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**OPEN-ENDED INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP
OF EXPERTS ON THE STANDARD MINIMUM RULES
FOR THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA, 11 – 13 December 2012**

**RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN ¹
TO NOTE CU 2011/26**

¹ This document was received in the Arabic language and has been officially translated.

Introduction

United Nations and Criminal Justice conferences, as major international forums, have had a great effect on the development of legislation and best practices in Jordan, even though Jordan was one of the first states in the region to adopt the concept of reform during the carrying out of a sentence, by offering programmes with various objectives, including the return of prisoners to society as useful citizens, with a new and positive constructive and contributory role.

The pioneering Jordanian experiment in the field of reform and rehabilitation goes back a long time, which led the Fifth Conference of Heads of Penal institutions in the Arab States, held in Amman from 18 to 20 August 1989, to decide to invite the Arab states to benefit from the Jordanian experience with penal institutions and to consider the reform and rehabilitation centre at Sawqah a model to be emulated in that field. The Public Security Directorate has added to that pioneering experiment the Women's Reform and Rehabilitation Centre and a number of pioneering model reform centres in accordance with modern international systems. These centres were designed to cater to the numerous requirements of modern concepts of reform and rehabilitation of prisoners as regards classification, and recreation and educational sections, handicrafts and agricultural sections, etc.

Jordanian legislation governing the life of prisoners within the reform and rehabilitation centres and their relationship with the outside world, both as regards the treatment of prisoners detained pending trial, or convicted prisoners carrying out their sentence, has included the modern Law 9 of 2004. That law and subsequent directives comply with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, and even exceeds them in many of the articles as regards best practices with regard to prisoners, particularly modern classification based on the study of human behaviour and other aspects of the treatment of prisoners.

Best practices in the treatment of prisoners

The Public Security Directorate, through the Reform and Rehabilitation Centres Administration, has been diligent in adopting, cultivating and implementing all that is modern in the field of treatment of prisoners and providing them with services, whether through partnerships with civil society institutions or international partnerships by means of projects with the European Union in particular. A Jordanian-European twinning project has been implemented, represented on the European side by the government of Austria, which has had a marked effect as regards the adoption of modern reform policies based on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and European criteria in this respect.

Constituents of the best practices

First: Core element of training and qualifying personnel at the reform and rehabilitation centres

This is accomplished by adopting the principle of proper and modern training of the various grades at the rehabilitation centres at all levels (command, middle and lower), at a specialized training centre established for that purpose, through specialized and specific courses, such as a course for new recruits, a course for supervision and inspection sections, a course on financial accounting for the prisoners and custody of their belongings, a course on human rights, courses on reception and classification offices, etc. Through these courses there is a concentration on prisoners' rehabilitation programmes and services provided to them on the basis of national legislation and international conventions observed and all policies and procedures conforming with international standards of the best treatment of prisoners. Non-exhaustive examples of the components are:

- Legal provisions governing the life of prisoners within the prisons and the nature of relations with prisons personnel
- Communication and negotiation
- The use of minimum force only for arrest and control
- Feeding and housing prisoners
- Religious activities
- Distribution and receipt of booklet on rights and duties of prisoners
- Records of prisoners' admission, prisoners' mail, reports on prisoners' injuries etc.

Second: Core element of rehabilitation programmes provided to prisoners

Aimed at protecting prisoners of reform and rehabilitation centres, caring for them and re-integrating them in society. The mechanism for the selection of persons in charge of care and the provision of services has had a great effect in contributing effectively and efficiently to the success of these programmes. A set of conditions and specifications was established for the selection of specialists in this type of care, including:

- 1- Ability to select the appropriate means for care
- 2- Ability to use what is available, as possible
- 3- Ability to motivate the faith and moral dimension
- 4- Ability to continue communication between the prisoners and the outside environment
- 5- Ability to organize priorities for the services provided
- 6- Flexibility in implementing care programs
- 7- Ability to initiate aftercare programmes prior to discharge
- 8- Faith of the trainers in the value of their work
- 9- Experience and practical and academic skills in the application of the goals of the programmes and an understanding of the training procedure
- 10- To set a good example and have a genuine interest in the work

Types of rehabilitation programmes applied in minimum security penal institutions:

Rehabilitation programmes are divided into two types: practical vocational rehabilitation programmes and academic educational rehabilitation programmes.

- 1- Educational programmes (for the illiterate: basic education, secondary education, assistance with higher education, language training courses, personal computer, educational and guidance lectures)
- 2- Health programmes (providing all levels of health care to prisoners, treatment of addiction programmes, substance control)
- 3- Artistic programmes (include recreational and guidance plays, music, singing, drawing, decoration) artistic objects)
- 4- Sport programmes (include various available sports activities)
- 5- Various religious programmes (include religious and guidance lectures, memorizing the Quran, various opinions and questions concerning religion)

- 6- Cultural programmes
- 7- Social guidance programmes
- 8- Psychological counselling programmes
- 9- Vocational programmes (artisanal workshops)
- 10- Training programmes
- 11- Recreational programmes
- 12- Productive programmes (agricultural and animal production)
- 13- Service programmes (plumber, waiter, cook, ironing, baker, cleaner, construction work, smithery, lathe operator, carpentry, cleaning materials manufacture, needlework, gardening, cookery, pastry-making etc.

Specialized rehabilitation programmes according to case studies

- 1- Programmes for the unemployed illiterate lacking any vocation
- 2- Rehabilitation programme for addicts
- 3- Rehabilitation programme for wealthy prisoners
- 4- Rehabilitation programmes for perpetrators of particular crimes
- 5- Rehabilitation training programmes for the elderly
- 6- Rehabilitation training programmes for youth (near juveniles)
- 7- Rehabilitation programmes for recidivists
- 8- Rehabilitation programme for new prisoners
- 9- [missing in original. Trans.]
- 10- Rehabilitation training programme for prisoners close to discharge (aftercare)
- 11- Rehabilitation training programme on substance control (medicine, solvents, alcohol, drugs)
- 12- Rehabilitation training programme designed to help prevent from prisoners from harming themselves
- 13- Rehabilitation training programmes aimed at countering aggressive tendencies of prisoners
- 14- Rehabilitation training programmes aimed at countering attempts to commit suicide and suicidal tendencies
- 15- Rehabilitation training programme aimed at combating extremist religious ideas

16- Rehabilitation training programme for prisoners with influence and authority

17- Rehabilitation programmes for psychopathic prisoners

18- Any other programmes decided by the specialists

Objectives of the rehabilitation programmes

- Help some prisoners to continue their education
- Help fill prisoners' free time
- Assist and guide prisoners to undertake honourable work and increase their opportunities of finding employment (a trade or profession) according to their abilities after their discharge
- Help the prisoner to reform his character and his ability to deal with others
- Develop correct understanding of the government and its functions and the rights of citizens
- Help the individual to develop and to acquire proper social and moral customs and attitudes and instil the idea of doing good and rejecting evil and crime
- Give prisoners a functional and realistic view of economic and social conditions
- Self-respect (Restoration of inmates' self-confidence)
- Compliance with and acceptance of the rules and regulations of the correctional institution and of the system in general
- Prevention of the prisoner falling victim to unemployment and a vacuum that lead to physical illness and psychological disturbances
- Obtain a wage
- Eradication of factors of criminality
- Satisfy prisoners' religious needs and strengthen religious inhibitions
- Teach prisoners to be creative and imaginative
- Develop a communal spirit, individual talents and a team and leadership spirit
- Self-restraint, respect for others and the opinion of others and self-criticism
- A means of relaxation and getting prisoners out of the pattern of ordinary life and release from everyday pressures and the painful reality of life
- The rehabilitation programmes have two goals: a reformative goal and a rehabilitation goal
- Provide care for the families of prisoners

