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Universal periodic review

## Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

### Uganda

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\* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.

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## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-sixth session from 31 October to 11 November 2016. The review of Uganda was held at the 7th meeting, on 3 November 2016. The delegation of Uganda was headed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sam K. Kutesa. At its 13th meeting, held on 8 November 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Uganda.

2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Uganda: Mongolia, Morocco and Portugal.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Uganda:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/26/UGA/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/26/UGA/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/26/UGA/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Uganda through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

### A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation of Uganda, Sam K. Kutesa, Minister for Foreign Affairs, stated that the universal periodic review, as a mechanism driven by States, was unique in that it offered the country under review the opportunity to state what it had done to improve its human rights situation, share experiences and lessons with other States and identify challenges that must be addressed so that its people could fully enjoy their human rights.

6. Uganda supported the peer review process out of a commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights, a commitment informed by the country's experience and lessons from its history of dictatorship.

7. While the process was a welcome development, the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review should also continue to explore ways of becoming more participatory, transparent, consultative and accountable, including in respect of reporting. Under the current procedure, the Working Group received and considered simultaneously three reports submitted separately by the country under review, OHCHR and civil society organizations. However, while the latter two reports also addressed issues concerning the country under review, there was no clear mechanism or procedure of consultation with the country reported on before those reports were submitted to the Working Group. It was essential for such a mechanism be put in place so that many of the issues that would otherwise be submitted to the Working Group were addressed at the national level. That

would enhance the credibility of reports submitted to the Working Group and the willingness of their authors to take responsibility for them.

8. The delegation indicated that the Government had involved various stakeholders in the second periodic review of Uganda, including the Cabinet, Parliament, whose involvement was mandatory under the country's laws, and civil society organizations. The process had been participatory and consultative and had culminated in the production of the national report submitted to the Working Group.

9. The report addressed issues relating to the status of implementation of voluntary pledges and agreed recommendations made during the first review. It also provided a synopsis of key developments in human rights since 2011.

10. As for its voluntary pledges, Uganda had finalized a draft national action plan that would shortly be submitted to Cabinet for approval. The plan, once approved, would provide a broad policy framework for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the implementation of commitments under various regional and international human rights instruments. Reports prepared by the Uganda Human Rights Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commission were submitted annually to Parliament for review, and recommendations were made that were implemented by the Government and other relevant stakeholders. Institutionally, the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights played an oversight role, while the Cabinet Subcommittee on Human Rights provided appropriate policy guidance. A technical committee provided technical support to the Cabinet; in addition, there were human rights focal points who coordinated implementation efforts in each government ministry, department and agency.

11. The delegation stressed that various agreed recommendations from the first peer review had been or were being implemented. The Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act, adopted in 2012, had incorporated the provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment into the domestic legal order. Consultations were under way with respect to the policy and institutional issues that must be addressed before the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture could be ratified.

12. In connection with the justice system and law enforcement and public order, the Uganda Police Force, the Uganda People's Defence Force and the Uganda Prisons Service had each established a human rights directorate to handle human rights issues, including complaints from the public about any of their respective serving officers. Those directorates were also responsible for building in-house human rights capacity and ensuring strict adherence to the country's regional and international human rights obligations and standards.

13. The judiciary had introduced plea bargaining and improved access to legal aid services. A mandatory alternative dispute-resolution system was being used to expedite the resolution of civil disputes. In addition, the number of judicial staff had been increased to reduce case backlogs, performance targets had been set for them and new juridical areas had been created throughout the country. The Constitution (Sentencing Guidelines for Courts of Judicature) (Practice) Directions, 2013, had been adopted.

14. The independence of the key governing institutions had also been strengthened. For instance, under article 23 (6) (a) of the Constitution, the courts were empowered to release on bail persons arrested for committing criminal offences. The Uganda Human Rights Commission, under article 54 of the Constitution, could independently investigate any human rights violations and, where confirmed, recommend that the Director of Public Prosecution take appropriate action. The President, under article 60 (1) of the Constitution, was empowered to nominate the members of the Electoral Commission, who were approved by Parliament. During vetting of nominees by Parliament, any member of the

public, a political party or civil society could freely provide information against any nominee.

15. The delegation also noted that the country's Constitution guaranteed rights to freedom of assembly, association and expression. The Government had continued to advocate for a strong, vibrant and responsible free press, freedom of speech and broad participation. Ongoing efforts were made to ensure that the people of Uganda understood that in enjoying their rights, they were under the obligation to act in accordance with the law.

16. Non-governmental and civil society organizations had played an increasingly large role in the life of the country. It was, therefore, crucial that their operations were transparent and streamlined and that they could be held fully accountable. The Non-Governmental Organizations Act, 2016, had been adopted to address those concerns and to ensure that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) always operated in full accordance with their respective mandates. It was also important to stress that most of the provisions of the Act reflected views expressed by NGOs themselves. Furthermore, the Act provided for representation of NGOs at various levels of decision-making — for example, on the National NGO Board (two out of seven members), on district-level committees and at local community level. The Act also provided for mechanisms for redress.

17. As for the human rights situation since the first peer review, Uganda had adopted the Second National Development Plan (2015/16-2019/20) as a development framework for the next five years. The formulation of the Plan had been guided by a rights-based approach to development. It was, therefore, a major policy tool integrating human rights and development issues. Any external development support given to Uganda must be aligned with the country's National Development Plan.

18. Uganda had held presidential, general parliamentary and local government council elections in February 2016. Despite a few administrative challenges at the outset, on the whole those elections had been held in a free and fair manner, and their outcome had reflected the will of the majority of the country's people. The Government was committed to ensuring that the recommendations made by the Supreme Court in connection with a petition it had received, together with other proposals to be made by the Ugandan people on constitutional reforms, were handled by a constitutional review commission that would be established for that purpose.

19. The Government had taken note of recommendations made by various election observers on some aspects of the elections. It had reiterated its commitment to implementing the recommendations that, in the Government's opinion, contributed to the advancement of democracy in Uganda.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

20. During the interactive dialogue, 82 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

21. Canada welcomed the efforts made by Uganda to prevent violence against women and girls, including the criminalization of female genital mutilation, domestic violence and trafficking in persons. It remained concerned by restrictions on civil society, opposition parties and the media.

22. Chile welcomed the country's adoption of laws to prevent and prohibit torture and combat domestic violence. Uganda was to be commended for the adoption of a national development plan incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals.

