

بسم الله الرحمن

الرحيم

**THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM
OF JORDAN
GENEVA**



**البعثة الدائمة
للمملكة الأردنية الهاشمية
جنيف**

Statement

by

H.E. Ambassador Shehab A. Madi

**Permanent Representative - Head of the Delegation of the Hashemite
Kingdom of Jordan**

Consideration of the Second Periodic Report

Forty-Fourth Session of the Committee against Torture

29 April 2010

Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Members of the Committee,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very pleased for the opportunity to address the distinguished Chairperson and Members of the Committee against Torture today but before I turn to the substantive part of my introductory statement, allow me Mr. Chairperson to introduce my colleagues, the members of the Jordanian delegation who represent several ministries and departments responsible for issues particularly related to the implementation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

1. Dr. Walid Sadi, General Coordinator of Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
2. Mrs. Rima Al'a Edeen, Director of Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
3. Colonel Maher Al Shishani, Public Security Department.
4. Mr. Yousef Masarwah, Advisor, Ministry of Interior;
5. Dr. Rana Ajweh, Acting Director of the Human Rights Department, Ministry of Justice.

In addition, my colleague Mr. Mutaz Hyassat, First Secretary, and I are based here at the Permanent Mission.

Mr. Chairperson,

1. The Government of Jordan greatly appreciates the crucial role and tireless efforts of the Committee in the effective struggle against torture, and reiterates its commitment to closely working with you.
2. Undeniably, no country is immune from torture and we do not claim that some incidents of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment do not occur in Jordan. We acknowledge that but we do not and will not condone or tolerate such incidents.
3. Quite the contrary, we are exerting sincere efforts to respond to some gaps - most of which you the distinguished Members of the Committee have already raised- in the implementation and follow-up to our commitments in respect of the Convention.
4. In this regard, we wish to assure you that all your comments and questions, and ultimately the concluding observations and recommendations will be considered very seriously, and consequently acted upon in order to ensure improvements in our overall compliance with the Convention.

5. Jordan is increasingly focused on building-capacity and awareness-raising, whether in support of aligning national laws with CAT and other international human rights standards, including translating relevant United Nations General Assembly and Human Rights Council resolutions into practice. It is worth noting in this regard that Jordan was among the cosponsors of the resolutions on torture and actively participated in the informal consultations to ensure a strong and consensual outcome.

6. We are aware of the imperative to work even harder on areas relating to effective investigation; independent monitoring of detention/rehabilitation and correctional centers; legal safeguards; accountability, reparation for victims. We sincerely hope that we will achieve more progress in this respect and we are determined to do so. We are also enhancing our partnership with interested stakeholders, such as the Government of Denmark and other Danish organizations, as well as with the civil society.

7. In this connection, we took note with appreciation of the shadow reports and remarks submitted by the National Centre for Human Rights and other Jordanian civil society organizations. We would like to express our sincere thanks for their valuable contributions and reiterate our commitment to continuing our

cooperation and partnership with them so that we can build on the progress made and tackle the remaining challenges to prevent and eradicate the scourge of torture..

8. In conclusion, Jordan continues to take significant measures both in the legislative and institutional framework to effectively deliver on its commitments with respect to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Equally, Jordan is striving in earnest to improve its implementation of the Convention in order to eliminate the crime of torture and ill-treatment and we trust that the outcome of this meeting will better guide us to achieve our quest.

Finally, I would like to express our great appreciation for Mr. Joao Nataf, Secretary of the Committee and his team for all their hard work and cooperation.

The Jordanian delegation looks forward to a frank, thorough, and meaningful dialogue. I will delegate our part of the dialogue, so as each and every expert may comprehensively and satisfactorily respond to your questions and comments.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson