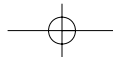
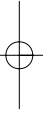
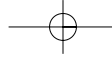


Chapter One: *Annexes*





Annex 1a: Reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) by Arab and Some Non-Arab States

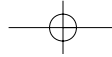
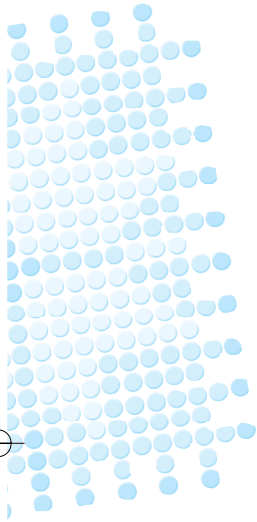
The text of each article as stated in the Convention will be provided in a box prior to stating Arab countries' reservations to this article.

Article 2: Seven countries made reservations/declarations to this article

Article 2 (as stated in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women)

States Parties condemn discrimination against women in all its forms, agree to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women and, to this end, undertake:

- (a) To embody the principle of the equality of men and women in their national constitutions or other appropriate legislation if not yet incorporated therein and to ensure, through law and other appropriate means, the practical realization of this principle;
- (b) To adopt appropriate legislative and other measures, including sanctions where appropriate, prohibiting all discrimination against women;
- (c) To establish legal protection of the rights of women on an equal basis with men and to ensure through competent national tribunals and other public institutions the effective protection of women against any act of discrimination;
- (d) To refrain from engaging in any act or practice of discrimination against women and to ensure that public authorities and institutions shall act in conformity with this obligation;
- (e) To take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women by any person, organization or enterprise;
- (f) To take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices which constitute discrimination against women;
- (g) To repeal all national penal provisions which constitute discrimination against women.



Algeria: "The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria declares that it is prepared to apply the provisions of this article on condition that they do not conflict with the provisions of the Algerian Family Code."

Egypt: "The Arab Republic of Egypt is willing to comply with the content of this article, provided that such compliance does not run counter to the Islamic Sharia."

Bahrain: "The Kingdom of Bahrain makes reservation with respect to Article 2, in order to ensure its implementation within the bounds of the provisions of the Islamic Shariah."

Iraq: "Approval of and accession to this Convention shall not mean that the Republic of Iraq is bound by the provisions of Article 2, paragraphs (f) and (g)."

Libya: "Article 2 of the Convention shall be implemented with due regard for the peremptory norms of the Islamic Shariah relating to determination of the inheritance portions of the estate of a deceased person, whether female or male."

Syria: ". . . subject to reservations to Article 2."

Morocco: "The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco express its readiness to apply the provisions of this article provided that:

- They are without prejudice to the constitutional requirement that regulate the rules of succession to the throne of the Kingdom of Morocco;
- They do not conflict with the provisions of the Islamic Sharia. It should be noted that certain of the provisions contained in the Moroccan code of personal status according women rights that differ from the rights conferred on men may not be infringed upon or abrogated because they derive primarily from the Islamic Sharia, which strives, among its objectives, to strike a balance between the spouses in order to preserve the coherence of family life."

Article 7: Only Kuwait made a reservation to this article

Article 7 (as stated in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women).

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the political and public life of the country and, in particular, shall ensure to women, on equal terms with men, the right:

- (a) To vote in all elections and public referenda and to be eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies;
- (b) To participate in the formulation of government policy and the implementation thereof and to hold public office and perform all public functions at all levels of government;
- (c) To participate in non-governmental organizations and associations concerned with the public and political life of the country.

"The Government of **Kuwait** enters a reservation regarding Article 7(a), inasmuch as the provision contained in that paragraph conflicts with the Kuwaiti Electoral Act, under which the right to be eligible for election and to vote is restricted to males."

Article 9: Eleven countries made reservations/declarations to this article

Article 9 (as stated in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women).

1. States Parties shall grant women equal rights with men to acquire, change or retain their nationality. They shall ensure in particular that neither marriage to an alien nor change of nationality by the husband during marriage shall automatically change the nationality of the wife, render her stateless or force upon her the nationality of the husband.
2. States Parties shall grant women equal rights with men with respect to the nationality of their children.

Algeria: "The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria wishes to express its reservations concerning the provisions of Article 9, paragraph 2, which are incompatible with the provisions of the Algerian Nationality

Code and the Algerian Family Code.

The Algerian Nationality Code allows a child to take the nationality of the mother only when:

- The father is either unknown or stateless;
- The child is born in Algeria to an Algerian mother and a foreign father who was born in Algeria;
- Moreover, a child born in Algeria to an Algerian mother and a foreign father who was not born on Algerian territory may, under Article 26 of the Algerian Nationality Code, acquire the nationality of the mother providing the Ministry of Justice does not object.

Article 41 of the Algerian Family Code states that a child is affiliated to its father through legal marriage.

Article 43 of that Code states that 'the child is affiliated to its father if it is born in the 10 months following the date of separation or death.'

Egypt: "In respect of Article 9, paragraph 2, reservation has been made concerning the granting to women of equal rights with men with respect to the nationality of their children, without prejudice to the acquisition by a child born of a marriage of the nationality of his father. This is in order to prevent a child's acquisition of two nationalities where his parents are of different nationalities, since this may be prejudicial to his future. It is clear that the child's acquisition of his father's nationality is the procedure most suitable for the child and that this does not infringe upon the principle of equality between men and women, since it is customary for a woman to agree, upon marrying an alien, that her children shall be of the father's nationality."

Bahrain: "The Kingdom of Bahrain makes reservations with respect to Article 9, paragraph (2)."

Iraq: "Approval of and accession to this Convention shall not mean that the Republic of Iraq is bound by the provisions of Article 9, paragraphs 1 and 2."

Jordan: "Jordan does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Article 9, paragraph 2."

Kuwait: ". . . reserves its right not to implement the provision contained in Article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, inasmuch as it runs counter to the

Kuwaiti Nationality Act, which stipulates that a child's nationality shall be determined by that of his father."

Lebanon: ". . . enters reservations regarding Article 9 (2)."

Morocco: "Morocco makes a reservation with regard to Article 9 (2) in view of the fact that the Law of Moroccan Nationality permits a child to bear the nationality of its mother only in the cases where it is born to an unknown father, regardless of place of birth, or to a stateless father, when born in Morocco, and it does so in order to guarantee to each child its right to a nationality. Further, a child born in Morocco of a Moroccan mother and a foreign father may acquire the nationality of its mother by declaring, within two years of reaching the age of majority, its desire to acquire that nationality, provided that, on making such declaration, its customary and regular residence is in Morocco."

Syria: ". . . subject to reservations to Article 9, paragraph 2, concerning the grant of a woman's nationality to her children."

Saudi Arabia: "In case of contradiction between any term of the Convention and the norms of Islamic law, the Kingdom is not under obligation to observe the contradictory terms of the Convention."

Saudi Arabia: ". . . does not consider itself bound by paragraph 2 of Article 9 of the Convention."

Tunisia: "The Tunisian Government expresses its reservation with regard to the provisions in Article 9, paragraph 2 of the Convention, which must not conflict with the provisions of chapter VI of the Tunisian Nationality Code."

Article 15: Six countries made reservations/declarations to this article

Article 15 (as stated in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women)

1. States Parties shall accord to women equality with men before the law.
2. States Parties shall accord to women, in civil matters, a legal capacity identical to that of men and the same opportunities to exercise that capacity. In particular, they shall give women equal rights to conclude contracts and to administer property and shall treat them equally in all stages of procedure in courts and tribunals.
3. States Parties agree that all contracts and all other private instruments of any kind with a legal effect which is directed at restricting the legal capacity of women shall be deemed null and void.
4. States Parties shall accord to men and women the same rights with regard to the law relating to the movement of persons and the freedom to choose their residence and domicile.

Algeria: "The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria declares that the provisions of Article 15, paragraph 4, concerning the right of women to choose their residence and domicile should not be interpreted in such a manner as to contradict the provisions of chapter 4 (art. 37) of the Algerian Family Code."

Bahrain: ". . . makes reservations with respect to Article 15, paragraph 4 of the Convention."

Jordan: "Jordan does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Article 15, paragraph 4 (a wife's residence is with her husband)."

Morocco: "Morocco declares that it can only be bound by the provisions of Article 15 paragraph 4 , in particular those relating to the right of women to choose their residence and domicile, to the extent that they are not incompatible with Articles 34 and 36 of the Moroccan Code of Personal Status."

Syria: ". . . subject to reservations to Article 15, paragraph 4, concerning freedom of movement and of residence and domicile."

Tunisia: "In accordance with the provisions of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, dated 23 May 1969, the Tunisian Government emphasizes that the requirements of Article 15, paragraph 4, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and particularly that part relating to the right of women to choose their residence and domicile, must not be interpreted in a manner which conflicts with the provisions of the Personal Status Code on this subject, as set forth in chapters 23 and 61 of the Code."

Article 16: Eleven countries made reservations/declarations to this article

Article 16 (as stated in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women).

1. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in all matters relating to marriage and family relations and in particular shall ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women:
 - (a) The same right to enter into marriage;
 - (b) The same right freely to choose a spouse and to enter into marriage only with their free and full consent;
 - (c) The same rights and responsibilities during marriage and at its dissolution;
 - (d) The same rights and responsibilities as parents, irrespective of their marital status, in matters relating to their children; in all cases the interests of the children shall be paramount;
 - (e) The same rights to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and to have access to the information, education and means to enable them to exercise these rights;
 - (f) The same rights and responsibilities with regard to guardianship, wardship, trusteeship and adoption of children, or similar institutions where these concepts exist in national legislation; in all cases the interests of the children shall be paramount;
 - (g) The same personal rights as husband and wife, including the right to choose a family name, a profession and an occupation;
 - (h) The same rights for both spouses in respect of the ownership, acquisition, management, administration, enjoyment and disposition of property, whether free of charge or for a valuable consideration.
2. The betrothal and the marriage of a child shall have no legal effect, and all necessary action, including legislation, shall be taken to specify a minimum age for marriage and to make the registration of marriages in an official registry compulsory.

Algeria: "The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria declares that the provisions of Article 16 concerning equal rights for men and women in all matters relating to marriage, both during marriage and at its dissolution, should not contradict the provisions of the Algerian Family Code."

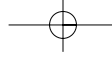
Egypt: "Reservation to the text of Article 16 concerning the equality of men and women in all matters relating to marriage and family relations during the marriage and upon its dissolution, without prejudice to the Islamic Sharia's provisions whereby women are accorded rights equivalent to those of their spouses so as to ensure a just balance between them. This is out of respect for the sacrosanct nature of the firm religious beliefs which govern marital relations in Egypt and which may not be called in question and in view of the fact that one of the most important bases of these relations is an equivalency of rights and duties so as to ensure complementary which guarantees true equality between the spouses. The provisions of the Sharia lay down that the husband shall pay bridal money to the wife and maintain her fully and shall also make a payment to her upon divorce, whereas the wife retains full rights over her property and is not obliged to spend anything on her keep. The Sharia therefore restricts the wife's rights to divorce by making it contingent on a judge's ruling, whereas no such restriction is laid down in the case of the husband."

Bahrain: ". . . makes reservations with respect to the provisions Article 16 of the Convention in so far as it is incompatible with the provisions of the Islamic Sharia."

Iraq: "Approval of and accession to this Convention shall not mean that the Republic of Iraq is bound by the provisions of Article 16 of the Convention. The reservation to this last-mentioned article shall be without prejudice to the provisions of the Islamic Sharia according women rights equivalent to the rights of their spouses so as to ensure a just balance between them."

Jordan: "Jordan does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Article 16, paragraph (1) (c), relating to the rights arising upon the dissolution of marriage with regard to maintenance and compensation; and paragraph (1) (d) and (g) of the same article."

Kuwait: "The Government of the State of Kuwait declares that it does not consider itself bound by the provision contained in article 16 (f) inasmuch as it conflicts with the provisions of the Islamic Sharia, Islam being the official religion of the State."



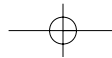
Lebanon: ". . . enters reservations regarding article 16 (1) (c) (d) (f) and (g) (regarding the right to choose a family name)."

Libya: "The implementation of paragraph 16 (c) and (d) of the Convention shall be without prejudice to any of the rights guaranteed to women by the Islamic Sharia."

Morocco: "The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco makes a reservation with regard to the provisions of Article 16, particularly those relating to the equality of men and women, in respect of rights and responsibilities on entry into and at dissolution of marriage. Equality of this kind is considered incompatible with the Islamic Sharia, which guarantees to each of the spouses rights and responsibilities within a framework of equilibrium and complementary in order to preserve the sacred bond of matrimony. The provisions of the Islamic Sharia oblige the husband to provide a nuptial gift upon marriage and to support his family, while the wife is not required by law to support the family. Further, at dissolution of marriage, the husband is obliged to pay maintenance. In contrast, the wife enjoys complete freedom of disposition of her property during the marriage and upon its dissolution without supervision by the husband, the husband having no jurisdiction over his wife's property. For these reasons, the Islamic Sharia confers the right of divorce on a woman only by decision of a Sharia judge."

Syria: ". . . subject to reservations to Article 16, paragraph 1 (c), (d), (f) and (g), concerning equal rights and responsibilities during marriage and at its dissolution with regard to guardianship, the right to choose a family name, maintenance and adoption; Article 16, paragraph 2, concerning the legal effect of the betrothal and the marriage of a child, inasmuch as this provision is incompatible with the provisions of the Islamic Sharia."

Tunisia: "Reservation concerning Article 16, paragraphs (c), (d), (f), (g) and (h): The Tunisian Government considers itself not bound by Article 16, paragraphs (c), (d) and (f) of the Convention and declares that paragraphs (g) and (h) of that article must not conflict with the provisions of the Personal Status Code concerning the granting of family names to children and the acquisition of property through inheritance."



Article 29: Eleven countries made reservations/declarations to this article

Article 29 (as stated in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women).

1. Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention which is not settled by negotiation shall, at the request of one of them, be submitted to arbitration. If within six months from the date of the request for arbitration the parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice by request in conformity with the Statute of the Court.
2. Each State Party may at the time of signature or ratification of this Convention or accession thereto declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1 of this article. The other States Parties shall not be bound by that paragraph with respect to any State Party which has made such a reservation.
3. Any State Party which has made a reservation in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Algeria: "The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria does not consider itself bound by Article 29, paragraph 1, which states that any dispute between two or more Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention which is not settled by negotiation shall, at the request of one of them, be submitted to arbitration or to the International Court of Justice. The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria holds that no such dispute can be submitted to arbitration or to the Court of International Justice except with the consent of all the parties to the dispute."

Egypt: "The Egyptian delegation also maintains the reservation contained in Article 29, paragraph 2, concerning the right of a State signatory to the Convention to declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1 of that article concerning the submission to an arbitral body of any dispute which may arise between States concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention. This is in order to avoid being bound by the system of arbitration in this field."



Bahrain: ". . . makes reservations with respect to the provisions of Article 29, paragraph 1 of the Convention."

Iraq: "Approval of and accession to this Convention shall not mean that the Republic of Iraq is bound by the provisions of Article 29, paragraph 1, of this Convention with regard to the principle of international arbitration in connection with the interpretation or application of this Convention."

Kuwait : ". . . declares that it is not bound by the provision contained in Article 29, paragraph 1."

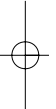
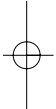
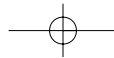
Lebanon: "In accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 29, the Government of the Lebanese Republic declares that it does not consider itself bound by the provisions of paragraph 1 of that article."