23. China welcomed the priority given to development, poverty reduction and the rights of vulnerable population groups. It also welcomed progress in the rule of law, including the adoption of the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act and the Public Order Management Act.
24. Colombia welcomed the country's human rights programme and its commitment to implementing the recommendations it had received during the first cycle.
25. Congo encouraged Uganda to continue combating gender stereotyping but noted that efforts to ensure implementation of international obligations to promote and protect human rights still needed to be made.
26. Cuba noted the State's incorporation of the World Programme for Human Rights Education into its education policy, the adoption of new regulations to combat child labour and trafficking and steps to ensure access to education for all.
27. Cyprus commended Uganda for the establishment of the National Action Plan on Human Rights and the adoption of laws related to human rights.
28. Czechia appreciated the response by Uganda to some of its advance questions.
29. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea commended Uganda for its implementation of health, education, agricultural and other policies, for taking legislative measures and for strengthening its human rights institutions.
30. Denmark welcomed the adoption of the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act, while noting that key implementation regulations had not been adopted.
31. Djibouti welcomed the commitment made by Uganda to promoting and protecting human rights, especially in the area of the rights of refugees.
32. Egypt welcomed the adoption of the National Action Plan on Human Rights and the establishment of the Equal Opportunities Commission. It noted efforts to improve the protection of women's and children's rights.
33. Ethiopia noted the development of the National Action Plan on Human Rights in 2014 and the adoption of new laws aimed mainly at improving the human rights situation.
34. France welcomed the measures taken by Uganda since its first review, including the promulgation of the Children (Amendment) Act, 2016, which strengthened protection for children.
35. Georgia acknowledged the efforts made by Uganda to improve its human rights system. It welcomed the consultative, participatory and inclusive process whereby the National Action Plan on Human Rights (2014) was developed.
36. Germany welcomed the adoption of the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act. It condemned discrimination against women and infringements of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly.
37. Ghana commended Uganda for establishing an interministerial technical committee on human rights on which civil society was represented. Ghana welcomed the country's legal aid services and the support provided for special education for children with disabilities.
38. Guatemala expressed concern about information regarding laws that discriminated on grounds of sex. It was concerned about the lack of comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation.

39. Iceland welcomed the mitigation hearing for death-row inmates and the adoption of a number of legal provisions on women's rights. It regretted the passage of the Anti-Terrorism Act.
40. India welcomed the adoption of the National Action Plan on Human Rights, efforts to domesticate international human rights instruments and the establishment of the Cabinet Subcommittee on Human Rights. India also welcomed the reforms in the police, judiciary and prison services and asked Uganda to share its experience with the Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme 2015.
41. Indonesia welcomed the A status accreditation given to the Uganda Human Rights Commission and the adoption of the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act.
42. Ireland welcomed the adoption of the Prohibition and Prevention of Torture Act but noted that torture was still the violation most commonly reported to the Uganda Human Rights Commission.
43. Italy encouraged Uganda to continue making efforts to align its legislation with international human rights law. Italy noted that the last time a death sentence had been carried out in Uganda had been in 1999.
44. Kenya commended Uganda for its achievements in implementing human rights for all and cooperating with the human rights mechanisms, despite the resource and financial challenges it faced.
45. Libya commended Uganda for the progress it had made towards implementing the recommendations it had accepted during the first cycle, including those stating that it should increase the number of students in primary school and achieve gender equality in the schools.
46. Madagascar noted the progress Uganda had made in increasing school enrolment and promoting gender equality in primary school. It welcomed the increasing efforts made to prevent female genital mutilation.
47. Maldives welcomed the country's commitment to establishing a framework for the implementation of human rights as part of the National Action Plan on Human Rights (2014). Maldives noted the Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme.
48. Mauritania welcomed the creation of a permanent parliamentary commission for human rights in Uganda. It urged Uganda to continue making efforts to reduce maternal and infant mortality.
49. Mexico invited Uganda to continue making institutional efforts to cooperate more fully with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, as well as with the treaty bodies.
50. Montenegro recognized efforts to ensure the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Action Plan on Human Rights through the adoption of a coordination and reporting mechanism.
51. Mozambique commended Uganda for the implementation of recommendations on, inter alia, incorporating the Convention against Torture into the domestic legal order (through the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act, 2012) and gender-based violence.
52. Namibia welcomed the establishment of the Directorate of Human Rights and Legal Services, the Professional Standards Unit and Human Rights Desks in all regional offices of the police force.

53. Nepal appreciated the efforts made to realize economic, social and cultural rights. It noted that a number of national action plans and institutions had been established. It welcomed the adoption of various laws.

54. The Netherlands applauded the country's progressive refugee policy and the value it attached to civil society organizations. It expressed the hope that the access to health services of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons would not be limited.

55. The delegation of Uganda stated that the Government was considering ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and its eventual policy for the implementation thereof. The financial implications would need to be considered. The Government had adopted the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act in 2012, and as the Act was new, its implementation had not yet been reviewed.

56. There were various institutional safeguards to protect the rights and freedoms of all Ugandans under the Constitution and they were at liberty to seek redress in the event of grievances. For example, the Anti-Homosexuality Act of 2014 had been reviewed by the country's courts and found unconstitutional. The parameters of discrimination were defined under section 1 of the Equal Opportunities Commission Act, the Act under which lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons were protected from discrimination. The Government would not accept or tolerate discrimination and/or harassment, including of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. All Ugandans were treated equally, without discrimination. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons who were discriminated against in accessing services or in the enjoyment of certain rights could petition the Commission for redress.

57. On the other hand, Uganda could not accept activism or the promotion and public display of what people did in private. That was inconsistent with Ugandan culture, morals and customs.

58. The delegation stated that there was a de facto moratorium on the death penalty. Consequently, a recommendation had been made to amend all provisions of the Penal Code Act, chapter 120, that provided for mandatory death sentences, thereby giving the trial courts discretion to impose an appropriate sentence based on the merits and circumstances of each case.

59. Parliament was expected to attend to the Law Revision (Penalties in Criminal Matters) Miscellaneous Amendments Bill, 2015, during its tenth session. The Bill, for which input from the public and civil society had been sought, was currently before the Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee. It had been inspired in part by the decision of the Supreme Court in the case Attorney General v. Susan Kigula et al. Following that decision, the Uganda Law Reform Commission had embarked on a study to review the Penal Code Act, chapter 120, and other laws. The findings of the study had been in consonance with the decision of the Supreme Court on outlawing mandatory death sentences.

