

Summary

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) held the Arab Regional Conference Ten Years After Beijing: Call for Peace at United Nations House in Beirut during the period 8-10 July 2004, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/148 of 22 December 2003 in which the General Assembly recognizes the

gravity of the regional dangers, the decrease in investment rates and the persistence of the disparity between physical and human capital are all factors that contribute to reducing levels of growth.

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	coming ten years in order to empower women, improve their conditions and increase their participation in political, economic and social life requires the following:
	10. Urging governments to formulate strategies and programmes for the empowerment of
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	22. According rural women the necessary concern through the provision of the basic services necessary for their lives, the formulation of health awareness, illiteracy eradication and vocational training programmes and the provision of soft loans in order to enable them to support themselves and their families;
	23. Concern with the issues and needs of elderly and disabled women, changing their image in the eyes of society and encouraging their participation in development activity;
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	the human, statutory and legal rights of women and the importance of the role that they play in
	society;
	25. Continued action to increase awareness and change the prevailing mentality of different social groups, in particular youth, with regard to the necessity of achieving gender equality and
	causing change in cultural concepts, with the participation of all stakeholders and the assumption by NGOs of an important role in such action;

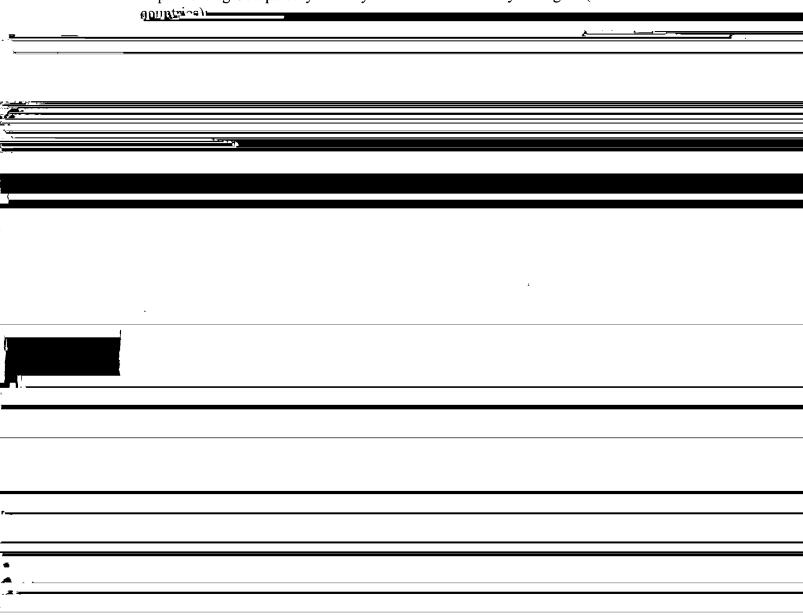
	33. Change the negative image of Arab women in the media through the formulation of audio visual media programmes and direct means of communication;			
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Achievements

- 1. Laws and Legislation
- 2. Accession to International Conventions
- 3. National Strategies and Plan of Action
- 4. Political Participation
- 5 Institutional Development
- 6. Education, Health, and Employment

Laws and Legislation

- Amending and Issuing Family Law (Morocco);
- Modernizing Personal Status Code, including divorce and nationality (Tunisia);
- Employment Laws in favour of women;
- Amending Social Security nets and benefits to include women;
- Reviewing Penal Code relating to Honor Crime;
- Implementing Compulsory Primary Education Act for boys and girls (most of Arab gougtaine).



Arab Countries that Ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) As of December 2004

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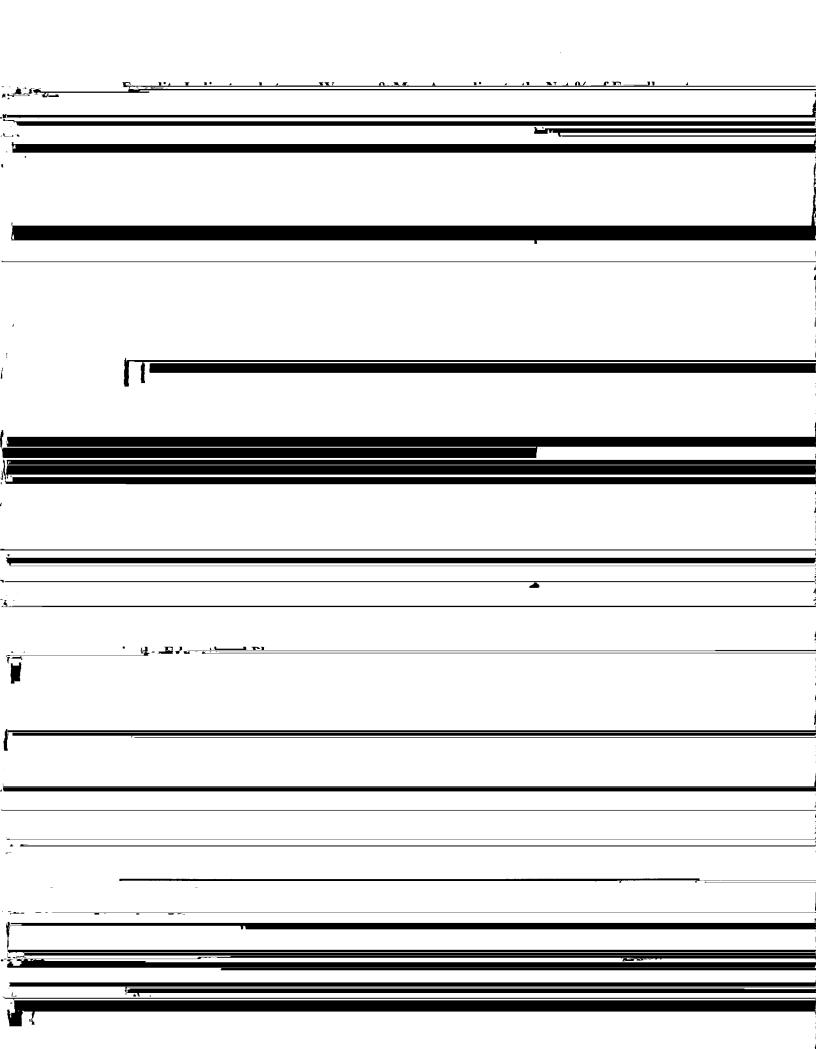
Parliamentary Seats Occupied by Women in the Arab Countries in 2005

Country	Total Number of Seats	Women in Parliaments
Algeria	389	24

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Djibouti	65	7
Egypt	454	11

Kuwait	65	0	
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Mauritania	181	3	
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Women's national machineries are not allocated adequate human and financial resources; Coordination, observation, monitoring and accountability mechanisms are weak, not to say non-existent; sated statistics needed for conder planning and policy formulation -1- - level - - 4: U - roak at bath afficial and arrearente lavele:

