



**SUPREME STANDING
COMMITTEE FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS**

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY

**The Arab Republic of Egypt
2021-2026**

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Preamble

Egypt is progressing confidently towards a future that corresponds to its position among other nations and to the aspirations of its people, who made two revolutions in 2011 and 2013 respectively. Both revolutions called for political, economic and social reforms, and for upholding the values of freedom, human dignity and social justice.

Building a modern Egypt and achieving stability, progress and sustainable development are primarily based on enhancing respect for and protection of human rights. Therefore, it has become imperative, as a national duty and responsibility before history, to continue serious efforts for realizing all civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, ensuring equality and equal opportunities for everyone.

Efforts to move forward industriously to advance human rights situation are supported by a political will, which is determined to attain this objective as well as the respect for the Constitution, which is significant for ensuring rights and fundamental freedoms as it stresses principles of citizenship, rule of law, equality and non-discrimination. Furthermore, Egypt adopts an integrated development vision "Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt Vision 2030", which is based on realizing basic human rights as the focus of development.

Over the past years, Egypt achieved significant national milestones in the field of human rights, at the legislative, executive and institutional levels. However, enhancing the protection of human rights is an ongoing and recurrent process which has accumulative and gradual impact. Any efforts exerted or achievements attained in this field will not lead to perfection; challenges relating to the equal enjoyment of rights and fundamental freedoms by everyone will remain. This implies more efforts to address accumulated challenges and existing shortcomings.

The importance of this document stems from the fact that it is the first integrated national human rights strategy in Egypt. It builds on the progress achieved and takes into consideration opportunities and challenges at the national level. The initiative to prepare the strategy reflects a national conviction that a comprehensive and serious approach to enhancing human rights and fundamental freedoms should be adopted; an approach geared by a clear vision and strategic planning.

Vision of the Strategy

The strategy is based on a vision aiming at advancing all human rights in Egypt through enhancing respect for and protection of all civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, stipulated for in the Constitution, national laws and international and regional instruments ratified by Egypt. The ultimate goal is to enhance equality and equal opportunities without any discrimination. The strategy is a national ambitious roadmap on human rights and a significant tool for self-development in this field.

Pillars of the Strategy

The strategy is based on the following pillars:

I. Constitutional Guarantees for Enhancing Human Rights Respect and Protection

The protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms is guaranteed in the Egyptian Constitution, which affirms that the political system is premised on values of citizenship, justice and equality of rights and duties without any discrimination. It provides that equality of opportunity is the foundation of the society. According to the Constitution, discrimination amounts to a legally punishable crime. Moreover, no amendments may be introduced to the Constitution regarding the principle of equality, unless they add further guarantees. The Constitution stresses that rights and freedoms inherent to a citizen's person may not be derogated from or restricted upon by any law that compromises their origin and essence.

The independence of the judiciary, which has a foundational role in ensuring access to remedy and effective enforcement of all principles of human rights and fundamental freedoms, is ensured in the Constitution. These principles are safeguarded in the Constitution by providing judicial protection to them through the Supreme Constitutional Court which determines the constitutionality of laws. The Constitution also stipulates that the laws regulating rights and freedoms stated therein are considered complementary thereto. Therefore, the approval of two-thirds of the Parliament shall be required for the issuance of such laws.

II. Egypt's International and Regional Human Rights Obligations

Over long decades, Egypt has been a main contributor to the multilateral efforts towards the development of international human rights law. It participated in drafting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and

the two international covenants on human rights. It actively contributed to consultations and preparations leading up to the drafting of international and regional human rights instruments.

The Constitution ensures the fulfillment of Egypt's international human rights obligations. A special status was conferred for the first time to international human rights instruments; Article 93 stipulates that: "The State is committed to the agreements, covenants, and international conventions of human rights that were ratified by Egypt. They have the force of law after publication". Therefore, the State's respect for these instruments is a constitutional obligation, rendering rights and fundamental freedoms provided for therein the protection accorded to a constitutional rule. Accordingly, the Legislative Authority may not promulgate any legislation, which comes in conflict with the State's obligations pursuant to these instruments.

Egypt ratified eight core international human rights instruments and a number of regional instruments within the Arab and African human rights systems.

The strategy is conducive to creating a comprehensive approach to implementing all these obligations.

III. Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt Vision 2030

This document seeks to enhance the achievement of the objectives of the "Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt Vision 2030". The latter seeks to attain inclusive development by building a fair society, which is characterized by equality and just distribution of the benefits of development where the maximum societal inclusion is achieved for all citizens and governance principles are strengthened. "Egypt Vision 2030" affirms that to attain sustainable development, human rights principles and the rule of law should be respected. This strategy aims at enhancing respect for and protection of human rights for this integrated development project and at integrating human rights goals and principles within public policies.

Basic Principles of the Strategy

The strategy is based on a number of basic principles provided for in the Constitution, established in the case law of supreme courts and included in international and regional human rights instruments as follows:

1. Human rights are inherent to human dignity, universal, interdependent, indivisible and interrelated.

2. Non-discrimination, equality, ensuring equal opportunities, and respect for the principle of citizenship.
3. Rule of law is the basis of government; and the judiciary's independence, immunity and neutrality are basic guarantees for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The State respects the rule of law by means of legislation, policies, regulations and effective judicial rulings.
4. Democracy and human rights are interrelated and mutually reinforcing.
5. Enhancing good governance, anti-corruption efforts and reinforcing the values of integrity and transparency to ensure access to human rights and fundamental freedoms.
6. The right to development is a human right whereby every human being and all peoples shall have the right to participate in and contribute to the achievement of inclusive development and to access its benefits.
7. All members of the society shall fulfill their duties and responsibilities related to the respect for the rights and fundamental freedoms of others.
8. Rights and freedoms inherent to a human being are neither inalienable nor derogable; they may not be undermined by any law regulating their exercise. No restrictions shall be imposed on the exercise of rights and freedoms, except for those stipulated by the law and are necessary for the protection of national security, public safety, public order, public health and public morals or the protection of the rights and fundamental freedoms of others.

Key Challenges

The main challenges to enhancing the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Egypt in relation to the implementation of the strategy are as follows:

I. The need to Enhance Human Rights Culture

Many practices that amount to human rights violations are attributed to the weak human rights culture and certain incorrect cultural legacies that contradict with human rights values and principles. Furthermore, there is an ongoing need to develop the capacity of national calibers in different sectors

in the area of human rights. In practice, this would enhance compliance with guarantees ensured by the constitutional and legal frameworks.

II. The Need to Enhance Participation in Public Affairs

It is critical to address reasons for the low level of participation in public affairs, including lack of effective presence of political parties in the society, youth's reluctance to get involved in political parties' activities as desired and the need to increase the effectiveness of institutional channels for consultation with civil society organizations, as a key partner in the promotion and protection of human rights. Moreover, increasing the level of participation in public affairs would require more participation at the local levels and addressing poverty to ensure that civil and political rights are effectively exercised. The promulgation of the law regulating the exercise of civil work of 2019 and its executive regulations is certainly an opportunity for building an effective and sustainable partnership with civil society organizations, based on respect for the Constitution and law.

Democracy in Egypt has been further enhanced by fulfilling constitutional entitlements, including regular presidential and parliamentary elections, the most recent of which were the House of Representatives and Senate elections in addition to planning for holding local councils' elections. This would support the State's efforts to overcome obstacles related to realization of the right to participate in public affairs, which is crucial for the realization of freedoms of expression, assembly and association.

III. Challenges to the achievement of targeted economic development

The political instability that Egypt witnessed before 2014 together with the regional disorder since 2011 had severe negative impact on the economy, leading to an increase in macroeconomic imbalances. Although the Egyptian economy has recently witnessed a relative improvement in macroeconomic indicators- driven by the reform procedures and policies implemented by the government towards sustainable social and economic development- there is still a need to further enhance the realization of economic, social and cultural rights. In spite of intensive efforts exerted to address the negative impact of inflation on the poorest, further measures are required to enhance the realization of social justice. The higher cost of living, including housing, food, education and health, results in widening the societal and economic gaps. Furthermore, it is necessary to narrow the gap in realizing geographically balanced growth by maintaining investments

in border areas and other areas with high poverty rates, including some areas in Upper Egypt, Sinai, Matrouh and Nuba. The completion of the National Project for Egyptian Villages Development is key in this regard.

The steady population increase, with Egypt's population exceeding 100 million people, is a major obstacle to the provision of resources necessary to ensure that all Egyptians have access to an adequate living standard and to reduce poverty. Crises, such as terrorist attacks, have negative impact on investment, tourism and the overall economic situation. The launch of the strategy coincides with the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on economic growth and enjoyment of different rights. Furthermore, due consideration should be given to challenges associated with Egypt's water security and the continuing decline of per capita annual share of water. The latter is a direct threat to developmental efforts, negatively affecting the realization of human rights in general, and the right to life, the right to safe drinking water and the right to food in particular.

In order to address all these challenges, substantial funding is required, so as to ensure that the upward growth indicators are translated into an adequate standard of living for each person and their families, satisfying their basic needs.

IV. Terrorism and Regional Disorder

Egypt witnesses a critical phase with unprecedented internal and external security threats, resulting from the increased terrorist activities in Egypt and regional neighboring countries. Therefore, support to the State's stability and unity has become a top priority for national action. The danger of terrorism threatens the people's access to their rights and fundamental freedoms. As such, anti-terrorism measures are integral to the protection of human rights: both are complementary and mutually reinforcing. Egypt's anti-terrorism efforts stem from a clear vision that combating the terrorist danger and eliminating terrorist groups are integral to protecting human rights and ensuring safety for all Egyptians. Just like many other countries, Egypt adopts legislative measures and security policies dictated by the imperative to fight terrorism. In renewing the state of emergency, Egypt is keen to ensure that these measures and procedures are consistent with the Constitution and its obligations under international human rights law.

Egypt adopts a comprehensive anti-terrorism approach, which is based on two main pillars; the first seeks to fight terrorist persons and entities, and the second seeks to achieve inclusive development to address the underlying reasons for terrorism. Terrorism is also fought by intellectual means, which

is evident in religious and civil institutions adopting the renewal of the religious discourse to fight against extremist ideas.

Stages for Development of the Strategy

I. Preparation

The preparation of the strategy was spearheaded by the Supreme Standing Committee for Human Rights, which was established pursuant to the Prime Ministerial Decree No. 2396 of 2018 that stipulates in Article 3 that the Committee is mandated to “develop and follow up a national human rights strategy, and action plans for its implementation by relevant bodies”.

The preparation of the strategy started with listing human rights-related future plans, programs and activities, in coordination with all ministries and authorities concerned. This activity was accompanied by examining national action plans and strategies in various fields in order to build upon the programs and activities included therein, and achieve correlation and complementarity with the target results of this strategy through a comprehensive human rights perspective. Furthermore, the national human rights strategies and action plans of a number of countries were examined by the Committee to learn about relevant best practices and experiences. The concluding recommendations issued by international and regional human rights mechanisms were also examined together with those issued by the National Council for Human Rights, and the status of their implementation was assessed, in coordination with all relevant ministries and bodies.

Therefore, the preparatory stage contributed to an extensive assessment of the needs related to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

II. Consultations

The Supreme Standing Committee for Human Rights adopted an extensive consultative approach to the strategy’s preparation, at two parallel levels: the first was consultations between relevant ministries and bodies, while the second was consultations with civil society representatives through an extensive societal dialogue. This approach is consistent with the consultative planning approach adopted by the State. Six hearing sessions were held to receive suggestions related to the development of the strategy draft. They were attended by representatives of the National Council for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations from different governorates, syndicates

and trade unions, research centers and universities, federations of chambers of commerce and businessmen associations, public figures and the intellect. After the elaboration of the draft, phase two of the consultations started with hearing sessions with the Human Rights Committee of the House of Representatives, and representatives from the National Council for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations, and public figures. The purpose was to review the most prominent features of the draft and its target results. These hearing sessions witnessed a constructive dialogue, which produced several proposals relating to different pillars of the strategy, some of which were included therein.

Furthermore, the Committee set up “an advisory body”, including 25 public figures and experts of law, economics, public policies and strategic planning to engage different calibers in the strategy’s preparation.

III. Drafting

The drafting of the strategy, in particular with regard to identifying challenges and target results, was informed by the extensive self-assessment of needs related to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the extensive consultations led by the Supreme Standing Committee for Human Rights with different stakeholders.

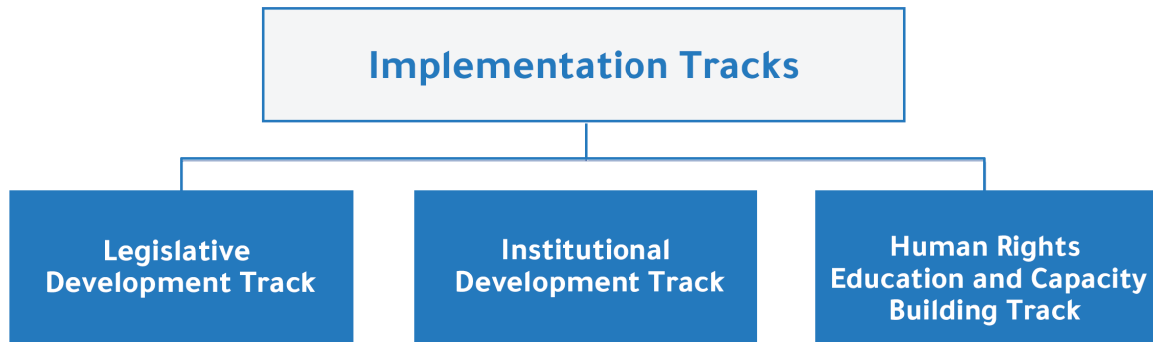
Follow-up and Evaluation of Implementation

The Supreme Standing Committee for Human Rights will follow-up and evaluate progress made in achieving the underlying vision of the strategy and the implementation of its target results. This task is vital to build upon progress made and identify implementation gaps that need to be addressed. This would enhance coordinated national action to enhance respect for human rights by addressing relevant challenges.

In the context of following up on the implementation of the strategy, more efforts will be exerted to enhance communication, coordination, consultation and development of national partnerships between all components of the institutional human rights edifice, including the civil society. This is the cornerstone for a successful implementation of the strategy, leading to the development of an integrated framework for a coordinated, collective, participatory and ongoing institutional action. The latter would achieve the desired correlation and synergy of all efforts that aim at enhancing human rights protection.

Implementation Tracks

The implementation of the vision underlying the strategy mainly depends on making progress in three integrated parallel tracks as follows:



I. Legislative Development Track

The Egyptian legislative structure is rich in guarantees for the promotion and protection of human rights. However, there is still a need to build upon progress achieved in this area in order to enhance consistency between national laws, on the one hand, and principles and guarantees stated in the Constitution and international and regional human rights instruments ratified by Egypt, on the other hand, either by amending certain existing laws or promulgating new ones.

According to Article 3 (10) of the Prime Minister's Decree constituting the Supreme Standing Committee for Human Rights, the Committee is mandated to "propose laws and legislative amendments related to the promotion and protection of human rights", which would contribute to achieving the strategy's target results related to legislative development.

The effective enforcement of laws in practice, together with the development of necessary mechanisms, and the respect to and compliance with laws are indispensable for the strategy to achieve its goals and a necessary requirement to enhance the rule of law.

II. Institutional Development Track

Egypt has a rich institutional edifice for enhancing respect for and protection of human rights. The discharge of all relevant institutions of their mandates effectively and efficiently shall have a positive impact on enhancing the human rights situation. This includes proposal, elaboration and implementation of policies as well as the development of their institutional capacity, work methodologies and tools.

