

# **Report of ODVV**

## **Activities Regarding the Accepted Recommendations in the UPR on Iran**



**Winter- 2012**

## **Report of ODVV Activities Regarding the Accepted Recommendations in the UPR on Iran**

As part of its goals which are the protection promotion of human rights, the ODVV while having active presence in the Human Rights Council sessions, and submitting written and oral statements, holding sidelines panels on various important human rights concerns, the ODVV endeavours to arrange its programmes in line with national and international human rights developments.

To this aim, the follow up of the Universal Periodic Review human rights process is of significance importance as one of ODVV's activities.

In 2010, the UPR on Iran took place, and out of 188 recommendations, 126 were accepted by Iran.

Overall it can be said that the accepted recommendations of the UPR, is a point of consensus between the international community, United Nations, the concerning state, national and international organizations for the promotion of human rights. Understanding the importance of the aforementioned in the promotion of human rights, the ODVV has centred its activities on the accepted recommendations of the UPR, and designed and implemented research, education and promotional projects on this basis.

While planning its activities in line with the recommendations, the ODVV has also put at the top of its working agenda interaction with government institutions and holding colloquium sessions. Also playing the role of facilitator to other Iranian NGOs whose activities are like the ODVV's in line with the accepted recommendations of the UPR is also in the working agenda of the ODVV.

The categorization of the accepted recommendations is one of the first action taken towards the conducting of the aforementioned programmes, which upon review the 126 recommendations were categorized on 15 human rights related subjects.

What follows is a brief report of the activities of the ODVV as a human rights NGO in line with the accepted recommendations of the UPR on Iran.

## Human Rights

The following recommendations have been categorized on the general subject of human rights.

The recommendations below have been categorized in general human rights subjects:

- Continue to respect international humanitarian law and international law in general (Kuwait);
- Proceed with the implementation of strategies and policies to support human rights infrastructures and to achieve further progress in promoting a culture of respect for human rights (Qatar);
- Continue its efforts to promote and protect human rights in accordance with the characteristics, values and needs of Iranian society (Lebanon);
- Continue to raise awareness about human rights, and to strengthen national efforts to protect them, with due respect for cultural specificities and Islam (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya);
- Continue its efforts to strengthen and protect human rights in accordance with the cultural values of the Iranian people (Sri Lanka);
- Ensure that its legislation and practice conform fully with requirements of article 18 of ICCPR and with its other obligations under international human rights law (Poland);
- Strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and ensure that the rights of all those involved in human rights advocacy are protected under Iranian law, in accordance with its obligations under ICCPR, and that freedom of association is enshrined in Iranian law (Ireland);

In line with the general subject of human rights the ODVV has conducted the following activities

- NGOs Effective Presence in the UPR on Iran Project 2010
- Cluster Project on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Further Access to Justice.
- The UN System and Its Activities in Iran Education Course
- Training of Human Rights Defenders in the Provinces Education Course
- Humanitarian Law Education Course
- Colloquium on the Role of NGOs in the UPR Process Sitting
- Efforts to prevent the adoption of the draft legislation on the founding and activities of NGOs.
- NGOs Capacity Building Project

**Further details in addendum 1**

## **Correct Judicial Process**

The following recommendations have been categorized on the general subject of correct judicial process.

- Explore the possibility of undertaking a comprehensive study on the positive implications of the implementation of a legal system based on civil and Islamic law, and share its experiences and best practices in that regard (Malaysia);
- Take measures to ensure an effective and impartial judicial system, in conformity with ICCPR is guaranteed (Netherlands);
- Guarantee, in compliance with its obligations under ICCPR, the effective independence of the procedures and administration of justice, restricted emergency legislation, adequate protection for human rights defenders and political opposition members, and the effective guarantee of freedom of expression and opinion and freedom of religion and belief (Chile);
- Make a full explanation of the relationship between the restrictive actions taken by the authorities and the Constitution; (Japan);
- Reconsider the inclusion of “apostasy”, “witchcraft” and “heresy” as capital offences in its updated penal code (New Zealand);
- Ensure that the trial of the Yarran is conducted in a fair and transparent manner, consistent with Iranian law, natural justice and due legal process (New Zealand);

In line with the recommendations with the general subject of the correct judicial process the ODVV has done the following activities:

- Translation of Human Rights in the Administration of Justice – A Manual on Human Rights for Judges, Prosecutors and Lawyers.
- Colloquium Family Counselors with the Justice System Sitting.
- Family Court Counselors Project
- Introduction to International Human Rights Procedures for Tehran Province Justice Department Judges Education Courses.
- Human Rights Education Course for Judicial Science Faculty Students.

## **Further details in addendum 2**

## **Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

The following recommendations have been categorized on the general subject of economic, social and cultural rights.

- Continue its efforts to promote human rights in the economic, social and cultural fields (Sudan);
- Continue to take innovative measures to ensure that its development policies permit the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights in the country (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- Coordinate efforts in a manner that promotes the effective enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, and tackle obstacles in that regard (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya);
- Continue to promote the living standards of the people by allowing the further enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights (Kuwait);
- Enhance efforts to further promote economic and social rights, as well as the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children and people with disabilities (Viet Nam);
- Continue in its plans to realize the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, and tackle the problems related to the illegal and unjustified economic sanctions against the country (Zimbabwe).
- Continue to promote and protect its rich historical and cultural heritage (Cuba);
- Share its experiences in the realization of the cultural rights of the people, including through diversified cultural initiatives and activities (Tajikistan);
- Strengthen its efforts to include the various Iranian cultures and traditions in its national legislation (Sudan);

Every year through holding seminars, conferences and various programmes on the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty the ODVV takes steps towards the abovementioned recommendations

- Commemoration of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

### **Further details in addendum 3**

## Development

The following recommendations have been categorized on the general subject of development

- Continue efforts aimed at the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and achieve prosperity for the people, in particular by facilitating access for the population to the necessary health services (Qatar);
- Continue its ongoing efforts, in accordance with the Twenty-Year Vision Strategic Plan for Development, to achieve global and sustainable development (Lebanon);
- Continue to promote its successful social policies aimed at satisfying the needs of its population (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);.

In line with the recommendations with the general subject of development the ODVV has held several education course on the Millennium Development Goals for teachers, NGOs and other social groups

- Millennium Development Goals Education Course.

**Further details in addendum 4**

## Education

The following recommendations have been categorized on the general subject of education.

- Continue its capacity-building programmes related to all aspects of human rights (Zimbabwe);
- Continue to promote human rights training for public officials and authorities (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- Continue to provide and improve human rights education and training for judicial and law enforcement officials (Pakistan);
- Continue to include human rights in school curriculums (Sudan);
- Pursue its endeavours to guarantee basic education for all citizens (Lebanon);
- Continue efforts to develop education, particularly in the rural parts of the country, with the participation of the private and public sectors and nongovernmental organizations, with a view to reducing poverty through employment opportunities and the strengthening of human resources (Kyrgyzstan);
- Continue its efforts to provide educational facilities for students with special educational needs (Sri Lanka);
- Continue its innovative programmes to eradicate illiteracy, and continue its initiatives to spread education at all levels and throughout the country (China);
- Continue to implement its literacy plan at the national level to achieve the full elimination of illiteracy (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- Sustain its designed programmes aimed at the availability and affordability of higher education (Syrian Arab Republic);
- Share with other countries, in particular multicultural countries, its experiences in the strengthening of education (Tajikistan);

One of the main activities of the ODVV is the holding of education courses alongside official education institutions. These educations are given to groups that have less opportunities and means to get official education, and also subjects that official education pays lesser attention towards. A number of these courses are as follows:

- Acquiring Consultative Status from ECOSOC Education Workshop
- Introduction to the Concepts and Basics of Human Rights Education Project for Teachers
- Empowerment of Human Rights NGOs Education Project
- Introduction to International Human Rights Education Courses for Tehran Province Justice Department
- Human Rights Education Course for Judicial Science Faculty Students
- Human Rights Education Course for Governmental Organizations Experts

## Women

The following recommendations have been categorized on the general subject of women.