60. Efforts to improve access to education for girls and prevent them from dropping out were ongoing. Affirmative action policies had led to an increase in the number of girls enrolled in high school and university. Reproductive health services were now integrated in the public health services. The Government was recruiting trained, adolescent-friendly staff.

61. Persons affected by albinism were not stigmatized or discriminated against; that had not been a major problem in Uganda, unlike the situation in other countries. Protection, especially health protection, was provided.

62. The Government fully appreciated the role played by civil society and wished to continue working with it in a transparent, accountable and cooperative manner. National



interests and priorities should come first, thereby making it possible to avoid duplication, ensure accountability and thus achieve the common goal of democratization of Ugandan society.

63. Uganda remained committed to fulfilling its pledge to allocate 15 per cent of its annual budget to health, although, for the time being, the Government had allocated 8.4 per cent. Investments in infrastructure had priority. Critical public investments in areas such as roads, airports and energy or electricity generation had been made over the previous 10 years. Those investments would have a positive impact in other sectors as well, including the health sector.

64. Niger welcomed the adoption, in what had been an inclusive process, of the National Action Plan on Human Rights. It noted the creation of a governmental body to ensure adherence to international and regional human rights instruments when creating policy.

65. Nigeria acknowledged progress in strengthening the rule of law and democracy, including the ratification of international and regional human rights instruments. It appreciated the commitment to protecting the rights of refugees and asylum seekers.

66. Norway acknowledged the positive engagement and cooperation with OHCHR and the country's commendable efforts to welcome refugees, while respecting their human rights.

67. Pakistan welcomed the development of the National Action Plan on Human Rights. It also welcomed the ratification of international and regional instruments and the adoption of laws and measures protecting women's rights.

68. Panama welcomed the adoption of the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act and the establishment of the Equal Opportunities Commission but was concerned by challenges regarding children and women, particularly the persistence of patriarchal attitudes.

69. Paraguay welcomed the adoption of the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act and the elaboration of the National Action Plan on Human Rights. It encouraged improving access to justice.

70. The Philippines welcomed the progress made in promoting respect for human rights. It also welcomed efforts to address harmful traditional practices against women, such as female genital mutilation, but expressed concern about the major challenges involved in implementing domestic laws.

71. Portugal welcomed the adoption of a law on the prevention and prohibition of torture whose definition of torture was in line with that of the Convention against Torture. It was concerned that the death penalty could still be imposed under the Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Act.

72. The Republic of Korea commended Uganda for its commitment to developing the National Action Plan on Human Rights. It noted the implementation of the Second National Development Plan, formulated to facilitate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

73. The Russian Federation welcomed the cooperation between the Government and civil society in the realization of the National Action Plan on Human Rights. It noted the references to human rights in the Second National Development Plan (2015/16-2019/20).

74. Rwanda commended Uganda for granting hospitality to refugees. It welcomed efforts to promote gender equality and combat sexual and gender-based violence. It encouraged continued implementation of the National Action Plan on Women.

75. Senegal welcomed achievements in education and in connection with vulnerable groups. It welcomed the ambitious measures taken nationally, particularly the adoption in 2014 of a National Action Plan on Human Rights.
76. Serbia encouraged Uganda to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture. It welcomed the adoption of a development plan that took into account the Sustainable Development Goals.
77. Sierra Leone noted the establishment of the National Action Plan on Human Rights and the launch of the Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme. It commended the Uganda Human Rights Commission for maintaining A status since 2009.
78. Slovenia encouraged Uganda to step up efforts to empower women and in connection with the rights of the child. It remained concerned about continuous discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
79. South Africa welcomed efforts to improve access to legal aid services, the reduction in the mortality rate among prisoners and the drop in infant and maternal mortality since the 2011 review.
80. South Sudan welcomed policy developments, developments in the judiciary and prison system and the incorporation of human rights education in the curricula of the security agencies. It welcomed the holding of successful elections.
81. Spain commended Uganda for legislative developments regarding the protection of women and children. It was concerned about the deterioration of the situation of human rights defenders after the elections and the adoption of the new Non-Governmental Organizations Act.
82. The Sudan congratulated Uganda for holding elections and welcomed the adoption of the Second National Development Plan and the establishment of the Equal Opportunities Commission.
83. Swaziland urged Uganda to pass the Marriage and Divorce Bill pending before Parliament. It encouraged the country to implement the recommendations of the 2015 report of the Uganda Human Rights Commission on people living with albinism.
84. Sweden stated that the Constitution, while protecting freedom of expression and assembly, did not specifically prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
85. Switzerland called on Uganda to implement the recommendations it had accepted during the first review, particularly recommendations it had made regarding the respect for freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly.
86. The Syrian Arab Republic noted that Uganda, by making every effort to ensure the right to development and civil and political rights, had achieved progress, despite its level of development and the challenges facing it.
87. Timor-Leste welcomed the adoption of the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act, 2012, the creation of a parliamentary committee on human rights and the launch of the Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme.
88. Togo welcomed efforts by the Government to implement the recommendations made during the first review and the adoption by Parliament of laws for the protection of vulnerable groups.

89. Ukraine noted the reported persistence of harmful practices and stereotypes targeting women, children, persons with disabilities, sexual minorities, ethnic minority groups and people living with HIV/AIDS.
90. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland urged Uganda to protect the fundamental freedoms of association, assembly and expression and ensure an open operating environment for political parties, NGOs and the media.
91. The United Republic of Tanzania encouraged Uganda to continue intensifying its efforts to ensure that children could exercise their rights by helping the most vulnerable and less privileged children complete their studies.
92. The United States of America remained concerned that the security forces and other authorities continued to violate citizens' rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, including opposition members, journalists and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.
93. Uruguay welcomed the steps that Uganda had taken, including the adoption of the National Action Plan on Human Rights, to strengthen the institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights.
94. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela acknowledged the elaboration in 2014 of the National Action Plan on Human Rights and welcomed the measures taken to ensure access to education for all, as well as the 2013 National Agricultural Policy, with its focus on vulnerable sectors.
95. Zambia expressed concern about the prevalence of violence against women, in particular domestic and sexual violence. Harmful practices against women and girls were also of great concern.
96. Zimbabwe noted that Uganda had made progress on a number of fronts, for instance, by adopting laws elaborating on the rights provided for in the Constitution and developing the National Action Plan on Human Rights.
97. Algeria welcomed the adoption of the National Action Plan on Human Rights and measures to improve access to health services and combat discrimination, with a special focus on marginalized groups.
98. Angola welcomed economic and social measures but noted challenges in connection with legislation, bringing national laws into line with international treaties, providing vulnerable groups with access to education, child mortality and birth registration.
99. Argentina welcomed the fact that there had been no executions subsequent to death sentences in recent years and encouraged Uganda to abolish the death penalty.
100. Armenia welcomed and encouraged steps to combat trafficking in persons and promote children's rights, although it noted that a significant number of children were involved in child labour.
101. Australia welcomed the work of the Uganda Human Rights Commission and the creation of a national human rights action plan. It encouraged Uganda to implement the Commission's decisions and repeal the Public Order Management Act.
102. Austria was concerned by the rise of social and economic inequality, especially between rural and urban areas, access to justice for the rural poor and the excessive use of force by security agencies.
103. Azerbaijan welcomed the country's constructive approach to the review process and the National Action Plan on Human Rights.

104. Bangladesh, noting that the challenges still facing Uganda were the result of resource constraints, welcomed the country's democratic and socioeconomic reforms.

105. Belgium indicated that some recommendations accepted by Uganda in the previous review had not been implemented and that there was still room for progress, particularly regarding the abolition of the death penalty and juvenile justice.

106. Botswana encouraged Uganda to finalize pending legislation and policies such as the Judiciary Administration Bill, the Legal Aid Policy and the National Transitional Justice Policy.

107. Brazil expressed appreciation for the country's policies on refugees and asylum seekers and the adoption of the Children (Amendment) Act, 2016.

108. Burundi lauded the creation of justice centres and legal aid clinics in courts and the prison system, which would improve access to justice and the right to defence.

109. Haiti acknowledged progress towards prison reform. It congratulated Uganda for its reception of refugees and its strategies for the protection of their rights.

110. Morocco commended Uganda for the measures it had taken to strengthen the institutional human rights framework, the harmonization of its legislation with international human rights instruments and its fight against torture.

111. Mauritius welcomed the measures taken by Uganda to ensure access to education for all, end hunger and achieve food security and combat malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

112. The delegation of Uganda stated that the Government's policies on enhancing and protecting women's rights were second to none. The Government was more than willing to accede to or sign any instrument that would help further the aims of those policies. Raising men's awareness of women's rights was important, as was educating women and empowering them economically, for instance, by giving them access to affordable credit to start small businesses. The Government's policy was to arrest the perpetrators of violence against women, including female genital mutilation.

113. In the 1980s, Uganda had been a leader in the fight against HIV/AIDS. There had been no stigmatization then and there was no stigmatization currently of persons affected by the disease. Access to antiretroviral medicines was guaranteed.

114. The Government was fully committed to ensuring the right to freedom of assembly, as long as that right was exercised without violating the law. Many countries had legislation regulating the right of assembly. The Non-Governmental Organizations Bill had not been unconstitutional; no unconstitutional bill could be adopted and become law. The Constitution was the supreme law of the land. The break-ins experienced by NGOs were crimes that were being investigated and would eventually be punished. Training in human rights for members of the security forces was ongoing. Any of them who violated human rights would be prosecuted.

## **II. Conclusions and/or recommendations\*\***

**115. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Uganda and enjoy the support of Uganda:**

**115.1 Enhance ratification of international human rights instruments (Congo);**

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\*\* The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

- 115.2 Continue to consider ratification of more international human rights instruments (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 115.3 Continue acceding to the core international human rights instruments (Azerbaijan);
- 115.4 Adopt the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Regulation to make the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act operational (Denmark);
- 115.5 Implement the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act, whose definition of torture complies with the Convention against Torture, in order to ensure an effective system for preventing all forms of torture (Portugal);
- 115.6 Implement, in practice, the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act, including through the establishment of an effective system of prevention of all forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (Switzerland);
- 115.7 Put in place the necessary regulations to ensure the full implementation of the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act of 2012 and that appropriate training on the Act is carried out for security services to ensure its effective application (Ireland);
- 115.8 Abolish all discriminatory laws and practices in accordance with its international obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Iceland);
- 115.9 Enact laws that enhance equal access to property rights for women (Sweden);
- 115.10 Ensure the effective implementation of the Act of 2010 on female genital mutilation (Madagascar);
- 115.11 Criminalize female genital mutilation (Zambia);
- 115.12 Continue efforts through education and awareness-raising initiatives to improve the effective implementation of the laws on domestic violence and on female genital mutilation, and eliminate discrimination based on sex from legislation (Paraguay);
- 115.13 Effectively implement relevant laws governing sexual and gender-based violence (Zambia);
- 115.14 Enact legislation prohibiting violence against children in all settings (Zambia);
- 115.15 Strengthen its efforts to enforce the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (Timor-Leste);
- 115.16 Make further efforts to ensure compliance with the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (Togo);
- 115.17 Consider ratifying the International Labour Organization (ILO) Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Philippines);
- 115.18 Adopt legislation that prevents discrimination against women, eliminates female genital mutilation/cutting and prevents forced marriages (Australia);

- 115.19 Ensure that the enforcement and implementation of laws is in compliance with the Constitution and the country's obligations under international and regional law to respect and protect the right of everyone in Uganda to exercise their human rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly (Sweden);
- 115.20 Take the measures necessary for the amendment of the law on children in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Togo);
- 115.21 Amend the Children (Amendment) Act in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, aiming at mainstreaming the rights of children with disabilities across all programmes, and provide the necessary resources for their protection (Portugal);
- 115.22 Speedily enact the respective policies and bills on legal aid and transitional justice to fulfil the constitutional mandate to provide justice for all (Austria);
- 115.23 Create in Parliament a process to control the conformity of laws with the international commitments of the country in the field of human rights (France);
- 115.24 Continue to harmonize its domestic legislation with all international human rights instruments that Uganda is a party to (Indonesia);
- 115.25 Ensure that the country's laws are in compliance with international human rights standards (Zimbabwe);
- 115.26 Further incorporate all the ratified international legal instruments into domestic law (Niger);
- 115.27 Continue to implement the National Action Plan on Human Rights to, among other things, strengthen the capacity of the Government and of citizens when it comes to protection and promotion of human rights (Cuba);
- 115.28 Strengthen the implementation of the National Action Plan on Human Rights (Angola);
- 115.29 Ensure the effective implementation of the National Action Plan on Human Rights (Mauritius);
- 115.30 Continue its efforts to implement the National Action Plan on Human rights (Sudan);
- 115.31 Continue strengthening the application of the National Action Plan on Human Rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 115.32 Adopt the National Action Plan on Human Rights in the coming period (Russian Federation);
- 115.33 Fully implement the National Gender Policy Action Plan (Republic of Korea);
- 115.34 Enhance efforts to implement the National Action Plan on Women, in particular their participation and integration in the economy (South Africa);
- 115.35 Strengthen implementation of the National Agricultural Policy to ensure access to food and address malnutrition (South Africa);

