



The focus is on: The right to health and access to health services



1- How is the human right of older persons to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health defined in the national and local legislation in your country? If definitions are not available, how should such rights be defined considering relevant existing national, regional and international legal frameworks?

- The Basic Law of governance in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia issued by Royal Order No. a / 90 and dated 2/3/1992 in Article (27) of it stipulates that "the state guarantees the right of a citizen and his family, in case of emergency, illness, disability, old age, supports the social security system, and encourages institutions and individuals to contribute to charitable works".
- The issuance of the Health System issued by Royal Decree No. m/11 dated 4/6/2002, which included the fourth article of the system that the state should provide health care services for the older persons.
- The Family Affairs Council organized by the Council of Ministers resolution No. 433 dated 25/7/2016, which stipulates in its sixth article the establishment of a number of committees, including the "committee of the older persons". It is a National Committee responsible for developing preventive plans and projects and awareness programs aimed at meeting the requirements of the older persons, formulating a general policy for the care of the older persons in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, proposing rules and regulations for the older persons that ensure them a decent social life and enhance their status, and establishing awareness of the conditions of the older persons and their issues to ensure their family and social status and enhance their positive role, encouraging the family and strengthening its role in caring for the older persons, Research and develop methods of care and services provided to the older persons in cooperation with regional and international organizations and bodies working in this field, propose programs and projects for the older persons in accordance with their experiences and inclinations, conduct studies and research and hold seminars and conferences on various issues of the older persons in cooperation with universities, centers and organizations specialized in this aspect.

2- The human right to health encompasses both access to health care and attention to the material and other conditions which are necessary for its full enjoyment. What provisions have been made to ensure that older persons enjoy access, on an equal basis with others, to social protection, adequate water and sanitation, adequate housing and to health education?

- The Basic Law of governance in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia issued by Royal Order No. a / 90 and dated 2/3/1992 in Article (27) of it stipulates that "the state guarantees the right of a citizen



and his family, in case of emergency, illness, disability, old age, supports the social security system, and encourages institutions and individuals to contribute to charitable works".

- In the field of protection from abuse, the system of protection from abuse was issued by Royal Decree No. (m/52) dated to 21/10/2013, which ensured protection from abuse in all its forms for all members of society, including the older persons, and any case of abuse must be reported through the provisions of Article (3) of it "every public or private entity is obliged to inform the ministry or the police of cases of abuse that it has been informed of immediately upon learning of them or receiving a report thereon", as well as of the visits undertaken by the Human Rights Authority within its competence to social welfare homes for the older persons, and to make observations about them in order to reach an increase in the level of enjoyment of human rights.
- Article (II), paragraph (7), of the Regulations stipulates: "rehabilitation of public and commercial facilities, residential neighborhoods, the surrounding environment and mosques to be appropriate to the needs of the older persons, and Paragraph (8) of the same article" allocating places for the older persons in public facilities and events.

3- What are the key normative elements of the human right of older persons to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health?

- The kingdom's laws prohibit all forms of racial discrimination, including the Prohibition of discrimination against the older persons, based on the principle of equality contained in Article (8) of the Basic Law of governance.
- The issuance of the Health System issued by Royal Decree No. m/11 dated 4/6/2002, which included the fourth article of the system that the state should provide health care services for the older persons.
- The issuance of the list of social welfare homes issued by the Council of ministers Resolution No. 322 22/6/2013 and its Executive Rules, where all articles of the regulation regulated the conditions for admission of older persons to welfare homes and the services provided to them inside the homes.
- The kingdom's laws have guaranteed Right to a remedy to all citizens, foremost of which is equal access to justice for citizens and Residents on equal terms, including the older persons. Article (47) of the Basic Law of governance stipulates that "the right to litigation is guaranteed equally to citizens and residents." the judicial systems, decisions and instructions issued by the judicial authorities have included provisions facilitating access to the judiciary and promoting the principle of equality before it.
- The human rights commission, an independent monitoring entity, promotes and protects the human rights of all without discrimination, receives complaints about the rights of the older persons, takes legal action on them and addresses practices that may constitute a violation of their



rights through monitoring, awareness-raising and other measures. The human rights commission also works to ensure that the relevant government agencies implement the rules and regulations related to human rights, detect abuses, and take the necessary legal action in this regard. It also monitors government agencies for the implementation of the relevant international human rights treaties ratified by the Kingdom, and ensures that those agencies take the necessary actions to implement them.