- Continue to make progress in education and health care, with a particular focus on women and girl children (Bangladesh);
- Develop a legal framework for protecting and promoting the rights of women (Brazil);
- Adopt measures to guarantee women's equality under the law (Chile);
- Continue to improve its policies and programmes to advance the status of women and girls, and protect children, including those with disabilities (Indonesia);
- Step up efforts to enhance the participation of women in all spheres of socio-economic life, in keeping with the progress made in women's education (Bangladesh);
- Take all steps necessary to reform the discriminatory provisions of penal and civil laws, including with regard to women's equal rights in marriage, access to justice and legal discrimination (Ireland);
- Bring its national legislation into conformity with international obligations on women's rights, and to follow the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, as well as guarantee the safety of advocates for gender equality (Estonia);
- Ensure the equal treatment of women and girls in law and practice (Austria);
- Conduct a policy of zero tolerance towards the trafficking in women and girl children, child prostitution and the production of pornography involving children (Germany);

In line with the recommendations with the general subject of women the ODVV has conducted the following activities:

- Community Based Awareness Raising on the Prevention of GBV Project
- Commemoration of the International Day in Memory of Victims of Trafficking
- Preparation and publication of the Beijing+15 book.
- Commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- Holding of the International Conference on Women's Rights in the Judicial Justice Process
- Strengthening of the Family with a Stress on the Reduction of GBV Project
- Human Trafficking: Challenges and Prevention Methods Book
- Review of Islamic Law in the Elimination of Violence against Women
- Review and Analysis of Laws, Regulations and Experiences of Courts in Controlling GBV

**Further details in attachment 6**



## **Children**

The following recommendations are categorized on the subject of children:

- Continue to implement measures aimed at further promoting and protecting children's rights, and intensify efforts to ensure further opportunities for access to higher education (Qatar);
- Continue to improve its policies and programmes to advance the status of women and girls, and protect children, including those with disabilities (Indonesia);
- Facilitate for all children born to Iranian mothers access to a birth certificate and Iranian nationality, regardless of the nationality of the father (Mexico);

With regards to the general subject of children, the ODVV has conducted the following activities

- Collection of Data on Street Children and Child Labourers Project
- Children: the Silent Victims of War Conference
- Commemoration of International Children's Day "Violence-Free World Worthy of Children"
- Review of the Legal and Psychological Dimensions of Child Abuse.

**Further details in addendum 7**

## Minorities

The following have been categorized under the subject of minorities:

- Guarantee the protection of the civil and political rights of all, particularly dissidents and members of minority groups (Chile)
- Continue its policy of promoting and protecting all rights of the members of recognized religious minorities, as an important step to provide cultural diversity in society and create opportunities for those minorities to preserve their identities; and, to that end, further ensure their political representation and promote their greater involvement in the planning and implementation of various projects aimed at providing financial assistance for their educational and cultural needs (Armenia);
- Share with regional and other interested countries its good practices regarding the protection of the cultural heritage of members of traditional minorities (Armenia);
- Take all measures necessary to ensure the protection of religious minorities, including implementing the recommendations on adequate housing put forward by the Special Rapporteur after his visit in 2006 (Denmark);

In line with the recommendations with the general subject of minorities the ODVV has conducted the following activities:

- Human Rights Education Course for Religious Minorities

**Further details in addendum 8**

## **Freedom of Religion**

The following recommendations are categorized on the subject of freedom of religion:

- Uphold its constitutional provisions guaranteeing freedom of worship (United States);
- Respect the freedom of religion (Germany);
- Respect freedom of religion, and assure a fair and transparent trial for members of the Baha'I faith, in full compliance with the commitments undertaken as a State party to the implementation ICCPR and other human rights instruments (Romania);

In line with the recommendations with the general subject of freedom of religion the ODVV has conducted the following activities:

- Holding a sidelines sitting on Islamophobia during the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council

**Further details in addendum 9**

## **Prohibition of Torture and Bad Treatment**

The following recommendations are categorized on the subject of prohibition of torture and bad treatment:

- Ensure that competent bodies investigate allegations of torture, enforced disappearance and secret detention, that those responsible are punished and that programmes providing reparation for victims are established (Chile);
- Ensure the full implementation of international obligations and constitutional guarantees, including with regard to the prohibition of torture (Austria);
- Establish strict accountability of members of the police and military, prison and detention personnel and the judiciary for any violations of human rights, in particular for torture (Czech Republic);
- Take measures to ensure that no torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment occurs (Netherlands);
- Take further steps to eliminate torture and other forms of ill treatment, and ensure an effective and impartial judicial system (Denmark);
- Respect the human rights of prisoners and detainees, and investigate and stop immediately any alleged abuses (Ireland); - Ensure that the treatment of detainees duly follows international standards and that irregularities to those standards are properly investigated (Estonia);
- Investigate and prosecute all those, including Government officials and paramilitary members, suspected of having mistreated, tortured or killed anyone, including demonstrators, political activists, human rights defenders and journalists (Canada);
- Establish effective complaint mechanisms for victims of torture (Czech Republic);
- Take measures to ensure that Government and security officials implicated in human rights abuses relating to extrajudicial and arbitrary detention and the possible use of torture are investigated, prosecuted and punished (Netherlands);

In line with the recommendations with the general subject of torture and bad treatment the ODVV was elected to vice president of AMMAN Network of Torture Rehabilitation Centres in the MENA Region and has conducted the following activities:

- Participation in the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) conference.
- Participation and holding AMMAN Network of Torture Rehabilitation Centres in the MENA Region Conferences.
- Review of the Dimensions of Torture in the Islamic Legal System, Domestic Iranian Laws and International Documents Book
- Psychotherapy of Torture Victims and Review of the Legal Dimensions of Torture Workshop.
- Translation and publication of the Istanbul Protocol

**Further details in addendum 10**

## **Dialogue among Civilisations**

The following recommendations are categorized on the subject of dialogue among civilizations:

- Continue, in view of its rich history, culture and tradition, its efforts and initiatives to promote dialogue among religions and civilizations, including by focusing on the theme of promoting and protecting human rights and a culture of peace (Malaysia);
- Continue its initiative on dialogue among cultures, in particular intercultural dialogue on human rights (China);
- Continue to promote initiatives on dialogue among cultures (Syrian Arab Republic);

In line with the recommendations with the general subject of dialogue among civilizations the ODVV has conducted the following activities:

- Commemoration of the International Peace Day

**Further details in addendum 11**

# **Addendum 1**

## **Human Rights**

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to respect international humanitarian law and international law in general (Kuwait);

Strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and ensure that the rights of all those involved in human rights advocacy are protected under Iranian law, in accordance with its obligations under ICCPR, and that freedom of association is enshrined in Iranian law (Ireland);

**Activity:** NGOs Effective Presence in the UPR on Iran 2010

**Objective:** NGOs effective presence in the UPR

**Addressees:** Members of nongovernmental organizations.

**Brief description:** Civil society institutions that include NGOs have the opportunity to participate in all stages of UPR. For the purpose of NGOs playing a constructive role in this process, a project entitled “NGOs Effective Presence in the UPR” was added to the working agenda of the ODVV in 2009.

The project is made up of four main stages:

- Holding of Introduction to the Human Rights Council and Report Formulation for the UPR education courses
- Facilitation in preparation and submission of NGOs reports for the UPR on Iran

Following the acquirement of necessary skills to prepare reports, the participating NGOs began to write their reports for the UPR on Iran. In this stage a review and edit group was selected from the NGOs representatives who had expertise in law, international law, social and political sciences, and reviewed the reports of the NGOs. Forty-one NGOs sent their reports to the Human Rights Council.

- Meetings and sittings with government officials
- Presence in the Human Rights Council Sessions

**Conclusions:**

- 1 – Increased cooperation between GOs and NGOs
- 2 – Effective presence of NGOs in Human Rights Council Sessions.

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue its efforts to promote and protect human rights in accordance with the characteristics, values and needs of Iranian society (Lebanon);
- Continue to raise awareness about human rights, and to strengthen national efforts to protect them, with due respect for cultural specificities and Islam (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya);
- Continue its efforts to strengthen and protect human rights in accordance with the cultural values of the Iranian people (Sri Lanka);

**Activity:** Cluster Project on the Promotion of Human Rights and Further Access to Justice

**Objective:** Promotion of human rights and further access to justice in the framework of the good governance programme

**Addressees:** Various sectors of society

**Brief description:** This project in the period 2005-2009 with the cooperation of UNFPA was approved by the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Based on the project document the ODVV was one of the project partners alongside seven NGOs which included: The Human Rights Studies Centre of Mofid University; Judiciary's Education Department, Islamic Human Rights Commission, the Bar Association; Iranian Journalists Union Association; Shahid Beheshti University Centre for Human Rights Studies; Tehran University Centre for Human Rights Studies, conducted a number of activities towards the aims of the project document, setting up a legal clinic, translation of legal and judicial texts, holding of human rights courses and workshops in Tehran and the provinces.