- 115.36 Accelerate the establishment and functioning of the National Children's Authority to prevent and combat violence, exploitation and other degrading practices (Spain);
- 115.37 Put in place strategies and implement the action plan to more effectively combat child, early and forced marriage (Sierra Leone);
- 115.38 Adopt and implement the plan of action against early marriages (Djibouti);
- 115.39 Give continuity to strengthening national human rights institutions and mechanisms (Nepal);
- 115.40 Provide adequate funding for the national human rights institution and reduce its reliance on external sources (Philippines);
- 115.41 Continue to strengthen its national human rights and democratic institutions (Bangladesh);
- 115.42 Further strengthen the financial resources of the Uganda Human Rights Commission (Niger);
- 115.43 Capacitate and allocate resources to the Uganda Human Rights Commission in a sustainable manner (South Africa);
- 115.44 Maintain and strengthen measures to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 115.45 Continue constructive cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Azerbaijan);
- 115.46 Strengthen cooperation with the treaty bodies by being up to date with the submission of its national reports (Colombia);
- 115.47 Submit overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies (Ghana);
- 115.48 Submit its overdue reports to the relevant treaty bodies (Sierra Leone);
- 115.49 Consider strengthening the framework and mechanisms for eliminating discrimination against women and gender-based violence by enacting and enforcing all relevant laws, already under consideration, relating to violence against women (Mauritius);
- 115.50 Promote the participation of women in the process of national development (Angola);
- 115.51 Continue with efforts to advance the rights of women and combat discrimination against women and girls, in particular to achieve equal access to education and prevent girls dropping out of school (Mexico);
- 115.52 Delete all discriminatory provisions against women that may exist in its national laws (Guatemala);
- 115.53 Prevent and combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women and other vulnerable groups (Italy);
- 115.54 Take appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls as well as persons with albinism (Madagascar);
- 115.55 Continue to protect girls from all forms of discrimination and promote girls' rights and access to education (Pakistan);

- 115.56 Promote national efforts aiming at achieving gender equality and women's empowerment on the political and social level (Egypt);
- 115.57 Continue to improve its policies to protect the rights of women (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 115.58 Continue to promote and protect the rights of children (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 115.59 Strengthen the response against the HIV/AIDS pandemic by combating discriminatory attitudes and stigmatization of persons living with the virus. The guides on HIV and human rights are a valuable tool for this goal (Colombia);
- 115.60 Establish an information and prevention strategy to combat the discrimination against and persecution of the albino population in the country, as well as protection for these persons, in particular for albino children (Mexico);
- 115.61 Take active measures to eliminate gender-based violence against women, specifically refugee women, and take immediate appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Namibia);
- 115.62 Take the necessary measures to guarantee the rights of women, investigate and punish those responsible for these violations, provide assistance to victims and raise awareness about patriarchal attitudes and deeply entrenched stereotypes (Argentina);
- 115.63 Continue to strengthen the existing legal framework and deepen measures aimed at preventing gender-based violence (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 115.64 Intensify efforts to combat all forms of violence against women and girls (Georgia);
- 115.65 Step up efforts to raise national awareness to combat all forms of violence against women and girls (Timor-Leste);
- 115.66 Strengthen efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls and harmful practices (Slovenia);
- 115.67 Carry out additional national awareness-raising campaigns to combat violence against women and girls (Togo);
- 115.68 Continue to strengthen measures aimed at protecting and rehabilitating women victims of sexual and domestic violence (Maldives);
- 115.69 Further protect women's rights and combat violence against women (China);
- 115.70 Continue to promote the protection of the rights of women and children (Nigeria);
- 115.71 Strengthen the fight against violence against children and the care of abandoned children (Algeria);
- 115.72 Take concrete measures to ensure effective implementation of the Act prohibiting female genital mutilation, including by investigating relevant incidents and prosecuting perpetrators as well as by rehabilitating victims (Cyprus);



- 115.73 **Step up the fight against all harmful traditional practices, inter alia by effectively enforcing the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act in all parts of the country and by increasing the human and financial resources of the Anti-Human Sacrifice and Trafficking Task Force (Czechia);**
- 115.74 **Implement and enforce the law against female genital mutilation as soon as possible (Spain);**
- 115.75 **Provide adequate resources for the full implementation of domestic laws that prohibit harmful traditional practices against women (Philippines);**
- 115.76 **Eliminate all harmful traditional practices and stereotypes, including female genital mutilation (Botswana);**
- 115.77 **Take concrete measures to eradicate harmful practices against women and children, especially children with albinism (Panama);**
- 115.78 **Strengthen programmes and plans to eradicate effectively child labour in the short term (Chile);**
- 115.79 **Strengthen efforts to ensure eradication of child labour by introducing penalties for violating the provisions on employing children and young persons (Maldives);**
- 115.80 **Continue to develop strategies to protect children, including measures to ensure that children living in the street and in foster care institutions have the right to live in a family and have access to health and education (Chile);**
- 115.81 **Take further steps to combat trafficking of persons (Armenia);**
- 115.82 **Ensure the separation of power and the independence of the judiciary and prevent government officials from interfering in judicial proceedings (Slovenia);**
- 115.83 **Ensure the full functionality and adequate resourcing of levels 1 and 2 local council courts, which provide the first access points to justice for 80 per cent of Ugandans (Austria);**
- 115.84 **Prioritize implementation of the Child Justice Strategy and the National Diversion Guidelines for children in the criminal justice system (South Africa);**
- 115.85 **Separate juveniles from adults in detention and rehabilitation centres (Zambia);**
- 115.86 **Ensure that the police force, the Directorate of Public Prosecution and the Uganda Human Rights Commission investigate all allegations of torture to hold perpetrators accountable (Denmark);**
- 115.87 **Conduct full and transparent investigations into alleged cases of excessive use of force by security agents, especially during and after the 2016 elections, ensuring accountability for possible human rights violations (Austria);**
- 115.88 **Investigate all alleged acts of torture and hold accountable State security agents who are found culpable (Ghana);**
- 115.89 **Strengthen measures to improve the application of the law on domestic violence, including training and awareness-raising for judges, prosecutors and police officers (Chile);**

