



# *Specialized Course on Women Rights*

**Outline for the Fifth Course: Specialized Course on Women Rights (40 hours).**

**Prepared by::** Dr. Ahmed El Mufti .

**Activity No.1 (one hour):**

- **Welcoming statement by the Director General, Dr. Ahmed El Mufti.**
- **Briefing about Khartoum International Centre for Human Rights (KICHR) and its activities (See the Information Note):**
  - Courses
  - Awareness-raising series
  - Advisory services, studies & designing and executing workshops
- Introducing the technical and administrative staff and the administrative arrangements.
- **Distribution and filling pre-course questionnaire (see Annex 1) .**
- **Distribution of documents.**
- **Human rights' sources:**
  - Instruments (international and regional), resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and reports of its mechanisms and the resolutions of the UN General Assembly
  - National legislation
  - Guidelines on the form and content of reports to be submitted by States Parties
  - General comments and general recommendations adopted by human rights treaty bodies
  - Concluding observations and recommendations issued by the treaty bodies after consideration of reports submitted by the States
  - Resolutions adopted by treaty bodies on considering complaints
- **Training methodology: participatory:**

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

**Activity No. 2 (90 minutes):**

- **Historical background about human rights:**

First: Development of human right before World War 1:

  - Human rights and freedoms during Greek and Roman times
  - Separation of powers
  - Codification in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (bilateral agreements)

- Minority rights
- League of Nations

Second: Exceptions to sovereignty:

- Humanitarian intervention
- Human rights conventions
- Exceptions by the Charter of the League of Nations
- States' responsibility
- Humanitarian law

- **The international human rights system:**

First: The Charter of the United Nations signed in Sanfranciso Conference on 26 June 1945:

- Prohibition of the use of force
- Tolerance
- Universality
- Equality between men and women
- Non-discrimination on the basis of race, sex, language or religion
- Self-determination
- International cooperation in the social and economic fields

Second: International human rights instruments (see Annex 2)

Third: International monitoring and follow-up mechanisms:

- Charter-based
- Treaty-based

Fourth: regional systems for human rights (see Annex 3)

*Presentation: 60 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 30 minutes*

**Activity No. 3 (150 minutes):**

- **Overview of the international and regional human rights standards (see activities 3-16 of the First Course)**

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 4 (150 minutes):**

- **Overview of the international humanitarian law standards (see activity No 17 of the First Course)**

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 5 (150 minutes):**

- **Overview of the national human rights and humanitarian law standards (see activities 3-17 of the First Course).**

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 6 (one hour): Historical and conceptual development of women's human rights:**

- **The United nations and women's rights:**
  - The Charter of the United Nations (Preamble and Article 1)
  - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 2)
  - The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Articles 2 and 3)
  - The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Articles 2 and 3)
  - Principle of interdependence and indivisibility of all rights
  - Principle of universality
- **Why a separate convention for women?**
  - The importance of finding additional means to protect women rights since the human nature alone is not sufficient to guarantee women rights
  - Despite the existence of some rights, women still do not enjoy equality with men and discrimination against them is continuing in all societies
- **Brief historical introduction of CEDAW:**

- 1967, the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
- 1972, the Secretary-General of the United Nations asked the Commission on the Status of Women to request the views of member states regarding the form and content of a possible international instrument on the human rights of women
- 1973, a working group was appointed by the Economic and Social Council to consider the elaboration of such a convention
- 1974, the Commission on the Status of Women began drafting a convention on the elimination of discrimination against women
- 1975, the World Conference of the International Women's Year was held, where the work of the Commission on the Status of Women was encouraged and its plan of action calling for a "convention on the elimination of discrimination against women, with effective procedures for its implementation" was adopted
- 1977, the General Assembly appointed a special working group to finalize the draft
- 1979, CEDAW was adopted by the General Assembly
- 1981, CEDAW entered into force and its Committee was formally established