- Rehabilitation of discharged prisoners prior to their discharge from penal institutions, to enable them to co-exist with society
- Provide an appropriate environment to persons released from penal institutions to outside society
- Work to convince released prisoners in a scientific and practical way of the possibility of returning to the correct path and reinforce the principle of repentance
- Benefit from all the capabilities of society, including prisoners

Steps in the preparation of rehabilitation programmes for prisoners

- 1- Case study of the prisoners in accordance with the form prepared for that purpose (classification form)
- 2- Determination of a rehabilitation programme based on the case study. For example, one prisoner may be illiterate and another literate, or a university graduate, so his rehabilitation programme must include an educational component. Or there may be a wealthy prisoner and a poor one, so the wealthy prisoner's rehabilitation programmes should not include learning a trade with which to earn money, while the poor prisoners must be taught a trade
- 3- Application of the rehabilitation programmes to the prisoners

Conditions to be fulfilled in all training programmes

- 1- Organization of punitive work and vocational training within the institution
- 2- Determination of the wage or remuneration to be paid for the work
- 3- Planning of free time within the institution
- 4- Maintenance of the relationship between the prisoner and outside society
- 5- Education, correction and health care
- 6- Justice, equality and clarity
- 7- Punishment and reward

Bases which must be complied with in determining a rehabilitation programme for prisoners of the same category

- 1- Age
- 2- Criminal record
- 3- Recidivism
- 4- Outside social environment
- 5- Level of education

- 6- Civil status
- 7- Reasons for committing crimes
- 8- Level of danger
- 9- Criminal progression
- 10- Psychopathic character
- 11- Expectation of suicide

Third: Humanitarian core element in the reform centres as a type of best practice

These programmes are implemented and applied with the aim of raising the level of care for the prisoners and of the services provided to them to advanced humanitarian levels. The development and change process requires an endeavour to devise new ways and means to stimulate and develop a new reality in the method of treatment, including, for example:

- 1- Special family visits on holidays and on national occasions
- 2- Communal breakfast (iftar) during the Holy Month of Ramadan
- 3- Designating parks and playgrounds equipped with games to occupy prisoners' children during visits
- 4- Presenting gifts and sweets to prisoners' families during visits
- 5- Presenting meaningful, educational and entertaining plays
- 6- Participation in celebrations on national event days and national holidays
- 7- Facilitation of procedures for family visits and providing care for prisoners' families
- 8- Vocational and educational training and making it possible for products and work of prisoners to be shown at art exhibitions and bazaars
- 9- Offering emergency financial assistance and providing those who need them with telephone cards to maintain contacts between prisoners and their families and lawyers
- 10- Coordination with civil society institutions and organizations that care for prisoners to provide them and their families with material assistance and assistance in kind
- 11- To endeavour to implement relief and preparation programmes for prisoners

- 12- Classifying prisoners and assigning them to designated and specific rooms, such as juveniles, the elderly, non-smokers, and first-time prisoners
- 13- Encourage personal creativity and develop hobbies and artistic work
- 14- Encourage sports and form sports teams
- 15- Encourage creativity in the fields of writing, poetry, oratory and participation in local competitions. Forming orchestras and acting groups
- 16- Establishing schools and libraries
- 17- Encourage freedom of thought and expression and practicing them within reform and rehabilitation centres
- 18- Protection of the right to education and complete higher education, which has led some to obtain doctorate degrees while in reform centres
- 19- Providing health care to pregnant prisoners and permitting mothers to have custody of their children
- 20- Implementation of care programmes for those with special needs
- 21- Promotion of humanitarian participation by prisoners for those with special needs

National legislation concerning the application of standard minimum rules

Jordanian legislators have observed most of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners in their adoption of Law 9/2004 on Reform and Rehabilitation Centres. His Excellency the Minister of the Interior was also empowered by article 43 to issue instructions on organizing other aspects that govern the life of prisoners and lead to the achievement of best practices. A draft is under preparation of a set of articles to be added to it concerning alternative sanctions in penal institutions.

