

NHRC Secretary-General: Rights of persons with disabilities are matter of priority in Qatar



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Geneva, March 19 (QNA) – HE Secretary General of the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) Sultan bin Hassan Al Jamali emphasized that the rights of persons with disabilities are a matter of priority in the State of Qatar, noting the qualitative shift that has occurred in conjunction with the hosting of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 regarding attention to persons with disabilities, particularly concerning developing the right to access all means of transportation, hotels, all

World Cup stadiums, and surrounding facilities.

This came during the NHRC's participation in the annual debate on the rights of persons with disabilities at the 58th session of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva.

Al Jamali said that the role of the NHRC is to monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. NHRC has observed tangible developments in policies for integration into education and employment, as well as in providing health and rehabilitation services and infrastructure. He urged the need to create a comprehensive national database for persons with disabilities, given the paramount importance they represent at the national, regional, and international levels.

The NHRC Secretary-General pointed to the importance of establishing a database in accordance with the Washington Standards, as an international reference framework developed by the World Health Organization and the United Nations Development Program in cooperation with ESCWA.

He highlighted that the database development process faces challenges in terms of full coverage, in addition to the inherent challenge of data privacy and protection. He urged countries seeking to create a comprehensive national database for persons with disabilities to benefit from the

 $experiences \, of \, countries \, that \, have \, made \, significant \, progress \, in \, that \, field.$

Al Jamali pointed out that the State of Qatar has announced that it is working to develop a comprehensive national database for persons with disabilities