



Human Resources and  
Social Development

# Report on the Disability Rights System



# 1. Definitions and General Principles

## I.1 Article One

### Definitions and General Principles

The following words and phrases, as used in this system, shall have the meanings mentioned before each of them:

- System: The Persons with Disabilities Rights System.
- Authority: The Persons with Disabilities Care Authority.
- Regulation: The executive regulation of the system.
- Concerned Entity: The entity concerned with one or more areas covered by the provisions of the system.
- Person with Disabilities: Any person who has a long-term impairment or disability in physical, mental, sensory, intellectual, or psychological functions, which, when dealing with various challenges, may hinder them from participating fully and effectively in society on an equal footing with others.
- Services: A comprehensive set of integrated services provided to each person with disabilities based on their health condition and the degree of their disability or their social status. These services include health, education, training, rehabilitation, cultural, social, media, sports, employment, and other services.
- Rehabilitation: The process of employing medical, social, psychological, educational, professional, and environmental services to help a person with disabilities achieve the highest possible level of effectiveness, enabling them to adapt to their natural and social environment, develop their self-reliance, and become an active member of society to the extent possible.
- Supportive Educational and Training Services: Additional services required by the nature of disabilities in educational and training environments.
- Accessibility: A set of appropriate measures that ensure the accessibility of persons with disabilities to provided services on an equal basis with others. It also includes their access to their physical environment, transportation, information, communication, including technological means and information and communication systems, facilities, and other services available to the public.
- Facilitative Arrangements: A set of necessary measures to meet the specific requirements of a person or group of persons with disabilities, ensuring their enjoyment of all their basic rights and services on an equal basis with others without imposing an undue burden on the entities providing them.
- Disability-Based Discrimination: Any distinction, exclusion, or restriction against persons with disabilities based on disability, whose purpose or effect is to impair or deny some or all of their human rights, enjoyment, or exercise on an equal basis with others.

## 1.2 Article Two

The system aims to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities and ensure that they have access to all services on an equal basis with others. It emphasizes the following core principles:

1. Non-discrimination based on disability and equal opportunities.
2. The provision of accessibility requirements and facilitative arrangements.
3. The inclusion of persons with disabilities' requirements in government and non-governmental legislation, strategies, policies, activities, programs, plans, and designs.
4. Empowering persons with disabilities to participate in managing their affairs in accordance with the relevant regulations.
5. Persons with disabilities who have reached the age of maturity have direct legal capacity unless their disability prevents them, as determined by the relevant regulations.
6. Adopting alternative and suitable methods for communicating with persons with disabilities, including verbal communication, written communication, sign language, or other methods.
7. Training personnel involved in serving persons with disabilities in all entities on how to interact and communicate with persons with disabilities and raising awareness of their rights.



## 2. Rights and Services

## 1.2 Article Three

### Rights and Services

Persons with disabilities have the right to access the physical environments around them, according to the engineering and architectural specifications outlined in the relevant regulations for all facilities and structures. This includes the following:

1. Ensuring the application of accessibility requirements, in accordance with the relevant regulations, when issuing or renewing the necessary permits for government and non-government facilities.
2. Ensuring the right of persons with disabilities to move easily and safely when designing and implementing internal roads, sidewalks, pedestrian paths, and vehicle parking. The regulations specify the necessary controls and procedures for implementing the provisions of this article.

## 2.2 Article Four

Persons with disabilities have the right to have accessibility requirements and facilitative arrangements provided to them at all stages of inquiry, investigation, trial, and execution of judgments.

## 2.3 Article Five

Persons with disabilities have the right to have their specific requirements taken into account when dealing with emergencies, natural disasters, and crises. The relevant authorities, in coordination with the Authority, issue guiding guidelines for the implementation of this article.

## 2.4 Article Six

Persons with disabilities have the right to have their requirements and needs considered in traffic safety systems and guidelines. The regulations specify the necessary controls for implementing the provisions of this article.

## 2.5 Article Seven

Persons with disabilities have the right to travel with the highest possible level of safety and independence. The regulations specify the necessary controls for implementing the provisions of this article .

## 2.6 Article Eight

People with disabilities have the right to access educational and training services that support them at all levels, in accordance with educational and training environments that enable the maximum academic, professional, technical, and social progress without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunities, including:

1. Providing and adapting strategies, educational curricula, training programs, modern measurement and diagnostic tools, and assistive technologies that align with the needs of people with disabilities, enabling them to acquire the knowledge and skills that make their contribution effective in the education and training system.
2. Taking into consideration the individual needs of people with disabilities.
3. Designing and implementing early intervention programs for children with disabilities.
4. Providing opportunities for the admission of people with disabilities in higher education disciplines, postgraduate studies, and scholarship programs.

The regulations specify the mechanism for implementing the provisions of this article.

## 2.7 Article Nine

1. People with disabilities have the right to access healthcare services, including:
  - a. Preventive, therapeutic, medical rehabilitation, general healthcare, home care, and other healthcare services, as per the medical requirements for each disability.
  - b. Examination and diagnostic services, health records, and medical reports.
  - c. Reproductive health services, early detection programs for disabilities, and ensuring the availability of programs and services that prevent the exacerbation of diagnosed disabilities.
2. Concerning entities providing healthcare services, they must:
  - a. Include the requirements of people with disabilities in healthcare services, pharmaceutical and nutritional information, and in related health policies, strategies, and plans.
  - b. Eliminate any discriminatory conditions that prevent people with disabilities from accessing full medical care, rehabilitation, and assistive devices from medical insurance companies.

The regulations specify the mechanism for implementing the provisions of this article.

## 2.8 Article Ten

The system guarantees the right of people with disabilities to work and employment without discrimination, taking into account the following:

1. Designing and implementing employment programs for people with disabilities and professionally and technically training them in a way that encourages government and private sector employers to attract and employ them.
2. Adapting workplace systems and environments to the requirements of people with disabilities.
3. Providing equal opportunities for the employment of people with disabilities.

The regulations specify the mechanism for implementing the provisions of this article.

## 2.9 Article Eleven

Persons with disabilities have the right to benefit from the facilities of the Holy Shrines, holy places, mosques, and prayer areas, including ensuring the availability of accessibility requirements.

## 2.10 Article Twelve

Persons with disabilities have the right to have their requirements considered when designing and implementing tourist, recreational, cultural, and sports activities, including supporting their special sports programs and enabling their participation in local, regional, and international events. The relevant authorities, in coordination with the Authority, issue guiding guidelines for the implementation of this article.

## 2.11 Article Thirteen

Government and non-government entities are responsible for raising public awareness about disabilities and their types, promoting the status of persons with disabilities in society, and informing the public about their rights, abilities, and contributions. The regulations specify the mechanism for implementing the provisions of this article.

## 2.12 Article Fourteen

Persons with disabilities have the right to access and benefit from content (written, visual, and auditory). The regulations specify the mechanism for implementing the provisions of this article .





### 3. Social and Economic Support

## 2.2 Article Fifteen

### Social and Economic Support

Individuals with disabilities and their families have the right to access social support services that help them adapt to their disabilities and achieve social integration. The regulations specify the implementation mechanisms of the provisions of this article.

## 2.3 Article Sixteen

Individuals with disabilities have the right to obtain compensatory devices, assistance, and medical aids based on their health condition and disability requirements. The regulations provide lists of these devices, the mechanism for their provision, and the responsibilities of the relevant authorities.

## 3.3 Article Seventeen

The state shall bear customs duties and taxes imposed on tools and devices for individuals with disabilities. The authority shall issue a list of these tools and devices in coordination with the relevant parties, and the list shall be periodically reviewed.

## 3.4 Article Eighteen

Individuals with disabilities have the right to have their needs considered and to access banking, financial, and insurance services without discrimination. The relevant authorities, in coordination with the authority, shall issue guidelines for the implementation of the provisions of this article.

## 2.5 Article Nineteen

Individuals with disabilities have the right to access social development lending services through programs designed for them, whether individually or collectively, and under facilitated conditions.

## 2.6 Article Twenty

Individuals with disabilities have the right to have their requirements and needs taken into account when designing and implementing housing projects. The regulations specify the implementation mechanisms of the provisions of this article.



## 4. Violations and Penalties

## 4.1 Article Twenty-One

### Violations and Penalties

Any person who violates the provisions of this law by engaging in actions that harm individuals with disabilities is considered in violation of this law. Such actions include:

- 4.2 Physically, mentally, or financially assaulting them.
- 4.3 Neglecting or depriving them of their rights, mistreating or ridiculing them, or exploiting them in any form.
- 4.4 Impersonating them by any means or providing false information to government and non-government entities to obtain benefits under this law or any other regulations.