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

**Activity No. 7 (150 minutes):Texts and commentaries, CEDAW  
(Articles 1-4):**

• **Defining discrimination (Article 1):**

- Article 1 provides a comprehensive definition of discrimination which is applicable to all provisions of the Convention
- In contrast to the International Bill of Human Rights, Article 1 gives detailed explanation of the meaning of discrimination against women
- Such discrimination encompasses any difference in treatment on the grounds of gender which intentionally or unintentionally disadvantages women, or forbids the society from recognizing women's rights in both the family and public spheres, or which prevents women from exercising the human rights and fundamental freedoms to which they are entitled
- In addition to establishing the criterion of differentiation (sex), it is also necessary to consider the outcome of the differentiation to make sure whether it is discriminatory or not

- In 1992, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women extended the general prohibition on sex discrimination to include gender-based violence
- **Obligations of States parties (Article 2):**
  - Article 2 establishes, in a general way, the obligation of States under the Convention and the policy to be followed in eliminating discrimination against women
  - By becoming parties to the Convention, States accept the responsibility to take effective measures to incorporate the principle of equality between men and women into their national constitutions and other relevant legislation, and should also eliminate the legal basis for discrimination
  - It is not enough merely to insert anti-discrimination clauses into legislation, hence, the Convention also requires State parties to protect women's rights effectively and through specific measures
  - Sub-paragraph (f) requires States not only to amend laws, but also to work towards the elimination of discriminatory customs and practices
- **Appropriate measures (Article 3):**
  - Article 3 defines the appropriate measures in all fields which should be taken to implement the policies set out in article 2
  - The Article explains the indivisibility and interdependence of the rights guaranteed by the Convention
  - It recognizes that, unless States take active measures to promote the advancement and development of women, they will not be able to enjoy fully the human rights guaranteed in other instruments
- **Temporary special measures to combat discrimination (Article 4):**
  - Article 4 recognizes that, even if women are given legal (de jure) equality, this does not automatically guarantee that they will in reality be treated equally (de facto) equality
  - To accelerate women's actual equality in society and in the work place, States are permitted to use special remedial measures for as long as inequalities continue to exist, the Convention, thus reaches beyond the narrow concept of formal equality and sets its goals as equality of opportunity and equality of outcome and positive measures which are both lawful and necessary to achieve these goals
  - These special measures should only be used simply to speed up the achievement of de facto equality for women, and should not create separate standards for women and men, in other words, the appropriateness of any special measures should be evaluated with regard to the actual existence of discriminatory practices. Consequently, once the objectives of equality of opportunity and treatment are reached, these special measures are no longer needed and should be discontinued

- There will, however, always be exceptional cases where special treatment is the only way to guarantee true equality

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 8 (150 minutes): Texts and commentaries, CEDAW (Articles 5-8):**

- **Modifying social and cultural patterns (Article 5):**
  - Article 5 states that, even if women's legal equality is guaranteed and special measures are taken to promote their de facto equality, another level of change is necessary for women's true equality
  - States should strive to remove the social, cultural and traditional patterns which perpetuate gender-role stereotypes and to create an overall framework in society that promotes the realization of women's full rights
  - Sub-paragraph (b) calls on State parties to ensure that education includes a proper understanding of the important role of maternity as a social function. It also requires that States recognize the raising of children as a responsibility that should be shared by women and men, and not as a task that is borne by women alone
- **Suppressing exploitation of women (Article 6):**
  - Article 6 urges States to take all appropriate measures to combat traffic in women and exploitative prostitution
  - In addressing these problems, it is essential for States to consider and act upon the conditions which are at the root of female prostitution
  - States parties should also provide women with alternatives to prostitution by creating opportunities through rehabilitation, job-training and job-referral programmes
  - It is not enough to enact laws against such injustices in order to discharge their responsibility. Moreover, States parties must ensure that measures are taken to implement penal sanctions fully and effectively
- **Equality in political and public life at the national level (Article 7):**
  - Article 7 requires States parties to undertake two levels of action to create equality for women in political and public life
  - First, States must boarden the rights guaranteed in Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and ensure to women the right to vote in all elections and public referenda
  - Secondly, Article 7 recognizes that, while it is essential, the right to vote is not in itself sufficient to guarantee the real and effective participation of women in the political process
- **Equality in political and public life at the international level (Article 8):**
  - It is essential that women are adequately represented in international fora as members of government delegations and as employees of international organizations
  - The goal of equal representation of women at the international level is still far from being realized, therefore, in 1988, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination

against Women recommended that, in implementing Article 8 of the Convention, State parties make use of temporary special measures.