Morocco: "The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco does not consider itself bound by the first paragraph of Article 29, which provides that 'Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention which is not settled by negotiation shall, at the request of one of them, be submitted to arbitration.' The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco is of the view that any dispute of this kind can only be referred to arbitration by agreement of all the parties to the dispute."

Syria: ". . . subject to reservations to Article 29, paragraph 1, concerning arbitration between States in the event of a dispute."

Saudi Arabia: "Saudi Arabia does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1 of Article 29 of the Convention."

Tunisia: "Tunisia declares, in conformity with the requirements of Article 29, paragraph 2 of the Convention, that it shall not be bound by the provisions of paragraph 1 of that article which specify that any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention which is not settled by negotiation shall be referred to the International Court of Justice at the request of any one of those parties. The Tunisian Government considers that such disputes should be submitted for arbitration or consideration by the International Court of Justice only with the consent of all parties to the dispute."



Yemen: "The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen declares that it does not consider itself bound by Article 29, paragraph 1, of the said Convention, relating to the settlement of disputes which may arise concerning the application or interpretation of the Convention."

Source: United Nations, Treaty Series No. 20378. 1981. "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Full Text of CEDAW (including Proposal Reservations, Understandings and Declarations of the United States," vol. 1249. Available on internet website address: <http://www.safnet.com/cedaw/cedaw.html> .

United Nations. Treaty Body Database. "CEDAW Documents." Available on website address: <http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf>

Annex 1b: Text of Non-Arab Countries' Reservations to CEDAW Articles

Reservations cited do not cover all reservations made by non-Arab (European countries, non-Arab Muslim countries and countries with Muslim populations) states to CEDAW articles, but are confined to articles that have been subject to reservations by Arab states.

1. European Countries: Article 15:

Belgium: paragraph 2 and 3

"The application of Article 15, paragraphs 2 and 3, shall not affect validity of the interim provisions enacted for couples married before the entry into force of the Act of 14 July 1976 concerning the reciprocal rights and duties of husbands and wives and their marriage contracts, in cases where, in accordance with the option available to them under the Act, they have declared that they are maintaining in their prior marriage contracts."

Malta: (without referring to a particular article)

"While the government of Malta is committed to remove, in as far as possible, all aspects of family and property law which may be considered as discriminatory to females, it reserves the right to continue to apply present legislation in that regard until such time as the law is reformed and during such transitory period until those laws are completely superseded."

Switzerland: paragraph 2

". . . shall be applied subject to several interim provisions of the matrimonial regime (Civil Code, articles 9 (e) and 10, final section."

U.K.: paragraph 3 &4

"In relation to Article 15, paragraph 3, the United Kingdom understands the intention of this provision to be that only those terms or elements of a contract or other private instrument which are discriminatory in the sense described are to be deemed null and void, but not necessarily the contract or instrument as a whole."

"On behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Kingdom reserves the right to continue to apply such immigration legislation governing entry into, stay in, and departure from, the United Kingdom as it may deem necessary from time to time and, accordingly, its acceptance of

Article 15 (4) and of the other provisions of the Convention is subject to the provisions of any such legislation as regards persons not at the time having the right under the law of the United Kingdom to enter and remain in the United Kingdom."

Article 16

France: paragraph 1 (d) & 1 (g)

"The government of the French Republic declares that Article 16, paragraph 1 (d), must not be interpreted as implying joint exercise of parental authority in situations in which French legislation allows of such exercise by only one parent. The government of the French Republic declares that Article 16, paragraph 1 (d), of the Convention must not preclude the application of article 383 of the Civil Code. The government of the French Republic enters a reservation concerning the right to choose a family name mentioned in article 16, paragraph 1 (g), of the Convention."

Switzerland: paragraph 1(g) & 1 (h)

"Paragraph 1 (g), Said provision shall be applied subject to the regulations on family name (Civil Code, article 160 and article 8 (a), final section).

Paragraph 1 (h): Said provision shall be applied subject to several interim provisions of the matrimonial regime (Civil Code, articles 9 (e) and 10, final section)."

Malta: paragraph 1 (e)

"While the government of Malta is committed to remove, in as far as possible, all aspects of family and property law which may be considered as discriminatory to females, it reserves the right to continue to apply present legislation in that regard until such time as the law is reformed and during such transitory period until those laws are completely superseded. The government of Malta does not consider itself bound by subparagraph (e) of paragraph (1) of Article 16 in so far as the same may be interpreted as imposing an obligation on Malta to legalize abortion."

U.K. : paragraph 1 (f)

"As regards sub-paragraph 1(f) of Article 16, the United Kingdom does not regard the reference to the paramountcy of the interests of the children as being directly relevant to the elimination of discrimination against women, and declares in this connection that the legislation of the United Kingdom, regulat-

ing adoption, while giving a principle to the promotion of the children's welfare, does not give to the child's interests the same paramount place as in issues concerning custody over children."

2. Non-Arab Muslim Countries and Countries with Muslim Populations

Article 16: paragraph a, c, f, and g

Malaysia: "The Government of Malaysia declares that Malaysia's accession is subject to the understanding that the provisions of the Convention do not conflict with the provisions of the Islamic Sharia' law and the Federal Constitution of Malaysia, with regards thereto, further, the Government of Malaysia does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Article 16 (and other articles as well) of the aforesaid Convention. The Government of Malaysia declared, however, that "The Government of Malaysia withdraws its reservation in respect to article 16(b), 16(d), 16(e), and 16(h)."

Article 2

Singapore: "In the context of Singapore's multi-racial and multi-religious society and the need to respect the freedom of minorities to practice their religious and personal laws, the Republic of Singapore reserves the right not to apply the provisions of Article 2 where compliance with these provisions would be contrary to their religious and personal laws."

Source: United Nations, Treaty Series No. 20378. 1981. "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Full Text of CEDAW (including Proposal Reservations, Understandings and Declarations of the United States," vol. 1249. Available on internet website address: <http://www.safnet.com/cedaw/cedaw.html> .

United Nations. Treaty Body Database. "CEDAW Documents." Available on website address: <http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf>

Annex 1c: Reasons for Reservations

1. Arab Countries

a. In the area of policy measures (Article 2) (seven Arab states made reservations to this article), reasons for reservations are:

1. Conflict with provisions of Islamic sharia (case of Egypt, Bahrain, Libya, Morocco).
2. Conflict with Constitution; the Family Code/Code of Personal Status (case of Algeria, Morocco); and the constitutional requirement that regulate the rules of succession to throne (case of Morocco).
3. No reason stated (case of Iraq and Syria).

b. In the area of political and public life (Article 7(a), reason for reservations is:

- Conflict with the Constitution, in particular the Electoral Act (case of Kuwait).

c. In the area of nationality (Article 9) (eleven Arab states made reservations to this article), reasons for reservations are:

1. Incompatibility with provisions of country's Family Codes (case of Algeria).
2. Incompatibility with provisions of country nationality codes (case of Algeria, Kuwait, Morocco, and Tunisia).
3. Conviction of the country that its nationality laws are in the best interest of the child (case of Egypt).
4. No reason stated: (case of Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Saudi Arabia).

d. In the area of law (Article 15 [4]), (six Arab states made reservations to this article) reasons for reservations are:

1. Conflict with provisions of country's Family Codes/Personal Status Codes
 - Case of Algeria: conflict with provisions of chapter 4 (Article 37) of Algerian Family Code.
 - Case of Morocco: conflict with provisions of Articles 34 and 36 of Moroccan Code of Personal Status.
 - Case of Tunisia: conflict with provisions of Personal Status Code in chapters 23 and 61 of the Code.

2. No reason stated: case of Bahrain, Jordan, and Syria.

e. In the area of marriage and family life (different paragraphs in Article 16), reasons for reservations are:

(Eleven Arab states made reservations to this article)

1. Conflict with Islamic sharia (case of Egypt, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, and Syria).
2. Conflict with country's provisions of Family Code and Personal Status Code (case of Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia)
3. No reason stated (case of Jordan and Lebanon).

f. In the area of administration of the Convention (different paragraphs in Article 29), reasons for reservations are:

(Eleven Arab States made reservations to this article)

1. The conviction by the country that any dispute of this kind can only be referred to arbitration by agreement of all the parties of the dispute (case of Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia).
2. Avoiding being bound by the system of arbitration of paragraph 1 of Article 29 without stating a reason (case of Egypt).
3. No reason stated (case of Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen).