- 115.90 Create permanent and sustainable programmes for education and training in human rights for public officials, particularly members of the armed forces, the police and the judiciary, emphasizing protection for the most vulnerable groups (Colombia);
- 115.91 Strengthen police training on how to investigate sexual and gender-based violence, including against children, and ensure that perpetrators of these acts are appropriately prosecuted (United States of America);
- 115.92 Continue making efforts in the field of training and education in human rights for law enforcement agencies (Morocco);
- 115.93 Continue making efforts to provide human rights education to law enforcement personnel (United Republic of Tanzania);
- 115.94 Ensure that civil society organizations and human rights defenders can operate in a safe environment and that all allegations of intimidation, harassment and violence are fully investigated (Ireland);
- 115.95 Investigate the alleged harassment of human rights defenders and prosecute offenders (Ghana);
- 115.96 Thoroughly investigate the threats against human rights defenders and civil society organizations, bring to justice those responsible and guarantee reparations to the victims, especially those working for women's rights (Uruguay);
- 115.97 Thoroughly investigate attacks on persons living with albinism and ensure that perpetrators of violations committed against them are brought to justice (Sierra Leone);
- 115.98 Develop a national action plan to eliminate child marriage (Maldives);
- 115.99 Exert further efforts to ensure that all children born in the national territory are registered (Sudan);
- 115.100 Adopt measures to reduce the number of children without birth registration (Angola);
- 115.101 Ensure the full respect of the freedoms of association and peaceful demonstration in compliance with the international commitments of Uganda, in particular in the implementation of the Public Order Management Act of 2013 (France);
- 115.102 Strengthen measures to end any possibility of alleged police brutality, arbitrary arrests and politically motivated prosecution of opposition leaders (Australia);
- 115.103 Take measures to guarantee the right to peaceful assembly and avoid abuses in police activities and, if such abuses occur, ensure that they do not go unpunished (Spain);
- 115.104 Improve the transparency of the electoral process, provide equal conditions for all candidates, prevent obstruction of the media and the Internet, and ensure the independence of the Electoral Commission and impartial investigation of allegations of election fraud and violence (Czechia);
- 115.105 Enact electoral reforms to address problems noted by multiple observers during February 2016 elections, including by making the process for

appointment to the Electoral Commission more inclusive and transparent (United States of America);

115.106 Consult a broad range of civil society actors and reflect their views in the Non-Governmental Organizations Act, 2016, to ensure an open, accountable and vibrant NGO sector (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

115.107 Take necessary measures to allow the enjoyment of civil and political rights by all, including the right to participate in political and public affairs (Botswana);

115.108 Carry out the electoral reforms proposed by the Supreme Court of Uganda and independent observers to ensure future elections can be held while respecting human rights (Norway);

115.109 Implement meaningful electoral reform to ensure the transparency and independence of the Electoral Commission and its adherence to democratic principles, and prevent the misuse of State resources for campaign financing (Canada);

115.110 Explicitly recognize the legitimacy of the work carried out by human rights defenders, publicly support their work and provide protection for them (Uruguay);

115.111 Continue strengthening the country's successful social policy in favour of the most vulnerable sectors of society, ensuring that they have the assistance and cooperation of the international community that the country requires (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

115.112 Make efforts as set out in the Sustainable Development Goals, especially those related to poverty, education, health, agriculture and nutrition (Bangladesh);

115.113 Improve the health sector by increasing the national budget for health and ensuring full and equal access to health in line with the health sector development plan (Indonesia);

115.114 Increase the percentage of the national budget allocated to health, and extend to all persons without distinction based on gender the right to health care (Paraguay);

115.115 Ensure a sufficient health budget, full and equal access to health services, in particular adolescent, reproductive and family planning services and relevant education (Ukraine);

115.116 Continue to develop the health system (Syrian Arab Republic);

115.117 Continue to cooperate with other countries in the health sector (Syrian Arab Republic);

115.118 Strengthen measures to combat maternal mortality and morbidity with a human rights-based approach (Colombia);

115.119 Intensify efforts to reduce maternal and child mortality rates (Nepal);

115.120 Further strengthen the standardization of the health management information system and share experience in this regard (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);

- 115.121 Pursue national efforts to combat HIV and provide health services for all (Egypt);
- 115.122 Implement the Abuja Declaration on Roll Back Malaria in Africa with particular emphasis on concluding the enactment of the National Health Insurance Bill to cover vulnerable groups, such as those in the informal sector, low-income households, people with disabilities, the elderly and children (Kenya);
- 115.123 Continue to take positive efforts and measures to maintain access to education for all (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 115.124 Improve fair access to and the quality and sustainability of primary education (Djibouti);
- 115.125 Improve access to education, in particular in marginalized areas (Algeria);
- 115.126 Continue increasing the enrolment rate of children in primary schools and achieve equal gender opportunities, particularly in setting up policies that strengthen the rights of girls in education and provide education to all those who have been deprived (vulnerable groups), and improve the quality of the public education system (Libya);
- 115.127 Reinforce policies that favour access to education in rural areas (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 115.128 Take further measures to improve children's enrolment, access, quality and sustainability of education, especially for girls (Ukraine);
- 115.129 Implement legal provisions for better protection of persons with disabilities (Angola);
- 115.130 Promote and respect the basic rights of persons with disabilities without distinction (Djibouti);
- 115.131 Intensify its efforts to raise public awareness on the rights of persons with disabilities (Sudan);
- 115.132 Seek necessary assistance for its efforts to improve human rights in its territory, particularly the rights of migrants and asylum seekers (Nigeria);
- 115.133 Continue its efforts to improve the livelihood of refugees and IDPs by taking measures aimed at further improving the health-care system in refugee settlements, ensuring that all refugees attain the highest level of access to health services (Serbia);
- 115.134 Implement the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework to guarantee labour and land rights (Kenya);
- 115.135 Adopt a national action plan for business and human rights, building on the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (Norway);
- 115.136 Expedite the implementation of the second five-year National Development Plan (Ethiopia);
- 115.137 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development and improve the living standards of the people (China);