The institutional edifice for enhancing respect for and protection of human rights is being developed continuously. The establishment of the Supreme Standing Committee for Human Rights, towards the end of 2018 (replacing the main Human Rights Committee of the Ministry of Justice constituted in 2016 with membership of relevant bodies) is a significant addition in this regard. It reflects a political will to operationalize the constitutional and legislative frameworks related to the protection of rights and freedoms in Egypt and to enhance the implementation of Egypt's international and regional human rights obligations. The Committee is mandated to: prepare the national human rights strategy; propose necessary legislative measures and procedures related to the promotion and protection of human rights; prepare national reports to be submitted to international and regional human rights mechanisms; follow-up the implementation of recommendations issued by these mechanisms; draft periodic reports monitoring and analyzing human rights issues; prepare official responses to communications of international and regional human rights mechanisms; and draft an action plan on national capacity building in the field of human rights. These tasks are fulfilled in coordination with units and departments concerned with human rights in all ministries, governorates and bodies. In 2012, a human rights sector was established in the Ministry of Interior, with a department which monitors crimes of violence against women, children and persons with special needs. There are also anti-violence against women departments in all security directorates. Additionally, in 1997 the General Department for Judicial Protection of Children was created and in 2002, a sector on human, rights, women, and children was set up in the Ministry of Justice. The government adopted an integrated vision on administrative reform, seeking to achieve an efficient and effective administrative body, characterized by good governance and accountability, which contributes to the achievement of the State's development goals and increases citizens' satisfaction with different services provided in an efficient and fair manner, without any discrimination.

The institutional edifice for human rights promotion and protection also comprises the National Council for Human Rights, as the national independent human rights institution, the National Council for Women, the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities. The Constitution guarantees the independence of these councils, which are mandated to report to public authorities any violations related to their areas of work and should be consulted on draft laws and regulations relevant to their mandates.

In 2017, the Public Prosecutor's Office, an integral part of the judiciary, established a human rights department to receive human rights-related complaints and reports, monitor the implementation of international and regional human rights instruments ratified by Egypt, within the jurisdiction of the Public Prosecution. The Department receives reports on periodic and sudden inspections of prisons and other places of detention submitted by public prosecutors. These reports are examined in terms of the application of standard rules for the treatment of prisoners. This Department is an extension of the Human Rights Department established in the Public Prosecutor's Office since 2005. In 2018, the Egyptian Military Justice Authority established a human rights branch at the Military Public Prosecutor's Office. It addresses all human rights-related issues as specified in its constituent decree and that fall within the military judiciary's jurisdiction.

At the level of the legislative authority, the House of Representatives has a Human Rights Committee, and the Senate has a Human Rights and Social Solidarity Committee.

III. Human Rights Education and Capacity Building Track

Human rights education and capacity building are main pillars underlying the human rights edifice. Therefore, further dissemination and consolidation of the human rights culture shall save subsequent efforts needed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as contribute to addressing any violations, especially those resulting from certain incorrect cultural legacies. Moreover, the capacity of calibers entrusted with the protection of human rights are built and developed by means of ongoing training programs and courses. This is indispensable for enhancing respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The strategy's main four pillars include a separate pillar on human rights education and capacity building. It seeks to coordinate and develop national efforts in this field, in consistency with the best international practices, and in a manner reflecting national priorities.

Implementation Timeline

The strategy is launched in September 2021, and its implementation timeline is until September 2026. Some issues need to be further examined to determine the best ways to address them with a view to consider their inclusion in the most appropriate way in the next strategy.

Egypt's Role in the International Human Rights System

Egypt's vision on human rights issues is not limited to its national context. Rather, Egypt is keen on expressing this vision and its underlying principles and values at the international level. Egypt participated in efforts towards the development of the United Nations international human rights mechanisms, including the Human Rights Council where Egypt has been a member twice. A number of Egyptian experts were elected as members in the UN human rights treaty bodies. Egypt was an effective contributor to efforts exerted to develop relevant regional mechanisms within the African Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and League of Arab States.

Egypt is keen on implementing its international and regional human rights obligations. It also seeks to enhance its cooperation with the mechanisms mandated to follow-up on the implementation of relevant instruments. To this end, Egypt submits national periodic reports to these mechanisms in a timely manner, and it follows up on the implementation of their recommendations. Egypt is keen to interact with the special procedures system within the United Nations Human Rights Council and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. It responds to all communications received from these mechanisms. Egypt has recently submitted a number of national periodic reports to international and regional human rights treaty bodies. A timeline was set to finalize and submit the remaining due national reports.

In line with Egypt's support to and collaboration with the UN Human Rights Council, it accepted 87.37 percent of recommendations received in the third cycle of the Council's universal periodic review mechanism. Egypt is keen to implement recommendations received from international human rights mechanisms in consistency with its international and national obligations. Therefore, it is currently considering the establishment of a national electronic database to follow up on the implementation of these recommendations.

Egypt plays an effective and active role in the context of joint international action in the field of human rights. It plays a vital role in enhancing cooperation and coordination among different regional groups in the UN. To this end, it acts constructively with all parties, on the basis of dialogue and cooperation, while stressing objectivity, non-selectivity and non-politicization in the context of addressing human rights at the multilateral

level. In the same vein, Egypt coordinates with Arab, African and Islamic countries and the non-aligned movement countries, to address issues of mutual concern to developing countries on the international human rights agenda, including combating racism, cultural, social and economic rights and the right to development.

Egypt presents several initiatives in the framework of the human rights multilateral diplomacy at the UN. In the field of women's rights, Egypt co-led an initiative to introduce a resolution before the UN General Assembly, during 2020, on "Strengthening national and international rapid response to the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on women and girls." As far as family protection is concerned, Egypt has been leading since 2014, a cross-regional initiative under the UN Human Rights Council, which culminated in the resolution "Protection of the family." Egypt pays attention to youth issues as a top priority on the international human rights agenda. Accordingly, since 2016, it has contributed to highlighting their role in communities through introducing biennially the "Youth and Human Rights" resolution to the UN Human Rights Council. Since 2015, Egypt has been cooperating with several countries in presenting a resolution on the right to work at the Council. It also cooperates with other countries in presenting a resolution on "The negative impact of the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin to the countries of origin on the enjoyment of human rights".

Egypt has presented, since 2018, a resolution, at the UN Human Rights Council, on the effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of human rights. This highlights the priority given by Egypt to combat terrorism, mobilizing and urging the international community to take a strict action in this regard and to highlight its negative impacts on the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Focus Areas of the Strategy

The implementation of the vision underlying the strategy requires vigorous and continuous efforts in four complementary focus areas, namely:



Each focus area is addressed separately in the strategy, which highlights main strengths and opportunities, challenges, and target results.

First Focus Area

Civil and Political Rights

Civil and political rights are addressed in this focus area in nine items, each highlighting strengths and opportunities, challenges and concluding with target results.

I. Right to Life and to Physical Integrity

Strengths and Opportunities

1. The right to a safe life is provided for in the Constitution as a human right.
2. The State is required, under the Constitution, to combat all forms of terrorism, which constitute a threat to the nation and people, while guaranteeing rights and fundamental freedoms.
3. According to the Constitution, the human body is inviolable. Any assault, defilement or mutilation thereof is a crime punishable by law. All forms of torture constitute a crime with no statute of limitations.
4. According to the Constitution, children are protected from all forms of violence, mistreatment, and sexual exploitation.
5. A number of laws guarantee and enhance the right life and the physical integrity and inviolability of the human body, including the Penal Code, the Human Organs Transplantation Law, and the Human Trafficking Law.
6. According to the Constitution, denying any form of medical treatment to any human being in emergency or life-threatening situations is a crime. Every human being has the right to donate their body organs during his/her lifetime or after his/her death. The Constitution stipulates the establishment of a mechanism to regulate the rules of organ donation and transplant in accordance with the law
7. According to the Constitution, organ trafficking is forbidden, and no medical or scientific experiment may be performed thereon without the documented free consent of the person concerned. The law regulating clinical medical research was promulgated in December 2020.

Challenges

1. A framework is required to review the most serious crimes punishable by death penalty, taking into consideration the societal conditions and specialized studies and in accordance with the international and regional human rights instruments ratified by Egypt.

2. The Law of Cases and Procedures of Appeal before the Court of Cassation promulgated by Law No. 57 of 1959 is void of the mandatory appointment of an attorney for a person sentenced to death who cannot afford the cost of appeal, especially that the right to defense in that case is intrinsically related to the right to life.
3. The need to eliminate any form of individual practices that violate the sanctity of the body, whether at public or private premises or places.
4. The need to enhance efforts towards the protection from assault, physical abuse, or mistreatment against children at shelter houses, orphan houses, psychiatric hospitals, addiction treatment sanitariums, and nursing homes.
5. Inadequacy of psychological rehabilitation programs for victims of violence.
6. The weak legal awareness within the society of practices which constitute a cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment, which are legally criminalized. The weak awareness of victims' rights and means to deal with them.

Target Results

1. Benefit is achieved from a framework to review the most serious crimes punishable by death penalty, taking into consideration the societal conditions and specialized studies and in accordance with the international and regional human rights instruments ratified by Egypt.
2. A legislative amendment is introduced to enable the financially unable persons to appeal against death sentences before the Court of Cassation, in addition to the existing procedure mandating the Public Prosecutor's Office to submit documents to the Court of Cassation according to the applicable law.
3. The continuation of efforts to combat torture in all its forms, conduct investigations into relevant allegations, and protect victims' rights in accordance with the Constitution and Egypt's international obligations.

4. The elimination of any form of individual practices which violate the sanctity of the body, whether at public or private premises or places.
5. Protection is enhanced for inmates of shelter houses, orphan houses, nursing homes, psychiatric hospitals and addiction treatment sanitariums to prevent any violations to their right to safe life and inviolability and integrity of their bodies. Perpetrators shall be referred to competent investigation authorities.
6. Psychological rehabilitation programs for victims of violence are increased and further developed.
7. Legal awareness is enhanced of practices, which constitute a cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment through launching campaigns that aim at combating and preventing violence, while public servants' awareness and capacities are enhanced.
8. Tolerance is promoted and all forms of violence are reduced in society.

II. Right to Personal Freedom

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, personal freedom is a natural right, which is safeguarded and cannot be infringed upon and is an inviolable right. Except in cases of in flagrante delicto, citizens may only be apprehended, searched, arrested, or have their freedoms restricted through a causal judicial warrant. Infringement of personal freedom at the stage of criminal accusation is limited to the necessities of an investigation, and the State's obligation to compensate for pretrial detention is established.
2. According to the Constitution, all those whose freedoms have been restricted are immediately informed of the causes thereof, notified of their rights in writing, allowed to immediately contact their families and lawyers. Interrogation of the person may only begin once his or her lawyer is present. Those who have their freedom restricted enjoy the right of recourse to the judiciary. Judgment must be rendered within a week from such recourse; otherwise the petitioner shall be

immediately released, ensuring that the restriction of freedom is in the narrowest possible scope and for the shortest possible period.

3. According to the Constitution, legal aid and means of accessibility are provided to persons with disabilities in places designated for their detention or imprisonment.
4. According to the Constitution, any assault on personal freedom is a crime with no statute of limitations for both civil and criminal proceedings. The injured party may file a criminal suit directly. The State guarantees just compensation for those who have been assaulted.
5. The National Council for Human Rights has the right pursuant to the Constitution to inform the public prosecutor's office of any violation of personal freedom, and also enjoys the right to enter into an ancillary civil lawsuit on the side of the injured party.
6. The Criminal Procedures Law includes guarantees of legal protection of personal freedom, especially when persons are arrested or searched, which are not allowed except in cases of in flagrante delicto and misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment for a period of more than three months if there is sufficient evidence of their accusation, or if there is a justified judicial authorization.
7. A project is initiated on remote consideration of pretrial detention orders, allowing a judge to communicate directly with defendants under pretrial detention, in the presence of their lawyers, via a closed and secured television circuit. This would enable the defendants to explain their defenses, when their release or rather the continuation of their detention is under consideration, without having to attend physically before the court.

Challenges

1. The need to develop a framework for the regulation, justification and terms of pretrial detention stipulated in national laws.
2. The Criminal Procedures Law does not include technologically advanced alternatives to pretrial detention.
3. A different legal regulation for justifications of pretrial detention is required in cases of children over 15 years of age, with the purpose of adding more strict conditions for their detention.

4. The need to expand the implementation of the project on remote consideration of pretrial detention orders, allowing a judge to communicate directly with a defendant under pretrial detention, in the presence of their lawyers, via a closed and secured television circuit. This would enable the defendant to explain their defenses, when their release or rather the continuation of their detention is under consideration, without having to attend physically before the court.
5. The need to review crimes punishable by mandatory freedom-depriving penalties.
6. The imprisonment of people due to debts resulting from civil contractual relations.
7. The weak legal awareness of some citizens of their rights upon arrest.
8. The Criminal Procedures Law does not stipulate that the criminal lawsuit shall not be extinguished by statute of limitations for all crimes that represent an assault on the right to personal freedom in the event that the perpetrator is a public servant or entrusted with a public service and committed the crime due to, or on occasion of, or through exploiting his/her position.
9. The Criminal Procedures Law does not regulate the right of victims of assault on personal freedom to file a direct litigation in the case that the perpetrator is a public servant or entrusted with a public service and committed the crime due to, or on occasion of, or through exploiting his/her position, despite being a constitutional right.
10. The absence of an integrated legal regulation allowing addicts in private sanatoriums to challenge decisions to have them institutionalized.

Target Results

1. Guarantees related to the regulation, justifications, and durations of pretrial detention are enhanced in national laws.
2. Inclusion into the Criminal Procedures Law of technologically advanced alternatives to pretrial detention is considered together with means to activating alternatives included therein.

3. A different legal regulation of justifications for pretrial detention is developed for children over 15 years of age, adding more strict conditions for their detention.
4. The implementation of the project on remote consideration of pretrial detention orders is expanded, allowing a judge to communicate directly with a defendant under pretrial detention, in the presence of their lawyers, via a closed and secured television circuit. This would enable the defendants to explain their defenses when considering releasing them or continuing their detention, without having to attend physically before the court.
5. A legislative policy is adopted to reconsider crimes punishable by mandatory freedom-depriving penalties and maximizing fines especially in low-level crimes where the perpetrator is not a source of extreme criminal danger.
6. A legislative amendment is considered to find an alternative to freedom-depriving penalties in cases of default on debts resulting from civil contractual relations.
7. Citizens are informed of their rights upon arrest through a written mechanism.
8. The legislative regulation for the principle that both criminal and civil lawsuits are not subject to statute of limitations in all forms of assault on personal freedom in the event that the perpetrator is a public servant or entrusted with a public service and committed his/her crime due to, or on occasion of, or by exploiting his/her position.
9. The right of a victim of assault on personal freedom to file a direct criminal litigation is recognized and a fair compensation is ensured for him/her.
10. A legal mechanism is developed whereby addicts in private sanatoriums are allowed to challenge decisions to have them institutionalized.

