



**“Support to Building National
Capacities for Earthquake Risk Reduction
at Amman Municipality in Jordan” Project**

**Analytical Study on
Legislations effective
in the
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Related to Disasters &
Disaster Management**



General Directorate
of Civil Defense

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رقم الإيداع لدى دائرة المكتبة الوطنية

(٢٠٠٨ / ٥ / ١٦٠٨)



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Preface



The world has recently witnessed many disasters that caused considerable human losses and serious damages at the economic and environmental levels despite efforts exerted by local communities, governments and international organizations to handle the same. In this regard, I believe that the time has come to radically change our way of thinking with respect to the issue of disasters. We should switch from the mere interest of responding to disasters when occurring to the focus on disaster prevention. We should also translate the national strategy of handling disasters into central practical structures. To this end, all must exert extensive coordinated efforts.

Based on our belief of the significance of the national project to build national capabilities with the aim of limiting earthquake hazards in Amman, and the objectives sought by the General Directorate of Civil Defence (GDGD) to protect citizens' souls and properties against potential dangers, GDGD will spare no efforts to provide all possible means to facilitate the work procedures of this project in order to achieve the desired results. This project aims at identifying weaknesses in handling disasters and seeking to create comprehensive national system and strategy to handle various types of disasters, whether natural or man-made.

Accordingly, I entrusted the Legal Affairs Department in the General Directorate of Civil Defence with conducting an analytical study of the legislations effective in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan related to disasters and disasters management, and providing this study along with its conclusions as one of GDGD contributions to the implementation of this pioneer project.

In conclusion, I extend my thanks and appreciation to all participating parties for their efforts to make the national project for capacity building a success with the aim of reducing earthquake hazards in Amman city. We wish success for all in serving our country under the leadership of his Majesty King Abdulla II Bin Al Hussain.

Major General
Director General of Civil Defence
Awwad Masa'id

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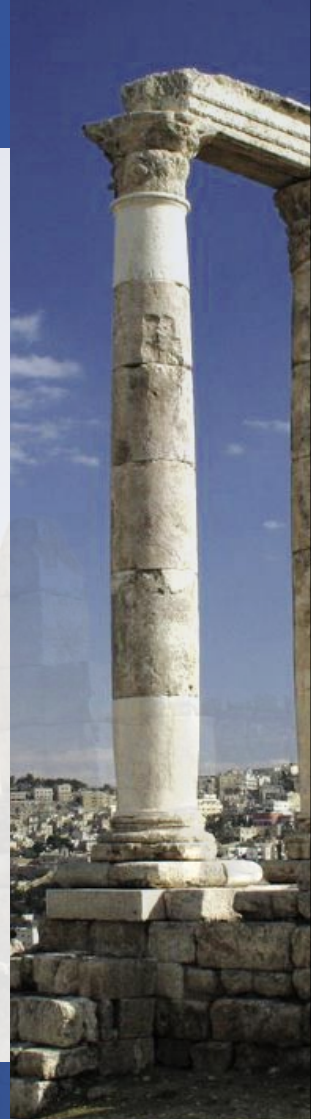
Introduction

Man has known disasters since his existence on this planet. Religious books tell about news related to various disasters that previous nations had suffered from. The Qur'an, for example, tells of cases in which the disobedient nations who had rebelled against God's orders and judgment suffered from his punishment in the form of disasters so they became an example for others. Nuh's people had been punished by a great flood; God (subhanahu wa ta'la) says ((The people of Nuh belied before them, they declared Our bondman to be liar and said, 'he is a madman and scolded him'. He therefore prayed to his Lord, saying 'I am vanquished, do then take revenge for me. Then We opened the doors of heaven with forceful flowing water. And We made the earth flow with springs, so the two waters met to such a quantity, which was already decreed. And We bore Nuh on a thing of planks and nails. Floating before Our eyes, a recompense for him who was rejected. And We left it as a sign. Is there then any one who would pay attention? Therefore, how were My torment and My warnings? And verily, We have made Quran easy for remembering, is there then any one to remember? Aad belied, then how was My torment and My warnings?)) (Surah Al-Qamar, verses 9-16).

Besides, God has punished Thamood peoples with tyrant; He says ((Then as for Thamud they were destroyed with an extreme uproar. And as for Aad, they were destroyed by a fierce roaring windstorm. Which He subjected them forcefully for seven nights and eight days consecutively, then see those people in it lying down, as though they were trunks of palm-trees lying down. Do you see any remnant of them?)) (Surah Al-Haqqa, verses 5-8).

These different calamities and catastrophes might be punishments, but they can also be trials; God says ((Undoubtedly, We created man from a mingled sperm drop that We might try him, so We made him hearing, seeing)) (Surah Al-Insan, verse 2).

In all cases, our righteous religion encourages us to seek prevention from the different accidents and disasters; Mohammed (peace be upon him) says ((This fire is your enemy; when you sleep, put it out)). He has also encouraged us to be prepared to face it and armed with the various means. In addition, those





who deal with such accidents and disasters and help people suffering from them are greatly rewarded; he said ((That who helps in water crisis or fire crisis is rewarded the same as a martyr)).

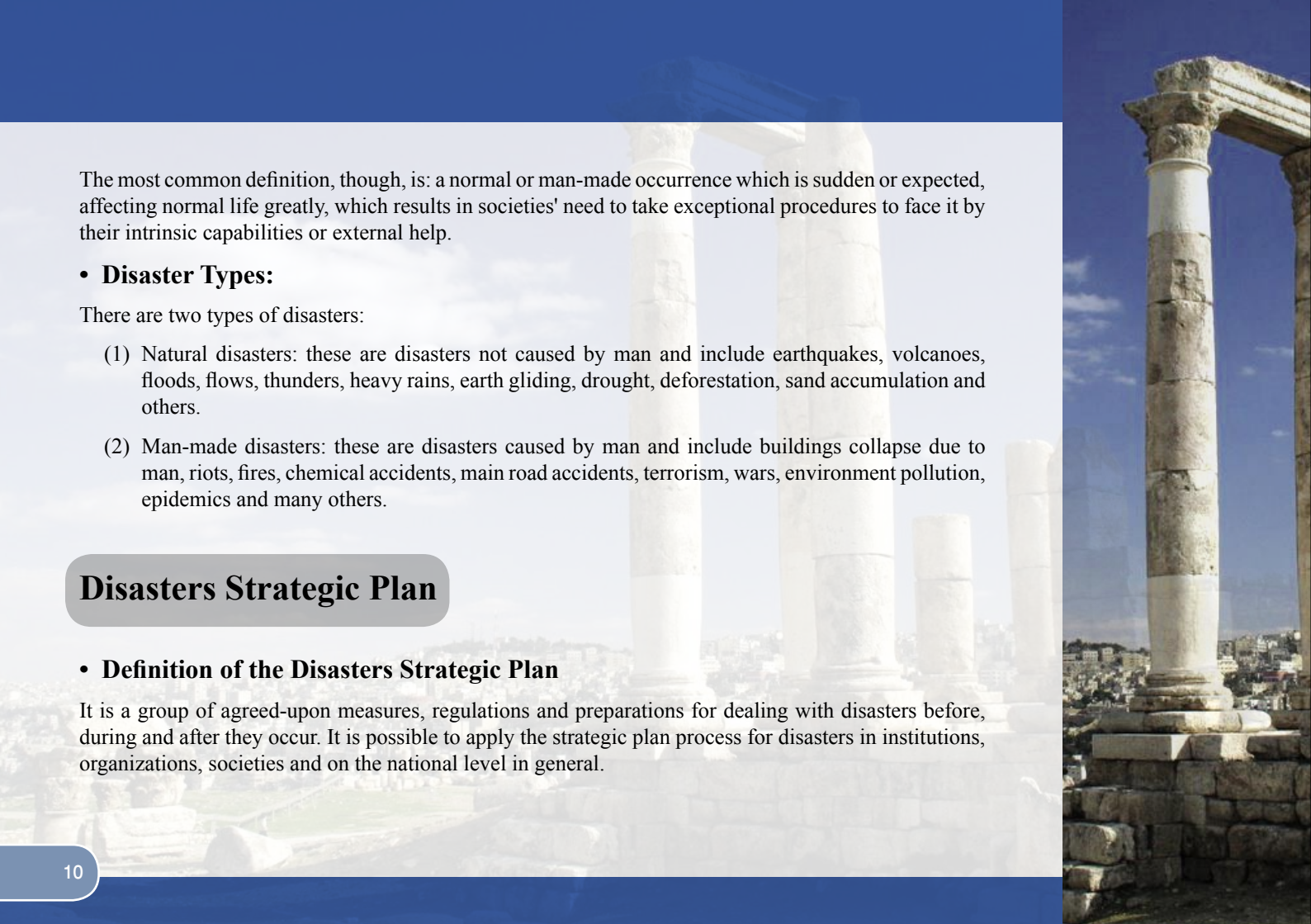
With the development of human life and possessions, varied kinds of disasters other than the natural ones have appeared; together, both are now the biggest threat for humanity and human activities. In return, researchers and scientists got busy and active finding the suitable scientific material and preparative tools to deal with the different disasters according to their types, nature, severity, etc. This kind science is constantly developing; new information are added on daily basis, which shows the huge amount of disaster knowledge obtained from experience and sciences after being studied, analyzed, classified and set up to suit the different fields of knowledge related to different disasters. These sciences include subjects about disasters, their types, and the required prevention and response methods. Also, this frame includes the prepared plans for each stage of the disaster nationally, and the required coordination in exchanging information, experience, and material from other countries and international and regional institutions and organizations concerned with disasters.

Disaster Definition and Types

• Disaster Definition:

Disasters have lots of definitions due to the different standards used, institutional structure, planning process and legislations. It is preferred to choose according to what suits the objectives of the country and the possibility of application. Following are some of these definitions:

- A hazardous disorder in ordinary life that might be sudden, unexpected and widespread.
- Affecting human life such as loosing lives, suffering and negative effect on health.



The most common definition, though, is: a normal or man-made occurrence which is sudden or expected, affecting normal life greatly, which results in societies' need to take exceptional procedures to face it by their intrinsic capabilities or external help.

- **Disaster Types:**

There are two types of disasters:

- (1) Natural disasters: these are disasters not caused by man and include earthquakes, volcanoes, floods, flows, thunders, heavy rains, earth gliding, drought, deforestation, sand accumulation and others.
- (2) Man-made disasters: these are disasters caused by man and include buildings collapse due to man, riots, fires, chemical accidents, main road accidents, terrorism, wars, environment pollution, epidemics and many others.

Disasters Strategic Plan

- **Definition of the Disasters Strategic Plan**

It is a group of agreed-upon measures, regulations and preparations for dealing with disasters before, during and after they occur. It is possible to apply the strategic plan process for disasters in institutions, organizations, societies and on the national level in general.




• **Requirements of Planning for Disasters:**

- (1) Realizing and being convinced of the existence of hazards.
- (2) The institutions, societies and decision makers' realization of the importance of managing crises and disasters and developing an emergency plan.
- (3) Guaranteeing applying the plan by the legislations (laws, regulations and instructions) developed for the purpose.
- (4) Determining a specific authority or committee to be responsible for managing the disaster in all its stages.

• **Steps of Planning for Disaster Management:**

The process of planning for disaster management consists of a group of steps for dealing with different disasters. These are:

- (1) Developing legislations.
- (2) Defining the mission.
- (3) Forming the work team.
- (4) Explaining responsibilities and capabilities and analyzing resources.
- (5) Risks studies and the possibility of their occurrence.
- (6) Prevention from risks.
- (7) Setting up the plan of action and response.
- (8) Execution and response.

- 
- (9) Recovery, regaining activity or re-spreading.
 - (10) Observation and monitoring.
 - (11) Assessment and revision.
 - (12) Training and education.

Developing Disaster Legislations and Managing them

• Characteristics of Disaster Legislations:

Legislations (laws, regulations and instructions) are developed by the specialized authority in the country. Legislations related to disasters and their management are usually characterized by the facts that:

- (1) They are strategies in their nature.
- (2) They depend on achieving long-term goals.
- (3) They determine different responsibilities to achieve objectives and goals.
- (4) They can recommend certain or specific practices.
- (5) They can determine specific standards to make decisions.



- **The Importance of these Legislations:**

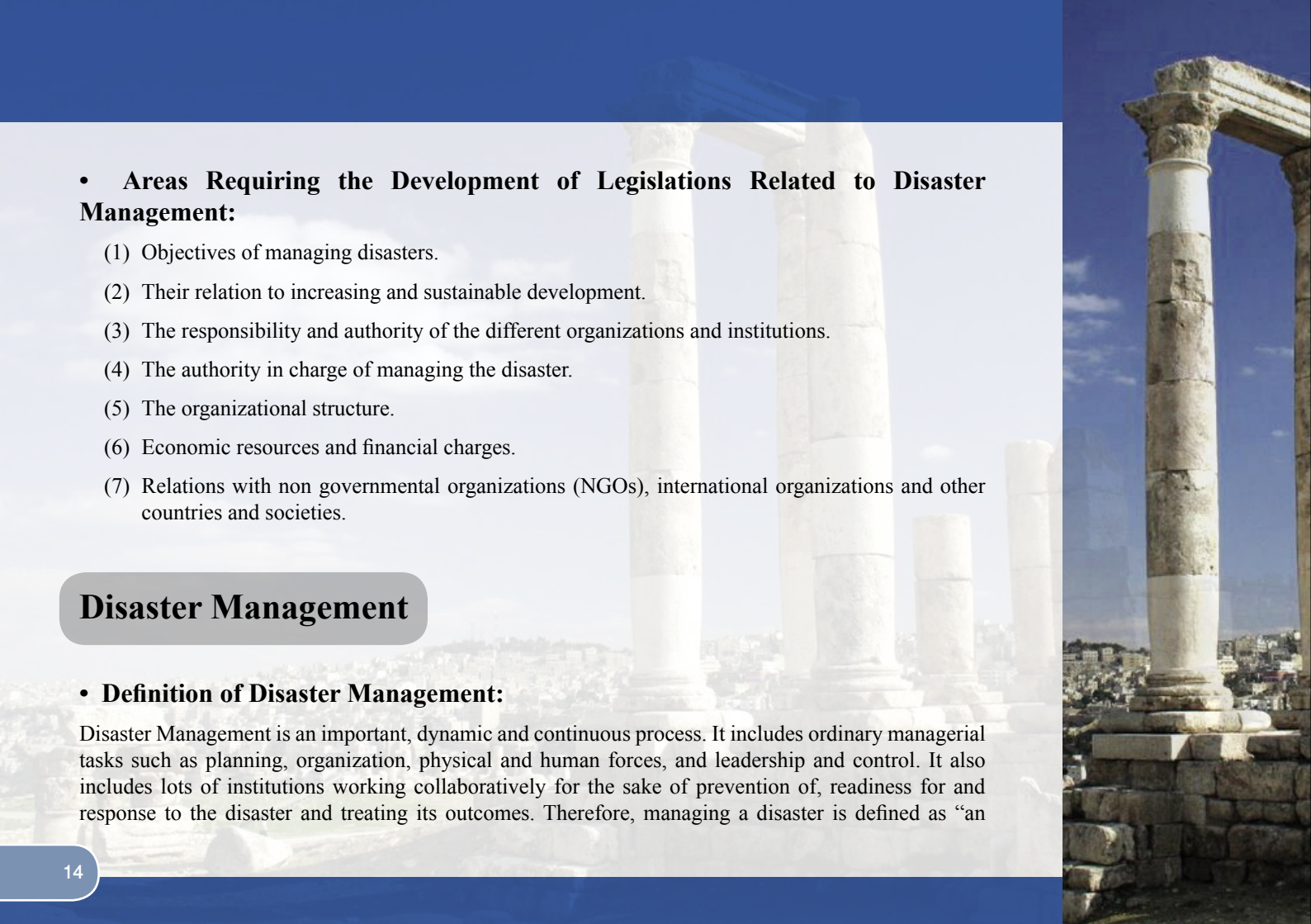
- (1) Achieving shared objectives.
- (2) Legalizing actions and behaviors and protect their doers from accountability.
- (3) Guaranteeing the execution of the different practices and responsibilities.
- (4) Guaranteeing one specific authority control of the disaster management in all its stages.

The absence of these legislations would create weakness in the execution and coordination, conflict in attitudes, weakness in results, and, sometimes, negative results.

While developing legislations is performed from top to base, executing strategies is from base to top. But, when developing legislations, experts and people who execute the legislations should be consulted to guarantee the realism and applicability of the policies and laws. As a result, people who are executing them would be enthusiastic and supportive.

- **Points that has to be Taken into Consideration when Developing Legislations:**

- (1) Individuals' personal rights.
- (2) The culture, habits and traditions of the society.
- (3) The nature of hazards.
- (4) Other existing related legislations.
- (5) The principles of managing disasters.



• Areas Requiring the Development of Legislations Related to Disaster Management:

- (1) Objectives of managing disasters.
- (2) Their relation to increasing and sustainable development.
- (3) The responsibility and authority of the different organizations and institutions.
- (4) The authority in charge of managing the disaster.
- (5) The organizational structure.
- (6) Economic resources and financial charges.
- (7) Relations with non governmental organizations (NGOs), international organizations and other countries and societies.

