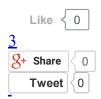
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AWO, Mosawa network hail Sweden's human rights stance

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AMMAN — The Arab Women Organisation of Jordan and its Mosawa Network of 80 women's grass roots NGOs issued a statement praising the Swedish government for supporting human rights causes.

"At a time when the world chooses to turn a blind eye to human rights violations and deems financial gains more important, Sweden has emerged a bright star in lightening and paving the way for the rest of the nations to wake up and join it in defending humanity or what is left of it," said the statement, which was e-mailed to The Jordan Times.

The statement mainly expressed appreciation of stands by Swedish Foreign Minister Margot Wallstrom on the need to uphold human rights.

"We salute the minister and stand in solidarity with her for not renewing the memorandum of understanding with Saudi Arabia when it is in clear violation of human rights," the statement said.

The group said it supports linking the principles of human rights with arms trade and urged other countries to follow Sweden's stance.