III. Right to Litigation and Strengthening Guarantees for a Fair Trial

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, litigation is a safeguarded right guaranteed to all, whereby persons have the right to be tried before their natural judge. The State brings closer the litigating parties, and ensures speedy justice. Legal aid is ensured for those who are financially incapable. It is forbidden to grant any act or decision immunity from judicial oversight.
2. The State has taken several measures to ensure speedy justice, most notably the automation of many judicial services, including automated litigation process in misdemeanor courts and launching remote litigation in civil and economic courts. A unified litigation procedure program was established in all courts nationwide, allowing delivery of electronic services to persons dealing with them. A program was set up to follow-up the cases pending before offices of experts so that the claimants can follow up their progress.
3. Many prosecutors' offices were digitally transformed, thus making available many digital services, including traffic services and family prosecutor's offices. Moreover, the unified electric petition system was established in the Public Prosecutor's office.
4. As part of "Egypt's Digital Justice" Project, other projects were implemented, including the secured documents of the Ministry of Justice and courts, electronic archive, electronic court management system, smart phone applications for powers of attorney, online real estate registration and documentation services and launching notari- zation services within 95 sites countrywide.

Challenges

1. The non-activation of the Constitution's provision on the appeal of judgments issued in felonies from all types of courts.
2. The huge increase in lawsuits examined by courts and the associated lengthy periods of time taken towards the issuance of final judgments. Instances where a criminal order may be issued to alleviate burden on misdemeanor courts are rare.
3. Difficulty of procedures for enforcing provisions of the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law, especially given the huge increase in the number of enforceable judgments.

4. The need for completion of the technological development of justice services in general, and litigation services in particular.
5. The need to develop mechanisms for electronic connection between legal authorities with common mandates within the judicial system in order to achieve speedy justice.
6. The need to raise legal awareness of most citizens.
7. The Criminal Procedures Law does not include a provision mandating to inform an accused of his/her right to remain silent.
8. No law has been issued on the protection of witnesses, victims, and whistleblowers.
9. The need to enhance the legal system of child witnesses.
10. The need to reconsider crimes within the jurisdiction of emergency courts, given legislative amendments and legal developments.
11. Justification of opinions in examining grievances in cases which are within the jurisdiction of emergency courts is limited to felonies only. Justification might not be provided in cases of urgency as stipulated in Article 16 of the Emergency Law.
12. The Emergency Law does not require notifying relevant parties about results of grievances on rulings by emergency courts.
13. The need to increase public awareness of Article 161 bis of the Penal Code which punishes those who commit or refrain from committing an act that would discriminate between individuals or against a group of people on grounds of sex, origin, language, religion, or creed, where this discrimination undermines the principle of equal opportunity, social justice or disturbs public peace.

Target Results

1. A law is enacted allowing felony judgments issued by courts of all degrees to be appealed.
2. The number of disputes filed to civil and misdemeanor courts and the number of administrative disputes are both reduced by expanding the use of alternative methods to resolve civil and commercial disputes of low value as well as

administrative disputes. To this end, the legislative regulation of the criminal order system should be expanded to alleviate pressure on misdemeanor courts.

3. The automated litigation system is expanded in courts and their support entities to enhance speedy justice.
4. Mechanisms for electronic connection are developed between judicial authorities with common mandates within the judicial system in order to achieve speedy justice.
5. The legal regulation enforcing civil, commercial and administrative judgments is developed, making use of progress made in the field of communications and information technology, giving effect to the digital transformation requirements. This will contribute to increasing the implementation percentage of enforceable judgments in both civil and commercial fields.
6. Public legal awareness is raised in support of everyone's right to exercise the right to litigation.
7. The Criminal Procedures Law is amended, mandating to inform an accused of their right to remain silent.
8. A law is promulgated on the protection of witnesses, whistleblowers and victims.
9. The legal system of child witnesses is enhanced.
10. Crimes within the jurisdiction of emergency courts are accurately confined.
11. The generalization of the requirement to justify opinions in examining grievances, as stipulated in Article 16 of the Emergency Law, is considered whether for felony or a misdemeanor, with the exception of urgent cases.
12. A mechanism is developed to notify relevant parties about results of examination of grievances on rulings by emergency courts.

13. Public awareness is increased of Article 161 bis of the Penal Code which punishes those who commit or refrain from committing an act that would cause discrimination between individuals or against a group of persons on grounds of sex, origin, language, religion, or creed, where this discrimination undermines the principle of equal opportunity, social justice or disturbs public peace.

IV. Treatment of Prisoners and Other Detainees

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, all those who are arrested, detained or have their freedom restricted shall be treated in a way that preserves their dignity. They may not be tortured, terrorized, or coerced. They may not be physically or mentally harmed or arrested or confined except in designated locations that are appropriate according to humanitarian and health standards. The State provides means of access for persons with disabilities. Prison is an institution for reform and rehabilitation. Prisons and detention centers are subject to judicial oversight.
2. The law entrusts judges and public prosecutors to supervise and inspect prisons, places of detention and observation and curative and reform institutions. They receive prisoners' complaints and examine all the documents and registers of prisons. Moreover, the law gives the National Council for Human Rights the right to undertake visits to prisons and other places of detention as well as curative and reform institutions. The Council prepares a report on each visit with observations and recommendations. The Human Rights Committee of the House of Representatives undertakes periodic visits to prisons.
3. The State expanded health care services by providing a local hospital in each prison, with all-specialty clinics, radiology units and kidney dialysis as well emergency surgery rooms in certain premises. A central hospital is available in each prison area and a comprehensive hepatitis C testing is conducted.
4. The State expanded rehabilitation programs for prisoners by providing them with paid training in various crafts.

5. The State seeks to reduce the number of prisoners by undertaking measures for their periodic release through conditional release and presidential pardon on national occasions. Relevant rules were amended that permit the release of prisoners if they serve half of their sentences. Health release also applies to prisoners whose medical examinations indicate a life-threatening illness or an illness which would cause total disability.
6. Advanced mechanisms are developed to regulate prison visits by scheduling advance appointments for inmates' families using an electronic application; telephone lines are being used for this purpose.
7. Health services are expanded for persons with disabilities, including provision of artificial limbs and development of provisions by providing up-to-date equipment, which is suitable for their conditions.
8. Some industrial secondary schools are established, and industrial, agricultural and animal production projects are operated in prisons where prisoners work for a monthly salary.
9. Prisoners with good behavior are provided 48-hour unguarded off-prison visits to their family and then return to prison. Humanitarian cases of prisoners are addressed, enabling them to participate in some special occasions.
10. Care is provided to female prisoners and nursing mothers, with workshops and activities being provided to qualify them to be reintegrated into society upon their release.
11. Access is expanded to educational services and to acquire different educational certificates.

Challenges

1. The need to continue efforts to implement the plan and programs on the development and modernization of prisons facilities and the establishment of new prisons. The ultimate goal is to reduce density in prisons as part of the continuous improvement of living standards and health care for prisoners.
2. The need to involve civil society organizations, the private sector and governmental bodies into efforts towards the reintegration of released persons into the society and providing them with necessary support.

3. The importance of enhancing the role of civil society organizations in providing support to the initiatives launched to release women detained for default on debts as well as contributing to providing social care to prisoners' families.

Target Results

1. The continuation of efforts to implement the plan and programs on the development and modernization of prisons facilities and the establishment of new ones. The ultimate goal is to reduce density in prisons as part of the continuous improvement of standards of living of prisoners and their health care.
2. The continuation of visits conducted by the National Council for Human Rights and civil society organizations to prisons in accordance with relevant legal regulations.
3. Further religious and cultural sessions are held for prisoners in coordination with the Ministry of Endowments and the General Authority of Cultural Palaces to develop their religious and cultural sentiment.
4. Further literacy classes are established in all prisons, providing in-kind and financial incentives to attract and encourage inmates to join them.
5. More prisoners join industrial technical schools of the prison sector.
6. Increasing the number of convicts benefiting from the external transition period.
7. More rehabilitation and production workshops are conducted in all prisons, facilitating the training and employment of the majority of inmates.
8. Initiatives are launched to highlight the role of Aftercare Police Department in caring for prisoner's families.

V. Freedom of Expression¹

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, freedom of thought and opinion is guaranteed. All individuals have the right to express their opinion through speech, writing, imagery, or any other means of expression and publication. This is related to the freedom of press, media and paper, audio as well as electronic publication.
2. The Constitution establishes independent institutional entities and bodies concerned with the management of media and press, ensuring the impartial and independent exercise of their functions.
3. The law guarantees the freedom of press, media, printing and paper, audio, visual, as well as electronic publication; issuing newspapers through notification is in compliance with the Constitution. It is prohibited to censor, confiscate, suspend or shut down newspapers and media outlets in any way. Exceptions may be made for limited censorship in time of war or general mobilization. Moreover, the law prohibits holding journalists and media professionals accountable for expressing their opinions and guarantees their right to obtain and publish information. It prohibits compelling journalists to divulge their sources and prohibits freedom-depriving penalties for crimes committed by way of publication or publicity. Exception may be made for crimes of incitement to violence, discrimination, or impugning the honor of individuals.
4. Egypt's media and press map is diverse, including public and private institutions, which have general and specialized interests.

Challenges

1. The lack of a legal framework regulating access to and circulation of official information, data, and statistics, albeit being a constitutional right.
2. Despite the multiplicity and variety of media outlets, they do not adequately reflect the multiplicity in views and opinions.

¹ There are diverse forms of exercising freedom of expression; they include the right to peaceful assembly and the right of association for which the strategy has allocated separate items. This item focuses on freedom of expression within the context of media and press.

3. The lack of a comprehensive code of conduct covering all aspects of media and press, including visual, written, and audio media, regulating the exercise of freedom of expression, and ensuring that it is exercised without violating others' rights.
4. The need to raise public awareness of the exercise of freedom of expression and the limits of such exercise.

Target Results

1. law is enacted to regulate the right to access and circulate official information, data and statistics.
2. The culture of pluralism and diversity of opinions and views on various public issues is enhanced.
3. The State's efforts to protect media professionals and journalists while performing their roles are continued in accordance with the Constitution and relevant laws.
4. The right to exercise freedom of expression is enhanced and violations are addressed in accordance with the Constitution and relevant laws, which are periodically reviewed to ensure that this right is exercised in accordance with the Constitution and Egypt's international obligations.
5. A comprehensive code of conduct is issued, covering all aspects of media and press, including digital media and social media, ensuring that freedom of expression is exercised without violating others' freedoms, benefiting from international experiences, in consistency with the Constitution and Egypt's international obligations.
6. Raising the societal awareness of the importance of freedom of expression, and training courses are held for media and press practitioners on limits to this freedom and its violations.

VI. Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, citizens have the right to organize public meetings, marches, demonstrations and all forms of peaceful protests, while not carrying weapons of any type, upon providing notification as regulated by law. The right to private meetings is guaranteed, without the need for prior notification. Security forces may not attend such gatherings.
2. The law regulating the right to organize public meetings, marches, demonstrations and all forms of peaceful protest was issued in 2013. In 2017, a law was issued amending the 2013 law in compliance with the ruling of the Supreme Constitutional Court, whereby the judiciary is exclusively mandated to permit or prevent a demonstration. The amendment ensures the exercise of the right to peaceful assembly upon notification. It regulates cases of dispersal of a demonstration, a gathering, or a march in case they deviate from their peaceful nature, taking into account the gradual use of proportional force.

Challenges

The weak awareness of the peaceful assembly culture and of legal requirements for demonstrations .

Target Results

Raising public awareness about the culture and practice of peaceful assembly in all its forms, given its role in supporting and consolidating democracy.

VII. Freedom of Association

a Right to Form and Join Non-government Organizations and Associations

Strengths and Opportunities:

1. According to the Constitution, citizens have the right to form non-governmental organizations and associations on a democratic basis, which shall acquire legal personality upon notification. Administrative agencies shall not interfere in the affairs of such organizations, nor dissolve them, their board of directors, or their board of trustees except by a judicial ruling. The establishment or

continuation of non-governmental organizations and institutions whose structure and activities are operated and conducted in secret, or which possess a military or quasi-military character are forbidden.

2. The Law on Regulating the Exercise of Civil Work and its Executive Regulations launch a strong partnership between the State and the civil Sector. This reflects the State's commitment to support the civil sector by providing guarantees related to the right to form non-governmental organizations and institutions, enhancing their organizational and financial capacity, which enables them to fulfill their designated roles, and regulate volunteer work. Moreover, the law prohibits imposing any freedom-depriving sanctions in case of violations thereof.
3. The number of non-governmental organizations in Egypt is growing steadily in social, cultural, development, literary, scientific fields.
4. A representative of the Regional Union of non-governmental organizations attends sessions of the Executive Council in each governorate.

Challenges

1. The need to strengthen coordination and complementarity among development partners (government, civil society, private sector and donors) in performing their roles.
2. The need to enhance communication between the government and civil society organizations working on human rights.
3. The need to raise the awareness of most non-governmental organizations on Egypt's Vision 2030.
4. The need to raise awareness about voluntarism culture and societal participation.
5. Many non-governmental organizations, especially those of small and medium size, have limited institutional capacity, including those working in rural areas, Upper Egypt, or Bedouin and border areas.

Target Results

1. Coordination and integration are increased between development partners (government, civil society, private sector and donors).

2. Communication is enhanced between the government and civil society organizations working on human rights.
3. Raising the awareness of non-governmental organizations about the development dimensions of Egypt's Vision 2030.
4. Voluntarism culture and community participation are enhanced.
5. The institutional capacity of non-governmental organizations is enhanced and developed.

b Right to Form and Join Trade Unions

Strengths and Opportunities:

1. The Constitution guarantees the right to form trade unions.
2. A law was issued on trade unions followed by a law to amend certain provisions thereof, in conformity with the Constitution and related international standards.
3. The trade union elections were held in May 2018 after 12 years suspension.
4. A comprehensive technical cooperation program was launched between Egypt and the International Labor Organization in March 2020, aiming to create a conducive environment for trade union freedoms and healthy work relations in support to comprehensive growth, and to enhance community dialogue between the government, employers, and employees.

Challenges

1. The need to enhance trade unions' capacity to hold collective bargaining, settle individual and collective disputes, and conclude collective labor agreements.
2. Shortage of financial resources of trade unions.
3. The need to enhance relevant actors' capacity to support the implementation of the related legal frameworks by facilitating registration of trade unions and regularizing their conditions as per legal standards.

4. The need to enhance trade unions' participation in drafting economic and social policies.

Target Results

1. The capacities of trade unions and syndicate committees are enhanced in collective bargaining, settlement of individual and collective disputes, and concluding collective labor agreements.
2. Trade unions' financial resources are enhanced.
3. Enhancing the capacities of all concerned parties to support the implementation of legal frameworks related to facilitating the registration and regularizing the conditions of trade unions as per legal standards.
4. Trade unions' participation in formulating economic and social policies is enhanced.

c Right to Form and Join Syndicates

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, the establishment of federations and syndicates on a democratic basis is a right guaranteed by law, ensuring their independence.
2. The boards of directors of syndicates may be dissolved only by a judicial ruling. Receivership may not be imposed without a judicial ruling.
3. A coordination committee is established between the government and boards of professional syndicates to enhance communication and dialogue.

Challenges

1. The need to update laws regulating professional syndicates, as guided by the Supreme Constitutional Court's rulings on matters of receivership and disputes related to the validity of general assemblies and other matters.
2. The need to enhance professional syndicates' participation in preparing relevant draft laws and enhance their communication with the government regarding policies on professional affairs

3. Elections are irregularly held in some professional syndicates.

Target Results

1. Legislative amendments are issued to regulate the work of professional syndicates, as guided by the Supreme Constitutional Court's rulings on matters of receivership and disputes related to the validity of general assemblies and other matters.
2. Professional syndicates' participation in preparing relevant draft laws is enhanced in addition to their communication with the government regarding policies on professional affairs.
3. Necessary procedures are taken to ensure that periodical elections are held in professional syndicates.

d Right to Form Political Parties

Strengths and Opportunities

1. The political system in Egypt is based on political pluralism and multiparty policy, peaceful transition of power, and citizens' right to form political parties upon notification.
2. Political parties may not be dissolved without a court ruling.
3. Political parties may not undertake any antidemocratic activities.
4. Political parties must have a civilian character. It is prohibited to establish religious parties.

