



The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

The National Centre for Human Rights

Achievements Report 2009

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1. Legislation, strategies and plans

In fulfilment of the objectives of the Centre — which include following up developments affecting national legislation relating to human rights and working towards its development in a manner consistent with the international conventions and standards binding upon Jordan — the Centre followed up work on the current national legislation, strategies and plans with the competent official authorities, as follows:

- Analysis and review of the Juveniles Law No. (24) of 1968 and preparation of a new draft law on the subject consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the international standards relating to juvenile justice.
- Participation in the analysis and review of the draft Child Law with a view to producing a modern law consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Participation in the enactment of a regulation giving effect to the Protection from Family Violence Law.
- Contribution, together with the Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities, to the formulation of the National Strategy for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities.
- Formation of a legal committee to incorporate the recommendations of the National Coalition for the reform of the legal framework of the electoral process into the law currently in force, with a view to producing a proposed new elections law.
- The Legislation Commission prepared an analytical study of the Crime Prevention Law, comprising an analysis of the articles of the law and the extent of their compatibility with the international standards on fair trial guarantees binding upon Jordan.
- Preparation of an analytical study of the Public Gatherings Law, comprising an analysis of the articles of the law and the extent of their compatibility with the international standards governing the right to freedom of assembly and association and with national standards; the study demonstrated the existence of numerous legal contraventions prejudicial to human rights.
- The National Centre for Human Rights — represented by the Commissioner General and the Head of the Follow-up and Termination of Abuses Unit — became a member of the National Committee for the drafting of the National Strategy to Combat Trafficking in Persons, and the Centre participated in the meetings convened for this purpose.
- Participation in the preparation of the National Strategy for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons.
- Participation in the preparation of the draft regulation on the shelter for victims of trafficking in persons.
- Participation in the preparation of a draft law amending the Correction and Rehabilitation Centres Law.
- Participation in the preparation of a draft Anti-Begging Law.
- Participation in the third working team for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

2. Protection of human rights and monitoring of violations

Monitoring of violations

During 2009 the National Centre for Human Rights monitored the human rights situation by carrying out a number of visits, conducting interviews and verifying the violations in respect of which complaints were received by the Centre or which were monitored through the media. The most significant monitoring carried out during the year was as follows:

- Monitoring of more than 156 cases of violation of the rights of persons with disabilities in various parts of the Kingdom, principally concerning: the right to personal liberty; the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the right not to be subjected to torture or to inhuman treatment; freedom from violence; equality before the law; the right to an adequate standard of living; the right to accessibility; the right to education; and the right to health care and rehabilitation.
- Obtaining statistics on the number of children of Jordanian women married to foreign nationals, which amounted to (84,181) cases according to the statistics of the Civil Status and Passports Department, in addition to monitoring the number of Jordanian women married to foreign nationals, which by the end of 2009 amounted to (64,323) cases. Fifteen (15) interviews were conducted with the target group in order to ascertain the causes of this phenomenon and its psychological and social effects upon those women and their children.
- Monitoring of cases of violations against the children of the Orphan Care Institution reported in the daily press, in order to assess the situation of the children in the institution.
- Field monitoring of certain reported cases of violation and their documentation in writing, such as the case of the severe beating of a child by the Criminal Investigation Department and the sit-in staged by the women workers of Al-Hussein Institution for the Care of Orphans.
- Field monitoring of the Anjara area, completion, analysis and documentation of (26) monitoring forms, within the framework of the work of the national team monitoring the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- Conducting (17) field visits to monitor violations of the rights of working children for the purpose of preparing a report on this phenomenon.
- Fact-finding in respect of the death of Syrian children working on farms in the Jafr area, and addressing the Prime Minister and the authorities concerned in this regard.
- Visit to the Rumaimeen area to examine the phenomenon of the spontaneous combustion of the ground, and submission of a special report on that visit.
- Visit to the Mazra'a area in Mafrq Governorate and monitoring of the causes of the spread of the "Aquabex" fly and its effects upon the health of the inhabitants of the area, preparation of a report thereon, and addressing the Prime Minister in this regard.
- Visit to the National Centre for Mental Health / Al-Fuheis Hospital and to Al-Karama Centre for Psychiatry.
- Visit to the National Centre for the Treatment of Addiction.
- Visit to the detention facility of the General Intelligence Department.
- Conducting (43) inspection visits to correction and rehabilitation centres, comprising: Juwaideh Correction and Rehabilitation Centre (men and women), Balqa Correction and Rehabilitation Centre, Qafqafa Correction and Rehabilitation Centre, Birain Correction and Rehabilitation Centre and Swaqa Correction and Rehabilitation Centre.
- Monitoring of the sit-in staged by the port workers in Aqaba; the Prime Minister and the authorities concerned were addressed and the situation of the workers was examined.
- Conducting seven visits to the Qualifying Industrial Zones (QIZ) to examine the conditions of those working therein.
- Visit to Juwaideh Correction and Rehabilitation Centre (men and women) in order to hear the problems of foreign workers and to seek solutions to them through coordination with the authorities and embassies concerned.

Complaints of human rights violations received by the Centre

The total number of complaints received by the Centre amounted to (573) complaints during 2009. The table below sets out those complaints in detail:

Right / subject of the complaint	No. of complaints	Closed with a satisfactory outcome	Closed without a satisfactory outcome	Outside the Centre's mandate	Under follow-up	Non-cooperation of the complainant	No violation established
Recognition as a person before the law (nationality)	34	2	12	—	19	—	1
Right to physical integrity	52	19	5	5	17	2	4
Right to freedom of residence and movement	60	22	7	5	19	3	4
Right to asylum	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Right to life	4	—	—	—	2	—	2
Right to liberty and personal security	51	16	3	6	21	—	5
Right to humane treatment	48	10	3	3	24	8	—
Right to work	71	33	5	3	22	5	3
Trafficking in persons	3	—	—	—	3	—	—
Right to social security	3	2	—	1	—	—	—
Right to hold public office	9	2	2	3	3	—	—
Rights of prisoners	17	6	—	1	9	—	1
Right to health	14	7	2	1	4	—	—
Right to education	10	4	—	1	5	—	—
Right to equality and non-discrimination	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
Right to a fair trial	53	8	10	9	14	5	7
Rights of women	21	9	2	2	8	—	—
Rights of the child	49	19	5	3	18	2	2
Rights of persons with disabilities	14	5	2	3	2	—	2
Family rights	15	5	3	1	4	1	1
Rights of juveniles	1	1	1	—	2	—	1
Right to an adequate standard of living	17	2	3	1	5	2	4
Right to housing and shelter	5	3	—	—	2	—	—
Right to freedom of opinion and expression	3	1	—	—	2	—	—
Right to property	3	1	—	1	1	—	—
Right to a sound environment	4	1	—	—	3	—	—
Right to join trade unions	4	2	—	—	2	—	—
Right of access to information	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Grand total	573	181	65	50	212	28	37
Percentage	100%	31%	11%	9%	38%	5%	6%

Requests for assistance received by the Centre

The total number of requests for assistance received by the Centre amounted to (301) requests during 2009. The table below sets out those requests in detail:

Right / subject of the request	No. of requests	Closed with a satisfactory outcome	Closed without a satisfactory outcome	Outside the Centre's mandate	Under follow-up	Non-cooperation of the complainant	No violation established
Recognition as a person before the law (nationality)	19	1	1	—	15	—	2
Right to freedom of residence and movement	74	16	13	5	36	2	2
Right to humane treatment	24	1	2	1	18	2	—
Right to liberty and personal security	27	2	3	2	18	1	1
Right to health	30	1	7	3	16	2	1
Right to work	37	9	5	4	19	—	1
Right to social security	7	—	1	1	5	—	—
Right to property	5	1	2	—	1	—	1
Right to housing	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
Right to an adequate standard of living	8	—	2	—	6	—	—
Right to a sound environment	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Rights of women	6	1	—	—	5	—	—
Rights of the child	4	—	—	—	4	—	—
Rights of persons with disabilities	11	2	1	—	7	—	—
Right to education	4	1	1	—	2	—	—
Rights of prisoners	4	3	—	—	1	—	—
Right to compensation	3	1	—	1	1	—	—
Right to found a family	4	—	—	1	3	—	—
Right to hold public office	4	—	—	—	4	—	—
Right to form trade unions	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Right to a fair trial	26	4	5	7	6	2	2
Grand total	301	43	43	25	170	9	11
Percentage	100%	14%	14%	8%	57%	3%	4%

4. Awareness and training

First: Training courses

Training of trainers course in the field of human rights for the residents of Gaza Camp / Jerash

In cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), the Centre implemented a training of trainers course in the field of human rights for a number of the residents of Gaza Camp in Jerash, in two phases: the first phase from 25/2/2009 to 4/3/2009 and the second phase from 12 to 19/4/2009.

Course on human rights at Amman Training College

In March the Centre organised a one-day training course on human rights for the male and female students of Amman Training College, which is affiliated to UNRWA. Twenty-five (25) students from various disciplines took part.

Course on human rights at Al-Balqa Applied University / Princess Rahma College

The Centre organised a two-day foundational training course at Al-Balqa Applied University / Princess Rahma College for a number of the University's students on 5–6/4/2009, dealing with human rights concepts, the most important international human rights standards and conventions, and human rights in the Jordanian Constitution.

Course on political parties and human rights

With the support of the Australian Agency for International Development, the Centre organised a course on political parties and human rights for the political parties in Jordan on 4–7 May 2009. Representatives of the Jordanian political parties took part in this four-day course. The course aimed to acquaint the participants with the international human rights standards and the right to form political parties and to join them, to discuss the political, cultural and legal challenges to the enjoyment of this right, and to build the capacities of the participants in the field of embedding human rights values in the programmes and work of the parties.

Course on refugee issues and human rights for Jordanian official institutions

In cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Centre held a training course in the field of refugee issues and human rights for representatives of the Jordanian official institutions, on 11–14/5/2009.

Two courses on the mechanisms for the protection of refugee women and children for Jordanian non-governmental organisations

In cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Centre held two training courses on the mechanisms for the protection of refugee women and refugee children; the first was held on 19–21/5/2009 and the second on 6–8/12/2009.

Course on human rights for members of the Islamic Action Front Party

The Centre organised a course on human rights for the members of the Freedoms Committee of the Islamic Action Front Party on 9–11/8/2009 at the headquarters of the Islamic Action Front Party. Twenty members of the Party took part in this three-day course. The course aimed to build the capacities of the participants in the field of the international human rights standards, in particular the principal conventions ratified by Jordan, in addition to familiarising them with the role and nature of the work of the National Centre for Human Rights.

Course on the mechanisms for promoting the right to form political parties and to join them

With the support of the Australian Agency for International Development, the Centre organised a course on the mechanisms for promoting the right to form political parties and to join them, for Jordanian civil society institutions, on 18–19/8/2009. Representatives of a number of civil society institutions and of the party press took part. The course aimed to build the capacities of non-governmental organisations and media professionals in the field of the international standards relating to the right to form political parties and to join them, and the role of non-governmental organisations and the media in advocacy for that right.

Course on the right to form political parties and to join them

Held in the period 12–13/10/2009, with the participation of 20 participants representing the various relevant Jordanian official bodies. The course aimed to raise the awareness of the participants in the field of the international standards relating to the right to form political parties and to join them and the mechanisms for promoting this right.

Courses on civil and political rights for Jordanian civil society organisations

Three (3) two-day training courses were held in October in the northern, central and southern governorates, targeting approximately 100 participants from political parties, associations and trade unions, in order to train them in the international human rights standards, in particular civil and political rights.

Second: Lectures and working papers

- Lecture on the position of the Centre concerning the reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 5/4/2009.
- Lectures to the Gendarmerie Forces and to the officers and personnel working in correction and rehabilitation centres, within the framework of the stadium security course organised by the General Directorate of the Gendarmerie in the period from 10/5/2009 to 2/7/2009.
- Lecture on “Jordanian legislation and efforts to promote and support the rights of the child”, 20/5/2009, at the invitation of the Jordanian Youth Cultural Society / Mafrag.
- Lecture on human rights concepts and the International Bill of Human Rights at the Northern Gendarmerie Directorate in Irbid Governorate, 16/6/2009.
- Lecture on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 10/7/2009.
- Lecture on the rights of inmates, within the ninth foundational course for the preparation of personnel of correction and rehabilitation centres, 11/8/2009.
- Lecture on the rights of the divorced woman under the Jordanian Personal Status Law, 22/9/2009.
- Lectures on human rights at the Royal Police Academy — Training and Development Centre, within the framework of the course for the preparation of personnel working in correction and rehabilitation centres.
- Lecture at Sandos International Academy on the rights of the child in accordance with the international human rights standards.
- Lecture entitled “Human rights in Iraq”, 17/11/2009, at the invitation of the Regional Centre for Human Security.
- Lecture entitled “Transparency and accountability”, 24/11/2009, at the invitation of the Regional Centre for Human Security.
- Delivery of (36) lectures to the officers of the Royal Police Academy at various times.
- A number of lectures to the Gendarmerie Forces and to the officers and personnel working in correction and rehabilitation centres.
- A number of introductory lectures on the Centre and on human rights delivered by the Commissioner General at a number of universities, civil society institutions, the Staff College and the Diplomatic Institute at various times.

Working papers

- Working paper on “The state of freedoms in the Middle East”, 2/3/2009, organised by Freedom House.
- Working paper on “Human rights in the Middle East region, with Jordan as a model”, 20/6/2009, organised by the Friends of the Jordanian Parliament Society.
- Working paper on “Good governance of the security sector in the Arab region: what role for civil society?”, 22–23/6/2009, organised by the Al-Mustaqbal (Future) Foundation.
- Working paper on “The protection of migrant workers”, 16/9/2009, organised by the Open Society Institute.
- Working paper on “The work of the National Centre for Human Rights in the protection of migrant workers”, organised by the International Organization for Migration, 5–7/10/2009.
- Working paper on “Enhancing the capacities of media professionals in the field of forced labour and trafficking in persons”, 8–12/10/2009, organised by the International Labour Organization.

- Working paper on “Forms of violation of the rights of migrant workers and the international labour standards”, 8/11/2009, organised by the Tamkeen Centre for Legal Aid and Human Rights.
- Working paper on “The Protection from Family Violence Law”, delivered at a seminar on “A safe life free from violence”, 25/11/2009.