2. Non-Arab Countries

a. European countries:

In the area of law (different paragraphs in Article 15), reasons for reservations are:

- Conflict with constitution (civil code): case of Belgium, Malta, Switzerland, and U.K.

In the area of marriage and family life (different paragraphs in Article 16), reasons for reservations are:

- Conflict with constitution (civil code): case of France, Switzerland, Malta, and U.K.

b. Non-Arab Muslim countries, and countries with Muslim populations:

In the area of marriage and family life (different paragraphs in Article 16), reasons for reservations are:

- Conflict with Islamic sharia: case of Malaysia
- Conflict with religious and personal laws: case of Singapore

In the area of policy measures (Article 2), reasons for reservations are:

- Conflict with religious and personal laws: case of Singapore

Annex 1d: Reservations to Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) by Arab and Some Non-Arab States

In the Area of Women and Health: Strategic Objective of Increasing Women's Access throughout the Life Cycle to Appropriate, Affordable, and Quality Health Care, Information, and Related Services

Text of paragraphs to which Arab (and non-Arab) countries made reservations in the BPFA. Paragraphs stated in the part on Strategic Objectives and Actions for the critical areas of concern and actions to be taken by governments, in collaboration with non-governmental organizations, and employers' and workers' organizations and with the support of international institutions:

Paragraph 106

(j) Recognize and deal with the health impact of unsafe abortion as a major public health concern, as agreed in paragraph 8.25 of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;

(k) In the light of paragraph 8.25 of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, which states: "In no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning. All governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are urged to strengthen their commitment to women's health, to deal with the health impact of unsafe abortion as a major public health concern and to reduce the recourse to abortion through expanded and improved family-planning services. Prevention of unwanted pregnancies must always be given the highest priority and every attempt should be made to eliminate the need for abortion. Women who have unwanted pregnancies should have ready access to reliable information and compassionate counselling. Any measures or changes related to abortion within the health system can only be determined at the national or local level according to the national legislative process. In circumstances where abortion is not against the law, such abortion should be safe. In all cases, women should have access to quality services for the management of complications arising from abortion. Post-abortion counselling, education and family-planning services should be offered promptly, which will also help to avoid repeat abor-

tions", consider reviewing laws containing punitive measures against women who have undergone illegal abortions;

In the Area of the Girl Child: Strategic Objective of Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against the Girl Child

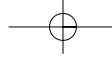
Paragraph 274

(d) Eliminate the injustice and obstacles in relation to inheritance faced by the girl child so that all children may enjoy their rights without discrimination, by, inter alia, enacting, as appropriate, and enforcing legislation that guarantees equal right to succession and ensures equal right to inherit, regardless of the sex of the child;

In the Area of Women and Health:

Paragraph 94

Reproductive health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, in all matters relating to the reproductive system and to its functions and processes. Reproductive health therefore implies that people are able to have a satisfying and safe sex life and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so. Implicit in this last condition are the right of men and women to be informed and to have access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning of their choice, as well as other methods of their choice for regulation of fertility which are not against the law, and the right of access to appropriate health-care services that will enable women to go safely through pregnancy and childbirth and provide couples with the best chance of having a healthy infant. In line with the above definition of reproductive health, reproductive health care is defined as the constellation of methods, techniques and services that contribute to reproductive health and well-being by preventing and solving reproductive health problems. It also includes sexual health, the purpose of which is the enhancement of life and personal relations, and not merely counselling and care related to reproduction and sexually transmitted diseases.

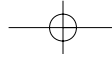


Paragraph 95

Bearing in mind the above definition, reproductive rights embrace certain human rights that are already recognized in national laws, international human rights documents and other consensus documents. These rights rest on the recognition of the basic right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children and to have the information and means to do so, and the right to attain the highest standard of sexual and reproductive health. It also includes their right to make decisions concerning reproduction free of discrimination, coercion and violence, as expressed in human rights documents. In the exercise of this right, they should take into account the needs of their living and future children and their responsibilities towards the community. The promotion of the responsible exercise of these rights for all people should be the fundamental basis for government- and community-supported policies and programmes in the area of reproductive health, including family planning. As part of their commitment, full attention should be given to the promotion of mutually respectful and equitable gender relations and particularly to meeting the educational and service needs of adolescents to enable them to deal in a positive and responsible way with their sexuality. Reproductive health eludes many of the world's people because of such factors as: inadequate levels of knowledge about human sexuality and inappropriate or poor-quality reproductive health information and services; the prevalence of high-risk sexual behaviour; discriminatory social practices; negative attitudes towards women and girls; and the limited power many women and girls have over their sexual and reproductive lives. Adolescents are particularly vulnerable because of their lack of information and access to relevant services in most countries. Older women and men have distinct reproductive and sexual health issues which are often inadequately addressed.

Paragraph 96

The human rights of women include their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence. Equal relationships between women and men in matters of sexual relations and reproduction, including full respect for the integrity of the person, require mutual respect, consent and shared responsibility for sexual behaviour and its consequences.



In the Area of Human Rights of Women Paragraph 223

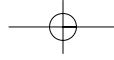
Bearing in mind the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, the Fourth World Conference on Women reaffirms that reproductive rights rest on the recognition of the basic right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children and to have the information and means to do so, and the right to attain the highest standard of sexual and reproductive health. It also includes their right to make decisions concerning reproduction free of discrimination, coercion and violence, as expressed in human rights documents.

In the Area of Human Rights of Women: Strategic Objective of Ensuring Equality and Non-discrimination under the Law and in Practice

Paragraph 232.

(f) Take action to ensure that the human rights of women, including the rights referred to in paragraphs 94 to 96 above, are fully respected and protected.

Source: United Nations, Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 4–15 September 1995, Chapter 1, Annex II, part IV)



Annex 1e: Reservations of Arab States to Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA)

Egypt: Paragraph 274(d)

Strategic objective: elimination of all forms of discrimination against the girl child (right to inherit)

"The Egyptian delegation would also like to register the fact that its reading and understanding of the paragraphs relating to inheritance rights in the Platform for Action, particularly paragraph 274 (d), will be against the background of complete respect for the laws of inheritance in the Islamic Sharia and in accordance with the provisions of the law and the Constitution.

The Egyptian delegation requests that this statement in its entirety should be included in the official report of the Fourth World Conference on Women."

Iraq: Paragraphs 96, 232 (f), 274 (d)

Strategic objectives: 96:Women and Health; 232 (f): Ensuring equality and non-discrimination under the law and in practice; 274 (d): Elimination of all forms of discrimination against the girl child (right to inherit)

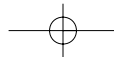
"The delegation of Iraq has reservations with regard to paragraph 96 of the Platform for Action because it is incompatible with our social and religious values. Our reservation also applies to paragraph 232 (f) because of its allusion to paragraph 96.

The delegation of Iraq accepts the text of paragraph 274 (d) on the basis of its understanding that this does not conflict with the Islamic Sharia."

Kuwait: Paragraphs 94, 95, 96, 106(k), 232 (f)

Strategic objectives: 94–96 Women and health; 106 (k) Increasing women's access throughout the life cycle to appropriate, affordable and quality health care, information and related services (abortion); 232 (f) Ensuring equality and non-discrimination under the law and in practice

"My country's delegation attaches great importance to the Platform for Action adopted by this Conference and believes in its significant contribution to the advancement of women. However, at the same time, it would like to register a



reservation to anything which constitutes a contravention of the Islamic Shariah and the customs and practices of our Islamic society, particularly paragraphs 232 (f), 106 (k) and 94 to 96.

The delegation of Kuwait would like to have its reservation recorded in the report of the Conference."