Challenges

1. Shortage of human resources and funding for most political parties.
2. Weak societal presence of political parties.

Target Results

1. The leadership and organizational capacities and skills of political parties' members in the area of elections are enhanced.

2. The cultural and societal environment supporting the political parties' activities in the area of elections is enhanced.

VIII. Freedom of Religion and Belief

Strengths and Opportunities

1. The Constitution incorporates a set of basic principles of the State and society, including the principle of citizenship. It stipulates that freedom of belief is absolute, and ensures that citizens believing in heavenly religions have the right to practice religious rituals and build houses of worship. They can refer to their own religious laws in personal status matters and religious affairs and select their spiritual leaders. The Constitution recognizes the diversity of Egypt's civilizational, cultural and religious heritage.
2. The National Council for Combatting Terrorism and Extremism, chaired by the President, was established in 2017. It is mandated to mobilize institutional and social capacities to combat terrorism. It develops a national anti-terrorism strategy internally and externally, adopts the State policies and plans under this strategy, and coordinates efforts with religious institutions to give effect to a moderate religious discourse and raise citizens' awareness of the risks of terrorism and extremism.
3. The Supreme Committee for Combatting Sectarian Incidents was established by virtue of a Presidential Decree in 2018. It develops policies and implements plans to ensure further awareness of the threats of sectarian strife, promotes religious tolerance, deals with individual sectarian incidents, and carries out development activities in areas that witness sectarian tensions.
4. The Ministry of Higher Education launched a strategy against extremism and takfiri ideology at the Egyptian Universities, covering the period 2019-2023. The strategy establishes goals, policies, programs and plans to monitor the major manifestations of takfiri ideology and defines main strengths and weaknesses related to combatting such an ideology.
5. The Ministry of Education revised and filtered religious curriculums to remove any anti-tolerance topics. Furthermore, it introduced an ethics curriculum to promote the values of fraternity, tolerance, and citizenship.

6. The Ministry of Endowments dedicated some Friday sermons to promote tolerance and combat violence and hatred. Several seminars were also held on the concept of “citizenship” in collaboration with the National Media Authority. The “Prophet Muhammad – Messenger of All Mankind” initiative was launched to raise awareness about Prophet Muhammad’s message that calls for rejection of violence and hatred. Publications translated into different languages were issued to discuss tolerance and citizenship values. Furthermore, the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs of the Ministry of Endowments, established the “Forum of Tolerance and Moderation” to promote the culture of dialogue, strengthen tolerance, and reject all religion-based intolerance, terrorism, and hatred.
7. Al-Azhar Al-Sharif continues its efforts in collaboration with Egyptian Churches under the “The Egyptian Family House” initiative to emphasize the values of citizenship, tolerance, and dialogue; combat incitement to violence and discrimination; and train preachers and priests on moderate religious discourse.
8. Al-Azhar Al-Sharif issues several publications in different languages to promote human rights and principles of citizenship and peaceful coexistence, and fight fanaticism and extremism. It updates curriculums throughout all Al-Azhar educational stages to highlight religious and cultural diversity. In addition, it launched the “Al-Azhar Brings us Together” initiative at the youth centers in order to promote values of tolerance and acceptance of others. Furthermore, Al-Azhar established the “Global Observatory” to monitor ideas shared by takfiri and violent groups online, which are refuted based on the correct Islamic principles, in different languages.
9. Dar Al-Iftaa issued a package of research projects and initiatives to renew the religious discourse; analyze and refute extremist ideas; and conduct several programs for qualifying and training the muftis and scholars all over the world; in order to enable them to comprehend and respond to all extremist suspicions and ideas in a scientific way, using different methods of persuasion.
10. The three Egyptian churches launched various initiatives and activities to promote enlightened thinking, highlight common human values called for by all religions, and foster concepts of loyalty, belonging, respecting pluralism, accepting the other, rejection of intolerance, and combating hate speech.

11. Law on Churches' Construction and Renovation No. 80 of 2016 was issued, specifying, for the first time, rules and procedures of obtaining permits for church construction. This Law mandates governors to approve requests for permits. It also covers the regularization of conditions of establishments, where Christian ceremonies were conducted, which were not licensed at that time.
12. The legal status of around 1800 churches and buildings was regularized until December 2020, according to the Church Construction Law.
13. The competent authorities took an initiative to renovate churches damaged and sabotaged after June 30 Revolution in 2013, totaling 72 churches. In addition, authorities took the initiative to build the largest cathedral, in Egypt and the Middle East, in the New Administrative Capital.
14. Law No. 190 of 2020 was promulgated, establishing two endowment institutions for the Catholic and Evangelical Churches.
15. The government implemented a USD 70 million-plan for the restoration of some Egyptian monuments such as Jewish temples in Cairo and Alexandria and restoration of ancient Jewish tombs. Furthermore, the government reconstructed some religious monuments along the Holy Family Journey in Egypt.

Challenges

1. Some youth are drifted into extremism and violence and lack awareness of the correct values of heavenly religions, which results in some of them being victims of extremist ideology and adopting violence and terrorism.
2. The need to renew the religious discourse to foster values of tolerance, to reject extremism, and to refute extremist ideas and misconceptions.
3. The need to regularly review religious curriculums to remove any anti-tolerance topics, which do not reject violence, extremism and hatred.
4. Further national efforts are required towards promoting human rights culture, highlighting common aspects between heavenly religions, and respecting different beliefs.
5. Some newspapers and websites disseminate religion-based discrimination between citizens.

Target Results

1. More awareness campaigns are conducted especially among youth to foster coexistence, tolerance, acceptance of the other, rejection of violence and hatred, and spread values and principles of heavenly religions. The capacity of youth to think critically of different contents is developed.
2. More youths' initiatives are launched to foster and support values of citizenship and belonging. Further activities are carried out to enhance community awareness of religious freedoms, consolidate national identity, and reject intolerance and extremist ideologies.
3. Coordination is enhanced between religious institutions in implementing plans to renew religious discourse, to promote tolerance, respect for religions, and to refute extremist and incorrect ideas.
4. The continuation of efforts aimed at reviewing all religious curriculums to remove topics which do not contribute to enhancing tolerance and that do not reject violence and extremism. Topics are introduced that foster values of dialogue, acknowledge differences and coexistence, and fight against all forms of hatred and intolerance.
5. More national initiatives are carried out to promote human rights culture, consolidate values of citizenship, demonstrate common aspects between heavenly religions, create community awareness about respecting religious freedom, and reject intolerance and extremist ideas.
6. Content provided by media, websites or newspapers, entailing religion-based discrimination or incitement, is monitored with the aim of taking the proper legal action.
7. Ministries and authorities continue their efforts to carry out maintenance and restoration of religious monuments (Islamic, Christian, and Jewish) to demonstrate Egypt's rich heritage that reflects its successive historical eras.

8. The continuation of efforts exerted by the Committee concerned with regularizing the conditions of churches to regularize the conditions of other churches and ancillary buildings, which are not regularized yet.

IX. Right to Privacy

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, private life is inviolable, safeguarded and may not be infringed upon. Telegraph, postal, and electronic correspondence, telephone calls, and other forms of communication are inviolable, their confidentiality is guaranteed and they may only be confiscated, examined or monitored by causal judicial order, for a limited period of time, and in cases specified by the law.
2. The Constitution links the inviolability of private life to the right to peaceful private meetings; security forces may not attend, monitor or eavesdrop on such gatherings.
3. According to the Constitution, any assault on the sanctity of the life of citizens is a crime with no statute of limitations for both civil and criminal proceedings. The injured party may file a criminal suit directly. The State guarantees just compensation for those who have been assaulted.
4. A number of laws guarantee and enhance the right to privacy, including the Penal Code, Telecommunication Regulation Law, Anti-Cyber and Information Technologies Crimes Law, the Law Regulating Press and Media, and the Personal Data Protection Law.
5. The Criminal Procedures Law prohibits judicial officers and investigation authorities from disclosing the victim's information in crimes of disgrace, harassment, rape and cases of child endangerment.

Challenges

1. No law has been issued to protect the data of victims, witnesses, defendants and whistleblowers, which in turn would provide them protection against violations to their right to privacy.

2. Many citizens, especially young persons, lack awareness of the importance of respecting the inviolability of private life and the meaning of the right to privacy, as well as the difference between permitted and prohibited practices. The lack of adequate awareness and knowledge of rights conferred by laws to victims of violations to the right to privacy and of the means for them to obtain redress for the harm inflicted on them.

Target Results

1. The Criminal Procedures Law is amended to enforce the constitutional obligation to protect the privacy of the victims, witnesses, defendants and whistleblowers.
2. Awareness campaigns are conducted involving all authorities, most notably the Supreme Council for Media Regulation, the National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority and law enforcement agencies concerned with the protection of private life. These campaigns seek to develop citizens' awareness, especially young people, of the importance of respecting the inviolability of private life and the difference between permitted and prohibited practices. Target groups are informed about rights conferred by laws to victims of violations to the right to privacy and about access to redress and fair compensation for the harm they endured. Awareness activities shall be concentrated in youth gatherings such as youth centers and clubs.
3. The vital role of the Supreme Council for Media Regulation is enhanced, given its role in regulating visual and digital media and websites and as a platform for receiving complaints on content published or broadcasted involving people's reputations or private lives. To this end, financial and human resources are provided to enable the Council to exercise this role successfully. More attention will be paid to training police forces responsible for anti-cyber and information technologies crimes, updating their working methods and tools. Efforts shall continue to create electronic platforms allowing the injured party to file to relevant bodies complaints on violation of their private lives and follow up relevant actions.

Second Focus Area

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Economic, social and cultural rights are addressed in this focus area in eight items, each highlighting strengths and opportunities, relevant challenges and concluding with target results.

I. Right to Health

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, every citizen is entitled to health and to comprehensive health care, while observing quality standards. The State commits to allocating not less than 3 percent of total public spending on health. In addition, the State guarantees to maintain public health care facilities through raising their efficiency and ensuring their equitable geographical distribution.
2. The State shall establish a comprehensive health care system for all Egyptians covering all diseases. Denying any form of medical treatment to any human being in emergency or life-threatening situations is a crime.
3. Universal health coverage comes at the top of the government's priorities. In 2018, the universal health insurance law was enacted to provide all citizens with high-quality health care services. Three independent bodies were established to manage the universal social health insurance system. Accordingly, the funding, service delivery and performance quality control are managed separately.
4. The State launched the "100 Million Healthy Lives" initiative in September 2018 to realize universal health care for all citizens for free with easy access to relevant services. An initiative was launched to eliminate "Hepatitis C", together with another initiative to detect and treat non-communicable diseases, anemia, obesity and stunting. Other initiatives include support to women's health including maternal and fetal health, detection and treatment of hearing impairment and loss for newborns, screening and treatment of chronic diseases and early detection of kidney diseases.
5. Under the "Hepatitis C" initiative, the Ministry of Health and Population provided free examination and treatment to 52.400,000 citizens and 68,000 expats living in Egypt and treated 1.5 million citizens during the period 2014 – 2018. Therefore, recovery rates increased up to four times the global rates, ending waitlists.

6. The State launched initiatives for early detection of renal impairment and hearing impairment in newborns and the pregnant women's health initiative to detect fetal transmitted diseases.
7. The government took a number of measures in relation to HIV/AIDS, including raising awareness, providing clinical care services, provision of medications and clinical free follow up for all citizens.
8. More primary health care units were established, i.e., health offices, clinics, maternity and childcare centers, urban health centers, family centers and units and primary health care units in rural areas.
9. The mortality rate for children under the age of five decreased from 28.8 child to 20.3 child per 1,000 live births during the period 2010-2019.
10. Periodic campaigns are launched to detect drug abuse among vehicles' drivers, which had great impact on reducing road accidents.
11. The State adopted an initiative to end waitlists for critical and urgent surgeries.
12. The State worked to enhance the pharmaceutical production capacity to ensure that they are provided at affordable prices, while ensuring compliance with all quality and health safety standards applicable locally and internationally.
13. The National Population Strategy and its implementation action plan (2015-2020) were issued.
14. As part of efforts to combat "Covid-19" pandemic in early 2020, the State took several measures and adopted a successful strategy in implementing preparedness plans. All preventive and precautionary measures were taken to maintain public health, reduce morbidity and death rates. Free medication and medical care were provided in public hospitals. Some hospitals were assigned for quarantine in governorates. Treatment in private hospitals was also available. In addition, digital health was supported by introducing initiatives and electronic applications.
15. Pursuant to the Constitution, the State adopted a number of policies to: reduce pollution; enhance proper management of hazardous materials and wastes including safe disposal of waste; maintain eco-balance and biodiversity; develop national reserves; improve environment in the neediest villages; and develop and use renewable sources of energy.

16. The State developed the institutional and legislative structure of the management of environmental resources, in a manner that assisted in addressing climate change and global warming.
17. The Excellence Center for Climate Change and Sustainable Development was established to enhance the State's capacity to take proper measures to address climate change issues.
18. An environment protection fund was set up to provide necessary funding for investment in sustainable environment projects. Environment monitoring networks were created to evaluate environmental impact and tackle environmental disasters.
19. The launch of National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change in 2011, the Climate Change Strategy in 2013 and the National Strategy for Mainstreaming Gender and the Role of Women in Climate Change in Egypt.

Challenges

1. Insufficiency of health services coverage required nationwide particularly in the poorest areas.
2. The need to improve the quality of health facilities and services.
3. The number of doctors and nursing staff is not proportional to the number of patients at government hospitals.
4. The completion of implementation of the universal health insurance system in all governorates.
5. The delay -in many cases- in providing state-funded medical treatment.
6. Shortage in some medications and locally manufactured raw materials.
7. The need to update the medications' administration, prescription and distribution system.
8. Weak awareness of the importance of maintaining public health and the spread of some practices harmful to the health.
9. Weak awareness of psychological health.
10. The need to enhance proper and sustainable management of natural resources and assets.

11. Penalties provided for in the environment law and related laws are not commensurate with the intended goal of deterrence.
12. The need to develop policies to reduce pollution.
13. Weak awareness and community participation in environment preservation.
14. The need to develop a system for safe disposal of hazardous waste.
15. The potential negative impact of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services.
16. The limited funding sources available to achieve effective management of natural reserves and biodiversity components.

Target Results

1. Health services coverage is enhanced nationwide particularly in rural, remote and border areas.
2. The quality of health facilities and services is improved.
3. Increasing the number of doctors and nursing staff working in the government health system.
4. The universal health insurance system is applied in all governorates, as per planned six phases, and 100 percent of citizens are covered by the year 2030.
5. Faster medical services delivery is provided to patients who are provided with state-funded medical treatment.
6. Shortage of some medications and locally manufactured raw materials is addressed and a mechanism is developed for medications administration, prescription and distribution.
7. The level of awareness of the importance of maintaining public health and preventing the spread of some practices harmful to the health is raised.
8. The “100 Million Health Initiative” is completed.
9. Mental illness awareness campaigns are carried out.