- 115.138 Ensure that companies exploiting natural resources conclude agreements with affected communities to allow them to access cultural sites or resources and be compensated (Kenya);
- 115.139 Continue to implement socioeconomic and development policies for safeguarding the rights of youth (Pakistan);
- 115.140 Continue to implement policies for the development of its people, including measures taken for equal opportunities for women and persons with disabilities in the economic and social development of the country (Pakistan);
- 115.141 Step up the fight against corruption, including in ensuring a level playing field and competitive bidding in public procurement (Cuba);
- 115.142 Enhance the efforts made to improve the economic rights of the people (Ethiopia);
- 115.143 Seek the assistance of the international community to help Uganda enact laws for the promotion and protection of human rights (South Sudan).
116. The following recommendations will be examined by Uganda, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council:
- 116.1 Swiftly enact the Marriage and Divorce Bill of 2009 to end discrimination against women in family law and enact a new succession act promoting equal inheritance rights for both women and men (Germany);
- 116.2 Fully implement school health policies and the policy on adolescent health to provide reproductive health education for adolescents and prevent teenage pregnancy (Germany);
- 116.3 Develop and implement social security reforms to protect the most vulnerable groups and individuals (Maldives);
- 116.4 Ratify the Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption (Madagascar);
- 116.5 Expedite the enactment of the drafted Marriage and Divorce Bill (Maldives);
- 116.6 Ratify and accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and withdraw reservations to the Convention against Torture and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sierra Leone);
- 116.7 Ensure effective implementation of enacted legislation affecting women's human rights, and expedite the enactment of the Marriage and Divorce Bill, the Sexual Offences Bill and a witness protection law (Sweden);
- 116.8 Amend the Penal Code to broaden the definition of rape by including a range of sexual acts, including marital rape, and by making the offence gender-neutral (Sweden);
- 116.9 Strengthen the enforcement of the Domestic Violence Act and adopt the Sexual Offences Bill (Timor-Leste);
- 116.10 Increase the percentage of the national budget for health to 15 per cent as per the Abuja Declaration on Roll Back Malaria in Africa (Zimbabwe);

116.11 **Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity (Armenia);**

116.12 **Increase access to sexual and reproductive health services by raising the health budget to 15 per cent in line with the Abuja Declaration on Roll Back Malaria in Africa and creating a health insurance scheme for the poor (Belgium);**

116.13 **Establish a sufficient number of courts and mobile legal aid centres in refugee areas to improve access to justice, particularly for cases of sexual and gender-based violence (Haiti);**

116.14 **Revise the minimum wage to guarantee the protection of workers by ensuring a decent standard of living, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders (Haiti);**

116.15 **Adopt and implement, without delay, the draft Food and Nutrition Bill of 2008 and adequately finance school meal programmes, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders (Haiti);**

116.16 **Enact and implement a comprehensive national urban policy to address the human rights problems arising from rapid urbanization (Kenya);**

116.17 **Strengthen the juvenile justice system, in particular by ensuring the designation of specialized courts and judges, which would apply procedures that take into account the specific needs of children (Belgium);**

116.18 **Increase the job quota for people with disabilities (Congo).**

117. **The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Uganda and would thus be noted:**

117.1 **Decriminalize consensual same-sex conduct, starting with the repeal of laws governing unnatural offences and indecent practices, and investigate and prosecute cases of discrimination, intimidation and attacks on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and organizations (Canada);**

117.2 **Amend Section 44 of the Non-Governmental Organizations Act, 2016, to ensure its compliance with the national constitutional requirement that every criminal offence be well defined and adopt NGO Act regulations to enable and protect the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, both online and offline (Canada);**

117.3 **Take further measures to combat and prevent all forms of discrimination and social stigmatization, including on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Chile);**

117.4 **Take measures to combat rules, practices and stereotypes that cause discrimination and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, particularly those that are an attack against their dignity and self-determination with respect to their sexual orientation (Colombia);**

117.5 **Revise legislation on abortion to ensure that all women have access to abortion and health care in order to reduce maternal mortality (Congo);**

117.6 **Amend, as a first step, relevant laws that impose mandatory capital punishment (Cyprus);**

117.7 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and establish an effective mechanism for investigation of allegations of torture in line with the Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of**

**Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Czechia);**

117.8 **Review the Public Order Management Act and the Non-Governmental Organizations Act so that the legal framework is conducive to safe and unhindered operation of independent NGOs (Czechia);**

117.9 **Decriminalize same-sex relationships between consenting adults (Czechia);**

117.10 **Intensify efforts to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Denmark);**

117.11 **Promulgate and implement the Law Revision (Penalties in Criminal Matters) Miscellaneous Amendment Bill, with a view to a definitive abolition of the death penalty (France);**

117.12 **Adopt national legislation in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (France);**

117.13 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (France) (Ghana) (Iceland) (Rwanda) (Senegal);**

117.14 **Repeal the legal provisions that provide for the criminalization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, in respect of the principle of non-discrimination (France);**

117.15 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Georgia);**

117.16 **Consider extending a standing invitation to special procedure mandate holders (Georgia);**

117.17 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, promote strict adherence to the prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and prosecute violations thereof (Germany);**

117.18 **Amend the Public Order Management Act, 2013, and the Non-Governmental Organizations Act, 2016, to ensure free assembly and association in line with international human rights standards (Germany);**

117.19 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ghana) (Uruguay);**

117.20 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Ghana) (Montenegro) (Morocco) (Rwanda);**

117.21 **Issue standing invitations to all special procedure mandate holders (Ghana);**

117.22 **Promptly ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and accede to the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) (Guatemala);**

117.23 **Adopt measures to combat and prevent discrimination and social stigmatization, in particular of persons with disabilities, persons with albinism, and on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity (Guatemala);**