Libya: Paragraphs 95, 96, 106 (j), 223, 232, 274 (d)

Strategic objectives: 96–96 Women and health; 106 (j) Increasing women's access throughout the life cycle to appropriate, affordable and quality health care, information and related services (abortion); 223: Human rights of women; 232 Ensuring equality and non-discrimination under the law and in practice; 274 (d) Elimination of all forms of discrimination against the girl child (right to inherit)

"In view of our belief in the importance of the dialogue between the different cultures and civilizations of the peoples of the world for the achievement of universal social peace, we do not accept the right of any nation or civilization to impose its culture or political, economic or social orientations on any other nation or people. In view also of our belief in the sovereign right of every State to draw up domestic policies in keeping with its religious beliefs, local laws and priorities for social and economic development, it is our understanding that the terms and expressions which appear in this document and their application will be within the limits of what is permitted by our beliefs and the laws and traditions which shape our behavior as a society. On this basis, our country's delegation would like to express reservations with regard to the following:

- (a) The expression 'sexual relations and sexual behavior' between men and women, adult or otherwise, outside of a lawful marital relationship, which has appeared in a number of articles;
- (b) The expression 'sexual education and reproductive health' used with reference to the unmarried and outside the ambit of parental responsibility, supervision and care;
- (c) The term 'individuals' linked with the basic right of all couples to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children. This right is not accorded in our society outside the framework of a law-



ful marital relationship. This expression appears in paragraphs 95 and 223;

- (d) The entire text of paragraph 96 because it is inconsistent with our social and cultural values. The same applies to paragraph 232 (f);
- (e) Everything included in and intended by the text appearing in paragraph 106 (k), since it is contrary to local laws based on the Islamic Shariah. The same applies to the text appearing in paragraph 106 (j) regarding abortion, since local laws do not permit the performance of abortion except to save the mother's life;
- (f) The text of paragraph 274 (d), which will be interpreted and implemented in accordance with the Islamic Sharia, which guarantees females the right of inheritance.

We hope that this statement and these reservations will be included in the official report of the Conference."

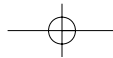
Mauritania: Paragraphs 96, 106 (j), 232 (f), 274 (d)

Strategic objectives: 96 Women and health; 106 (j) Increasing women's access throughout the life cycle to appropriate, affordable and quality health care, information and related services (abortion); 232 (f) Ensuring equality and non-discrimination under the law and in practice; 274 (d) Elimination of all forms of discrimination against the girl child (right to inherit)

"My country's delegation would like to enter reservations with regard to any matter that conflicts with the Islamic Sharia and Islamic values, especially paragraph 96 concerning sexual rights, paragraph 232 (f), paragraph 106 (j) concerning illegal abortions, and paragraph 274 (d) concerning inheritance."

Morocco: Paragraphs 96, 106 (j), 232 (f), 274 (d)

Strategic objectives: 96 Women and health; 106 (j) Increasing women's access throughout the life cycle to appropriate, affordable and quality health care, information and related services (abortion); 232 (f) Ensuring equality and non-discrimina-



tion under the law and in practice; 274 (d) Elimination of all forms of discrimination against the girl child (right to inherit)

"The delegation of Morocco reserves its position on paragraphs 96 and 106 (k) of the Platform for Action, whose content is in contradiction with the precepts of Islam and is not in conformity with its spiritual values and cultural traditions. Morocco also expresses its reservations on paragraph 232 (f), which refers to paragraph 96, and on paragraph 274 (d).

The delegation of the Kingdom of Morocco requests that its reservations be included in the report of the Conference."

Tunisia: Paragraphs 96, 232 (f), 274 (d)

Strategic objectives: 96 Women and health; 232 (f) Ensuring equality and non-discrimination under the law and in practice; 274 (d) Elimination of all forms of discrimination against the girl child (right to inherit)

"The Tunisian delegation, by virtue of the powers vested in it, has the honor to confirm that Tunisia will interpret paragraphs 96, 232(f), and 274 (d) of the Platform for Action within its fundamental laws and texts.

Tunisia will reject any provision that is contrary to its fundamental laws and texts. The delegation of Tunisia requests that this reservation be included in the documents of the Conference."

Source: United Nations, Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 4–15 September 1995, Chapter 1, Annex II, part IV

Annex 1f: Text of Non-Arab Countries Reservations to BPFA (Confined to Paragraphs that Have Been Subject to Reservations by Arab States)

Iran: Paragraphs 96, 232 (f)

Strategic objectives: 96 Women and health; 232 (f) Ensuring equality and non-discrimination under the law and in practice

"Concerning paragraphs 96 and 232(f), our understanding is that the provisions of those paragraphs can only be interpreted in the context of health and the framework of marital relations between men and women. The Islamic Republic of Iran holds that the rights referred to in those paragraphs fall in the category of existing human rights and do not establish any new rights."

Note: Without specifying a particular article, Iran stated reservations on the subject of inheritance, the issue of human rights of women and ensuring women's equality with men. Regarding the issue of inheritance, the Iranian delegation attending Beijing Conference stated, ". . . the Islamic Republic of Iran interprets the references in the Platform for Action to this matter in accordance with the principles of the economic system of Islam."

Concerning the issues of human rights of women and ensuring women's equality with men, the Iranian delegation stated, ". . . the concept of equality in our interpretation takes into account the fact that although women are equal in their human rights and dignity with men, their different roles and their responsibilities underline the need for an equitable system of rights, where the particular priorities and requirements of the women in her multiple roles are accounted for."

Malaysia: Paragraphs 96, 106 (k)

Strategic objectives: 96 Women and health; 106 (k) Increasing women's access throughout the life cycle to appropriate, affordable and quality health care, information and related services (abortion)

"We wish to state that the adoption of paragraph 96 does not signify endorsement by the Government of Malaysia of sexual promiscuity, any form of sexual perversion or sexual behavior that is synonymous with homosexuality or lesbianism."

"In the context of paragraph 106 (k) we wish to support the view that attention should be given to the prevention of unsafe abortions and the provision of humane management of complications from abortions as part of reproductive

health care. However, abortion is not legal or permissible in Malaysia and can only be performed on medical grounds."

The Holy See: Paragraphs 96, 232 (f)

Strategic objectives: 96 Women and health; 232 (f) Ensuring equality and non-discrimination under the law and in practice

"The Holy See does not join the consensus and express a reservation on paragraph 232 (f) with its reference to a text (paragraph 96) on a right of women to 'control over . . . their sexuality.' This ambiguous term could be understood as endorsing sexual relationships outside heterosexual marriage."

Japan: Paragraph 106 (k)

Strategic objective: 106 (k) Increasing women's access throughout the life cycle to appropriate, affordable and quality health care, information and related services (abortion)

"My delegation would like to confirm its interpretation concerning paragraph 106(k). The delegation of Japan joined the consensus on paragraph 106(k) on the following understanding: There has been a continuing debate on this issue in many countries. Some countries, including Japan, have undertaken a review of the relevant laws, while others have not. Bearing this in mind, my delegation confirms its understanding that relevant national or local level with due regard to national and legislative circumstances."

Paraguay: Paragraph 94

Strategic objective: 94 Women and health

"The delegation of Paraguay points out that the concept of 'methods . . . for regulation of fertility which are not against the law,' as referred to in paragraph 94 of the Platform for Action, will be interpreted in conformity with its national legislation."

Note: Without specifying a particular article, Malta, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Peru, Venezuela stated reservations on the subject of abortion:

Malta: "In joining the consensus on the Platform for Action, the delegation of Malta would like to state that it reserves its position on the use of such terms as 'reproductive health,' 'reproductive rights,' and 'control of fertility' as used in different parts of the document. The interpretation given by Malta is consistent with its national legislation, which considers the termination of pregnancy through induced abortion as illegal."

The delegation of Malta reserves its position on the wording 'such abortion should be safe' since it feels that this phrase could lend itself to multiple interpretations, implying among other things that abortion can be completely free of medical and other psychological risks while ignoring altogether the rights of the unborn."