10. A mental illness electronic platform is developed.
11. The sustainable management of natural resources and assets is enhanced.
12. A legislative amendment with stricter penalties is introduced to the environment law and related laws.
13. The implementation of pollution reduction policies is enhanced, and special measures are developed for dealing with its sources
14. More environment preservation awareness campaigns are conducted.
15. Proper waste management system is developed; including safe disposal of hazardous waste; and the private sector is more engaged into solid waste collection and recycling.
16. Reducing the potential impact of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services and achieving more engagement of the private sector into addressing climate change.
17. The biodiversity conservation is fully and effectively protected, together with sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems in the protected areas network in order to ensure that ecosystems provide their services sustainably to citizens, as a constitutional right.

II. Right to Education

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, the State ensures the right to education for every citizen, which is mandatory until the secondary stage or its equivalent. Likewise, the State allocates no less than 4 percent of the gross national income to pre-university education and no less than 2 percent to the university education. Free education is guaranteed for various stages in formal educational institutions.
2. Higher net and gross enrollment rates for all educational stages have been achieved and the gender gap and geographical gap between urban and rural areas have been narrowed.

3. Lower school dropout rates have been achieved.
4. The State increased its engagement with civil society to eliminate illiteracy of people over 15 years.
5. Launching the Strategic Plan for Pre-university Education (2014- 2030) to reform the educational system, and the National Education Reform Project in 2018 to reform curricula, develop teaching and learning methods, develop evaluation and skill measurement methods, tests and use of technology in teaching. The Higher Education and Scientific Research Strategy 2030, and “the National Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation 2030” were also launched.
6. The State is committed to encouraging, developing and expanding technical education and vocational training.
7. The State introduced different types of education providing services comparable to those provided by private and international schools at a lower cost, to attract low- and middle-income families.
8. The State expanded the establishment of schools across governorates and encouraged the establishment of national and private non-profit universities.
9. Curricula, textbooks, and testing and evaluation systems are being improved; sustainable development opportunities are provided for teachers, and school life quality is improved at all educational levels and kindergarten.
10. Community schools are being established and community participation mechanisms are being developed.
11. The State completed the development of technological infrastructure and tablets were introduced in several high schools. A learning management platform was created on the Egyptian Knowledge Bank, as the largest online Arab digital library.
12. More nurseries are being established to receive children from birth until the age of 4 years to develop early childhood.
13. The Constitution guarantees the independence of universities and scientific and linguistic academies, as well as the provision and development of university education and free education in State universities and institutes.

14. Existing higher education curricula and programs are being developed and new programs are being offered to meet technological development needs.
15. Remote education is being applied in schools and higher education institutes; the use of technology is being operationalized in student-teacher communications; exams were held during Covid-19 pandemic.
16. According to the Constitution, the State commits to allocate no less than 1 percent of gross national income to scientific research to be gradually increased until it meets the global rates.
17. The Science, Technology and Innovation Incentives Law was issued, together with the Law establishing the Science, Technology and Innovation Funding Authority and the law establishing a fund for innovators and brilliant people; to help them turn their innovations into marketable competitive products.
18. The State launched a program to support young researchers and innovators and encourage scientific research.
19. The increase in the number of Egyptian scientific research papers published in internationally indexed journals.

Challenges

1. The need to eliminate illiteracy.
2. The need to strengthen efforts to combat dropout from compulsory education.
3. The low number of schools for all levels in a number of areas, and poor technological infrastructure in existing ones.
4. The need to improve the quality of pre-university education in line with global standards.
5. The need to enhance efforts towards teachers' training and to address the low teacher-to-student rate.
6. The need to develop technical educational system and vocational training particularly with regard to enhancing teachers' efficiency, adding more specializations and linking education and training to the labor market needs.

7. The need to improve the higher education quality in line with global standards.
8. The existence of a gap between higher education outputs and labor market requirements.
9. The need to develop the scientific research system.
10. The weakness of scientific culture in society with regard to the human right to knowledge.

Target Results

1. Reducing the illiteracy rate.
2. Higher enrollment rates and lower dropout rates are achieved, and the educational gap is narrowed between children in urban and rural areas.
3. More schools are established for all levels throughout Egypt and the technological infrastructure is improved.
4. Quality of pre-university education is improved in line with international standards.
5. More efforts are exerted to train teachers and increase their numbers.
6. The technical education and vocational training system is improved and education is linked to the labor market requirements.
7. Higher education is improved in line with international standards.
8. The gap is narrowed between higher education outputs and labor market requirements.
9. The scientific research system is developed by updating relevant laws and regulations, and human resources in scientific research are developed.
10. Creative thinking is encouraged, and the innovation culture is developed among youth and society.

11. Legislation is issued to establish and regulate the right to knowledge.

III. Right to Work

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, the State protects workers' rights, and works on building balanced work relationships between the two sides of the production process. It ensures means for collective negotiations and works on protecting workers against the risks of work, ensures that conditions for professional security, safety and health are met, and prohibits arbitrary dismissal. Gaps are reduced between incomes by setting minimum wages and pensions to ensure a decent life.
2. Labor Law No. 12 of 2003, together with its amendments, guarantees means of collective bargaining. It protects workers from work-related hazards and provides conditions for occupational safety, security, and health.
3. Wage-related discrimination between workers is legally prohibited.
4. Several procedural policies are adopted to encourage the integration of the informal sector into the formal one.
5. More efforts are exerted to reduce unemployment, including the expansion of national mega-projects and the establishment of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency. The latter aims to identify the labor market needs, design rehabilitation and training programs for job seekers and motivate youth to start small projects.
6. The State issued the Civil Service Law No. 81 of 2016, with an annex attached therewith specifying salaries for each grade without discrimination.
7. Minimum wage was raised for all grades in the State's administrative body.
8. A minimum wage for private sector staff is being considered, similar to what was applied within the State's administrative body.

9. In 2018, a Higher Council for Societal Dialogue on Work Issues was established, with membership of representatives of employers and workers. Its mandate includes taking part in the development of national policies for societal dialogue in the area of work; creating a conducive environment for consultation, cooperation and exchange of information; giving feedback on labor and trade union-related draft laws; and suggesting suitable solutions for the settlement of collective work disputes at the national level.
10. The Ministry of Manpower conducted awareness sessions nationwide to educate employers and workers of the importance of partnership in developing work-related strategies in enterprises.

Challenges

1. Despite the low unemployment rate as compared to previous years, there is a need to increase work opportunities.
2. The informal sector hosts a substantial percentage of indecent job opportunities, which do not ensure employees' rights. The need to finalize an accurate database of irregular employment.
3. The need to enhance the private sector's role in realizing the right to work.
4. The need to enhance vocational training efforts, to address workers' inadequate knowledge of their rights and duties, which compromises their rights, and to enhance their benefit of guarantees provided to them.
5. The need to promote decent work standards, particularly safe and healthy work conditions, fair wages, mediation and arbitration mechanisms and settlement of collective work disputes, supporting workers' rights.

Target Results

1. Increasing new job opportunities by strengthening employment policies in different sectors.
2. Tangible progress is made to integrate the informal economy in the formal one and to develop an accurate database on irregular employment.

3. Enhancing the role of the private sector in realizing the right to work.
4. More efforts are exerted in vocational training for staff and employees and raising their awareness of their rights and duties.
5. Decent work standards are consolidated, particularly safe and healthy work conditions, fair wages, mediation and arbitration mechanisms and settlement of collective work disputes in a manner that enhances workers' rights
6. Legalizing domestic workers' status is considered.

IV. Right to Social Security

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, each citizen, with no access to social security, shall have the right to a decent life, if they are unable to support themselves and their families, in the event of incapacity to work, old age or unemployment. The State provides appropriate pensions to small farmers, agricultural workers, hunters and informal workers.
2. According to the Constitution, each citizen shall have the right to social justice, and society is based on social solidarity. The State commits to achieving social justice, providing the means to achieve social solidarity to ensure a decent life for all citizens. The economic system aims at achieving prosperity through sustainable development and social justice. The tax system seeks, inter alia, to achieve social justice.
3. The legislative reform of the social insurance and pension system was finalized by issuing the Social Insurance Law No. 48 of 2019.
4. The State was keen to undertake social protection measures while carrying out the economic reform program, given the political will to reform and modernize the social assistance system. The ultimate goal is to mitigate the impact of economic reform on the neediest and low-income groups, as well as ensure protection of and respect for these groups' economic and social rights. These measures include social insurance, minimum income for families suffering from the risk of poverty, unemployment, disability or emergency accidents. Benefits

are provided in the form of cash or social pensions to beneficiaries. Income generating opportunities are provided and access to basic service is ensured.

5. Recent years, especially following the launch of the economic reform program, have witnessed a substantial growth in spending on social protection schemes. Subsidy allocations made in the State's budget over the past five years increased from EGP 199.5 billion in the fiscal year 2014/15 to EGP 327.7 billion in the fiscal year 2019/20, growing by 65 percent.
6. The "Takaful and Karama" conditional subsidy program was launched in March 2015, ensuring social justice. The program allocates 70 percent of subsidy to Upper-Egypt Governorates, which reduced poverty by 5 points. Some 2.26 million children (6-18 years) of Takaful households are enrolled in schools, 2.15 million children (1 day- 6 years) are covered with medical care, 76 percent of those holding the program's cards are women, totaling of 2.7 million, 28 percent of the cards allocated to persons with disabilities, 10 percent of the beneficiaries are 65 years and above and 77 percent of families beneficiaries of takaful receive commodity support.
7. The number of beneficiaries of "Takaful and Karama" program amounted to 3.8 million families, of which 63.7 percent is covered by Takaful program and 36.3 percent is covered by Karama program including more than 15 million individuals. The program's budget increased from EGP 147 million in the fiscal year 2014/15 to EGP 18.5 billion in the fiscal year 2019/20.
8. A fund was established to finance the "Takaful and Karama" program in order to sustain the project's funding and increase the number of beneficiaries.
9. The data of 1.31 million beneficiaries were reviewed (out of 1.7 million beneficiaries) in terms of their eligibility to the social security pension. They were reassessed in terms of their eligibility to the cash support program
10. The value of pensions increased by 50 percent from 2018 to 2021 for 1.4 million beneficiaries for a cost of EGP 77.5 billion. In 2020, due pensions increased by 14 percent for an annual cost of EGP 25.1 billion.

11. The “Decent Life” presidential initiative was launched in 2019 for the neediest.
12. The issuance of a presidential directive to establish and implement a national program to develop all villages (2018-2022) to improve the quality of life of villages’ residents, with their engagement. The target is to provide each village with its fair share of services including infrastructure, public services and economic projects.
13. Many social safety services were automated centrally and locally, including cash transfers, bread cards or supply cards. As such, these systems are improved in terms of higher efficiency and developing the capacities of 68,000 of government staff on social protection. Transparency and accountability mechanisms were applied through multilayer verification and automated complaint system.
14. A Social Justice Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister with membership of relevant ministers, was established. The government seeks to qualify the poor to participate in the labor market using a set of programs. These include “Forsa” Program, which seeks to create an integrated system to support individuals and families of low income and “Mastoura” microfinance program, both classified as active labor market programs.
15. A national database of poor families was created, including 8.5 million families with 31 million citizens.
16. More than 500,000 supply cards were added to the subsidy support system in light of the government’s keenness to support the neediest and poorest.
17. Against the backdrop of the Covid-19 crisis, which caused negative economic impact on many groups, attention is paid to the social protection programs where 411,000 new families affected by the pandemic were added to the “Takaful and Karama” program. The government provided irregular workers with a monthly payment of EGP 500. In addition, the Emergency Benefits Fund paid salaries to workers affected by the pandemic.
18. A fund was established to support irregular workers against different hazards through providing them with grants during work interruption periods as a result of emergency economic circumstances or epidemics. The fund addresses insufficient coverage of unemployment insurance for irregular workers and small business owners. The

fund aims to cover those who are not eligible to the “Takaful and Karama” program, whose data are kept with the Ministry of Social Solidarity. In addition, a committee was established to protect and provide assistance to irregular workers and to prepare a national strategy on this matter.

Challenges

1. Social protection programs do not cover all eligible groups.
2. High rates of population growth, especially among the poorest, add burden to the social care and protection networks.
3. Challenges related to cash transfers programs, in particular the fact that transfers are not sufficient to meet the needs of targeted persons, the types of services provided and the evaluation of the program’s impact on persons.
4. Insurance services do not cover all eligible groups.
5. The value of cash transfers made to cash support programs, albeit their increase, does not fulfill the recipients’ needs of basic commodities and services.
6. The Covid-19 crisis revealed the need to further strengthen preparedness and response systems in providing social assistance and urgent aid in cases of disasters and emergencies.

Target Results

1. Gaps related to the coverage of target groups by social protection programs are identified and bridged.
2. Raising the awareness of beneficiaries of social protection programs of the benefits of family planning.
3. “Takaful and Karama program” is expanded to include families suffering from multidimensional poverty, while economically empowering families who are able to work to escape poverty.
4. The social solidarity system and insurance and pension systems are developed to include all target groups.

5. Effective social protection policies are developed to provide urgent aid and assistance in cases of crises and emergencies.

V. Right to food

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, each citizen has the right to healthy, sufficient amounts of food. The State provides food resources to all citizens and protects and increases land under cultivation and incriminate encroachments thereon. It develops animal production and encourages industries based thereon. It ensures the protection of agricultural biological diversity and types of local plants.
2. The issuance of legislation on new land reclamation, prohibition of encroachment on agricultural lands and establishment of agricultural extension and training services centers. A law on the establishment of the Agricultural Solidarity Fund was issued to address damage caused by natural disasters and other risks affecting crops in order to achieve sustainable development.
3. A national project was launched to reclaim 1.5 million acres in the first phase out of a target of 4 million acres, ensuring growth of agricultural output and more agro-industrial projects.
4. Several measures were taken to develop the agriculture sector and to increase agro-industrial projects.
5. High rates of food security from strategic commodities were achieved by raising self-sufficiency ratios of strategic crops in support to food security.
6. The bread subsidy system was reformed to target the most vulnerable and needy groups by raising the efficiency of bakeries and improving bread quality. Around 79 million persons benefit from the bread subsidy system. In addition, the State bears the cost of the increased global prices of wheat and fuel.
7. The national grain silos project was launched, including the construction of 50 giant silos to store wheat and grains, using the latest storage technology in 17 governorates.

8. Additional efforts were made to increase livestock, fish and poultry production.
9. The government contributes to providing main food commodities at lower prices through a regular distribution network. It also carries out “Gameiaty” (My association) Project to establish new small consumer’s associations across governorates. Mobile convoys are sent to provide products, organize exhibitions and markets to meet citizens’ needs on certain occasions. The project on expanding commercial chains was carried out in partnership with the private sector.
10. Around 69 million persons have access to supply cards, increasing per-capita share in supply commodity and subsidy.
11. The supply cards system was developed. Meanwhile, many technology-operated supply service centers were launched.
12. The General Food Safety Authority Law, Consumer Protection Law, National Food Safety Authority Law were issued in 2017. The ultimate goal is to create and apply a system for monitoring food facilities, ensuring that they adhere to food-related laws.

Challenges

1. The need to finalize the bread subsidy reform, given the inadequacy of the information infrastructure and the fact that using the computer has not yet attained people’s trust as an alternative to the paper-based system.
2. The need to complete the coverage of the distribution network of main supply commodities at lower prices.
3. The need to increase the local agricultural production and to address the shortage of water to increase the agricultural land. The relatively limited scope of the developed agro-industrial sector, and farmers’ low level of awareness of the best agricultural practices.
4. The continuation of encroachment, possession fragmentation and overbuilding on lands.
5. Insufficient livestock and fish production.
6. High rates of food wastage.
7. The need to tighten control on markets and enhance efforts that aim at combatting monopoly practices.

8. The inadequacy of legislations and regulations regulating local and imported food quality and the inadequacy of standards and specifications for many agricultural commodities.
9. The need to increase the number of civil society organizations active in the field of food safety and consumer protection.

Target Results

1. Strategic commodity reserve is increased.
2. The bread system is developed in all governorates by improving the information infrastructure. To this end, accurate databases with audited data shall be created. Moreover, citizens' trust in the automated services shall be built, together with the improvement of the electronic bread system, and raising citizens' information awareness.
3. The supply cards system is developed to ensure sustainable commodity supply by expanding the distribution network.
4. Appropriate plans are adopted to increase local agricultural production, provide water to expand the agricultural land, develop innovations, scientific research and modern technology in agriculture, expand agro-industrial projects and raise farmers' awareness of the best agricultural practices.
5. Less encroachment on agricultural lands and restoration of deteriorated parts of lands are achieved. The legalization of squatter lands in accordance with the law is enhanced.
6. Livestock, poultry and fisheries are developed.
7. Reducing food wastage rates.
8. Stricter control is imposed on markets and more efforts are exerted to combat monopoly practices.
9. Legislation regulating local and imported food safety and quality is updated; quality standards and specifications for

many of agricultural commodities are developed; and the National Food Safety Authority's role and capacities are enhanced.

10. More civil society organizations are active in the field of food safety and consumer protection.

VI. Right to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, each citizen has the right to clean water. The State shall provide lands with basic facilities, as part of a comprehensive urban planning framework for cities and villages in a way that serves the public interest, improves the quality of life for citizens and preserves the rights of future generations.
2. A national project is carried out to expand safe drinking water production and coverage nationwide.
3. The government launched the "Strategic Plan to expand Seawater Desalination Plants to meet Drinking Water Needs 2020-2025".
4. The adoption of drinking water quality system, observing the World Health Organization's guidelines. Stations monitoring the Nile water quality were expanded.
5. The State develops water resources by expanding desalination plants, RWH (Rainwater Harvesting) projects, and through the safe expansion of the use of groundwater, protecting it from deterioration.
6. The State seeks to rationalize the use of water and to raise awareness of water consumption.
7. The State has increased sanitation infrastructure projects in cities and villages and implemented the national sanitation project in rural areas.

Challenges

1. Lack of water resources due to insufficient Nile water supply and deterioration of water quality due to pollution.

2. The need to continue efforts to provide safe drinking water to those who have no access thereto yet and introduce modern water desalination and treatment technologies.
3. Water consumption is not rationalized in many sectors, especially in agriculture, industry and housing.
4. The need to complete to finalize sanitation infrastructure projects in certain areas.

Target Results

1. More drinking water is made available in terms of better safety and quality, and more water desalination plants are established.
2. More underground water is produced, without prejudice to the aquifer's sustainability, being a nonrenewable resource.
3. Reducing water waste and more awareness is achieved about the importance of rationalizing water consumption.
4. Infrastructure sanitation projects are developed and extended nationwide.

VII. Right to Adequate Housing

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, the State guarantees citizens' right to healthy, safe and adequate housing, ensuring human dignity and social justice. The State fulfills this obligation in proportion to a citizen's financial capabilities by applying criteria and rules stipulated in the Social Housing Law. The State develops a comprehensive national plan to address the problem of slum areas, including re-planning, provision of infrastructure and facilities and to improve public health and quality of life.
2. According to the Construction Law No.119 of 2008, the State ensures the provision of healthy, safe and adequate housing for citizens. Construction permits are issued if buildings match approved plans, principles of design, and requirements of implementation stipulated in Egyptian Codes. Applicants for permits should also observe technical

and general specifications, health and safety requirements, health rules, lighting and ventilation rules and building security requirements.

3. The increase in government spending on the housing sector.
4. The “Housing Strategy in Egypt” was launched in 2020, whereby the State shall provide suitable housing for all citizens, taking into account the rights of marginalized and underprivileged groups, ensuring the principles of social justice, equal opportunity, and non-discrimination and marginalization, and adopting policies and programs contributing to achieving social integration.
5. More efforts are exerted to implement the social housing project as the largest of kind in Egypt. It includes the construction of one million housing units. The president launched the “Housing for all Egyptians” initiative, including 100,000 social housing units and 25,000 middle-income housing units.
6. Procedures are being streamlined to facilitate the access of self-employed to the social housing program. Rental housing is being provided for those who cannot afford ownership. Residents’ social and economic needs as well as services are being provided in new urban areas.
7. Living conditions and services are being improved in border governorates and Upper Egypt, by providing infrastructure and carrying out the “Decent Housing” Program, which provides water and sanitation connections, improves house quality and installs ceilings where needed.
8. The State is committed to protect inviolability and private ownership of houses and apply relevant laws; it does not expropriate property, except for public benefit, subject to specific controls that respect human rights. The State provides affected people with a fair compensation paid in advance. In addition, it provides several forms of compensation for beneficiaries to choose from. Compensations were provided to Egyptian Nubian citizens who were not compensated for building the High Dam and Aswan Reservoir, as per their request.
9. Egypt witnessed the implementation of the largest program to develop slum and unsafe areas, including social, economic and urban aspects. The program is a translation of the constitutional commitment to develop a comprehensive national plan to address the problem of slum areas. Accordingly, the number of unsafe areas

residents decreased. The number of unsafe areas developed in the period 2014-2020 amounted to 296 out of 357 areas. The program includes re-planning, provision of infrastructure and facilities and improvement of public health and quality of life. Residents have the option to move to other areas, receive money as compensation, have a temporary housing or receive money to get a house on their own until the area is developed; the government has to allocate a unit for each family in the respective area once the development of the area is completed.

Challenges

1. The cost of building housing units is relatively high.
2. More efforts are needed to enable low-income people to obtain suitable housing units.
3. Lands suitable for building within the social housing project are rare in some governorates, particularly Lower Egypt.
4. The need to provide full economic and social services for population in some governorates when designing housing units.
5. Many unsafe slums and unplanned markets still exist.
6. Many housing areas have never been covered by urban planning and lack basic services.
7. Some violations are committed by dwellers of social units.
8. The need to activate renting within the social housing project.
9. Legislation is needed to regulate the real estate investment sector, in order to establish a balanced relationship between real estate investors and other parties.

Target Results

1. More housing units are provided for all social categories, particularly low-income persons, and mortgage finance facilities are provided.
2. Basic services and facilities are provided in housing communities and new cities, including educational and health services, roads and transport networks.

3. More cities and housing units are built in the desert hinterland, having full access to social and economic services.
4. Unsafe slums are developed.
5. Areas, which have never been covered by urban planning, are developed, including renewal of basic facilities networks.
6. Stricter penalties are enforced for violations of social housing terms.

VIII. Cultural Rights

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, culture is a right of every citizen that is guaranteed by the State. The State is committed to support it and provide all types of cultural materials without discrimination based on financial capacity, geographical location, or any other ground. The State gives special attention to remote areas and the groups most in need. Cultural and environmental patterns of the local community shall be considered in drafting and implementing the economic and urban development plans of border and unprivileged areas, within ten years from the date that the Constitution comes into effect, in the manner organized by law. The State is committed to protecting Egyptian cultural identity with its diverse civilizational origins. It gives special attention to maintain the components of cultural diversity. The freedom of artistic and literary creation is guaranteed. The State undertakes to promote art and literature, and to sponsor creators.
2. The State exerts intensive efforts to enhance the right to participate in cultural life through the development of relevant institutions, by means of replacement, renewal, enhancing their efficiency, renovation or enhancing their safety.
3. According to the Constitution, the State protects and preserves antiquities and their areas and maintains as well as renovates them. It works to retrieve those that have been taken, and organizes as well as supervises excavations thereof.

4. It is prohibited to give away any antiquities as gifts or exchange them. Aggression against or trafficking in monuments is a crime that is not subject to statute of limitations.

Challenges

1. Continuing disparities in the availability of cultural services across governorates.
2. The weakness of funding mechanisms for cultural and art works.
3. The need to provide more support to cultural centers to enable them to perform their roles.
4. The need to increase support to non-governmental cultural activities, enhancing the preservation of cultural identity.
5. Weak enforcement of legislation related to the protection of intellectual property and competition, which aim at providing an enabling environment for cultural industries.
6. Weak awareness of the importance and protection of intellectual property.
7. The existence of threats to heritage sites, including encroachments, underground water, and other threats.
8. Decline of heritage crafts.

Target Results

1. Cultural services are equally distributed nationwide, especially in remote, border and neediest areas.
2. Cultural industries are improved, and their funding mechanisms are enhanced.
3. More support is provided to cultural centers to enable them to perform their roles.
4. More support is provided to non-governmental cultural activities, in a manner that enhances the preservation of cultural identity.

5. Intellectual property and competition legislation is developed to provide an enabling environment for cultural industries.
6. Raising awareness about the importance of protecting intellectual property.
7. More efforts are exerted to maintain and protect heritage sites, and raising public awareness of their importance.
8. Heritage crafts are protected, developed and further supported

Third Focus Area

Human Rights of Women, Children,
Persons with Disabilities,
Youth, and the Elderly

Human Rights of Women, Children, Persons with Disabilities, Youth, and the Elderly are addressed in this focus area in five items, each highlighting strengths and opportunities, challenges and concluding with target results.

I. Women's Rights

Strengths and Opportunities

1. The Egyptian Constitution highlights the values of equality between men and women and ensures women's rights in all fields of life. Accordingly, the State commits to ensuring women's rights, realizing the principles of equality, justice, non-discrimination and equal opportunity.
2. The National Council for Women undertakes an active role in protecting and enhancing women's rights, freedoms and empowerment, and in promoting values of equality, equal opportunity, and non-discrimination.
3. The gender equality concept was integrated in Egypt's Strategy for Sustainable Development "Egypt Vision 2030".
4. Tangible progress was achieved in terms of the political, economic and social empowerment of women by implementing the "National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Woman 2030", which is the roadmap for the government to carry out all programs and activities related to women's empowerment and gender equality.
5. A mechanism was created to monitor policies and procedures taken to fight against Covid-19, considering women's needs, particularly those with disabilities, elderly and pregnant women.
6. Political Empowerment of Women:
 - a The Constitution enhances women's political participation, access to public and top management positions and appointment in the judicial authorities without any discrimination.
 - b The Constitution provides guarantees and protection for women. It ensures their right to vote in all public elections and referendums. They shall have the right to run for elections in all bodies where members are elected by public vote. The State provides all measures to ensure that women are properly represented in the parliament. It allocated a 25-percent quota for women in local councils. The 2019 constitutional amendments provided women

with a permanent representation of not less than 25 percent of the seats of the House of Representatives. Accordingly, the House of Representatives law was amended. The Senate Law stipulates that women shall occupy not less than 10 percent of the Senate seats.

- c There is an increase in women's participation in voting and nomination for elections. Women's representation reached 27 percent in the House of Representatives and around 14 percent in the Senate. In the context of continuous efforts towards enhancing the political participation of women, and their leadership roles as well as their roles in public work, women currently hold 25 percent of ministerial positions, 25 percent of top positions of the Central Bank and 12 percent of seats on boards of directors of banks. For the first time, two women were appointed as governors. Moreover, 31 percent of deputy governors' positions and 27 percent of deputy ministers' positions were accounted for by women. Women now preside over districts, city councils and villages. The first female advisor to the President for National Security Affairs was appointed.
- d More women hold judicial positions. The State Council and the Public Prosecution started appointing a number of female judges. This is based on the State's approach to appoint women in the Public Prosecutor's Office and the State Council. This step gives effect to the constitutional entitlement of equality and non-discrimination, and stresses women's competence to hold different positions.

7. Economic Empowerment of Women

- a Many laws and legislative reforms were issued to enhance the economic rights of women, including the Civil Service Law, which provides benefits to working mothers.
- b The law of inheritance was amended to punish those who withhold inheritance from those who have the right thereto.
- c Article 2 of the new Investment Law No. 72 is drafted to ensure equal investment opportunities for women and men, and empower the small and medium enterprises, youth and entrepreneurship.
- d Equal opportunity units were established in all ministries to realize gender equality in workplace and address discriminatory

practices against women. By virtue of Decree No. 1 of 2019 by the Minister of Manpower, a unit was created to achieve gender equality and eliminate all forms of discrimination against women in the workplace.

- e More women participate in the labor market, with a lower unemployment rates among women as compared to men.
- f Women accounts for 78 percent of “Takaful and Karama” beneficiaries to realize their economic empowerment and improve their families’ conditions.
- g The Ministry of Social Solidarity provides soft loans for women’s small and micro enterprises, with the principal capital of these loans reaching EGP 1.4 billion directed to 240,000 women for small and micro enterprises. It should be noted that 70 percent of projects are concentrated in rural areas as a form of economic empowerment for rural women. Women accounted for 75 percent of total loans compared to 25 percent for men.
- h “Forsa” program was launched to empower women benefiting from “Takaful” pension program to have decent job opportunities through micro enterprises funded by the Ministry of Social Solidarity.
- i Several projects were carried out to enhance women’s economic empowerment, and to provide many programs of rehabilitation, training and awareness for women..
- j More small and medium enterprises are now chaired by women; small enterprises targeting women accounted for 69 percent in 2018.
- k Women’s financial inclusion is promoted by increasing women’s savings and entrepreneurship.
- l The Minister of Manpower issued two decrees in 2021 cancelling all previous decrees deemed discriminatory against women and lifting the ban on the employment of women in industries, professions and businesses. They explicitly stipulate the right of women to work during night shifts upon their request. All these procedures are part of efforts to observe principles of equal opportunity, gender equality, non-discrimination at workplace and ensuring the right to health and social care. In the same

vein, measures are taken, and services are provided in relation to safe travel, professional safety and working mothers' rights.

- m The Financial Regulatory Authority issued resolutions prohibiting any gender discrimination in dealing with clients of financial companies. Women-sensitive non-banking financial products were developed.

8. Social Empowerment of Women

- a More women are enrolled in education and hold university degrees; and the rates of illiteracy and dropout from schools have decreased among women and girls.
- b The Constitution guarantees protection of and care for mothers and children, breadwinners, elderly and underprivileged women.
- c Less maternal mortality is recorded.
- d A Presidential initiative was launched to support women's health, targeting to examine 30 million women over 18 years. It seeks to achieve early detection of breast tumors and any other incommunicable diseases and provide family planning services. 11 million women had access to the initiative until December 2020.
- e More awareness of reproductive health, family planning and healthy life is achieved. The "National Strategy for Reproductive Health 2015-2020" was issued.
- f Women have access to social protection programs including conditional cash transfers program "Takaful and Karama" and "Haya Karima"(Decent Life) initiative.
- g In 2018, the President launched "No more people detained for debts in Egypt" initiative to pay men and women's debts at a cost of EGP 42 million.

9. Protection of Women Against All Forms of Violence and Harmful Practices

- a In 2015, three national strategies were launched: "National Strategy for Combating Violence Against Women", "National Strategy against Female Genital Mutilation", and "National Strategy for Elimination of Early Marriage".