(First)

Articles matching Part I of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Rules of general application, basic principle, separation of categories, accommodation)

Article (5) of law 9/2004 on reform centres:

Paragraph (b) provides that in every centre there shall be kept a register in which shall be entered in respect of each prisoner information on his identity and on the offence he has committed, the sentences or rulings against him, his health and behaviour and incoming and outgoing official correspondence. There shall also be kept registers of visitors, items in safekeeping and other necessary matters.

Article (8) of law 9/2004 on reform centres:

The Minister of Justice and the head of the Public Prosecution and any head of an appeal court or court of first instance or serious crimes court, the Attorney General and members of the Public Prosecution, each within his jurisdiction, may enter a centre to ascertain the following:

- (a) That there is no prisoner in the centre illegally.
- (b) That rulings by the courts and the Public Prosecution are being carried out as specified.
- (c) That no prisoner is put to work whose sentence does not order his employment, except for rehabilitation purposes.
- (d) Separation of the various categories of prisoners and their treatment on the basis of the provisions of this law.
- (e) That registers are kept in an organized manner.

- (f) That any complaint by any prisoner about any transgression committed against him or about any act of coercion unlawfully committed against another is to followed up.

Article (11) of law 9/2004 on reform centres

- (a) Prisoners under arrest shall be kept separate from convicted prisoners.
- (b) Prisoners shall be divided into categories by age, type of crime, the seriousness of the crime and the length of sentence, in order to separate the various categories.

Article (5) of the instructions of the reform and rehabilitation centres administration by virtue of article (43) of the reform and rehabilitation centres law

- (a) Prisoners to be transferred to and from a centre shall be classified according to the seriousness of their crime and shall be restrained and transported in accordance with regulations in such a manner as to prevent escape of the prisoner and exposing his life to danger.
- (b) A prisoner in poor health shall be transported by a means of transport compatible with the condition of his health.

Article (6) of the instructions of the reform and rehabilitation centres administration by virtue of article (43) of the reform and rehabilitation centres law

Accommodation:

- (a) The Administration of the Reform and Rehabilitation Centres shall determine the number of prisoners which can be accepted in each centre, so as to prevent overcrowding, unless for exceptional reasons.
- (b) Not more than one prisoner may be placed in an individual room or in a single cell, whatever the reason.
- (c) Care shall be taken when accommodating prisoners in dormitories to ensure that they are able to co-exist, in such a way as not to place among them any badly behaved or ill-natured individuals, with 24-hour supervision.

Article (7) of the instructions of the reform and rehabilitation centres administration by virtue of article (43) of the reform and rehabilitation law

Floor space, lighting and ventilation:

- (a) All rooms or dormitories provided for the use of prisoners shall meet all health requirements, with due regard being paid to climatic conditions.

- (b) Windows shall be large enough to enable prisoners to use natural light to read or work, and shall be so constructed as to allow the entrance of fresh air whether or not there is artificial ventilation.
- (c) Artificial light shall be provided sufficient for prisoners to read or work without injury to eyesight.

(Second)

**Articles conforming with the Standard Minimum rules for the
Treatment of Prisoners
(personal hygiene, exercise and sport, medical services)**

Article (12) of law 9/2004 on reform centres

- Prisoners shall wear the uniform determined by the Administration, except those imprisoned by order of the chief of enforcement

Articles 8, 9 and 10 of the instructions of the reform and rehabilitation centres administration by virtue of article (43) of the reform and rehabilitation centres law

Article (8): Hygiene:

- 1- Sanitary installations shall be adequate to enable every prisoner to comply with the needs of nature when necessary and in a clean and decent manner.
- 2 - Adequate bathing and washing installations shall be provided so that every prisoner may be enabled to have a bath or to wash, as frequently as necessary for general hygiene according to season and geographical location, but not less than once a week.
- 3 - Prisoners shall be required to keep their persons clean, and to this end they shall be provided with water and with such toilet articles as are necessary for health and cleanliness.
- 4 - To maintain a proper appearance compatible with the prisoners' self-respect each centre shall be provided with the facilities necessary for the care of the hair and beard, and males shall be enabled to shave regularly. Prisoners' hair may not be cut forcibly except for reasons of hygiene as determined by the centre's doctor.