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 9 (150 minutes): Texts and commentaries, CEDAW (Article 9-12):**

- **Equality in nationality laws (Articles 9):**
  - It requires States parties to guarantee women the same rights as men to acquire, change or retain their nationality
  - It requires States parties to extend to women the same rights as men regarding the nationality of their children
- **Equality in education (Article 10):**
  - It recognizes that equality in education forms the foundation for women's empowerment in all spheres
  - It obligates State parties to ensure true equality in education opportunities through specific and effective guarantees
  - It obligates State parties to eliminate gender-role stereotyping in and through the education system
  - It obligates State parties to close the existing gap in education levels between men and women
- **Equality in employment and labour rights (Article 11):**
  - Article 11 builds upon and consolidates many of the rights claimed for women by ILO
  - It states clearly that women shall enjoy the basic human rights to work, it then, sets out a comprehensive list of obligations of States parties in order to ensure that this right can be fully and effectively realized
  - It obligates States parties to take a set of appropriate measures in order to protect women in work place from discrimination based on marital status or maternity to ensure the de facto women's human right to work
  - It obligates States parties to periodical review of protective legislation in relation to matters covered in this Article, in the light of scientific and technological knowledge
  - It is important to note that the guarantees of equality and non-discrimination contained in Article 11 are applicable only to women in formal employment
- **Equality in access to health facilities (Article 12):**
  - Women in particular, by virtue of their unequal status and their special vulnerabilities, encounter a great many obstacles in obtaining adequate health care
  - Paragraph 1 of Article 12 specifically requires State parties to ensure the equality of women and men in access to health

care services, this requires the removal of many barriers which may operate to prevent that

- Steps should be taken by States parties to ensure access to health care services for all women
- Paragraph 2 recognizes that women need extra care and attention during pregnancy and the post-natal period, including adequate nutrition
- General recommendation No. 15, focused particularly on ending discrimination against women in national AIDS strategies

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 10 (150 minutes): Texts and commentaries, CEDAW (Articles 13-16):**

- **Finance and social security (Article 13):**
  - It recognizes that, unless States parties guarantee women financial independence, they will not have true equality with men
  - States must take steps to ensure that women have equal access with men to credit and loans, and that they also have equal access with men to family benefits
  - States should ensure that all legal or social obstacles to the full participation of women in sporting, recreational and other cultural activities are removed according to the principle of equality of opportunity
- **Rural women (Article 14):**
  - It recognizes that rural women are a group with special problems needing careful attention and consideration by States parties
  - It requires States parties to eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas by taking special measures to ensure them, on a basis of equality with men, the same participation in and benefit of rural development
- **Equality in legal and civil matters (Article 15):**
  - It confirms women's equality with men before the law, and additionally requires States parties to guarantee women equality with men in areas of civil law where women have traditionally been discriminated against
  - Paragraph 4 of Article 15 requires equality in the law regarding movement of persons and freedom to choose one's own residence and domicile
- **Equality in family law (Article 16):**

- It addresses the problem of discrimination against women in the private sphere, including discrimination in the area of family law
- This area of discrimination is usually based on long-standing cultural or religious practices, it is thus one of the most difficult areas to penetrate and one of the most resistant to change
- To bring about this change, States parties must first take all appropriate measures to repeal or amend existing laws or instruments relating to marriage and the family which discriminate against women

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 11 (one hour): Reservations to CEDAW:**

