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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

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Inclusive Development, Shared Prosperity, and Decent Work

- Equal pay for equal work performed by men.
- Equal pay for work of equal value.
- Sexual harassment in the workplace.
- No gender-specific restrictions on women's employment in terms of the jobs and night shifts (The United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia).
- No general law or provision prohibiting indirect discrimination in any of the states.

- Special protection measures have been allocated for domestic work (The United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Morocco, Tunisia, and Qatar).
- Domestic workers are granted some legal rights for protection against exploitation and abuse. However, they do not have the exact or similar work protection as formal workers (Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Oman, and Palestine).
- Domestic workers do not enjoy any legal rights for protection against exploitation and abuse (Lebanon, Egypt, Somalia, and Yemen).

- 10 Sexual harassment is defined in legislations and prohibited by the Criminal Law or Labor Law.
- 7 Sexual harassment is not defined, but the Criminal Law or Labor Law has penalties that may provide some protection.

Poverty Eradication, Social Protection, and Social Services

Healthcare					Social Insurance
	National Strategies Adoption and Implementation		Unrestricted healthcare	9	Similar retirement age for women and men.
10	National strategies for sexual and reproductive health have been adopted, but these strategies only cover some aspects of sexual and reproductive health services. No (financial, human, and administrative) resources have been allocated in the	5	A law(s) or regulation(s) is issued to ensure that all women and girls have access to maternal healthcare, regardless of family status and without permission from a third party (United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Egypt).	5	Similar retirement age while preserving women's right to early retirement. Gender equality in the right to pension.
	budget for these strategies implementation (Jordan, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Morocco, Tunisia, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, and Egypt).		Abortion	6	Minimum retirement age for women.
2	A national strategy or action plan is adopted including measures that ensure equal access to all sexual and reproductive health services. Adequate sums of the budget as well as human and administrative resources have been allocated for these strategies implementation (The United Arab Emirates and Iraq).	16	Abortion is criminalized with limited exceptions related to the mother or the child health. Abortion is criminalized without any exceptions in Iraq.		
4	The strategy kicked off with the integration of comprehensive sexual health education in the national curriculum. However, said curriculum does not cover all the above-mentioned topics (Tunisia, Morocco, Palestine, and Lebanon).				

Poverty Eradication, Social Protection, and Social Services

- 9 Childcare is provided, but it is not an inclusive and consistent service in the public and private sectors.
- Childcare is not provided or supported by the State in the public and private sectors.
- Maternity leave under international standards (Iraq, Morocco, Somalia and Oman) (not provided since 2018).
- Paid maternity leave is granted for a shorter period than international standards.
- No paid paternity leave is granted.
- 6 Short paternity leave is provided (Jordan, The United Arab Emirates, Tunisia, Morocco, Bahrain, and Oman).

Freedom from Violence, Stigma, and Stereotypes

Domestic Violence	Violence against Women			
Forms of Domestic Violence and Protection Mechanisms	Honor crimes	Rape Criminalization		
Over the past two years, two states; United Arab Emirates and Kuwait have adopted laws on domestic violence, bringing the total number of laws to eight (Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Morocco, and Bahrain).	No provision allows for a reduced penalty in cases of women homicides, including the so-called "honor crimes" (United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Syria, and Lebanon).	 Criminalization is based on disapproval and does not require proof of physical strength (United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Morocco, Qatar, and Palestine). Criminalization is based on disapproval and requires proof of physical strength or penetration. 		
The definition includes all forms of physical, sexual, psychological/ emotional, and financial/ economic violence.	2 Some provisions that allow for a reduced penalty in cases of women homicides have been abolished in Jordan and Palestine, but there are still some gaps.			
The Law clearly includes civil and criminal protection provisions, with legal consequences if violated.	Cyber Violence	Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)		
6 Marital rape perpetrators are sometimes prosecuted under the Law on rape or other laws.	The Law addresses cyber violence against men and women.	5 The Law criminalizes FGM.		
	3 Cyber violence against women and girls is criminalized (United Arab Emirates, Morocco, and Egypt).	11 FGM is not covered in legislations.		
		Age of Marriage		
		The age of marriage is set at 18 years with some exceptions.		
		The age of marriage is below 18 years (Lebanon, Sudan,		

Kuwait, Qatar, Yemen, and Bahrain).

Participation, Accountability, and Gender-Responsive Institutions

- 10 states adopt some of these forms, but only 4 states achieve the minimum 30% or more (United Arab Emirates, Tunisia, Somalia, and Sudan).
- 1 Protection from political violence (Tunisia).
- 6 indicators on obtaining identity card, applying for passport, concluding contracts, owning assets, registering companies, and taking legal actions in civil cases.
- Grants the right to extend citizenship to the children of women married to foreigners (Egypt, Tunisia, Iraq, and Morocco).
- Only Iraq grants the right to extend citizenship to a foreign spouse.

- 13 The Constitution guarantees gender equality.
- The Constitution guarantees gender equality in general (Saudi Arabia, The United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, Yemen).
- There is no general law or provision prohibiting indirect discrimination in any state.

Peaceful and Inclusive Communities

Internationa	National Level		
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	National Plans for Women, Peace, and Security (Resolution 1325)	Budgets for Gender-based Violence (GBV) Strategies	
Palestine, Tunisia, and Djibouti ratified the Convention without any reservations.	Adopted national action plans on Resolution 1325 (Jordan, The United Arab	The United Arab Emirates is the only state that allocates a budget to implement	
15 Ratified the Convention with some reservations.	Emirates, Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Morocco, Yemen, Tunisia, Palestine, and Lebanon).	gender-based violence (GBV) legislations.	
2 Somalia and Sudan.		Gender-responsive budgets are allocated, but they are not binding and do not impose	
Not joining the optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (except for Tunisia, Morocco, and Libya).		any obligations on the government (Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Tunisia, Morocco, and Bahrain).	