**Conclusions:** Presentation of legal counseling for those that needed it, increased awareness through training of 300 individuals directly and preparation and publication of human rights books.



**Related recommendations:**

- Continue its capacity-building programmes related to all aspects of human rights (Zimbabwe);

**Activity:** United Nations System and its Activities in Iran Education Course

**Objective:** Increase the awareness of students to the function of the United Nations in Iran

**Addressees:** law and political sciences university students

**Brief description:** This course was held with the aim of the participants to have access to a view on the theoretic and practical dimensions of UN agencies. This law and political sciences students course was held in May 2009 with the speeches of 18 representatives from UN agencies in Iran.

While learning about the functions of the UN technical agencies in Iran the participants discussed and debated UN programmes and activities in Iran.

**Conclusions:** Increase of the interaction of NGOs with UN agencies in Iran

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to respect international humanitarian law and international law in general (Kuwait);
- Strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and ensure that the rights of all those involved in human rights advocacy are protected under Iranian law, in accordance with its obligations under ICCPR, and that freedom of association is enshrined in Iranian law (Ireland);

**Activity:** Human Rights Education Course for the Provinces

**Objective:** Promotion of human rights conditions in the country

**Addressees:** Civil society activists in Ilam, Fars and Mazandaran Provinces

**Brief description:** Human rights education course in the provinces in 2008 was one of the main activities of the ODVV for the promotion of human rights in the country. The first phase of the project was the needs assessment of the provinces and the second phase was the capacity building of the NGOs of these provinces. Ilam, Isfahan, Fars and Mazandaran provinces were selected for this project

**Conclusions:** Awareness raising of 90 members of NGOs through these trainings in the abovementioned provinces.

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to respect international humanitarian law and international law in general (Kuwait);

**Activity:** Humanitarian Law Education Course

**Objective:** Capacity building of NGOs in provision of trainings and humanitarian assistance and empowerment of NGOs

**Addressees:** Nongovernmental organizations

**Brief description:** Humanitarian law education project was conducted in 2008 and 2009 with the assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Fars, Ardebil and Mazandaran Provinces took part in this project.

These courses included conferences and workshops on capacity building of NGOs, they were held with the presence of 300 members of NGOs and GOs on the subject of introduction to humanitarian law, and a workshop was held on the subject of financial funding resources for NGOs.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of 90 NGOs from international humanitarian law

**Related recommendations:**

- Strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and ensure that the rights of all those involved in human rights advocacy are protected under Iranian law, in accordance with its obligations under ICCPR, and that freedom of association is enshrined in Iranian law (Ireland);

**Activity:** NGOs Colloquium Sitting on the Human Rights UPR

**Objective:** Increase effectiveness of the role of NGOs in international conferences, especially the Human Rights Council

**Addressees:** Nongovernmental organizations

**Brief description:** This colloquium sitting was held February 2012 by the ODVV. The subjects of discussion included the Human Rights Council, the UPR mechanism, and also the role that Iranian NGOs can have in this process, by experts, and with the participation of 25 representatives from NGOs.

Human Rights Council review mechanisms and the Council's recommendations given to Iran were reviewed, the sitting ended with a Q&A session with the participants on how to prepare reports with attention to recommendations and replies to ambiguities.

**Conclusions:** Awareness raising of NGOs for effective presence in international arenas.

**Related recommendations:**

- Strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and ensure that the rights of all those involved in human rights advocacy are protected under Iranian law, in accordance with its obligations under ICCPR, and that freedom of association is enshrined in Iranian law (Ireland);

**Activity:** Prevention of the Passing of the Draft Bill on the Founding and Activities of Nongovernmental Organizations

**Objective:** Promotion of the status and position of NGOs

**Addressees:** Governmental departments and insitutions.

**Brief description:** The draft bill on the establishment and activities of NGOs has been stopped by the Islamic Parliament. The proposed legislation at the Islamic Parliament brought about huge reactions of NGOs. These organizations held numerous technical sittings and meetings with members of parliament and relevant authorities to discuss the proposed legislation. While welcoming the advancements made towards the lawfulness of civil society activities in the form of a specific law for these organizations, NGOs also saw several faults and problems in this draft bill, and made lots of efforts to convey these problems to relevant authorities, the outcome of which was the suspension of the bill from being legislated.

With the cooperation and assistance of a number of university academics and NGOs experts the ODVV held several technical sittings in which the proposed bill was reviewed and debated. According to these reviews, the problems and faults of the draft law was reviewed in two general and specific levels, and the conclusions of these reviews were handed to relevant authorities. The ODVV along with other NGOs, shall continue in the future to help improve the contents of this bill. It must be said that Iranian NGOs welcome the legislation of a comprehensive and suitable NGOs bill which would replace the existing regulations the Islamic Parliament. Therefore they believe that the law must be in proportion to the dignity of the people of our beloved country, and to assist the development of the people and creation of necessary impetus.

Meanwhile the founder of the NGOs Faction in the Parliament Zohreh Elahian, and an opponent of the contents of the draft bill, believes NGOs are the technical participation of the people and must be strengthened. She believes that when word has been of shrinking the government, the basis for handing over matters must be provided. This point has been very marginal in the draft bill, but instead the supervision aspects on these participations has been highlighted.

Therefore we also agreed for the proposal to remain idle, so that it is reviewed and reassessed, and with the opinions of the NGOs themselves and with the focusing of the support of these organizations for the draft to be written and brought to the

parliament. We believe that the nation's house (parliament) which is the place where the representatives of the people come together who must be able to be bases for NGOs. Effective communication must be established to the extent that the technical link communication of NGOs with the parliament be witness to the promotion of the quality of laws. In fact NGOs are a communications bridge between the people and parliament and experts and parliament. We ask the Parliament's Research Centre to review this draft bill and the existing law and I hope that a draft will be ratified by the parliament that from the outset has been set with the viewpoints of NGOs.

Studying the process of this bill from its proposition in the Islamic Parliament till its suspension, it can be said that NGOs have an influential role in the highest sectors of society. The studying of this draft bill by NGOs, the holding of consultative sittings between governmental and nongovernmental organizations, the reflection of the views of these organizations in the media and ultimately the halt in the legislation of this bill, in order to make some amendments following pressures by NGOs, all indicate the capability of these organizations to express their views and implement their demands within the legal structure of society, which shows the continued development of NGOs.

**Conclusions:** Increase in NGOs influence in the country's decision making process

**Related recommendations:**

- Strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and ensure that the rights of all those involved in human rights advocacy are protected under Iranian law, in accordance with its obligations under ICCPR, and that freedom of association is enshrined in Iranian law (Ireland);

**Activity:** Capacity Building of NGOs Project

**Objective:** Capacity building of NGOs for effective presence in international arenas, trust building, and participation of NGOs for common fields activities

**Addressees:** Nongovernmental organizations

**Brief description:** From 2002 continually till 2011 for an answer to the existing training needs of NGOs and preservation of the role of the ODVV as a capacity building NGO, the ODVV has been holding these annual education courses for NGOs. In each course 30 NGO representatives have taken part. The workshops held are as follows:

- 1 – Introduction to Project Formulation Methods
- 2 – Report Formulation (for UPR on Iran)
- 3 – Introduction to Facilitation Methods
- 4 – CV Writing
- 5 – Financial Resources Funding
- 6 – How to get Consultative Status to ECOSOC
- 7 – Strategic Planning in NGOs

**Conclusions:** Empowerment of NGOs and increased capacity for their presence in national and international arenas.

## **Addendum 2**

### **Correct Judicial Process**



**Related recommendations:**

- Take measures to ensure an effective and impartial judicial system, in conformity with ICCPR is guaranteed (Netherlands);
- Guarantee, in compliance with its obligations under ICCPR, the effective independence of the procedures and administration of justice, restricted emergency legislation, adequate protection for human rights defenders and political opposition members, and the effective guarantee of freedom of expression and opinion and freedom of religion and belief (Chile);