Third: Seminars

Seminar on the Owners and Tenants Law and the right to housing

On 15/6/2009 the Centre held a seminar on the Owners and Tenants Law and the right to housing, in order to discuss the legal, social and economic dimensions of the amendment of the Law and to present the points of view of the parties to the lease contract (owner and tenant), while at the same time considering the international human rights standards governing the right to housing. The seminar was addressed by Mr. Osama Malkawi, Advocate, and Mr. Basel Bustami, Advocate, who dealt with the positive and negative aspects of the new Law, and by Mr. Talib Al-Saqqaf, Advocate, who spoke on the right to housing in accordance with the international human rights standards. The seminar was attended by a group of participants representing governmental bodies, civil society institutions, media professionals and independent lawyers. At the conclusion of the seminar a statement was issued setting out the principal conclusions reached by the participants, which was published in the various local newspapers.

Seminar on the draft Social Security Law

Held at the headquarters of the Centre on 21/7/2009, with a view to reviewing the grounds and justifications for the Law, in addition to the concerns and observations of workers and citizens generally regarding the draft Law, and the most important international standards relating to social insurance and the extent to which the Law observes those standards. The seminar was addressed by Dr. Ali Al-Dabbas, Legislation Commissioner at the National Centre for Human Rights, Mr. Jamil Abdel Rahim, Vice-President of the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions, and Dr. Omar Al-Razzaz, Director General of the Social Security Corporation. The seminar was opened by a keynote address of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Centre for Human Rights and was moderated by the Commissioner General for Human Rights.

Seminar to discuss the study on Jordanian political parties and human rights

Held at the headquarters of the Centre on 20/8/2009 under the patronage of the Commissioner General and H.E. the Minister of Political Development, Eng. Musa Al-Maaytah, in order to present and discuss the findings of the study on political parties and human rights. The seminar dealt with the reciprocal relationship between the dissemination of a human rights culture and the role of political parties.

Seminar entitled “Medical errors and the Medical Accountability Law”

Held at the headquarters of the Centre on 20/10/2009 with the participation of a number of representatives of governmental institutions and civil society institutions. It was addressed by a select group of specialists, namely: H.E. Dr. Zaid Hamzeh, former Minister of Health; Dr. Ahmad Al-Armouti, President of the Jordan Medical Association; Dr. Mo'men Al-Hadidi, Head of the National Centre for Forensic Medicine; and Dr. Fayyad Al-Qudah, Professor of Law at the University of Jordan.

Fourth: Workshops

Workshop on “Preparing a national human rights plan in Jordan”

In cooperation with the Arab Institute for Human Rights, the National Centre held a workshop in the period 10–12 November 2009, in partnership with the International Federation for Human Rights and the Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies and with the support of the European Commission. The participants — representing the various official bodies, political parties, human rights organisations, women’s organisations, national institutions and trade unions — assessed the human rights situation in Jordan in terms of achievements and challenges, and agreed upon a set of recommendations necessary for the promotion of human rights in the Kingdom. They emphasised the importance of a launching process for that plan, its adoption by the Government and the provision of the financial allocations necessary for its implementation. The participants further emphasised that the National Centre for Human Rights should assume the task of coordination and follow-up, through the formation of an initial follow-up team and subsequently a steering committee comprising all the relevant bodies to supervise its preparation.

5. Projects implemented by the Centre during 2009

Project: “A sound environment is a human right”

Project title	A sound environment is a human right
Period	1/5/2008 – 1/5/2009
Donor	Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)
Project value	The funding of this project amounted to JOD 52,528
Implementing partners	—
Objectives	1. Assessing the status of the right to a sound environment in the Kingdom and the extent of the harmonisation of national legislation with the international conventions and instruments in this field. 2. Building the capacities of those working in the various environmental sectors. 3. Identifying how to coordinate between donors and the bodies working in the field of the environment in order to safeguard the right to a sound environment.
Components	1. Conduct of a study by a researcher appointed by the National Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with two assistant researchers, the aim of which was to: depict the environmental situation in Jordan — the problems, the challenges and the national initiatives; analyse national legislation and the extent of its harmonisation with the international conventions; and evaluate the environment-related initiatives currently applied and set future strategies. 2. Organisation of three regional workshops (north, centre, south) in order to raise awareness of this right. 3. Issuance of publications in the form of three introductory leaflets.

Project: “An opportunity for all”

Project title	An opportunity for all
Donor	British Council
Period	March 2008 – March 2009
Implementing partners	The British Council, the Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities and the Landmine Survivors Network
Objectives	The project aims to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities on the basis of equality and equal opportunity.
Components	• Capacity-building courses for persons with disabilities and the organisations working with them, on the rights of this group, networking mechanisms and communication and advocacy skills. • Establishment of 5 committees on advocacy for the right to work of persons with disabilities, to emerge from the training courses in all governorates. • Organisation of an employment fair for persons with disabilities on the Arab Day for Disability, 13/12/2008, with a view to introducing the right to work of this group of society under the Jordanian laws. • Holding of a training of trainers course for a number of persons with disabilities. • Holding of a specialised training course for media professionals on press writing and the preparation of reports on the rights of persons with disabilities. • Organisation of a media awareness campaign on the rights of persons with disabilities, in cooperation with one of the media outlets, comprising advertisements, brochures and booklets. • The Network will provide technical, professional and material support to the organisations and individuals working in the field of the rights of persons with disabilities by making human, moral and material resources available to them.

Project: “Refugees and human rights”

Project title	Refugees and human rights
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Donor	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Period	November 2009 – December 2009
Implementing partners	—
Objectives	Raising the competence of governmental institutions and non-governmental organisations, providing them with information concerning refugees and creating a measure of acceptance of and empathy towards refugees on the part of those bodies.
Components	• Holding of two training courses for those working in the governmental apparatus in the field of “Refugee issues and human rights”. • Holding of two courses for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on the “Mechanisms for the protection of refugee women and children”. • Holding of a refresher course for the participants in the training of trainers course of the previous year. • Holding of a course for the non-governmental organisations concerned with refugee affairs. • Conduct of a study on the legal framework of asylum in Jordan, together with a seminar to examine the findings of the study, and its publication in a booklet.

Project: “Political parties and human rights”

Project title	Political parties and human rights
Donor	Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)
Period	1/2/2009 – 30/11/2009
Implementing partners	—
Objectives	Building the capacities of the members of the Jordanian political parties in human rights values and culture.
Components	The project consists of two principal pillars: • Preparation of a study on the extent to which the Jordanian parties adopt human rights principles in their activities and programmes, and publication of the findings of that study in Arabic and English. • Holding of a number of training workshops designed to: (1) build the capacities of the members of the Jordanian political parties in the field of human rights values and culture; and (2) build the capacities of the relevant government officials and of those working in the media sector and in non-governmental institutions on the right to form political parties and to join them.

Project: “Reform of the legal framework of the electoral process in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan”

Project title	Reform of the legal framework of the electoral process in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Donor	National Democratic Institute (NDI)
Period	From 1 June 2009 until 10 January 2010
Implementing partners	—
Objectives	Contributing to the amendment of the national legislation governing the electoral process so as to be consistent with the Constitution and with the international standards for free and fair elections as a fundamental human right, and activating the role of civil society institutions in participating in political and public life in the Kingdom.
Components	The project comprises the following activities: • Holding of a brainstorming workshop in which civil society institutions participated. • Assignment of a specialised committee of university professors to study the legislation governing the electoral process. • Holding of (12) round tables in all the governorates of the Kingdom. • Holding of three round tables in the north, centre and south of the Kingdom. • Holding of the concluding general meeting.

	• The stage of drafting a proposed set of amendments to be introduced to the Elections Law. • Submission of the drafts of the proposed law to the Government. • Implementation of a broad media campaign.
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Project: “Combating torture in Jordan (Karama)”

Project title	Combating torture in Jordan (Karama)
Donor	Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims (RCT), Denmark
Period	During the years 2008 – 2010
Implementing partners	The Ministry of Justice, the Public Security Directorate and Mizan Group (a Jordanian human rights organisation)
Objectives	Combating torture through the institutional capacity-building of law enforcement agencies, official State institutions and civil society organisations, the institutionalisation of cooperation among them and the proposal of legislative amendments.
Components	• Institutional capacity-building of law enforcement agencies for the prevention of torture and cruel and inhuman treatment and as to how to deal with such violations when they occur. • Institutional capacity-building of official State institutions and civil society organisations for the documentation of torture violations, the guarantee that perpetrators are referred to the judicial authorities, and the obtaining by the person whose rights have been violated of compensation in accordance with the international legal standards. • Working towards institutionalising cooperation and coordination between official institutions and civil society organisations and finding the means necessary to achieve the objective of combating torture. • Working towards amending and reforming national laws in a manner that achieves the combating of torture in Jordan.

Project: “Technical support provided to the National Centre for Human Rights and the Jordanian Judicial Institute”

Project title	Technical support provided to the National Centre for Human Rights and the Jordanian Judicial Institute
Donor	The European Union (EU)
Period	During the years 2008 – 2010
Implementing partners	ICON Institute Public Sector (Germany), the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
Objectives	Building the capacities of the judges working at the Jordanian Judicial Institute in the field of human rights, and building the capacities of those working at the National Centre for Human Rights in relation to the integration of the international human rights mechanisms into domestic legislation.
Components	• First component: strengthening the institutional capacities of the Jordanian Judicial Institute. • Second component: developing human rights training at the Jordanian Judicial Institute. • Third component: strengthening the institutional capacities of the National Centre for Human Rights. • Fourth component: strengthening the role of the National Centre for Human Rights in the field of awareness-raising and the promotion of human rights.

Project: “Protection of children from family violence”

Project title	Protection of children from family violence (an extension of the project on building the capacities of non-governmental organisations in the writing of the parallel report on the
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	implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the monitoring of the rights of the child in Jordan)
Donor	Save the Children / Denmark
Period	1/11/2009 – 31/1/2010
Implementing partners	The network of non-governmental organisations working in the field of the rights of the child (“Aidak Ma‘i” — Your Hand with Mine)
Objectives	1. Building the capacities of the network of non-governmental organisations and ensuring the continuity of its activities. 2. Introducing amendments to the organisational structure of the network. 3. Expanding the base of the network through the accession of further non-governmental organisations and civil society institutions, including youth organisations. 4. Seeking the participation of the private sector in contributing to the provision of a better future for children in the Kingdom.
Components	1. Nine (9) training workshops entitled “Protection of children from family violence”, to be held in the three regions (north, centre, south) at a rate of 3 workshops per region, addressed to parents, religious leaders and local community leaders with a view to raising their awareness of this subject. 2. Nine (9) training workshops entitled “Raising the awareness of children and young people of their rights”, to be held in the three regions (north, centre, south) at a rate of 3 workshops per region, addressed to children of the various age groups and to young people aged between 16 and 23. These workshops aim to raise the awareness of children and young people of their rights and to provide them with the knowledge and skills necessary to exercise them. 3. Four (4) field visits to the three regions (north, centre, south) with a view to expanding the base of the network. 4. A three-day training course on the preparation of shadow reports and good governance, addressed to the members of the network and to the staff of the National Centre for Human Rights.

6. Cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and international levels

First: At the national level

The National Centre for Human Rights signed a number of memoranda of understanding with a number of official bodies and non-governmental organisations, with a view to strengthening cooperation and coordination with those bodies for the protection and promotion of human rights in Jordan. The most important were the following:

- Memorandum of understanding between the National Centre for Human Rights and the Ministry of Education, aimed at expanding, developing and coordinating the bilateral cooperation relations between the Ministry and the Centre in the fields of human rights education, through the integration of human rights concepts into curricula and school textbooks, awareness-raising means, training, research and the holding of seminars and conferences. Particular emphasis is to be placed upon the training of teachers, supervisors and educational counsellors in human rights concepts, in addition to the inclusion of a course entitled “Education on human rights” within the pre-service teacher preparation courses. This was concluded on Wednesday 8/4/2009.
- Memorandum of understanding between the National Centre for Human Rights and the Public Security Directorate, signed on 15/4/2009, aimed at strengthening the aspects of cooperation and coordination in the field of the protection of human rights and the redress of violations and abuses, supporting the supervisory role of the National Centre, agreeing upon executive working mechanisms relating to the oversight of correction and rehabilitation centres, exchanging expertise, information and knowledge, and developing work through the implementation of training and rehabilitation processes and raising the competence of the two institutions in a manner consistent with the relevant international and national standards.
- Memorandum of understanding between the National Centre for Human Rights and the Jordanian National Commission for Women, signed on 12/5/2009, aimed at coordination between the two sides in the matter of the receipt of complaints relating to women. Pursuant to the memorandum, the Women’s Complaints Office — which commenced its work on 11/2/2009 — cooperates with the National Centre in the implementation and achievement of the common objectives and in the implementation of the activities and training programmes aimed at the promotion and protection of human rights. The agreement provides for the exchange of information in a manner enabling the two sides to establish a unified database on the problems and difficulties encountered by women, in order to study and analyse the patterns of complaints and to arrive at solutions for them.

Second: At the regional level

The National Centre for Human Rights signed memoranda of understanding with national human rights institutions in the Asia-Pacific region, with a view to strengthening cooperation and coordination for the protection and promotion of human rights, as follows:

Memorandum of understanding between the Jordanian National Centre for Human Rights and the Commission on Human Rights of the Republic of the Philippines

Signed on 6 August 2009 in Amman — Jordan, during the Fourteenth Meeting of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions. This agreement aims to:

- Facilitate the undertaking of joint projects to promote respect for human rights in both countries.
- Expand the scope of services and work for the protection of the rights of migrant workers and domestic workers, in addition to the dissemination of information relating to the rights of migrant workers.
- Cooperate with a view to mitigating violations of workers’ rights and finding the means that put an end to any prejudice to human rights.
- Continuously exchange ideas aimed at strengthening this cooperation agreement, and exchange the publications, studies and educational and media materials relating to human rights issued by the two parties.
- Exchange experts in the specialisations required for the educational programmes of each country according to its needs.

- Have the Jordanian National Centre for Human Rights extend its services to Philippine nationals in Jordan, and likewise have the Commission on Human Rights of the Republic of the Philippines extend its services to Jordanians in the Philippines.
- Engage the services and cooperation of all ministries/departments of foreign affairs and embassies within the two countries with a view to a concerted effort to protect and promote the rights of all, in particular the rights of migrant workers and domestic workers.