Disaster Management

• Definition of Disaster Management:

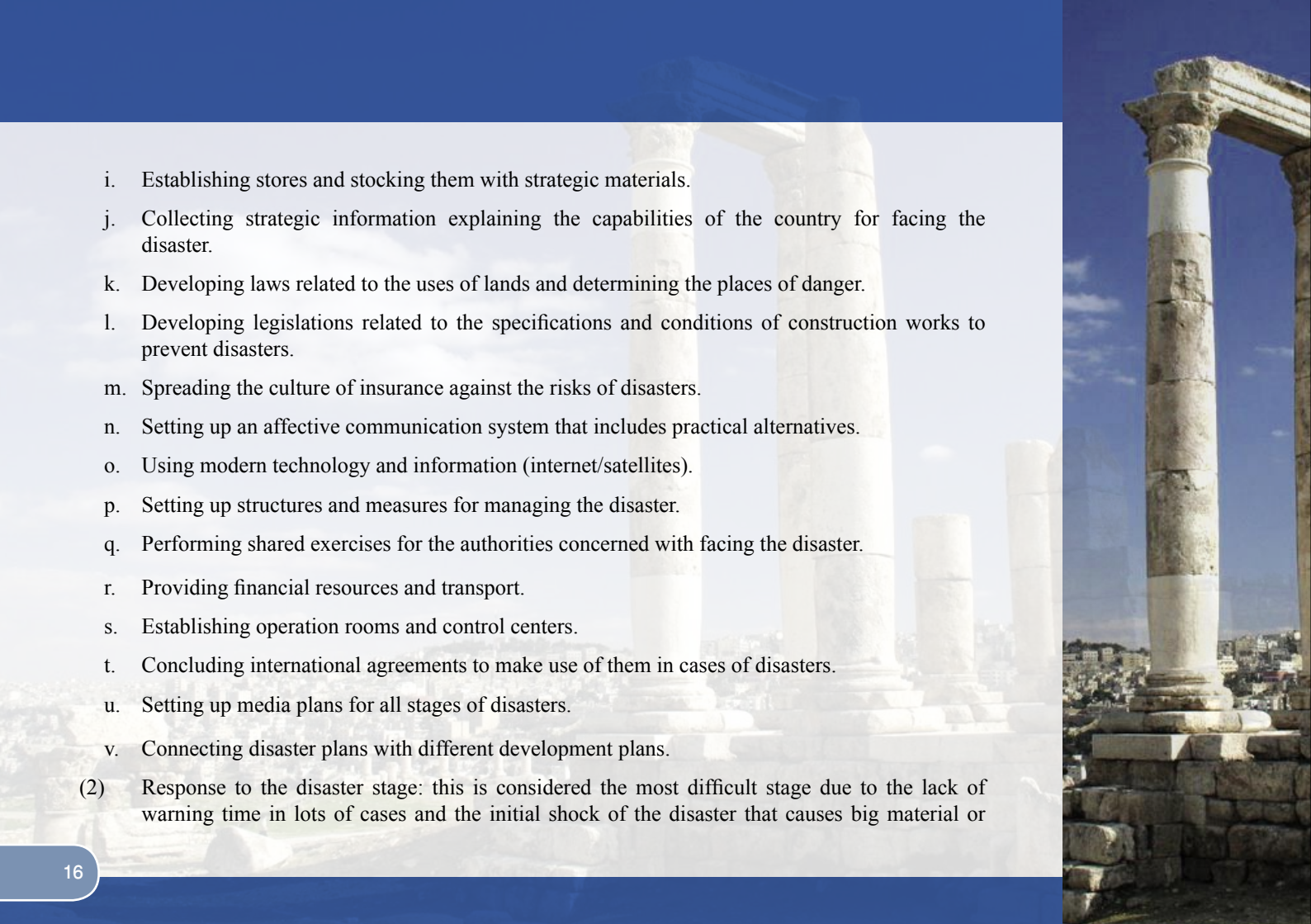
Disaster Management is an important, dynamic and continuous process. It includes ordinary managerial tasks such as planning, organization, physical and human forces, and leadership and control. It also includes lots of institutions working collaboratively for the sake of prevention of, readiness for and response to the disaster and treating its outcomes. Therefore, managing a disaster is defined as “an



applied science searches by observation and analysis in disasters aiming at improving the procedures related to prevention from, readiness for and facing disasters and treating their results.” In other words, and for the purpose of defining managing a disaster according to its law, it may be defined as “managing coordination of concerned authorities in dealing with disasters to improve the procedures related to preservation of, readiness for and facing them and treating their effects.”

• **Stages of Disaster Management:**

- (1) Pre-disaster stage: it includes prevention and diminution of the disaster and readiness to face it. The goal is preventing the disaster and reducing its effects in case of its occurrence. Following are the most important tasks and procedures in this stage:
 - a. Providing information and data, analyzing risks and setting up the maps that they show.
 - b. Educating the society through training, brochures and the different media.
 - c. Developing policies and strategies and setting up different plans for facing the various types of disasters and their outcomes.
 - d. Qualifying workers in the field of disasters, focusing on leaderships and setting up voluntary teams and training them.
 - e. Providing suitable resources and abilities for facing potential disasters.
 - f. Issuing legislations regulating the procedures of facing disasters.
 - g. Providing alarm devices and tools for different types of disasters.
 - h. Providing necessary equipment and requirements for facing disasters (fire extinguishers, ambulances, rescue vehicles and their equipment, maps, etc).

- 
- i. Establishing stores and stocking them with strategic materials.
 - j. Collecting strategic information explaining the capabilities of the country for facing the disaster.
 - k. Developing laws related to the uses of lands and determining the places of danger.
 - l. Developing legislations related to the specifications and conditions of construction works to prevent disasters.
 - m. Spreading the culture of insurance against the risks of disasters.
 - n. Setting up an affective communication system that includes practical alternatives.
 - o. Using modern technology and information (internet/satellites).
 - p. Setting up structures and measures for managing the disaster.
 - q. Performing shared exercises for the authorities concerned with facing the disaster.
 - r. Providing financial resources and transport.
 - s. Establishing operation rooms and control centers.
 - t. Concluding international agreements to make use of them in cases of disasters.
 - u. Setting up media plans for all stages of disasters.
 - v. Connecting disaster plans with different development plans.
- (2) Response to the disaster stage: this is considered the most difficult stage due to the lack of warning time in lots of cases and the initial shock of the disaster that causes big material or



human losses in most cases, deficiency in transport and media, high psychological pressure, loss of some leaderships, and possibly destruction of important facilities related to managing the disaster. Most of the time, all efforts are directed towards saving lives and property, and relief and sheltering processes. Following are the most important procedures in this stage:

- a. Warning in some types of disasters.
 - b. Activation of systems of managing disasters (operation rooms and committees).
 - c. Search and rescue processes to deal with injuries and deaths.
 - d. Providing essential services, especially communication, transport and energy.
 - e. Evaluating the disaster effects (field teams or air photography).
 - f. Evacuation, sheltering and relief processes.
 - g. Continuity of the education and guidance process through different types of media.
 - h. Providing medical services and sewage systems, especially in sheltering centers to reduce the possibility of epidemics.
 - i. Providing security for important facilities, the victims and the workers in disaster management and facing.
 - j. Trying to raise the spirits.
 - k. Organizing receiving and using the international aids and foreign teams.
 - l. Determining the work priorities.
- (3) Post-disaster stage: this stage is considered one of the most important, difficult, financially requiring and longest stages, due to the fact that returning basic services and reconstruction of what was

damaged are done in it. This stage has a great effect on development and improvement plans, so it has to go in line with them. Following are the most important requirements of this stage:

- a. Performing a comprehensive assessment of the situation to determine what has been achieved in the previous stages and estimate the size of damages and priorities of work.
- b. Estimating the size of available resources to perform rebuilding works.
- c. Estimating the size of required resources for the processes of habilitation and building.
- d. Determining the necessary requirements to perform the required works.
- e. Developing and executing plans of rebuilding according to timing that depends on the results of research about the previous terms.
- f. Considering the possibility of reoccurrence of the disaster in rebuilding processes.

• **The Importance of Establishing a Specific Authority or Committee Responsible for Disaster Management:**

Establishing a specific authority or committee responsible for disaster management is highly important for the following reasons:

- (1) Achieving complete coordination and integration between all ministries and governmental institutions and local society institutions and organizations related to dealing with the disaster, with each one's role determined in detail in each stage of managing the disaster.
- (2) Achieving the optimal use of the available capabilities and prevent duplication and overlapping which scatter energies.
- (3) Achieving a high degree of effectiveness, due to the capabilities and authorities they have that enable them to coordinate between all levels.



- (4) Guaranteeing control over initiatives in all stages of the disaster by one authority which reduces the multiplicity of opinions and diligences that waste time.
- (5) Finding a center for information and experience focusing on taking care of continuous modernizing of plans and alternatives that enable facing disasters when needed.

- **Forming the Authority or Committee Responsible for Disaster Management:**

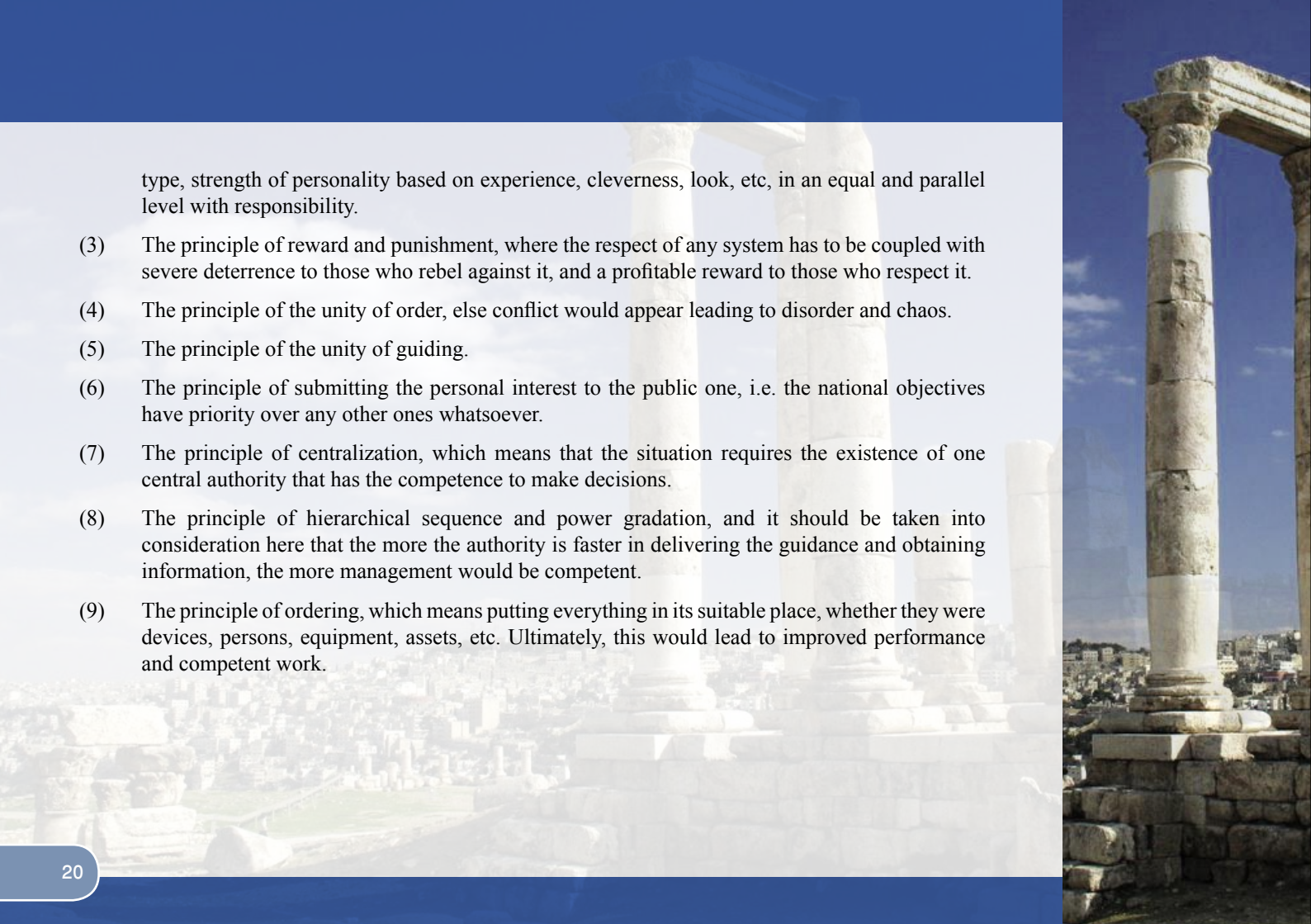
It should be taken into consideration when forming the authority or committee responsible for disaster management that their members are chosen according to the following:

- (1) Choosing the members that would have roles in executing the strategic plan.
- (2) Choosing those who have knowledge in managing the disaster and taking different responsibilities for the institution or organization they represent.
- (3) They should be persons occupying high positions, decision makers and able to apply the plan on their institutions.
- (4) It has to include a representative from each institution or organization related to dealing with disasters.

- **Principles of Disaster Management:**

Following are the most important general and shared principles among disasters:

- (1) The principle of specializing and dividing work which leads to achieving performance adequacy.
- (2) The principle of power and responsibility that should be practiced through the position or the job



type, strength of personality based on experience, cleverness, look, etc, in an equal and parallel level with responsibility.

- (3) The principle of reward and punishment, where the respect of any system has to be coupled with severe deterrence to those who rebel against it, and a profitable reward to those who respect it.
- (4) The principle of the unity of order, else conflict would appear leading to disorder and chaos.
- (5) The principle of the unity of guiding.
- (6) The principle of submitting the personal interest to the public one, i.e. the national objectives have priority over any other ones whatsoever.
- (7) The principle of centralization, which means that the situation requires the existence of one central authority that has the competence to make decisions.
- (8) The principle of hierarchical sequence and power gradation, and it should be taken into consideration here that the more the authority is faster in delivering the guidance and obtaining information, the more management would be competent.
- (9) The principle of ordering, which means putting everything in its suitable place, whether they were devices, persons, equipment, assets, etc. Ultimately, this would lead to improved performance and competent work.



- (10) The principle of equality, which means equality in treating the victims without favoritism; every harmed person from the disaster should get his right in sheltering, keeping alive and feeding in equal amount that others get and prevent people from taking advantage of the situation.
- (11) The principle of stability of the workers in their work which means that especially in this management the individuals should be stable in their work to increase their experience and practice.
- (12) The principle of initiatives and creation, because this type of management in particular should be characterized by creating new and improved styles based on constructive thinking.
- (13) The principle of team work, because it is useful for the interest of managing the disaster. It is worth mentioning here that verbal communication is considered one of the means of achieving harmony and cooperation, and facilitating team work.

Analyzing the State-of-Art

• The Arab Region in General:

Most Arab countries organize studying and training courses under the titles of “Managing Disasters” and “Managing Crises” almost all of the time, but when the disaster occurs in reality, another disaster related to the inability to deal with it is sometimes discovered.

During recent years, lots of Arab countries have suffered from a number of major disasters, a thing that has motivated governments to be interested in that problem not only due to the material and human losses, and the human tragedies that result from them, but also because of the serious effects they have

on the country's structure. These include the national economy, general security, and administrative body, for example the Algeria and Iran violent earthquakes, and Morocco and Sudan floods. Also, there are specific accidents like those of trains, ships drowning, invasion of locusts and buildings collapse that have very negative effects on the competence of governments, policies of countries and public opinion attitudes.

Any examination of any investigation carried on concerning a real disaster in the Arab region reveals the following:

- (1) Most Arab countries have formulated, or whatever expression is used, notions concerning what is called a national strategy for dealing with crises, but they are generally not translated into central practical structures. Thus, when the disaster occurs, confusion prevails because there is no one specific authority responsible for managing it, and usually Armed Forces and Civil Defence bodies move to deal with the problem till the situation clears up.
- (2) Wide spread problems appear when dealing with disasters that actually occur. The clear aims related to these problems are reducing losses, rescue works, including the situation and restoration of normal conditions, like absence of coordination between authorities that are supposed to face it. All of this is in the existence of wide multiplicity for it, strong competition, sensitivities, sometimes removal of responsibilities among them and failure in the competence of aids regarding speed of reaction and efficiency of work.
- (3) That the idea of predicting crises through early warning allows for readiness through determining particular scenarios, financial credits and ready-to-act authorities. In spite of the existence of detailed maps of the nature of risks that face the different areas of the countries like drowning



ships in costal areas, bridges collapsing in agricultural areas or floods in desert areas, disasters always seem to surprise every body.

- **Jordan in Particular:**


Due to its geographic location, man's activities inside it and the surrounding area, Jordan is exposed to the following hazards related to natural disasters:

- (1) Earthquakes.
- (2) Floods.
- (3) Drought.
- (4) Invasion of locusts.
- (5) Emergent atmospheric conditions.

It is also exposed to the following risks caused by man's activities:

- (1) Fires.
- (2) Chemical risks which include industrial accidents, road accidents related to transporting hazardous material, etc.
- (3) Chemical, radioactive and microbial pollution.
- (4) Armed conflicts.
- (5) Demographic immigration.

And because of the possibility that Jordan faces natural and non-natural disasters, it might be exposed to damages like:

- 
- (1) Death cases and varying injuries.
 - (2) Missing people.
 - (3) Homeless people.
 - (4) Destroying the infra structure (electricity, water, drainage system, transport roads, communication, bridges, dams, establishments, residences, etc.)
 - (5) Big material losses in public and private property.
 - (6) Paralyzation in daily life, especially in services and health care.
 - (7) Environmental pollution (water, soil and air).
 - (8) Outbreaking of epidemics and diseases.

Effective Legislations Related to Managing Disasters in Jordan

- **The Jordanian Constitution for 1952 and its Amendments:**

The Jordanian Constitution provides in its Article (124) the following measures and procedures necessary to defend the country in emergency cases.



Article (124):

In case of the occurrence of anything that requires defending the country in emergencies, a law is issued under the name of the Defence Law whereby authority is given to the person supported by law to take necessary measures and procedures including the authority to cease the normal country laws to secure defending the country, and the Defence Law is effective once it is announced by a Royal Decree issued based on the decision of the Cabinet.

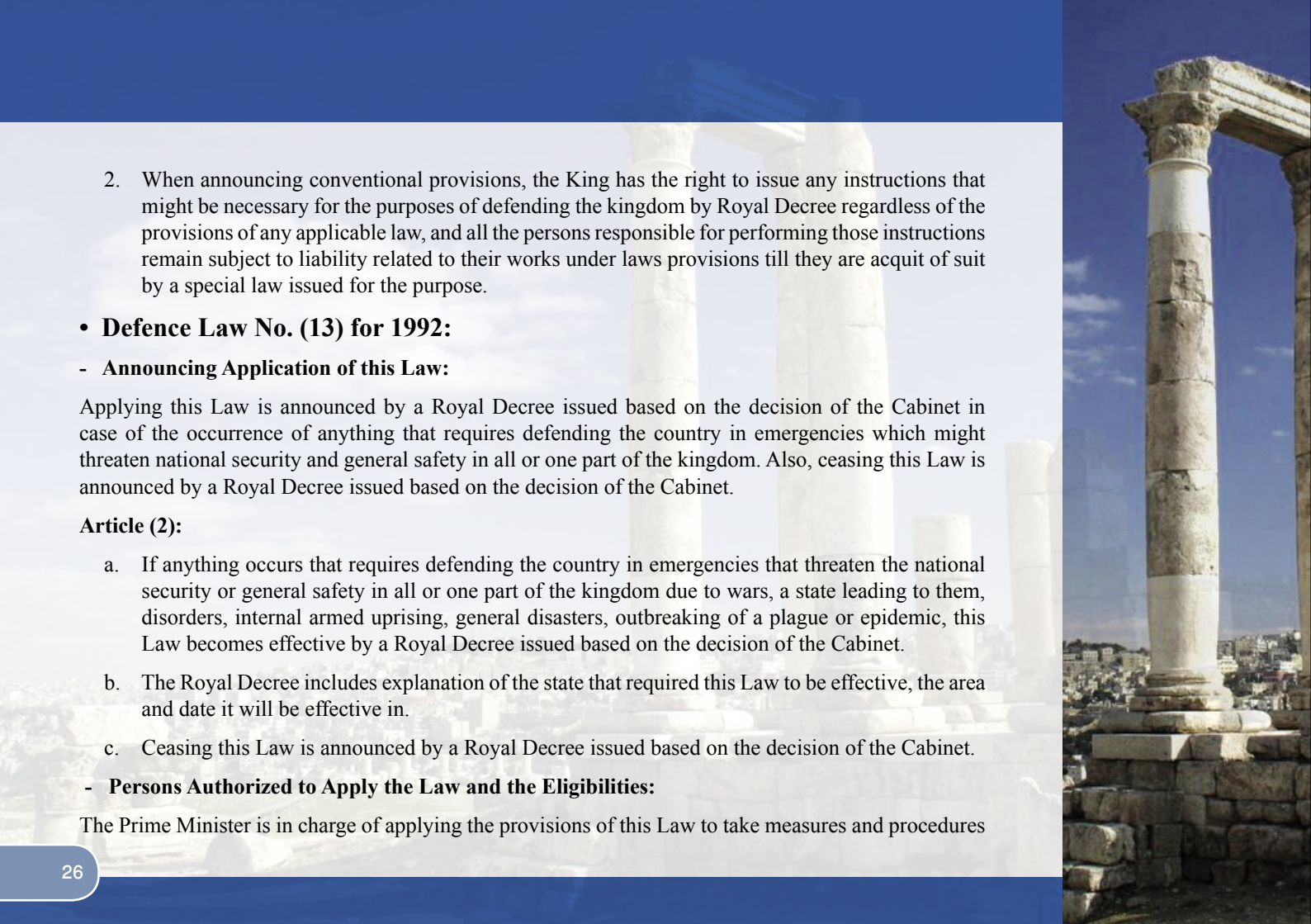
The following becomes clear from the Article above:

- (1) It has created the legal document to issue the Defence Law and explained the procedures of its effectiveness.
- (2) It has not defined (the emergency condition) for which the Defence Law is issued; it has only connected it with what requires defending the country.
- (3) It has given the authority for taking measures and procedures necessary to secure defence for the country including ceasing the normal laws of the country in case of emergencies to the person supported by the Defence Law.