- **Reservations under international law:**
  - The Vienna Convention on the law of Treaties, (Articles 2 and 19)
  - Advisory opinion of the ICJ on reservations to the Genocide Convention, 1951, in which the court addressed the issue of reservations impact on multilateral human rights treaties
  - Samples of reservations made by some Islamic States to some provisions of CEDAW based on their conflict with Sharia law (Bangladesh- Iraq)
- **Large number of reservations to CEDAW and the Committee's role in limiting them:**
  - CEDAW has been the subject of more reservations than any other international human rights treaty
  - Some of these reservations are not fundamental to the object and purpose of the treaty, others are relating to fundamental matters, like reservation to (Article 29) regarding dispute settlement and to those provisions relating to non-discrimination in family law, legal capacity and citizenship
  - Many reservations are directed at those provisions which seek to eliminate discrimination in the " private" sphere of work, home and family, such reservations have the potential to limit significantly the obligations undertaken by the serving States and in this way they clearly undermine the object and purpose of the Convention
  - The Committee regularly encourages States parties to review and withdraw their reservations
  - The Committee does not have the power to decide whether or not reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention

- The ICJ has the power, if asked an advisory opinion, to answer the question of incompatibility of reservations with the object and purpose of the convention
- States parties can express their objections to the reservations made
- As recognized by the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights, the matter of reservations to the Convention is a serious one, because of the failure to invoke the formal procedure set out in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties
- At its thirteen session, in 1994, the Committee voiced its agreement with the view of the World Conference 1993, at the same session, the Committee drafted specific guidelines to assist reporting by state parties on reservations which they have entered to the Convention

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

**Activity No. 12 (150 minutes): The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women:**

- **Establishment and composition of the Committee:**
  - The Committee was established to oversee the implementation of the Convention's provisions (Article 17)
  - The Committee is composed of 23 experts of high competence who are elected by secret ballot
  - The members of the Committee serve four-year terms and all of them are women
- **Mandate and jurisdiction of the Committee:**
  - The Committee acts as a monitoring system to oversee the implementation of the Convention by those States which ratified or acceded to it
  - This is done principally by examining reports submitted by those States parties
  - It may also invite United Nations specialized agencies to submit reports for consideration and may receive information from non-governmental organizations
  - The Committee reports annually on its activities to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council
- **How does a state party report to the Committee?**
  - A State party must submit its first report within one year after it has ratified or acceded to the Convention
  - A State party must submit its subsequent reports at least every four years or whenever the Committee so requests
  - Many States parties have failed to discharge their obligation to submit timely and complete reports
  - The reporting process is a difficult one and the preparation of reports can be a time-consuming and complex task

- The Committee cannot effectively address all difficulties which may arise in the reporting process
- **Procedural aspects of the Committee work:**
  - The Committee meets once a year for a period of not more than two weeks (Article 18)
  - In accordance with its own rules of procedure the Committee holds its meetings in public, and 12 members constitute a quorum
  - The Committee elects a chairperson, three vice-Chairpersons and a rapporteur from among its members, to serve for two years
  - To facilitate its work, the Committee has established three working groups
- **Consideration of reports by the Committee:**
  - Submission of written reports by States parties, then giving the opportunity to introduce them orally
  - Making general observations and comments regarding the report's form and content
  - Consideration of specific articles of the Convention and requesting statistical information from the Government and non-governmental organization and independent agencies
  - Preparing concluding comments on the reports
  - Making all efforts to develop a constructive dialogue between States parties and Committee members
- **Improving the work of the Committee:**
  - Clarification of provisions of the Convention because the Convention is a dynamic document and it must be flexible enough to take account of changing international attitudes and circumstances, while at the same time retaining its spirit and integrity
  - Development of an effective monitoring system, to this end, the Committee in 1994, recommended that States parties amend Article 20 of the Convention in order to meet annually to consider reports
  - Expanding the information base of the Committee by providing Committee members with analysis based upon statistical indicators relevant to specific articles of the Convention for each periodic report of States parties, inviting specialized agencies of the United Nations to submit reports to the Committee on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities, in addition to inviting non-governmental organizations and specialized agencies to submit similar reports
  - The Committee studied the recommendation by Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the possibility to introduce for the first time the right of petition through the preparation of an optional protocol to the Convention to permit citizens of States parties to lodge complaints with the Committee alleging violation of their rights as set out in the

Convention, such protocol has been recently adopted and entered into force

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 13 (150 minutes): Regional human rights systems to protect and promote women's rights:**