- In the area of remedies, a number of measures have been taken to facilitate the access of the older persons to justice, such as the mobile notary service, which is a free service for beneficiaries who are unable to come to the notary offices of the older persons.

4. What are the measures that should be undertaken by the State to respect, protect and fulfil the human right of older persons to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, regarding the normative elements as provided above?

- There should be national legislation on the rights of the older persons.

5. What special measures and specific considerations should be considered in developing the normative content on older persons' right to health?

- The Law on the Rights and Welfare of the Older persons issued by the Council of Ministers Decision No. M/47 dated 06/01/2022, and work is underway to develop executive regulations and detailed guidelines and procedural manuals dealing with this aspect.

6. How should the responsibilities of non-State parties such as private sector be defined in the context of the human right to health of older persons?

- The system of rights and care of the older persons referred in paragraph (9) of Article (2), which stated "urging the private sector, business owners and private entities to take care of the older persons through the establishment of community centers and social clubs".



7. What are good or promising practices and main challenges faced by your country in the adoption and implementation of the normative framework on the human right to health of older persons?

- One of the good practices in the field of health care is to work on equal rights between older women and men in terms of therapeutic health services provided to them through Geriatrics clinics, the older persons care program, the home health care program, the physiotherapy and therapeutic rehabilitation program, the provision of supportive medical devices, mobile clinics, a "priority" card to facilitate hospital appointments, many measures have been taken in order to facilitate the mobility of the allocation of the ground floor to senior clinics, and the Ministry of Health has launched electronic applications to facilitate access to its services, including the "appointment" application, through which the appropriate appointment can be booked for the patient at the nearest center, and the "health" application Which provides remotely medical consultations through visual communication , text messages, or voice messages ,The Ministry of Health also provided the "937" service, which provides medical consultations by voice calling.

The focus is on: Participation in public life and in decision-making processes

1. What are the national and local legal provisions and policy frameworks in your country that guarantee
 - a) right to equality and prohibition of all forms of discrimination against older persons on the basis of age, alone or combined with other grounds, in the context of participation in public life and in decision-making processes;
 - b) elimination of all forms of ageism and age discrimination from laws, frameworks, programs, policies, strategies and practices regarding participation in public life and in decision-making processes;
 - c) right to freedom of expression, including freedom to seek, receive and impart information;
 - d) right of peaceful assembly;
 - e) right to freedom of association;
 - f) right to take part in the government of one's country, directly or through freely chosen representatives;
 - g) active, free and meaningful participation of older persons and their representative organizations in all matters related to participation in public life and in decision-making processes;



h) access to prompt remedies and redress when older persons' above mentioned rights are violated.

- The kingdom's laws prohibit all forms of racial discrimination, including the Prohibition of discrimination against the older persons, based on the principle of equality contained in Article (8) of the Basic Law of governance.
- The kingdom's regulations, foremost of which is the Basic Law of governance, ensure participation in decision-making for all members of society in all fields, including development, as follows:
- The Basic Law of governance: Articles (8 and 43) affirmed that governance in the kingdom is based on justice, consultation and equality in accordance with Islamic Sharia, and that the King's Council and the Crown Prince's Council are open to every citizen, and to anyone who has a complaint or grievance, and everyone has the right to address the public authorities in what matters are presented to him.
- Shura Council system: Royal Decree No. a/91 dated 1/3/1992 A.H was issued, which enhanced effective participation in decision-making, as Article (15) of the council's statute defines its terms of reference, to express an opinion on the general policies of the state referred to it by the Prime Minister, discuss the general plan for economic and social development, and express an opinion on it, and the council in accordance with Article (18) study the regulations, treaties, international agreements and privileges, propose what it thinks about them, interpret the regulations, and discuss the annual reports submitted by ministries, government agencies he may propose draft regulations and amend the regulations in force, in accordance with Article (23) of his regulations.
- In the area of remedies: - The kingdom's laws have guaranteed Right to a remedy to all citizens, foremost of which is equal access to justice for citizens and Residents on equal terms, including the older persons. Article (47) of the Basic Law of governance stipulates that "the right to litigation is guaranteed equally to citizens and residents." the judicial systems, decisions and instructions issued by the judicial authorities have included provisions facilitating access to the judiciary and promoting the principle of equality before it
- The human rights commission was established by the council of ministers Resolution No. 207 dated 12/09/2005. it is a government entity directly related to the king, and is concerned with the protection and promotion of human rights in general, including the rights of the older persons in accordance with international standards in light of the provisions of the Islamic Sharia, and its organization has granted it wide powers:
 - Monitoring and follow-up: This role is to ensure that government agencies implement the legal bases related to human rights (regional and international agreements, rules, regulations, orders and decisions...), Detection of abuses, taking systemic action on them
 - The remedy: This role is to receive, validate and take regular action on human rights complaints, including those related to the older persons.