In addition, Article (125) from the Jordanian Constitution provides that the conventional provisions are to be followed in all parts or one part of the kingdom in case of what it calls (hazardous emergency case) which requires more than the measures and procedures of the Defence Law issued by Article (124) of the Constitution to defend the country.

Article (125):

1. In case of hazardous emergencies that require more than the measures and procedures issued according to the previous Article of this Constitution to defend the country, based on the decision of the Cabinet the King has the right to announce the conventional provisions by Royal Decree in all parts or any part of the kingdom.

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2. When announcing conventional provisions, the King has the right to issue any instructions that might be necessary for the purposes of defending the kingdom by Royal Decree regardless of the provisions of any applicable law, and all the persons responsible for performing those instructions remain subject to liability related to their works under laws provisions till they are acquit of suit by a special law issued for the purpose.

• **Defence Law No. (13) for 1992:**

- **Announcing Application of this Law:**

Applying this Law is announced by a Royal Decree issued based on the decision of the Cabinet in case of the occurrence of anything that requires defending the country in emergencies which might threaten national security and general safety in all or one part of the kingdom. Also, ceasing this Law is announced by a Royal Decree issued based on the decision of the Cabinet.

Article (2):

- a. If anything occurs that requires defending the country in emergencies that threaten the national security or general safety in all or one part of the kingdom due to wars, a state leading to them, disorders, internal armed uprising, general disasters, outbreaking of a plague or epidemic, this Law becomes effective by a Royal Decree issued based on the decision of the Cabinet.
- b. The Royal Decree includes explanation of the state that required this Law to be effective, the area and date it will be effective in.
- c. Ceasing this Law is announced by a Royal Decree issued based on the decision of the Cabinet.

- **Persons Authorized to Apply the Law and the Eligibilities:**

The Prime Minister is in charge of applying the provisions of this Law to take measures and procedures



necessary to secure general safety and defend the kingdom without being restricted by the provisions of applicable normal laws and he practices his eligibilities according to written orders and has the right to authorize all his eligibilities or some of them to others.

Article (3):

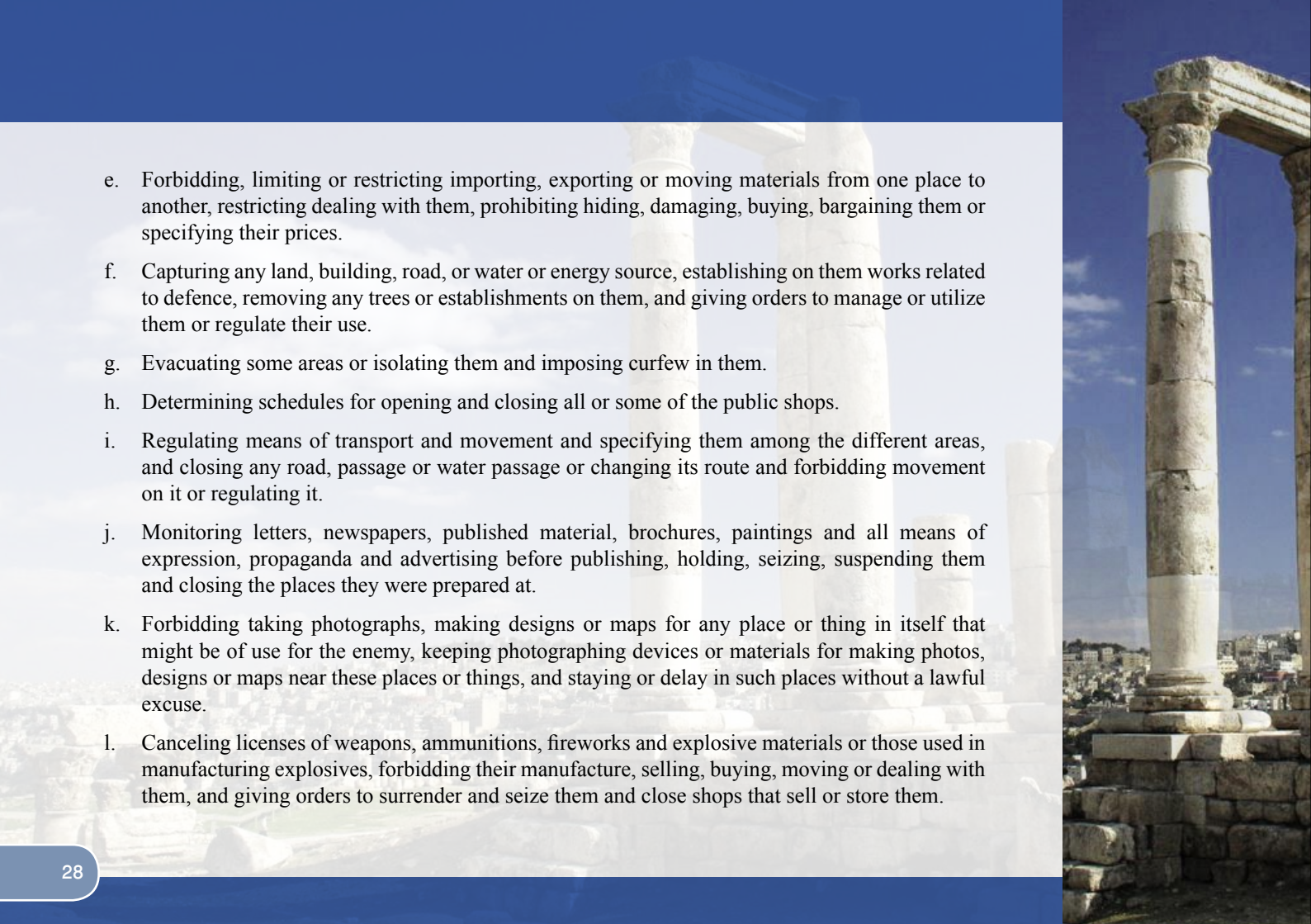
- a. The application of this Law is the responsibility of the Prime Minister to take measures and procedures necessary to secure general safety and defend the kingdom without being restricted with the provisions of normal applicable laws.
- b. The Prime Minister practices his eligibilities according to written orders.
- c. The Prime Minister has the right to authorize all or some of his rights to whom he sees competent in all or one part of the kingdom and according to the conditions and restrictions he specifies.

The eligibilities of the Prime Minister provided in the Defence Law are those listed in Article (4) thereof.

Article (4):

The Prime Minister has the right to practice the following eligibilities:

- a. Restricting personal freedom in meeting, moving and staying, and catching suspects or persons dangerous to national security and general order and arresting them.
- b. Authorizing any person to do any work or perform any service according to his abilities.
- c. Searching people, places and vehicles without being restricted to the provisions of any other law, and ordering using suitable force in case of disobedience.
- d. Placing seizure on movable and immovable property and delaying settlement of due debts and obligations.

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- The background of the slide features a photograph of ancient stone columns, likely from a classical or Roman site. The columns are weathered and show signs of age. In the distance, a cityscape is visible under a clear blue sky. The overall tone is historical and scholarly.
- e. Forbidding, limiting or restricting importing, exporting or moving materials from one place to another, restricting dealing with them, prohibiting hiding, damaging, buying, bargaining them or specifying their prices.
 - f. Capturing any land, building, road, or water or energy source, establishing on them works related to defence, removing any trees or establishments on them, and giving orders to manage or utilize them or regulate their use.
 - g. Evacuating some areas or isolating them and imposing curfew in them.
 - h. Determining schedules for opening and closing all or some of the public shops.
 - i. Regulating means of transport and movement and specifying them among the different areas, and closing any road, passage or water passage or changing its route and forbidding movement on it or regulating it.
 - j. Monitoring letters, newspapers, published material, brochures, paintings and all means of expression, propaganda and advertising before publishing, holding, seizing, suspending them and closing the places they were prepared at.
 - k. Forbidding taking photographs, making designs or maps for any place or thing in itself that might be of use for the enemy, keeping photographing devices or materials for making photos, designs or maps near these places or things, and staying or delay in such places without a lawful excuse.
 - l. Canceling licenses of weapons, ammunitions, fireworks and explosive materials or those used in manufacturing explosives, forbidding their manufacture, selling, buying, moving or dealing with them, and giving orders to surrender and seize them and close shops that sell or store them.



- m. Forbidding manufacturing devices for communication, selling, buying, or holding them, and giving orders to surrender them and seize them.

- Ceasing Work with Normal Laws:

In its Article number (10), the Defence Law provides that work with any text or legislation that opposes any provision of the Defence Law and the orders issued according to it should be ceased.

Article (10):

Working with any text or legislation that opposes any provision of this Law and the orders issued according to it is ceased.

• Civil Defence Law No. (18) for 1999 and its Amendments:

The Civil Defence Law includes forming a Council called (The Higher Council for the Civil Defence) headed by the Interior Minister and with the membership of representatives of all ministries, institutions and organizations related to facing disasters, and this Council is responsible for managing and facing emergency cases that are defined by law as any unordinary or sudden case the kingdom or any part of it is facing and which is announced by the Prime Minister.

Article (2):

Wherever they occur in this Law, the following words and phrases have the following specialized meanings unless context indicates other than that:

Emergency case: any unordinary or sudden case the kingdom or any part of it announced by the Prime Minister is facing.

Article (3):

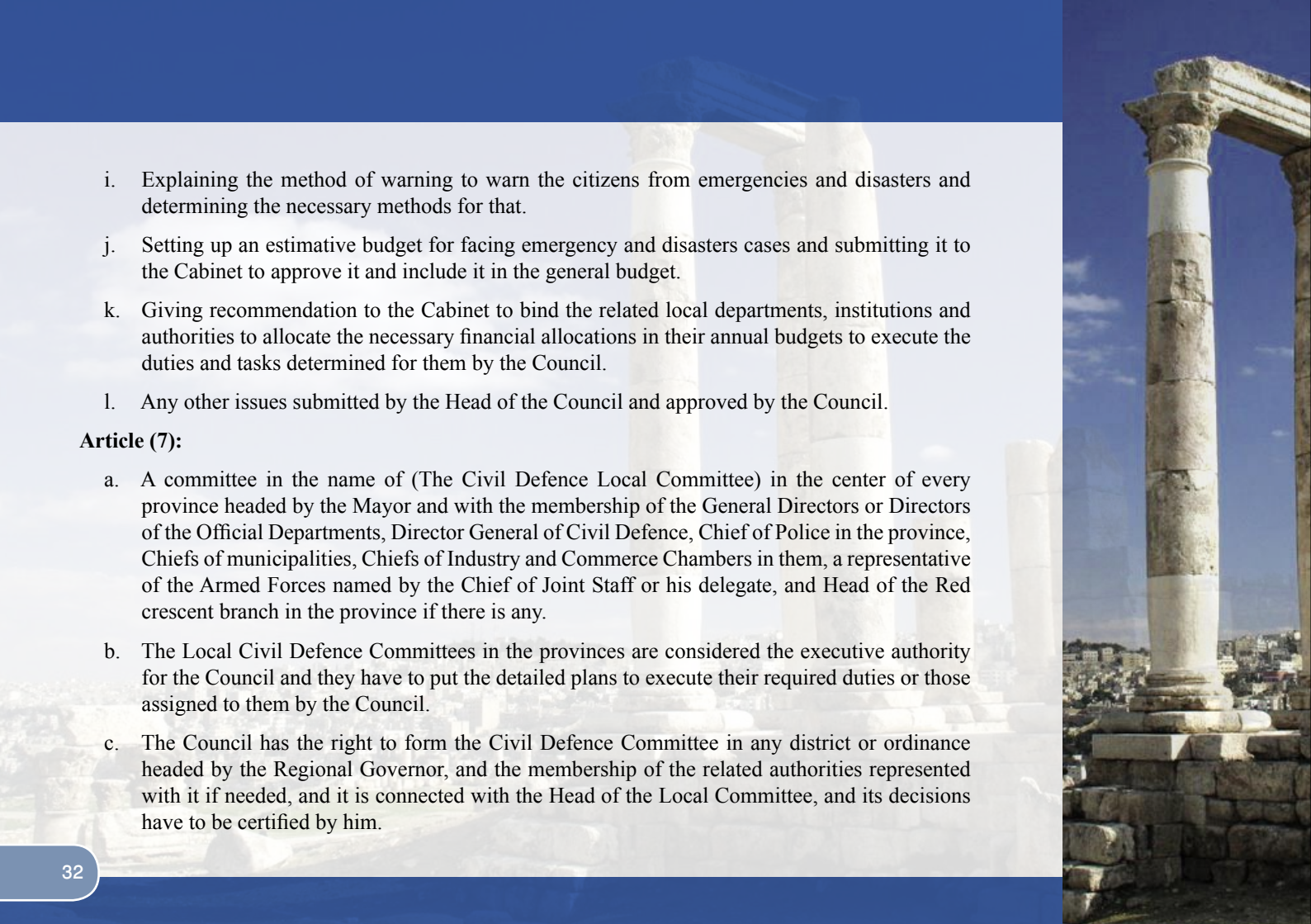
- a. A council called (The Higher Council for the Civil Defence) headed by Interior Minister and with the membership of:
- Director General of Civil Defence as Vice President.
 - Secretary General of Prime Ministry.
 - Secretary Generals of ministries and if a ministry has more than one Secretary General or its minister is connected with more than one General Director, the specialized minister names any of them a member in the Council.
 - Secretary General of Higher Council of Youth.
 - One of the assistants of Chief of Joint Staff named by the Chief of Joint Staff.
 - One of the assistants of Director General of Public Security named by the Director General of Public Security.
 - One of the assistants of the Director General of General Intelligence named by the Director General of General Intelligence.
 - Under Secretary of Greater Amman Municipality.
 - Head of Jordanian Red Crescent Society.
 - Head of General Union of Chambers of Commerce.
 - Head of one of the Chambers of Industry named by Minister of Industry and Commerce.
- b. The Head of Council has the right to invite any person or expert to consult him regarding



the subjects submitted to the Council without having the right to vote for the decisions.

Article (4): The Higher Council for the Civil Defence takes the following tasks and eligibilities:

- a. Putting the general policy for the Civil Defence for facing emergency cases and their potential results.
- b. Approving the general plans to take the necessary procedures for facing emergency cases and disasters, determining the duties and responsibilities of each formal or domestic authority, and tracing their execution.
- c. Approving the necessary plans for facing chemical, radioactive and microbial pollution and toxic gases to provide prevention and protection of them by coordination and cooperation with the specialized and concerned authorities.
- d. Issuing the necessary instructions to regulate the work of the Council and managing its operations room, the operation rooms of the authorities represented by it and the operation rooms of the committees of the Civil Defence in provinces and districts.
- e. Establishing setting up general shelters in the kingdom.
- f. Determining the duties and tasks of the committees of the Civil Defence according to the provisions of this Law in provinces.
- g. Determining the duties of the Armed Forces and the Public Security in emergency and disasters cases to support the work of the Civil Defence.
- h. Formulating voluntary teams from civilians aged between 18 and 50 years to support the work of the Civil Defence.

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- i. Explaining the method of warning to warn the citizens from emergencies and disasters and determining the necessary methods for that.
 - j. Setting up an estimative budget for facing emergency and disasters cases and submitting it to the Cabinet to approve it and include it in the general budget.
 - k. Giving recommendation to the Cabinet to bind the related local departments, institutions and authorities to allocate the necessary financial allocations in their annual budgets to execute the duties and tasks determined for them by the Council.
 - l. Any other issues submitted by the Head of the Council and approved by the Council.

Article (7):

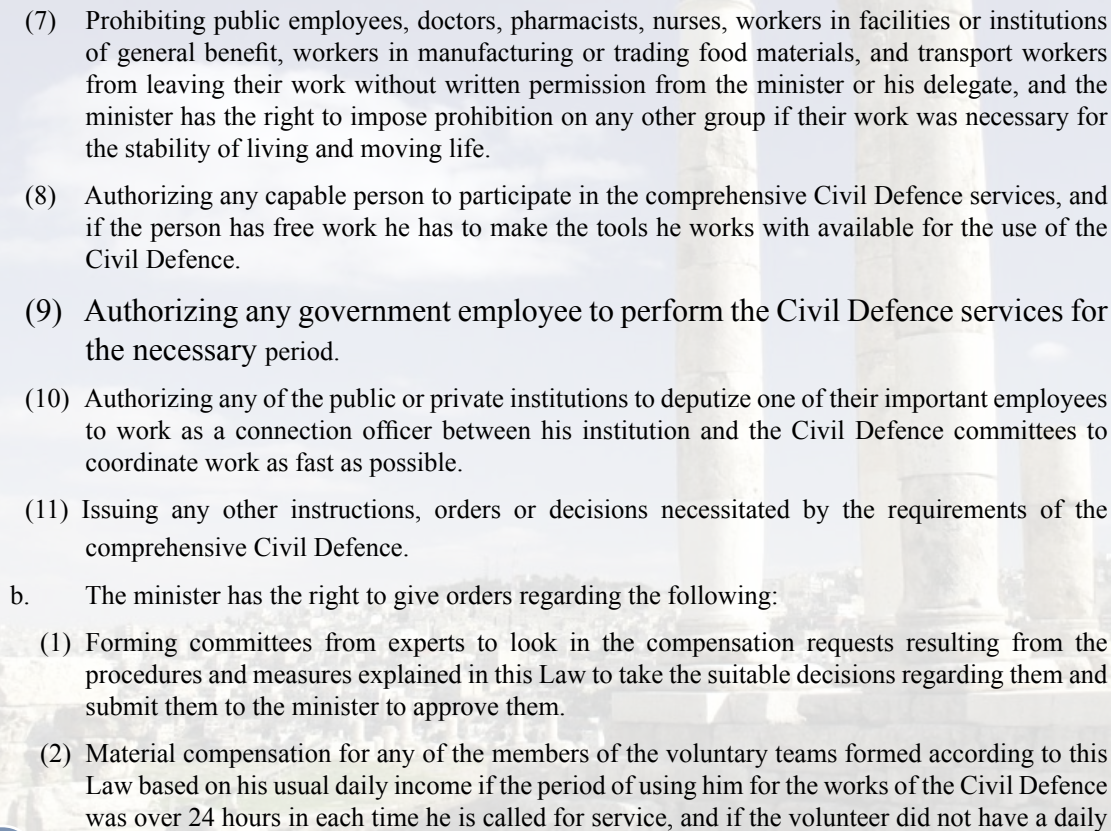
- a. A committee in the name of (The Civil Defence Local Committee) in the center of every province headed by the Mayor and with the membership of the General Directors or Directors of the Official Departments, Director General of Civil Defence, Chief of Police in the province, Chiefs of municipalities, Chiefs of Industry and Commerce Chambers in them, a representative of the Armed Forces named by the Chief of Joint Staff or his delegate, and Head of the Red crescent branch in the province if there is any.
- b. The Local Civil Defence Committees in the provinces are considered the executive authority for the Council and they have to put the detailed plans to execute their required duties or those assigned to them by the Council.
- c. The Council has the right to form the Civil Defence Committee in any district or ordinance headed by the Regional Governor, and the membership of the related authorities represented with it if needed, and it is connected with the Head of the Local Committee, and its decisions have to be certified by him.