• **The Inter-American Human Rights System:**

- The development of the Inter-American human rights system:
  - Adoption of the Inter- American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, 1948 (Bogota, Colombia)
  - Establishment of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights IACHR 1959, (Santiago, Chile)
  - Approved the IACHR Statute, 1965
  - Ratifying the Statute of the Commission in 1965
  - Amendments to the OAS Charter in 1967, which vested the Commission the status of a principal organ of the OAS
  - Adoption of the American Convention on Human Rights in 1969, and its subsequent entry into force in 1978
  - Establishment of the Inter- American Court of Human Rights IACTHR in 1979, to exercise advisory jurisdiction to interpret the Convention or other human rights treaties in force in the Americas at the request of member State, the Commission, or other organs of the OAS
- The Inter-American Commission on Women (CIM):
  - It was established in 1928 as a specialized organ of the OAS, as a result of women's movement through the Americas at that time
  - The CIM is the first intergovernmental agency created expressly to ensure recognition of women's civil and political rights throughout the Americas. Indeed, it is the first major international women's organization
  - The CIM, from its establishment, has provided a forum for women's groups to communicate and advocate their concerns in the international arena, and throughout it has struggled to shed light on legal, economic, social, and cultural issues that disadvantage women, by highlighting the inequality of rights between the sexes
  - Through the process of debates, drafting and lobbying for adoption of its draft conventions concerning women, women's issues in the Americas have acquired political standing

- The CIM was a predominant force behind the adoption, in the Inter-American system, of four conventions on women that were the first of their kind in the world
  - The CIM is charged with identifying and recommending strategies to eliminate discrimination against women and to promote women's full incorporation into the national development process of member states, through publishing studies evaluating the situation of women's rights, comparing legislation that affect them, and setting plans that aim at women's incorporation into the development process
- **The African human rights system:**
    - Provisions of the African Charter relating to women:
      - Article (1) which commits member States to respect the rights in the Charter
      - Article (2) which protects African women against discrimination
      - Articles (3-14) which included civil and political rights without mentioning women specifically
      - Article (15) which guarantees the right to work and to equal pay for equal work
      - Article (16) which obligates States parties to take the necessary measures to protect the health of their people
      - Article (17) which guarantees the right to education, participation in cultural life and the promotion and protection of moral and traditional values recognized by the community
      - Article (18) which states that State shall protect and assist the family, as it is considered as the custodian of moral and traditional values of the community, and shall ensure the elimination of every discrimination against women, in addition to protecting the rights of women and the child stipulated in international conventions
      - Articles (27 - 29) contain considerable details about duties that might affect women specifically
      - Participation of women in the work of the African Commission:
        - As of June 1997, women were represented by two of the eleven members of the African Commission, following years of criticism and lobbying by non-governmental organizations for representation of women in the Commission
        - The role of women in non-governmental organizations working with the Commission is more important than the commissioners themselves, in view of their special role in the

African system and due to the youth and flexibility of the African system to the concerted work of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), an international human rights NGO based in Geneva. In 1991, the ICJ began to organize workshops for NGOs jointly with the African Center for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, an NGO that share a building with the Commission Secretariat in Banjul, such workshops are held prior to each session of the Commission. Most of the activists who attend these meetings are women, this vocal participation of women activists helped creating the pressure that led to the representation of women into the Commission

- The role of the Commission in promoting women's rights:
  - One of the most developed aspects of the Commission's mandate is that of holding seminars and conferences to focus attention on particular aspects of human rights
  - Through such conferences the Commission hopes to increase awareness of the African regional system among the general population in Africa, provide a forum for discussion on specific issues and, in collaboration with NGOs, come up with plans for future action
  - The seminars planned by the Commission thus reflect the issues to which the Commission gives priority. In general they are organized in cooperation with NGOs that supplement the logistic support of the Commission's secretariat
  - Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under Article (62) of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
  - Although the procedure of submission and consideration of reports generally may be criticized as ineffective in protecting women's rights, it is, at best, an exercise to raise awareness of the rights guaranteed by the Charter
  - The potentially most effective procedure for individual women to advocate their rights before the African Commission is the individual communications procedure, Article (55) the Charter

*Presentation: 25 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 35 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 40 minutes*