Memorandum of understanding between the Jordanian National Centre for Human Rights and the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights

Signed on 6 August 2009 in Amman — Jordan, during the Fourteenth Meeting of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions. This agreement aims to:

- Facilitate the conduct of joint projects that promote respect for human rights, and the implementation of projects by the parties to this agreement with or without the assistance of non-governmental organisations and civil society organisations in both countries.
- Give priority to work in the field of migrant workers, in particular domestic workers.
- Cooperate in the field of mitigating violations against migrant workers, and develop a mechanism for the elimination of contraventions in this field.
- Exchange ideas concerning future projects, whereby the two parties share best practices and exchange the materials and tools relating to the dissemination of a human rights culture.
- Exchange experts in the specialisations required for educational programmes according to their needs.

The Centre also organised two regional conferences during the year, as follows:

The original reads “during the year 2001”; the context and the dates given indicate that the year 2009 is intended.

The Fifth Meeting of the Arab National Human Rights Institutions, entitled “Elections in the Arab world and their impact on human rights”

The Centre organised, in the period 8–9/3/2009, the Fifth Meeting of the Arab National Human Rights Institutions under the title “Elections in the Arab world and their impact on human rights”. The conference addressed the following themes:

- The culture of elections and human rights in the Arab world.
- The legal guarantees of the right to free and fair elections.
- The integrity of the electoral process and good governance.
- The role of national institutions in monitoring and assessing elections.

The conference issued the Amman Declaration, which was transmitted to the relevant Arab and international bodies and to all the participating parties. The following Arab national human rights institutions took part in this meeting:

- The National Human Rights Committee in Qatar
- The Human Rights Commission in Saudi Arabia
- The National Council for Human Rights in Egypt
- The National Human Rights Commission in Mauritania
- The Advisory Council on Human Rights in Morocco
- The Independent Palestinian Commission for Human Rights in Palestine
- The Higher Committee for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in Tunisia
- The National Advisory Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Algeria

The meeting was also attended, in the capacity of observers, by representatives of the ministries of justice and the ministries of human rights of those Arab States in which no national human rights institution exists, by a delegate of the League of Arab States (the Permanent Arab Committee on Human Rights) and of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, by a number of international organisations working in the field of human rights in Jordan and abroad, and by representatives of the relevant Jordanian governmental institutions and of civil society institutions.

The Fourteenth Conference of the Asia Pacific Forum

- Under high Royal patronage, with the support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and in coordination with the Secretariat of the Asia Pacific Forum, the Jordanian National Centre for Human Rights hosted the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the national human rights institutions members of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Institutions working in the field of the protection and promotion of human rights, in the period 3–4/8/2009, and the Fourteenth Annual Conference of the Forum in the period 5–6/8/2009. The Jordanian National Centre for Human Rights assumed the chairmanship of the Forum from the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia for the following two years.
- The conference was attended by representatives of the national human rights institutions members of the Forum, namely: Jordan, Afghanistan, Australia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Palestine, the Philippines, Qatar, Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste, together with approximately (43) international, regional and national non-governmental organisations and representatives of the parliaments and/or governments of Australia, Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand, and the Commonwealth Secretariat.
- In the course of the two days 5–6/8/2009 the conference addressed the question of human rights and corruption and the necessity of undertaking practical measures to combat corruption by employing a human rights-based approach, and of increasing awareness of the close links between corruption and human rights and of the harmful effects of corruption upon the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.
- The participants further examined the subject of human rights and freedom of religion and belief and the need for dialogue within and across religions at the national, regional and international levels in order to strengthen mutual understanding and to protect and support human rights, and the valuable effect of a human rights-based approach in balancing competing underlying rights. HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal delivered an address on interfaith dialogue and the importance of dialogue in achieving coexistence among religions.

Third: At the international level

The Fourth High-Level Meeting of the Arab-European Human Rights Dialogue

Held at the Peace Palace in the city of The Hague — the Netherlands, between the eleventh and thirteenth of March 2009, and organised by the Secretariat of the Arab-European Dialogue, which comprises the National Centre for Human Rights, the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the Moroccan Advisory Council on Human Rights (the Secretariat of the Dialogue), in coordination with the Hague Process on Refugees and Migration and with the active participation of representatives of the national human rights institutions of Europe and of the Arab world, including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Qatar, Tunisia, Algeria, Mauritania, Palestine, Sweden, France, Germany, Norway, Ireland and Greece. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the Arab Regional Office of the International Labour Organization in Beirut, the European Regional Office of the International Labour Organization in Geneva, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute in Sweden, the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network, the Secretariat of the League of Arab States, the Ernst Group Bank in Switzerland, the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights, Novo Nordisk and the Human Rights Ambassador of the Netherlands.

The participants discussed the subject of the rights of migrant workers, and the meeting issued the Hague Statement on the human rights of migrant workers, which set out the role that national human rights institutions should play with a view to protecting and promoting the rights of migrant workers and the mechanisms that may be followed in this field.

The Fourth Arab-European Dialogue for National Human Rights Institutions

The Secretariat of the Arab-European Dialogue — comprising the Jordanian National Centre for Human Rights, the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the Moroccan Advisory Council on Human Rights — held a meeting in Amman / Jordan on 22/7/2009 with a view to examining the mechanisms for developing and activating the Arab-European Dialogue and ensuring its sustainability, and activating the role of the Secretariat in the management of the Dialogue and ensuring its continuity. The decisions taken were as follows:

- First: in the field of activating the role of the Secretariat in following up the recommendations issued by the high-level meetings, the participants agreed to prepare a questionnaire setting out the measures taken by the institutions members of the Dialogue in the field of the implementation of the recommendations

issued by the previous high-level meetings, and specifically in relation to the right of access to information. The questionnaires were prepared and sent to the institutions members of the Dialogue, and their receipt was expected by the end of 2009, whereupon their contents would be analysed by the Secretariat and a report prepared setting out the most important achievements, challenges and lessons learned, to be presented to the next high-level meeting scheduled to be held in Qatar on 8–10/3/2010.

- Second: in the field of training and awareness-raising, it was decided to hold two training courses on the right of access to information; the two courses were in fact held as follows: the first in Morocco (21–23/10/2009) and the second in Jordan (25–27/10/2009).
- Third: it was agreed that Jordan would host the meeting of the two working groups emanating from the Dialogue — terrorism and human rights, and the human rights of migrant workers — in the period 17–19/11/2009. This meeting was in fact held at the Holiday Inn Hotel at the Dead Sea with the participation of 17 members of the two groups, in the course of which the broad outlines of a strategic plan for each of the two groups were drawn up, to be presented to and approved by the members of the Dialogue at the high-level meeting to be held in March 2010 in Qatar.
- Fourth: with a view to ensuring the sustainability of the Dialogue and the provision of the necessary funding therefor, the members of the Secretariat of the Dialogue met the administration of the European Union in Brussels on 9/10/2009 in order to examine the possibility of the European Union funding this initiative. An agreement was also signed between the Secretariat of the Dialogue and the National Human Rights Committee in Qatar on 12/11/2009, providing that the Qatari National Committee would provide the funding necessary for the convening of the high-level conference to be hosted by Doha in March 2010, which will address the subject of “Women’s access to and exercise of their economic, social and cultural rights: the role of national human rights institutions”.
- Fifth: agreement upon the establishment of a website dedicated to the Dialogue in Arabic and English, and work towards drawing up a comprehensive concept for a communications plan covering the various media.