- d. The tasks of the committees stated in this Article and their duties, the quorum for their meetings, making decisions and recommendations in them and all other issues related to them are determined according to instructions issued by the Council for this purpose.
- e. The decisions issued by the Local Civil Defence Committees are passed through the approval of the Head of the Council.

Article (8):

- a. Based on an authorization from the Prime Minister, in emergency and disaster cases, the Interior Minister has the right to order taking the following procedures and measures all through the period these cases last:
 - (1) Placing seizure on all means of transport, limiting their movement and their drivers' movement, seizing hold of their spare parts and supplies, and limiting selling them.
 - (2) Placing seizure on real estate and buildings necessary for setting up public shelters, hospitals, centers of succor and nursing and for all other Civil Defence affairs.
 - (3) Placing seizure on inflammable materials of all kinds and limiting their use and storage.
 - (4) Regulating and limiting distributing food materials and all the necessary materials for facing emergency and disaster cases to guarantee stability of living and move citizens' lives.
 - (5) Regulating and limiting the use of water and electricity resources, their tools and all their supplies in coordination and cooperation with the authorities responsible for managing and running them.
 - (6) Sustaining the work of wired and wireless communications.

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- (7) Prohibiting public employees, doctors, pharmacists, nurses, workers in facilities or institutions of general benefit, workers in manufacturing or trading food materials, and transport workers from leaving their work without written permission from the minister or his delegate, and the minister has the right to impose prohibition on any other group if their work was necessary for the stability of living and moving life.
- (8) Authorizing any capable person to participate in the comprehensive Civil Defence services, and if the person has free work he has to make the tools he works with available for the use of the Civil Defence.
- (9) Authorizing any government employee to perform the Civil Defence services for the necessary period.
- (10) Authorizing any of the public or private institutions to deputize one of their important employees to work as a connection officer between his institution and the Civil Defence committees to coordinate work as fast as possible.
- (11) Issuing any other instructions, orders or decisions necessitated by the requirements of the comprehensive Civil Defence.
- b. The minister has the right to give orders regarding the following:
- (1) Forming committees from experts to look in the compensation requests resulting from the procedures and measures explained in this Law to take the suitable decisions regarding them and submit them to the minister to approve them.
 - (2) Material compensation for any of the members of the voluntary teams formed according to this Law based on his usual daily income if the period of using him for the works of the Civil Defence was over 24 hours in each time he is called for service, and if the volunteer did not have a daily



income the minister may estimate the compensation he sees suitable.

- (3) Making decisions at any time to perform exercises and training on the works of the Civil Defence to ensure the competence of its methods, and any one who abstains from performing them, opposes that, or provokes for that is deemed a criminal that has to be punished according to the provisions of this Law.
- (4) Communicating any decisions or orders issued by him according to the provisions of this Article or this Law in the way he sees suitable and his communication in this capacity is considered legal.

Article (10):

In emergency or disasters cases, the Higher Council of Civil Defence has the right to decide the following:

- a. Purchasing the material and tools for the Civil Defence purposes and objectives whatever the cost is without being restricted by the applicable system of supplies.
- b. Making all the requirements of the Civil Defence work available for the official and private authorities in the kingdom, including fire extinguishers and all of their equipment, supplies and personnel, available for the minister's use.

Analytical Study of the Disaster Management Related Legislations Effective in Jordan

- (1) After studying the previous texts herein above related to managing the disaster, it becomes evident that they include three states for managing and facing emergency cases. In other words, they have divided emergency cases to three types or images, and provided the necessary procedure and measures for facing each type and the related authorities. Following are these three images or types of emergency cases:
 - a. Emergency cases announced by the Prime Minister and managed and faced by the Higher Council of Civil Defence according to the provisions of the Civil Defence Law No. (18) for 1999 and its amendments.
 - b. Emergency cases in which the Defence Law No. (13) for 1992 issued according to Article (124) of the Jordanian Constitution and managed and faced by the Prime Minister and/or his delegates is effective.
 - c. Hazardous emergency cases under which the measures and procedures of the Defence Law are not enough to defend the kingdom, and in which the conventional provisions become effective according to Article (125) of the Constitution.
- (2) Emergency cases that the Higher Council of Civil Defence specializes in managing and facing do not include emergency cases in which the Defence Law No. (13) for 1992 is effective, and they fall outside its specialty; following is the evidence:
 - a. In Article (2), the Civil Defence Law has defined the emergency case that the Higher Council of



Civil Defence specializes in managing and facing as (any extraordinary or sudden case the kingdom or any area thereof goes through and which is announced by the Prime Minister). This means that it has made the Prime Ministers' announcement the condition for the case to be included in the specialties of the Higher Council of Civil Defence. Therefore, it is different from the emergency cases included in the Defence Law No. (13) for 1992, which require to be included in this latter law that they cause the Defence Law to be effective by a Royal Decree issued based on the decision of the Cabinet, and that the Royal Decree includes explanation of the emergency case that effected this Law, the area where it will be applied and the date by which it will be applied.


- b. Under Article (125) of the Jordanian Constitution the authorized person for taking the necessary measures and procedures to defend the country should be appointed according to the Defence Law in emergency cases in which this Law becomes effective, as the Defence Law No. (13) for 1992 issued according to this Article and entrusted the Prime Minister with this eligibility. Therefore, this should not be opposed by any other law.
- c. According to Article (125) of the Jordanian Constitution in emergency cases in which the Defence Law is effective, the Prime Minister eligibilities include taking all the necessary measures sand procedures to face these cases including the authority to cease ordinary laws of the country. Also, Article (10) of the Defence Law provides that applying any text or legislation that opposes any provision of this Law and the orders issued according to it (i.e. defence orders).
 - (1) For what has been mentioned in the previous Clause, and in case of the occurrence of an emergency case in which the Defence Law becomes effective, we might be shocked at the fact that the Higher Council of Civil Defence does not exist in reality legally speaking, and it has no role in facing this emergency case unless it is being authorized for this by the Prime Minister.
 - (2) The measures and procedures provided in Article (8) of the Defence Law which have authorized

the Interior Minister to take them by authorization from the Prime Minister in emergency and disasters cases are not included in the eligibilities of the Prime Minister in the emergency cases named in the Civil Defence Law and defined in Article (2) thereof. Therefore, in this case, he has no right to delegate another person to do them, and these measures and procedures are included in the eligibilities of the Prime Minister in emergency cases in which the Defence Law becomes effective. Moreover, the saying that the Jordanian legislator meant by the emergency cases contained in this Article are the same as the emergency cases in which the Defence Law becomes effective is refuted by the following:

- a. Contradiction of this interpretation with the other provisions contained in the same law, especially the definition of the emergency case contained in it.
 - b. Opposition of that with the provisions of Article (124) of the Constitution under which the person with the authority to take the necessary measures and procedures for facing emergency cases in which the Defence Law is effective according to the provisions of this latter law including delegating eligibilities.
 - c. If this interpretation was taken in spite of its contradiction with the provisions of the Civil Defence Law and opposition with the provisions of Article (124) of the Jordanian Constitution, the text of Article (8) of the Defence Law does not have any legal importance or value as it did not add any new information not contained in the Defence Law No. (13) for 1992 that allowed the Prime Minister in Clause (c) of Article (3) thereof to delegate all or some of his eligibilities to whom he sees competent.
- (5) For what has been mentioned in Clause (4) above, I think that the text of Article (8) of the Civil Defence Law No. (18) for 1999 should be amended deleting the phrase (with the approval of the Prime Minister) contained therein.



- (6) As regarding the provisions related to the Higher Council of Civil Defence generally, I suggest the following:
- a. Organizing the Higher Council of Civil Defence by a law which is separate from the Civil Defence Law due to the fact that this Council is not related to the General Directorate of Civil Defence (GDCCD), and that the GDCCD is related to the Council in the same way the other government institutions and departments represented in its membership are, even if the GDCCD has the biggest role in treating disasters in reality.
 - b. Granting the Higher Council of Civil Defence financial and administrative independence being the authorized authority for managing disasters.
 - c. Amending forming the Higher Council of Civil Defence so as to be connected with the Prime Minister regarding the size of eligibilities given to the Council and the connection of the work of all the ministries and the official and private departments with it in emergency cases; for the membership of the Council to be formed from decision makers in the ministries and institutions they represent; and for the Council to include in its membership a representative of each ministry, department or governmental or private institution related to dealing with disasters.
 - d. For the law related to the Higher Council of the Civil Defence to touch upon the following points sufficiently:
 - (1) The financial allocations necessary for facing disasters.
 - (2) The objectives it seeks to achieve through the work of the Higher Council of Civil Defence which should all be directed towards providing general security for people and public and private properties.
 - (3) Guaranteeing the control of the Higher Council of Civil Defence over initiation in all stages of



the disaster, and achieving harmony and integration between all the ministries, institutions and organizations so as the role of each of which is determined in detail in every stage of managing the disaster.

- (4) Granting the Higher Council of Civil Defence the authorities necessary for achieving the objectives and duties vested in it.
- (5) Finding a center for information and experience which follows the Higher Council of Civil Defence.
- e. Finally, I suggest reconsidering the title of the Higher Council of Civil Defence, changing it to another one that indicates clearly the work of this Council which is related to managing and facing disasters to provide general safety; thus, I suggest calling it (The Higher Commission for Managing Disasters).

The Most Important Legislations Related to Facing Disasters and the Concerned Authorities

- **Civil Defence Law No. (18) for 1999 and its Amendments**

Besides the special provisions related to the Higher Council for Civil Defence, the Defence Law also included forming the GDCD and its duties which include the following regarding facing disasters:

- **In the Field of Prevention and Self Protection:**

As a start, the notion of prevention and self protection should be defined:



Prevention:

this is the group of procedures and preventive precautions taken or followed in highly effectively in the establishments including planning, designing, monitoring, execution, operation and maintenance to guarantee safety and continuity of their work fully.

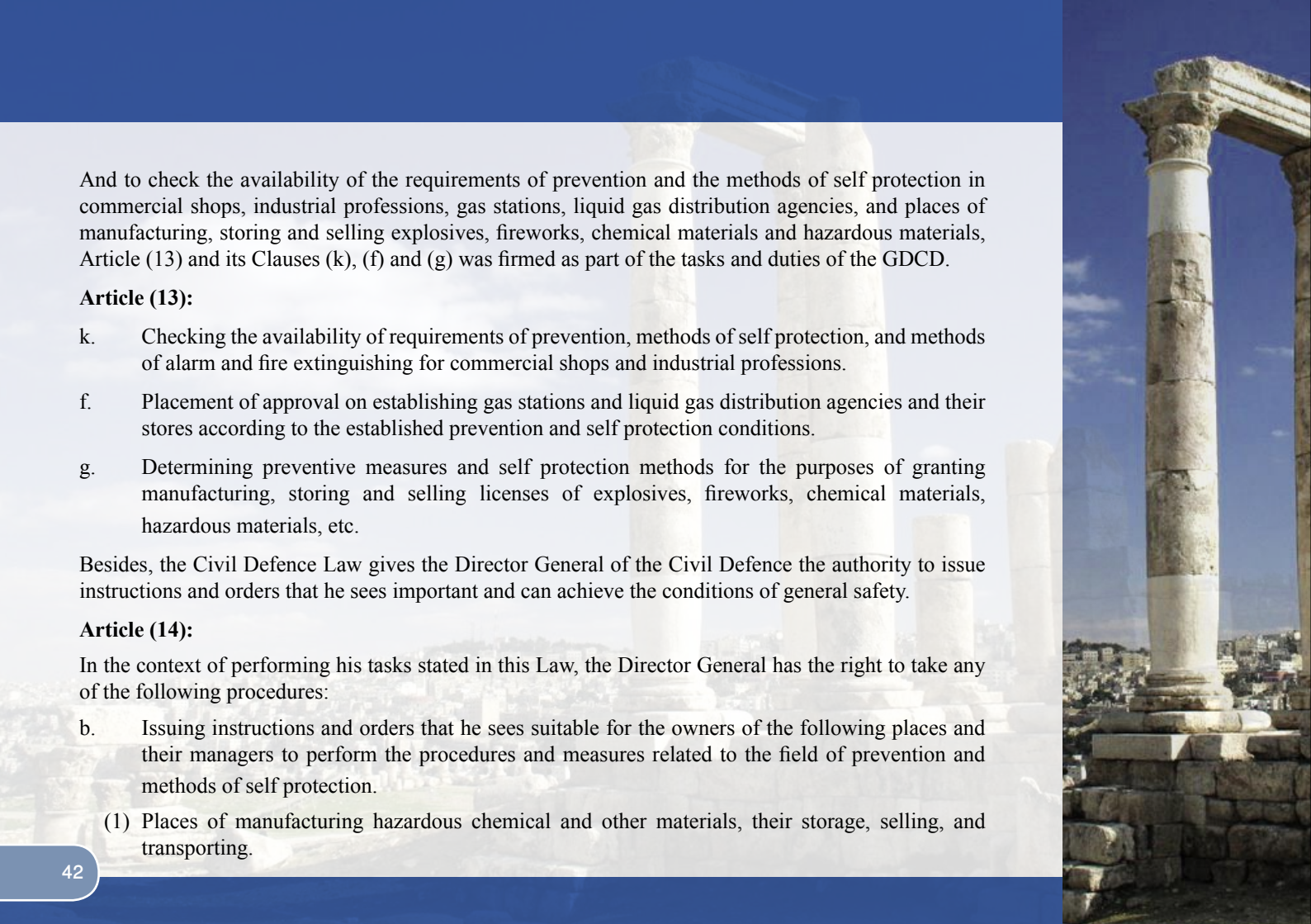
Protection:

it is the methods, equipment and supplements chosen and provided in the establishment, and used by the workers there to treat the accident after it occurs and before the arrival of the Civil Defence staff to limit human and material losses.

Self prevention and protection requirements are important for achieving a sufficient amount of general safety against risks. Therefore, the legal texts in the Civil Defence Law No. (18) for 1999 and its amendments related to the duty of the GDCD to check the availability of the requirements of self prevention and protection in the establishments were binding for the related authorities, be them those related to the requirements of designing new buildings or making amendments on existing ones according to the purpose of its use. All of this is done according to the laws and regulations related to general safety, their conditions, and the instructions issued by the official authorities including the GDCD.

Article (13): The GDCD is responsible for the following tasks and duties:

- j. Studying outlines of multi-storey buildings and buildings of multi commercial, industrial and tourist uses which Greater Amman Municipality and the other municipalities have to assign for them to check providing shelters and methods of self protection based on the qualifications established according to the applicable legislations and the monitoring them by the general Directorate after issuing of the necessary license.

The background of the page features a faded image of several tall, white, fluted ancient Greek columns. To the right, a more prominent and detailed image shows a single column standing on a stone base, with a cityscape visible in the distance under a clear blue sky.

And to check the availability of the requirements of prevention and the methods of self protection in commercial shops, industrial professions, gas stations, liquid gas distribution agencies, and places of manufacturing, storing and selling explosives, fireworks, chemical materials and hazardous materials, Article (13) and its Clauses (k), (f) and (g) was framed as part of the tasks and duties of the GDCC.

Article (13):

- k. Checking the availability of requirements of prevention, methods of self protection, and methods of alarm and fire extinguishing for commercial shops and industrial professions.
- f. Placement of approval on establishing gas stations and liquid gas distribution agencies and their stores according to the established prevention and self protection conditions.
- g. Determining preventive measures and self protection methods for the purposes of granting manufacturing, storing and selling licenses of explosives, fireworks, chemical materials, hazardous materials, etc.

Besides, the Civil Defence Law gives the Director General of the Civil Defence the authority to issue instructions and orders that he sees important and can achieve the conditions of general safety.

Article (14):

In the context of performing his tasks stated in this Law, the Director General has the right to take any of the following procedures:

- b. Issuing instructions and orders that he sees suitable for the owners of the following places and their managers to perform the procedures and measures related to the field of prevention and methods of self protection.
 - (1) Places of manufacturing hazardous chemical and other materials, their storage, selling, and transporting.



- (2) Places of educational and sport institutions, meetings, hospitals, cinemas, theaters, amusements parks, entertainment centers, other general shops, high buildings, hotels, industrial establishments, multi-purpose buildings, and any other places whose nature of use requires prevention and self protection methods.

Also, Clause (c) of Article (14) of the Civil Defence Law granted the Director General of the Civil Defence the authorities to take the necessary measures against shops and institutions owners violating the established requirements of prevention and self protection.

Article (14/c):

Warning the violating shops and institution owners from the necessity of removing the illegal action else the shop would be closed and bound with financial warranty or referred to the specialized court.

And to legalize the work of Civil Defence personnel during performing their tasks, legal text were formed to give them the authorized eligibilities for the officers of the judicial police according to the Law of Penal Trial Practices... to enter to different places, organize controlling violations, referring to the specialized court, etc.

Article (16):

The Civil Defence personnel working in the field of prevention and self protection practice their eligibilities authorized for the officers of the judicial police during performing their tasks and in their borders according to the applicable Law of Penal Trial Practices, and they have the right to organize the controlling of violations against persons who violate the provisions of the Civil Defence Law and the orders and regulations issued according to it, and refer them to the specialized civil court.

Article (17):

The personnel of the Civil Defence working in the field of prevention and self protection have the right to detect buildings, and commercial, tourist and industrial establishments to ensure the sufficiency and effectiveness of fire extinguishing supplies, and the existence of shelters and all the measures of prevention and self protection. Civil Defence personnel also have the right to enter homes and institutions in cases of fire extinguishing, rescue, and medical aid without prior permission for the purposes of protecting lives and property.

And as the legal rule should be coupled with a penalty (punishment) in order to be binding, the Civil Defence Law has created deterrent punishment for violating its provisions and the regulations, instructions and orders issued according to it.

Article (28):

Any person who commits any violation for the provisions of this Law and any regulation or orders issued according to it is punished with a fine which does not exceed five hundred Jordanian Dinners, prison for not more than three years or both.

- Other Duties Vested in the GD CD for Facing Disasters:

The most important of these are performing fire extinguishing, rescue, soccours during disasters, educating and training citizens on methods of dealing with disasters, trying to provide and secure the necessary machinery, equipment, and means of communication for facing disasters, participating in setting up general and special plans for facing disasters, taking part in establishing sheltering and relief centers, etc. These duties are contained in the Clauses (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (h) of Article (13) of the Civil Defence Law.



Article (13):

The GDCD is responsible for the following tasks and responsibilities:

- b. Executing processes of fire extinguishing, rescue, and medical aid cases resulting from them, preparing persons eligible for these processes, educating citizens and training them on these processes, providing the necessary machinery, equipment, and means of communication, and preparing studies related to the works of the Civil Defence.
- c. Providing methods and tools of warning from air raids and disasters and organize and monitor them.
- d. Checking the readiness of the general shelters for use.
- e. Detecting explosives, determining the areas of their existence, marking the area around them, and inviting the Public Security Forces to close the area and the specialized bodies in the Armed Forces to cancel their effect and remove them.
- f. Participating in detecting any chemical or radioactive leakage in cooperation with the authorities specialized in dealing with it and avoiding its effects.
- g. Training voluntary teams on the works of the Civil Defence from both the public and private sectors in all parts of the kingdom to support the Civil Defence.

During our talk about the GDCD and its role in facing disasters under the Civil Defence Law No. (18) for 1999 and its amendments, the following should be noted:

- (1) Clause (b) of Article (14) of the Civil Defence Law authorizes the Director General of the Civil Defence to ask the civil, security and military authorities and the private sector institutions to take part in the emergency tasks of the Civil Defence and obligated these authorities to perform that immediately.

Article (14/b):

Asking the civil, security and military authorities, and the private sector institutions to participate in the emergency tasks of the Civil Defence and they have to perform that immediately.

And here we should note that what is meant by the emergency tasks of the Civil Defence contained in Article (14/a) herein above is not the emergency case defined in Article (2) of the Civil Defence Law in which is announced by the Prime Minister, as this is included in the authorities of the Higher Council of Civil Defence.

- (2) Recently, a proposal of an amending law for the Civil Defence Law has been prepared. The most important issue presented therein is entrusting the duty of providing soccour service for the emergent cases to the GDCCD, creating the legal texts that guarantee the availability of the requirements of prevention and self protection in all the buildings for the purpose of achieving the highest level of protection for their users and the properties, assigning the task of licensing the professions related to the materials and tools of prevention and self protection and classifying them according to the type of work, monitoring and controlling them to the GDCCD.

• The Jordanian Armed Forces Temporary Law No. (64) for 2001

The Armed Forces has a great role in treating disasters and minimizing their effects. This role can be summarized with the following through the duties they are entrusted with according to the provisions of Article (5) of the Jordanian Armed Forces Law:

- (1) Supporting government bodies in facing emergencies and minimizing their effects like helping in search, rescue, medical aid, sheltering and relief processes, and providing machinery and supplies that are useful in the response to the disasters.
- (2) Supporting the security bodies in maintaining security and order.





- (3) Besides the previous tasks, the Armed Forces are responsible for defending the kingdom against any external aggression, armed rebellion, or internal aggression.

Article (5)

a. The Armed Forces are responsible for the following duties:

- (1) Defending the kingdom against any external aggression.
- (2) Defending the security of the kingdom against any armed rebellion or internal aggression.
- (3) Supporting the security bodies in maintaining internal security.
- (4) Supporting the government bodies in facing emergencies and minimizing their effects.

• The Public Security Law No. (38) for 1965 and its Amendments

Article (4) of the Public Security Law has determined the duties of Public Security Body through which its most important duties for facing emergencies and disasters can be drawn as follows:

- (1) Informing the concerned authorities of risks.
- (2) Warning persons at stake in order to get away from hazardous areas.
- (3) Keeping security and stability within the stricken area and managing the work of the public facilities and services.
- (4) Organizing and facilitating traffic for rescue, evacuation and medical aid units.
- (5) Executing legislated laws, regulations, and official orders.
- (6) Participating in rescue, evacuation and sheltering processes and providing the available human and machinery effort to for facing the disaster.

Article (4):

Following are the duties of the main force:

- (1) Maintaining order and security, and protecting souls, honor, and money.
- (2) Preventing crimes, trying to detect and track them, arresting criminal, and submitting them to justice.
- (3) Managing prisons and guarding prisoners.
- (4) Executing legislated laws, regulations and official orders, and helping the public authorities in performing their duties according to the provisions of the law.
- (5) Receiving findings and unclaimed money, and dealing with them according to the provisions of laws and regulations.
- (6) Controlling and regulating transport on roads.
- (7) Monitoring meetings and public parades on roads and public places.
- (8) Performing any other duties necessitated by the effective legislations.

• The Jordanian National Construction Law No. (7) for 1993 and its Amendments

The Jordanian National Construction Law and its amendments is concerned with construction works in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. These include construction projects of all types like buildings, roads and bridges including design, execution, operation, maintenance, general security and related engineering works.



The Jordanian National Construction Law included forming a council called (The National Jordanian Construction Council) headed by the Minister of Public Works and Housing and with the membership of all the ministries, institutions, and syndicates concerned with construction works in the kingdom. The most important eligibilities this Council is entrusted with according to Article (5) of the same law is deciding on the different codes for the Jordanian national construction and submitting it to the Cabinet for adoption.

Article (5):

Following are the tasks and eligibilities of the Council:

- a. Creating bases and principles for the codes of national Jordanian construction and determining the field of each of which based on the placement of the Technical Committee.
- b. Deciding on the different codes of national Jordanian construction and submitting them to the Cabinet to adopt them.
- c. Studying the placements of the Technical Committee and making suitable decisions regarding them.
- d. Deciding on any objection on adopted codes or on any amendment for them according to the provisions of the law.
- e. Contracting with any scientific authority to prepare any new code or perform any amendment on any adopted code and determine the cost of this contraction and accepting paying it out.
- f. Publishing the adopted codes and circulating them.
- g. Issuing instructions related to applying the codes in design, execution, monitoring, maintenance, and operation stages, general safety works, and all related engineering works.

The background of the slide features a photograph of ancient stone columns, likely from a Roman or Greek temple, set against a clear blue sky. In the distance, a modern cityscape with buildings and a road is visible. The columns are made of light-colored stone and show signs of weathering and repair.

The code is defined as the group of rules, terms and technical requirements related to construction works decided by the National Jordanian Construction Council and adopted by the Cabinet.

Generally, codes are related to different degrees of prevention and general safety in establishments. Following are some codes closely connected with the issues of prevention and self protection:

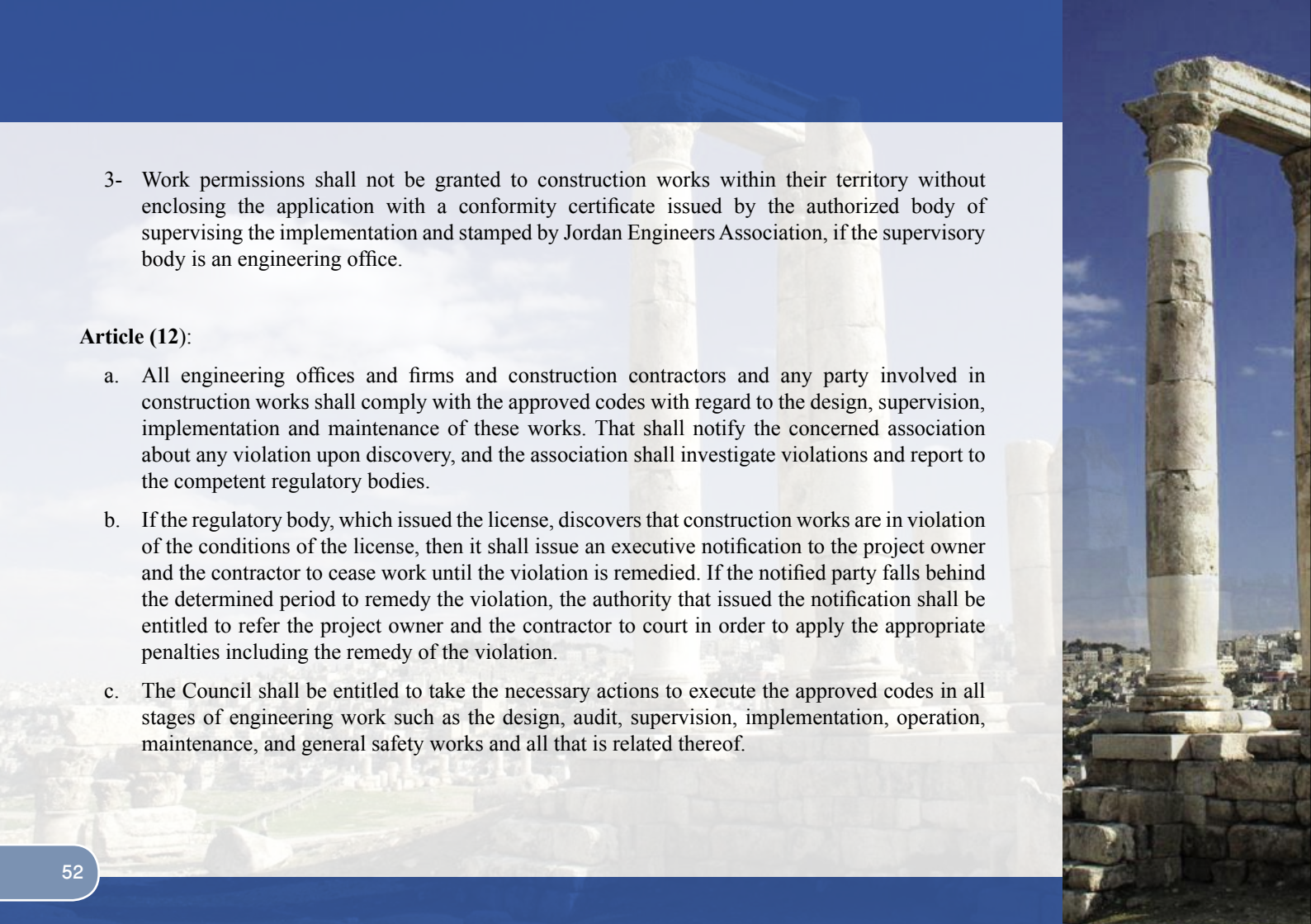
- (1) Code of prevention from fires.
- (2) Code of supplying buildings with water.
- (3) Code of electrical extensions and their installations.
- (4) Code of fire alarm systems.
- (5) Code of elevators.
- (6) Code of mechanical ventilation and air conditioning.
- (7) Code of central heating.
- (8) General safety code in implementing construction projects.
- (9) Earthquake prevention code, taking into account that this code is still in progress.

In order for the legislations related to the design and implementation of construction works to be realized, Jordan National Construction Law included in Articles (11) and (12), such mechanisms to follow up and ensure meeting the codes' rules and requirements by construction works. Article (13) of the same law contained deterrent penalties for the violators of the approved codes in construction works with regard to the design, supervision, implementation and maintenance of these works.



Article (11)

- a. All ministries, public departments, official and public institutions, municipalities, public and private share holding companies, Jordan Engineers Association, Jordan Construction Contractors Association and the Commission of Engineering Offices and Companies shall comply with the approved codes in construction works in accordance with the provisions of this Law and shall take the necessary action for this end.
- b. Subject to Paragraph (d), Article (10) of this law, construction works shall not commence without engineering blueprints that fulfill the technical rules and requirements in the approved construction codes and are issued by an authorized body for design or an engineering office registered and approved by Jordan Engineers Association.
- c. All bodies concerned with approving construction works' blueprints, under legal liability, shall not approve any engineering blueprints unless they conform to the stipulated requirements and are sealed by the seal of the related body without prejudice to the responsibility of the designing party.
- d. Subject to paragraph (c) of this Article, all ministries and bodies concerned with issuing construction licenses shall comply with the following:
 - 1- Construction licenses shall not be issued and construction projects shall not be approved unless their blueprints are authenticated by the competent body.
 - 2- Follow up projects from inception to completion to ensure that the codes' requirements, provisions and conditions in the construction license are met, the Laws of Jordan Engineers Association and the of Jordan Construction Contractors Association and the regulation of the Commission of Engineering Offices and Firms, issued under Jordan Engineers Association's law, are applied and the necessary legal proceedings are taken.

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- The background of the slide features a photograph of ancient stone columns, likely from a Roman or Greek temple, set against a clear blue sky. In the distance, a cityscape with modern buildings is visible. The columns are made of light-colored stone and show signs of weathering and repair.
- 3- Work permissions shall not be granted to construction works within their territory without enclosing the application with a conformity certificate issued by the authorized body of supervising the implementation and stamped by Jordan Engineers Association, if the supervisory body is an engineering office.

Article (12):

- a. All engineering offices and firms and construction contractors and any party involved in construction works shall comply with the approved codes with regard to the design, supervision, implementation and maintenance of these works. That shall notify the concerned association about any violation upon discovery, and the association shall investigate violations and report to the competent regulatory bodies.
- b. If the regulatory body, which issued the license, discovers that construction works are in violation of the conditions of the license, then it shall issue an executive notification to the project owner and the contractor to cease work until the violation is remedied. If the notified party falls behind the determined period to remedy the violation, the authority that issued the notification shall be entitled to refer the project owner and the contractor to court in order to apply the appropriate penalties including the remedy of the violation.
- c. The Council shall be entitled to take the necessary actions to execute the approved codes in all stages of engineering work such as the design, audit, supervision, implementation, operation, maintenance, and general safety works and all that is related thereof.



Article (13)

Whoever violates Paragraph (a), Article (12) of this Law shall be penalized with a fine that shall not be less than one hundred Jordanian Dinars and shall not exceed three thousand Jordanian Dinars for each violation according to its seriousness.

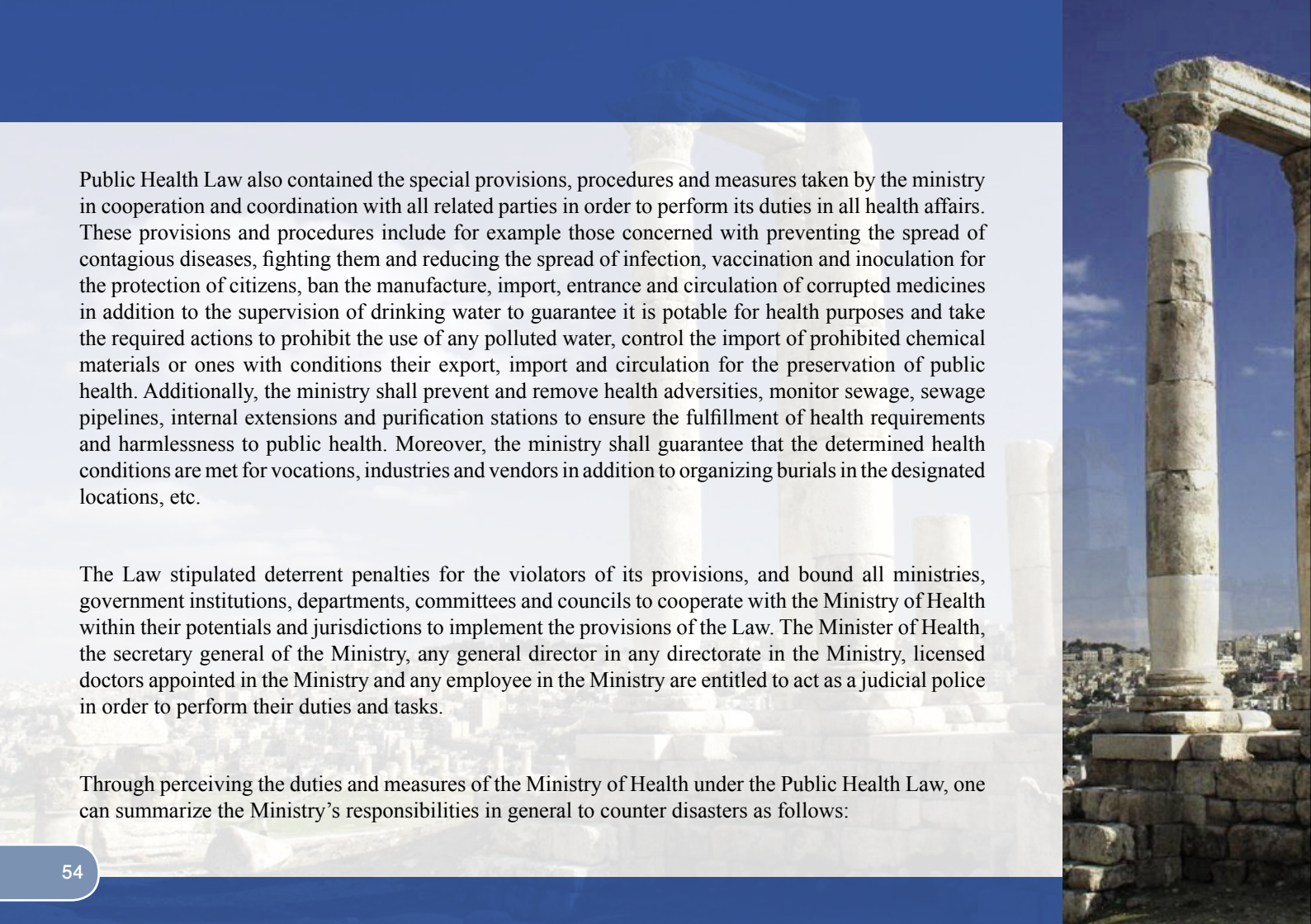
- **Temporary Public Health Law No. (54) for 2002**

Public Health Law entrusted in Article (3) the responsibility of all health affairs in the kingdom including the preservation of public health, regulation of health services rendered by the public and private sectors in the Ministry of Health.

Article (3)

The ministry shall be responsible for all health affairs in the kingdom, which include particularly the following:

- a- Preservation of public health by rendering preventive, remedial and supervisory health services.
- b- Regulation and supervision of health services rendered by the public and private sectors.
- c- Provision of health insurance for citizens within the available resources.
- d- Establishment of educational and training institutions and foundations that report to the Ministry and supervision of their management in accordance with the applicable related legislations.




Public Health Law also contained the special provisions, procedures and measures taken by the ministry in cooperation and coordination with all related parties in order to perform its duties in all health affairs. These provisions and procedures include for example those concerned with preventing the spread of contagious diseases, fighting them and reducing the spread of infection, vaccination and inoculation for the protection of citizens, ban the manufacture, import, entrance and circulation of corrupted medicines in addition to the supervision of drinking water to guarantee it is potable for health purposes and take the required actions to prohibit the use of any polluted water, control the import of prohibited chemical materials or ones with conditions their export, import and circulation for the preservation of public health. Additionally, the ministry shall prevent and remove health adversities, monitor sewage, sewage pipelines, internal extensions and purification stations to ensure the fulfillment of health requirements and harmlessness to public health. Moreover, the ministry shall guarantee that the determined health conditions are met for vocations, industries and vendors in addition to organizing burials in the designated locations, etc.

The Law stipulated deterrent penalties for the violators of its provisions, and bound all ministries, government institutions, departments, committees and councils to cooperate with the Ministry of Health within their potentials and jurisdictions to implement the provisions of the Law. The Minister of Health, the secretary general of the Ministry, any general director in any directorate in the Ministry, licensed doctors appointed in the Ministry and any employee in the Ministry are entitled to act as a judicial police in order to perform their duties and tasks.

Through perceiving the duties and measures of the Ministry of Health under the Public Health Law, one can summarize the Ministry's responsibilities in general to counter disasters as follows:



- (1) Preserve of public health by taking all measures and actions under the Public Health Law and provision of preventive and remedial health services and supervision of all that may constitute a hazard on public health.
- (2) Concentrate the health education programs on the hazards and injuries that may occur to citizens because of disasters and how to provide the necessary first aid.
- (3) Train citizens, in coordination with Jordan Civil Defence, on how to provide first aid.
- (4) Provide adequate reserve of medicines and medical supplies.
- (5) Prepare all public and private hospitals and medical clinics to receive injuries caused by disasters and provide them with the first aid supplies in addition to medicines and cadres.
- (6) Assist Jordan Civil Defence in providing field first aid to persons injured by disasters.
- (7) Render medical care services for evacuation and hospitality centers.
- (8) Fight epidemics that may spread as a result of a disaster.
- (9) Implement the basics and instructions of disaster medicine during handling injuries including classification and evacuation.
- (10) Coordinate with local medical bodies (Jordan Medical Association, Jordan Pharmaceutical Association, etc) and external medical bodies to provide medical aid when necessary as well as organizing the tasks of these bodies during field work.
- (11) Establish field hospitals when necessary.

The background of the slide features a photograph of ancient stone columns, likely from a classical building, set against a clear blue sky. In the distance, a cityscape with buildings and greenery is visible. The columns are made of light-colored stone and show signs of weathering and repair.

It is worth mentioning that the Health Insurance Regulation No. (83) and its amendments for 2004 issued under Article (66) of the Public Health Law, stipulated in Article (17) providing treatment and medications for free if they are rendered to injuries caused by disasters.

Article (17)

Treatment and medications shall be provided for free for the following cases:

- a- If the patient is infected with a contagious disease that requires quarantine according to the list issued by the minister in this regard.
- b- If the patient is under quarantine.
- c- If the treatment is provided for injuries resulting from natural disasters, contagious diseases, collective poisoning or collective accidents not caused by a direct party.


• Temporary Agriculture Law No. (44) for 2002

Agriculture Law entrusted in Article (3) the responsibility of organizing the agricultural sector and its development including providing health protection for the animal and agricultural wealth and environment in addition to fighting agricultural and animal epidemics and pests, vaccination of animal against contagious diseases and desertification, ... et, in the Ministry of Agriculture.



Article (3)

- a. the Ministry shall be responsible for the organization and development of the agricultural sector to achieve the following main objectives in cooperation with the related concerned parties, when needed:
- (1) Increase food production and agricultural products.
 - (2) Sustain natural agricultural resources usage without damaging environment.
 - (3) Provide suitable atmosphere for investment in the agricultural sector.
 - (4) Develop the countryside and increase its production capacity.
 - (5) Increase the farmers' incomes and improve their living standards.
 - (6) Protect the animal and agricultural wealth and environment in addition to effective participation in international and regional competent organizations and entering international agreements according to the applicable rules.
 - (7) Promote the economic opportunities for agricultural producers and follow up the international and local opportunities.
 - (8) Monitor the market development and set the required legislations to organize and elevate the marketing operations.
 - (9) Enhance the use of irrigation water on the agricultural level.

The background of the page features a photograph of ancient Greek columns, likely from the Temple of Apollo at Side in Turkey. The columns are made of light-colored stone and show signs of weathering. In the distance, a modern cityscape is visible under a clear blue sky. The image is used as a decorative background for the document.

b. The Ministry shall achieve the objectives of Paragraph (a) of this Article including providing basic agricultural services in the areas that the private sector does not provide them or where they lack effectiveness and sufficiency such as:

- (1) Fight animal and agricultural epidemics and blights.
- (2) Vaccinate animal against epidemics.
- (3) Applied agricultural scientific research and agricultural guidance.
- (4) Run laboratory analysis in the fields related to agricultural production.
- (5) Counter desertification and protect animal diversity.
- (6) Establish and manage development agricultural projects.
- (7) Provide agricultural statistical data and information.
- (8) Rent agricultural machines and equipment.
- (9) Provide data and information related to marketing agricultural products including agricultural products conditions, prices and marketing opportunities, locally and externally.

The Ministry of Agriculture shall be responsible for setting, approving, applying and revising health and plant health measures for the protection of animals and plants from epidemics and blights which may infect them or may damage animals and plants products or agricultural production by health and plant health measures such as registration, import license, production, sale and circulation according to the provisions of law. The Ministry shall also be responsible for preventing the spread of epidemics among animals and plants and fight it, organize agricultural quarantine, veterinary quarantine, isolation and



treatment of infected animals and fighting desert locusts in cooperation and coordination with the other official and civil bodies, etc... Moreover, the Ministry shall be responsible for preserving public and private forests and preventing any attack on woodlands.

Agriculture Law in Article (3) prohibited building fires in public forests and the surrounding areas up to 300 meters. The Minister of Agriculture or the Regional Governor shall be authorized, in case of fire break in a public forest, to lay hold of any private machines, equipment and transportation that may be needed to fight fire provided compensating their owners.

In addition to the above-mentioned duties of the Ministry of Agriculture, one can summarize the other responsibilities of the Ministry to counter disasters in general as follows:

- (1) Guide farmers on how to benefit from damaged plants appropriately.
- (2) Conduct a survey to determine the losses in crops and animal wealth caused by a disaster.
- (3) Assist in repairing and restoring irrigation pipelines and dams.
- (4) Act quickly in order to re-plant the crops by means of providing seeds and other supplies for the farmers for such an end.

• **Environment Conservation Law No. (52) for 2006**

Environment Conservation Law entrusted the responsibility of environment conservation in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in the Ministry of Environment and obliged the official and civil bodies to comply with the orders and regulations issued under the provisions of this law and its regulations.

Article (3)

- a. The Ministry shall be responsible for environment conservation in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the official and civil bodies shall be obliged to comply with the orders and regulations issued under the provisions of this law and its regulations, under legal liability.
- b. The Ministry shall be the competent body, nationally, regionally and internationally with regard to all environment issues and affairs and granting parties in cooperation and coordination with the competent bodies.

Environment Conservation Law entrusted in Article (4) of the Ministry with many responsibilities in collaboration and organization with the concerned parties with the view of achieving environment conservation's objectives and improving its various elements in a sustainable manner. These obligations incorporate setting general policies for environment conservation, preparing plans and programs, issuing the necessary environmental regulation for environment conservation and controlling and supervising public and private bodies to ensure their compliance with the standard and environmental specifications. Additionally, the Ministry shall set the foundations of circulating materials that are hazardous and dangerous to environment, direct the efforts aiming at environment conservation and set environment emergency plans ... etc.

Environment Conservation Law authorized in Article (7) the Ministry's competent employees designated by the Minister to act as a judicial police and granted them the right to enter any industrial, commercial or agricultural store or any institution, establishment or any other party, whose activities may have affect environment's elements and components, in order to guarantee their conformity with the environment's conditions. The same Article also authorized the Minister to take the necessary actions against violators, including remedying the violation on the expense of the violator or precautionary lockout in emergencies.



Environment Conservation Law contained deterrent penalties for the violators of its provisions and regulations, taking into consideration that under the Environment Conservation Temporary Law No. (1) of 2003, this was superseded by the Environment Conservation Law No. (52) of 2006, many rules and regulations were issued with the view of environment conservation, prevention of pollution and maintenance of natural resources. These rules and regulations are:

- Hazardous and Dangerous Material Management, Handling and Circulation Regulation No. (24) of 2005.
- Soil Preservation Regulation No. (25) of 2005.
- Environment conservation from pollution in emergencies regulation No. (26) of 2005.
- Solid Wastes Management Regulation No. (27) of 2005.
- Air Conservation Regulation No. (28) of 2005.
- Natural Conservations and National Parks Regulation No. (29) of 2005.
- The Assessment of Environmental Effect Regulation No. (37) of 2005.
- Hazardous Wastes Management and Circulation Regulation of 2005.
- Control of Ozone-exhausting Materials Regulation of 2003.
- Organization of Transfer, Storage, Manufacture, Usage and Trade in Organic Manure Regulation of 2003.

• Labor Law No. (8) for 1996

Chapter (9) of the Labor Law governs occupational safety and health-related issues, where Articles (78) and (80) of the same law require the employer to take the precautions and measures necessary to protect the establishment and its employees. The concerned body responsible for monitoring this process is the Ministry of Labor, in coordination and cooperation with other competent bodies, including the General Directorate of Civil Defence.

Article (78):

a. The Employer shall undertake the following:

1. Providing the necessary precautions and measures to protect workers against the hazards and diseases that may result from that particular work and the machinery used thereof.
 2. Providing workers with preventive and self-protection means against work-related hazards and occupational diseases, such as uniforms, glasses, gloves, footwear, etc... as well as showing them how they are used and maintained.
 3. Informing the worker before exercising his job with work-related hazards and the preventive procedures means that should be taken. The employer shall place the instructions and guidelines that illustrate the work-related hazards and the preventive means thereof in a noticeable place in accordance with the regulations and decisions issued in this regard.
- b. Workers shall not be charged for any costs resulting from the implementation or provision of what is stated in Clause (a) of this Article.

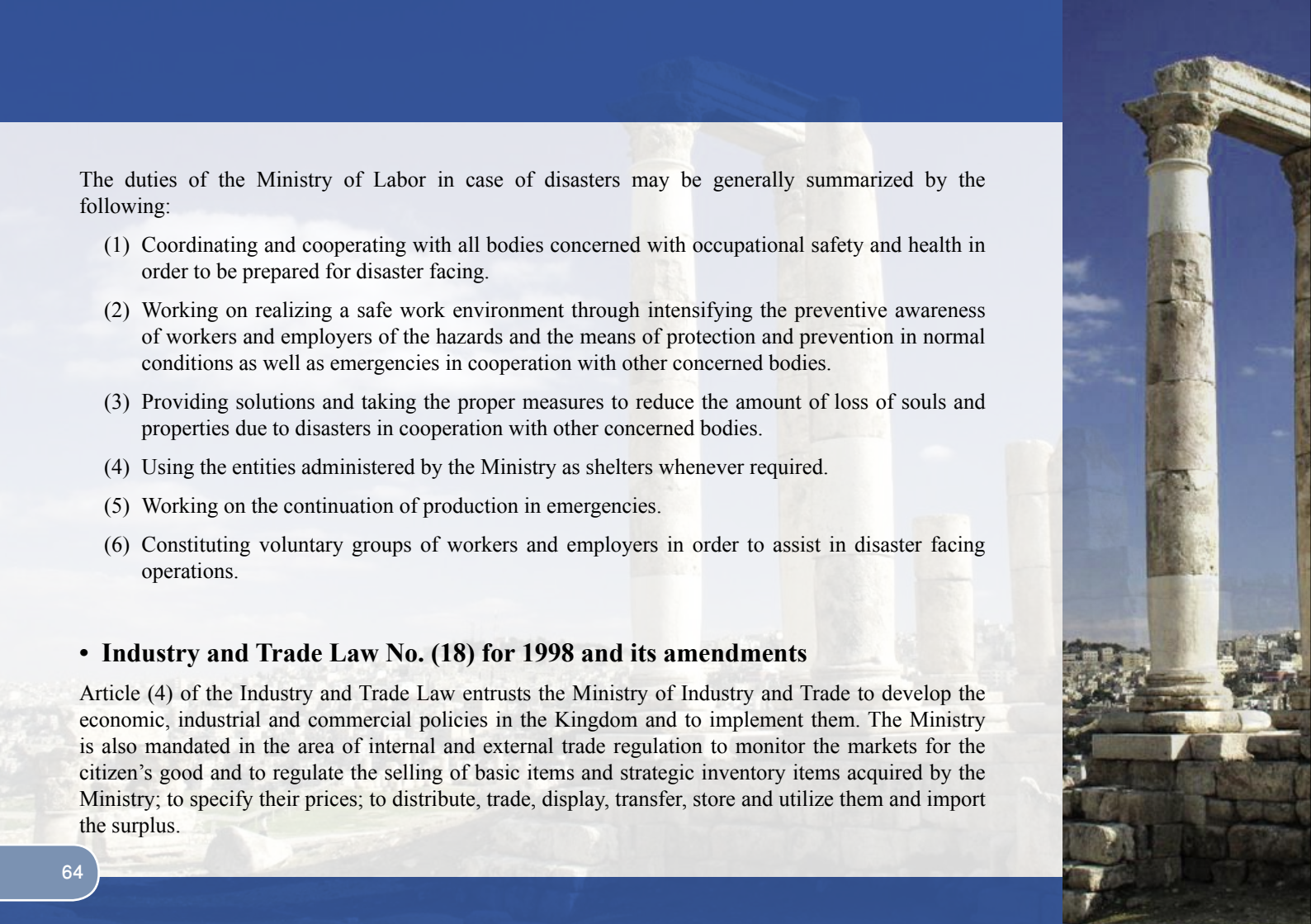


Article (79) of the Labor Law granted the Minister of Labor the authority to issue instructions that determine the precautions, measures, apparatus and means that should be taken or provided in all establishments or any of them in order to protect workers and establishments against work-related hazards and occupational diseases, to determine the basis and standards that should be complied with in industrial establishments to ensure a pollution-free environment of all pollution types.

Article (79):

The Minister shall determine the following through issuing certain instructions after consulting the view of the concerned official bodies:

- a. The precautions and measures that must be taken or provided in all or any establishment to protect workers and establishments against work-related hazards and occupational diseases.
- b. The apparatus and means that must be provided in all or any establishment to protect its workers against work-related hazards and occupational diseases.
- c. The basis and standards the must provided in industrial establishments to ensure a pollution-free environment of all its types, to be protected against noises, vibrations and whatever harms the worker's health according to the approved international standards and to determine the methods of examination to control these standards.



The duties of the Ministry of Labor in case of disasters may be generally summarized by the following:

- (1) Coordinating and cooperating with all bodies concerned with occupational safety and health in order to be prepared for disaster facing.
- (2) Working on realizing a safe work environment through intensifying the preventive awareness of workers and employers of the hazards and the means of protection and prevention in normal conditions as well as emergencies in cooperation with other concerned bodies.
- (3) Providing solutions and taking the proper measures to reduce the amount of loss of souls and properties due to disasters in cooperation with other concerned bodies.
- (4) Using the entities administered by the Ministry as shelters whenever required.
- (5) Working on the continuation of production in emergencies.
- (6) Constituting voluntary groups of workers and employers in order to assist in disaster facing operations.

• **Industry and Trade Law No. (18) for 1998 and its amendments**

Article (4) of the Industry and Trade Law entrusts the Ministry of Industry and Trade to develop the economic, industrial and commercial policies in the Kingdom and to implement them. The Ministry is also mandated in the area of internal and external trade regulation to monitor the markets for the citizen's good and to regulate the selling of basic items and strategic inventory items acquired by the Ministry; to specify their prices; to distribute, trade, display, transfer, store and utilize them and import the surplus.



Article (8) of the law granted the Ministry of Industry and Trade the authority to monitor the inventory of basic items specialized for wholesalers to make sure of the availability of strategic inventory items in accordance with the instructions issued by the Minister of Industry and Trade for this purpose.

By virtue of the abovementioned provisions, the duties of the Ministry of Industry and Trade with respect to disaster facing may be generally summarized in the following:

- (1) Counting the food supply of the Kingdom.
- (2) Providing the necessary buffer stock of food, especially strategic food items.
- (3) Monitoring prices and preventing monopoly.

• **Municipalities Law No. (29) for 1955 and its amendments**

Article (41) of the Municipalities Law authorized the Municipal Council or the Greater Amman Municipality Council, without prejudice to the requirements of any other regulation and within the boundaries of the municipal, several powers including monitoring the construction of buildings; granting the necessary building licenses; regulating handicrafts and industries; monitoring inconvenient or unhealthy stores and crafts; taking precautions necessary to prevent fire; controlling the fuel and flammable materials, regulating its selling and storage and acquiring fire hydrants and their maintenance; taking precautions to prevent the damages caused by floods and overflowing streams; relieving victims of fire, floods, overflowing streams, earthquakes and other general disasters; taking all precautions and actions necessary to maintain the public health and prevent the outbreak of epidemics among people; taking precautions necessary to protect citizens against hazards, etc...

Article (41):

- a. Subject to the provisions of any other regulation, the following duties, powers and authorities are entrusted to the Municipal Council within the boundaries of the municipality. The said Council shall directly exercise them by its employees or shall authorize all or some of them to agents, entrepreneurs or contractors and shall grant through all or some of them concessions to persons or companies for periods not exceeding 30 years. In such case, the approval of the Council of Ministers shall be obtained regarding the period of concession and its terms:

(1) City and Street Planning:

Planning the city; constructing new roads, cancelling or changing the routes of others; determining their width and route; paving, constructing their sidewalks, maintaining, cleaning and lighting them; naming or numbering them and numbering the building along them; conduct landscaping and planting alongside; preventing the encroachment upon them; monitoring what may fall on them from open lands, and ordering owners of said lands to erect walls.

(2) Building Licenses:

Monitoring the construction and destruction of buildings, changes of their design and the installation of elevators in them; granting licenses of such works; determining the location and shape of the building and its area relative to the land which is to be built on; and ensuring the existence of sanitary conditions in them.

(3) Water:

Providing residents with water; determining the specifications of its fittings, such as water meters and pipes; regulating its distribution; determining its prices and the cost of subscription to the service;





preventing pollution of springs, water channels, tanks and wells.

(4) Electricity and Gas:

Providing residents with electricity or gas; determining the specifications of electricity generation and conversion plants and distribution networks; and determining the its prices and the cost of subscription to the service.

(5) Sewage:

Building, managing and controlling sewage pipes and public restrooms.

(6) Public Markets:

Regulating and establishing public markets; and determining the types of goods to be sold in each one or prohibiting the selling of such goods outside these markets.

(7) Handicrafts and Industries:

Regulating handicrafts and industries; determining special zones for every type of them; and monitoring inconvenient and unhealthy stores and crafts.

(8) Land and Marine Transportation Media and Means:

Establishing, determining and regulating parking lots within the boundaries of municipalities; monitoring them and controlling boats, ships and steamers sailing in the regional water of the municipality.

(9) Hotels:

Monitoring and regulating hotels and pensions and determining their prices.

(10) Public Stores:

Monitoring and regulating restaurants, coffee shops, clubs, bars, discos, stadiums, theaters, cinemas and other amusement parks; determining their working hours; and collecting charges on ticket selling.

(11) Rules of Conduct:

Keeping morals and ethics and preventing prostitution.

(12) Parks:

Establishing, monitoring and regulating public squares, public parks, gardens, baths, places for swimming in pools and lakes.

(13) Fire Stations and Fire Preventing:

Taking precautions to prevent fires; monitoring and regulating the selling and storage of fuels and flammables and determining their prices; and acquiring and maintaining fire stations.

(14) Precautions against Flooding:

Taking precautions necessary to prevent the damages caused by floods and overflowing streams.

(15) Relieving Victims of Disasters:

Providing aid for victims of fires, floods, earthquakes and other disasters; and collecting donations for them and distributing these among them.

(16) Institutions:

Appointing midwives; and establishing and monitoring centers for delivery and medical aid, quarantines, clinics, hospitals, pharmacies and other health institutions.



(17) Cultural and Sports Institutions:

Establishing and monitoring museums, public libraries, schools and cultural, sports, social and musical clubs.

(18) Food:

Monitoring bread, meat, fish, fruits, vegetables and other kinds of food; taking necessary actions to prevent cheating in this regard; disposing of spoiled food; determining their prices; and controlling high prices.

(19) Slaughtered Livestock Examination and the Establishment of Slaughterhouses:

Examining livestock and poultry prepared for slaughter; taking precautions to prevent their infection by viruses; specifying locations for their selling; monitoring their slaughter; disposing of their offal; and establishing slaughterhouses.

(20) Sanitation:

Collecting, transferring and getting rid of garbage, trash and waste of houses and public places; and regulating this process.

(21) Health Inspection:

Monitoring housings and other places to make sure their waste is regularly disposed of and to ensure that their sanitary wares are clean; and taking the appropriate measures to eradicate mosquitoes and other insects there.

(22) Public Health:

Taking all precautions and actions to maintain public health and prevent the spread of epidemics among people.

(23) Cemeteries:

Establishing, cancelling and monitoring cemeteries; specifying their locations and specifications; transferring and burying the dead; organizing funerals; and maintaining the sanctity of cemeteries.

(24) Risk Prevention:

Taking necessary precautions to protect individuals and properties, prevent damages and harms caused by any acts mentioned in this article.

(25) Mendicancy:

Preventing mendicancy; establishing elderly care homes; and monitoring fundraising acts in public places and selling of signs or other means.

(26) Lottery and Gambling:

Monitoring lottery and gambling.

(27) Recruitment Agencies:

Establishing recruitment agencies and monitoring them.

(28) Civil Defence:

Establishing shelters from air raids and being prepared for reasons that require the operation of civil defence.



(29) Peddlers, Street Stands and Umbrellas:

Monitoring and regulating peddlers, ambulant photographers, porters, shoe polishers and street stands and umbrellas.

(30) Advertisements:

Monitoring posters and advertisements.

(31) Destruction of Dilapidated Buildings:

Destruction of dilapidated buildings that pose a risk of collapsing or constitute a public health hazard or emit bad smells once a notice is given to the owner.

(32) Weights:

Monitoring weights and measures and labeling them.

(33) Balance:

Weighting goods sold by wholesale in public markets outside shops and inventories.

(34) Right-of-Way:

Selling or making use of right-of-way lands and what is acquired for public projects.

(35) Dogs:

Monitoring dogs; disposing of stray dogs; providing prevention against dogs; and licensing them.

(36) Animals:

Monitoring animals used in transportation and pulling; regulating the markets specialized in selling such animals and livestock; and prohibiting their selling outside these markets.

(37) Annual Budget, Account Statements and Personnel Salaries:

Approving the annual budget, the final account statement and personnel salaries prior to referral to responsible authorities.

(38) Disbursement of Municipality Funds:

Managing Municipality properties and funds; and constructing, leasing, mortgaging, selling and purchasing other buildings in accordance with the provisions of this Law. Also, receiving grants, donations and endowments.

(39) Monitoring open lands and constructions, their roofs and facades; ordering their owners to clean, plant and erect walls around them on their own expense if they fail to do so. The certificate issued by the Mayor regarding the amount of costs shall be incontestable.

(40) Other tasks:

Performing any other task required under this Law or any other applicable regulation in the Kingdom.

• Jordan National Red Crescent Society Law No. (3) for 1969

The Jordan Red Crescent Law included the establishment of a society under the name of Jordan Red Crescent (JRC) in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and specified its purposes in Article (6).



Article (6):

The Society's Purposes:

The Society exerts all efforts to provide social services, alleviate the suffering of individuals caused by wars, disasters and famines and fight epidemics and diseases by providing healthcare and humanitarian services in accordance with the norms, laws, regulations and international agreements, especially Geneva Convention. The beneficiaries of such services are prisoners and wounded people in wars and victims of disasters regardless of their nationalities and races.

In the view of realizing the purposes for which the Jordan National Red Crescent Society was established, Article (7) of the same Law entrusted it to perform the acts which achieve that.

Article (7): The Society shall undertake the following in order to realize the purposes stated in the previous Article:

- a. Establishing blood banks and providing its resources.
- b. Establishing medical aid, nursing and social services centers, clinics and hospitals; and providing them with their needs and necessary vehicles.
- c. Contacting and cooperating with the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of the Red Crescent and Red Cross societies, the lion and the sun, the Red Crescent and the Red Cross societies, the lion and the sun; selecting representatives and delegates for this communication and for international meetings and conferences.

- d. Cooperating with official and private health authorities.
- e. Making people aware of the Society's objectives and the humanitarian concepts on which it is based and training volunteers on medical aiding and organized team work in order to realize these objectives.

• **Nuclear Energy and Radiation Protection Law No. (29) for 2001**

This Law included the establishment of a commission in the Kingdom, which is the Jordanian Nuclear Energy Commission. Among the objectives of this Commission under the provisions of Article (4) is to make sure that the conditions and requirements of public safety, radiation protection, nuclear security, protection of environment and health of human beings and their properties against the hazards of pollution and exposure to ionizing radiations (electromagnetic or particle radiation which ionize the substance when exposed to it) are met.

Article (4):

The Commission, in coordination and cooperation with related bodies, aims at achieving the following:

- b. Developing the uses of nuclear energy, using the nuclear energy science and technology in the Kingdom; and giving advice in this regard.
- c. Making sure that the conditions and requirements of public safety, radiation protection, nuclear security, the protection of environment and health of human beings and their properties against the hazards of pollution and exposure to ionizing radiations are met in accordance with the

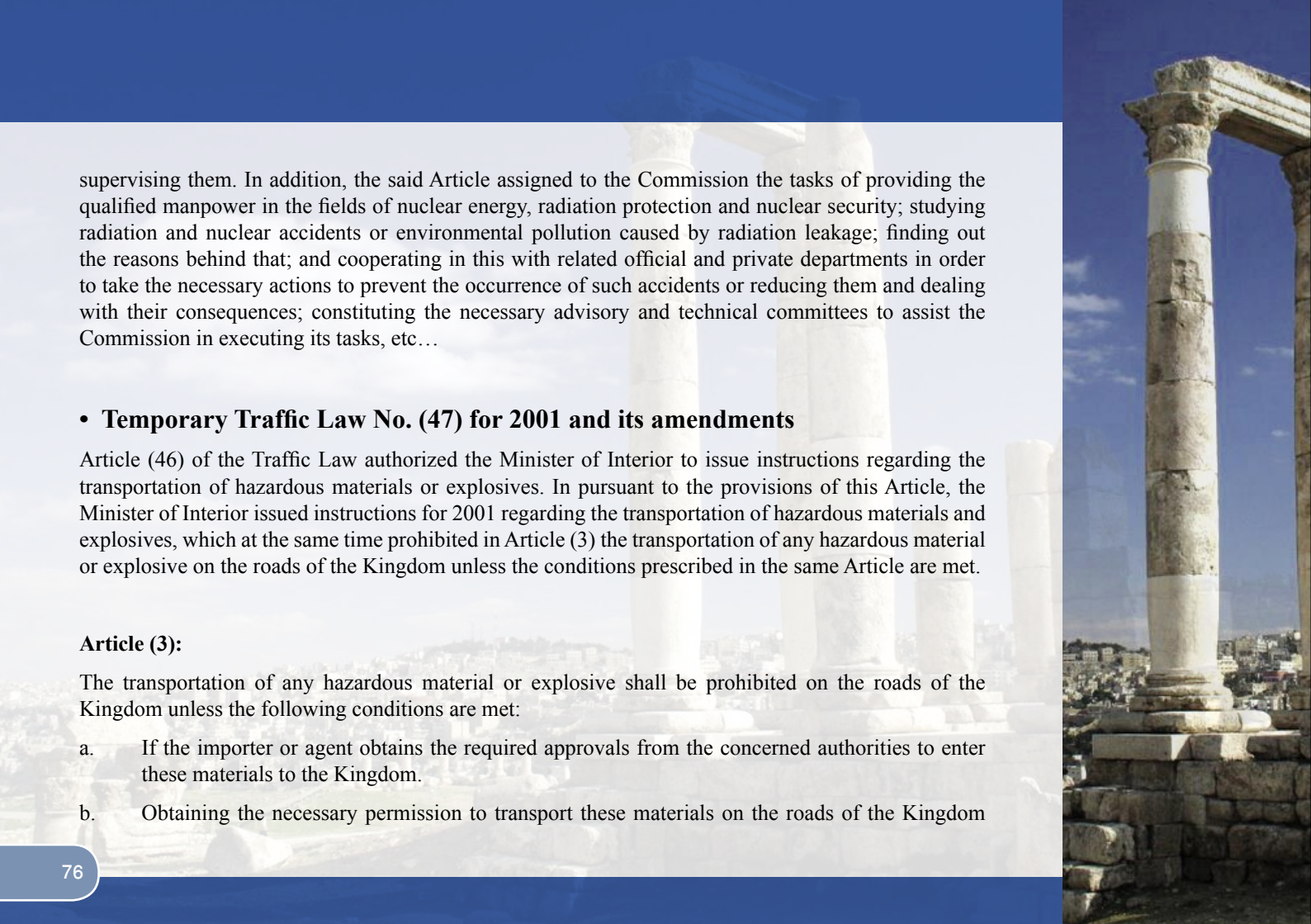


provisions stated herein.

- d. Providing the infrastructure and directing efforts towards undertaking projects to benefit the national economy in the field of nuclear energy technology and its applications in the agricultural, industrial and medical fields, generation of energy, water desalinization and any other appropriate purposes.

For the purpose of achieving this objective, Article (5) of the said Law grants the Commission several tasks and powers, including the establishment of facilities necessary for radiation protection, nuclear security, protection of environment against the hazards of radiation pollution, as well as participating with the related bodies in setting national arrangements in order to confront radiation and nuclear accidents and utilize the scientific and technical potentials and laboratories of the Commission and its manpower to deal with such emergencies.

In addition, Article (7) of the said Law grants the Board of Directors of the Jordanian Nuclear Energy Commission the authority to set the basis for the prevention of environment and public health against the hazards and exposure to ionizing radiations, to meet the public health requirements, including the bodies concerned with environmental radiation monitoring and trash and radioactive waste processing, to set the basis for monitoring systems and procedures related to radiation safety and directing and



supervising them. In addition, the said Article assigned to the Commission the tasks of providing the qualified manpower in the fields of nuclear energy, radiation protection and nuclear security; studying radiation and nuclear accidents or environmental pollution caused by radiation leakage; finding out the reasons behind that; and cooperating in this with related official and private departments in order to take the necessary actions to prevent the occurrence of such accidents or reducing them and dealing with their consequences; constituting the necessary advisory and technical committees to assist the Commission in executing its tasks, etc...

- **Temporary Traffic Law No. (47) for 2001 and its amendments**

Article (46) of the Traffic Law authorized the Minister of Interior to issue instructions regarding the transportation of hazardous materials or explosives. In pursuant to the provisions of this Article, the Minister of Interior issued instructions for 2001 regarding the transportation of hazardous materials and explosives, which at the same time prohibited in Article (3) the transportation of any hazardous material or explosive on the roads of the Kingdom unless the conditions prescribed in the same Article are met.

Article (3):

The transportation of any hazardous material or explosive shall be prohibited on the roads of the Kingdom unless the following conditions are met:

- a. If the importer or agent obtains the required approvals from the concerned authorities to enter these materials to the Kingdom.
- b. Obtaining the necessary permission to transport these materials on the roads of the Kingdom



according to the conditions approved by the Public Security Directorate provided that the permission include the route from the point of departure to the point of arrival and the parking and unloading areas. As for the transportation of oil derivatives from the oil refinery to other regions in the Kingdom, they are treated under conditions that shall be agreed on by the oil refinery and the Public Security Directorate and the Civil Defence. The route of tankers and their movement schedules to supply stations shall be specified according to annex (2).

- c. The transportation shall be done by transportation media that is equipped for this purpose and supplied with fire hydrants suitable for the transported material according to the conditions approved by the General Directorate of Civil Defence.
- d. The transportation media shall bear the placard of the transported material which specifications are determined by the General Directorate of Civil Defence.

The instructions for 2001 regarding the transportation of hazardous materials and explosives contained the conditions of the media intended for transporting the hazardous materials or explosives and the commitments that must be adhered to by drivers when transporting such materials. Article (8) of the same instructions obliged the importers and transporters of hazardous materials or explosives to put placards according to the conditions specified by the General Directorate of Civil Defence.

By virtue of the provisions of Article (14/a/2) of the Civil Defence Law No. (18) for 1999 and by reference to Article (8) of the instructions of 2001 regarding the transportation of hazardous materials and explosives, the instructions of placards related to the transportation of hazardous materials and explosives No. (2) for 2004 were issued by the General Director of Civil Defence and determined the specifications and conditions of the placards which must be placed on the transportation media

of such materials; however, the placards include under these instructions very important information: the warning label of the material, the hazard class, the emergency code, United Nations identification number and the scientific name of the material; the meanings of which are defined under the provisions of Article (2) of the same instructions.

Article (2):

The following words and phrases shall have the meanings specified hereunder wherever used in these instructions, unless otherwise indicated:

Placard: it is placed on the back and on each centered area of both sides of the hazardous material or explosive transportation medium. It includes information specifying the warning label of the material, the hazard class, the code of emergency procedures, the United Nations identification number, the scientific name of the material as it is used in Annex (1) of these instructions.

Warning label: it is a globally well-recognized label showing the hazard class according to the United Nation's classification of hazardous materials and explosives. The form of such label may be of any form showed in Annex (2) of these instructions.

Hazard class: the number of hazard class of hazardous materials and explosives according to the United Nations classification.

Emergency code: a code that consists of a number and one or more letters and it has a special meaning that indicates the suitable preventive material and how to behave in case of an accident containing hazardous materials or explosives occurs.

United Nations identification number: it is a universal number for every hazardous material or explosive which indicates the name of the material and any other details thereof.



Safety documents: it is a document that contains information about the exporter or manufacturer of the hazardous material or explosive, the chemical and physical specifications of the material, the hazards that may arise when using the material, the health sequences, trading, storage, usage, emergency and aiding procedures and suitable hydrants for fire accidents. This document is prepared and provided by the manufacturer or exporter.

Article (4) of the instructions of placards related to the transportation of hazardous materials or explosives No. (2) for 2004 requires that the transportation medium of hazardous materials or explosives bears the placard in all transportation phases. Also, Article (5) of the same instructions requires that the transportation media of such materials which enter the Kingdom through border centers shall have a safety document of the material it is transporting.

Article (4):

The transportation of hazardous materials or explosives shall be prohibited on the roads of the Kingdom, unless the transportation medium bears the placard of the transported material, provided that it is placed in all transportation phases.

Article (5):

The transportation media of hazardous materials or explosives that enter the Kingdom through border centers shall have a safety document of the hazardous material or explosive being transported.

• Marine Disasters Regulation No. (50) For 1961

Marine Disasters Regulation No. (50) for 1961 was issued in accordance with the provisions of Article (6) of the Law of Aqaba Port No. (18) For 1959 that was cancelled by the provisions of the Law of

the ports corporation No. (36) for 1985 which provided in Article (16) that all regulations issued in accordance with the cancelled Law of Aqaba port remain effective until it is cancelled or replaced by other regulations to be issued in accordance with the provisions of the Law of Ports Corporation No. (36) For 1985, and any reference to the Department of Aqaba Port in any of these regulations shall be considered as a reference to the ports Corporation.

The Marine Disasters Regulation No. (50) for 1961 required from any person who Rnew of any marine disaster or received a danger signal to inform about that immediately, and the director- General of the ports Corporation, upon his knowledge of that, should inform the consul of the ship nationality about that if the ship was foreign, and he shall be responsible for rescue works until the arrival of the concerned consul and the owners of the ship or the insurers.

Article (7):

- a. The director of the Port upon his knowledge of a marine disaster that occurred on the shore or near it shall go to the site of the disaster and assume rescue works, and he shall have the right to ask for police help to maintain order and cooperate with him in his mission.
- b. He shall have the right to oblige:
 1. Persons who are present to participate in the rescue of individuals and put the salvaged goods and things in a safe place and secure its guarding.
 2. He shall use transportation means that he sees necessary, and shall take the necessary actions to save the ship, boats and other equipments of the ship and its freight, and shall prepare immediately a report of inventory of salvaged goods and things.



Any person who refuses or neglects to cooperate in performing services required from him in accordance with item (2) of paragraph (B) of this Article shall be imprisoned for a period not exceeding (6) months and a penalty not exceeding J.D. (30) or by one of these two penalties.

3. Persons who are required to render rescue services and owners of means of transportation referred to in this Article shall be remunerated.

Article (8):

The Director of the port shall leave follow-up of rescue operations to the concerned consul and the owners of the ship or insurers upon their arrival, and he shall be required to secure order and prevent thefts, and he shall require from them all expenses he incurred in the rescue operations.

• Organization and Management Regulation for the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources No. (26) for 1985 and its Amendments

Article (3) of this regulation specified the objectives that should be accomplished by the Ministry of Energy.

Article (3):

The Ministry shall seek to accomplish the following objectives:

- a. Provision and development of primary energy, the renewable energy and the electric energy and the organization of its affairs.

b. The search and exploration for mineral and natural resources in the Kingdom.

In order to achieve these objectives, the regulation in Article (4) assigned to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources many duties including the verification of the methods of transportation, distribution and storage of petroleum products and its safety; the investigation in complaints that are submitted to the Ministry concerning petroleum products, its transport, distribution, storage and treatment, the establishment of national specifications for electricity in the Kingdom and conditions of general safety and control in coordination with specialized authorities, and the investigation in complaints that are submitted to the Ministry in connection with electricity and seeking to solve it...etc.

In accordance with the provisions of Article (4) and (7) of this Regulation, the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources issued instructions for the distribution and transport of gas cylinders for 1998, which included the specifications of the means of transportation of these cylinders and the conditions that should be followed by the drivers; the ways that should be applied during the loading and unloading of these cylinders; the conditions that should be met by those who work in storing, distributing and handling these cylinders, and conditions of the distribution office...etc. The responsible authority for the implementation of these instructions is the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources in coordination and cooperation with responsible authority for security and safety such as the General Directorate of Civil Defense and the Standards and Specifications Corporation.

The duties of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources can be summarized in general for dealing with disasters in the following:

- (1)** Provision of emergency centers with the necessary lighting.
- (2)** Organization of electricity distribution in the disastrous area after the restoration and repair of networks and the return of the electric current.
- (3)** Provision of a strategic reserve of fuels.





- (4) The continuity of the work of fuel stations and specifying the fuel stations that work in emergency conditions, and the provision of reserve generators by each of these stations.
- (5) The continuity of control on radiation materials and the discovery of the sources of radiation.
- (6) Preparation of reports in connection with seismic activity in the Kingdom through seismic observation center of the Natural Resources Authority that is attached to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

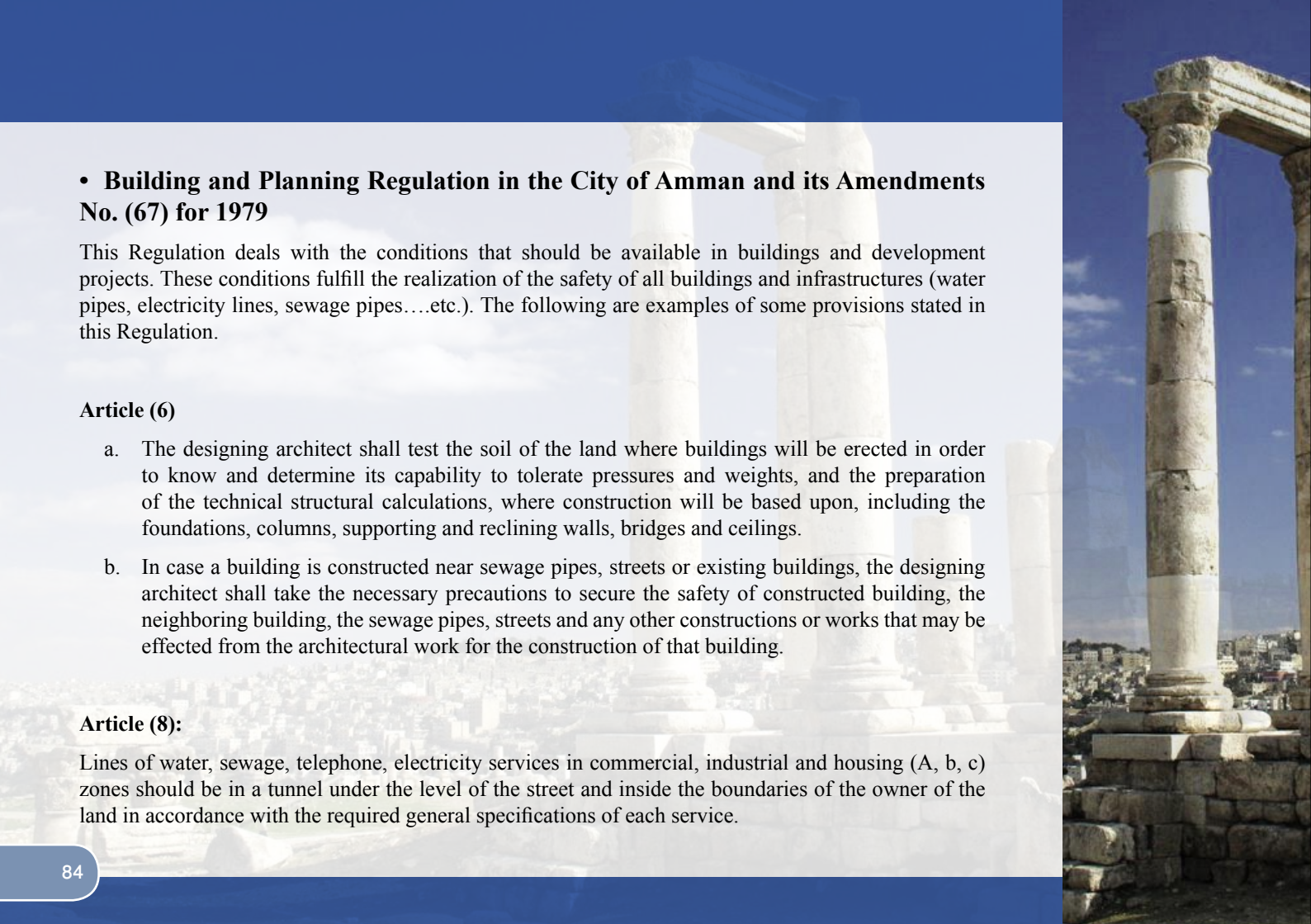
• **Public Debt and Law its Management No. (26) for 2001**

Article (10) of the Law of public Debt and its management specified the purposes of government borrowing. These purposes include the provision of the necessary funds appropriated in the General budget or any other temporary Law to encounter disasters and emergency cases.

Article (10) :

Government borrowing shall be restricted for the following purposes:

- a. Financing the deficit in the general budget.
- b. Supporting the balance of payments.
- c. Financing projects of national priority listed in the general budget.
- d. Providing the necessary funding listed in the general budget or any other temporary Law to encounter disasters and emergency cases.
- e. Restructuring of internal and external debts.



• **Building and Planning Regulation in the City of Amman and its Amendments No. (67) for 1979**

This Regulation deals with the conditions that should be available in buildings and development projects. These conditions fulfill the realization of the safety of all buildings and infrastructures (water pipes, electricity lines, sewage pipes....etc.). The following are examples of some provisions stated in this Regulation.

Article (6)

- a. The designing architect shall test the soil of the land where buildings will be erected in order to know and determine its capability to tolerate pressures and weights, and the preparation of the technical structural calculations, where construction will be based upon, including the foundations, columns, supporting and reclining walls, bridges and ceilings.
- b. In case a building is constructed near sewage pipes, streets or existing buildings, the designing architect shall take the necessary precautions to secure the safety of constructed building, the neighboring building, the sewage pipes, streets and any other constructions or works that may be effected from the architectural work for the construction of that building.

Article (8):

Lines of water, sewage, telephone, electricity services in commercial, industrial and housing (A, b, c) zones should be in a tunnel under the level of the street and inside the boundaries of the owner of the land in accordance with the required general specifications of each service.



Article (13)

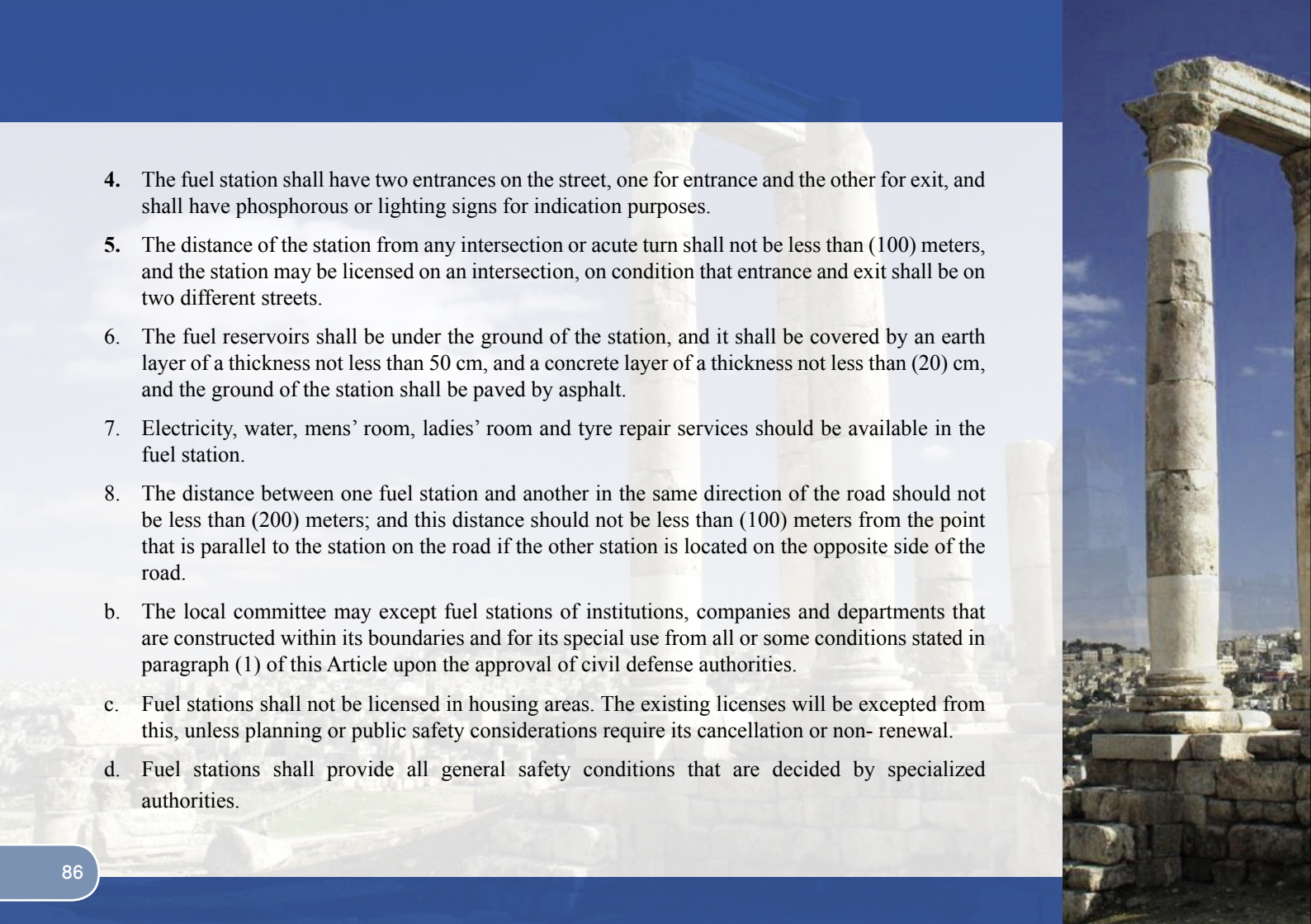
The construction of a commercial attic shall not be allowed except in stores, the height of which shall not be less than 4.5 meters, and the height of the attic floor shall not be less than 2.25 meters, and the floor of the attic shall be of concrete cement or of any other anti- fire material, and shall have natural or mechanical ventilation.

Article (24)

The committee or its designate shall supervise the equipment used in the work of construction, manufacturing and restoration, and shall impose the conditions that secure the comfort and general safety of citizens.

Article (26)

- a. Fuel stations shall be licensed within Greater Amman Municipality according to the following conditions:
 1. The width of the street where the fuel station will be constructed shall not be less than 20 meters and its inclination shall not exceed 5%.
 2. The area of the land assigned for a fuel station shall not be less than (1000) square meters, and its front side shall not be less than (30) meters, and it shall be symmetrical in shape.
 3. The fuel station shall have back walls of not less than (2) meters in height, and side walls of not less than 1.5 meters.

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- The background of the page features a faded image of several tall, white, fluted ancient Greek columns. To the right, there is a more prominent, sharp image of a single column standing on a stone base, with a cityscape visible in the distance under a clear blue sky.
4. The fuel station shall have two entrances on the street, one for entrance and the other for exit, and shall have phosphorous or lighting signs for indication purposes.
 5. The distance of the station from any intersection or acute turn shall not be less than (100) meters, and the station may be licensed on an intersection, on condition that entrance and exit shall be on two different streets.
 6. The fuel reservoirs shall be under the ground of the station, and it shall be covered by an earth layer of a thickness not less than 50 cm, and a concrete layer of a thickness not less than (20) cm, and the ground of the station shall be paved by asphalt.
 7. Electricity, water, mens' room, ladies' room and tyre repair services should be available in the fuel station.
 8. The distance between one fuel station and another in the same direction of the road should not be less than (200) meters; and this distance should not be less than (100) meters from the point that is parallel to the station on the road if the other station is located on the opposite side of the road.
 - b. The local committee may except fuel stations of institutions, companies and departments that are constructed within its boundaries and for its special use from all or some conditions stated in paragraph (1) of this Article upon the approval of civil defense authorities.
 - c. Fuel stations shall not be licensed in housing areas. The existing licenses will be excepted from this, unless planning or public safety considerations require its cancellation or non- renewal.
 - d. Fuel stations shall provide all general safety conditions that are decided by specialized authorities.



The Building and Organization Regulation of Amman City No. (67) for 1979 and its amendment included also the limitations of land usage within the boundaries of zoning area in the city of Amman.

Article (27): The land usage within the zoning area shall be assigned in accordance with the provisions of approved zoning as follows:

- a. Housing area
- b. Green housing area
- c. Popular housing area
- d. Rural housing area
- e. Agricultural housing area
- f. Central Commercial area
- g. Ordinary commercial area
- h. Local commercial area
- i. Industries area
- j. Light industries area
- k. Offices area

Conclusion

Given what has been discussed above about the most important legislations effective in Jordan concerning facing disasters, it is clear that all of them seek to achieve one joint objective: protecting people and public and private properties from all kinds of hazards, and achieve the utmost degree of protection for them against these risks. It is also obvious that no authority can assume the tasks assigned to it under these legislations to face risks and disasters of all kinds in isolation from other concerned authorities, let alone that most of the specialties and tasks included in these legislations are interwoven and had many involved authorities.

To achieve consistency and integration among all ministries and public and private institutions concerned with facing disasters in all stages, and to achieve the optimal use of available capabilities and resources as well as preventing duplication and overlapping which waste energies and in order to achieve the aforementioned disaster management principles, there should be a certain authority responsible for disaster management in all its stages.

For the disaster management to undertake its task seriously, it should be organized in a way that allows it to face and confront disasters successfully and achieve the maximum flexibility and fast adaptation to the variables and successive updates. It also should be given authorities and capabilities that enable it to overpass routine bureaucratic procedures pursued by bodies in normal conditions, thereby exerting its efforts and capabilities during the disaster to face and confront it and eliminate irrelevant issues. In addition, the process of disaster management should derive its power and authorities from the highest authority in the state in accordance with a special law enacted for this purpose (attached Annex (A) includes some of the suggestions that might help in drawing up a draft law pertaining to disaster management).

At last, we would like to note that the mentioned points and ideas concerning disaster management and the related legislations are written as necessitated by the conditions and are to be taken into consideration to do what is necessary to achieve the required response for facing disasters in all stages. In addition, they will be presented to experts in order to criticize them or make useful additions. We ask God protection and health for our beloved country under the leadership of His Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al Hussein, may God protect him.



Suggestions on Drawing Up a Disaster Management Law

General:

Drawing up an independent draft law pertaining to managing disasters and facing them effectively needs the cooperation of specialists and those interested in this field, in addition to taking into consideration the provisions included in the effective Civil Defense Law. Following are some of proposed issues to be included in this project:

One: Naming the Law

We suggest that it is named (The Higher Commission Law for Managing Disasters)

Two: Definitions

The law shall include definitions of the words and terms mentioned therein, including the definition of (disaster) and (disaster management), which could be defined as follows:

Disaster:

Any man-made or natural-force occurrence unusual or abrupt, to which the Kingdom or any region subject. This event jeopardizes human or animal life and is considered dangerous to properties and environment. The occurrence of a disaster is announced by a Prime Minister resolution by recommendation of the Head of Council.

Disaster Management: Managing the Cooperation of concerned authorities in dealing with the disasters to improve procedures related to preservation from, readiness for, and facing them as well as addressing their effects.

Three: The Commission Responsible for Managing Disasters

The disaster management task shall be assigned to a certain body that we suggest to be established and called (the Higher Commission for Managing Disasters) and related to the Prime Minister and shall have a financial and administrative independent legal entity.

Four: Objectives of the Commission

Determining the goals which the Higher Commission for Managing Disasters seeks to accomplish and which should focus on maintaining the safety of citizens and public and private properties and protecting them from all risks resulting from disasters by taking the precautions and procedures necessary to deal with disasters before, during and after occurring.

Five: Tasks of the Commission

The Higher Commission for Managing Disasters shall be entrusted with all tasks that would achieve the objectives assigned to it, including:

- a. Controlling the disaster management in all its stages
- b. Achieving consistency and integration among all ministries and public and private institutions concerned with dealing with disasters, determining each one's role in detail in each stage of the disaster management and preventing duplication and overlapping which waste energies.
- c. Achieving the optimal use of the available capabilities and resources.



- d. Establishing a center for information and expertise.

Six: The Budget of the Commission

The Higher Commission for Managing Disasters shall have an independent budget supported with adequate financial resources, including:

- a. Annual amounts allocated for it in the Balance Sheet.
- b. Grants and aids presented to the Commission provided that the Cabinet approves them if they were from non-Jordanian sources.
- c. Any other resources received by the Commission and approved by the Cabinet.


Seven: Forming the Board of Directors Commission

The management of the Commission shall be assigned to a board of directors we suggest to be called (The Higher Commission Board for Managing Disasters), to be formed similar to the current Higher Council of Civil Defence and to include memberships of any other disaster-related authorities.

Eight: Tasks and Authorities of the Commission Board

Determining the tasks and authorities of the Commission's Board shall be in accordance with the authorities and tasks assigned to the Higher Council of Civil Defence, and shall be extended to include any other issues related to the Commission's objectives, including:

1. Constituting specialized committees deemed necessary for the Board's work.
2. Concluding international assistance agreements in respect of civil protection according to the adopted principles and follow up their implementation.
3. Proposing draft regulations necessary for implementing the provisions of the law.

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4. Adopting instructions and procedures necessary in any of the task-related issues, including:
 - a. Introducing and using of explosives, chemicals, toxic and any other hazardous materials in addition to storing, moving, selling and adopting their related lists.
 - b. Conserving the environment and preventing polluting it regardless of the pollution resources or whether they are on land, in sea or air.
 - c. Addressing issues of Industrial waste, hazardous and toxic materials.
 - d. Preserving potable water that is good for human consumption and treating sewage, damp, floods and canals pollution.
 - e. Determining public safety rules and terms that should be available in different activities, industrial, commercial, tourist and agricultural establishments, high-rise buildings and public markets...etc.
 - f. Confronting chronic diseases and epidemics.

Nine: Powers of the Commission Board in Cases of Emergency

The Commission's Board shall practice its powers in case of emergency in which the Civil Defence Law no. (13) for 1992 or any other law that substitutes it is effective upon an authorization from and under the supervision of the Prime Minister.

Ten: The Commission Board Organization

1. Scheduling the Committee's Board of Directors meetings and determining the quorum of its meetings whether in normal conditions or in emergencies as well as making decisions.
2. Constituting a secretariat for the Board provided that it is formed and its tasks are determined as included in Article no. (6) of the Civil Defence Law.



Eleven: Local Relief Committees

Local relief committees shall be formed in governorates and are considered the executive authority for the Commission's Board of Directors and shall be formed as included in Article no. (7) of the Civil Defence Law.

Twelve: Authorities of the Minister of Interior in Cases of Emergency

The Prime Minister shall be vested, in case of emergencies, with the power to perform the same procedures and measures stated in Article (8) of the Civil Defence Law and shall be given such powers without an authorization from the Prime Minister.

Thirteen: Penalty for Violating the Provisions of the Law

Preventive punishments shall be stated for anyone violating the provisions of the law, and any regulations or orders issued pursuant to it. That shall not prevent the enforcement of a more severe penalty stated in another effective law.

Fourteen: Miscellaneous Provisions

1. Give civil servants who are authorized to enforce the provisions of the law a legal police capacity as included in Article (9) of the Civil Defence Law.
2. Clearly State the following in the Law:
 - a. Obligating official and local authorities to implement instructions, resolutions and regulations issued in accordance with its provisions that shall subject to liability.
 - b. Not implementing any clause included in any other legislation that contradicts with the provisions of the law.
3. Entrust the Cabinet with the issuance of regulations necessary to implement the provisions of the law.

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