**Activity:** Human Rights in the Administration of Justice – A Manual on Human Rights for Judges, Prosecutors and Lawyers Book (Translated into Farsi)

**Objective:** Increase awareness and capacity building of Iranian judges, lawyers and jurists

**Addressees:** Iranian judges, lawyers and jurists

**Brief description:** The Human Rights in the Administration of Justice – A Manual on Human Rights for Judges, Prosecutors and Lawyers Book was translated into Farsi in 2009 for the purpose of the awareness and capacity building of Iranian judges, lawyers and jurists in two volumes and 1100 pages, and was distributed.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of human rights and the neutrality of the justice system in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

**Related recommendations:**

- Explore the possibility of undertaking a comprehensive study on the positive implications of the implementation of a legal system based on civil and law, and share its experiences and best practices in that regard (Malaysia);

**Activity:** Colloquium Family Counselors with the Justice System Sitting.

**Objective:** Increase the capacity of the family institution and the justice system

**Addressees:** psychology experts (master of science)

**Brief description:** The Colloquium Family Counselors with the Justice System Sitting was held in 2008 following the holding of the Comprehensive Education of Family Court Counselors in Tehran Province Justice Department. In this sitting 45 psychology experts who in the frame work of the Comprehensive Education of Family Court Counselors project in the two institutions of the family and justice system, were trained for 200 hours in necessary technical knowledge by the ODVV, alongside a number of course tutors, and experts in the field of sociology, with justice department officials.

**Conclusions:** Presence of psychologists in courts.

**Related recommendations:**

Explore the possibility of undertaking a comprehensive study on the positive implications of the implementation of a legal system based on civil and Islamic law, and share its experiences and best practices in that regard (Malaysia);

**Activity:** Family Court Counselors Project

**Objective:** Help a major section of plaintiffs in the justice system

**Addressees:** Plaintiffs at family courts

**Brief description:** This project was held in 2007 with the aim of helping a major section of plaintiffs in the justice system. The project was in four parts. The first and second parts were held in 2006 and the third and fourth parts were done in 2007.

1 – Research: the details of the function process in family courts were studied by a university team.

2 – Training: education workshops for family court counselors were held for a group of psychologists, social workers and NGOs consultants. The trained individuals spent a period of three months as a pilot project in courts and were under the supervision of the management of the Family Court Complex, and the assistance of family courts experts they provided assistance to women.

3 – Evaluation: This project was evaluated through a three day workshop with the counselors, and one workshop for the benefactors, and numerous sittings with the Family Court Complex officials.

4 – The family court counselors received training in Nottingham University (UK) from 30 June till 14 June 2007, for the purpose of gaining experience and scientific training. During the course the participants made visits to the British Family Court, a Safe House, and civil society institutions. This training was done for the purpose of the continuation of the work of the counselors.

**Conclusions:** Drop of 32 percent in divorce cases sent to the courts.

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to provide and improve human rights education and training for judicial and law enforcement officials (Pakistan);
- Take measures to ensure an effective and impartial judicial system, in conformity with ICCPR is guaranteed (Netherlands);
- Guarantee, in compliance with its obligations under ICCPR, the effective independence of the procedures and administration of justice, restricted emergency legislation, adequate protection for human rights defenders and political opposition members, and the effective guarantee of freedom of expression and opinion and freedom of religion and belief (Chile);

**Activity:** Introduction to International Human Rights Procedures for Tehran Province Justice Department Judges Education Courses.

**Objective:** Awareness of judges to international human rights principles

**Addressees:** Tehran Province Justice Department

**Brief description:** As a member of the civil society which takes steps towards the realisation of all rights, and promotion of human rights culture, in view of the fundamental importance of the development of the fair trial process within the Judiciary, particularly among judges, with the cooperation of top lecturers from Tehran University, Qom Mofid University and UNFPA, in 2005 the ODVV held a series of Colloquiums with judges of Tehran Province Justice Department on international human rights principles and procedures. These courses were as follows:

a) Education courses for those group of Tehran Province Justice Department that while serving as judges they are spending time in the Education Centre of Tehran Justice Department.

b) Education course for judges of Family Court

Over a two month period the following subjects were discussed between university lecturers and the Tehran Province Justice Department judges:

- Theoretic basis of human rights.
- Review of international human rights documents and treaties.
- Civil and political rights
- Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- International and regional human rights protection mechanisms
- Women and children's rights.
- Fair trial from human rights aspects.
- Islam and human rights
- Review of Islamic Republic of Iran's situation with regards to international human rights principles and procedures

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of the addressees to human rights issues.

**Related recommendations:**

- Guarantee, in compliance with its obligations under ICCPR, the effective independence of the procedures and administration of justice, restricted emergency legislation, adequate protection for human rights defenders and political opposition members, and the effective guarantee of freedom of expression and opinion and freedom of religion and belief (Chile);
- Continue to provide and improve human rights education and training for judicial and law enforcement officials (Pakistan);

**Activity:** Human Rights Education Course for Judicial Science Faculty Students.

**Objective:** Awareness of judicial science students to human rights debates.

**Addressees:** Judicial science students

**Brief description:** In view of the necessity for the introduction of Judicial Science Faculty students to different human rights institutions, with the cooperation of international organizations and the Judicial Science Faculty, in 2004 the ODVV held this course. This education course was conducted in two stages. The first stage was held in Tehran Shahid Beheshti; Alame Tabatabaee; and Judicial Science Universities and was on the following subjects:

International human rights documents; international human rights protection mechanisms; right to fair trial; human rights basics; human rights generations; obstacles in the way of application of human rights; humanitarian law; and children's rights.

The second stage of these courses was set to coincide with the CHR annual sessions that were held in Geneva in March/April of each year. A number of the individuals that attended these courses in Tehran, were selected for their language skills and overall achievements of the Tehran phase of the course, and accompanied the ODVV to Geneva, to gain first hand experience of the workings and mechanisms of human rights.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of the addressees to human rights principles

## **Addendum 3**

# **Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue its efforts to promote human rights in the economic, social and cultural fields (Sudan);
- Continue to take innovative measures to ensure that its development policies permit the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights in the country (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- Coordinate efforts in a manner that promotes the effective enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, and tackle obstacles in that regard (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya);

**Activity:** Commemoration of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

**Objective:** Increase awareness of economic rights

**Addressees:** All sectors of society

**Brief description:** This day is commemorated by the United Nations System each year. In 2007, the ODVV conducted a project with the participation of 40 schools in Tehran and 16856 students, and following this project, Iran joined this project. In the ceremony the Secretary General's message for the day was read by a representative of UNIC in Iran, and simultaneously at 8 in the morning the message was read to another 39 schools across Tehran.

**Conclusions:** Coordinated action of school students on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

## **Addendum 4**

## **Development**



**Related recommendations:**

- Continue efforts aimed at the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and achieve prosperity for the people, in particular by facilitating access for the population to the necessary health services (Qatar);
- Continue its efforts to promote human rights in the economic, social and cultural fields (Sudan);

**Activity:** Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Education Course

**Objective:** Raising the awareness of the participants to the MDG

**Addressees:** Schools headmasters/mistresses and teachers

**Brief description:** These courses were held between 2009-2011 with the cooperation of UNIC in Iran in three courses by the ODVV. In each of the courses which were held with the aim of increasing the awareness of the participants to the MDG 40 teachers participated. Experts from UN agencies in Iran that included: WFO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNAIDS, WHO, and UNFPA spoke about the importance of the MDG at national and international levels, and replied the participants' questions

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of 120 school teachers of the MDG.

## **Addendum 5**

### **Education**

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue its capacity-building programmes related to all aspects of human rights (Zimbabwe);
- Strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and ensure that the rights of all those involved in human rights advocacy are protected under Iranian law, in accordance with its obligations under ICCPR, and that freedom of association is enshrined in Iranian law (Ireland);

**Activity:** - Acquiring Consultative Status from ECOSOC Education Workshop

**Objective:** Promotion of the international credibility and capacity building of NGOs in international level

**Addressees:** Nongovernmental organizations

**Brief description:** This workshop was held in two periods in July and September 2010 with the participation of 50 NGO representatives. Scientifically and practically the participants were introduced to the NGOs Committee, ECOSOC and its duties, NGOs Liaison Office, the NGOs communications service, the concept and method in which consultative status is acquired, the conditions required for applying for consultative status, and various types of consultative status. The workshops finished with a Q&A session, and the participants received certificates of attendance.

