



هيئة استشارية معتمدة لدى المجلس الاقتصادي والاجتماعي للأمم المتحدة

On the basis of these considerations, ADFM wishes to raise a few points concerning the report's treatment of the "women's issue":

In addressing the situation of women, the report draws on an outdated vision (or terminology) that places them in the same category as young people, who are in fact pertaining to both sexes. However, women are neither a category nor a sectoral social problem under the Department of Family, Children and Disabled Persons, as has been the case for several decades.

In contrast to the Constitution, the universalist frame of reference, and more particularly the CEDAW - to which Morocco is a party - is almost absent from the report, while religious and cultural specificity is mentioned and invoked on many occasions to justify the anachronism of the measures dedicated to "strengthening" women's rights and freedoms. Does religious specificity only come up in political debates when it is exclusively about women's rights? Do other sectors of economic and social life conform to religious precepts? Have they not long since sunk into religious indifference?

While the call for inclusion, citizenship and zero tolerance for discrimination and violence runs through the document:

- *The flagship measure proposed by the report, which aims to increase the activity rate of women from the current 18% to 45% by 2035, ignores the complex mechanisms of exclusion and resistance at work, which mean that Morocco, which used to be the region's champion in terms of women's economic participation, will find itself in 148th place in 2020, according to the World Economic Forum, well behind Egypt, Tunisia and Algeria.*
- *The report says nothing about how to combat the poverty of rural women, the overwhelming majority of whom work without pay or access to social safety nets as part of their intrinsic rights, or to land or means of production, at a time when inheritance legislation, relating to collective land and the Habous of the family discriminate against them by simply excluding them from their rights. What does the report recommend for these hundreds of thousands of Moroccan women who are amongst the poorest?*
- *It does not mention the various forms of gender discrimination in matters of inheritance, the maintenance of marriage for minors and polygamy, while the overwhelming majority of women, at all educational and social levels, consider these provisions to be a great source of insecurity for them and their children and undermine their dignity and citizenship.*
- *The report proposes to entrust judges with the possibility of examining, on a case-by-case basis, whether or not to authorize the **TAASIB**? Is this not an absurd recommendation, to say the least, which establishes different rules for female citizens according to their capacity to go to court, contributes to the clogging of family courts, opens the door to abuses and corruption and exacerbates family conflicts?*

While one would have expected more courageous solutions in line with equality and justice:

- *The recommended measures are marked by anachronism and fall far short of those put forward in recent years by several constitutional institutions such as the CNDH, the EESC and the HACA.*

- *There are still many grey areas in the report which, as far as women's rights are concerned, merely proposes measures that have become obsolete.*
- *The real political and societal problems are hushed up and not addressed in such a way that Moroccan men and women end up losing confidence because they see that their citizenship is, once again, subject to compromise and tradeoffs.*
- *A coherent and forward-looking global vision of a new development model should not maintain grey areas. It must have the courage and responsibility to name things as they are and to propose structural and audacious solutions to the multiple injustices and inequalities in accordance with the royal directives on the establishment of the Commission in charge of developing the NDM.*

With this report, the emergence of a new development model may be for the next century! As for us at the ADFM, we hold that the vision of development as conceived by a report marked by a male bias and by a great deal of timidity does not concern us, because this is not the Morocco we want for the girls and young women of today and by 2035. In a world in upheaval, with such recommendations, Moroccan women will still be under the tutelage and subject to the dictates of the family code, deprivation, violence and other restrictions on their freedom and mobility as well as on their ability to make the necessary choices concerning their personal and civic life.

**Association Démocratique des Femmes du Maroc**  
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