2. What steps have been taken to ensure participation in public life and in decision-making processes without discrimination?

- The kingdom's laws prohibit all forms of racial discrimination, including the Prohibition of discrimination against the older persons, based on the principle of equality contained in Article (8) of the Basic Law of governance.

3. What data and research are available regarding older persons' participation in public life and in decision-making processes? Please indicate how national or sub-national data is disaggregated by sex, age and inequality dimensions, and what indicators are used to monitor older persons' participation in public life and in decision-making processes?

- The General Authority for statistics, as the statistical reference for statistical data and information in the kingdom, issues a periodic survey every three years on the older persons under the name of "survey of the older persons " that contributes to providing indicators and statistics to support decision makers in accordance with the vision of the kingdom of Saudi Arabia 2030 and meets the requirements of planners, researchers and those interested in studies on the older persons and providing an integrated picture of the situation of the older persons in Saudi Arabia in terms of: Their demographic, social characteristics, the services they need, their communication with nursing homes, their role in volunteer work, the diseases they suffer from.

4. What are the challenges and barriers that older persons face regarding participation in public life and in decision-making processes, including the impact of intersectional discrimination and inequality based on age, gender, disability, race, ethnicity, migratory status and other grounds?

- The legislation and measures referred to, which are constantly reviewed in his report, and the protection of the rights of the older persons contribute to overcoming the challenges that may arise in the future.

5. What judicial and non-judicial mechanisms are in place for older persons to complain and seek redress when their right to participate in public life and in decision-making processes is violated?



- The kingdom's laws prohibit all forms of racial discrimination, including the prohibition of discrimination against the older persons, based on the principle of equality contained in Article (8) of the Basic Law of governance.

The focus is on: (Transport, housing and access)

1. What are the national legal provisions and policy frameworks that recognize older persons' rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)? This could include, but is not limited to:
 - a) the right of older persons to adequate housing, including land, property and inheritance.
 - b) the right of older persons to access and enjoy, on an equal basis with others, the physical environment, transportation, information and communications (including ICTs), and other facilities and services open or provided to the public, both in urban and in rural areas (e.g. buildings, roads, transportation and other indoor and outdoor facilities, schools, housing, green spaces, medical facilities and workplaces; information, communications and other services, including electronic services and emergency services).
 - c) policies/programmes that enable older persons to live independently and to be included in their communities as they age.
- The system was issued in accordance with Royal Decree No. (m/47) dated 2022/01/06, which came to enhance the rights of the older persons, in a way that preserves their dignity, privacy and independence, and provides them with care and services, and the system formed a legal framework to enable them to enjoy full rights, care and attention.
- The system of rights and care of the older persons included Article (II) paragraph (1), which provided for enabling the older persons to live in an environment that preserves their rights and preserves their dignity, as well as Article (XII), which included that the ministry grants the older persons a privilege card that enables him to benefit from the public services he needs for the necessities of his daily life provided by government, private and private entities for the older persons. It must take into account the older persons in all actions taken in relation to him and expedite their completion and take into account his mental, psychological and physical needs. In addition to what is included in the following articles of the order.
- (Article III): The older persons has the right to live with his family, and they must shelter and take care of him, and the family members are responsible for this in accordance with the sequence provided for in Article (VI) of the law.