**Conclusions:** Initial measures for 20 NGOs to get consultative status from ECOSOC

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue its capacity-building programmes related to all aspects of human rights (Zimbabwe);
- Continue to include human rights in school curriculums (Sudan);

**Activity:** - Introduction to the Concepts and Basics of Human Rights Education Project for Teachers

**Objective:** Raising of the awareness of teachers to human rights debates

**Addressees:** School teachers

**Brief description:** In 2008 ODVV held a series of education courses on the Introduction to the Concepts and Basics of Human Rights Education Project for Teachers. In each stage 30 teachers attended a workshop entitled “An Assessment of the Subject of Human Rights and It’s Present Status at the International Level”. The right to development, grave and systematic violations of human rights, the status of the Human Rights Council in the universality and the relativity of human rights and a number of punishments were discussed in this workshop

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of participating teachers of human rights

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue its capacity-building programmes related to all aspects of human rights (Zimbabwe);

**Activity:** - Empowerment of Human Rights NGOs Education Project

**Objective:** Increase the capacity of human rights NGOs

**Addressees:** Nongovernmental organizations

**Brief description:** For the purpose of the empowerment of human rights, the ODVV held empowerment education courses on human rights as follows:

- 1 – Introduction to UN Mechanisms Education Course
- 2 – MDG Education Course
- 3 – Human Resources Management Education Course
- 4 – Volunteers Management Education Course

**Conclusions:** Empowerment of human rights NGOs

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to promote human rights training for public officials and authorities (Plurinational State of Bolivia);

**Activity:** Human Rights Education Course for Governmental Organizations Experts.

**Objective:** Raise awareness of human rights towards its realisation.

**Addressees:** GO experts

**Brief description:** These courses were held in two periods in 2011. Sixty governmental organizations' experts were introduced to international human rights institutions, national and international human rights documents, the necessity for the observation and guarantee for the observation of human rights.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of the addressees to human rights principles

## **Addendum 6**

### **Women**

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to make progress in education and health care, with a particular focus on women and girl children (Bangladesh);
- Develop a legal framework for protecting and promoting the rights of women (Brazil);
- Adopt measures to guarantee women's equality under the law (Chile);
- Continue to improve its policies and programmes to advance the status of women and girls, and protect children, including those with disabilities (Indonesia);

**Activity:** - Community Based Awareness Raising on the Prevention of GBV Project

**Objective:** Prevention of GBV among Afghan refugees residing in Shahr-e-Rey

**Addressees:** 100 members of the Afghan community in Shahr-e-Rey

**Brief description:** The “Community Based Awareness Raising on GBV Prevention” project has been designed through the signing of a trilateral contract between the ODVV, UNHCR and BAFIA, to run for 4 months.

The main addressees of the project were legal Afghan community residing in Shahr-e-Rey, who through several sittings and education courses will be introduced to GBV prevention methods. Also for the purpose of cooperation with Shahr-e-Rey key officials, 20 governmental and nongovernmental and charity representatives shall participate in this project.

The implementation stages of the project include, coordination, information dissemination sitting, group discussion sessions, strategic planning education courses, reduction of GBV and introduction to facilitating methods.

**Conclusions:** Increased access to education for Afghans and reduction of violence



**Related recommendations:**

- Conduct a policy of zero tolerance towards the trafficking in women and girl children, child prostitution and the production of pornography involving children (Germany);

**Activity:** - Commemoration of the International Day in Memory of Victims of Trafficking

**Objective:** Raising public awareness on the prevention of human trafficking, the negative and unconventional aspects of trafficking

**Addressees:** Lecturers, students, GOs and NGOs

**Brief description:** This commemoration took place in the form of a technical sitting by the ODVV and the International Advanced Studies Centre of the Law and Political Sciences Faculty of Tehran University in December 2010, at the International Advanced Studies Centre.

A number of experts, students and NGOs in this sitting, whose aim was to raise public awareness on human trafficking prevention, and its negative proportions.

The following subjects were reviewed in this sitting: human trafficking, the history of human trafficking, the background and proportions of trafficking in women, the link between trafficking in women and slavery, causes and challenges, cultural and social solutions.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness on the subject of human trafficking

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to improve its policies and programmes to advance the status of women and girls, and protect children, including those with disabilities (Indonesia);
- Step up efforts to enhance the participation of women in all spheres of socio-economic life, in keeping with the progress made in women's education (Bangladesh);

**Activity:** - Preparation and publication of the Beijing+15 book.

**Objective:** Increase in women's participation in various social, economic and political spheres

**Addressees:** Society

**Brief description:** This 263 page book was published coinciding with the International Women's Day (8 March).

This book which is the national report on the improvement of women in the Islamic Republic of Iran, which is from women's NGOs perspective, was compiled with the cooperation of the Communications Network of Women's NGOs and the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence.

Parts of the book include which a review by women's NGOs in Iran states: women in the world particularly in developing countries are suffering pains which are as a result of conflicts between their individual role in the family and society, the result of this situation is not necessarily instability in daily lives and normal relations, but the existing interaction between multiple identities from one hand and cultural clashes resulted by globalisation, bring about new crises for women, the solutions for which can only be found in morality and religion. We hereby declare that the establishment of stability among multiple identities and confrontation with damages and crises that are caused by economic and cultural globalisation can be fulfilled by getting incentive from religious and natural laws.

**Conclusions:** Reflection of women's participation and actions in different fields

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue efforts to develop education, particularly in the rural parts of the country, with them participation of the private and public sectors and nongovernmental organizations, with a view to reducing poverty through employment opportunities and the strengthening of human resources (Kyrgyzstan);
- Continue to make progress in education and health care, with a particular focus on women and girl children (Bangladesh);

**Activity:** Community Based Awareness Raising in the Prevention of GBV Project

**Objective:** Strengthening of the family institution among Afghan nationals

**Addressees:** Afghan men and women refugees

**Brief description:** Following the success of the “Promotion of Community Based Awareness in the Prevention of GBV” project among Afghan residents of Shahr-e-Rey which was held with the support of UNHCR and BAFIA in 2010, the “Strengthening of the Family Institution and Prevention of Violence” project for Afghans in Semnan’s Afghan refugee camp began in July 2011.

The project was held by the ODVV with the cooperation of UNHCR in Iran and the BAFIA and with the aim of strengthening of the family institution for Afghan refugees, in four stages and with the participation of 236 men and women. The following is a brief report of the project.

The project was held in four stages which were: Evaluation of location and situation assessment meeting, Training of local representatives (observers), Training of peer trainers, Fourth stage: Refreshing sessions.

The training subjects which were taught to all in workshop and participation method were as follows:

- Definition of the basic concepts of violence against women and child abuse
- The necessity to prevent violence against women and child abuse on the basis of Islamic texts.
- The necessity for implementation of prevention of violence against women and child abuse select programmes.
- The roots and influential factors in the occurrence of violence against women and child abuse.
- Repercussions and effects of violence against women and child abuse.
- Fundamental rights and life skills (being daring and saying no, confronting violence, facing up to anxieties and stresses and communications skills and expressing feelings).
- Parental skills education for the prevention of occurrence of violence against women and child abuse.

**Conclusions:** 236 Afhan nationals trained in Semnan Province

**Related recommendations:**

- Develop a legal framework for protecting and promoting the rights of women (Brazil);

**Activity:** Commemoration of International Day of Families

**Objective:** Strengthening of the family institution

**Addressees:** GOs and NGOs representatives

**Brief description:** The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence held a conference on the occasion of the International Day of Families entitled the “Review of Today’s Situation of the Family in Iran and the World” with the global “Confronting Family Poverty and Social Exclusion”. Cooperating in the holding of the event were UNIC, UNA-IRAN and the Family Planning Association.

The conference was held on 16 May with the aim of strengthening the family’s foundation with the presence of experts in the field, members of university science groups and 40 family experts and activists in the governmental and nongovernmental sectors, in the conference hall of UNIC in Tehran.

