Somalia


a) CEDAW: No.4

b) ILO Conventions:
   i) Equal Remuneration Convention (No. 100), 1951: No.5
   ii) Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention (No. 111), 1958: Yes.7

4. Legal system:

a. Women's participation:
   i) Right to raise cases? ndf.
   ii) Work as lawyers? ndf.
   iii) Judges? ndf.
   iv) Number of women judges: ndf.

b) Are there civic laws that apply only to men or women? Yes.8

c) Family law:
   i) Codified (draft, 1975), religious-based.4
   ii) Recent change? ndf.

5. Political rights:1

   i) Right to vote? ndf.
   ii) Stand for election (national and municipal levels)? ndf.
   iii) Number of women in parliament: ndf.
   iv) Women in the cabinet? ndf.

6. The state:

   a) Employment in the state apparatus: ndf.
   b) In which sectors? ndf.
   c) Heads of government departments? ndf.
   d) Section(s) of government concerned with women's issues: ndf.

7. Gender monitoring and action:

   a) National Council of Women? ndf.

b) National Plan of Action (post-Beijing)? ndf.

c) NGOs that monitor women's situation? Yes.6

8. Education:

   a) Adult female/male literacy rates: ndf.
   b) Females/male gross enrolment ratios: primary level 7/13%; secondary level 4/8%; tertiary level 1/4% (1995).1
   c) Distribution of m/f in the teaching profession: ndf.

9. The economy:

   a) Female economic activity rate: ndf.
   b) Economic rights:
      i) To ownership of property? ndf.
      ii) To own and manage businesses? ndf.
      iii) To open bank accounts and take loans in their own name? ndf.
      iv) To receive social security and pensions in their own names: ndf.

10. Health:

   a) Vital statistics:
      i) Life expectancy: ndf.
      ii) Average age of women at first marriage: 20.1 years (1980-90).14
      iii) Mortality rate in childbirth: ndf.

   b) Reproductive rights:
      i) Is contraception legal? ndf.
      ii) Is abortion legal? Yes.15

   c) Female genital mutilation? Yes.15

   d) Employment in the modern health sector: ndf.

11. Culture:


   b) Do women perform in public (as actors, musicians, etc)? ndf.

   c) Percentage of female-headed households: ndf.

ENDNOTES


4. Ibid., p 195.


6. The FLC of 1975 aimed to suppress customary law; civil courts have jurisdiction over cases arising from shar’ia: http://www.law.emory.

7. In 2000, all of the Somali clans met in Djibouti and devised a transition government. Women were to hold 25 seats in the 245-member Transitional National Assembly. Seats in the Assembly were distributed to provide parity between competing clans. Each of the four major clans was represented by five women, while the five remaining women were from minor clans. These women have formed a bloc to represent female interests across clan lines: http://www.undp-pogar.org/countries/somalia/gender.html


10. Cultural Context: Demography and Health, UNESCO.

11. Only to save the life of the mother: http://www.pregnant-pause.org/lex/world02.htm

12. FGM is a near-universal practice, estimated to reach 98%. Infibulation, the most harmful form of FGM, is practised. It was banned in 1991, and remains illegal under the Penal Code; however, the law is not enforced: http://www.afrol.com/ Categories/Women/profiles/somalia_women.htm
Sudan


3. International resolutions:
   a) CEDAW: No.
   b) ILO Conventions:
      i) Equal Remuneration Convention (No. 100), 1951: No.
      ii) Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention (No. 111), 1958: Yes

4. Legal system:
   a. Women's participation: Yes.1
   b. Do women work in the media – print journalism? Yes.
   c. NGOs that monitor women's situation? Yes.

5. Political rights:
   i) Right to vote? Yes (1964).8
   ii) Stand for election (national and municipal levels)? Yes.11
   iii) Percentage of women in parliament 9.7% (lower house).
   iv) Women in the cabinet? Yes.3

6. The state:
   a) Employment in the state apparatus: Yes.13
   i) In which sectors? The diplomatic corps, the civil service, senior posts in police and army.
   ii) Heads of government departments: 2.1% of women employed in government occupied ministerial levels (2000).
   iii) Sector(s) of government concerned with women's issues: There is a Women's Policy Unit within the Ministry of Social Planning. Many ministries, corporations, and institutes of higher education have women's development units.

7. Gender monitoring and action:
   a) National Council of Women? ndf.
   b) National Plan of Action (post-Beijing)? Yes.18
   c) NGOs that monitor women's situation? Yes.

8. Education:
   a) Adult female/male literacy rates: 46.3/69.5%. 20
   b) Female/male gross enrolment ratios: primary level 51.60%; secondary level 28.30%; tertiary level 78%. 21
   c) Distribution of m/f in the teaching profession: 68% of primary school teachers, and 57% of secondary school teachers were women in 2008.22

9. The economy:
   a) Female economic activity rate: 34.8%. 23
   b) Economic rights:
      i) To open bank accounts and take loans in their own name? ndf.
      ii) To receive social security and pensions in their own names? ndf.
   c) Percentage of female-headed households: ndf.

10. Health:
   a) Vital statistics:
      i) Life expectancy (f/m): 57.4/54.6 years.26
      ii) Average age of women at first marriage: 18.7 years (1980-90).27
      iii) Mortality rate in childbirth: 550 per 100,000 births (1985-95).28
   b) Reproductive rights:
      i) Is contraception legal? Yes.29
      ii) Is abortion legal? Yes, in limited cases.30
   c) Female genital mutilation? Yes.
   d) Employment in the modern health sector: ndf.

11. Culture:
   b. Do women perform in public (as actors, musicians, etc)? ndf.

ENDNOTES
4. Ibid., p. 195.
6. Ibid.
7. Ibid.
8. Because of Sudan's religious heterogeneity, the Constitution does not proclaim Islam as state religion, but as religion of the majority of the population. http://www.law.emory.edu/FU/index42.html
10. Ibid., p. 194.
12. There have been women ministers in Sudanese governments since the early 1970s, holding portfolios such as health, social welfare, public service and manpower, and cabinet affairs. http://www.saveasalave.com/articles/sudanwomen.html & http://www.undp-pogar.org/countries/sudan/gender.html
14. Ibid. This source reports that there are women major generals in the police, and women are numerous in the army.
17. Ibid. The Sudanese Women's General Union is an officially recognized women's organization.
22. Ibid.
24. Ibid.
25. Cultural Context: Demography and Health, UNESCO.
28. Only if to save the life of the mother, or if the unborn child has defects: http://www.pregnantpause.org/lex/world02.htm
29. 89% of northern Sudanese women practise FGM. The number is much less in the south. A 1946 Penal Code prohibited infibulation, but permitted the less radical form of FGM. In 1991, the government affirmed its commitment to eradicate FGM, but the 1993 Penal Code leaves this unclear: International Planned Parenthood Federation, 1999.


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