- (Article V) For the purposes of applying the provisions of the law, an older person is considered needy if he is unable to secure for himself the necessities of life in whole or in part as a result of a deficiency in his financial, physical, psychological or mental abilities, The regulation defines the necessary provisions and controls for this.
 - Housing subsidy program-a service provided by the Ministry of municipal and Rural Affairs and housing targeting male and female citizens, enabling them to register in the housing subsidy application lists without any fees to verify their eligibility to receive housing subsidy and then identify the eligible ones.
 - Developmental housing-the Ministry of Housing has worked in integration and partnership with civil associations and institutions to achieve housing support by providing housing units for deserving families and the neediest in society, which are under the auspices of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development.
 - The Ministry of communications and Information Technology, in partnership with the Family Affairs Council represented by the older persons committee, has launched the following:
 - The "technology for everyone" campaign, which falls under the umbrella of the "technology for older persons " initiative, is a continuous campaign aimed at raising awareness of technology in line with the basic pillars of the kingdom's ambitious Vision 2030. the technology for older persons initiative aims to raise awareness of the importance of using technology to facilitate their lives and guide them using technical applications without assistance
 - The kingdom has paid its attention and care to citizens in general, including the older persons (both sexes), in accordance with the twenty-seventh article of the Basic Law of governance, which preserves the rights of the older persons, as it stipulates that the state guarantees the right of the citizen and his family, in case of emergency, illness, disability and old age, supports the social security system, and encourages institutions and individuals to contribute to charitable works.
- 2. What are the challenges and barriers faced by older persons for the realization of their right to accessibility, infrastructure use and habitat (transport, housing and access) at the national and international levels?**
- There are no radical challenges or barriers faced by the older persons, as the Law on the Rights and Welfare of the older persons issued by Cabinet Decision No. 292 dated 2022/01/04, in Article 2, Paragraph 7, which stipulates that "public and commercial facilities, residential neighborhoods and the environment surrounding mosques must be rehabilitated to suit the needs of the older persons, in light of the relevant regulations and orders.



3. What data, statistics and research are available at the national level regarding older persons' rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (public transport, housing and access)?

- The General Authority for statistics, as the statistical reference for statistical data and information in the kingdom, issues a periodic survey every three years on the older persons under the name of "survey of the older persons" that contributes to providing indicators and statistics to support decision makers in accordance with the vision of the kingdom of Saudi Arabia 2030 and meets the requirements of planners, researchers and those interested in studies on the older persons and providing an integrated picture of the situation of the older persons in Saudi Arabia in terms of: Their demographic, social characteristics, the services they need, their communication with nursing homes, their role in volunteer work, the diseases they suffer from.

4. What measures are being taken to eliminate ageism, ageist stereotypes, prejudices and behaviours that hinder older persons' rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)?

- The legislation and measures referred to, which are constantly reviewed in his report, and the protection of the rights of the older persons contribute to overcoming the challenges that may arise in the future.

5. What mechanisms are necessary, or already in place, for older persons to submit complaints and seek redress for denial of their rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)?

- The kingdom's laws have guaranteed Right to a remedy to all citizens, foremost of which is equal access to justice for citizens and Residents on equal terms, including the older persons. Article (47) of the Basic Law of governance stipulates that "the right to litigation is guaranteed equally to citizens and residents." the judicial systems, decisions and instructions issued by the judicial authorities have included provisions facilitating access to the judiciary and promoting the principle of equality before it
- The human rights commission was established by the council of ministers Resolution No. 207 dated 12/09/2005. it is a government entity directly related to the king, and is concerned with the protection and promotion of human rights in general, including the rights of the older persons in accordance with international standards in light of the provisions of the Islamic Sharia, and its organization has granted it wide powers:

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- Monitoring and follow-up: This role is to ensure that government agencies implement the legal bases related to human rights (regional and international agreements, rules, regulations, orders and decisions...), Detection of abuses, taking systemic action on them.
- The remedy: This role is to receive, validate and take regular action on human rights complaints, including those related to the older persons.





The focus is on: Social integration

1. How are the key human rights related to older persons' social inclusion defined in the national and local legislation in your country? If definitions are not available, how should such rights be defined considering relevant existing national, regional and international legal frameworks?

- Civil society organizations that care for the older persons contribute to providing a range of services to this category, including what is provided by the King Salman social center, as it aims to care for the adult category and serve them with modern scientific methods, and takes into account their integration into society, by enabling the older persons to gain more experience and knowledge and develop their ability to adapt to the changes of society and the rhythm of the Times, and occupy their free time with useful practical, recreational and therapeutic programs that maintain communication between the older person and his family and social environment, and the establishment of cultural activities and scientific seminars for them.

2. Please provide references to existing national legal standards relating to older persons social inclusion on normative elements such as:

- a) the right of older persons to take part in cultural life;
- b) older persons' inclusion in the digital sphere;
- c) ensuring that older persons can live independently and be included in the community;
- d) ensuring the social inclusion of older persons living in institutions;
- e) older persons' inclusion in intergenerational policies and programmes;
- f) Access to prompt remedies and redress when older persons' rights related to social inclusion are violated.

- In the field of digital inclusion of older people: The Ministry of communications and Information Technology, in partnership with the Family Affairs Council represented by the older persons committee, has launched the following:
- The "technology for everyone" campaign, which falls under the umbrella of the "technology for older persons" initiative, is a continuous campaign aimed at raising awareness of technology in line with the basic pillars of the kingdom's ambitious Vision 2030. the technology for older