The conference started with the reading of the UN Secretary General’s message for the day. This was followed by a number of experts who gave speeches on the following subjects: the basics of strengthening of the family foundation in the Islamic Legislation, the Situation of British Families and their problems, the Causes of Family Damages in Iran and the World, and the Glass Member of the Family, Family Damages and End of the Dialogue Era.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of the participants in the strengthening of the family institution

**Related recommendations:**

- Develop a legal framework for protecting and promoting the rights of women (Brazil);

**Activity:**

Commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

**Objective:** Development of culture of non-violence in various forms

**Addressees:** GOs and NGOs

**Brief description:** As human rights NGO, the ODVV pursues to have a share in the realization of all human rights, from human dignity teachings. For the purpose of the expansion of a culture of non-violence, in all its forms, with the cooperation of UNIC in Iran, the ODVV held a commemoration ceremony for the day.

The commemoration ceremony of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women was held on 23 November 2011 at the ODVV conference hall with the participation of 50 experts and academics and governmental and nongovernmental experts.

Following the reading of the UN Secretary General's message for the day which was read by UNIC representative in Tehran, this was followed by a discussion on "psychoanalysis of domestic violence, profiling of the victims and the perpetrators". This was followed by a workshop entitled "Education of Avoiding Violent Behaviour Strategies". The workshop dealt with the psycho-social profiling of violence against women, different types of violence, upbringing strategies, recognition strategies, and how to confront with the violent individual.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of women's rights

**Related recommendations:**

- Explore the possibility of undertaking a comprehensive study on the positive implications of the implementation of a legal system based on civil and Islamic law, and share its experiences and best practices in that regard (Malaysia);
- Take measures to ensure an effective and impartial judicial system, in conformity with ICCPR is guaranteed (Netherlands);
- Develop a legal framework for protecting and promoting the rights of women (Brazil);
- Adopt measures to guarantee women's equality under the law (Chile);
- Continue to improve its policies and programmes to advance the status of women and girls, and protect children, including those with disabilities (Indonesia);

**Activity:** Holding of the International Conference on Women's Rights in the Judicial Justice Process

**Objective:** Promotion of the role of women judges in the trial process and issuing of sentences, promotion of women's capacities and presentation of practical solutions for furthering access to justice and transfer of beneficial international achievements in the judicial justice process for further realization of women's rights.

**Addressees:** Judges and jurists

**Brief description:** In cooperation with the High Council of Human Rights of the Judiciary, the Tehran General and Revolutionary Court Prosecutor's Office, the General Justice Department of Tehran, Charitable Institute for the Protection of Social Victims and UNA-Iran, the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence held the Women's Rights in the Judicial Justice Process 2-day international conference.

Jurists, lawyers, judges and prosecutors from Pakistan, Bahrain, Iraq, Sudan, Australia, Italy, and Switzerland attended the conference and took part in the panels that were held, presenting their presentations on specific women's legal and social issues and also activities and achievements from their countries.

Among the over 300 participants of the conference were dignitaries from foreign missions, and representatives from UN Agencies in Iran. These included, dignitaries from the Australian, Austrian, British, French, Danish, Russian, Brazilian, Switzerland, Italian, Belgian, Libyan, Egyptian, and Mexican Embassies, and UNODC, UNIC, UNHCR and UNFPA.

The objectives of this conference included: the promotion of women's capacities; judicial protection and support for women; and the presentation of practical solutions for furthering access to justice; and also the exchange and transfer of international

accomplishments and achievements in the judicial justice process for the realisation of women's rights.

The two-day event was received very positively, especially with its extensive coverage by Iranian news agencies and media.

### *Conference: Day One*

The first day of the Conference included 5 roundtables on technical women's rights subjects the first roundtable was on the subject of women's rights in the judicial justice process and the following subjects were discussed by the panellists: women's rights in the judicial justice process, the UNFPA and women's rights.

The second roundtable was on the subject of women's role in the judicial justice mechanism, and the following subjects were discussed by the panellists: women judging in the judicial system, the role of women in the experience of Italian criminal law, capacity building for the effective presence of women judges in courts.

The third roundtable was on the subject of the review of legal capacities in relation to women's rights and the following subjects were discussed by the panellists: the legal measures for women's access to judicial justice in the Iranian legal system, women's status in the Constitution of Iran, women's rights in the judicial justice process.

Following the lunch and prayers intermission, the fourth roundtable was held on the subject of interaction of executive and judicial institutions in women's access to judicial justice, and following subjects were discussed by the panellists: the role of the police in women's social safety, women's conditions in Iranian prisons – human rights perspective, the role of the Welfare Organization in interaction of executive and judicial institutions in women's access to justice, women victims of crime in criminal prosecution and jurisdiction of Iran.

The final roundtable of the day was on the subject of the role of courts in women's access to justice, and the following subjects were discussed by the panellists: the role of courts in providing women access to justice in Pakistan, women's practical problems in family courts in Iran, the proposal for Islamic Day for the fight against violence against women.

### *Conference: Day Two*

Day two of the conference started with the first roundtable on women's role in the judicial justice process, and the following subjects were discussed by the panellists: report of the first day events and conclusions, Mr. Alireza Taheri, the ODVV director presented a brief report of day one's events. The next speaker was the Judiciary's First Deputy and was followed by the director of the Centre for Women and Family Affairs speech.

The second roundtable was on the subject of women's role from Islamic



jurisprudence perspective, and the following subjects were discussed by the panellists: women from Shia jurisprudence, solution principles in the Islamic legal system and its role in solving women's issues, the new understanding of Alqwan.

After the morning refreshments interval, Minister of Health, gave a speech on the rights of access to health in the judicial justice process. This was followed by the third roundtable which was on the subject of human rights – women's rights and the following subjects were discussed by the panellists: the comparison of the practical concept of justice in the Islamic and secular basis, the necessity to recognise self defence of women victims of violence in courts, judicial justice for women – between rights in laws and rights in minds.

Following the lunch interval, the fourth roundtable was on criminal justice protection for women's rights, and the following subjects were discussed by the panellists: criminal justice protection for women, legal, judicial, women's rights and judicial justice in Iraq, human rights horizons in fair trial.

The fifth and final roundtable of the 2-day conference was on the subject of the role of the media and NGOs in improvement of judicial justice and the following subjects were discussed by the panellists: women NGOs history in Iran, the connection between women judges and women's issues. The final speaker was the representative from the Culture and Islamic Guidance Ministry

During the closing ceremony the chairman of the 2-day event roundtables the education deputy of Tehran Province Justice Department read the conference final statement.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness and exchange of experiences in the role of women in the judicial justice process



**Related recommendations:**

- Bring its national legislation into conformity with international obligations on women's rights, and to follow the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, as well as guarantee the safety of advocates for gender equality (Estonia);

**Activity:**

Strengthening of the Family with a Stress on the Reduction of GBV Project

**Objective:** Reduction of different types of GBV in families

**Addressees:** Tehran and provincial GOs and NGOs

**Brief description:** This project was conducted by the ODVV with the cooperation of UNFPA in Iran in two stages, with the aim of the reduction of all forms of Gender Based Violence (GBV) within families. The first stage is the research studies and the second stage is the pattern design and the test implementation within society.

The first stage has been set into five general groups which are: 1 – Designing and holding of research workshops and technical sittings with the psychological sociological, legal, cultural, religious and economic subjects; 2 – Setting theoretical frameworks that determine violence in the family (review of GBV concepts and theories); 3 – Extraction of the data from the carried out researches on GBV (study of the GBV data); 4 – Conducting comprehensive interviews with officials; 5 – General sum up of GBV in the family.

In the second stage of the project, Ardebil and Karaj provinces were selected as pilots, and with the cooperation of local governmental and nongovernmental organizations in these provincial towns, education workshops were held with the aim of capacity building. The basis for further cooperation and planning for further activities in the next year has been prepared.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of the addressees of the project on GBV issues.