The Dominican Republic: "The Dominican Republic, as a signatory to the American Convention on Human Rights, and in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the Republic, confirms that every person has the right to life, and that life begins at the moment of conception. Consequently, it accepts the content of the terms 'reproductive health,' 'sexual health,' 'maternity without risk,' 'reproductive rights,' 'sexual rights' and 'regulation of fertility' in the Platform for Action, but it makes an express reservation to the content of these terms, or any others, if they include abortion or interruption of pregnancy as a component."

Honduras: "The American Convention on Human Rights, of which our country is a signatory, reaffirms that every individual has the right to life from the moment of conception, on the basis of the moral, ethical, religious and cultural principles that should govern human behaviour. Accordingly, Honduras shares the concepts relating to reproductive health, sexual health and family planning in the Platform for Action, provided that abortion or interruption of pregnancy is not included as a family planning method."

Peru: "The right to life and the consideration of a person from the moment of conception as a subject of law in every respect are fundamental human rights. Therefore, the terms 'reproductive health,' 'reproductive rights' and 'sexual or reproductive health' as used in the Platform for Action must not include abortion as a method of birth control or family planning."

Venezuela: "The concepts of family planning, sexual health, reproductive health, maternity without risk, regulation of fertility, reproductive rights and sexual rights are acceptable provided that they do not include abortion or voluntary interruption of pregnancy. Similarly, Venezuela expresses a reservation with regard to the concept of unwanted pregnancy, since the reference to 'unwanted pregnancy' could be argued in the opposite sense, as implying acceptance of the right of a woman who has become pregnant against her will to terminate the pregnancy (by abortion), an act which is illegal in Venezuela. Venezuela also expresses a reservation with regard to references to 'unsafe abortion,' because abortion under any circumstances is illegal in Venezuela, except when it is essential in order to save a woman's life."

Source: United Nations, Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 4–15 September 1995, Chapter V, p. 157–176.

Tables Annex

Table A.1.1: Life Expectancy, and Infant Mortality for the Ten-year Period Preceding the Latest Available Survey, and Maternal Mortality Ratio

Countries ²	Life expectancy estimates for 1999 ⁽¹⁾			Infant mortality			Countries	Maternal mortality ratio reported (per 100,000 live births) ⁽⁴⁾ 1990-2000
	Male	Female	Both ^a	Survey year ⁽³⁾	Male	Female		
Algeria	68.2	68.8	68.5	Algeria (MCHS 1992)	61.8	45.5	Algeria	150
Bahrain	70.6	73.6	72.1	Bahrain (FHS 1995)	15.1	13.2	Bahrain	46
Comoros	56.0	58.1	57.05	Comoros			Comoros	500
Djibouti	45.0	45.0	45.0	Djibouti			Djibouti	
Egypt	64.2	65.8	65.0	Egypt (DHS 2000)	55.0	54.5	Egypt ⁽⁵⁾	84
Iraq	61.8	62.8	62.3	Iraq			Iraq	310
Jordan	66.3	67.5	66.9	Jordan (DHS 2000)	34.3	23.4	Jordan	41
Kuwait	71.9	75.2	73.55	Kuwait (FHS 1996)	11.9	10.6	Kuwait	5
Lebanon	66.2	67.3	66.75	Lebanon (MCHS 1995)	33.4	33.7	Lebanon	100
Libya	65.0	67.0	66.0	Libya (MCHS 1995)	33.3	28.4	Libya	75
Mauritania	49.5	53.0	51.25	Mauritania			Mauritania	550
Morocco	65.0	66.8	65.9	Morocco (MCHS 1997) ⁽⁶⁾	39.1	34.0	Morocco	230
Oman	70.4	73.8	72.1	Oman (FHS 1995)	21.4	19.2	Oman	19
Palestine ⁽²⁾	70.3	73.4	71.87	Palestine (HS 2000)	25.3	25.6	Palestine(1995) ⁽⁵⁾	70-80
Qatar	71.6	74.6	73.1	Qatar (FHS 1998) ⁽⁶⁾	10.2	8.2	Qatar	10
Saudi Arabia	71.0	72.6	71.8	Saudi Arabia (FHS 1996) ⁽⁶⁾	21.1	21.8	Saudi Arabia	18
Somalia	44.0	44.7	44.4	Somalia			Somalia	-
Sudan	53.1	54.7	53.9	Sudan	84.6	69.2	Sudan	550
Syria	64.6	67.1	65.85	Syria (MCHS 1993)	34.9	29.9	Syria	110
Tunisia	67.0	67.9	67.45	Tunisia (MCHS 1994)	45.6	42.0	Tunisia	70
United Arab Emirates	72.2	75.6	73.9	United Arab Emirates (FHS 1995)	14.5	10.5	United Arab Emirates	3
Yemen	57.3	58.0	57.65	Yemen (DHS 1997)	98.4	80.0	Yemen	350

1) Source: WHO 2000

2) Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics 1998

a) Calculated as a simple average

b) Five year period preceding the survey

3) Survey reports, endnote a

4) UNDP 2000

5) Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics 1997

6) Ministry of Health and Population 2001

Table A.1.2: Fastest Progress in Raising Life Expectancy in Developing Countries 1970–95 (in years)

Country	Life Expectancy at Birth		Percentage Change 1970–95
	1970	1995	
Oman	47	70	50
Yemen	41	57	39
Saudi Arabia	52	71	36
Vietnam	49	66	35
Indonesia	48	64	34
Nepal	42	56	33
Bolivia	46	61	32
Honduras	53	69	31
Bhutan	40	52	30
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	40	52	29

Table A.1.3: Fastest Progress in Reducing Under-five Mortality Rate in Developing Countries 1970–95 (per 1,000 live births)

Country	Under-five Mortality Rate		Percentage Change 1970–95
	1970	1995	
Oman	200	18	-91
United Arab Emirates	150	19	-87
Korea, Rep. of	55	7	-87
Brunei Darussalam	78	11	-86
Chile	96	14	-85
Saudi Arabia	185	32	-83
Tunisia	201	37	-82
Singapore	27	5	-82
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	208	40	-81
Malaysia	63	13	-79

Source: Doraid (2000)

Table A.1.4: Gross Enrollment in Primary Education by Sex and Gender Index of Equality

Country	Gross enrollment ratio 1995/1999		Gender index of equality	
	Female	Male	(Gross enrollment) 1995/1999	(Net enrollment) 2000/2004
Algeria (6–11)	102	113	0.9	0.97
Bahrain (6–11)	106	105	1.01	1.00
Comoros	-	-	-	0.87
Djibouti (6–11)	33	44	0.75	0.77
Egypt (6–10)	94	108	0.87	0.85
Iraq (6–11)	87	92	0.85	0.80 (2)
Jordan (6–15)	-	-	-	0.95 (2)
Kuwait (6–9)	77	78	0.99	0.95 (2)
Lebanon (6–11)	108	113	0.96	1.00
Mauritania (6–11)	75	84	0.89	0.93
Morocco (6–12)	74	97	0.79	0.91
Oman (6–11)	74	78	0.95	1.00
Palestine (6–11)	97	97	1.00	0.99
Qatar (6–11)	86	87	0.99	0.92 (2)
Saudi Arabia (6–16)	76	79	0.96	0.92 (1)
Sudan (6–13)	47	55	0.85	0.83 (1)
Syria (6–11)	96	106	0.91	0.99
Tunisia (6–11)	114	122	0.93	0.99
UAE (6–11)	87	91	0.96	0.92 (1)
Yemen (6–14)	40	100	0.4	0.56

Source: ESCWA 2003b

(1) Data for 1999–2000

(2) Data for 1998–99

Table A.1.5: Female (15+) Illiteracy Rate and Gender Gap Index for Arab Countries, 1995 and 2000