- b A survey was launched on the economic cost of violence against women, which is the first of kind in the Arab world.
- c Several laws were issued and amended, providing legal protection for women against forms of violence, including sexual harassment law, female genital mutilation law. The latter added stricter penalties for perpetrators, introduced a clear definition of female genital mutilation, criminalized the promotion of and encouragement or advocacy to commit this crime, added aggravating circumstances related to the perpetrator's profession and imposed additional penalties such as closure of facility, denying the practice of medicine or nursing and enforcing investigation and prosecution of this crime. Penalties were aggravated in such crimes as molestation, kidnap and rape. Several important laws were issued to widen the scope of protection, including the Information Technology Crimes Law, and amendment to the Penal Code to punish those avoiding the payment of alimony.
- d A law was issued amending certain provisions of the Criminal Procedural Law to protect the confidentiality of data of victims of harassment, violence, assault and corruption of morals, as stipulated in Article 96 of the Child Law.
- e The Human Trafficking Law criminalized disclosure of victims' identity.
- f For the first time, the "National Committee for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation" was established to coordinate all efforts and initiatives towards the elimination of this crime. 76 million were reached by outreach efforts under the "Protect Her from Genital Mutilation" Campaign from 2019 until March 2021. Law No. 10 of 2021 was also issued to amend certain provisions of the penal code related to the female genital mutilation crime. The amendment introduced a set of measures to prevent female genital mutilation using any legal loopholes to avoid punishment. New separate penalties were introduced together with new forms of criminalization.
- g Egypt has a strong institutional framework of mechanisms protecting women against violence and providing legal and psychological support. It includes women's compliant offices and hotline of the National Council for Women, Anti-violence against Women Unit of the Ministry of Interior, Human, Women

and Children's Rights Sector of the Ministry of Justice, women hosting and guidance centers of the Ministry of Social Solidarity, Anti-violence Unit of the National Council for Women, Anti-harassment and Violence Against Women Units in Universities, equal opportunity units, hospital-based units receiving cases of violence against women, three clinics for violence against women in the Forensic Medicine Authority and four "safe woman" units in university hospitals. The first shelter for women victims of human trafficking was established.

- h Many seminars and awareness programs were held to introduce the legal process due in cases of violence against women, to encourage women and girls to report to protect their rights.
- i Programs were carried out to strengthen capacities of law enforcement authorities, namely the Public Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Justice, Family Prosecutions' Assistants, forensic doctors and marriage registrars. Training manuals were issued for members of the Public Prosecutor's Office, judges, forensic doctors, police officers, and Ministry of Health to deal with victims of violence. Al-Azhar issued a manual to train religious leaders on women's issues. A number of services were provided for women and girls who are victims of violence.
- j Several campaigns were organized to raise awareness about the dangers of culturally inherited harmful practices including early marriage, early pregnancy, female genital mutilation, negligence of family planning and delivery without medical control, electronic crimes risks and the different forms of violence.
- k Issuing a number of guidelines for members of the Public Prosecution Office, policemen, forensic doctors, health service providers, and judges for case management and psychological support to combat crimes of violence against women.
- l Training courses and conferences were held to support male and female judges' capacities to address issues of violence against women.
- m The issuance of a number of important ministerial and administrative decisions: The Prime Minister's decision in 2021 to establish "The Combined Unit for the Protection of Women from Violence," which aims to assemble and coordinate the services

of the agencies and ministries concerned with dealing with violence against women issues in one place in order to facilitate the procedures and enable the access of abused women to these services. The decision of the Minister of Transport for the year 2021 to issue the national code of conduct for users, operators and workers in facilities and means of transportation, with the aim of combatting all forms of harassment and violence in facilities and means of transportation. The Circular Book No. 2021 for the Financial Supervisory Authority to urge companies listed on the Egyptian Stock Exchange and operating in non-banking financial activities to adopt the provisions of the ethical charter to prevent harassment, violence and harassment in the work environment.

Challenges

1. Some negative cultural legacies continue to consolidate discrimination against women.
2. The need to enhance the integration of gender-based planning into the State development plans.
3. The need to provide more data and information on women, both nationally and locally.
4. Political Empowerment
 - a Lack of awareness of the importance of political participation in some remote areas.
 - b Many females do not have national IDs, causing them to be excluded from the voters' databases and to be deprived of economic and social opportunities and rights.
 - c The need to enhance women's empowerment in the State's administrative body and in decision-making positions both in leading positions and within boards of public and private entities.
 - d Women have not been appointed yet in certain judicial positions and are still underrepresented in others.
5. Economic Empowerment
 - a Females account for a low percentage in workforce, especially in Upper Egypt, with the persistence of cultural legacies against women's work as a main obstacle to their involvement in the economic activity.

- b The need to achieve equal work opportunities in all sectors and to strengthen the role of equal opportunity units.
- c Women have a low share in financial services and the number of women who have credit cards is lower than men.
- d The need to enforce laws protecting working women and guaranteeing their rights. More legislative reforms are needed, including the principle of equal pay for work of equal value, standardized maternity leaves in public and private sectors, proposal of paid parental leave, preventing gender-based discrimination in access to loans and finance, and facilitating procedures pertaining to the neediest and breadwinner women.
- e The need to develop policies and procedures against harassment in workplace, and to integrate them into the Labor Law.

6. Social Empowerment

- a Women illiteracy continues to be high in some areas, especially remote ones, together with the educational gender gap.
- b Decreased use of family planning methods and high birth rates, negatively affecting women's health.

7. Protection of Women against All Forms of Violence and Harmful Practices

- a The increase in the level of violence against women, especially domestic violence.
- b The absence of a comprehensive law on violence against women.
- c Reluctance to benefit from services and programs supporting women exposed to violence and abuse, due to lack of awareness of these services.
- d Female genital mutilation surgeries continue to be performed.
- e The increase in sexual harassment.
- f The need to enhance the legislative and procedural frameworks to prevent child, coercive and temporary marriage.
- g The need to raise awareness of legislative amendments that enable women to obtain their right to inherit.

- h The need to amend laws with the aim of enhancing women's rights, ensuring the child's best interest, and facilitating women's access to their rights and their children's rights without delay.
- i The need to develop family courts to fulfill the needs of women, especially those with disabilities, and create a national mechanism for the immediate enforcement of alimony and custody rulings

Target Results

1. Policies are developed to combat all negative cultural legacies which consolidate discrimination against women.
2. Gender-based planning is enhanced in order to facilitate women's empowerment.
3. Collection of data related to women is expanded nationally and locally to identify gaps impeding women's empowerment.
4. Political Empowerment
 - a Women's political participation is enhanced.
 - b Efforts to issue IDs for women across Egypt are continued.
 - c More women are appointed in the State's administrative body and in decision-making positions, both in leading positions and within boards of public and private entities. Women's participation in planning and policy development is enhanced at all levels.
 - d Equal opportunity is achieved pertaining to the appointment of men and women in judicial positions.
5. Economic Empowerment
 - a Plans are developed to increase women's participation in the workforce, particularly in Upper Egypt.
 - b Equal work opportunity is achieved in all sectors, industries and professions, making use of decisions of

the Ministry of Manpower lifting ban on women's participation in some industries and at night shifts. The role of equal opportunities units' is enhanced.

- c Laws protecting working women and ensuring their rights are enforced. Additional legislative reforms are introduced to enhance women's right to work, including unification of the maternity leaves in both public and private sectors, proposition of paid paternal leaves, and explicitly stipulating the prohibition of discrimination based on sex with regard to access to loans and funding, as well as facilitating procedures to take into account the special circumstances of the most needy and breadwinner women, and stipulating the principle of equal pay for work of equal value.
- d Encouraging transition from the informal economy to the formal economy, as well as encouraging work in non-traditional sectors and supporting women in medium, small and micro enterprises.
- e The development of policies and procedures that combat harassment in the workplace and integrating them into the Labor Law.

6. Social Empowerment

- a Efforts to expand women's alphabetical, digital and technological literacy are enhanced.
- b More reproductive health and family planning services are provided.
- c Health workers' capacities are developed to provide high quality maternal and childhood care services.

7. Protecting Women from All Forms of Violence and Harmful Practices

- a The issuance of a comprehensive law on the protection of women from all forms of violence, including amendments to the penal code and the criminal procedural law with

regard to discriminatory articles, criminalizing all forms of violence against women.

- b The amendment of laws to enhance women's rights, ensure the child's best interest and facilitate women's access to their rights and their children's rights without delay.
- c Effective implementation of policies to combat violence against women through raising awareness in order to benefit from programs targeting the elimination of all forms of violence against women. In this regard, policies will be developed to create an enabling environment for women who are victims of violence to report on perpetrators and benefit from protection services. More complaint offices will be set up in the National Council for Women and women's support offices to provide legal advice and services to support women particularly the neediest. The role of the Collective Unit to Protect Women from violence is activated.
- d The amendment of the penal code to render harassment of women in workplace or means of public transport an aggravating condition for the crime.
- e Benefiting from female police staff to support security plans and facilitate dealing with women or children who are victims of different crimes.
- f A law is issued to prevent children's marriage, and measures to prevent coercive and temporary marriage are enhanced.
- g Awareness is raised of legislative amendments enabling women to receive their inheritance.
- h Family courts are developed in order to meet the needs of women, especially those with disabilities; a national mechanism is developed for immediate enforcement of alimony rulings for women and those in their custody.

II. Child's Rights

Strengths and Opportunities

1. The Constitution highlights that childhood is protected in all its stages, ensuring children's rights to survival and growth. It requires that births are registered and provides for rights to education, health care, free vaccination, feeding, family care, shelter, religious, moral and cognitive education and protection from violence, offense or exploitation. The State creates a judicial system for children and realizes their best interest.
2. The National Council for Childhood and Motherhood is active in protecting and caring for children.
3. The National Strategy for Childhood and Motherhood (2018-2030) and the National Plan (2018-2022) were launched.
4. Lower mortality rate among children under five and narrower educational gap between children in urban and rural areas.
5. The expansion of free school feeding programs.
6. The National Initiative for Girls' Education was launched.
7. The alternative family system was developed for children without family care and the shelter nursery system was developed together with the juvenile observation centers.
8. The "Child Fund" was created to provide care and protection to homeless children and to reduce child labor. The adoption of the National Action Plan against the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Egypt by 2025.
9. The "Childhood Protection Committees" were activated as a community mechanism for child protection.
10. The "Child Friendly Village" Initiative was launched to improve children's life according to their rights stipulated in the Child Law, UN human rights conventions and standards of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood.
11. An initiative was launched to detect and treat newborns' hearing impairment or loss.
12. Law No. 189 of 2020 was launched to amend certain articles of the

Penal Code by adding new Article 309 (bis, b), which defines bullying and specifies its penalty.

13. A national campaign was launched against bullying children and criminalizing it with a stricter penalty.
14. The implementation of the National Program for Early Childhood Development.
15. A campaign was launched on children's protection and safety online by the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood.
16. Egypt ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts and the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.
17. Presidential decree No. 75 of 2015 was issued, withdrawing reservation on Article 21 (2) of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, concerning the prohibition of child's marriage and setting the age of 19 years as the minimum age of marriage.
18. The Egyptian judiciary system includes specialized judiciary for children's trial in case they commit crimes.
19. In 2020, an office for child protection was created within the Judicial Inspection Department in the Public Prosecutor's Office. It shall supervise child public prosecutor's offices, monitor their work, monitor relevant practical issues, and review lawsuits and rulings involving children.
20. The Public Prosecutor's Office developed a number of child offices in line with children's nature, conditions and needs. It also issued guidelines on the child's criminal responsibility in cooperation with international stakeholders.
21. In 2017, the Model Child Court was established in Cairo, as the first of kind court that comprises two levels of trial (first instance and appeal), child public prosecutor's office, social experts' offices, children's rest area, legal assistance offices, and lawyers' waiting area. In 2020, a child friendly court was established in Giza, which is fully equipped in line with international standards including a video conference room.
22. The National Strategy for Alternative Care of Children and Youth was launched in 2021.

Challenges

1. The need to increase awareness of children's rights and to increase initiatives and activities that aim at enhancing their rights.
2. The phenomena of violence against children and homeless children continue to exist.
3. Inadequate health services are provided to children in rural areas, Upper Egypt and slum areas and the inadequacy of qualifications of medical teams capable of providing these services. The inadequate coverage of regular pregnancy care services and lack of access to medical assistance during delivery particularly in rural areas.
4. Practices continue under the worst forms of child labor, the weak enforcement of relevant laws and the weak awareness of relevant risks.
5. Lack of capacity in many social care facilities that assist children deprived of family care services.
6. Inadequacy of financial resources for children protection facilities, especially in rural areas.
7. The need to enhance the role of non-governmental organizations and civil society active in child protection.
8. Some foundlings and found children are deprived of certain health and education services.
9. The need to increase awareness and training on listening to children's views.

Target Results

1. The level of awareness of child rights is raised, and rights-related initiatives and activities are encouraged.
2. The child's best interest principle is mainstreamed within all child-related entities.
3. Children are protected from abuse, exploitation, negligence and all forms of violence, and providing support to child protection committees.

4. The homeless children phenomenon is reduced.
5. Mechanisms for child's access to full health care are enhanced through improving the quality of health care services provided to them, increasing regular pregnancy care services and reducing child mortality
6. Practices under the worst forms of child labor are reduced, enforcement of laws regulating child labour is enhanced, and more child help hotlines are created.
7. Further controls are imposed on social care facilities for children deprived of family care.
8. Considering the expansion of the alternative family system for orphan children.
9. The role of non-governmental organizations and civil society active in protecting children's rights is enhanced.
10. Studying the amendment of certain articles of part two of chapter three on Social Care of the Child law. This would ensure that foundlings and found children have access to their rights, especially to health and education.
11. Children's rights to express their views are ensured.

III. Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, the State guarantees the rights of dwarves and persons with disabilities pertaining to their health, economic, social, cultural aspects as well as entertainment, sporting and education. The State provides work opportunities for them through allocating a percentage of these opportunities to them, in addition to equipping public utilities and their surrounding environment. The State guarantees the right of persons with disabilities to exercise political rights, and their integration with other citizens in order to achieve the principles of equality, justice and equal opportunities
2. The Persons with Disabilities Law was issued in 2018 as the first Egyptian legislation in this field.

3. The State commits to the proper representation of persons with disabilities in the House of Representatives and the Senate. Their participation in elections and referendums is guaranteed.
4. One million persons with disabilities have access to cash subsidy for a total cost of 5 billion EGP a year.
5. More speech rehabilitation and physical therapy centers are established, and artificial limbs are provided.
6. Setting standards to ensure the quality of service in social rehabilitation offices.
7. Rights of persons with disabilities to proper housing are maintained by obliging engineers or engineering offices to observe accessibility requirements as per the Egyptian code.
8. A Presidential initiative was launched to integrate and empower persons with disabilities by providing proper educational and health services, using communication and information technologies and enabling them to access the job market.
9. Expanding the provision of several youth centers with the appropriate engineering access code for disability.
10. Monitoring compliance with the design of school buildings in accordance with engineering access code for disability.
11. Curricula are digitalized and transformed into accessible courses for the disabled persons.
12. Integrated schools (for students with a minor disability) and special education schools (for students with medium, acute and multiple disabilities), are supported, together with the continuous training of specialists in these schools and operationalization of summer activities.
13. Centers are established to discover and care for talented athletes among dwarfs and persons with disabilities.
14. The role of non-governmental organizations and civil society active in protecting persons with disabilities is enhanced.
15. Activating the 5% recruitment rate within many government agencies and ministries, reducing working hours by one paid hour per day for persons with disabilities or their caregivers, providing flexible working hours and days and applying an indiscriminate promotion system.