Article (9): Clothing and bedding

- (a) Clothing provided to prisoners shall be suitable for changes in the weather and also for the special conditions of work.
- (b) Clothing shall be clean and kept in proper condition by the prisoner. He shall change his underclothing and wash it as often as necessary for the maintenance of his hygiene.
- (c) Every prisoner shall be provided with a separate bed and with sufficient bedding that shall be clean when issued, kept in good order and changed often enough to maintain its cleanliness.

Article (10): Food and water

- (a) The administration of the centre shall provide, at the hours it determines, meals of nutritional value adequate for health and strength, of wholesome quality and well prepared and served.
- (b) The administration of the centre shall make available drinking water to every prisoner whenever he needs it.

Article (22): Health and social care of prisoners in the reform centres law

The Ministry of Health shall provide health care and treatment to prisoners. The Director of the centre shall ensure the provision of this care. For this purpose a medical centre shall be established which shall include the main medical specializations to provide health, psychiatric and curative care to prisoners free of charge in every centre.

Article (23): The Ministry of Health, through the Health Administration, shall assume medical supervision of the centres within its jurisdiction, and shall oversee health conditions related to the cleanliness of the centre and prisoners' food and clothing.

Article (24): A centre's medical doctor shall medically examine every prisoner and submit a report on his health in any of the following cases:

- (a) Upon admission to the centre, upon leaving it and upon transfer from one centre to another
- (b) Before placing a prisoner in solitary confinement and after removing him from it
- (c) At the request of any judicial authority or any competent authority
- (d) At the request of the Director of the Centre
- (e) At the prisoner's request

Article (25): If a prisoner's state of health requires hospital treatment, the administration of the centre shall transfer the prisoner to a hospital, on the basis

of a report by the centre's medical doctor. He shall be returned to the centre after completion of his treatment.

Article (26): If it appears to the Director of the centre that a convicted prisoner is mentally abnormal, he shall be referred to the competent medical authority for the necessary medical action and shall remain under treatment for as long as his condition requires. If the term of his sentence ends he shall be immediately discharged and all required procedures shall be followed, after correspondence with the competent authority.

Article (27): Acting on the recommendation of the Director, the Minister may, if it appears that there is an infectious or contagious disease at the centre, issue a written order to transfer any prisoner to a competent centre for his treatment. Such place shall be considered to have the same status as the centre under the provisions of this law.

Article (28): Visits shall be permitted to a sick prisoner according to instructions by the Director of the centre for this purpose.

Article (29):

- (a) If a prisoner should die, the Director of the centre shall take the following measures:
 - 1 - Immediately notify the Director, the Minister, the Prosecutor General and the relatives of the deceased regarding the occurrence, and the location of the body.
 - 2 - If the deceased prisoner is not a Jordanian national, the Director, the Minister and the authority concerned with aliens shall be notified.
- (b) The medical doctor of the centre shall submit a report on the condition of the prisoner deceased in the centre, in particular the following:
 - 1 - The illness from which he was suffering and the date on which he contracted it.
 - 2 - The date of the last examination by the medical doctor before death.
 - 3 - The date and time of death.
- (c) The Prosecutor General shall order the transfer of the body of the deceased to the forensic medical examiner to determine the cause of death and condition of the body.

Article (30): The Ministry of Social Development shall, depending on available resources, offer social services and aftercare to prisoners through special centres

to be opened in the centre, in accordance with instructions issued by the Minister of Social Development for that purpose.

