabia, 2013 p. 6.