



National Council for Human Rights

November 5th 2018

Dear Mrs. Karima Bannoue

Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights

First of all, kindly accept greetings of the Egyptian National Council for Human Rights.

Referring to your letter, dated September 26th 2018, calling for contributions for your next thematic report in the context of the 10 year anniversary of the creation of the mandate, we would like to refer to the following points:

The Egyptian Constitution of 2014 has asserted all human rights and freedoms including the right to culture, freedom of belief, practicing religious rituals, thought, opinion expression through any means, scientific research, artistic and literary creation, in addition to freedom of press and printing, along with paper, visual, audio and digital distribution.

The constitution has also asserted the state's commitment to preserving monuments and cultural heritage, to protect Intellectual property rights in addition to the commitment of Universities to teaching human rights, and professional morals and ethics relating to various academic disciplines.

The NCHR has strived throughout its years of work to raise awareness of human rights using different means, including for example:

- Revising school educational curricula from human rights perspective, in cooperation with Ministry of Education and independent experts.
- Organizing conferences, workshops and training programs to different target groups, in cooperation with governmental agencies, NGOs and regional and International organizations.
- Training children on human rights values using Arts and games, in cooperation with Ministry of Education, UNICEF and National Centre for Children Culture.
- Revising drama episodes and awarding the best ones that promote human rights, in cooperation with independent experts.
- Production of Radio talk shows and drama episodes promoting human and women rights in cooperation with Radio and TV Union.
- Building up a library specialized in human rights books and references which is open to all citizens and researchers daily.

These elements constitute an interlinking process, together with working hard to strengthen efficiency of media in the country, improving performance in presenting religious discourse, in addition to launching a comprehensive capacity building process for teachers and social specialists in schools, as a continuation for the NCHR's efforts in these fields.

The NCHR has also been for years organizing a "Human Rights Week" in different governorates working on awareness raising parallel to receiving citizens' complaints and to working on them while meeting high officials of the governorate.

As in all countries, the full realization of all human rights and freedoms including cultural rights is still facing some challenges. Development efforts are hindered by insufficiency of resources especially within therapid population growth. The National Council for Human Rights is exerting continuous efforts towards the achievement of this goal and is committed to submitting regular reports to different human rights mechanisms such as the UPR.

Please accept our best regards and wishes for success in your efforts to protect cultural rights.



Ambassador Mokhles Kotb



Secretary General

National Council for Human Rights