(Third)

Articles conforming with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (discipline and punishment, information to and complaints by prisoners, contact with the outside world, books, religion)

Article (37) of the law on reform centres: (Behavioural contraventions and punishments)

Subject to the provisions of the penal code and any other law in force, perpetration by a prisoner of any of the following acts shall be deemed a contravention of the provisions of this law:

- (a) Mutiny, insubordination or violence or an attempt to commit any of these acts or incitement thereto.
- (b) To cause material damage to the buildings of the centre or its annexes or equipment or facilities.
- (c) Possession of any substance prohibited by law or the possession of which is prohibited by instructions issued by a competent authority.
- (d) Non-maintenance of general hygiene or the environment or the cleanliness of the buildings of the centre and its annexes.
- (e) To intentionally inflict an illness or disability or injury to self or to others.
- (f) Not looking after any articles or equipment consigned to him.
- (g) Non-performance or slow performance of work assigned to him.
- (h) To make malicious complaints or to give false information or to falsely accuse others.
- (i) Not carrying out instructions related to arrangement or organization of his affairs, including the prisoner's personal hygiene, clothing, food and drink.
- (j) Not wearing clothes assigned to him or damaging, losing, abandoning or selling them, or pawning them or removing any markings or numbers from them.
- (k) Appearing in an immodest manner.
- (l) Leaving an assigned place or location without the approval of the administration of the centre.

- (m) To disturb the general repose of the centre as a result of negligence or behaviour conducive to it.
- (n) Misconduct with any person in the centre.
- (o) To commit any contravention of the instructions of the centre.

Article (38) of the reform centres law: If a prisoner commits any of the offences listed in article 37 of this law, the Director of the centre may impose any of the following behavioural punishments:

- (a) Warning or caution.
- (b) Deprivation of visits for not more than thirty days or condition that this punishment is not repeated before one week has passed after the end of the previous punishment.
- (c) Deprivation of part of time deducted from the term of the sentence, in accordance with the provisions of article 34 of this law, the period of deprivation not to exceed fourteen days each time.
- (d) Placement in solitary confinement for not more than seven days each time and prevention of visits during such periods.

Article (39) of the reform centres law:

- (a) None of the behavioural punishments provided in article 38 of this law may be imposed except after an investigation has been conducted to confront the prisoner with the act attributed to him and to hear his deposition and defence, and that the punishment be substantiated.
- (b) If the punishment is a warning or caution the person deputed by the Director of the centre for that purpose shall conduct the investigation orally, noting its tenor in a record, to be signed by the person conducting the investigation.
- (c) If the punishment is other than a warning or caution, the investigation shall be carried out in writing by a committee established by the Director of the administration for that purpose.

Article (40) of the reform centres law:

The Director of the centre shall refer to a competent court any prisoner for trial for any offence he may have committed contrary to the provisions of any law in force.

Article (13) of the reform centres law (rights of prisoners):

- (a) A prisoner shall have the following rights in accordance with instructions issued by the Minister:

- 1 - To contact his lawyer and meet him whenever required by his interests
- 2 - To view a copy of the bill of indictment and the sentences and rulings made against him, either directly or through his lawyer
- 3 - To enable the prisoner to inform his relatives about his location
- 4 - To correspond with family and friends and to facilitate contact with them
- 5 - To receive visitors so long as there is no objection to visits by decision by the Director of the centre
- 6 - To practice religious rites
- 7 - To contact the diplomatic or consular representative of his country if he is an alien
- 8 - To benefit from opportunities available in the centre for academic education and vocational training

(Fourth)

**Articles conforming with the Standard Minimum Rules
for the treatment of Prisoners
(retention of prisoners' property, removal of prisoners,
inspection, use of force)**

Articles 6, 7, 10, 19 and 29 of the law on reform and rehabilitation centres:

Article (6): Use of force:

- (a) Resort to the use of force against a prisoner shall not be permissible except when necessary and in the required proportion after exhaustion of ordinary means.
- (b) No members of the police may use firearms against prisoners except in any of the following cases:
 - 1 - Escape or attempted escape.
 - 2 - Participation in a disturbance or attempt to force or break down the gates of the centre.
 - 3 - Violence against any of the centre's personnel or any other person in the centre.

