

UPR Working Group

Egypt Pre-Session Review

Nazra for Feminist Studies

Introduction

- ❑ The UPR process serves as an international platform for countries and advocates to engage on issues of human rights.
- ❑ Carrying on Egyptian Feminists legacy of advocacy, including their early efforts in Geneva in the 1920s advocating for their rights and freedoms, calling to end the occupation in Egypt. This presentation addresses Egypt's progress in advancing women's rights and gender equality as part of its Universal Periodic Review (UPR) presented by yet another generation of Egyptian Feminists.
- ❑ This session focuses on current efforts and continued needs in Egypt for achieving rights and freedoms for all citizens.

Status on Recommendations

- ❑ During the last UPR review, Egypt received a total of 372 recommendations.
- ❑ Egypt accepted 294 of the total number of recommendations, focusing particularly on advancing women's rights.
- ❑ 18% of the recommendations were directly related to women's rights.

Actions by the Egyptian Government on Women's Rights

- ❑ Passed the National Strategy on Empowerment & The National Strategy on Human Rights, with a section on Violence against Women.
- ❑ Initiated the National Dialogue ,which recommended the implementation of Article 53 of 2014 Constitution to Establish a commission against Discrimination.
- ❑ Number of women Parliamentarians are high due to implement the constitutional grantee.
- ❑ Closed 173 Case and lift many of travel bans and asset freezed, including myself.

Challenges and Gaps in Implementation

- No review has been conducted for several discriminatory laws and procedures, including Personal status laws, combating violence against women (VAW), protections for women in workplaces and protecting witnesses and whistle-blowers.
- No monitoring mechanisms have been established for national strategies.
- Development of a second national strategy to address violence against women (VAW), anti-trafficking, and early marriage has not been undertaken.
- No action has been taken to release female prisoners, lift travel bans on WHRDs, or unfreeze assets.
- Many perpetrators of sexual violence have not been held accountable.
- A holistic support system for survivors has not been established.

Recommendations (1/2)

- ❑ Fully implement the constitutional provisions by establishing the Commission against Discrimination and the Commission for Transitional Justice, as guaranteed by the 2014 Constitution.
- ❑ Review the Penal Code to criminalize violence against women (VAW) and repeal discriminatory laws to align with constitutional protections for women's rights, particularly in Articles 11, 52, 60, 67, 71, 80, and 89.
- ❑ Establish prosecutor's offices to investigate and adjudicate crimes of sexual violence to reduce the length of litigation and expeditiously decide on such sensitive cases.
- ❑ Ensure transparent and engaged gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation committees and adopt holistic approaches aligned with national human rights and empowerment strategies and other strategies managed by the National Council for Women.
- ❑ Release female political prisoners and stop retaliation against political and social actors through travel bans, asset freezes, defamation online campaigns, and others.

Recommendations (2/2)

- ❑ Urge the Egyptian government to create a specialized committee of pardon through the National Council for Women and the National Council for Human Rights to review the situation of women in prisons.
- ❑ Ratify International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention No. 190 to enhance protection against violence and harassment of women in workplaces.
- ❑ Create a national framework for the 1325 UN Security Council resolution on women's peace and security.
- ❑ Review the law governing the National Council for Women to align with the Paris Principles, ensure its independence, and guarantee rights to visits to female prisons.

Thank You