Countries	Female (15+) illiteracy rate		Gender gap		Gender gap index	
	1995	2000	1995	2000	1995	2000
Algeria	54.8	48.7	25.9	23.8	1.90	1.96
Bahrain	20.5	17.3	3.2	8.3	1.18	1.92
Djibouti	67.2	61.6	27.6	26.6	1.70	1.76
Egypt	61.5	56.3	25	22.9	1.68	1.69
Jordan	19.9	15.6	10.4	10.5	2.09	3.06
Kuwait	24	20.1	6.3	4.4	1.36	1.28
Lebanon	23	19.6	13.5	11.9	2.42	2.55
Libya	40.2	32.4	27.6	23.3	3.19	3.56
Mauritania	73.3	70.5	22	21.1	1.43	1.43
Morocco	69.5	64	27.2	25.9	1.64	1.68
Oman	49.3	38.3	23.9	18.7	1.94	1.95
Qatar	20	16.8	-1	-2.7	0.95	0.86
Saudi Arabia	40.3	32.8	21.1	16.9	2.10	2.06
Sudan	61.7	54	25.2	22	1.69	1.69
Syria	45.9	39.6	31	27.9	3.08	3.38
Tunisia	47	39.9	23	21.3	1.96	2.15
UAE	24.9	20.5	-1.9	-4.3	0.93	0.83
Yemen	81.6	75	43.7	42.4	2.15	2.30
The Arab Region	56.6	50.6	26.3	24.5	1.87	1.94

Source: ESCWA 2003b

Table A.1.6: Percent Distribution of University Students According to Field of Study, 1995/1996

Countries	Humanitarian and Arts		Social Sciences, Trade and Law		Sciences		Engineering		Health and Social care		Others	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Bahrain	23	12	30.5	17.1	8.6	4.4	12.1	48.4	18.4	7.9	7.4	10.3
Egypt	51.8	38.9	34.1	40.6	3	3.2	1.5	7.2	7.1	6.1	2.5	4
Jordan	45.4	26.8	24	35.9	11.7	11.5	4.9	13.4	11.4	10.1	2.6	2.3
Kuwait	41.7	16.4	40.7	65.9	8.9	3.5	5.3	9.9	3.3	4.4	0	0
Oman	83.1	45	0	0	10.2	8.8	2.8	20.5	3	10.4	0.9	15.3
Palestine	74.4	60.2	0	0	17.1	19.7	2.8	8.1	3.8	1.8	1.9	10.2
Qatar	63.2	26.5	12.3	19.4	12.1	23.1	6.3	23.8	0	0	6.3	7.1
Saudi Arabia	82.5	71.2	5.1	8.9	8.5	4.3	0.2	10.5	2.7	3.7	1.1	1.4
Syria	41	19.1	16.9	38.2	10.2	8.8	15.9	35.6	12.3	23.6	3.7	10.2
UAE	57.2	22.1	11.2	36	9.9	9.9	2.6	14.3	1.7	1.8	17.4	15.8
Yemen	46.6	55.8	41.8	32.4	1.3	1.8	1.9	4	7.9	3.8	0.5	2.3
Average	55.4	35.8	19.7	26.8	9.2	9.0	5.1	17.8	6.5	6.7	4.0	7.2

Source: ESCWA 2003b

Table A.1.7: Burden of Ill Health among Persons 15 Years and Over, Percentage Reported to Have Doctor-diagnosed Selected Illness, by Sex and Place of Residence for Gulf Countries

	Bahrain (1995)	Kuwait (1996)	Oman (1995)	Qatar (1998)	Saudi Arabia (1996)	UAE (1995)
Longstanding illness *						
Total	22.2	23.7	17.2	23.7	22.1	19.5
Males	18.1	20.2	13.1	20.2	18.6	16.3
Females	26.2	27.0	21.4	27.0	25.4	22.5
Urban			17.1		21.4	20.0
Rural			17.4		23.4	18.3
Acute sickness during two weeks preceding survey						
Total	11.3	13.8	8.4	12.9	8.4	6.0
Males	9.4	11.7	6.7	11.1	6.5	4.6
Females	13.1	15.9	10.2	14.5	10.2	7.3
Urban			8.7		8.7	6.5
Rural			8.0		7.7	4.7
Cardiovascular disorder						
Total	11.2	14.9	7.5	13.1	6.4	10.8
Males	9.6	13.2	5.6	11.7	5.4	9.7
Females	12.7	16.4	9.3	14.4	7.3	11.9
Asthma ^a						
Total	3.3	4.7	2.2	6.9	4.1	3.6
Males	3.4	5.0	2.2	7.6	4.2	3.9
Females	3.3	4.4	2.0	6.1	4.0	3.4
Diabetes						
Total	5.5	9.2	2.8	7.9	5.8	5.2
Males	4.9	8.9	2.3	7.5	6.3	5.1
Females	6.1	9.7	3.3	8.2	5.4	5.2
Heart disease						
Total	2.2	3.2	1.5	2.2	1.2	1.8
Males	2.1	3.5	1.6	2.3	1.3	1.9
Females	2.4	2.8	1.4	2.2	1.2	1.7
High blood pressure						
Total	6.3	7.9	4.4	6.5	5.4	6.6
Males	4.9	5.6	2.7	4.7	4.4	5.2
Females	7.6	10.1	6.1	8.3	6.5	7.8
Joint disease						
Total	4.6	6.1	2.4	6.3	6.1	4.7
Males	2.4	2.9	1.7	3.5	3.5	3.1
Females	6.7	9.1	3.2	8.9	8.7	6.2
Gastric ulcer						
Total	2.9	3.9	0.7	2.8	2.2	1.4
Males	2.6	3.7	0.7	2.7	2.0	1.4
Females	3.1	4.0	0.6	2.9	2.4	1.4
Kidney disease						
Total	2.6	1.7		2.2	1.7	1.2
Males	2.6	1.4		1.6	1.2	0.9
Females	2.5	1.9		2.7	2.1	1.5
Persistent headache						
Total	6.6	4.4	4.3	4.6	5.0	4.0
Males	3.9	2.8	1.8	2.8	3.0	2.3
Females	9.2	5.9	6.7	6.4	7.1	5.6
Dental care ^b						
Total	20.0	23.4	10.3	21.1	16.4	16.3
Males	14.4	17.6	6.3	15.4	11.0	10.9
Females	25.4	28.9	14.4	26.5	21.7	21.4
Urban			10.8		17.9	17.1
Rural			9.4		13.0	14.5

Source: Family Health Survey reports, endnote a

*A person was considered as having a longstanding illness or disability if he/she was reported to have had any of the following doctor-diagnosed conditions: high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, stroke, asthma, joint disease, peptic disease, renal disease, liver disease, nervous disease, cancer or any longstanding condition which prevents or limits his/her participation in activities normal for a person of his/her age.

^a For all persons.

^b Have made at least one visit to the dentist in the 12-month period preceding the survey.

Table A.1.8: Maternal Health Indicators

Countries	Maternal mortality ratio reported (per 100,000 live births) ¹ 1990-2000	Anemia (% of pregnant women)	% of currently pregnant women with complaints during pregnancy					% of births in the five years preceding the survey with delivery complications				
			Swollen ankles & fingers	Persistent headaches	High blood pressure	Bleeding	Convulsions	General	Specific			
									Prolonged labor	Excessive bleeding	Vaginal infection	Convulsions
Algeria	150	42	14.9	30.7	8.6	6.5	3.4	9.7				
Bahrain	46	-	15.6 ^a	14.0 ^a	8.4 ^a	9.5 ^b	3.6 ^a	20.3 ^b				
Comoros	500	-										
Djibouti	..	-										
Egypt	84 ⁽²⁾	24	6.5	33.8	5.0	1.9	11.8		19.9	3.8	2.1	0.6
Iraq	310	18										
Jordan	41	50							19.4	7.3	4.9	3.6
Kuwait	5	40	20.3 ^a	16.3 ^a	10.7 ^a	8.1 ^a	3.6 ^a		23.6 ^b			
Lebanon	100	49	11.8	29.1	9.3	5.1	8.5	22.8				
Libya	75	-	23.3	45.6	5.8	3.7	14.7	10.9				
Mauritania	550	24	25.4	33.6	14.2	7.6	27.5	20.4				
Morocco	230	45	25.4	31.5	5.2	4.7	3.6	-				
Oman	19	54	11.3 ^a	11.2 ^a	5.4 ^a	5.4 ^a	2.7 ^a	11.6 ^a				
Palestine(1995) ²	70-80				7.6							
Qatar	10		15.4 ^a	14.2 ^a	7.2 ^a	8.3 ^b	3.2 ^a		23.3 ^a			
Saudi Arabia	18	-	9.0 ^a	15.0 ^a	5.7 ^a	5.5 ^a	0.9 ^a		26.7 ^a			
Somalia	-											
Sudan	550	36	13.9	31.9	2.4	3.5	4.0	8.6				
Syria	110	-	12.5	23.4	5.3	3.6	9.6	6.5				
Tunisia	70	38	14.3	53.2	2.8	10.8	52.7	27.4				
United Arab Emirates	3	-	11.3 ^a	12.9 ^a	7.6 ^a	6.0 ^a	4.1 ^a	15.8 ^a				
Yemen	350	-							33.2	17.2	24.7	10.4