**Related recommendations:**

- Conduct a policy of zero tolerance towards the trafficking in women and girl children, child prostitution and the production of pornography involving children (Germany);

**Activity:** Prevention of Trafficking in Women and Children Pilot Project

**Objective:** Increase awareness of the addressees to the various aspects of human trafficking

**Addressees:** GOs, NGOs, and ODVV honorary members

**Brief description:** This project began in 2006 with the cooperation of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) with the aim of raising the awareness of the participants with various aspects of human trafficking. The project concluded in 2007. various legal, psychological and social aspects of trafficking were reviewed by university scholars and researchers. The conclusion of the research is in the process of being published in a 300-page book that contains the definitions and concepts of human trafficking from past to the present, human trafficking from the statistical point of view, causes and challenges, solutions and suggestions.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of the addressees through publication of the Book Human Trafficking: Challenges and Prevention Methods

**Related recommendations:**

- Conduct a policy of zero tolerance towards the trafficking in women and girl children, child prostitution and the production of pornography involving children (Germany);

**Activity:** Human Trafficking: Challenges and Prevention Methods Book

**Objective:** Increase awareness of human trafficking towards its reduction

**Addressees:** GOs, NGOs, and institutions involved.

**Brief description:** This book which was a joint prevention of trafficking in women and children project with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is in 5 chapters on the following subjects: human trafficking in Iran and the world; definitions and concepts of human trafficking; human trafficking from past till present; consequences of trafficking; the statistical aspects of human trafficking; causes, challenges, solutions; opportunities.

For the first time in Iran in 2005-06 based on drawn up plans an index of existing resources (such as, books, thesis, articles, and research project), data was gathered on the aforementioned subjects. Another part of this project was the collection of international documents on the mentioned subjects that have been ratified by international conventions and treaties of the UN. The accumulated data from resources and human trafficking technical sittings are the basis of the economic, social, legal, psychological and media views of this book.

**Conclusions:** Increase in human trafficking and presentation of solutions studies resources

**Related recommendations:**

Develop a legal framework for protecting and promoting the rights of women (Brazil)

**Activity:**

Review of Islamic Law in the Elimination of Violence against Women Book

**Objective:** Reduction of GBV towards the promotion of women's rights

**Addressees:** Women's rights activists

**Brief description:** Review of Islamic Sharia with Regards to Elimination of GBV Book is the result of a research of the same title. In 5 chapters the book deals with the recognition of the concept and value, equality and difference between men and women, the concept and value recognition of violence, Islam and the elimination of violence. The book was published in 2009 English in 176 pages.

**Conclusions:** Shedding light on the lack of status of violence, such as domestic violence

**Related recommendations:**

- Bring its national legislation into conformity with international obligations on women's rights, and to follow the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, as well as guarantee the safety of advocates for gender equality (Estonia);
- Explore the possibility of undertaking a comprehensive study on the positive implications of the implementation of a legal system based on civil and Islamic law, and share its experiences and best practices in that regard (Malaysia);
- Take measures to ensure an effective and impartial judicial system, in conformity with ICCPR is guaranteed (Netherlands);

**Activity:** Review and Analysis of Laws, Regulations and Experiences of Courts in Controlling GBV Book

**Objective:** To find solutions for the reduction of GBV with utilization of laws and courts' experiences

**Addressees:** Those involved in the subject and managers

**Brief description:** Review and Analysis of Laws, Regulations and Courts Experiences in the Reduction of GBV is the result of a study of the same title. This book was prepared with the belief in the necessity to review violence against women and its legal factors. It was published in 2008 in 224 pages in English and is in two parts of family law and public law.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of the addressees in GBV reduction methods

## **Addendum 7**

## **Children**

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to implement measures aimed at further promoting and protecting children's rights, and intensify efforts to ensure further opportunities for access to higher education (Qatar);

**Activity:** Collection of Data on Street Children and Child Labourers Project

**Objective:** Identification, organization and improvement of the conditions of street children and child laborers

**Addressees:** street children and child laborers

**Brief description:** This project has been conducted with the cooperation of the Sociopathology Bureau of Tehran Mayor's Office. As the project implementing organization, the ODVV, with the cooperation of a number of NGOs and counselling centres.

To implement this project 250 surveyors with BS and MS in social work were selected and received necessary training to identify street children and child labourers and collect their data in the 22 districts of Tehran municipality. To this aim four educational and briefing workshops with university lecturers and experts from the ODVV.

The data was accumulated by the trained surveyors by way of face-to-face interviews and the filling of 112-question questionnaires.

The accumulated data was studied with survey computer software program and a comprehensive data bank of all of these children in Tehran was set up, and became the basis for making future decisions for the reduction of this social problem.

**Conclusions:** The data received was reviewed through statistics computer software and a comprehensive data bank of the details of Tehran street children and child laborers was compiled. This information was placed at the disposal of relevant departments and authorities for the purpose of the improvement of street children and child laborers and reduction of social damages.

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to implement measures aimed at further promoting and protecting children's rights, and intensify efforts to ensure further opportunities for access to higher education (Qatar);

**Activity:** Children: the Silent Victims of War Conference

**Objective:** Promotion of protective activities for children victims of war

**Addressees:** Jurists, psychiatrists, psychologists, governmental and nongovernmental experts, representatives of international organizations, number of university lecturers

**Brief description:** On 10 June 2008, this conference was held on the occasion of the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression by the ODVV and with the cooperation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Red Crescent Society in the ODVV conference hall. A large number of governmental and nongovernmental experts on children were in attendance of this one-day event. The conference was held with the speeches of the Communications Officer of ICRC, the Director General of the Red Crescent, head of UNICEF's Protection of Children Project, the director of the children and youths group of IRIB Channel 5, and a number of other university lecturers. Workshops were held on legal, psychotherapeutic and rehabilitation support for child victims of war.

**Conclusions:** Increased skills and capacity of the addressees in provision of rehabilitation and support services for children victims of war.



**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to implement measures aimed at further promoting and protecting children's rights, and intensify efforts to ensure further opportunities for access to higher education (Qatar);
- Conduct a policy of zero tolerance towards the trafficking in women and girl children, child prostitution and the production of pornography involving children (Germany);

**Activity:** Commemoration of International Children's Day "Violence-Free World Worthy of Children"

**Objective:** Raise awareness of the addressees towards children's rights, needs, and sensitization towards the vulnerability of children and promotion of the culture of rights of the child.

**Addressees:** University lecturers, municipal officials and experts, schools head masters/mistresses and teachers, and a number of students.

**Brief description:** In 2008 the World Free of Violence worthy of Children Conference was held on the occasion of Universal Children's Day, within the framework of the Cluster Project on the Promotion of Human Rights and Greater Access to Justice. This conference was held by the ODVV with the cooperation of Social Bureau of District 10 Municipality. In this conference the deputy of the Social and Cultural Affairs and the director of the Social Bureau of District 10 Municipality, ODVV senior advisor, and a number of university lecturers spoke about the Convention on the Rights of the Child in comparison with Islamic teachings and the Constitution, trafficking in children and the psycho-sociological profiling of vulnerable children.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of the participants towards the subject of rights of the child.

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue to implement measures aimed at further promoting and protecting children's rights, and intensify efforts to ensure further opportunities for access to higher education (Qatar);

**Activity:** Review of the Legal and Psychological Dimensions of Child Abuse.

**Objective:** Reduction of violence against children

**Addressees:** Psychologists

**Brief description:** This workshop was held by the ODVV in 2009 on the occasion of International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression. While presenting a definition of child abuse, various types, indexes and signs of child abuse and how to confront the problem were discussed.

**Conclusions:** Introduction of 40 psychologists to types of domestic violence especially neglect and presentation of methods to reduce violence against children.

## **Addendum 8**

### **Minorities**

**Related recommendations:**

- Guarantee the protection of the civil and political rights of all, particularly dissidents and members of minority groups (Chile)
- Continue its policy of promoting and protecting all rights of the members of recognized religious minorities, as an important step to provide cultural diversity in society and create opportunities for those minorities to preserve their identities; and, to that end, further ensure their political representation and promote their greater involvement in the planning and implementation of various projects aimed at providing financial assistance for their educational and cultural needs (Armenia);
- Share with regional and other interested countries its good practices regarding the protection of the cultural heritage of members of traditional minorities (Armenia);
- Take all measures necessary to ensure the protection of religious minorities, including implementing the recommendations on adequate housing put forward by the Special Rapporteur after his visit in 2006 (Denmark);

**Activity:** Human Rights Education Course for Religious Minorities

**Objective:** Promotion and protection of the rights of religious minorities

**Addressees:** Religious minorities

**Brief description:** Minorities rights is one of the examples of the challenges in human rights. Understanding this important issue, towards the promotion and protection of minorities rights, the ODVV held an education course for this sector, which included, Armenians, Assyrians, Zoroastrians, and Jews.