- (c) The following conditions shall apply to the use of arms by members of the police:
- 1 - To warn the prisoner that the police are about to use arms against him.
 - 2 - That an order be issued by the Director of the centre if he is present, or by the highest-ranking person in the centre.
 - 3 - To restrain the prisoner's movement to the extent possible.

Article (7): Inspection of the centres:

- (a) The Minister or whomever he delegates shall have the right to inspect the centres to ascertain that the provisions of this law and the rules and decisions issued by virtue of it and any decisions issued by a competent authority are being implemented.

Article (10): Admission of prisoners, their treatment and discharge:

- (a) No prisoner may be admitted into a centre unless a decision has been taken in his regard by a competent authority and he may not be kept in the centre after the end of the term specified in the decision unless the term of detention is legally extended.
- (b) A prisoner may not be admitted into a centre or transferred or removed or discharged from it except after he has been searched. A female prisoner may be searched only by a member of the female police force.
- (c) Male and female prisoners shall be segregated in separate sections in the centres in such a way as to make observation or discourse or contact between them impossible.

Article 19: Discharge and return of property in custody:

- (a) The Director of the centre shall discharge a prisoner at the end of the term of his sentence or detention.
- (b) A prisoner shall be discharged at the time fixed for his discharge, with a Muslim prisoner being discharged on the day before the end of his sentence if the day set for discharge falls on a Friday, and a Christian prisoner being discharged one day early if the day set for his discharge falls on a Sunday, and both being discharged one day early if the day set for discharge falls on a religious feast day for either, if the term of the sentence of either is one week or more.
- (c) The property of a prisoner which has been kept in custody by the administration of the centre shall be returned to the prisoner against a receipt upon his discharge.

Experience of the reform and rehabilitation centres in dealing with the problem of overcrowding

- √ Amendment of national legislation as regards:
 - Term of detention according to the type of offence committed
 - The Jordanian penal code has been amended through a review of cases the sentence in which does not exceed two years, and have become non-custodial, except in special cases as considered by the law and at the discretion of the judge.
- √ A parole system for prisoners in detention has been introduced, so as to reduce the number of pretrial detentions.
- √ New articles have been drafted to be added to the law on reform and rehabilitation centres as regards alternatives to imprisonment.
- √ Modern large-capacity reform centres have been established to accommodate the numbers of prisoners involved, and the problem of overcrowding in Jordan has become minimal.

Treatment of female prisoners

- √ A special segregated reform and rehabilitation centre for female prisoners has been established. It is advanced and conforms with international norms. It comprises all the various sections necessary for care of the [female] prisoners, supervised by females only. No male may enter a women's section unless he is accompanied by a female. The law on reform centres also takes humanitarian considerations into account in the treatment of [female] prisoners, without exception. There are special rehabilitation and health-care programmes for pregnant [female] prisoners, which provide comprehensive health care for the mother and child, both pre-natal and post-natal. By virtue of the law in force, [female] prisoners are allowed, for three years after the birth of a child, to keep the child in a special nursery, fully equipped with all the services and necessities required for physical and mental health care and toys.
- √ In the case of pregnant women who commit a crime punishable by death, Jordanian legislation reduces the sentence to imprisonment for life by reason of pregnancy.
- √ There is a wide range of reform and rehabilitation programmes for [female] prisoners that take into consideration the various social, humanitarian and psychological dimensions, and their nature as women, as regards work which is not hard or painful and is quickly accomplished, as well as the ease of marketing products such as embroidery and

needlework, drawing, making ornaments, straw baskets, confectionary, and so on.

- √ Work is in progress on establishing a special centre to shelter women who have been victims of violence or of offences against honour, the aim of the centre being to protect this category of [female] prisoners and to create an environment close to the outside world.