Source: Latest available survey reports, endnote a

(1) UNDP 2000

(2) Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics 1997

(3) Ministry of Health and Population 2001

(a) During the pregnancy of births in the three years preceding the survey.

(b) Births in the three years preceding the survey.

Table A.1.9: Estimates of Adult HIV Infection (Through the end of 1997)

Arab countries	Adults (15–49) living with HIV/AIDS	Adult prevalence rate (%)
Algeria	11,000	0.07
Bahrain	500	0.15
Egypt	8,100	0.03
Iraq	300	<0.005
Jordan	660	0.02
Kuwait	1,100	0.12
Lebanon	1,500	0.09
Libya	1,400	0.05
Morocco	5,000	0.03
Oman	1,200	0.11
Qatar	300	0.09
Saudi Arabia	1,100	0.01
Syria	800	0.01
Tunisia	2,200	0.40
UAE	2,000	0.18
Yemen	900	0.01

source: World Bank 1999

Table A.1.10: Proportion of Ever-married Women (15–49) Diagnosed with Primary Infertility According to Different Definitions

Panel 1*							
Measures of primary infertility	Countries/surveys						
	Algeria MCHS 1992	Egypt MCHS 1991	Mauritania MCHS 1990/91	Morocco DHS 1995	Sudan MCHS 1992/93	Tunisia DHS 1988	Yemen DHS 1997
Childless Age 40–44	3.5	3.5	4.7	4.8	4.1	4.0	3.1
Inability to carry pregnancy to full term (Duration of marriage 5 years or more)	3.3	3.4	5.5	5.4	3.8	3.4	3.4
Delayed childbearing including primary infertility (Duration of marriage 2–5)	6.7	9.0	24.5	13.8	11.8	-	19.8
Childlessness (Duration of marriage 5–9)	6.7	5.9	13.5	11.0	11.0	5.7	8.8
Panel 2							
Proportion Currently Married Women (40–44) Who Have No Children Ever Born: the Gulf Countries							
Measures of primary infertility	Countries/surveys						
	Bahrain FHS 1995	Kuwait FHS 1996	Oman FHS 1995	Qatar FHS 1998	Saudi Arabia FHS 1996	UAE FHS 1995	
No children ever born	3.2	2.1	1.3	3.4	1.4	1.8	

Source: Survey reports, end note (d)

*Rashad (2002)

Table A.1.11: Measures of Pregnancy Loss among Ever-married Women (15–49)

Panel 1						
Percent of ever-married women (15–49) who ever experienced pregnancy loss, for selected Arab countries						
Age group	Algeria MCHS 1992	Egypt MCHS 1991	Mauritania MCHS 1990/91	Morocco DHS 1995	Sudan MCHS 1992/93	Yemen DHS 1997
All women	27.5	29.7	23.8	24.6	23.5	34.5
Age 40+	40.2	41.2	32.6	33.8	33.6	50.3
Panel 2						
Pregnancy loss rate* among ever-married women (15–49), for selected Arab countries						
Age group	Algeria MCHS 1992	Egypt MCHS 1991	Mauritania MCHS 1990/91	Sudan MCHS 1992/93	Yemen DHS 1997	
All women	51	62	44	53	69	
Age 40+	87	99	72	85	129	
Panel 3						
Percentage of women who experienced three or more pregnancy losses among those who ever experienced pregnancy loss by type of loss, for selected Arab countries						
Type of loss	Algeria MCHS 1992	Egypt MCHS 1991	Mauritania MCHS 1990/91	Sudan MCHS 1992/93	Yemen DHS 1997	
Abortion	15.9	20.2	11.1	13.4	21.3	
Stillbirth	9.3	15.9	13.8	17.2	10.8	
Any loss	19.1	23.7	21.0	21.5	24.5	

Source: Rashad 2002

* Pregnancy loss rate is number of pregnancy losses per 100 women.

Table A.1.12: Measures of Fertility

Countries	TFR		Contraceptive prevalence rate (%) 1990-99	% Ever-married women with 6+ children ever born ¹	Short spacing ¹	Unmet need ¹
	1970-75	1995-2000				
Algeria	7.4	3.8	57	31.8*	15.2	18.3
Bahrain	5.9	2.9	62	24.4	10.0	
Comoros	7.1	4.8	21			
Djibouti	6.7	5.3	..			
Egypt	5.5	3.4	55	16.1	12.0	16.0 [†]
Iraq	7.1	5.3	18			
Jordan	7.8	4.9	53	16.1	21.5	14.2 [†]
Kuwait	6.9	2.9	35	24.8	17.7	
Lebanon	4.9	2.7	63	24.5 ^{**}		17.3
Libya	7.6	3.8	..	45.0		26.5
Mauritania	6.5	5.5	4	25.0*		15.7
Morocco	6.9	3.1	59	15.5	9.6	16.1 [†]
Oman	7.2	5.9	40	48.6	14.0	
Palestine (1999) ²			5.9	51	34	50
Qatar	6.8	3.7	32	27.7	17.3	
Saudi Arabia	7.3	5.8	..	42.7	18.1	
Sudan	6.7	4.6	8	60.6*		26.0 [†]
Syria	7.7	4	36	29.4*		20.4
Tunisia	6.2	2.6	60	21.8		20.0 [†]
UAE	6.4	3.4	28	43.4	19.3	
Yemen	7.6	7.6	21	29.7	19.3	38.6 [†]

Source: UNDP 2000

(1) Latest available survey reports, endnote a

(2) Palestinian Ministry of Health 2000

* Live birth

+ 5+ Live birth

-Short spacing: Less than 18 months since previous birth, for birth during five years preceding the survey

-Unmet need : is defined as proportion of currently married women, who want no more children but have never used contraceptive. The DHS definition (El Zanaty et al 1996: 103) was used for countries marked O.

Table A.1.13: Percentage of Women in Labor Force (2000), Percentage in Paid Non-Agricultural Sector (2003), and Unemployment Rate by Sex in Different Years

Countries	% of women in labor force	% in paid non agricultural sector	Unemployment rate		
			Female	Male	year
Algeria	28	12			
Bahrain	21	13	11.8	5.2	1991
Comoros	43				
Egypt	30	20	19.9	5.1	1998
Iraq	20		7.1	3.5	1987
Jordan	24	21	21.0	12.3	2000
Kuwait	23	23	0.7	0.8	1999
Lebanon	30		7.2	8.6	1997
Libya	23				
Mauritania	43				
Morocco	35	27			
Oman	17	25	37.0	14.2	1996
Palestine		16	20.2	17.1	1997
Qatar	16	15	5.2	1.8	1997
Saudi Arabia	18	14			
Somalia	43				
Sudan	30				
Syria	27	17	10.5	8.6	1998
Tunisia	32				
UAE	13	14	2.4	1.7	1995
Yemen	28	7	8.2	12.5	1999

Source: ESCWA 2003b