**Conclusions:** Introduction of the participants to the basics and history of human rights, Iran and international human rights documents, minorities rights within national laws, governance of the majority, minorities laws, and supportive campaigns for minorities rights (regional and international), genocide and protection of minorities in international documents.

## **Addendum 9**

# **Freedom of Religion**

**Related recommendations:**

- Respect the freedom of religion (Germany);

**Activity:** Holding a sidelines sitting on Islamophobia during the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council

**Objective:** Promotion of respect to freedom of religion

**Addressees:** NGOs

**Brief description:** The first sitting entitled Islamophobia and Human Rights was held in March 2011 on the sidelines of the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council in which approximately 90 people participated. The meeting was moderated by Dr. Alireza Deihim, and other panelists included Dr. Amir Saed from the University of Sunderland, England who spoke about the role of the media in the promotion of Islamophobia, and Dr. Mohammad Javad Javid from Tehran University who spoke about Islamophobia and the right to belief, and Dr. Stephan Sheehi from University of South Carolina who spoke about American Islamophobia as a cultural ideology

**Conclusions:** Promotion of mutual dialogue towards respect of freedom of religion

# **Addendum 10**

## **Prohibition of Torture and Bad Treatment**

**Related recommendations:**

- Take further steps to eliminate torture and other forms of ill treatment, and ensure an effective and impartial judicial system (Denmark);

**Activity:** Participation in the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) conference.

**Objective:** Efforts for the prevention of torture

**Addressees:** Relevant institutions and decision makers

**Brief description:** IRCT Members Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark

This two day meeting was held on 9-10 October 2010 at the Danish Medical Association with the participation of IRCT members from different countries.

The ODVV representative, representing the Middle East and North Africa Rehabilitation Centres for Torture Victims, participated in this meeting alongside two other members from the region.

The IRCT is a decision making body made up of 26 members from different centres throughout the world and has 3 independent legal experts. The main objective of the Council is to set and monitor the implementation of its policies and facilitation of the activities of this global network. The members are elected per region, and thus the aim of the members of this Council is to monitor the application of laws and policies of the international network in their regions. Also the members must identify and discuss the challenges and successes of their own regions.

While introducing the IRCT strategy framework for 2010 till 2014, existing issues and challenges were also reviewed. The representatives of each region presented a draft of their regional strategies in order to reach a single global strategy. Also during this meeting various working groups were formed. Following the conclusion of the two day meeting, on December 10 another sitting was held to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IRCT entitled: 25 Years of Torture Healing – Are We Ready to Assess Outcomes?

**Conclusions:** Increased interaction with other NGOs active in campaigns for the reduction of torture in lines for its prohibition



**Related recommendations:**

- Take further steps to eliminate torture and other forms of ill treatment, and ensure an effective and impartial judicial system (Denmark);

**Activity:** Participation and holding AMMAN Network of Torture Rehabilitation Centres in the MENA Region Conferences.

**Objective:** Empowerment of centres for the protection of victims of torture

**Addressees:** NGO members of the IRCT

**Brief description:** This sitting was held through the efforts of the Khiam Rehabilitation Centre (Lebanon) and IRCT in 18-22 October 2010 in Beirut Lebanon. As members of MENA and IRCT, ODVV representatives also participated.

The aim of this sitting which was held in two parts was educational and consultative, was for the empowerment of protection of torture/violence victims centres in preparing and implementing relevant projects and also exchange of information and the preparation of the draft IRCT strategy (with concentration on MENA region), which follows in brief:

Improvement of the quality of provided services, improvement of report writing, transforming of experiences and views of the participants, organizing of communications and links with governmental and nongovernmental partners, best management of projects (quality and quantity) and review of the organizational structure of the centres, financial resources management, administrative affairs, management structures and also issues regarding the addressees (torture/violence victims).

On the final day of the sitting, the Council's strategy was discussed and reviewed and in the end the draft strategy was stressed by all the members. This draft shall be presented to the Copenhagen meeting of the IRCT for final approval. This sitting also brought about a good opportunity for the MENA region centres to exchange views.

**Conclusions:** Increased interaction between NGOs and promotion of the capacity of these organizations to campaign for the ban of torture.

**Related recommendations:**

- Take further steps to eliminate torture and other forms of ill treatment, and ensure an effective and impartial judicial system (Denmark);

**Activity:** Review of the Dimensions of Torture in the Islamic Legal System, Domestic Iranian Laws and International Documents Book

**Objective:** Prohibition of torture

**Addressees:** Various sectors of society

**Brief description:** This book has been written in 6 chapters with the subjects of: definition of torture; the understanding of crime and criminalisation of torture; the review of the dimensions of torture in the Islamic legal system; review of the dimensions of torture in domestic laws; review of the dimensions of torture in international documents and conclusion; and prevention initiatives and measures. The book is currently under publication.

The contents of the book are the result of the reviewing of several domestic and international law documents which was done by researchers. The researching of this book was done by way of going to scientific and university centres, collection of scientific resources, documents and the assessment of all the data.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of torture cases and the ban of torture

**Related recommendations:**

- Establish effective complaint mechanisms for victims of torture (Czech Republic);

**Activity:** Psychotherapy of Torture Victims and Review of the Legal Dimensions of Torture Workshop.

**Objective:** Review of the legal dimensions of torture, increase capacity of experts for the provision of proper therapy and prevention of torture from occurring

**Addressees:** GO and NGO experts

**Brief description:** In June 2007, this workshop was held on the occasion of the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. Discussions such as the legal, sociological and psychological aspects of torture were reviewed in this workshop. The workshop was held with the attendance of forty human rights experts, governmental and nongovernmental representatives, and ODVV honorary members, with the aim of reviewing the legal dimensions of torture, increased empowerment of experts for the provision of proper treatment services, and prevention of torture. In the workshop it was suggested that judicial psychologists in the justice systems, and the presence of an attorney in all interrogations, and training of justice department employees.

**Conclusions:** Recommendation for the presence of judicial psychologists in the justice system, and the presence of legal counsel during interrogations and increased awareness of 40 human rights experts from governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

**Related recommendations:**

- Take further steps to eliminate torture and other forms of ill treatment, and ensure an effective and impartial judicial system (Denmark);

**Activity:** Translation and publication of the Istanbul Protocol

**Objective:** Increase awareness of international documents for the prevention of torture

**Addressees:** Scientific researchers, human rights activists, prison authorities

**Brief description:** Following a needs assessment on international documents regarding torture, the Istanbul Protocol was selected to be translated into Farsi, and for the first time a team of experts translated it into Farsi. This translation was made available to researchers, governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

**Conclusions:** Increased awareness of the addressees to torture related international documents

# **Addendum 11**

## **Dialogue among Civilisations**

**Related recommendations:**

- Continue, in view of its rich history, culture and tradition, its efforts and initiatives to promote dialogue among religions and civilizations, including by focusing on the theme of promoting and protecting human rights and a culture of peace (Malaysia);
- Continue its initiative on dialogue among cultures, in particular intercultural dialogue on human rights (China);
- Continue to promote initiatives on dialogue among cultures (Syrian Arab Republic);

**Activity:** Commemoration of the International Day of Peace

**Objective:** Promotion of culture of just peace as lasting peace

**Addressees:** GO and NGO representatives, university students, ODVV honorary members

**Brief description:** On Wednesday 21 September the ODVV held the “Fair Peace, Lasting Peace” seminar in commemoration of the International Day of Peace. This seminar was held with the cooperation of the Peace Museum in Tehran, ICRC, Red Crescent and UNIC in Tehran, Victims of Chemical Weapons Support Association and UNA Iran.

The participants included university science groups’ members and 40 representatives from governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

The ceremony the reading of UN Secretary General’s message for the participants were introduced to the “role of international law in international peace and security”, the “position of international crimes in international peace”, “peace and justice in Persian culture and literature”, “determination of the status of peace and justice from Islamic jurisprudence”, and “rights of Palestinians in Jerusalem and the fair peace paradigm”

**Conclusions:** Promotion of culture of peace through the publication of a book of collective of articles presented in the conference.