*Group-photo* : 15 minutes

*Correction of list of participants* : 15 minutes

**Activity No. 14 (150 minutes): The World Health Organization and women:**

- **Introduction:**
  - Establishment of the Organization, its relationship with the UN and its focus on women's health from a human rights perspective
  - The Organization's establishment of the Global Commission on Women's Health
- **The Global Commission on Women's Health:**
  - Objectives and mandate
  - Achievements of the Commission (Meetings 1,2,3,4)
- **WHO's contributions to implement the comprehensive plan for the advancement of women (1996 – 2001), developed by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC):**
  - Key and critical role of WHO in various aspects of the Plan
  - WHO's follow-up of the implementation of the plan, jointly with other agencies in the UN system
- **WHO's role in combating violence against women:**
  - Holding a conference on violence against women by the Women's Health Development Unit, 1996
  - Recommendations of the conference
- **WHO's activities relating to family and reproductive health:**
  - Recognition of sexual and reproductive rights as part and parcel of women's human rights
  - Estimates of the concerns of WHO relating to family and reproductive health
- **Women and HIV/AIDS:**
  - Establishment of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
  - Recommendations of the Beijing conference relating to women and HIV/AIDS

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 15 (90 minutes): Harmful traditional practices affecting the health of women and children:**

- **An appraisal of harmful traditional practices and their effects on women and girl child:**

- Female genital mutilation
- Preference of the boy child over the girl child
- Female infanticide
- Early marriage and dowry
- Violence against women
- **Review of action and activities by UN organs and agencies, Governments and NGOs:**
  - United Nations organs and agencies:
    - The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
    - Commission on Human Right and the Sub-commission
    - Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
    - United Nations Children' Fund (UNICEF)
    - WHO
  - Governments:
    - Bangladesh
    - The Sudan
    - Sweden
    - The United Kingdom
    - The United States of America
    - France
    - Norway
  - Prominent non-governmental organizations:
    - Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices affecting the Health of Women and Children
    - Babiker Badri Scientific Association for Women's Studies
    - The Eradication of Traditional Harmful Practices Association

*Presentation: 50 minutes*

*Questions, answers and plenary discussion: 40 minutes*

**Activity No. 16 (one hour): Contemporary forms of female slavery:**

- **International human rights and contemporary forms of female slavery:**
  - The international prohibition on slavery and servitude
  - The international prohibition on trafficking in women and forced prostitution
  - Forced and compulsory labour
  - Debt bondage
  - Protection of migrant workers
  - Violence against women and contemporary forms of female slavery
- **United Nations responses to contemporary forms of female slavery:**
  - The Charter-based bodies
  - The investigatory mechanisms (special procedures)
  - The treaty-bodies

- Recent world conferences

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

**Activity No. 17 (150 minutes): Women's human rights and the Sudanese legal system:**

- **Equality and non-discrimination in the Sudan Constitution of 1998:**
  - The right to equality (Article 21)
  - The right to equality and non-discrimination and declaration of the state of emergency (Article 132 (a) )
  - Constitutional protection to the right of equality and non-discrimination (Article 34)
- **The right to election and other Sudanese legislation:**
  - Labour Act
  - General Elections Act
  - The Personal Matters Act
  - Non-muslims Marriage Act
  - Public Health Act
  - Sudanese Nationality Act
  - Civil Transactions Act

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups:40 minutes*

*Plenary reports:50 minutes*

**Activity No. 18 (150 minutes): Reporting according to CEDAW:**

- **Each working group to prepare a report on some articles of CEDAW.**

*Presentation: 40 minutes*

*Questions and answers: 20 minutes*

*Working groups: 40 minutes*

*Plenary reports: 50 minutes*

**Activity No. 19 (two hours):**

- **Final examination.**

**Activity No. 20 (one hour):**

- **Plenary discussion.**

**Activity No. 21 (one hour):**

- **Course evaluation:**

- Objectives: improving the technical and administrative aspects and the time frame of the course
- Distribution and filling of post-course questionnaire (see Annex 4)

**Activity No. 22 (one hour):**

- **Presentation of certificates.**
- **Distribution of group-photos.**
- **Closing statement by the Director General, Dr. Ahmed El Mufti.**