Fourth: International accreditation and membership of councils and committees

- The Centre assumed the chairmanship of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) in August 2009 until August 2011.
- The Centre became a member of the Bureau of the International Coordinating Committee (ICC) representing the Asia-Pacific region, alongside Malaysia, New Zealand and India.
- Membership of the working group on “Human rights and the business sector” emanating from the International Coordinating Committee, representing the Asia-Pacific region alongside Korea.
- During the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the APF, the Centre was nominated to succeed the New Zealand Human Rights Commission in the chairmanship of the International Coordinating Committee in the year 2011.

7. Publications of the Centre

First: Reports

The Centre issued a number of reports during 2009, as set out below:

- The Fifth Annual Report on the situation of human rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for the year 2008, in Arabic and English, which was submitted to His Majesty King Abdullah II and to the Prime Minister, the Presidents of the Senate and of the House of Representatives, and a number of ministers and Arab and foreign ambassadors.
- The Sixth Periodic Report on the situation of correction and rehabilitation centres, in Arabic and English.
- Report on the situation of older persons in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for the year 2008.
- Booklet on the rights of persons with disabilities in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan under the national legislative system and the international standards.
- The Fifth Report on juveniles in conflict with the law and children at risk.

Second: Studies

- In February 2009 the Centre issued a study on the rights of persons with disabilities in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan under the national legislative system and the international standards, which aimed to set out the rights of persons with disabilities in Jordanian legislation, including the extent to which State institutions and civil society apply the legislation in force relating to this segment of society.
- In February 2009 the Centre issued a study entitled “Jordanian political parties and human rights: a content analysis of the basic charters”. The study aimed, in the first place, to determine the extent of the integration of human rights subjects within the charters and programmes of the Jordanian political parties, and, in the second place, addressed the answering of a set of subsidiary questions. Through the answering of those questions the study further sought to promote human rights concepts and principles in Jordan and to activate the role of the Jordanian political parties in the field of promoting these human rights, as one of the essential levers of the process of democratic transition in the Kingdom.
- In August 2009 the Centre issued a study entitled “A content analysis of the Jordanian daily newspapers towards persons with disabilities (Al-Rai, Al-Dustour, Al-Ghad, Al-Arab Al-Yawm)”, which aimed to ascertain the stereotyped image drawn by the Jordanian daily newspapers of persons with disabilities, consistently with paragraph (c) of Article 8 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which emphasises the role of the media in presenting an image of persons with disabilities consistent with the purpose of that Convention.
- In August 2009 the Centre issued a study entitled “Towards the adoption of a legal regulation of asylum in Jordan: the necessities and the prohibitions”. It aimed to identify the reasons preventing Jordan from ratifying the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the necessities requiring such ratification; the prohibitions were likewise discussed, in particular the political, economic and social apprehensions. The study concluded that it is necessary to establish a national asylum mechanism in the Kingdom, represented by ratification of the 1951 Convention relating to asylum, or by the enactment of a national asylum law, or by the amendment of the memorandum of understanding concluded between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Government so as to be consistent with the international human rights standards.

Third: Press statements

The Centre issued a number of statements and appeals during 2009, as set out below:

- Press statement entitled: “An urgent appeal from the Arab national human rights institutions and a number of representatives of civil society institutions in the Arab world to the international, regional and national organisations and bodies working in the field of human rights”, for the lifting of the Israeli siege of the Gaza Strip, dated 9/3/2009.
- Press statement condemning the incident of the torture of the child “Yazan”, who passed away on 28/4/2009 as a result of the assaults to which he was subjected and following which he had been admitted to hospital in a coma on 8/4/2009.

- Press statement dated 15/6/2009 concerning the draft law amending the Societies Law No. (51) of 2008.
- Press statement dated 18/6/2009 concerning the “Owners and Tenants Law”.
- Press statement dated 23/7/2009 concerning the rejection of the concept of the “Jewishness of the Israeli State” adopted by the Israeli Government and its incompatibility with the right to equality and to non-discriminatory treatment.
- Press statement dated 11/8/2009 concerning the “strike of the workers of the Musa Ready-Made Garments Company”.
- Press statement dated 8/10/2009 concerning the “postponement of the consideration of the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict before the international Human Rights Council”.
- Press statement dated 1/11/2009 concerning the report of Amnesty International entitled “Thirsting for justice: Palestinian access to water restricted”.
- Press statement dated 7/11/2009 concerning the “report on religious freedoms prepared by the United States Department of State” dated 26/10/2009.
- Press statement dated 6/12/2009 concerning the “referendum on the prohibition of the construction of minarets in Switzerland”.
- Press statement concerning the draft Social Security Law of 2009 referred by the Council of Ministers to the National Assembly in its extraordinary session.

Fourth: Appeals

- Appeal dated 7/1/2009 to the Swiss Government and the International Committee of the Red Cross, calling upon the High Contracting Parties to the four Geneva Conventions to consider the grave violations of human rights committed by the Israeli occupation forces against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip.
- Appeal dated 7/1/2009 to the Jordanian Government concerning the convening of the Human Rights Council of the United Nations in Geneva and the condemnation of the grave violations of human rights committed by the Israeli Government against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip.
- Appeal dated 7/1/2009 to the Qatari Government concerning the convening of the Human Rights Council of the United Nations in Geneva and the condemnation of the grave violations of human rights committed by the Israeli occupation forces against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip.
- Appeal dated 17/1/2009 to His Holiness the Pope for the condemnation of the grave violations of human rights committed by the Israeli occupation forces against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip.

8. Capacity-building of those working at the Centre

With a view to raising institutional capacities and building the capacities and skills of those working at the Centre, the Centre took part in a number of conferences, training courses, workshops and research and discussion sessions, as follows:

First: Internal participation

(a) Workshops

- Workshop on the Siraj programme for the development of youth leadership in the Arab world, 3/2/2009.
- Workshop on “Training the elected student councils in universities in democratic skills and the concept of voluntary work”, 30/5/2009.
- Workshop on “The effective media role in disseminating awareness of safe food and medicine”, 17–18/6/2009, organised by the Jordan Food and Drug Administration.
- Workshop on “The impact of national policies and strategies on gender justice”, organised by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and the World Bank, in the period 22–23/7/2009.
- Workshop on “Amending the legislation relating to persons with disabilities”, organised by the Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities, 19/7/2009.
- The first forum on “The elimination of forced labour and trafficking in persons”, in the period 30/7–2/8/2009, organised by the Jordanian Ministry of Justice and the International Labour Organization.
- Workshop on “The International Criminal Court and criminal justice for women”, organised by Penal Reform International, 17/8/2009.
- Workshop on “The Jordanian Elections Law No. (34) of 2001 and its amendments”, 18/8/2009, organised by the Jordanian National Party.
- Workshop on “Services for victims of trafficking in persons”, 8/10/2009, organised by the Ministry of Justice.
- Workshop on “Incoming labour”, in the period 5–7/10/2009, organised by the mission of the International Organization for Migration in Jordan.
- Workshop on “Jordanian legislation prohibiting forced labour and trafficking in persons”, organised by the International Labour Organization, 22/10/2009.
- Workshop on “Towards a sound relationship between religion and the State — Jordan as a model”, organised by Al-Quds Centre for Political Studies, 31/10/2009.
- Workshop on “The extent of the consistency of Jordanian law with International Labour Organization Conventions Nos. 100 and 111”, organised by the International Labour Organization, 13/11/2009.
- Research and training workshop for young Arab researchers in the field of childhood, in the period 22–26/11/2009, organised by the Information and Research Centre.
- Workshop on “The International Criminal Court and criminal justice for women”, organised by the International Institute for Women’s Solidarity, 16/12/2009.

(b) Seminars

- Seminar on the Arms Trade Treaty and the United Nations Programme of Action on the reduction of small arms and light weapons and its impact on development, 18/6/2009, organised by the Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies.
- Press seminar on the “Issuance of the annual report on human rights defenders”, 28/7/2009, organised by the Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies.
- Participation in the opening of the “Arab Adolescent Children’s Forum”, 19/11/2009, organised by the Jordan River Foundation.

(c) Research and discussion sessions

- Discussion session on “Integration for the safeguarding of the rights of voters”, 11/7/2009, organised by the Jordanian Society for Voters’ Rights.

- Discussion session dedicated to the presentation of the findings of the study on the situation of the rights of working women in Jordan and of a field study on the situation of women working in the industrial cities, 4/8/2009, organised by the National Council for Family Affairs and Freedom House.
- National review session for the review of the report on “The extent of Jordan’s compliance with the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control”, 19/8/2009, organised by the Land and Human to Advocate Progress Organisation with the support of the American Cancer Society.
- Discussion session for the examination of the analytical study of the legislation on child labour: “the Labour Law, the Social Security Law, the Law on the Service of Personnel in the Armed Forces, the Juveniles Law, the Penal Code, the Education Law and the Labour Inspectors Regulation”, 14/9/2009, organised by the National Council for Family Affairs.
- Discussion session on “Environmental health”, 1/10/2009, organised by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).
- Discussion session on “Means of livelihood and well-being”, 1/10/2009, organised by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).
- Discussion session on “Education and the growth and development of the child in the Palestinian refugee camps and gatherings”, organised by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), 23/10/2009.
- Study session relating to the review and discussion of the guide “Roadmap for the participation of civil society organisations in the development of governmental policies”, organised by the Land and Human to Advocate Progress Organisation in cooperation with the Change Academy for Democratic and Development Studies and the East-West Centre for Human Resources Development, 5/11/2009.

(d) Training courses

- Training of trainers course on gender issues, organised by the Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies, 13/5/2009.
- Training course on “Advocacy in gender issues”, organised by the Jordanian National Commission for Women, 28/7/2009.
- Training course on “The follow-up and evaluation mechanism”, in the period 9–13/8/2009, organised by the Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities in cooperation with the British Council.
- Training day: how to use the database for the liaison officers of the Women’s Office, 28/9/2009, organised by the Jordanian National Commission for Women.
- Training course on “The right of access to information”, in the period 25–27/10/2009, organised by the National Centre for Human Rights and the Danish Institute for Human Rights.
- Training in three workshops for administrative governors on the optimal application of the Crime Prevention Law in the regions (centre, 20/10/2009; south, 12/12/2009; north, 19/12/2009).
- Awareness course introducing gender issues, organised by the Jordan River Foundation, 27/12/2009.

(e) Brainstorming sessions

- Participation in a brainstorming session on “Discrimination between the sexes”, 19/8/2009, organised by the Adaleh Centre for Human Rights Studies.
- Participation in a brainstorming session on “The application of international conventions at the national level”, 15/10/2009, organised by the Adaleh Centre for Human Rights Studies.
- Participation in a preparatory session for the project on decentralisation and the strengthening of local governance, 23/11/2009.

(f) Conferences

- Participation in the conference on youth and technology, organised by the International Institute for Women’s Solidarity, 1/6/2009.
- Participation in the conference on “Good governance in the security sector in the Arab region: what role for civil society?”, 22–23/6/2009, organised by the Al-Mustaqbal (Future) Foundation.
- Participation in the first preparatory meeting on “The National Strategy for Persons with Disabilities (2007–2009): assessment of performance and achievements”, 12/10/2009, organised by the Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities.

- Participation in the conference on “The political role of tribes in the Middle East and North Africa region”, organised by the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan in cooperation with the International Development Research Centre, in the period 27–29/10/2009.
- Participation in the national conference on “Youth and policy reform”, 7/11/2009, organised by the Al-Urdun Al-Jadid Research Centre.
- Participation in the first national conference on “The protection of victims of crime”, 16/11/2009, organised by the Arab Bridge Centre for Development and Human Rights.
- Participation in the first national conference on “The National Strategy for Persons with Disabilities (2007–2009): assessment of performance and achievements”, 23–24/11/2009, organised by the Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities.
- Participation in the Arab conference on special education, disability and rehabilitation, in the period 8–9/12/2009, organised by the Society for the Care of Children with Motor Disabilities.

(g) Opening of centres

- Participation in the opening of a bazaar for the products of the inmates of correction and rehabilitation centres, 28/6/2009.
- Participation in the opening of the House for the Education and Rehabilitation of Girls / Amman, 13/8/2009, organised by the Ministry of Social Development.
- Participation in the opening of the Family Reconciliation House, 20/10/2009.
- Participation in the opening of the Integrated Services Centre for Victims of Family Violence, 9/11/2009, organised by the Ministry of Social Development.

(h) Round tables

- Round table on “Institutionalising the relationship between the committees of the House of Representatives and Jordanian civil society organisations”, 10/2/2009, organised by the Al-Urdun Al-Jadid Research Centre.
- Round table on “The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its application in the Jordanian courts”, 17/6/2009, organised by Mizan Group for Human Rights.

(i) Meetings

- The first meeting on following up the recommendations of the CEDAW Convention and their application before the Jordanian courts, in the period 13–15/5/2009.
- Meeting of experts on the “Draft United Nations rules for the treatment of women prisoners and non-custodial measures for women offenders”, 10/8/2009, organised by Penal Reform International.
- Meeting on the approved strategic framework of the National Committee for the Management of Social Transformations (MOST), 4/10/2009, organised by the Ministry of Social Development.
- Meeting of the committee for the preparation of the National Strategy for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons, 25/10/2009, organised by the Ministry of Justice.
- Meeting to discuss all matters relating to the issues of violence against children and women, 31/10/2009, organised by the Ministry of Social Development.

The numbering of the items under “Meetings” is reproduced as it appears in the original, in which the first item is numbered 1 and the following items are numbered 1 to 4.

Second: External participation

- In cooperation with a group of civil society institutions, the Centre prepared a report for the Universal Periodic Review, which was presented and discussed during the fourth session of the Human Rights Council held in February 2009 in Geneva / Switzerland.
- Participation in the proceedings of the seminar on “Reform of criminal punishment in Algeria” and the activation of the recommendation of the United Nations on a moratorium on the death penalty, organised by the National Advisory Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Algeria, in February.