## 4.2 Article Twenty-Two

Subject to more severe penalties in other systems, the following penalties shall be imposed without prejudice:

- 1. Imprisonment for a term not exceeding two (2) years or a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand (500,000) Riyals, or both, shall be imposed on anyone committing any of the acts specified in paragraph (1) of Article 21 of the system. The penalty shall be doubled if the person with a disability is a child or elderly, and the competent court may, in cases that serve the interests of persons with disabilities, substitute a penalty other than imprisonment.
- 2. Imprisonment for a term not exceeding one (1) year or a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) Riyals, or both, shall be imposed on anyone committing any of the acts specified in paragraph (2) of Article 21 of the system. The penalty shall be doubled if the person with a disability is a child or elderly, and the competent court may, in cases that serve the interests of persons with disabilities, substitute a penalty other than imprisonment.
- 3. A fine of not less than ten thousand (10,000) Riyals and not exceeding five hundred thousand (500,000) Riyals shall be imposed on anyone committing any of the acts specified in paragraph (3) of Article 21 of the system.

## 4.3 Article Twenty-Three

The competent court, in issuing a judgment against anyone who commits any of the violations specified in Article Twenty-One of this law, may order the publication of a summary of the judgment at the expense of the violator in one or more local newspapers published in their place of residence, or by any other appropriate means, depending on the nature, gravity, and impact of the violation. The publication shall take place after the judgment has acquired finality.

#### 4.4 Article Twenty-Four

The Public Prosecutor's Office is responsible for investigating violations specified in Article Twenty-One of the law and filing the lawsuit before the competent court.

#### 4.5 Article Twenty-Five

Non-governmental entities are prohibited from:

1. Not adhering to the fundamental principles mentioned in Article Two of the law.
2. Depriving individuals with disabilities of the rights and services outlined in the law.
3. Establishing policies that discriminate directly or indirectly on the basis of disability.

#### 4.6 Article Twenty-Six

Without prejudice to any stricter penalties in other laws, non-governmental entities shall be penalized for violating the provisions of Article Twenty-Five of the law with a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand Saudi Riyals, and the penalty shall be doubled in case of recurrence. The decision to impose the penalty may also be published at the expense of the entity convicted, depending on the seriousness of the violation and its impact on society.

#### 4.7 Article Twenty-Seven

The authority is responsible for examination, monitoring, and control of violations of the provisions of Article Twenty-Five of the law. It may delegate these tasks or some of them to the non-governmental sector, with their work supervised by the authority. The board of directors of the authority shall determine the regulating rules in this regard.

#### 4.8 Article Twenty-Eight

1. A committee (or more) shall be established by a decision of the authority's board of directors, with no fewer than three members, including a legal or regulatory advisor.
2. The committee's operating rules and the allowances for its chairman, members, and secretary shall be determined by a decision of the authority's board of directors and disbursed from the authority's budget.
3. The committee shall review violations of the provisions of Article Twenty-Five of the law and decide on the penalties outlined in Article Twenty-Six of the law. Anyone subject to a penalty decision has the right to appeal before the competent court.



## 5. Final Provisions

## 5.1 Article Twenty-Nine

### Final Provisions

The provisions of this law shall not affect the rights and services provided to individuals with disabilities with any rights or better services prescribed by another law or an agreement in which the Kingdom is a party.

## 5.2 Article Thirty

The authority, in coordination with the relevant entities, shall establish a comprehensive statistical database of data for individuals with disabilities, which shall serve as a unified reference available for access. This is to ensure the harmonization of efforts and the enhancement of the services provided, in accordance with the regulations governing the protection of personal data.

## 5.3 Article Thirty-One

The board of directors of the authority, after coordination with the relevant entities, shall issue the regulations within one hundred and twenty days from the date of the issuance of this law.

## 5.4 Article Thirty-Two

This law replaces the Law for the Care of Persons with Disabilities issued by Royal Decree No. (M/37) dated 23/9/1421H (19/12/2000 AD) and nullifies any provisions that conflict with it.

## 5.5 Article Thirty-Three

This law shall take effect after one hundred and twenty days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette..



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