16. A protocol of cooperation was signed between the Ministry of Justice and the National Council for the Persons with Disabilities in 2019 to provide all means of judicial assistance in courts and ancillary entities to enable their easy access to legal services, without prejudice to relevant laws.
17. Opening a number of courts that take into account the requirements of the Egyptian access code for disability and facilitate the movement of people with disabilities. Existing courts will be examined by competent engineers to explore the possibility of building ramps and parking areas for persons with disabilities.
18. Helpdesks for persons with disabilities are hosted in courts of first instance and partial courts nationwide subject to Decree No. 4637 by Minister of Justice regarding the facilities provided by the ministry to persons with disabilities.
19. Media outlets pay more attention to issues of persons with disabilities.

Challenges

1. Lack of societal awareness of the rights and needs of persons with disabilities.
2. The need to promote and facilitate political participation of persons with disabilities.
3. Lack of supportive techniques in different areas of life such as education, health, work, etc.
4. Increasing unemployment among persons with disabilities.
5. The need to provide training and vocational rehabilitation opportunities for persons with disabilities.
6. The need to allocate 5 percent of social housing units for persons with disabilities, under "Sakan Karim" (Decent Housing) Program; and renovating some houses of persons with disabilities.
7. Inadequacy of prosthetic devices and medicines which are needed to treat persons with disabilities in a sustainable manner..
8. Delayed implementation of the Egyptian code of space and building design, which considers accessibility requirements in services and educational buildings.

9. Several means of transportation lack accessibility requirements.
10. Some provisions of the executive regulations of the Law on Persons with Disabilities are not enforced for being in contradiction with previous resolutions issued from many authorities.
11. Relative difficulty of the involvement of persons with disabilities in cultural, media and sport activities.
12. The insufficiency of training provided in the workplace on concepts and methods of inclusion of persons with disabilities in education.

Target Results

1. Societal awareness of rights of persons with disabilities is raised.
2. A unified and updated database on persons with disabilities is created, including their conditions and more effective plans are developed to ensure their rights and improve their conditions.
3. Political participation of persons with disabilities is enhanced.
4. Equal access of persons with disabilities to education is enhanced and accessibility requirements to support their integration into education are provided.
5. The right of persons with disabilities to decent work is enhanced by taking more appropriate measures to reduce their unemployment. Several financial and procedural facilitations for their integration into the labor market are provided. Increasing the implementation of the 5 percent of appointments in government positions to persons with disabilities, reducing working hours by one paid hour per day for persons with disabilities and increasing their paid leaves. More training and vocational qualification opportunities are provided in cooperation with associations and institutions to qualify them for the labor market.
6. Social care is enhanced for persons with disabilities.

7. Health care is enhanced for persons with disabilities.
8. Integrated services are developed for persons with disabilities, including facilitating their access to comprehensive services cards as per the law, expanding the application of the Egyptian code for the design of spaces and buildings equipped for the use of persons with disabilities, whether service or educational buildings. This would help apply the principles of integration and availability and increase the number of transportation means equipped to accommodate persons with disabilities.
9. Ministerial decrees and circulars are issued to clear out any contradiction between the executive regulations of the Law on Persons with Disabilities and any previous decrees or circulars.
10. The participation of persons with disabilities in cultural, media and sports activities is facilitated.

IV. Rights of Youth

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, the State provides care for the youth and young children, helping them discover their talents, developing their cultural, scientific, psychological, physical and creative abilities, encouraging them to engage in group and volunteer work and enabling them to participate in public life.
2. The Constitution provides for proper representation of youth in the Parliament and one quarter of local councils' seats are allocated for youth.
3. Youth receive attention and encouragement from the political leadership; national youth conferences are periodically held and attended by the President.
4. The State pays attention to youth training and their qualification for top positions in all fields; the National Training Academy was established and the Presidential Leadership Program was launched.

5. The State supports youth employment, through providing different job opportunities and qualifying them for the labor market. A comprehensive strategy was launched to develop youth's vocational training centers based on the needs of labor market.
6. The state has taken many initiatives, in particular: facilitating the financial and procedural rules to encourage youth to launch various projects, and implementing the presidential initiative to employ them.
7. The State pays great attention to youth's health and launched initiatives to encourage sports.
8. The State created and upgraded many youth centers, playgrounds, hostels and cities.
9. The State organized awareness programs for youth and families against illegal migration.

Challenges

1. The need to enhance youth's political and societal participation.
2. Insufficient services are provided to youth in border and remote areas.
3. Only a few non-governmental organizations are interested in youth issues.
4. Increasing unemployment among the youth and the need to enhance their capacities in line with the labor market needs.
5. The need to enhance efforts towards improving youth's health and fitness by establishing and developing youth centers, sports facilities, youth hostels and youth cities.

Target Results

1. Youth are further empowered to participate in public life.
2. Youth are empowered to assume leadership positions.
3. More services are provided to youth in border and remote areas.
4. More non-governmental organizations are encouraged to address youth issues.

5. Youth unemployment is reduced, and their capacity is developed in line with the labor market requirements.
6. Small, medium and micro enterprises are supported and developed.
7. Youth's vocational training is improved.
8. Efforts to improve youth's health and physical fitness are enhanced. The expansion of the construction and development of youth centers, sports facilities, youth hostels, and youth cities.

V. Rights of the Elderly

Strengths and Opportunities

1. According to the Constitution, the State guarantees the health, economic, social, cultural and entertainment rights of the elderly, provides appropriate pensions to ensure a decent standard of living for them, and empowers them to participate in public life. The State takes into account the needs of the elderly while planning public utilities. It also encourages civil society organizations to participate in providing care for the elderly.
2. The State provided social solidarity pension for the elderly who have no insurance pension or income. It developed social safety networks through "Karama" Program by providing pension for the elderly starting from 65 years or those who have impairment or chronic diseases.
3. Care houses were established for the elderly, together with opening adult day care clubs, and releasing a document on the rights of the elderly in collaboration with non-governmental organizations.
4. Dissemination of electronic culture mechanisms in the elderly centers to empower them to be self-dependent in acquiring culture.
5. The General Authority for Adult Education provided the elderly access to continuing education at the preparatory, secondary and university levels.

Challenges

1. The absence of legislation enhancing the rights of the elderly.
2. The inadequacy of social and psychological care provided for the elderly.
3. The weak level of awareness of the rights of the elderly.
4. The need to enhance the participation of the elderly in public life and in drafting their own policies.
5. Procedures related to legal protection to services provided to the elderly are complicated.

Target Results

1. An integrated legislation is issued to enhance the rights of the elderly.
2. More social protection programs are provided to the elderly.
3. More financial allocations are made to government social care facilities and inspection thereof is enhanced.
4. Accessibility of the elderly to health care is enhanced.
5. Civil society organizations are encouraged to participate in the elderly care activities.
6. Elderly persons are enabled to participate in public life by enhancing their involvement in drafting their own policies, organizing an annual societal dialogue to: identify gaps, areas of interest, and means of appropriate interaction with the elderly issues, and enhancing their access to education and participation in the cultural life.
7. Judicial aid for the elderly is enhanced and their access to justice is facilitated.
8. More elderly care houses are established.

Fourth Focus Area

Human Rights Education and Capacity Building

Human rights education and capacity building are addressed in this focus area in five items, each highlighting strengths and opportunities, challenges and concluding with target results.

I. Dissemination of Human Rights Culture

Strengths and Opportunities

1. The State contributes to raising people's awareness of human rights topics.
2. Several media campaigns are launched on human rights values and principles.
3. Efforts are exerted by government and religious authorities to emphasize the values of citizenship, tolerance, dialogue and combating incitement to violence and discrimination.
4. The National Training Academy was established to develop and upgrade youth capacity and skills.
5. The existence of training centers to prepare media staff and develop their skills on human rights issues.

Challenges

1. The weak level of awareness of human rights values and principles and the need for education programs in the field of human rights.
2. The need to promote the role of religious platforms and institutions in upholding human rights values and principles.
3. Lack of databases on efforts of human rights education and capacity development, which would help map the current situation and identify weaknesses that should be addressed.
4. Absence of specialized national research and study bodies concerned with the development of human rights-related training materials for different sectors.
5. The need to enhance efforts on integrating human rights principles in training programs of press and media staff.
6. The need to support training and rehabilitation programs on public participation among youth.

7. The need to support the production of objective drama materials, simplifying human rights values and principles for public opinion.
8. More media campaigns are needed to promote human rights values and principles, develop their content and expand their scope.
9. The need to increase the use of different press, media and digital platforms to disseminate awareness of human rights values and principles.

Target Results

1. A common understanding and culture of human rights values and principles is elaborated according to the Constitution, laws and relevant international instruments ratified by Egypt.
2. Education programs are expanded, and different activities to disseminate human rights culture are widely conducted.
3. More efforts are exerted by religious and government institutions to support human rights values, emphasize values of citizenship, tolerance, dialogue, and combat incitement to violence and discrimination.
4. Expanding the use of new technology to educate citizens about human rights principles and methods to protect them, and the role of law enforcement agencies and protection mechanisms they provide.
5. Technical support and resources to capacity building and training entities in different sectors are provided.
6. A national database on human rights is created concerned with indexing laws, codes of conduct, international and regional human rights instruments ratified by Egypt, and human rights case law and guarantees issued by Supreme Courts in Egypt.
7. Partnerships with the private sector and civil society are created to enhance societal awareness of human rights principles and values.

8. Awareness of human rights principles and values is disseminated among youth and relevant training programs are supported.
9. Specialized training programs on human rights for media professionals are developed.
10. Drama materials to simplify human rights values and principles to the public are produced.
11. The use of different press, media and digital platforms to disseminate awareness of human rights values and principles is expanded.
12. Coordination with the Parliament in harmonizing national laws with relevant international human rights instruments ratified by Egypt is continued.

II. Mainstreaming Human Rights Component into Different Education Levels

Strengths and Opportunities

1. Values of citizenship, tolerance and non-discrimination are key elements in educational curricula and methods.
2. Serious steps are taken to include human rights concepts and principles in pre-university curricula.
3. A new subject “Values and Respect for Others” is introduced at primary level to enhance principles of tolerance, human values and commonalities among religions.
4. Including transparency and integrity principles in the higher education by teaching a mandatory course on human rights and combating corruption in all faculties and institutes.

Challenges

1. The absence of an integrated national plan for teaching human rights at pre-university and higher education levels.

2. The need for training programs for educational staff on mainstreaming human rights principles in curricula, methods of teaching and extracurricular activities in pre-university education.
3. The need to enhance skills of staff in the higher education facilities in human rights education and to develop curricula and methods of teaching human rights in higher education.
4. Scarcity of specialized research on development of educational materials and training curricula related to human rights, as well as limited specializations related to human rights at the level of graduate studies.
5. The need to develop learning sources and strategies to keep abreast with recent developments of information and communication technologies.

Target Results

1. Preparing and launching the national plan for education in the field of human rights in the various educational stages.
2. Refining the skills of those in charge of the educational process, training them in the field of human rights education, and integrating the human rights component into teachers' training programs and continuing qualification programs
3. Research and studies on the development of human rights teaching methods are expanded and integrated into pre-university and higher education.
4. Enhancing students' ability to study human rights remotely using the latest communications and information technologies.

III. Police Training

Strengths and Opportunities

1. Several steps were taken for capacity building and training of law enforcement officials.

2. Human rights are being enhanced in police institutions, with the establishment of a human rights sector in the Ministry of Interior and security departments.
3. The expansion of the issuance of Police codes of conduct, together with distributing a number of handbooks on human rights to policemen.
4. Police Academy training centers are being diversified with the aim of enhancing capacities in the field of human rights.
5. Including “Human Rights” and Ethics of Security Job” as mandatory courses in the Police Academy for both undergraduate and graduate students. Human rights topics related to corruption, human trafficking and illegal migration are included into the Police Academy’s curricula.

Challenges

1. The need to continue human rights capacity building and training for policemen in the field of internationally recognized human rights values and principles.
2. The need to achieve more integration of the codes of conduct in the training and awareness programs for policemen.
3. The need to build and promote the capacities of prison staff and staff of places of detention according to the law, prison statute and the best international practices.
4. The need to develop advanced human rights training courses for policemen in fields of rights of women, child, persons with disabilities, human trafficking and illegal immigration.

Target Results

1. Policemen’s capacity building and training programs are continued in the field of internationally recognized human rights values and principles.
2. The capacities of staff of prisons and places of detention are enhanced, according to the law and prison statute and the best international practices.
3. Advanced human rights training courses are conducted in

fields of rights of women, child, persons with disabilities, human trafficking and illegal immigration.

4. Codes of conduct are included into awareness and training programs for law enforcement officers.

IV. Training of Members of Judicial Authorities and Bodies

Strengths and Opportunities

1. Different judicial training and research centers and entities are concerned with disseminating knowledge and strengthening skills in the field of human rights.
2. Judicial training entities have a variety of academic and practical experiences.
3. Information technology is used in training, providing judges with electronic libraries, and providing search engines for judicial staff.

Challenges

1. The need to expand human rights specialized programs for members of judicial authorities and bodies, particularly on standards and guarantees of a fair trial.
2. More human rights training manuals are needed for judicial training centers.
3. The need to further develop indicators to assess the impact of human rights training programs and to develop scientific methodologies to study, monitor and assess effectiveness of these programs.

Target Results

1. Human rights specialized programs are expanded for members of judicial authorities and bodies, particularly on standards and guarantees of a fair trial.
2. Judicial training centers are developed, in terms of preparing of specialized training manuals, developing indicators to measure the impact of human rights training programs and developing a scientific methodology to study, monitor and assess effectiveness of these programs.

V. Enhancing Human Rights Training and Education Programs for Public Servants

Strengths and Opportunities

1. Availability of an institutional structure and variety of human rights training and qualification centers in all sectors, as a catalyst in promoting human rights education and capacity building efforts.
2. The Civil Service Law No. 81 of 2016 provides for the development of a culture of civil service and human resources. Administrative units of the State are responsible for training, qualifying and preparing staff to perform their duties.
3. Varied and expanded efforts are exerted at the national level with the aim of training civil servants, providing these sectors with useful experiences in the field of human rights education and capacity building.
4. Human resources training and qualification centers are established in all sectors with the aim of reforming them, upgrading the services provided to citizens and protecting their rights.
5. Different anti-corruption training and awareness programs are being carried out in terms of their relation to human rights principles and values. These events are organized in the National Anti-corruption Academy for Civil Servants. The purpose is to disseminate transparency, integrity, awareness of corruption risks and the role of supervisory bodies.
6. Human rights units are created across governorates.

Challenges

1. The need to expand the integration of the human rights component into civil servants' training and capacity building materials.
2. The need to increase national bodies specialized in human rights training materials in all sectors.
3. The need to provide human rights technical support to national training institutions concerned with civil servants' capacity building and training.

4. The need to train and build capacity of human rights units across governorates.
5. The need to update indicators to assess the impact of human rights training programs and to develop scientific methodologies to study, monitor and assess the effectiveness and applicability of these programs.

Target Results

1. Capacities of relevant staff in official bodies and entities are developed with regard to harmonizing national laws with relevant international human right instruments ratified by Egypt.
2. Human rights technical support is provided to national training authorities concerned with civil servants' capacity building and training.
3. Thematic training courses are held on implementing the national human rights strategy.
4. Indicators are updated to assess the impact of human rights training programs and to develop scientific methodologies to study, monitor and assess the effectiveness and applicability of these programs.
5. Capacity building and training are provided to the staff of human rights units in governorates.
6. Specialized electronic platforms on human rights are created to expand knowledge and remote training.