- 117.24 **Extend a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders (Guatemala) (Republic of Korea);**
- 117.25 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Iceland) (Portugal);**
- 117.26 **Abolish the death penalty and any legal provisions that provide for the death penalty (Iceland);**
- 117.27 **Investigate and prosecute State actors and individuals perpetrating violence against LGBTI persons (Iceland);**
- 117.28 **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Italy);**
- 117.29 **Consider taking all necessary steps to introduce a de jure moratorium on executions with a view to fully abolishing the death penalty (Italy);**
- 117.30 **Revise the Public Order Management Act to guarantee a proportionate use of force by the security forces and mainstream human rights and humanitarian law in the training of the security forces (Italy);**
- 117.31 **Repeal the law against homosexuality, which facilitates discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, encourages harassment and violence against them and imposes sentences of life imprisonment for the offenses of homosexuality, same-sex marriage and “aggravated homosexuality” (Mexico);**
- 117.32 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Montenegro) (Rwanda);**
- 117.33 **Fulfil the conditions set forth in paragraph 17 of the national report, so as to be able to consider ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Mozambique);**
- 117.34 **Consider accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, a de facto and de jure moratorium on the imposition of the death penalty and converting capital offences to life imprisonment sentences (Namibia);**
- 117.35 **Amend sections 44 (d), 44 (f) and 30 (1) (a) of the Non-Governmental Organizations Act to align them with the Ugandan Constitution and international human rights law (Netherlands);**
- 117.36 **Increase access to sexual and reproductive health services for vulnerable groups, including sexual minorities, by raising the health budget to 15 per cent in line with the Abuja Declaration on Roll Back Malaria in Africa (Netherlands);**
- 117.37 **Implement laws, regulations and plans regarding women’s rights with adequate training and resources, bearing in mind that sexual and gender-based violence and disparities in economic opportunities remain. There is scope for improvement of health-care providers’ ability to offer sexual and reproductive information and services, including safe abortions (Norway);**



- 117.38 **Respect, protect and promote the human rights of all persons, without discrimination on any grounds, including sexual orientation, gender identity or same-sex relationships between consenting adults (Norway);**
- 117.39 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Panama);**
- 117.40 **Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures (Panama) (Rwanda) (Ukraine);**
- 117.41 **Abolish the death penalty and commute to prison terms the death sentences that have already been pronounced (Panama);**
- 117.42 **Fully abolish the death penalty (Paraguay);**
- 117.43 **Adopt a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to fully abolishing capital punishment, both in practice and in law, for all cases and under all circumstances (Portugal);**
- 117.44 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Portugal);**
- 117.45 **Adhere fully to the relevant provisions of the International Convention for the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, in particular articles 76 and 77 (Senegal);**
- 117.46 **Decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual relations, de-legalize discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons and discourage harassment and violence against them (Slovenia);**
- 117.47 **Make progress towards the abolition of capital punishment by adopting a de jure moratorium (Spain);**
- 117.48 **Amend the law against homosexuality and the Penal Code, which criminalizes homosexual conduct (Spain);**
- 117.49 **Take all necessary measures to ensure that the human right to non-discrimination is applied and that the human rights of all persons, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, are fully respected and protected (Sweden);**
- 117.50 **Amend the Non-Governmental Organizations Act, adopted in January 2016, which restricts the right to freedom of association, to bring it into conformity with the Constitution and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Switzerland);**
- 117.51 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Ukraine);**
- 117.52 **Amend the Public Order Management Act in line with international best practice, as set out by the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association in his March 2016 joint report to the**

**Human Rights Council (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

117.53 **Cease the harassment and arbitrary detention of political opposition leaders and supporters, and ensure that peaceful political dissent and public discourse about human rights, elections and government policy are allowed to take place freely in public spaces and in the press (United States of America);**

117.54 **Repeal the provisions of the penal code that penalize same-sex relations between consenting adults and put an end to the detention and harassment of LGBTI activists and allow them to freely exercise their right to assembly and peaceful protest (Uruguay);**

117.55 **Abolish the death penalty for all crimes and commute all death sentences into custodial sentences (Uruguay);**

117.56 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights without reservations (Uruguay);**

117.57 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and accept its investigation and communication procedure (Uruguay);**

117.58 **Adopt the necessary measures to repeal all legislation that discriminates against and penalizes persons because of their sexual orientation (Argentina);**

117.59 **Repeal the Penal Code provisions criminalizing sex between consensual same-sex partners and remove discriminatory language against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons or minority groups or their supporters (Australia);**

117.60 **Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);**

117.61 **Repeal all legislation giving rise to discrimination against people on grounds of their sexual orientation or gender identity and refrain from reintroducing the Anti-Homosexuality Act, annulled by the Supreme Court in 2014 (Austria);**

117.62 **Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Belgium);**

117.63 **Review the Public Order Management Act in order to repeal the disciplines which allow public authorities to prohibit, without due justification, peaceful protests, thus better protecting freedom of expression and of assembly (Brazil);**

117.64 **Decriminalize same-sex relations and review national legislation with a view to promoting equality and preventing discrimination of any kind (Brazil);**

117.65 **Speed up the process of ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Burundi).**

118. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Uganda was headed by Hon. Sam K. Kutesa, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and composed of the following members:

- Hon. Jovah Kamateeka, Chairperson, Human Rights Committee, Member of Parliament;
- Hon. Isala Eragu Veronica Bichetero, Member of Parliament;
- Hon. Kafuuzi Jackson Karugaba, Member of Parliament;
- Hon. Gilbert Olanya, Member of Parliament;
- Ms. Sylvia Muwebwa Nabatanzi, Chairperson, Equal Opportunities Commission;
- Amb. David Etuket, Director, International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Amb. Christopher Onyanga Aparr, Permanent Representative, Uganda Mission, Geneva;
- Amb. Benedict Lukwiya, Deputy Head of Mission, Uganda Mission Geneva;
- Mr. Erasmus Twaruhukwa, Director, Human Rights and Legal Services, Uganda Police Force;
- Col. Charles Wacha, Director, Human Rights Department, Uganda People's Defence Forces;
- Ms. Patricia Nduru, Director, Monitoring and Inspections, Uganda Human Rights Commission;
- Amb. Arthur Kafeero, Head, Multilateral Organizations and Treaties Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. George Baitera Maiteki, Deputy Director, General External Security Organization;
- Ms. Eunice Kigenyi, Minister Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Bisereko Kyomuhendo, Commissioner, Legal Advisory Services, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs;
- Mr. David Musiime, Senior Commissioner Public Affairs, Ministry of Security, Office of the President;
- Mr. Steven Nkayivu Ssenabulya, Counsellor/Personal Assistant to Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Juvenal Ntacyo Muhumuza, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Development Assistance and Regional Cooperation, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Development;
- Mr. Joshua Wamala, Head of the Election Management Department, Electoral Commission;
- Mr. Matata Twaha Magara Frankman, First Secretary, Uganda Mission, Geneva;

- Mr. Musa Modoi, Advisor, Human Rights and Accountability, Justice, Law and Order Sector;
  - Ms. Robie Kakonge, Director, Communications and Public Affairs, Office of the Minister for Security, Office of the President;
  - Ms. Nagutta Catherine, Senior Legal Research Officer, Parliament of Uganda.
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