- Participation in the proceedings of the twenty-second session of the International Coordinating Committee, held in March 2009 in Geneva / Switzerland.
- Participation in the international forum on war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by Israel in Gaza — material documentation and legal characterisation for the purposes of an international criminal action / the National Advisory Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Republic of Algeria, in the period 28/2–1/3/2009.
- Participation in the expert house meeting on “Education on human rights in the Arab region: its reality, challenges and opportunities”, in the period 13–14/4/2009, organised by the Arab Institute for Human Rights in Tunisia.
- Participation in the conference reviewing the implementation of the recommendations of the Durban Conference against all forms of discrimination, held in April 2009 in Geneva / Switzerland.
- Participation in the regional workshop organised by the Asia Pacific Forum on the Yogyakarta Principles, held in Indonesia in May 2009.
- Participation in a regional seminar entitled “Thematic programmes / strengthening civil society institutions”, in the period 12–13/5/2009 in Cairo.
- Participation in the adoption of the Universal Periodic Review report on Jordan, Human Rights Council / Geneva, 11/6/2009.
- Participation in the conference on the promotion of political rights, freedoms and democracy, held in June in Wilton Park / the United Kingdom.
- Participation in the regional training course in the field of human rights (‘Anab Qawi 19), organised by the Arab Institute for Human Rights in Tunisia, in the period 23/6–5/7/2009.
- Participation in a training workshop on “The protection of the rights of migrant workers” in Timor-Leste, in the period 7–11/9/2009.
- Participation in the training course on “Library management in human rights centres”, organised by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, 7–11/9/2009 in Thailand.
- Participation in a workshop on promoting ratification of, and reporting on compliance with, the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in October 2009 in Canada.
- Participation in the meeting of the Bureau of the International Coordinating Committee held in Rabat / Morocco on 1–2/11/2009, representing the Asia-Pacific region alongside Malaysia, New Zealand and India; the Centre presented the report of the Asia Pacific Forum to the Committee in its capacity as Chair of the Forum.
- Participation in a meeting organised by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights in the Swedish city of Lund, in the period 2–3/11/2009.
- Participation in the proceedings of the first meeting of the conference of the “Permanent Arab-African Dialogue Forum”, in the period 7–9/12/2009.
- Participation in the conference of the Arab-African human rights institutions and the workshop which followed that conference on the role of national institutions in the defence of human rights, in Rabat / Morocco, in November 2009.
- Participation in the implementation of the regional programme, in cooperation with the British Council, entitled “Developing leadership capacities in local community development”, in Palestine, Syria and Lebanon during the year 2009.

External participation of the members of the Board of Trustees

- H.E. Dr. Nawal Al-Faouri took part in the proceedings of the conference of the Arab Coalition for Democracy, Development and Human Rights, held in the Great Socialist People’s Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 26–28/5/2009.
- H.E. Mrs. Noha Al-Maaytah took part in the proceedings of the conference on the development of Egyptian legislation in a manner consistent with the international human rights conventions / Cairo, 10/12/2009.

9. Delegations received by the Centre

During 2009 the National Centre for Human Rights received a number of delegations from the embassies of Arab and non-Arab States and from national, regional and international governmental and non-governmental institutions, with a view to introducing the Centre and examining avenues of cooperation:

- The Peace Operations Training Institute / General Staff.
- The Royal Police Academy.
- A number of public and private schools.
- The Human Rights Club / Zarqa Private University.
- Adaleh Foundation for Human Rights / Palestine.
- The students of the Parliament and Human Rights programme at Irbid First Preparatory School.
- The Legal and Social Counselling Office / “Sumu” Women’s Programmes Centre, Aqaba.
- The members of the Protection from Abuse Section at the Ministry of Education.
- The students of the summer camp of the Caritas Society.
- The delegation of the Ministry of the Interior of the United Arab Emirates.
- The participants in the regional training course on the “Right of access to information”, organised by the Secretariat of the Arab-European Human Rights Dialogue.

Delegations received by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Commissioner General

- The Foundation for the Support and Development of Civil Society
- The French Cultural Attaché
- The Electoral Reform Society in the United Kingdom
- The Hungarian Ambassador
- The International Labour Organization
- The Australian Ambassador
- The Al-Mustaqbal (Future) Foundation
- The Inter-Parliamentary Union
- A member of the French Senate
- The Director of Operations of UNRWA
- The Netherlands Ambassador
- The Minister of the Interior
- The Ambassador of Bangladesh
- The Director of the Idaho Centre for Human Rights
- The Libyan Ambassador
- The Ministry of the Interior of the United Arab Emirates
- The Political Attaché at the Canadian Embassy
- The Royal Police Academy
- The Korean Ambassador
- The Indian Ambassador
- The Canadian International Development Agency
- The Head of the Ombudsman Bureau
- The Head of the Legal Department at the German Embassy
- The Director of the British Council
- The Head of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

- The Norwegian Ambassador
- The Swedish Ambassador
- The French Ambassador
- The members of the Freedoms Committee of the Jordan Engineers Association
- The Arab Council for Judicial and Legal Studies
- Human Security
- The National Institute for Leadership Training
- The Director of the Political Department — United States Department of State
- The Islamic Action Front Party
- Al-Watan Party
- The official responsible for the preparation of the National Strategy to Combat Trafficking in Persons
- The Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- The United Nations Development Programme
- The Anti-Corruption Commission and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- The Regional Director of Projects of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs
- The Danish Ambassador

10. The library of the National Centre for Human Rights

The total number of library materials added to the library collection during 2009 amounted to (273) library materials, in addition to (68) compact discs, bringing the total number of books in the library by the end of that year to (2,305), distributed as follows:

Books held in the library	Number
Number of Arabic books	1,686
Number of English books	601
Number of books in other languages (French)	18
Total number of books (as at 31/12/2009)	2,305

11. Other achievements

- In cooperation with the American Bar Association and in coordination with the Ministry of Public Works, the National Centre for Human Rights organised the second legal writing competition on “The right to an adequate standard of living”, which targeted the students of the faculties of law in the universities.
- The National Centre for Human Rights addressed the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States on behalf of the Fifth Conference of the Arab National Human Rights Institutions entitled “Elections in the Arab world and their impact on human rights”, held in the Jordanian capital Amman in the period 8–9 March 2009, in order to convey the message addressed by the Conference to the Arab Summit held in Doha / Qatar on 30/3/2009.
- The National Centre for Human Rights followed up the file of the National Coalition for the Prosecution of the Israeli Leaders for the war crimes committed in Gaza, and, on behalf of the Coalition, submitted a memorandum to the International Criminal Court requesting it to commence the collection of information on the Israeli violations of human rights in Gaza and the violations of international humanitarian law.
- Addressing the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in support of the Moroccan candidate, Mrs. Halima Embarek Warzazi, the national and international expert in the field of human rights, for her re-election as an expert of the Human Rights Advisory Committee during the elections of the tenth session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.
- During 2009 the Board of Trustees approved a number of instruments governing the work of the Centre, including:
 - The organisational structure and the administrative organisation instructions.
 - The human resources instructions.
 - The instructions on job titles, descriptions and classifications.
 - The transport and travel instructions for the year 2009.
 - The project management instructions.
 - The public service instructions for the library.

Celebration of International Human Rights Day

- The Centre took part in the celebration organised by the United Nations Group in Jordan on the occasion of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the Commissioner General delivered an address on that occasion on the subject of discrimination.
- With the support of the Netherlands Embassy, the Centre organised three open days in three governorates (Irbid in the north, Balqa in the centre and Karak in the south) in the period 20–24/12/2009, with a view to introducing the National Centre for Human Rights and the services it provides, raising awareness of human rights and receiving complaints from citizens. During those days the Centre received a total of 37 complaints and requests for assistance.